

The Youngster

The Bulletin of the Y's Men's Club of Kingswood, UK
"To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right"



May 2024

Another quiet month with not very much to report as members will have received a copy of the BoG Minutes which gives an overall clue as to what's going on or what might be planned as future events.

Bletchley Park – 22nd June

Visit being organised by Jerry; if you haven't already said you would like to go, let Jerry know – there may still be a seat or two available. £27 includes travel and unlimited One Year entrance. They might have kept it secret – you don't have to!

A Pessimist sees a dark tunnel

An Optimist sees a light at the end of the tunnel.

A Realist sees a freight train

A Train Driver sees 3 idiots standing on the track

Dates for your Diary

15 th May	Dinner Night: Speaker - Professor Brian Vincent "The Herapaths of Bristol".
1 st June	Coffee Morning at 10 a.m. Staple Hill Methodist Church
20 th June	Dinner Night & Presidential Handover & Games
22 nd June	Visit to Bletchley Park - see above
26 th October	Quiz Night at The Tynings - Just note the date in your diaries for now!

May Coffee Morning – Several of our regulars were not available today but, with the help of a magnificent cake from Angela and others in support, we achieved a profit of £51.50.



When a woman says "What?" it isn't because she didn't hear you. It's giving you a chance to change your mind.

April Dinner Night



Tonight's talk was by Owen Fitzwarren, a local Scout, who we were able to help sponsor his trip to the 2023 World Scout Jamboree held in South Korea, by using some of the legacy of Jean, wife of member Robin Short, both now sadly deceased.

Owen was one of many UK Scouts selected to attend the Jamboree and in preparation for the experience he took part in a series of training exercises held to help the group get to know each other before joining the 43,000 other Scouts expected to attend from 155 countries. Arriving at the site, they were disappointed to find that the weather had definitely "rained on their parade". The area set aside for the event was located on reclaimed land which, unfortunately, had turned into a quagmire following torrential rain. Despite there having been extremely heavy rain in the recent past which made conditions underfoot difficult, the temperature was around 40° but there was nowhere to hide due to a lack of suitable shelter even

though no activities took place when the heat exceeded 35°. Owen attended a spectacular Opening Ceremony but after 4 days, the UK Leaders, not happy with the general conditions and the great number of mosquitos, decided to leave the Jamboree site and the UK contingent of 4,500 Scouts went off to different destinations. The Avon Group, to which Owen belonged were taken to the South Korean capital, Seoul where, oh what a shame, they were booked into a 5 star hotel!

Although it incurred considerable, unexpected extra cost, the Scout Association leaders arranged an interesting programme for their young charges and Owen was certainly impressed with what they experienced. As they were they were representing the scout movement they wore uniform on their visits round and about and they were approached on a number of occasions by embarrassed Koreans who felt they needed to apologise for the problems caused by the shortcomings of the Jamboree organisation. On one visit to a restaurant, this 'embarrassment' extended to a fellow diner insisting on paying for the meal for a group of 12 Scouts. One trip which particularly impressed Owen was their visit to the Demilitarised Zone between the North and South but in contrast to this more sombre excursion was a visit to Korean Temple where there was much hilarity in dressing up in traditional costume. Although they had missed out on the camaraderie of a massive Jamboree, Owen and his colleagues certainly expanded their knowledge of another culture with their use of local transport systems – with signage in a script unknown to them – using a new currency and encountering different customs. Although having left the general Jamboree activities they all attended the fantastic Closing Ceremony at the Seoul World Cup Stadium. All in all, even though the trip to the Far East had not worked out as expected, Owen though it was an adventure he won't be forgetting for a long time.

Owen was accompanied at our dinner night by Pam Cottee, who pointed out that events in Korea were not always as reported in the Press and The Scout Association had been very communicative with the Scouts' families as the situation at the Jamboree unfolded.

Late news!

Shampoo is about to be banned – before it offends bald people!!!