



NEWSLETTER NO 24 – MAY 2010

General Meetings 10:00 – 12:00 in the Holy Apostles Church Hall

- 21 May** 'From Music to Minister'- Rev. Dr. Jon Morgan studied at the Royal College of Music and had a career as a professional musician before studying for the ministry at Westminster College, Cambridge
- 18 June** 'To Cornwall and back - Moving Farms' – Mrs. Rosemary Prosser
- 16 July** 'After the Lord Mayor' - Mr. Robin Shotter
- 20 August** 'Wildlife at the Falklands'- Mr. Clive Rathband
- 17 September** to be arranged
- 15 October** 'Hidden Gloucester' - Mr. Phillip Moss
- 19 November** to be arranged
- 17 December** CHRISTMAS LUNCH

A raffle organized by Annette Cadby is £1 a go, with a first prize being £10. The bookstall run by Shirley Amphlett has books, videos, CDs to suit all tastes. Shirley welcomes donations of videos and CDs. The proceeds of the raffle and bookstall contribute to the cost of hiring the hall and the speaker.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

COFFEE WILL NO LONGER BE SERVED AFTER 10.20AM

PAULINE GODDARD

It is with deep regret that I have to report that Pauline Goddard died suddenly last week. Pauline joined the group in January 2009 and I know, from my chats with her, she found the members very friendly and enjoyed their company. Funeral arrangements are not yet known but hopefully I will be able to announce them at the Group meeting Friday. A condolence card on behalf of the Group has been sent to her family. As is our custom we will send a donation of £15 to a charity of the family's choice.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

What a fantastic turn out we had for our third annual general meeting as an independent group. No less than 57 friends came along together with three visitors, one of whom joined the group that day. All enjoyed the welcome wine and nibbles; this I think made everyone more receptive to listening to the Chairman's talk about his 'Best Friend' at the end of the meeting. The Chairman was able to report the Group had had another successful year and continues to enjoy a large number of activities organised by members of the committee. The Treasurer reported the financial position of the group was very strong (a copy is available from the chairman) which has enabled us to maintain the annual subscription at £15.

YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2010/2011

**James Scott (Chairman), Wyn Roberts (Vice Chairperson),
Ros Garrad (Secretary), Beryl Voice (Treasurer),
Elsie Scott (Membership Secretary), Annette Cadby, Bernice Phin,
Jackie Taylor, Mike Turner, and Viv Snell.**

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Your annual subscription of £15 is now payable. Payment should be made to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

ST GEORGE'S DAY LUNCH FRIDAY 23rd APRIL

A very successful lunch was enjoyed at the Farmers Pub in Bishop's Cleeve, with the pub landlord producing a first class meal. The pub was decorated with bunting and the flags of St George. A toast of loyalty was offered to Her Majesty and poems of a patriotic nature were read by the chairman. *Organised by Elsie Scott.*

SLIMBRIDGE WEDNESDAY, 28th APRIL

Some 34 friends and members from Probus enjoyed this trip. The weather was very kind to us and the construction work being carried out to improve the site in no way interfered with our enjoyment of the visit. We had a conducted tour with our guide pointing out various birds and geese of interest. One in particular being, a not very friendly, Pig Goose, it had beak and cry similar to that of a pig. For me the most interesting moment was to see live otters. Previously I had only seen pictures of them. *Organised by the Chairman*

SOCIAL SKITTLES AT THE MERRYFELLOW, 30TH APRIL

We were not sure what to expect when we arrived at the Merryfellow as we only learned a few days before that Heidi, the landlady of the pub, had left and had been succeeded by someone new called George (short for Georgina). However, our fears were soon allayed as George produced a very excellent hot finger buffet. Only 15 friends turned up for the fun and games but none-the-less everyone had happy time. *Organised by the Chairman*

PUB SKITTLES FOR THE OLD 10-PIN BOWLERS.

The old time tenpin bowlers are still persisting with pub skittles but possibly not with the same enthusiasm as with tenpin bowling. But even so it provides a good morning's activity and a good laugh.

Use of the alley has been booked through to July so make a note in your diary. The dates are 25th May, 8th June, 22nd June, 6th July & 20th July. *Organised by Mike Turner*

CHELTENHAM CROQUET CLUB THURSDAY, 10TH JUNE.

