

The Youngster

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



June 2023

Presidential Handover - 8th July

Last July we had a change of style when we held the presidential handover at a social occasion rather than at our regular, little more formal, Dinner Night. It was held at the Tynings School with an afternoon of 'games' laid on by Jerry and Sam followed by a Bob Gray barbecue. It proved to be an enjoyable afternoon for those who came along – problem was that quite a few members weren't able to make it. This year we are trying the idea once more so do please give it your support: I'm sure you will have an enjoyable, relaxing time with a bit of fun along the way.

Hanham Club Concert

Last month a small number of our members went to listen to The Frampton Cotterell Male Voice Choir and The Shanty Men. We enjoyed a very pleasant evening of song from the Choir with a programme which included the typical MVC repertoire - some good minor key Welsh pieces along with choral adaptations of songs from musicals and other popular pieces.

The occasion was further enhanced by lively and humorous numbers from The Shanty Men – drawn from the larger choir but with a completely different style of songs. One of the singers also performed a short classical piano piece which added another aspect to the musical talent displayed that evening. Light refreshments were provided during the interval. A successful evening for the Hanham Club and very entertaining night out for the audience.



Diary Dates

- 15th June Dinner Night – Speaker: Margaret Roy - The Wye Valley Walk.
- 24th June Visit! L Shed Museum Store, Princes Wharf. Meet there 11.30 a.m.
- 8th July Family Fun Day & President's Hand-over - 4 o'clock with BBQ at 5 o'clock
- 6th Aug. Visit! Open Day, Severn Area Resue Assoc. at Sharpness to arrive 10.30 a.m.
- 21st Sept. Dinner Night – Speaker t.b.a.
- 18th Nov. Quiz Night at Tynings School, 1900hrs.
- 24th Feb. Race Night at Tynings School, 1900hrs.

May Dinner Night

On this evening, Bob Cutts gave us an illustrated talk entitled Andean Journey. The talk covered the now largely defunct Transandine Railway between Santiago, the capital of Chile, and Mendoza in the wine-producing region of Argentina.

The meter-gauge railway was planned and built by Juan and Mateo Clark, two brothers of British descent, who were Chilean entrepreneurs in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Parts of the railway were opened in 1892-93, and the whole line was opened by 1910.



The line of some 226 miles in length was constructed through punishing terrain. Bob's slides showed an arid, mountainous route with virtually all the line above the height of Ben Nevis. At its height, the line was 3,176m above sea level. Although much of the line was based on normal traction, some steeper parts of the line were based on rack haulage, where traction was assisted by the existence of racks between the tracks into which the locomotives engaged. The line passed through the Paso Internacional los Libertadores also

known as Cristo Redentor, a pass in the Andes and Bob's pictures showed some of the stations on the line along with the now-disused rack construction in the Uspallata Pass.

Although there have been no trains along its length since its closure in 1984, both governments have planned a reconstruction. However, little has been done and the traffic has been largely limited to a section in Chile between Los Andes and Rio Blanco, running freight trains with passengers between Santiago and Mendoza being limited to travel by bus, car or plane.

Mike Bendrey

June Coffee Morning

We think there was a "do" on, further along the High Street, that morning which may have accounted for our slightly reduced income this month – down to £50.50. Thanks once more to those involved!

Proposed visit to the Severn Area Rescue Association

A representative of this organisation spoke to the Club a number of years ago and as they are holding an Open Day 6th August at their Sharpness Headquarters and Mike B., Programme Chairman, has suggested that we could pay them visit. We have a few weeks in which to organise transport – possibly share lifts with the idea of arriving there at 1030hrs. A list to assess interest will be circulated beforehand.

That's true

Money can't buy happiness but it is more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes than to cry on a bike!