

The Youngster

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



April 2026

2026 CSE Regional Conference Proposal

A recent sub-committee met to discuss the possible Regional Conference mentioned last month and have produced this initial proposal:

Date: 4th July 2026 (one day conference)

Preliminary programme:

10.00	Meet for a pre-meeting coffee
10.15	Regional Conference
12.00	Buffet Lunch
14.00	Visit somewhere near Bristol
19.00	3 course Dinner
21.00	Entertainment
23.00	Finish



Proposed Conference fee: £100 to include meals, room-rent and entertainment with a possibility of some home hospitality.

The above information assumes the attendance of at least 15 'visitors' and C. & S. E. Clubs have been circulated with the proposal, together with clubs within the Extension Beyond Borders (EBB) scheme.

The members of the former Hanham Club will also receive invitations to the evening banquet.

Diary Dates

16 th April	Dinner Night – Speaker, Chas. Ashley - "From Flat Earth to Google Earth"
25 th April	Jazz Night – "The Andy Leggett Quintet" Tynings School, Saturday 25 th April, 7 for 7.30
16 th May	Proposed visit to "Bath at Work Museum" – own transport + Park & Ride suggested.
21 st May	Dinner Night – Speaker, Oliver Davey – "Yanks in Bristol".
18 th June	Dinner Night – Presidents' Handover Night – Programme to be decided
14 th Nov.	Quiz Night – provisional date but please note!

March Dinner Night – Speaker Chris Bigg, “The Bristol Brabazon”

There was a change to our talk this month as the anticipated speaker was unable to attend but fortunately Speaker Finder Wally was able to secure, at very short notice, Chris Bigg - to speak about The Bristol Brabazon. This was the sixth talk we have had from Chris, this time on his favourite subject - aircraft.

Chris spent 50 years in the aircraft industry, holding a variety of roles. His early interest in engineering was sparked by the construction kit ‘Meccano’ and the ‘Eagle Comic’, which regularly featured a centre spread page of technical cutaway drawings. At age 16, Chris was apprenticed to the Bristol Aeroplane Company and he retired in December 2015. Since that time he has collected a large amount of information on aviation and came along to share some of his knowledge on The Bristol Brabazon with us.



Despite being at war, the government showed a great deal of confidence in anticipating victory when setting up a committee in December 1942 under the chairmanship of Lord Brabazon of Tara to consider the needs of civil air travel once it became possible again. Their deliberations covered the types of aircraft considered necessary for short, medium-haul and commuter travel together with the trans-Atlantic routes. The committee produced its report in February 1943, which included a recommendation for a long-haul aircraft which had design roots in an earlier Bristol idea for 100 ton bomber which had not progressed beyond the drawing board.

The project also encompassed the design of the enormous hangar in which to construct the aircraft. In addition, an extended runway to accommodate the calculated take-off distance was required which necessitated the demolition of the village of Charlton!

Named after the chairman of the 1942 committee and with a wingspan of 230 feet, a length of 197 feet and height of 50 feet, the Brabazon was one of the largest aircraft ever to be built and featured the most modern technologies of the day. Prototype 1 was powered by eight Bristol Centaurus sleeve-valve engines mounted as angled pairs, driving contra-rotating propellers. It had originally been hoped that the power units would be Bristol Proteus turbo-prop engines but delayed development led to the interim Centaurus installation (Prototype 2, which was destined never to fly, had an internal re-design of the wings to accommodate parallel pairs of Proteus engines). Innovative ideas were incorporated into the design such as 100% powered controls, high-pressure hydraulics, a tricycle undercarriage together with a pressurised and air-conditioned fuselage.



With large crowds around the airfield in anticipation, the Brabazon’s maiden flight was Sunday 4th September 1949 and it completed 164 flights, totalling 382 hours of flying time before its final flight in September 1952 after which both aircraft were scrapped. Modern flight technology and airline requirements had overtaken it.

Roger Cr.

p.s. Some refer to ‘The Brab’ as a white elephant but this month it is pink, as I have run out of white paper!

Don't forget!

