



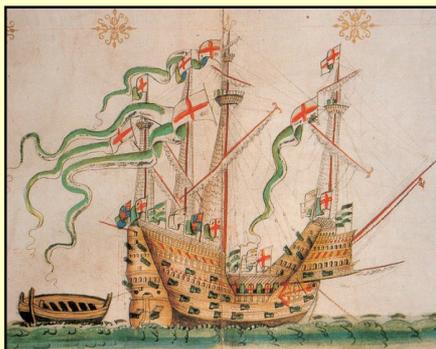
Maghull and Lydiate U3A



Reg. Charity: No. 1116576

ISSUE 114 January 2019

Risen From The Deep



1545 - the nineteenth of July; she was the flagship of Henry VIII's new Royal Navy. Commissioned as a symbol of his power, fitted with the latest innovations she sailed out to meet the French on the Solent. Paint work gleaming, sails billowing and flags fluttering in the breeze with a history of maritime successes behind her she was an amazing sight.

1982 - the eleventh of October; she was now rotting timbers brought up from the silt of the Solent, no King watching her this time, instead a whole world; an audience in awe.

2013- the thirty first of May; housed in her own exhibition hall, preserved and protected from further decay she was ready to tell her story.

She was and is 'The Mary Rose.'

Having survived many a sea battle and recently upgraded to be the pride of the Tudor fleet, the Mary Rose led the 80 vessels of the Royal Navy out against the 200 French vessels that had come to claim our shore. With her thirty nine guns the Mary Rose was the most well armed and the heaviest ship in the fleet and along with human error this proved to be her downfall. She engaged the French with her port side guns and then turned to starboard but amid the chaos of battle her newly added gun ports were forgotten! She heeled and the waters of the Solent rushed in and took her to her watery grave. She settled in the mud of the Solent taking all but some thirty hands of her 500 crew with her. The mud encased her starboard side leaving the rest to the ravages of the sea and there she lay, the pride of the fleet deep in her silent world. In the 1960's she was discovered but it took another twenty years for plans to be drawn up that would bring her back.

Last September, I entered the Mary Rose exhibition expecting to see some timbers, corroded cannons, broken masts and the damage of over four hundred years. Imagine my amazement when I finally saw her - she was breathtaking. She was huge, regal and awe inspiring. Her three levels - keel, midships and top decks were preserved behind glass; but she was made alive by the ingenuity of the exhibition designers. Projected into her hull were carpenters, gunners, sailors, surgeon and Captain all working in their own sections of the ship like ghosts from the past. Alongside her, the cabinets of the exhibition showed some of the 19,000 of the artefacts that had been brought up with her. Artefacts that included armour and longbows, cannons and ropes, tools, personal effects and her crew! Captain and cabin boy, carpenter and cook, gunners and archers, surgeon, sailors and soldiers; all kept safe in the cold mud.

At the highest point, we entered her personal domain through air lock doors that kept her safe. Here we shared the same air and as the lighting turned to a deep blue colour she reached out to all of us with a majesty that I had never expected. Not planks of rotting wood but a living part of our history with a grandeur all of her own. Preserved for a future she never expected to see, she impressed us all.

Jane Jones



CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

This year's concert was greeted with delight by everyone who attended. The school choir was a star turn with sweet voices lifting spirits on a cold day.

The readings and hymns filled the Sanctuary with festive cheer and alongside this, came the brilliant news that the concert had raised £410.00 for our local Woodlands Hospice.

Jane Jones

HISTORY FOR FUN - NEW GROUP

Group Leader: Norman Stalford 531 9354

Venue & Time: Kensington House 14:30 – 16:00 every third Friday of the month starting on Friday January 18th

Aiming to cover a variety of topics with some lively discussions with input from all, this new group hopes to excite our curiosity about the past. Our first topic will be: William Pitt the Younger. All are welcome.

TURKEY AND TINSEL IN TENBY

Off we set for our annual Turkey n Tinsel Break, sometimes known by its posher name of Holly & Mistletoe. We were heading for Tenby. Carl was our safe competent driver, we have met him before and he suggested that we travel the pretty way via Welsh countryside and over the Brecon Beacons. It was beautiful with stunning Autumnal colours. After suitable comfort stops we arrived at the Clarence House Hotel. We were welcomed on board by the Manageress who soon had us sorted, whisked off to our rooms and luggage came quickly after. The Hotel, was cosy, staff were great, there was a good choice of meals, entertainment was ok.



