

Dear member,

Sadly, we had to postpone this month's Zoom talk, due to technical reasons. We hope to reschedule it for the new year as I'm sure the topic of funding residential care is close to all our hearts. However, there's still time to sign up for the visit to Bath Christmas Markets on the 29th (please Sandra 01363 530599 or Keith 01363 773940 as soon as you can if interested) or for the Christmas Lunch (contact Ron as soon as possible on 01363 881397, or bow99@outlook.com) In October, we had two talks, both summarised below. This month's talk is about Jo Beryle, He took part in Mission Albany, the airborne landings of the 101st Airborne Division in June 1944, He was captured by the Germans and sent east as a POW. Beryle escaped and joined a Soviet tank battalion under the command of Aleksandra Samusenk. Wow!

Liz Ouldrige (Chair)

Important dates

Tuesday November 15th: Monthly coffee morning at 'The Hayloft' Mole Avon Country Store from 10:30am,

Wednesday November 16th: Open meeting: 'Jumping Jo Beryle, the story of the first American paratrooper in Europe' by Brian Fernley Refreshments from 9:30am, announcements start at 10:00am. The talk starts at 10:15.

Tuesday November 29th: Trip to Bath

Wednesday 21st December: Christmas Lunch

News from the Groups

We are starting a new group called 'Memories of Royalty in Crediton' You can sign up for this fascinating project at our open meeting, or follow the link on the 'Groups' page of the website

Zoom talk: Jenny Mallin 'The Memsahibs and their Servants'

In the 18th and 19th centuries, young British men wanting to make their fortune joined the East India company and spent much of their working lives in India. This left a dearth of husbands for young women, at a time when marriage was one of the few acceptable options open to them. Cynically, the East India Company facilitated the travel of many of these women to India as a suitable pool of wives for their employees. Often marrying a stranger, these women had to run a home in a complex country where they didn't speak the language and were without family support. Jenny vividly described how these women took on the challenge and developed good working relationships with the local staff and the other ex-patriots in the community. Jenny drew extensively on the diaries and notebooks kept by her own relations in telling her story.

Open meeting: Tim Harrold 'The Enigma Behind the Fingle's Memorial Plaque'