



## Mid July 2022 Newsletter

### Amazing "SCOOP" for the Community Centre!

On Sunday evening 10<sup>th</sup> July, I visited the Emsworth Community Centre with your Chairman Anne and about ten other Ems Valley members. The event was advertised as the film "WONDERFUL: Stories from the Space Station." I was to witness a two hour film with a difference. A massive difference! Oh, and should I say, to meet the film director herself, and the Astronaut who commanded the very first docking with the Space Station after his three other space flights in Atlantis, Discovery and Columbia. All this happened at EMSWORTH, and in our very own Community Centre!

How did it come about?



Clare Lewins, a film director who resides in South Street (as well as London) frequents the Coal Exchange. So does Ian Treadgold and Brian Picknett, ECA film stalwart and ECA caretaker extraordinaire, respectively. Strange conversations take place in quintessential, salty watering holes.

*Left: Clare Lewins*

One must have led to this memorable evening. Clare, of recent "I am Ali" fame, a film which we also need to see about Mohammad Ali, mentioned that Commander Bill Shepherd was coming over from the States and would be prepared to answer questions on the film, if the ECA were interested in showing it. The Centre moved very quickly and with minimum time for suitable advertising, very easily filled the Mountford room with 60 viewers.

When Clare was originally approached to make this film about life on the ISS (International Space Station) her first' first reaction was that she was "not a science-based person," but then she began looking into who had lived on the space station. She said in a recent interview "That's what made the difference, actually," That, and a book I was reading at the time. Joseph Conrad's turn of the (20th



century novel "Lord Jim" which described ancient sailors voyaging off into the unknown, with an impulse in their blood to dream of the future! As Conrad wrote, 'They were wonderful... Clare thought, 'That's it. That's the story.' Really, that's the film."

*Left: Bill Shepherd, approx. 20 years ago*

"The Wonderful: Stories from the Space Station" focuses on the lives of just a dozen international astronauts and cosmonauts who for a time called the International Space Station their home. From

Bill Shepherd and his companions on that first mission, Russians Sergei Krikalev and Yuri Gidzenalev, to Scott Kelly and Peggy Whitson, who set duration records during their time aboard the outpost, the two-



hour film reveals the humanity behind all of the engineering and technology that made such a facility possible.

"From an early point, I thought, actually, I want to make the film about the people, not the 450 tons of spaceship, which, by the way, is amazing, but other films have done that," Clare said.

*Left: Bill said that the Russian Orthodox priest insisted on soaking the astronauts with water before take-off!*

One of the questions afterwards majored on whether Bill Shepherd had any thoughts on how the current crisis in Ukraine might affect the ISS programme. (he said we would have to wait!)

The film also features Tim Peake from Westbourne. Tim was a Flight Engineer on the 2015 Russian Soyuz spaceflight. On that occasion, the crew consisted of a Russian commander accompanied by American and British astronauts. That flight returned to Earth on June 18, 2016 after 185 days. In the film we saw Tim's wife and children at the launch site, Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Many of



the launches were conducted from this site. More sobering times were related when the Challenger rocket failed in 1986, just 73 seconds into the flight, and the Columbia Capsule disintegrated on re-entry to earth in 2003. Both disasters resulted in the whole crew losing their lives. But as of April 2021, 244 individuals from 19 countries have visited the International Space Station. Top participating countries include the United States (153 people) and Russia (50 people). Normally a crew of 6 astronauts live at the ISS and since November 2000 the station

has been continuously occupied. Ideally, there are three people permanently on the station and the crew takes rotation to leave periodically. As the shuttle goes up, it has the capability to take a total of seven additional people, thus the ISS can have a maximum of ten people at a time when the shuttle is there.

We experienced a truly informative evening – Well Done the ECA - Well done Clare Lewins - Well done Commander Bill Shepherd!  
Editor

## **Pubs and Churches go about their “mixed business”!**

The first meeting of the Pubs and Churches group took place in September 2021 and the last meeting of this session was in May 2022. From September to May we visited a variety of churches and ate in many different pubs. Every meeting was different, but they all shared the same ideas – an historic church and an equally interesting pub. In September we visited St Andrews in West Stoke (a lovely church which we talked about in our last article for the newsletter) and had lunch in the Woodmancote Inn.

