



Wroxham and District
Membership Number: 962/940/13

Chairman: John Long, 01603 7822254 Secretary: Sue Badger 01603 737572

Membership Secretary: Marlene Corke 01603 781012

NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

Our membership keeps on increasing rapidly, we now have at least 84 members, so we welcome all the new-comers and hope you will get enjoyment from the many activities we have to offer.

General Meetings always take place on the third Tuesday of the month (but no meeting in August). Our speaker this month was David Reeve, a former Royal Protection Officer at the Sandringham Estate. Full of anecdotes and humour, David revealed the human side of the Royal family, and his sometimes uneasy, sometimes straight-talking and sometimes hugely comical episodes that highlighted his tenure. His descriptions of various events and situations painted a wonderfully graphic picture of his time as chief of security, turning the humour on himself with accounts of back-to-front long-johns, undiluted G&Ts, the Queen Mum getting the upper hand of a belligerent naturalist, and a 'generous' portion of lunch which didn't include cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli or Brussel sprouts! An absolute treat of a speaker!



The next **General meeting** will be on **Tuesday 19th July at 2.30pm**, when Dr Julia Badger, research associate at Oxford University will talk about her research into helping people to maintain our mental capacity for their lifespan by using reasoning tasks and shapes, and hopes you will take part in her research.

Activities

Walking: has so far been on the first Monday of the month. Unfortunately Maggie Lomax will not be able to lead a walk in July or August, so if there are any volunteers to organise one of about 3 – 4 miles, please let her know. Maggie 0103 783870

Music: 11 music lovers at the last meeting in June enjoyed a few hours of varied music, generously hosted and organised by Brian Keane in his home, Prior Thatch, Beech Road, Wroxham. He has a vast store of recordings, and welcomes others (recordings and people!) if they want to bring them along. **Weds. July 13th and July 27th at 2.30 pm** Brian 01603 782774.

Painting for Pleasure: Most of the group just enjoy dabbling and experimenting, and would welcome more members to join, and some expertise would be welcome. If it is fine we could go outside somewhere, meet at The Hub on **Weds July 6th and July 20th at 2.30 pm**. Bob McKee 01603 783639

Photographic/Camera Club: The prestigious Henri Cartier-Bresson photographic exhibition is currently being shown at the Sainsbury Centre: an impressive display of some of his most famous images of Parisian street life, ranging from the late 1920s to the 1960s. The small group who visited the exhibition felt the images were eclectic, inspirational and at times quite provocative, and will provide a stimulus for our own Street Life theme later this year.

Lunch Out always on the last Friday of the month. This month we will meet at The White Horse in Neatishead on **Friday 29th July at 12.30 pm**. Sign up at the general meeting, or give me a ring so that I can book a table. Corrie Mould 01603 782755

Evening Dining The first night out is on 29th June at a Spanish restaurant called “Embrujo” near Acle at 6.30 pm, and then they will decide where to go in July. Maggie Flatman 01603 783091 for details.

Bird Watching: Di has been missed while she was visiting family in USA and recovering from it.

On **Saturday July 2nd, meeting at 10.am** at Di’s home on the double roundabout in Hoveton weather permitting there will be a visit to Ted Ellis’s domain in Surlingham, hopefully also to see some swallowtail butterflies. Di has warned that there is some walking involved and no shelter from bad weather. Ring her if interested on 01603 784214 Bird Banter will resume on **Friday 15th July**, meeting at Bouchon delicatessen opposite Hoveton station at 10.30 am over a coffee to talk about birds

French conversation The group meets **every Thursday afternoon at 3 pm** in Bouchon (as above) and all levels of French speaking ability are welcome. Jane Monks 01603 782496

History Group: usually meets the last Thursday of the month at the home of Anne den Engelse. However, on **Thursday July 28th** a visit to Sir Alfred Munnings’s birthplace and home at **Mendham Mill** in Suffolk is planned, followed by lunch. If you want to go you must ring Anne 01603 782121 or Mary Freeman 01603 784749, and indicate if you can give a lift or if you need one.

Play Reading: Having successfully taken on *Under Milk Wood*, read with glee, gaiety and the occasional guffaw, we are meandering gently though Stephen Poliakoff’s 1996 play *Blinded by the Sun*. The ‘gentleness’ is deceptive, with scientific deceit and management-led manoeuvring between the two main protagonists becoming the central thrust of the play.... To be continued.

Petanque: has moved to Hoveton village hall car park, which is somewhat smoother than The Hub’s! They always meet on the second Monday, so this month it will be **Monday 11th July at 2.30 pm**. You do not need to own petanque balls, so give it a try. Dennis Cobbold 01603 784650

Chess This group has yet to get started, and will probably wait until September. If you are interested Philip Hogbin would like to hear from you. 01603 782496

Gardens Group: Penny Doe’s beautiful garden was open for U3A viewing on the 12th June, and several admirers strolled round both her semi-formal cottage garden, carefully designed with varied borders, patio (with fountain) and decking area, and her attractive orchard, surrounded by yew hedging and flint wall. The sun shone (mostly) and the planting was fresh and non-competitive (a situation which undoubtedly will change in the coming years!). Visits to **Blickling Lodge** and **Bird in Hand** (Blofield) are planned for July 9th and August 19th respectively. Anyone wishing to join us is more than welcome: please contact Sue on 01603 737572.

May I remind you to let me know by the 20th of the month if you want anything out of the ordinary put in the next newsletter.

Thanks to our secretary Sue Badger for her photo and helping to compile this newsletter.

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