



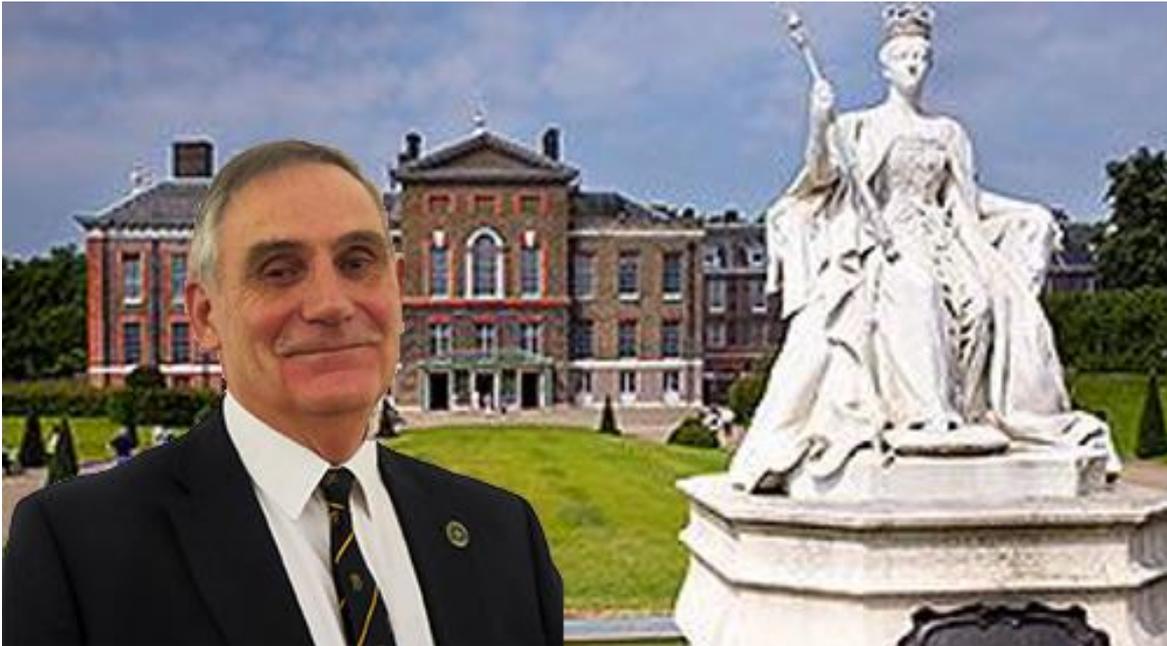
Wroxham and District
Membership Number: 962/940/13

Chairman: John Long, 01603 722254 Secretary: Sue Badger 01603 737572

Membership Secretary: Sue Badger

Newsletter for February 2018

General Meeting



We welcomed the return of Peter Lawrence as our guest speaker in January: he's always a pleasure to listen to. It's not just the amount of historical knowledge he commands, it's also the dry humour and personal anecdotes which he uses to embellish his theme that makes his talks so enjoyable.

Although his topic was 'Royalty in London', he restricted his presentation to the Westminster area: his starting point was Edward the Confessor and the reason he had Westminster Abbey built, and meandered through the monarchs, charting London's regal development and the wider influences this had on customs and culture. He focussed on the Houses of Parliament, Horse Guards Parade, and the palaces of Whitehall, St James, Kensington and Buckingham.

He liberally laced his talk with fascinating facts, like the derivation of the title The Chancellor of the Exchequer; like why Scotland Yard was so named and so located, and how our present queen raised enough money to restore Windsor Palace without having to resort to begging from the tax payers.

Supported by a huge range of photographs, his talk sets the bar extremely high for the coming year.

