

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2013 No 285

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

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APRIL WALK contributed by Marylyn and Ray Wood



22 joined the ARC walk on Wednesday 10th April in what turned out to be one of the warmest and calmest days of the month. Starting in Irchester village the group went through the church into open fields before entering the park. Taking the eastern route around the park we suddenly came across the 'assault' course which included zip wires, wire walking and bungee jumping which luckily was not included in the excursion! Then we walked into Wellingborough past the Railway Museum down to the River Nene where we had our photo taken along with the watching 'throng' of swans. We passed the Victoria Mills workings which were built by J B Whitworth on the site in 1886 to take advantage of the transport connections for water, rail and road. It is a roller mill originally steam powered but now using electricity rather than the traditional stones powered by water. The old mill now seems to be home to countless wood pigeons but would no doubt make a wonderful conversion to luxury flats if it was not next to huge 20,000 ton grain silos! We then retraced our steps back into the park and returned on the western route past the old quarry workings and into the warm hospitality of the Carpenters Arms. Excellent lunch at good value and highly recommended.

MAY WALK

The next walk will be on Wednesday, May 8th and will be led by John Cooper (01933 353517) and Ron Stone. Please meet at The Woolpack Inn, Islip, NN14 3JU at the usual time of 10.15am for a 10.30am start.

Islip is on outskirts of Thrapston. From Bedford, follow the A6 towards Rushden, and take the Rushden bypass. Turn right onto the A45 towards Raunds and the Stanwick lakes. After passing Stanwick lakes continue to the next roundabout on outskirts of

Raunds, and take the road to Ringstead (1st exit). Turn right at bottom of hill and continue on to Denford and Thrapston. Coming into Thrapston High St, turn left at the mini roundabout signposted Islip. Continue over river bridge, Woolpack Inn ahead on right.

Boat Trip

Gerry is now taking bookings for the boat trip on the River Ouse at Bedford. This has been confirmed as Tuesday 17th September at 2.30pm at a cost of £6/head and will last approximately 2½ hours.

We will need 40 trippers to cover the cost therefore friends and family will be very welcome. Please contact Gerry Pauley 01234 355308 to book your places.

Garden Party with Buffet

Marylyn and Ray Wood are very kindly hosting a Garden Party on Tuesday, 2nd July from 2.00-5.00pm when Ray will give a talk entitled 'Antiques for Everyone'. Anyone who has some interesting antiques to value or just talk about is invited to bring them along. The cost will be £5 per head with proceeds going to Marie Curie. Please contact Ray and Marylyn, 5 Sandringham Close, Rushden, Northants., NN10 9ER tel. 01933 353517 or e-mail malray@talk21.com.

One Hundred Years of Aviation May 1913 contributed by John Cherry

- 10th** Didier Masson a French-born American, and a former instructor at the Glenn L Martin flying school at Balboa, California, is now a mercenary in the pay of anti-government Mexican rebels, and is a supporter of General Alvarado Obregon.
Today Masson dropped bombs from his Martin pusher aeroplane onto Mexican Government gun-ships in Guaymas Bay on the Gulf of California.
- 13th** Igor Sikorski has today made the first flight in the world's first four-engined aeroplane Le Grand (Rusky Vityaz or Russian Knight). This is not merely the Bolshoi Bal'tisky that made its first flight in March fitted with two extra engines, but a completely new machine with four engines in tandem pairs. However, the first flight lasted less than ten minutes as the engine arrangement proved to be unsatisfactory.
- 17th** Domingo Rosillo has flown his French built Morane-Saulnier monoplane from Key West, Florida to Havana, Cuba.
A communiqué just received from America contains information relating to Katherine Stinson, who you may recall has set-up the Stinson Aeroplane Company along with her mother. Katherine has now bought a Wright Model 'B' aeroplane that has been modified by Max Lillie for \$2000.
Katherine caused the mechanics much amusement at Cicero Field when she insisted on washing the grime from every part of her new acquisition, but in

doing so found several fittings were worn. She is now insisting that her aeroplane is kept spotlessly clean at all times as a safety measure.

