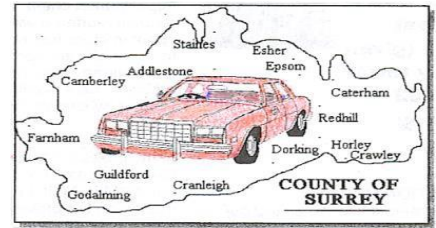


Surrey Group

boundless.co.uk/surrey

March/April 2024 Edition

Issue 197



Chairman: Barbara Westwood

01372.376873

b.h.westwood@btinternet.com

Secretary: Paul Finch

02085.428350

surreygroup@boundlesscommunity.co.uk

(It would still be helpful if you could let us know in advance if you are planning to join us on any of our usual weekday outings so that we can book tables.)

Tuesday 12th March – Meet for lunch at 12.15 at The Hogsmill, Old Malden Lane, Worcester Park KT4 7PY. After lunch we hope to go the very short distance to Court Farm Garden Centre, Old Kingston Road KT4 7QH to look at the plants and, maybe, have a cup of tea or coffee with cake.



On **Saturday 23rd March** we will be gathering at 12.30 for lunch at the Wetherspoon's pub **The Watchman** in **Burlington Road, New Malden** and then moving to the nearby **United Reformed Church Hall KT3 6DD** at 2.00 for our **Annual General Meeting**. **We do have to have a minimum of 10 members present – so please come if you can. We will be looking for volunteers for the Committee and, hopefully, a volunteer to act as Secretary. Do not let that put you off coming though!!**



We are allowed to park in the Church car park – but please put a notice on your dashboard to say that you are there for a CSMA meeting in the Hall. We are usually allowed to park in the doctors' surgery car park which is accessed by the one way road past the Church and round to Cromwell Avenue. Please put a notice on your dashboard to say that you have permission to park for a CSMA meeting.

On **Tuesday 9th April** we will meet at 12.15 for lunch at **The Weir Hotel at Waterside Drive, Walton KT12 2JB**. If the weather is kind, we can have a walk down to Sunbury Lock – or even a bit further and back for a cup of tea at The Weir.



On Wednesday 24th April we will meet at **12.15** for lunch at **Thames Court, Towpath, Shepperton TW17 9LJ**. After lunch and assuming it is not raining, we can walk (or drive) the short distance to the little island by the lock. There is also the possibility of taking the ferry (charge) across to the other side for a walk and look at the different views from there.



FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 9th May – Lunch at 12.15 at The Rose of York and the Isabella Plantation in Richmond Park.

Tuesday 21st May – Lunch at 12.15 at Heathside, Brighton Road, Tattenham KT20 6BW and a walk on Epsom Downs from the top car park.

Wednesday 5th June – The Beehive and Earlswood Lakes.

Thursday 20th June – The Windmill and Wimbledon Common.

Tuesday 9th July – Bill's in Kingston and a boat ride to Hampton Court.

Wednesday 24th July – This is a date that we hope to discuss with you at the AGM because the Committee were looking to see if we could go to Kew Gardens but eat elsewhere.

Barbara's Words:

On Wednesday 10th January 2024, ten of us met for lunch at the Beefeater Monkey Puzzle. The staff were very good at looking after us and one of the waitresses was recognised as having been at the Tattenham Beefeater. That venue has now closed – so she was having to cope with the steps at the Monkey Puzzle. (if you are not familiar with the Monkey Puzzle – the food is cooked upstairs and the staff then have to negotiate a rather steep staircase to get the food to the customer.) I think everyone was happy with their food – I certainly was. After the meal many of us went down to the Chessington Garden Centre but I think we all had a cup of tea at a different time as some of us spent longer buying plants and garden items than others. I have to plead guilty to having my tea early! Another lovely outing though.



On Saturday 20th January, some 10 of us met at New Malden. Those of us who wanted the meal before our afternoon of fun met at the Wetherspoons and enjoyed the benefits of the lower prices there and the very enjoyable food. Then we moved over to the United Reformed Church Hall for a version of our Olympics. Do not, for one minute, think that we were running or jumping with a speed gun trained on us. Norman had very kindly brought our variety of “athletics” so that we could enjoy competing against each other. We had the potato in a bucket, the cards on the table, the maximum value of a throw of dice, the skittles, the golf ball in a triangle and the one that fools nearly all of us as it is an electrified line of twists and turns where you have to pass a handset over the line without making it ring. Needless to say it was a rather noisy corner of the room.

We enjoyed our drinks which Glenys has very kindly agreed to provide on Saturdays and the cakes which Edna brings.

Another enjoyable Saturday for those of us who managed to be there, including our two recent new members James and John.