In October we were in Warblington to visit the church of St Thomas à Becket. Another beautiful historic church which is very well looked after by a dedicated team (most of them ex-Royal Navy) who welcomed us very warmly.



We then had lunch in the Wheelwrights Arms in Havant.

In November it was Holy Trinity church in Bosham. A lovely church in a beautiful setting. This church has a fascinating history and is featured on the Bayeux tapestry. Lunch at the Anchor Bleu was excellent and we were looked after by two young members of staff who had us all organised, fed and watered most efficiently.

**Left: St Marys Church Chidham.**

We had no meeting in December.

In January 2022 we were very close to home visiting St John the Baptist church in Westbourne. Again, a lovely church which many of us had walked past on a regular basis and

really had not appreciated it how interesting it was. Lunch was in the Stags Head in Westbourne.

February was St Mary's church in Stoughton which is one of the eight churches in the Octagon parish. We were met by the vicar Rev Lindsay Yates who looks after all eight churches in the group. This church is believed to be a complete 11<sup>th</sup> century church with only a few minor alterations since then. It is a beautiful church and well worth a visit. For more information about the group go to [www.theoctagonparish.org/churches](http://www.theoctagonparish.org/churches). Lunch was at The Barley Mow in Walderton.



St Mary the Virgin in Apuldram (or Appledram as is used on Ordnance Survey maps) was our March outing. (see left). This little church is in a lovely setting and is of 12<sup>th</sup> century origin but has been added to over the years with more improvements in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Lunch was at the Bosham Inn. Our April visit was to the church of St Mary in Chidham. Our thanks go to U3A member and lay preacher at St Mary's, Colin Ottewell, who helped to organise this visit but could not attend due to the dreaded Covid. This is another very old church probably 13<sup>th</sup> century with later additions and is obviously a well-loved church. Lunch at The Old House at Home was enjoyed by all.

Our final visit of this session (in May) was to St

Nicholas church in West Thorney on Thorney Island, which is part of the army barracks. It was quite an adventure for all of us, as I had to give the guide to the church our names (drivers and passengers) and car registration numbers before we could visit the church. We were expecting the third degree for coming on to the army property, but were all waved through with no questions asked. It was a fascinating church with a lot of history in a wonderful setting. We came back into Emsworth to have lunch at the Kings Arms.

Peter and I have really enjoyed finding old churches (and testing nearby pubs), but we are so very grateful to everyone who helped us organise these visits and to our members who have been so encouraging. Many thanks go to everyone at the churches, particularly vicars, archivists and all the people who were willing to speak to us about the long history of each church. Thanks also to the pubs – it can't be easy to see 20 people coming through the



doors looking to be fed (even though it had all been organised and pre-ordered beforehand) but everyone coped wonderfully well even allowing for Covid and its problems.

**Left: St Nicholas Church, Thorney Island**

We are now in the process of looking at places to go, churches to see and pubs to eat in for the coming session starting in September. We will keep you informed!

**Margaret and Peter Goldfarb**

## NEWS FROM THE CRAFTERS!

Angela Blunden reports on their July meeting: Diana Faithfull generously gave us instructions in the techniques of Patchwork plus the measurements required, in readiness for our Community Project for making quilts for the Linus Charity. Diana and others had brought along some spare fabric for us to use, and some of us brought along our sewing machines and I had an iron and small ironing board for us all to use. So, away we went!

Gail Wynn-Jones had made a couple of gorgeous quilts at home and brought them with her to show us, which you can see in the photo.

Next month we shall be moving onto how to make our patchwork blocks into patterns, very exciting!!



***Holidays are back in fashion for our u3a members, and groups and the monthly meetings have noticed an effect!***



If you have had an interesting holiday lately, why not put pen to paper and share some details with our newsletter readers? Judi Milburn, one of our Meeters and Greeters writes:

## Sailing from Athens

2020 the year my great friend Susie turns 70! What to do to celebrate? A trip to New York, maybe, but wait a sailing holiday - that's the answer. Trip booked, guests invited (well family and me, seven of us in total). Then what happens COVID! Never mind the booking can be held till next year, Covid had other ideas, so it was not until 2022 that we were finally able to set sail.