Band Concert at The Tynings, Saturday 25th April at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets are still available from Alan, Bob, Chris H., Mike B. and Jerry.

April Coffee Morning

With thanks again to Eileen B. for the cake! There was a pleasing income of £60.50 this month but not necessarily from the sale of coffee & cake – amongst our customers there are some generous people who pay over the asking price. In view of this, and having listened to some customer comments as well as thinking about the general economic situation, it has been decided to increase our prices to £1.50 for just a tea or coffee, with a drink and a piece of cake costing £3.00.

Please note future dates, which are Saturdays 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July (may change), 1st August, 5th September, 10th October, 7th November with the December date yet to be decided.

Y's Men International info....

International Convention 2026..... In view of the conflict in The Middle East careful consideration by the organising committee has led to the venue for the 75th International Convention being changed from Dubai to Penang, Malaysia. This has also led to a change of date to 10th–13th September 2026. In 1994, four couples from our Club attended the International Convention in Singapore and fitted in a tour of Malaysia beforehand; from this experience we discovered what an attractive place Penang was, with its lovely tropical gardens and beaches. To take a holiday there and attend the International Convention would leave you with great memories.

Roll Back Malaria..... That 25th April is regarded as World Malaria Day reminds us of the Roll Back Malaria scheme, which was launched in 1998 by four major organizations: the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank.



We have supported this scheme for many years via Y's Men International and although there was a major re-organisation of the scheme in 2015, the aim remains to eradicate Malaria worldwide and it is good to see that since 2000 it has been eliminated from 43 countries. Still many to go!

**Why did the Scarecrow win an award?
Because it was outstanding in its field!**

**What lights up a football stadium?
A soccer match!**

**Why are escalator jokes so good?
Because they work on so many levels!**

**Why can't you use 'Beef Stew' as a password?
It's not stroganoff!**

The Lord's Prayer again!

by Mr Villy Mølgaard, ISD Christian Emphasis

I have adapted the following version of The Lord's Prayer from a Danish church magazine:

"Our Father, who art in heaven..."

"Yes?"

"Don't interrupt me. I'm praying."

"But you called me."

"Called you? No, I didn't. I am praying, Our Father, who art in heaven..."

"Now you did it again!"

"Did what?"

"Called me. You said, 'Our Father, who art in heaven.' Here I am. What's on your mind?"

"But I didn't mean anything by it. You see, I'm just saying my prayers for the day. I always say The Lord's Prayer. It makes me feel good, almost as if I've done my duty."

"Okay. Go on."

"Hallowed be thy name..."

"Stop. What do you mean by that?"

"It means... it means... goodness, I don't know what it means. How am I supposed to know? It's just part of the prayer. By the way—what does it mean?"

"It means honoured, holy, wonderful."

"Ah, that makes sense. I've never really thought about what 'holy' means."

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven..."

"Do you really mean that?"

"Of course. Why shouldn't I?"

"What are you going to do about it?"

"Do? Nothing. I just think it would be good if everything were under control here, just as it is in heaven."

"Am I in control of you?"

"Well, I go to church."

"That's not what I was asking. What about your desires? Your moods? You do have a problem there. And the way you spend your money—you spend it all on yourself. And what about the kind of books you read?"

"Don't pick on me! I'm no worse than most people."

"I'm sorry. I thought you were praying for my will to be done. If that is to happen, it must begin with those who ask for it—you, for example."

"Well... alright. I suppose I do have a few problems. Now that you mention it, I could probably name a few more."

"I could too."

"I've never thought much about it until now, but I would like to get rid of some of those things. I'd like to be truly free."

"Good. Now something is beginning to happen. We must work together, you and me. I am certain we can win some victories. I'm proud of you."

"Give us this day our daily bread..."

"You can leave out the physical bread—you have quite enough already."

"Hey, wait a moment! What is this? I'm trying to do my religious duty, and you interrupt me to remind me of my faults!"

"When you pray, you may be changed. That is what I am trying to tell you."

Stop press: We will continue our annual dinner meeting with the former Hanham Club when we join them at Hanham Methodist Church, *Friday* 16th October.