

## FoD U3A Newsletter September 2023

Lunch Club: contact: Jackie Chapman 07735 032208 or sign up at the monthly general meeting.

27 Sep at the Bells 12.30 for 1pm £15 Menu

Pan Seared Chicken Breast with mushroom and tarragon velouté with Mash and Veg; Wye Valley Jumbo Faggot with mash, peas and onion gravy;

Breaded Smoked Haddock & Mozzarella Fishcake & garlic, spinach, peas & sweetcorn sauce;

Grilled Vegetable Ravioli with fresh tomato & basil sauce topped with mozzarella & cheddar cheese.

Homemade Apple Pie and Pear Crumble with shortbread topping and custard;

New York Style Baked cheesecake with strawberry compote and cream; Fruit Salad; 3 scoops Vanilla ice cream. Welcome to the September newsletter.

My apologies for the sudden cancellation of last month's meeting, due to the illness of the original speaker, John Beckingham, whose subsequent sudden deterioration in health meant that the plan to replace him as speaker with his wife Pamela became unviable. Sadly John Beckingham passed was on Tuesday September 5th. I have expressed my condolences to Pamela. A link to a tribute from John's son, the actor Simon Pegg, is below:

https://myjoyonline.com/simon-pegg-pays-tribute-to-musician-dad-john-beckingham/

Our September speaker will be Dennis Hayden, who will tell us about the history of those involved in the U.K.'s nuclear weapons testing programme in the 50s and 60s. His latest book, "A Legacy of Inherited Criminality", published in July this year, is a follow up to his 2021 volume "The UK's Nuclear Scandal".

You will also find in this newsletter background on our October speaker, Air Marshal Sir Graham "Dusty" Miller KBE.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 20 September at 2pm in Lydney Town Hall for Dennis Hayden's talk "The History of the UK Nuclear Weapon Test Programme 1952 to 1967" - a chance to find out about a unique but often overlooked period in British history.

Ken



The Cross Inn Aylburton 25 October 2023 12.30 for 1 pm £15

Menu £15

Wholetail Scampi, Salad, Fries, Tartare Sauce:

Butter fried chicken breast, BBQ sauce, bacon, cheese, Fries, Coleslaw;

Olive and Sundried TomatoTart, Herb potatoes, Tomato Salsa;

Home-made Lasagna, garlic bread, Salad:

Home-cooked ham, Fried egg, Chips and Peas

Apple Crumble, Custard, Cream, or Ice Cream;

Fresh Fruit Salad, Cream or Ice Cream:

Lemon Roulade, Cream or Ice Cream;

Selection of Ice Cream.



Monthly Meeting October 18 at 2pm, Lydney Town Hall

Our meeting on Wednesday 18th October provides an opportunity to learn about a part of RAF History. "Brat to Big Hat" delivered by the individual who made that transition, Air Marshal Sir Graham "Dusty" Miller KBE.

We will hear the story of someone who joined the RAF as an airman, graduated top of his apprentice entry (which at the time was over a hundred airmen), subsequently enabling him to get a commission as an RAF Officer.

He went on to qualify as a fast jet pilot and became one of the highest ranking officers in the RAF of his generation.

This is an extremely rare event in RAF History and a story well worth hearing.

## **History Group**

At our last meeting I agreed to find out some information about Rodley Manor in Lydney. I was quite surprised that records showed that dwellings had been on the site, which at one point in 1564 it was also known as Archers Walk, since 1204.

If you would like me to share some of the other information about Rodley Manor with you how about meeting up for a drink in the Swan at Lydney on the 2nd October at 14.00.

Please let me know if you will be joining me so that I can reserve a table.

**Bob Garside** 

## Hotfooters

The next walk will take place on the 19 Oct starting from the Speech House Car Park at 10.00 The route will be on some good paths but due to the time of the year there is a chance that some of them might be muddy.

Please let me know if you will be joining me on the walk so that I do not start the walk until everyone has arrived.

**Bob Garside**