Our excursions kept us out and about, with visits that included St. David's, smallest City in the UK with a splendid Cathedral, Tapestries in Fishguard, which recorded the last French Invasion of Britain, stunningly embroidered by local Welsh ladies, a visit to the Celtic Country Wines. All their wines are made from fruit and their delicious jams, all of which are made on the premises. Plenty of tasters well enjoyed. The National Wool Museum was a point of interest and a reminder of how many sheep there are in Wales!

Finally, we visited the Lovespoon Workshop with a talk and demonstration by a very talented gentleman who actually makes them. Apparently a lot are imported. Like Robert Thompson, the Mouseman, he leaves a little mark on them so you know they are originals. Those who bought them had them personalised while they waited. A nice touch for the recipient.



Our last afternoon was free to explore the very pretty town of Tenby itself, with its lovely harbour, apparently one of the most photographed in the world. There was also a lovely cream tea at the hotel. to tempt us, which went down very well. All too soon it was all over and the inevitable question "where to next year?" time will tell!

After having lovely weather all week, we travelled home leaving Tenby in storm force winds and thick mist on the way. Did you tackle the washing mountain?

Marj Atlay



LONDON HIGHLIGHTS

In early December, 34 theatre-goers from Maghull and Lydiate U3A enjoyed a pre-Christmas break in London.

The trip included a wonderful musical evening at the Royal Albert Hall with John Rutter conducting the RPO; a guided tour of the Palace of Westminster organised by Bob Fish, one of our group - thank you Bob .

We had a visit to Windsor Castle to see the Christmas decorations and the beautiful bridal gown worn by Meghan Markle on her wedding day in May this year. A high spot at the Castle was the Changing of the Guard ceremony accompanied by the band of the Household Cavalry.

A wonderful way to start the festive season.

Pat Kelly



NOT A TURKEY IN SIGHT!

Following a hard fought duplicate bridge session the Beginners' Bridge crowd moved on to the Lal Qila restaurant for our Christmas meal.

No turkey and two veg for us, it was popadoms and puri, biryani and balti, tikka and tandoori and anything else that took our fancy.

The food was excellent, the company even better and watching Frances flirt with the waiter was priceless! I'm sure the staff thought we'd never go but when you're having fun who wants to leave? We were so impressed we've all signed up for their Elvis night next March!!

Jane Jones



Deadline for items for our February Newsletter is the 18th of January. Available 29th of January

Alan Carr - A Pilgrim's Progress



In early October of this year I walked seventy two miles in six days along The Camino route to Santiago de Compostela Cathedral in Galicia, Northern Spain. The Camino has been trekked by people from all over the world for hundreds of years.

The Medieval Cathedral in Santiago is believed to contain the remains of St. James, an Apostle of Jesus. Legend holds that St. James' bones were carried here by boat from Jerusalem. People credit them with healing powers which draws a great many pilgrims to the site.

A certificate is awarded at the Cathedral for those who complete the journey; the only stipulation being that the last 100 kilometres has to be walked on foot or by horseback or 200 kilometres by bike.

A journey to Santiago Cathedral can literally start from anywhere although there are recognized trails in France and Spain marked with the symbol of a scallop shell, that lead to Santiago. The Scallop Shell marks the way. The shell is even more commonly seen on the pilgrims themselves. Wearing a shell denotes that one is a traveller on the Camino de Santiago.

Hostel accommodation along the way is very good and a bed could be obtained for around 10€. A three course Menu del Dia was around 12 €.

During the walk I met up with over 20 different nationalities along the trail and heard some

amazing stories of their own personal 'Camino'.

After Santiago I took a bus to Cape Finisterre, which you may recognise as part of The Shipping Forecast. Finisterre, in the Middle Ages, was thought to be the end of the known world, literally 'finis tierra'. For all intrepid pilgrims who walk on to the Cape after Santiago and complete their journey there, a further 90 Kilometres awaited them!

Alan Carr Assistant Leader of the Walking Group & Leader of the Day Riders Cycling Group.



ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

Convenor: Colin Hignett 531 9763

Asst: Eric Purvis

Venue: Kensington House 14:30 - 16:30 Every 2nd Friday each month

January meeting - Roman France - a talk by Jim Brady

BOOK CLUB

Leader: David Kearney 526 6001

Monthly at Orchard Hey 19:30

Our first meeting in 2019 will be:

Thursday 10th January - 'The Music Shop' by Rachel Joyce.

