

Kingswood, UK - Chartered 1960

# The Youngster



## Roger's Reflections

June 2018

### ROGER'S REFLECTIONS

As my presidential year nears its completion I am really pleased to have the opportunity to thank all members of BOG and everyone else in the group who have provided so much help, advice and support. It is always difficult to pick out individuals but I must mention Joy who has provided unstinting support as she always does.



In the last month the Coffee Morning has produced a profit of £45.30 for Club funds and it's appropriate to thank all those who have done so much over the year, particularly Dave and Judy and the cake makers. There was also a very enjoyable lunch at "The Bird in Hand" followed by an interesting tour of the Brass Mill at Saltford. Thanks to Mike for organising the trip and for arranging so many good events over the year..

We have a very entertaining Dinner Night on 21st June featuring "Comedy Duos" presented by Phil Collins (not that one!) and Richard Watson and this should make for a very enjoyable evening.

Finally, my very best wishes to Chris for the forthcoming year. As you may know, he cannot be with us at Dinner Night so his inauguration as the next President will be delayed until 20th September.

Have a lovely summer.

Roger

## Diary

Thu 21 June	7.30 pm Dinner Night - Phil Collins and Richard Watson - 'Comedy Duos'
Sun 1 July	Tea Party at Springfield House, Brewery Lane, Upton Cheyney
Sat 7 July	Coffee morning
Sat 4 Aug	Coffee Morning
Sat 25 Aug	Coffee morning
Fri 31 Aug - 2 Sept	Regional Conference to be hosted by Kingswood and Hanham Clubs
Sun 16 Sept	Visit to Goldney House, Clifton. Meet 10.30 there. Lunch at Wetherspoons
Wed 19 Sept and Fri 21 Sept	BLOC - Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - The Hippodrome - £30
Thu 20 Sept	7.30 pm Dinner Night - Andy Workman - 'Body Language'
Sat 29 Sept	Coffee morning
Sat 13 Oct	7.00 for 7.30 pm Race Night
Thu 18 Oct	7.30 pm - Dinner Night at Hanham Club
Sat 3 Nov	Coffee morning
Thu 15 Nov	7.30 pm Dinner Night - Ten Sing
Sat 17 Nov	Barn Christmas Fair
Sat 9 Feb	Quiz Night

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**To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right**

# The Pub and a Mill - a Grand Day Out



On Saturday, 10th June, we all met up at the "Bird-in-Hand" pub at Saltford and enjoyed a leisurely meal in the very pleasant restaurant with friendly staff and a tasty extensive menu. I think most of us have been there before and will certainly go again.

Afterwards, we travelled the short distance to the Saltford Brass Mill, which is a scheduled Ancient Monument. Also, Domesday Book records two previous mills on the site. The present mill was founded in 1702 and there were various additions and alterations made to the structures over the following 150 years. In 1881 an attempt was made to modernise the processes and production carried on until the early 20th century, when production ceased.



We were split into groups and we each had a guided tour of the buildings, lasting about an hour. Firstly we were shown working models of the various types of water wheels used to drive mill mechanisms. At Saltford there were five: two driving a set of battery hammers for beating out the sheets, two more driving a rolling mill and a fifth one for a grinding wheel. We were told that brass is an alloy of 70% copper and 30% zinc and the latter makes the brass harder and also adds the benefit of making it becoming molten at

lower temperature. At Saltford, the main products were the sheets of brass which were hammered out and used to make pans, bowls and kettles etc.

Our guide took us round the areas in the mill and explained the various processes. First of all the raw materials were put into the Reverberatory Furnace which extracted the harmful materials such as sulphur. Then came the Cementation Furnace which merged the zinc with the copper and thence the material went to the Annealing Furnace to heat the material to enable the brass to be hammered out into sheets to make the final products. It was fascinating to walk round and view these furnaces and ancillary equipment and view the very sturdy stone structure of the mill buildings.

All in all, we all had a very enjoyable day out with good company, good food, a very interesting tour and many thanks to Mike Bendrey and his team for arranging it.



*Robin Short*

## Scilla

At the May dinner night Roger had the pleasure of welcoming Scilla Barnes as a member of the Club. It 's really good to know that we will still be able to enjoy her company at meetings.

## To Mars via Kazakhstan

Terry Ransome gave the talk at dinner night on 17th May and we were all intrigued as to what the title of the talk might mean.