A group visit to Kensington Palace is being considered, with Peter as our guide. Mary Long has more details: she writes:

"With regard to the suggested trip to Kensington Palace I have now heard from Peter Lawrence as follows:

“As far as a trip to Kensington Palace is concerned, this is how I’ve conducted it successfully for several groups in the past. Meet late morning at Lancaster Gate LT station on the Central Line from Liverpool Street. You might like to meet earlier at Liverpool Street station for coffee and comfort before getting the tube. We will cross over the Bayswater Road into Kensington Gardens – there are toilets there. I then conduct a walk across and around Kensington Gardens to Kensington Palace which last about 90 minutes. That’s my part done. **Your group can then perhaps have lunch at the palace cafe’ (very nice) or the nearby refreshment bar in the gardens. Afterwards visit the Palace with your pre booked tickets. There are simple leaflets to guide you through the building which is set out in the periods that royalty occupied the palace. The Palace does not allow guiding inside the building.**

If you fancy the idea, my charge for the guided walk is £12 per person, with a minimum of 15.”

There will of course also be the cost of going into the palace as well as travelling expenses.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in this trip so that I can see whether we can realistically meet the minimum requirement of 15 people.
If there is sufficient interest I will agree a date with Peter.”

Our guest next month is Malcolm Ecclestone who will regale us with a musical entertainment, demonstrating unusual instruments, and possible audience participation! His talk is called ‘Music with a difference’ and will be at the Hub on the 3rd Tuesday of next month, the 20th, starting at 2.30.

Activities

French conversation All are welcome at Bijou (opposite Hoveton station) to chatter in French whatever the standard, **every Thursday afternoon at 3 pm.** Jane Monks 01603 782496

Classical Music (and a bit of other sorts as well!) Meeting fortnightly at Brian's house, Prior Thatch, Beech Road, Wroxham at 1.30 in winter, 2.30 when the evenings draw out. **14th and 28th February.** Brian Keane 01603 782774

Bird Banter and Bird Watching Sadly due to illness, the weather and Bijou closing temporarily nothing happened in January. We hope for better things in February. Bird Banter will start again on **Friday 2nd Feb at 10.30 am** in the warm at Bijou. Fingers crossed for a fine day on **Saturday 17th Feb, meet at Di's at 10.30 am** (by the double roundabout in Hoveton). Di Stagg 01603 784214

Play Reading meets the first Tuesday of every month, therefore on **6th February at 2.30 pm** in Bouchon. New members would be very welcome. Jane Monks 782496

Lunch Out The January date had to move into February as it clashed with the painting day. So the lunch will be on **2nd February at 12.30pm** at "The Recruiting Sargeant". All are welcome, but if you have not already signed up let Corrie know by Jan 31st. The February date will be **Feb 23rd at 12.30 pm** at the re-opened Horse and Groom in Tunstead, which was the "Olive Branch". Again, let Corrie know by Wed 21st. Corrie Mould 01603 782755

Evening Dining All are welcome to **The King's Head in Coltishall on Tuesday 13th February at 6.30 pm.** Note that there is a "2 for 1" offer that evening! Contact Nicole Rufford by 11th if you wish to join the party. Nicole 01603 781880.

History Group The History Group meets on the last Thursday of the month at 2 pm in Bijou. On 25th January they will plan their programme for the next few months, and will meet again on **22nd February at 2 pm in Bijou.**

Photographic /Camera Club Mary Long writes:"Our January meeting was small but select; we discovered one of our members was not just a very good photographer but an artist as well. Christmas Lights was the subject, and many interesting ideas were discussed and photos shown around the group, explaining why they had taken the photo, the settings and the angle – all relevant points when taking a photograph. The second part of the meeting was a quiz and Jan scored 7 out of 10 so took home a box of chocolates. Our subject this month is Still Life, but from an unusual angle, trying to make something very ordinary interesting." Meet on **Friday 16th February at 2pm at The Hub.** Mary 01603 722254

Gardening There are no activities planned for this month, but if you want to see snowdrops look out for Open Days at Horstead House (near Horstead Mill) which has a fabulous extensive display, as has the church at Thorpe Market.

The Horstead House snowdrop walk is on Saturday 17th February, from 11am to 4pm, and starts the year off for the National Garden Scheme in Norfolk.