First stop a two night stay in Athens. Arriving late afternoon our priority was dinner. We found a delightful restaurant and so started what was to be a wonderful holiday. The following day the obligatory visit to the Acropolis. ( I don't mean this to sound as though I was against it I wasn't) We joined with two other sightseers and hired a guide. What a knowledgeable woman and how much we would have missed without her.



That evening another great meal in Athens and then Saturday it was taxi to the marina, but what's this Rain? Oh my heart sank, never having sailed before and I was going to have to do so in the rain. Answer; have lunch, a glass of wine and all will be well, and it was. Lunch followed by a trip to the supermarket for supplies, once these were safely stowed away we meet our Skipper for the week,



Brian an experienced sailor who hailed from Newcastle. Housekeeping and Health and Safety completed we were off.

First stop Perdika, no mooring available so we "Rafted up" the first of many new words I was to learn. Having clambered over the two adjacent yachts we ate in a delightful fish restaurant. Sunday we went to Hydra and then Erminoni where we spent the night. Monday Spetes, Tuesday Poros, Wednesday Epidavros, Thursday Agistri and Friday back to Athens. A total of 180 nautical miles.

Brian turned out to be an excellent teacher for those who wanted to learn and luckily had a great sense of humour so able to cope with his fellow shipmates.

The weather stayed fair though very little wind so not much " sailing" lots of motoring , I know Susie for one would have liked to hoist the sails more than we ( the royal we) did. However, she was in her happy place.

What a great time we had, good company, good food, good wine, and some of the most beautiful scenery you could imagine. The sky was blue and the waters clear, and being able to dive off the boat into warm seas was a real treat.

I learnt some new vocabulary and with apologies to real sailors will include a list at the end.

I would like to thank Susie, her daughter Katie, her son Ian, daughter in law Nicky, plus bump, great friends Emma and Simon for making this a week to remember for all the right reasons.

Am I converted to sailing? Certainly converted to sitting in the sunshine while watching the world go by, oh and a brief glimpse of dolphins, would I enjoy it in the cold and wet, I don't think so!

### Glossary:

Heads but no bodies

Sheets but no beds

Stern but no one's cross

Bow now this is really interesting, pronounced bough but not a tree in sight

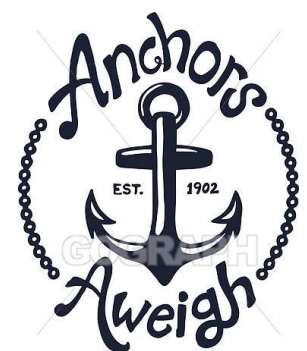
Tender but not the opposite of rough

Fender neither round a fire place or a guitar

Port no, not a drink

Lazy line which has nothing to do with Line Dancing

Weigh anchor – no, put those scales away....



Judi Milburn

## Pilates

The Pilates Group has now found a new tutor and the intention is to restart the group.

Hannah, the new tutor, currently provides a Pilates class in the Community Centre and previously ran a series of Restart classes for the Havant Council.

The group will meet in the Community Centre every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:00 in the Lumley Room.

The intention is to start from beginning of September, when everyone is back from hols, however, if there is enough interest this could be brought forward to early August.

Pilates is a fun way of keeping your body flexible and strong.



Les Pallett

## Our Book groups are on the increase!

We now have five different book groups – are there enough books to go round, I ask myself? I was speaking to David Gillespie very recently, I think that he is a member of them all....

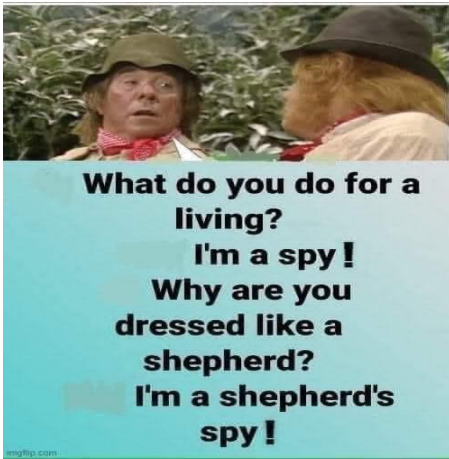
Maybe he will write an article for the Newsletter: “Book groups I have known...”