30th It has been reported from Moreno, Mexico, that Didier Masson along with fellow rebel, Captain Joaquin Alcalde dodged gunfire whilst dropping bombs from their aeroplane from a height of 2500 feet in an attempt to sink the Mexican gunship Guerrero that with two other government boats was guarding the city of Guaymas on the Gulf of California. On landing at Moreno, Masson reported that the bombs failed to score a hit. The airmans' inaccuracy was equalled by the ships crew which failed to hit their aeroplane. The 30 pound bombs were made from metal piping, dynamite and steel rivets with a detonator rod at one end and fins at the other. Masson again is sure that the experience will make future raids more successful.

Newsletter Editor

Chris Lock, who has edited this newsletter for the last five years, has now retired from this position. As the replacement editor I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work over these years. Keith Rose.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Wednesday May 8th	Walk starting at The Carpenters Arms, Irchester. Meet 10.15am for 10.30 start
Tuesday July 2nd	Garden Party with Buffet and talk 'Antiques for Everyone'
Tuesday, 17th September	Boat Trip on the River Great Ouse

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**MINUTES OF THE 24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARA
RETIREMENT CLUB HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE ON WEDNESDAY 17th APRIL
2013**

Members Present: David Ashman, Russell and Alma Berrington, John and Doreen Cooper, Margaret King, Pete and Pam Marsden, Mike and Chris Lock, Anne Pallister, Gerry and Joyce Pauley, Bruce Price, Keith Rose, Dave and Jenny Thomas, Trevor and Christine Tumber, Marylyn and Ray Wood.

There was one visitor, Jackie Currie

In the chair Bruce Price

Apologies for Absence

None

Approval of the Minutes of the 23rd AGM

The approval of the minutes of the previous AGM as published in the May 2012 Newsletter was proposed by Marylyn Wood and seconded by Pete Marsden and unanimously passed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The chairman spoke about the activities of 2012.

These included the abortive attempt to visit Chicksands DISC, (Defense, Intelligence and Security Centre), that was organized by Trevor Tumber for 9th August. This unfortunately fell foul of the increased security dictated by the London Olympics. It is hoped that the trip will be re-instated at a future date.

The open garden hosted by Marylyn and Ray Wood that along with two other afternoons raised £1700 for Marie Curie Nurses. Marylyn and Ray were thanked for their efforts.

The golf tournament in memory of Mick Finch at Pavenham Golf Club that had been well supported and enjoyed by those who attended.

And finally the Annual Lunch that had been held at The Sharnbrook Hotel. This had been a great success with the twenty five who attended. ARA had been represented by Rob Shribbs, the HR Manager, in place of Dougie Hunter who was unable to attend. Rob gave a brief talk on the current activities and fortunes of ARA. The chairman was pleased to announce that the Sharnbrook Hotel have offered us this year's lunch in October at the same price per head.

The chairman then reported that other planned activities for this year were a canal boat trip on the Great River Ouse and a charity garden party with buffet hosted by Marylyn and Ray Wood. The informal gatherings continue under the stewardship of Tony Dickason.

The regular monthly walks have continued in popularity with about 20 persons turning up.

The annual newsletter had been distributed in January giving as much information of forthcoming events as possible. This does mean that the committee has to plan a

year ahead. Any ideas from members would be very welcome.

The chairman then thanked the committee for their support and hard work.

Chris Lock had decided to stand down as Newsletter editor and was thanked for her past efforts.

Treasurer's Report

Anne Pallister presented the Financial Statement.

The balance at the beginning of the year was £630.65.

The income for the year had only been 4p bank interest.

The expenses had mainly been for the 2012 AGM and the annual newsletter mailshot. £147 has been paid out as deposits for forthcoming events. The balance at the end of the year was £350.84.

The acceptance of the accounts were proposed by Trevor Tumber and seconded by Dave Thomas. The Accounts were then approved unanimously by the meeting.

Election of Officers and Committee members

Volunteers were requested for the post of newsletter editor. Keith Rose volunteered and was duly elected. There were no additional nominations and as all members of the committee were prepared to stay in post they were unanimously voted in for another year.

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

Any Other Business

Gerry Pauley was asked for more details regarding the River Great Ouse trip in September. He explained that the boat had not yet been delivered and that volunteer crew were still undergoing training. The Bedford and Milton Keynes Waterways Trust will decide on the pick up points and routes for trips on the basis of experience, once the boat is underway.

The boat will be moored at Priory Marina but may pick up passengers at other locations, (there will be more than one).

Joyce Pauley thanked the committee for their efforts during the year.

After thanking all present for attending, the chairman wished them well at the Social Evening to follow and formally declared the meeting closed at 8pm.