

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY 2011 No 263

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

Tel: 01234 350681

Dear Friends

JUNE WALK contributed by Brian Ashman



The walk on Wednesday, 6th June was led by Brian Ashman and we met at the Prince of Wales, Bromham at the usual time of 10.15am.

The 23 walkers and 3 dogs started the walk by crossing the road, then up Thisley Lane, crossing the bypass and along the bridle path by Hanger Wood with a conservation area on the left. Once through the wood we passed along the side of the golf course.

On reaching the road we turned right and walked down the hill towards Stagsden. At the underpass of the bypass we met a young lady on a frisky horse that got rather spooked at coming across such a large group. It took several attempts for her to ride past us.

After passing Stagsden church, we went by a bungalow, into a grass field, then up through a wheat field to Wick End. At this point we had a sharp shower. Our route then took us through the end of a garden, where the photo was taken, past more woodland to the Bromham bypass. After crossing the bypass we walked along a bridle path to Grange Farm and back to the Prince of Wales.

So for two days on the trot the Club has visited The Prince of Wales, once at Highgrove and the next at a Bromham pub!

JULY WALK

The July walk will take place on Wednesday, 13th July meeting at The Three Horseshoes, Renhold MK41 0LR and will be led by Mike Lock, (01234 353779). Please meet at the usual time of 10.15 for a 10.30am start.

HIGHGROVE GARDEN VISIT contributed by Chris Lock

On the 7th June we set off from ARA in very good time in bright sunshine and high spirits, however as we travelled west we soon hit rain showers. We arrived at Tetbury at about 12 noon and had one and a half hours for lunch and to explore the pretty town. We then travelled the ten minutes or so to Highgrove and were checked in!

As we watched the welcoming video in a marquee we could hear the rain coming down onto the roof, so with macs and umbrellas at the ready we ventured out with our guide into the gardens. It immediately stopped raining and although quite chilly the weather continued to improve as we were shown around all the different wonderful parts of the garden, the stumpery, wild flower field, orchard, walled garden, carpet garden etc. All included donated or reclaimed items placed in strategic positions to enhance the garden. Our guide said that if he had to describe the garden in one word it would be 'quirky'. The tour lasted about 1½ hours.

We finished our visit to the garden in bright sunshine and spent some time in the tea room, shop and garden centre before leaving for home at about 5pm. In all a memorable day.

MARYLYN AND RAY'S SUMMER EVENT

The event will take place on Tuesday, 5th July at 2.00 for 2.30pm and finish around 5.30pm and will take place at 5 Sandringham Close, Rushden NN10 9ER.

There will be a buffet and a talk from Martin Sirot-Smith on 'Tudor Times'. The cost is £5 per head.

Anyone who has not booked and would still like to go should check with Marylyn and Ray on 01933 353517 to see if there is still space.

FORDHAM ARMS, SHARNBROOK

Just a reminder that the next informal gathering at the Fordham Arms, Sharnbrook will be on Monday August 1st at around 7:30 to 8:00 pm.

OBITUARY

We were saddened to learn of the death of Mr Ted Johnson who died on the 9th June 2011. Ted joined ARA in 1971 as a Fitters Mate and he retired on 30th June 1991.

The funeral service has already taken place.

We offer our deepest sympathy to all Ted's family

Annual Luncheon

Following the success of the previous Luncheons, the AGM agreed that the event should be repeated. So, :-

Advance Notice of 2011 ARC LUNCHEON

Wednesday 5th October
at
Woodlands Manor Hotel
A three-course Luncheon, followed by
Tea/Coffee

We again have a fixed price menu with a pre-choice of Starter, Main course and Dessert (three choices per course). A Vegetarian option will be included. Please note: this is **not** a Carvery!

The Dining Room will be limited to **56** so, put this date in your diary and reply promptly with your selections and booking when we publish the **Menu and Booking Form** in the **August** edition of the Newsletter. Do not worry if you have a special dietary requirement. Let us know as the Chef is very accommodating.