Terry began by outlining his working life – thirty years in the aerospace industry building and testing satellites and spacecraft. This took him to launch sites around the world, the most memorable being a launch campaign at the Russian site of Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan with the UK's Beagle 2 Mars Probe.

The Cosmodrome is where Yuri Gagarin embarked on his first human space flight. It is still busy today launching astronauts and cosmonauts to the International Space Station. Terry took with him the UK's Mars Lander Beagle 2 – the probe that was "lost" on Mars at Christmas 2003 but "found" 11 years later.

In this talk he told of his Beagle 2 and Kazakhstan experiences - and how Beagle 2 was eventually found and identified on the Red Planet. He explained the latest (2016) European attempt at a Mars landing and looked ahead to the future of the space industry.

Many thanks to Terry for an interesting talk and giving us an insight into the meaning behind "To Mars via Kazakhstan".

*Roger Clutsom*

## Coffee Mornings - help needed

We enjoy a monthly income for the charity funds from the coffee mornings. Most of the success is due to a small number of regular members who buy the provisions, bake the cakes and arrive at 09.30 to set up. However it is becoming increasingly difficult to handle the tables and chairs during the set up. We are all getting older! It now takes two to move the tables when before one could do it. We need more volunteers. Not necessarily for the two hours we are open, though the social time is nice, but certainly for the set up.

Please let Dave M know if you are able to help at 09.30.

## Stamps

Members will remember that we sent stamps to Canada for many years and Dave Morris sold them for us. Dave has now retired from the stamp world and cannot help us. We have had an offer from Erik Sangild of Denmark to try to sell stamps on our behalf. Sam and Jerry have volunteered to become our stamp coordinators so please save all you can and pass them on to Sam & Jerry. . A reminder that commemorative and 'foreign to us' stamps are what our overseas collectors want.

## Words from the RD Elect

I take up my position on July 1st and will be hoping for assistance from members on occasions. Wish me luck!

*Wally*

*Ed: We all do Alan and have no doubt that you will do it with all your normal enthusiasm and attention to detail.*

## Our Web Site

We have a site which is kept up-to-date monthly. What you may not realise is that Graham does not have enough space for all the pictures taken at our events. However the web site does. You can visit at <http://www.ysmen.co.uk/picture-gallery.html> to see the extra photographs there. I used to add only the recent two months but I will soon be including a backlog of pictures from past months. Do have a look.

## A Word of Thanks

I have not been very well for the last few weeks and would like to express my thanks to Alan for his contribution to this month's Youngster.



## **A Reminder - not long to August 31st.**

Time flies when you have a good programme and we are now well into the second half of June. You will have received a registration for the Central Southern Europe Conference with the last issue of the Youngster. It is now under a month to the registration date of July 14th and we do need to know who will be attending and to what activity. The registration form for club members is structured so that if it is not possible to attend all then you can advise what you will be doing. We hope that most of the club members will opt to attend all on offer. We are still looking for offers of home hospitality for our overseas visitors, there is a space on the form to indicate that you are able to host.

Alan



## **The Perils of Relying on Spell Check.**

The editor of the Scuttlebutt, bulletin of Y Service Club of Bendigo South published a very nice article about St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, where Harry & Megan were married recently. He waxed lyrically about the decorations and the magnificence of the surroundings. However he did not check this paragraph... *The canopies and walls of St. George's Chapel are decorated with the heraldic banners swords, helmets and crests of the Noble Order of the Farter – the most prestigious chivalry order in the world...* He apologised very quickly in a following email and asked for forgiveness from his English friends. We enjoyed the laugh and so all is forgiven.

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## **Just to make you smile**

Murphy says to Paddy, "What ya talkin into an envelope for?"  
"I'm sending a voicemail ya fool!"

Paddy says "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador  
"Blow that" says Mick, have you seen how many of their owners go blind?"

19 paddies go to the cinema, the ticket lady asks "Why so many of you?"  
Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over."

The Grim Reaper came for me last night, and I beat him off with a vacuum cleaner.  
Talk about Dyson with death.

I went to the cemetery yesterday to lay some flowers on a grave. As I was standing there I noticed 4 grave diggers walking about with a coffin, 3 hours later and they're still walking about with it.  
I thought to myself, they've lost the plot!!

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were £70!!!  
Blow this, I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.

I was driving this morning when I saw a parked RAC van. The driver was sobbing uncontrollably and looked very miserable.  
I thought to myself, that guy's heading for a breakdown.