

Kingswood, UK - Chartered 1960

The Youngster



Pleasures to come

January 2019

Visit to Royal Mail underground railway and the London Cable car (Emirates Airline) 6th and 7th April

Roger Clutsum is organising this weekend visit to London at a cost of only £150 pp which will include entry to the two sites, coach fare and accommodation at a London hotel.



Quiz Night - Sat 9th February £7.50 each

With the decline in Christmas tree sales this fund raising event is becoming even more important. It has been good fun during the past two years so we expect the same in February.

Tickets are priced at £7.50 per person and we need to make tables of six people. Bring your own drinks, Bob will provide the supper. Closing day for tickets is 1st February. You should have received an entry form from Chris Holmes in your emails. For the sake of our profits we need to find just a few more teams of six people - please think carefully about who you can invite for a fun evening.

Diary

Thu 17 Jan	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'The King and his Fifteen Wives' - Jenny Bowen
Sat 19 Jan	7.30 pm Games Evening at Bob and Sherry's. Tickets £5.00 - bring your own drinks
Sat 26 Jan	Coffee Morning
Sat 9 Feb	7.00 for 7.30 pm Quiz Night - tickets £7.50 Bring your own drinks
Tue 12 Feb	8.00 pm BoG at Chris and Angela's
Thu 21 Feb	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'Songs from the Second World War' - Graham Walker
Sun 24 Feb	12.00 for 12.30 President's Lunch - St Augustine's Church, Downend - bring your own drinks
Sat 2 Mar	Coffee Morning Coach Trip to Cardiff Castle - board available at January Dinner
Thu 21 Mar	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'Guilty Pleasures: Chocolate, Beer and Tobacco' - Chris Bigg
Sat 30 Mar	7.30 pm Ten Sing Race Night at Warmley Community Centre
Sat 6 Apr	Coffee Morning
Sat/Sun 6/7 Apr	Weekend in London - Post Office Underground Railway Emirates Cable Car
Thu 18 Apr	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'My Life with Musical Instruments' - Geoff Pegler
Sat 4 May	Coffee Morning
Sat 11 May	Phoenix Wind Band Concert
Thu 16 May	7.30 pm Dinner Night
Sat 1 June	Coffee Morning
Thu 20 June	7.30 pm Dinner Night - 'Family Favourites' - Graham Walker
Sat 6 July	Coffee Morning

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To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right

It's Beginning to look a lot like Christmas

(Check the quiz answers)



Most of us had heard Mike Britton before and we were not disappointed with the talk at Dinner Night on 20th December. His earliest memories of Christmas centred around his grandmother's newsagent's shop and he took us through the history of the festive period.

This began with the pagan festival of the Romans, the Festival of Light and the onset of the advent calendar through the Henry VIII period, the banning of Christmas by the Puritans and the restoration of Christmas by Charles II. We also heard about the background to decorations, mistletoe, Christmas cards and Christmas trees and this led into some very good quiz questions.

How about the first Christmas card (1843) or the first crackers (1847), the first broadcast (1932) or the first televised broadcast (1958).

So another entertaining talk by Mike and possible questions for a future quiz.

Roger Clutsom

Abject Apologies from the Editor to Eileen B

In last month's Youngster there was a report about the Y's Men's contribution to the Barn Christmas Fair in November. I was reliably and angrily informed that it contained a significant error. The following were picked out for special praise as a result of their work - Janet, Gwen, Olya, Jerry, Sam, Sandy and Alan. But what about the person on the door who took the money without which there was no point in having a Christmas Fair? Let me correct this error immediately:

Eileen Bendrey

we kneel in praise and humble apology

Zwolle

This is a name you will hear more of. Zwolle is a city of about 125,000, an hour by car or train east of Amsterdam. The reason you will hear more is because a group with links to the local YMCA wish to start a Y Service Club. Martin Vosjan came to the Regional Conference in Bristol last year and has been in regular contact with Lothar Riebling of Hamburg. They currently have seven people signed up and are ready to request Chartering as The Y Service Club of Zwolle.



Zwolle city



Training session for the new members

Part of the process of chartering a new club is that they must be given an orientation session to make sure they are aware of the objectives, background, procedures and responsibilities of being a YMI club. Lothar and I went to Zwolle last weekend and met six of the seven prospective members.

We were welcomed and taken to the City Hall where we spent several hours giving information and answering questions. It is clear they are very keen to become a new club and say they will work quickly to increase membership. It is hoped that chartering will take place in March or April and when a date is fixed I would like to think some of our members could attend. Zwolle is a beautiful city with a great Saturday market, some lovely canals and many historical buildings.

Alan

Entertainment from Tensing

We were very pleased to welcome Ten Sing to entertain us at Dinner Night on 15th November and how appropriate that they had visited Norway this year to celebrate 50 years of Ten Sing as part of a Festival of celebration, the Group having been formed in Norway.