18 so far have put their names down for this activity. The cost is £6 per head and includes tuition of the game and tea and scones. *Organised by Ros Garrad*

GARDENERS WORLD & GOOD FOOD SHOW .SATURDAY 19th JUNE

Please note the change of date for this event. Nine friends are down to go on this outing and the list has now been closed. The Marchants-coach pick up point is Royal Well. Annette Cadby has the tickets for the entry to the show. *Organised by the Chairman*

Olympic London 2012 Wednesday, 23rd June

41 friends and members from other groups have signed up to go on this trip and there's still room for more. So if you are undecided about whether to go or not, you still have the opportunity to put your name down on Friday at the group meeting. This is really the trip of a lifetime; there won't be an opportunity like this again. The cost is £37 inclusive of morning coffee & lunch. *Organised by Wyn Roberts*

Pick up times and places:

BENHALL 6.45a.m ROYAL WELL 6.50a.m. BRADLEY ROAD 7.00a.m,

We shall be unable to wait for latecomers, as we MUST arrive on time for the Courier, and time is tight.

ASHMOLEAN & TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD TUESDAY, 13th JULY

The list for this trip has been closed but those going are to board the 853 Swanbrook bus from Royal Well at 11am or from Sixways at 11.05am. Depart Oxford 6pm. Use bus passes. Entry to museum is free. Lunch can be obtained at the museum. *Organised by Annette Cadby*

COUGHTON COURT WEDNESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER.

Ten names down for this outing but need more. Cost is £20 but for those who hold a National Trust Membership Card they will only need to pay the coach fare; yet to be determined. *Organised by the Chairman*

BRISTOL POST OFFICE SORTING OFFICE.

Keep watching this space.

BOOK READERS CIRCLE.



Our choice of book for discussion in May was titled 'The Price of Salt' by Patricia Highsmith. It was all about a lesbian relationship. Although only six book readers turned up we spent more time discussing it than we have any of the other books we've read. Did you know that in colonial times the British grew a hedge 1,500 miles long across India? Not many people did, but that is what we are going to read about for June. The title is 'The Great Hedge of India' by Roy Moxham. Why not join us and find out about it? The book readers meet the second Tuesday in every month and the next meeting is on the 8th June.

April Walk – Whiteway

After the talk last month on Whiteway Colony by Joy Thacker, this walk was particularly interesting. Weather was very good and the walk through the open fields and woods was delightful. Whiteway House an original building.



May Walk - Naunton

Meet Monday, 24th May @10.20 at the Black Horse Inn, Naunton.

Take the A40 from Charlton Kings to Andoversford & left at the traffic lights towards Bourton-on-the-Water (A436)

Fork left onto B4068, signed Guiting Power & Naunton. Keep to this road past the turnings for G.P. then fork left for Naunton.

Follow the road through the village (right just after the church) to the pub, which is on the left at the far end of Naunton. The very small car park is opposite our venue so take as few cars as possible. We order lunch before setting off.

There are a few easy stiles and one steep incline. The 3mile walk is on lanes & field paths. On the return stretch there are a few points where the walk can be shortened if you wish.

We expect to return by 12.30. None walkers are welcome to join us, but please let me know beforehand so that we can inform the pub of numbers.

Further details from Marion Tel: 5187 Mobile phone on the day 07803 394109

OUTINGS

When you enter your name on a list to go on any Outing that is being offered, the Committee wish you to understand that all bookings are made on the basis of the numbers shown on that list. This decides the size and cost of the coach- when applicable- and the entrance fees at the venue. These costs always have to be paid for in advance. Your name on the list is therefore a commitment and the fee must be paid.

If later for any reason, you are unable to attend, there can be no refund.

The only exceptions to this would be that in the case of a medical problem, and ONLY if the entrance fee had not already been paid, that amount would be refundable. However, the coach cost will not be refundable under any circumstance, as this has still has to be paid in full.

When you designate a pick up point for a coach trip, you will be dropped off at the same point on the return journey. For insurance/cost purposes the driver is not allowed to deviate from that.

DISCLAIMER: *If you take part in any of our activities, you do so on the understanding that you are responsible for your own welfare.*

A little humour:

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts, and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters who had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death.

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard.

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the circus was in town, I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.