Brenda D's Blog:

On Thursday 8th February it was our plan to visit the snowdrops in Nonsuch Park – so congratulations to all the 13 members who met up, rain notwithstanding, at the Toby Carvery in Ewell. We were not disappointed with anything, including the prompt service and reasonable prices.

A few of our regulars could not be with us, mostly for health reasons, so we sent our best wishes to Frank, Jean, Glenys and David.

By early afternoon the rain had eased and most of us decided to drive up to Nonsuch Park Gardens, carefully negotiating the flooded entry roadway. The snowdrops were scattered amongst the trees and I found a small plot of mini-chrysanthemums being visited by darting squirrels. It was now time for a cuppa and cake and I chose an outdoor but sheltered table and was soon invited to join a couple on their own, visiting from their home in nearby Stoneleigh village, and chatting about a wide range of issues.

Meantime, Barbara, Jaz, Sally and James were also enjoying a cuppa at a nearby table so more chatting took place. I had eaten a very pleasant lunch and enjoyed my unexpected, interesting afternoon outing.



Brenda D has kindly provided the history of Nonsuch Palace which was built by Henry V111 from 1538 at the Stoneleigh end of Nonsuch Park. It was designed as a hunting lodge adjoining Richmond Park estate and to celebrate the power and grandeur of the Tudor dynasty. It was intended to be the finest palace in the world – hence its name of Nonsuch. Given by Charles 11 to Barbara Villiers, she eventually had to sell it to pay her gambling debts in 1682/3 after which it was demolished. The present Mansion House was built between 1731 and 1743 at the Cheam end of the park and it is now used for many functions. On a personal basis Brenda's daughter celebrated her wedding at the Mansion House understandably explaining Brenda's interest and the fact that her favourite flower is the snowdrop.

Barbara's Words:

On Saturday 24th February A sad day for us as we had just learned that Jean Finch had died on Friday 23rd and all of our sympathy and love was sent to our Secretary Paul.

However, a group of 8 met at the Church Hall in New Malden after most of us had had the usual good and inexpensive lunch at The Watchman. I am sorry that I don't have photos for you but I can tell you that we had a very enjoyable afternoon struggling with a quiz from Brenda J and then, after a welcome cup of tea and cake, playing Bingo with playing cards which was a new variety to all of us, Beetle and the "gambling" game where you hand one of your five coins to the right or left of you, or to the centre or, occasionally, keeping some depending on the marks on the dice. Very good fun because you can have all five coins one minute and then lose three in one go!

JUST FOR FUN QUIZ 27 (Part 2) Answers – Christian Names

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Oliver (Hardy) | 2. Ben (Dover) | 3. Norman (Conquest) | 4. Will (Power) |
| 5. Phyllis (Tine) | 6. Ruth (Less) | 7. Tom (Bola) | 8. Rick (Shaw) |
| 9. May (Day) | 10. Paul (Bearer) | 11. Sam (Pull) | 12. Harry(Carry) |
| 13. Matt (Innay) | 14. Dolly (Mixture) | 15. Peter (Sham) | |

Just for Fun Quiz 28 – Homophones

e.g.A food made from a dough of flour or meal mixed with water or milk/the past participle of breed.

Bread/Bred

1. A very thin fabric/To cut the wool off a sheep _____
2. Solid material typically hard and malleable/Ability to cope with difficulties _____
3. Having an excessively high opinion of one's appearance/A blood vessel _____
4. Obtain a financial benefit/Person regarded as a proclaimer of the will of God _____
5. Refrain from using a right or claim/Move one's hand to and fro in greeting _____
6. Thick malleable mixture of flour and a liquid/A female deer _____
7. Injury appearing as discoloured skin on the body/Different kinds of beer _____
8. Sledge drawn by reindeer/Kill in a violent way _____
9. Be full of, swarming with/Two or more people working together _____
10. A tiny piece of a substance/A steep wide ditch surrounding a castle _____
11. Fastening of closing securely/Upper interior surface of a room _____
12. Central American plant that yields large grains/Complex network of paths _____
13. Expanses of salt water covering most of the earth/Take forceful possession on _____
14. Condensed atmospheric moisture falling in drops/To rule as a monarch _____
15. Device for slowing or stopping a vehicle/To separate or become separated in two or more pieces _____
16. Type of flexible armour consisting of riveted metal rings of links/Of, or relating to, masculine characteristics _____
17. The forward end of part of a vessel/Any of the main branches of a tree _____
18. Rough in texture,structure/A continuous progression from one point to the next in time or space, onward movement _____
19. More confident, courageous, fearless/Smooth rounded mass of rock _____
20. A young unmarried girl/Artificially produced _____