## Next Monthly Meeting

The speaker at our meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July is David Hughes and his subject is “ Wine tasting and Vineyards around the world”. In case any members think that this talk is connected to one of our wine groups, it is not. I “looked up” David on the web and found this very interesting resume: I started to buy wine at auction in London in 1974 when quality French wine was so cheap. The 1970 vintage was superb and the 1969 and 1971 were good but huge in volume. Prices had crashed. Today I drink mainly wine from the new world as French wine is to my mind overpriced for the quality, unless you pay a fortune. I have visited vineyards and tasted wine on every continent with my wife whilst on holidays. The modern new world wineries are state of the art stainless steel facilities that welcome and cater for visitors. The owners have invested huge sums and often display great art and sculpture in beautiful garden settings. They are temples to the God Baccus. The small boutique wineries are the stars of the regions, making small quantities of excellent wine that never gets exported. Red wine is my passion. As a brewer I was trained to taste beer flavours but the same skills can be used to taste wine. I have indulged my photography hobby with vineyard visiting to record the wonderful memories. My main emphasis is on New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, North and South America. I love to share my passion.

In the second half of the meeting, we will be entertained by our brilliant PHOTOGRAPHY group. they will show the top twenty images which drew the most votes from visitors to their 2022 Arts Trail exhibition. The images will be shown in random order which will then be repeated for you to vote for the one you like best. They want to test our choices and see if the meeting agrees with the Arts Trail visitors.”



The bad news is,  
I accidentally took the wrong medication today.

The good news is,  
I'm now protected from heartworms and fleas for the next three months

**Husband: "Why do you keep buying plants when you just end up killing them?"**

**Wife: "Just to remind you what I'm capable of. "**



**TRUE FRIENDS DON'T GET OFFENDED WHEN YOU INSULT THEM. THEY LAUGH AND INSULT YOU WITH SOMETHING EVEN BETTER.**

## As seen in Villiers sur mer, Topiary par excellence!



Why the gigantic leafy Diplodocus and next to it a baby Diplodocus? Because Villiers-sur-Mer is uniquely placed on a bed of Jurassic rocks that reach all the way to Dorset, and millions of years ago less leafy monsters may well have ambled across this very spot!

## Tony Carter has sent in this quiz – great for a quiet moment!

This puzzle is not a test of your intelligence - treat it as a challenge! You will need to be flexible, versatile, and above all - to have breadth of experience. None of the teasers are obscure. You will know the answers to them all and with a spot of luck, you will solve the lot within a month or two.

One clue only: 16 O in a P = Sixteen Ounces in a Pound

Good Luck!!

1. 1 GL for M
2. 2 O in a C
3. 3 BM (SHTR)
4. 4 P of the C
5. 5 D in a ZC
6. 6 H a D
7. 7 W of the AW
8. 8 P in a G
9. 9 P of the SS
10. 10 GBH on the W
11. 11 P on a ST
12. 12 S of the Z
13. 13 S on the AF
14. 14 P in a S
15. 15 M on a DMC
16. 16 O in a P
17. 18 H on a GC
18. 21 S in a BG
19. 24 H in a D
20. 26 L of the A
21. 29 D in F in a LY
22. 32 DF at which WF
23. 39 S
24. 40 D and N of the GF
25. 52 W in a Y
26. 54 C in a D (with the J's)
27. 57 HV
28. 64 S on a CB
29. 76 T in the BP
30. 88 K on a P
31. 90 D in a RA
32. 100 C in a D
33. 101 D
34. 200 D for PG in M
35. 366 D in a LY
36. 600 R into the V of D
37. 1000 W that a P is W
38. 1001 AN
39. 1,000,000 M for O of YS

Answers are at the end of this newsletter but do not go there too soon!