DAY TRIPS

Leader: Marj Atlay 526 4665

Asst: Sylvia Adams

NEW TRIP Wed.27th Feb. 2019

We will be visiting Bellis Bros of Wrexham Garden Centre with its Butcher & Farmshop, both selling local produce.

We then move on to the 18th Century Cardon Arms Inn for a delicious three course meal, followed by tea/coffee.

Dept. 09.15 ret. 17.30

Price £25.00 inc.3 course meal etc.

FAMILY HISTORY

Leaders: David Russell 526 6527

Rosney Leith 526 3623

Venue: Lydiate Village Centre

Friday 4th. January 13:30 - 15:30

'Discovering a Local Hero' by Tom White

DIGITAL CAMERA GROUP

Leaders: Peter Martin 526 9406

Terry Horrobin 526 1249

Venue: St Andrews Church Room.

Mondays 14:00 - 16:00 fortnightly

7th January 2019 - Hobbies & Games

21st January - Kitchen Scene

If you know of any member who is ill or in need, please inform Lill Boyle (Welfare) on 526 4303

COFFEE MORNINGS



Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:15
Maghull Baptist Church Hall
Tea/coffee served until 11:00

Join us for a coffee and find out what's going on in the New Year.

THEATRE GROUP

Leaders: Pat Kelly 476 1726 and Ann Unsworth



THEATRE	SHOW	DATE	PRICE
Epstein Theatre	Dan Snow	Sat 13th January	£26.00
Empire Theatre	The Nutcracker	16th February	TBA
Playhouse	The Girl on the Train	15th March	TBA
Empire Theatre	Kinky Boots	4th April	TBA
Philharmonic	Star Wars Saga	27th April	TBA

WALES AND THE WEST COUNTRY

Three days of magic awaited us on our recent trip to Cardiff and Bath. A relaxing break before the mayhem of Christmas descended upon us!

We had the opportunity to experience the amazing Festival of Light at Woburn Abbey, the magnificent Elizabethan home of the Marquis of Bath. We were taken around the Safari Park where beautiful wild animals took our breath away before experiencing a world full of stunning displays of amazing structures and exotic mesmerising creatures. It was breathtaking and gave us all a night to remember.

Our next port of call was the city of Cardiff. Magnificent in its Christmas splendour the tour we had was wonderful, incorporating both the city centre with its ancient castle and the Bay with its Millennium Centre and the Assembly building.

We moved on to St Fagan's, an open air museum rather like Beamish, where buildings that depict Welsh life and culture have been brought together. Memories of a simpler age and a slower pace of life made us aware of the frantic lives we all live today.



Homeward bound we had the chance to visit the spa town of Bath. A drive around this beautiful city, gave us the chance to see The Royal Crescent, The Circus and The Poultney Bridge. A quick walk around the city centre brought us to the Assembly Rooms and then to complete our wonderful break, English afternoon tea in Jane Austin's home. It was a perfect end to a smashing break.

Doreen Bird

POETRY READING GROUP

Leader: Gwen Parry 526 4798

Venue: 27 East Meade, Maghull
Second Wednesday of the month

10:30-12:30 Topics:

January Winter poems

February Bird poems

SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

Leader: Sylvia Adams 531 9001

Sunday 3rd. February - 'Hurlston
Hall Scarisbrick'

TAI JI

Leader: Sheila Merry 526 3220

Venue: Maghull Parish Hall

Friday 11:00 - 12:00

Resumes on 4th the of January
2019

TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE

Leader: Phil Davidson 526 6805

Assts: Colin Bennett 526 0752

Frank Wood 287 5462

Venue: Kensington House

2nd & 4th Wednesday @ 14:30

9th January - The Evolution of the
Microprocessor

23rd January - Carbon Dating

WALKING GROUP Leader: Margaret Kendall 526 3164 Asst: Alan Carr 01704 840 762

Changes to the Walking Group - Following discussions with members the walking group will change in 2019. We will have 2 groups, Ramblers and Easy Walkers. Both groups will walk on the same day, which will be the first Thursday of each month, but will start from different points.

The Ramblers group will mostly use a car share system for transport to the start point. The walks for this group will be harder, maybe distances up to 12 miles, but will often involve a climb or steep gradients. People undertaking these walks are expected to be experienced walkers who can cope with difficult terrain.

The Easy Walkers group will mostly use public transport and will undertake walks at a slower pace, on mostly flat terrain and a maximum of 5 miles. This group is similar in intensity, to the Sunday Strollers group.

Walks are advertised on the website under the appropriate group name, and also displayed on the notice board in the coffee morning. Please contact the named group leader for full details of each walk.