The visit had proved to be really interesting and enjoyable (with the possible exception of the brown cheese) and we heard about the themes of the Group – Christ, Creativity and Culture – prior to sharing with us some of the songs and dances which epitomised such themes.

Our own club member, Sandy, was well to the fore but we were impressed by how much all members had a role to play in the performance starting with a dance routine “What’s my name” and continuing with “These days” and “Blinded by your grace”. We all enjoyed “Human” and “This is me” from “The Greatest Showman” and the group finished with “I’m unstoppable” and “You’ve got the love”.

A very good evening for which we thank all who took part and a fitting tribute to 50 years of Ten Sing.

Roger Clutson



Musically Speaking

During the 2017-2018 Season Graham Walker produced an entertainment called ‘Desert Islands Discs’. This went down very well with the result that he has been asked to produce a similar program for the last meeting of this session, 20th June 2019. He is looking for requests for music from a dozen or so members. Graham will find the recordings but you will have to introduce the item explaining why you have selected that particular piece. The second time he did this for his Probus Club he called the event ‘Family Favourites’. It produced a lot of pieces related to when members and their wives were courting (there’s an old fashioned phrase for you). He doesn’t care why you choose your music but he looks forward to hearing from you.

Donations from last month

At the December BoG meeting the following donations were decided:

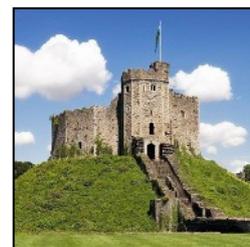
Julian Trust	£500	Children’s Hospice South West	£300	One 25	£200
Jessie May Trust	£200	Hop, Skip and Jump	£200	MSF	£200
Meningitis UK	£200	Paul’s Place	£200		

If two of these names are unfamiliar let me explain. MSF is the modern name of Médecins Sans Frontières or, in English, Doctors without Borders. They were selected in recognition of the wonderful work they are currently doing in the Middle East. One 25 is a charity based in St Pauls that works to support women trapped in street sex-work, addiction and other life-controlling issues.

Coach Outing to Cardiff

Mike is organising this trip on Saturday 2nd March. Participants will be free to do what they like in Cardiff: visit Cardiff Castle, backstage at the Opera House, the various National museums in the centre of the city, the shops, Cardiff Bay, hop-on, hop-off bus tour, etc. The coach will cost £12.50 each, the Castle is £9.50.

Meet 9.15 am at Cleeve Hill Extension, return from Cardiff at 4.00 pm



Peter Pan

On Friday 4th January a quite large group of us went to the Bath Pantomime to see Peter Pan. It was quite an early start so Bob Gray was able to book us in for a meal at the Crown in Kelston.

The Panto was excellent, enjoyed by all I think. A number of us ate at the pub afterwards, Bob, Jerry, Sam, Sandy, Anne, Mike and Irene Bendry, Kath and I. Bill and Chris Bailey stopped in for a drink.

A bonus for those of us eating fish and chips was a free drink which made the meal really quite cheap. A lot of banter at the pub rounded off the evening in a very pleasant manner. Many Thanks to Bob for yet again organising the whole evening for us.

Mike McBride



Yet another visit and another party

The Programme Committee hopes to organise a visit to Mumford's Vineyard at Bannerdown (Batheaston) on 15th June. It will come as no surprise that wine tasting will be included in the entrance price of £10.

All being well the vineyard won't look like this when we turn up and that the welcome will be as warm as mulled wine.

And Bob has booked a Tea party at Bitton on July 7th. I'm assuming that Bob has the necessary contacts to guarantee weather like we had last year!



And Finally after Christmas

This bit of nostalgia comes from the Younster just twenty years ago. A poem, which I assume was written by visiting Y's Men, Ruth and Marcus Hodge. This was sent in their 'round robin' greeting to Janet and John Clark. It seems very appropriate at this time of year. Ruth and Marcus lived in Pennsylvania (USA, not Tog Hill) and were described as a lovely couple.

We have a list of folks we know all written in a book
and every year at Christmas time we go and take a look.
And that is when we realize that these names are a part
not of the book they are in, but of our hearts.
For each name stands for someone whose path touched ours,
and left such a print of friendship that we want to touch again.
And while it sounds fantastic for us to make this claim,
we really feel we are composed of each remembered name.
And while you may not be aware of any special link,
just meeting you has shaped our lives more than you can think.
For once you've met somebody, the years cannot erase
the memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face.
So never think of Christmas cards as just a mere routine,
of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between.
For when we send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
t's because you are on a list of folks we are indebted to.
For one is but a total of the many folks they've met,
and you happen to be one of those we prefer NOT to forget.
And whether we have known you for many years or few,
in some way you have had a part in shaping things we do.
And every year when Christmas comes we realize anew,
the biggest gift that life can give is meeting folk like you.
And may the Spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures
leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours.