Woodlands Manor stands in its own grounds on the edge of Clapham, served by the old A6, so it is readily accessible. There is a large car park within the grounds. There is a comfortable bar in which to gather at 12 noon before the luncheon at 12.45pm.

Should you wish to stay overnight at Woodlands a preferential rate can be arranged.

Meanwhile, if you have any queries please contact Trevor Tumber 01234 381466.

One Hundred Years of Aviation July 1911 contributed by John Cherry

- 1st The U.S. Navy took to the sky at 6: 50 pm today from Lake Keuka, Hammondsport, its first aeroplane, the amphibious Curtiss A-1 Triad, was flown by the builder, Glenn Curtiss for five minutes at a height of 25 feet. The second flight had Lt Theodore G Ellyson on board who also made the last two flights alone. The navy's purchase of the A-1 is the culmination of Curtiss's efforts to convince it of the need for aircraft. The demonstrations on February 17th lead the navy to order two biplanes; one, the A-1 had to reach a speed of 45 mph and touch down on both land and water. The A-1 is the first practical seaplane and was influenced by Fabre's float plane of last year.

- 4th Horatio Barber today became the first person to carry freight by air in Britain when he delivered a large box of Osram electric lamps from Shoreham aerodrome to Hove. He flew a Valkyrie monoplane of his own design and received £100 for the flight. The flight was made at the invitation of the General Electric Company. Barber intends to make the £100 available to further the cause of aviation.
- 6th Today the Aeronautical Institute of Saint-Cry, France, opened in a building rented to the University of Paris by Henri Deutsch de la Meurthe.
- 7th The French naval officer Lt de Vaisseau Jean Conneau otherwise known as Andre Beaumont and Roland Garros came first and second in the Circuit of Europe race that was sponsored by several newspapers. Beaumont won 200000 Francs. An estimated 700000 people saw the start of the race on June 18th. Jules Vedrines was first to land this morning however his flying time of 86 hours 34 minutes and 32 seconds only gave him fourth place. Beaumont's winning time was 58 hours 38 minutes. The 994 mile circuit took in Paris, Liege, Brussels, Roubaix, Calais, London, Dover and back to Paris. The race drew 52 entrants.
- 21st Today at Chalons, France, Denise Moore on a solo flight in a Farman biplane, crashed and was killed. Denise is the first woman to be killed in an aeroplane.
- 22nd The French aviator Andre Beaumont was first out at Brooklands race track today at the start of the 1,010 mile Daily Mail Circuit of Britain race. Many say that this race is tougher than the Circuit of Europe race. The 21 starters are not allowed to replace aeroplanes or engines. Five parts of the airframe and five parts of the engine were officially sealed two of each having to remain sealed at the end of the race. The route from Brooklands will take in control stops at Hendon, Harrogate, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Stirling, Glasgow, Carlisle, Manchester, Bristol, Exeter, Salisbury, Brighton, and back to Brooklands.
- 26th Andre Beaumont was first back in the Circuit of Britain race to win the £10000 prize. The final stage from Brighton to Brooklands was flown in 40 minutes and his unofficial time over all of the stages was 22 hours 29 minutes and 6 seconds. Jules Vedines came second in his 70 hp Morane-Borel monoplane which was faster than the winning Bleriot XI however he lost almost two hours finding the control stops at Glasgow and Bristol and this cost him the race. His unofficial time was 23 hours 38 minutes and 5 seconds. Lord Northcliffe, proprietor of the Daily Mail gave him a £200 consolation prize, however thousands of pounds were raised by public subscription to compensate Vedrines for missing the winners cash prize.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Tuesday 5th July	'At Home' with Marylyn and Ray Wood Speaker Martin Sirot-Smith – 'Tudor Times' 2pm for 2.30pm 5 Sandringham Close, Rushden
Wednesday 13th July	July Walk – Meet at The Three Horseshoes, Renhold at 10.15 for a 10.30am start.
Monday 1st August	Informal gathering at the Fordham Arms, Sharnbrook At around 7.30 to 8.00pm.
Wednesday 5th October	Annual Luncheon at Woodlands Manor

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

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