## Little Egrets are part of the Emsworth scene

In fact we are told that there are some eleven thousand pairs now around our shores! I was speaking to Reg Newnham about his wildlife and birds group, and he lamented about the fact that all of his "flock" (birds not members) have left him for colder climes. I told him that I had been given some photographs of egrets on the pond at Langstone Mill by a friend, David Jones, some of which I publish below. Reg made the point that we need to live to



120 something in order to see the next invasion, which, he says, will be storks! And where will they nest, I replied knowing that they need a tower like buildings I have seen on my wine trips to Spain. (see photo, left, of Najera for instance). We wondered if the Cross Café (Ex Greenhouse café) would be high enough but then thought that by that time we may have a minarette built where the Gas works once stood!



But back to egrets, did you know that for centuries, their plumage was a highly desirable clothing accessory. In fact by the beginning of the 19th century, the plumes were more valuable than gold. With each little egret producing about 1g of plumes, these could

fetch £15 an ounce (28g) on the European market (about £900 in today's prices). Trade was worldwide and the little egrets were systematically and ruthlessly farmed.

Demand from milliners for the plumes for fashionable female headwear reached such a height that there were fears the little-egret population was being devastated.

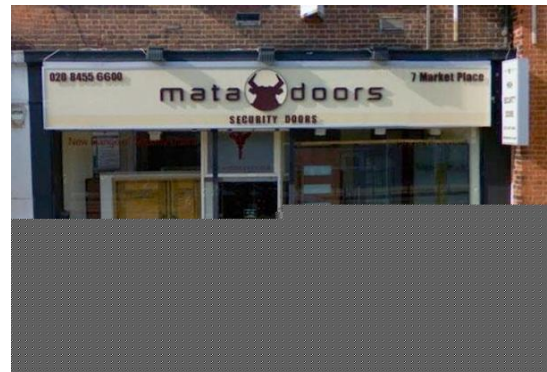
Such were the concerns that, after a series of meetings chiefly involving Society women, the Society for the Protection of Birds was formed in Manchester in 1889 and merged with the London-based Fur, Fin and Feather Folk in 1891; it was granted a Royal Charter in 1904 to become the RSPB. Its first leaflet, Destruction of Ornamental Plumaged Birds, focused on the plight of little egrets, together with grebes, and most of this famous charity's early campaigning was directed against the plumage trade.



So, back to my friend's pics. Admire our little Egret today in all its glory seen on the pond very recently at Langstone Mill!



# INVENTIVE BRITISH BUSINESS NAMES



(with thanks to Chris Gibbs!)

## Nostalgia:

The recent heatwave prompted me to include this pic taken in or around 1925. I guess the tents are bathing/changing huts but I suppose it could have been a Punch and Judy pageant????!



### Answers to Tony's Quiz:

- 1 (One) Giant Leap for Mankind
- 2 (0's) Zeros in a Hundred
- 3 Blind Mice (See How They Run)
- 4 Points of the Compass
- 5 Digits in a Zip Code
- 6 Half a Dozen
- 7 Wonders of the Ancient World
- 8 Pints in a Gallon
- 9 Planets of the Solar System
- 10 Green Bottles Hanging on the Wall
- 11 Players on a Soccer Team
- 12 Signs of the Zodiac
- 13 Stripes on the American Flag
- 14 Players in a Scrimmage
- 15 Men on a Dead Man's Chest
- 16 Ounces in a Pound
- 18 Holes on a Golf Course
- 21 Strikes in a Bowling Game
- 24 Hours in a Day
- 26 Letters of the Alphabet
- 29 Days in Feb. in a Leap Year
- 32 Degrees Fahrenheit at Which Water Freezes
- 39 Steps
- 40 Days & Nights of the Great Flood
- 52 Weeks in a Year
- 54 Cards in a Deck (with the Jokers)
- 57 Heinz Varieties
- 64 Squares on a Checker Board
- 76 Trombones in a Brass Parade
- 88 Keys on a Piano
- 90 Degrees in a Right Angle
- 100 Cents in a Dollar
- 101 Dalmatians
- 200 Dollars for Passing Go in Monopoly
- 366 Days in a Leap Year
- 600 Rode into the Void of Death
- 1000 Words that a Picture is Worth
- 1001 Arabian Nights
- 1,000,000 Miles for One of Your Smiles

Apologies for one or two Americanisms above

**All contributions for the next newsletter please to:**

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