

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2015 No 310

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

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MAY WALK - Keith Rose



A select group of eleven of us met at The Red Lion, Brafield-on-the-Green for the May walk. We headed off through the overgrown paddock behind the pub and then through the churchyard of the St Laurence Church, and across fields to Cogenhoe. Here we walked through the village using the pavements until we reached a footpath and turned right onto the Northamptonshire Round, a 51 mile circular route. There was a sign here to the Jerusalem Steps. First, we had a significant hill to climb. At the top of this, the path followed the edge of a wood and then ascended a small flight of steps and continued beside the wood. We then entered the wood and found the Jerusalem Steps. The wood was on the site of a former ironstone open cast mine which had been worked between 1858 and 1888. Some steep banks remained and the Jerusalem steps descended one of these. Then it was down a hill, across a stream and up the next hill to the road. After only 1 mile on the Northamptonshire Round, we left this route and followed Whiston Road in the direction of Denton until we could leave at the next footpath. Then we started to find the hazards, freshly creosoted stiles and a low electric fence that we could all step over safely. We briefly skirted around Denton and returned to Brafield-on-the-Green across four yellow fields of oilseed rape. The path across the last of these had been poorly cleared and stumps of the crop were ready to trip us up.

June Walk - Wednesday 10 June 2015

Dave Thomas will lead this walk which starts from The Bell Inn, 21 Bedford Street, Woburn, MK17 9QB. There is a rear car park which is accessed from the left hand side of the pub. Please meet at the usual time of 10.15 am for a 10.30 start

One Hundred Years of Aviation June 1915 - John Cherry

1st The prototype DH2 designed by Geoffrey de Havilland and built by the Aircraft Manufacturing Company Airco was tested today. This pusher biplane has a forward facing Lewis gun. Geoffrey built his first biplane in 1908 with the help of a £500 loan from his grandfather.

7th Flight Sub-Lt Reginald Warneford a Canadian in No1 Squadron RNAS was on a mission to bomb the Zeppelin sheds near Bruges when he spotted airship LZ 37 returning to base. He stalked the LZ37 in his Morane-Saulnier type L monoplane for some 40 minutes, his attack being forced off by its gunners. Gliding above the Zeppelin he released six 20lb bombs, five of them missed, the sixth caused a blast so great that it flipped Warneford's machine over. The LZ37 crumpled to earth in flames, the first Zeppelin shot down. It crashed on a convent near Ghent, killing four on the ground. Warneford's engine failed to restart so he landed behind enemy lines and managed to get the engine working and took off for his base landing at Dunkirk.

9th Today Flight-Sub Lt Reginald Warneford learned that he had been awarded the Victoria Cross for the shooting down of the LZ37 two days ago.

17th The RNAS hero, Flight-Sub Lt RA Warneford, who downed the Zeppelin LZ37 ten days ago, fell to his death today with his passenger, the American journalist H A Needham, when their aeroplane rolled over during a steep turn.

MINUTES OF THE 26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARA RETIREMENT CLUB HELD AT THE QUEENS HEAD, MILTON ERNEST ON WEDNESDAY 22nd APRIL 2015

Members Present: Russell and Alma Berrington, Ian Lloyd-Davies, Mike and Chris Lock, Gerry and Joyce Pauley, Bruce Price, Keith Rose, Ebb Smith, Dave and Jenny Thomas, Trevor and Christine Tumber, Marylyn and Ray Wood.

In the chair Bruce Price

Apologies for Absence

Anne and Keith Pallister and Bryan and Margaret Stokes

Approval of the Minutes of the 25th AGM,

The approval of the minutes of the previous AGM as published in the May 2014 Newsletter was unanimously passed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The activities of the Club followed those of previous years, namely organised visits or trips, monthly walks and an annual luncheon.

The monthly walks were well supported by a core of regular walkers and their friends numbering between 15 and 20 persons.

Tony Dickason ran his usual informal meetings in Clapham.

Two events were organised this year. The first in June, was a trip on the John Bunyan canal boat from Priory Marina to Kempston and back. This was well supported by 43 members and their friends. The second event was a visit to John Taylor's Bell Foundry in Loughborough in October. Fourteen people attended this event. Full reports of these trips can be seen in the following month's newsletters.

Last year's AGM was poorly attended, so the Committee decided to hold the AGM immediately after the annual lunch,.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Anne Pallister, Chris Lock presented the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

The balance at the beginning of March 2014 was £465.48. On the income side this year we received £100 donation from ARA, £323.00 for the annual dinner, £518.50 for the boat trip and cream teas and interest of £1.12.

Expenditure for the year was made up of 2014 AGM expenses (including £25 donation to Canine Partners), the 2014 luncheon at The Sharnbrook Hotel, balance for the boat trip, cream teas and a donation to BMKWEL, and stamps, stationary and photo copying for the 2015 newsletter mail shot.

This leaves a balance at the end of the year of £564.17. Although there appears to be an increase in our funds of £98.69 on last year, it should be noted that we had paid deposits of £97 for the bell foundry trip and the boat trip in the previous year which have now been recouped in the current financial year.

A copy of the Financial Statement was available for scrutiny.

The acceptance of the accounts were proposed by Marylyn Wood and seconded by Gerry Pauley. The accounts were then approved unanimously by the meeting.

Election of Officers and Committee members

The chairman stated that Anne Pallister had indicated that she would like to stand down as Treasurer and asked if anyone else would be prepared to take over this role. Ray Wood volunteered and his appointment was proposed by Russ Berrington and seconded by Joyce Pauley.

There were no additional nominations and the rest of the committee were prepared to stay in post. The new committee was unanimously passed by those attending the AGM.

The committee now comprises Bruce Price, Chairman and Walks Coordinator, Ray Wood, Treasurer, Chris Lock, Secretary, Keith Rose, Newsletter Editor, Marylyn Wood, Trevor Tumber and Gerry Pauley.

Future Activities

Marylyn reported that she was still attempting to organise the visit to Chester Farm near Rushden. She anticipated that the visit will take place in July or August.

The chairman stated that any ideas from members for future events would be very welcome.

Christine Tumber suggested a cream tea at Moggerhanger Park and Jenny Thomas a visit to Shaws Corner in Hertfordshire.

Any Other Business

Marylyn Wood proposed a vote of thanks to Trevor Tumber for organising the lunch.

The chairman then thanked the committee for their work during the last year particularly Anne Pallister for her sterling work as treasurer and Keith Rose for producing the monthly newsletter. Gerry Pauley also proposed a vote of thanks to Bruce Price for his work as Chairman.

The Meeting was then closed by the Chairman.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Wednesday 10th June, 10:15	June Walk. The Bell Inn, 21 Bedford Street, Woburn, MK17 9QB

Please send any copy for publication to me by the 15th of the month, Keith Rose

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