

RETIREMENT CLUB NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2012 No 274

Manton Lane MK41 7PF

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Dear Friends

MAY WALK contributed by Tony Dickason



Starting from Pavenham Park Golf Club, on a rather dull looking morning after it having rained on Tuesday night, eleven of us, hoping the weather would hold dry till the afternoon, started the walk from the car park at the club. We entered the playground at Pavenham and crossed the playing field making our way towards the bridleway that runs along the side of the golf course.

Heading towards Radwell, the bluebells in the woods were in full bloom and looking refreshed after Tuesday nights rain although it made the pathway a bit muddy. Reaching the Radwell road we turned left towards Felmersham and followed the road till we took a left across the fields to the top of the hill. After a short distance along the road we turned right to walk along the ridge heading southwest towards Pavenham where we had a pause for a picture by Keith Rose.

The views were not as nice as on a bright sunny day when you can see the valley to your left and right, it was a bit overcast to say the least. Making our way now downhill towards Pavenham a bit of rain started to fall. Arriving back on to Pavenham High Street we headed back to the Golf Club for lunch. The club made us very comfortable and we stayed fairly dry for the whole walk. Many thanks for the support on a dull day, but it was worth the effort.

JUNE WALK

The walk on Wednesday, 13th June will start from The Crown, Willington MK44 3QH and will be led by Brian Ashman. Please meet at the usual time of 10.15 for a 10.30am start.

Mick Finch Memorial Golf Tournament

This will be held on Friday, June 8th at 2pm at Pavenham Park Golf Club. The cost will be £35 for round and meal. Contact Marylyn Wood 01933 353517 or Tony Dickason 01234 824741.

Anyone wishing to come for the meal only at £12 a head are very welcome and let Tony or Marylyn know in advance.

Military Intelligence Museum, Chicksands (DISC)

We have arranged for a party of up to 20 to visit the Military Intelligence Museum at Chicksands SG17 5PR on **Thursday, August 9th at 10.30am.**

Those attending will have to provide names and associated car registration details before we will be allowed entry, as the museum site is within the secure area of the Chicksands DISC base. Chicksands is located off the A600 Bedford to Hitchin road between Haynes and Shefford.

Typically the visits last around 2 hours, and a word of warning, there is very little seating!

The displays address:-

- ▲ The Intelligence Corps museum
- ▲ The Medmenham Collection of air photography
- ▲ The USAF at Chicksands

Following the tour you can join us for lunch at The Greyhound, Haynes, a 10 minute drive from DISC. Last orders 2.15pm.

We will require the names of those wishing to attend with the relevant car registration number.

You may book by phone to:

Trevor, on 01234 381466,

or, by email

tandc.tumber@googlemail.com

Please book no later than 31st July

Entrance to the museum is free – but they greatly appreciate donations. (suggest £2.50 per person)

Please indicate if you wish to partake of lunch as we can then reserve tables.

(DISC - Defence Intelligence and Security Centre)

Charity Open Garden

On Tuesday, June 19th between 2.00 – 5.00pm there will be an open garden at 5 Sandringham Close, Rushden, Northants, NN10 9ER in support of the Marie Curie Nurses. The cost will be £5 including a cream tea and there will also be a plant tombola and raffle. Please contact Ray and Marylyn Wood, tel. 01933 353517; e-mail malray@talk21.com to reserve your places.

USAAF WWII Charity Event, Bedfordshire contributed by Gerry Pauley

This event commemorates the 306th Heavy Bomber Group which operated B-17s out of Thurleigh Airfield in North Bedfordshire during the Second World War. The museum on the airfield celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and the event will raise funds for the EAAA, which is celebrating five years of serving Bedfordshire. Mainline Big Band will be performing American-style music of the era and there will be a display of military vehicles. The day will also see the rededication of the memorial to the 306th Group aircrew which is moving from a location in Thurleigh village into the museum grounds. Tickets can be bought in advance at £5 from our Bedfordshire fundraising office – admission on the day will cost £8 with accompanied children free.



One Hundred Years of Aviation June 2012 contributed by John Cherry

2nd Today the French capital, Paris, hosted a rather bizarre aviation show when thirty would-be flyers met at the Parc des Princes to compete for the FF11,000 offered by the Peugeot brothers. The participants had to leave the ground under shear pedal-power.

It was on February 1st that the Peugeot brothers announced that FF10,000 would go to the first person to fly ten metres by their own exertions, whilst FF1,000 would go to the first self propelled flight of one metre.

The contest drew thousands of spectators and many aviators, including Gabriel Voisin, Emile Ladougue and Gabriel Poulain who all signed-up to have a go. All kinds of machines were put through their paces including converted bicycles with wings, however, not a single machine could be coaxed to leave the ground.

3rd The Royal Aircraft Factories new BE2, two-seat observation biplane, today set-up a new British altitude record by flying over Salisbury plain at a height of 10,560 feet.

7th Today Captain Charles Chandler of the U.S. Army Signal Corps test fired a Lewis gun fitted to a Wright Model B biplane flown by Lt Thomas de Witt Milling. This is the first time that a machine gun has been fired from an aeroplane in the U.S.

- 7th It is reported that the pioneer French flyer Hubert Latham, has been trampled to death by a buffalo while on safari in Central Africa. Hubert Latham abandoned aviation in December 1911 after the failure of the Antoinette Company.
- 10th Two of Count von Zeppelin's airships, the 'Schwaben' and the 'Gelber Hund' are being used to carry the first German air mail between Darmstadt and Frankfurt/Main.
- 19th The Central Flying School has opened at Upavon, Wiltshire, under Captain G. Paine of the Royal Navy. The costs of the flying school are to be shared by the War Office and the Admiralty.
- 21st At Los Angeles today Tiny Broadwick aged just eighteen years became the first female to make a parachute jump from an aeroplane. The aircraft piloted by Glenn Martin was flying at an altitude of 1,000feet.
- 22nd The experimental air mail service set-up in Germany on the 10th of this month was today abandoned.
- 26th Today in Japan the Naval Committee for Aeronautical Research has been formed by the Japanese government.
- 27th Today the Italian Aviation Service has been formed from the Battaglione Avatori.
- 28th Today in Germany Count von Zeppelin's passenger carrying airship line DELAG based at Friedrichshafen, on Lake Constance, suffered a set-back when the Zeppelin LZ10 the 'Schwaben' was destroyed by fire which broke out in its shed.
- 29th Today the first air race in Australia took place. Two rival pilots vied to fly 15.5 miles in the fastest time, taking-off from the football ground at Botany, near Sydney to fly to Parramatta, New South Wales.
At 3:30pm William Hart took-off in a Bristol Boxkite that had been bought in its crate from Bristol during the makers Australian mission last year. It took Hart just 23 minutes and 53 seconds to complete the course. The American, 'Wizard' Stone flying a Metz Bleriot got lost in a rain cloud and landed at Lakemba. Hart won the £250 which each man had staked on he race, this will make up for damages he faces for landing on a market garden and stampeding a herd of cows.
Stone is a showman, giving daredevil flying and motorcycling exhibitions, three weeks ago he crashed his aeroplane whilst attempting to race a motor car.
William Hart holds the first Australian aviators certificate having learned to fly last year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS	
Friday June 8th	Mick Finch Memorial Golf Tournament at Pavenham Park Golf Club.
Wednesday June 13th	June walk starting at The Crown, Willington. 10.15 for 10.30am start.
Tuesday June 19th	Open Garden and Cream Tea for Marie Curie Nurses at 5 Sandringham Close, Rushden. Between 2 and 5pm.
Thursday August 9th	Military Intelligence Museum, Chicksands

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

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