

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012 No 269

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

Tel: 01234 350681

Dear Friends

Firstly, the committee would like to wish a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

CHRISTMAS BUFFET

The committee would like to convey their thanks to ARA for providing the excellent buffet which gave a superb opportunity to meet and greet old friends. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all.

JANUARY WALK

The next walk will take place on Wednesday, 11th January and will be led by Roger Taylor, (01234 407346, mobile 07866225126). Please meet at the usual time of 10.15am for a 10.30 start at the car park at Harrold Country Park MK43 7DS. Roger will take orders for lunch at The Fox at Carlton and phone them in or you can lunch at the park café if you prefer.

JANUARY RAeS Lecture

The next lecture is entitled 'Rethinking Aviation' and will be given by Mr Alex Lake, Director of Aviation (Europe) AECOM on Wednesday, 11th January at ARA. This is a joint lecture with Beds Civils and there will be a buffet prior to the lecture so please note the earlier starting time of 18.30 for 19.00.

One Hundred Years of Aviation January 2012 contributed by John Cherry

10th The improvised wooden take-off platform has now been completed on the forecastle of one of the obsolete pre-Dreadnaught battleships, H.M.S. Africa, and today Lt Charles Rumney Samson successfully took-off from it in the Short 27 (No 38). The aeroplane is fitted with inflatable rubber floats that are fitted onto the undercarriage. It was only on the first of December last year that Lt Arthur Longmore successfully tested these floats. Prince Louis of Battenberg was instrumental in getting Admiralty authority for the conversion of the two pre-Dreadnaught battleships, the H.M.S. Africa and H.M.S. Hibernia. The platform is similar in design to that fitted on the U.S.S. Birmingham last year.

10th Glenn Curtiss has made a flight in the first flying boat proper; the aeroplane is a converted Curtiss A-2.

The U.S. Army has purchased six Burgess Model H biplane trainers. These are the first aeroplanes with tractor-mounted engines.

Frenchmen Ponche and Primard have flown the world's first all-metal aeroplane, the Tubvaion monoplane.

Christmas Quiz Answers

1. Star 2. Cracker 3. Bell 4. Present 5. Tree 6. Stocking 7. Angel 8. Straw 9. Chimney 10. Sheep

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Wednesday 11th January	January Walk starting at the car park, Harrold Country Park with lunch at The Fox, Carlton. 10.15 for 10.30 start.
Wednesday 14th December	RAeS Lecture 'Rethinking Aviation' by Mr Alex Lake, 18.30 for 19.00 at ARA with buffet prior to lecture.

Please send any copy for publication to me by the 15th of the month, Chris Lock

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