

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

January 2015 No 305

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

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JANUARY WALK - Roger Taylor



Lovely sunny day for our first ARA walk of 2015. Nineteen of us arrived at the Premier Inn, Willen Lake, Milton Keynes. After ordering our food at The Fayre & Square, we set off anti clockwise by the lake, soon turning right to go under the H6 highway, then walking on to meet the River Ouzel. We walked along the river bank to Woolstone, continuing on until we came to the Grand Union Canal. We followed the canal north for about a mile, then crossed over into Campbell Park. Soon looking down to the Cricket Green on our right, then passing the OPEN AIR THEATRE on our left. We then took the steep incline to the beacon, a view point known as the LIGHT PYRAMID, sculptured by Lilane Lijn. After the group photograph was taken we walked on to the ROSE PLAZA, a collective place of reflection, which has 140 pillars each representing an event, such as Armistice Day, Hiroshima Day, Holocaust Memorial Day, Tea Bag Day etc. Turning back clockwise through the park, we came to THE LABYRINTH, a paved and grassy area, at it's centre lies an armillary working sundial. Continuing on through the park gardens, which have an ornamental shrubbery nestled around an acrobatic artwork. To complete our 4.5 mile walk we crossed back over the Grand Union Canal and onto the Fayre & Square, where we all stayed for a welcome lunch.

FEBRUARY WALK

Russell Packwood will be leading this walk which will start from The Half Moon, 108 High Street, Kempston, MK42 7BN. The walk will be about 5 miles in length. Please meet at 10:15 for a prompt 10:30 start.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF AVIATION - John Cherry

January 1915

6th The German Navy has today successfully launched a Friedrichshafen FF29a seaplane from the deck of a submarine during trials to extend the aircraft's reconnaissance range.

8th A report just received states that Germans are volunteering for Count Zeppelin's proposed airship raids on London.

19th Two German Zeppelins, the LZ24/L3 and the LZ27/L4 last night bombed several towns. The L3 dropped bombs on Great Yarmouth killing four people whilst the L4 dropped incendiary and high explosive bombs on Sherringham, Thornham, Brancaster, Hunstanton, Heacham, Snettisham and King's Lynn. 20 people have been reported killed and 40 injured.

23rd Reconnaissance aircraft have spotted Turkish forces massing for an attack on the Suez Canal area.

The first Russian aeroplane designed specifically for aerial combat, the Sikorsky S-16 a two seat armed biplane has flown for the first time.

February 1915

15th The Russian *Ilya Murometz* IM-V Reconnaissance bombers today attacked targets in the Vistula-Dobrzhan area of Poland. The aircraft are armed with three machine guns mainly for use against ground targets.

The armed Vickers FB5 'Gun Bus' pusher biplane has entered service on the Western Front.

17th Zeppelin LZ24/L3 is stranded and destroyed on the coast of Jutland during a gale.

HMS *Ark Royal*, a merchant ship converted into a carrier last year, launched RNAS seaplanes today to reconnoitre Turkish ground forces.

20th During the Panama-Pacific Exhibition held in San Francisco USA, Alan Loughhead was allowed to launch an air service and flew 600 passengers across the bay on 50 days, the ten minute flight costing \$10 per passenger.

RAeS LECTURE - 11th February 2015

Lockheed Martin Lecture at ARA at 19:00

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Wednesday 11th February, 10:15	February Walk, Half Moon, Kempston, MK42 7BN
Wednesday 11th February, 18:30	RAeS Lecture, Lockheed Martin Lecture, ARA
Wednesday 22nd April	Annual Lunch, Queens Head, Milton Ernest

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