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NEWSLETTER –Summer 2014

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A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN AND THE EDITOR

In the previous Newsletter we warned of serious cuts in our funding. The stark reality is that this will have to be the final Newsletter distributed in printed form to all our Croydon Fellowship members who have not opted to receive it on-line. It will continue to be produced and placed on our web site **and** on the AVIVA fellowship national website.

Printed copies will still be available, **but only if you advise the editor that you wish to continue to receive printed copies.**

(Those who have already informed us of this need not re-advise)

Preferably, please give us your e-mail address, if you have one, and we will inform you when an edition of the Newsletter is available on-line, as well as news of upcoming events.

Regrettably, we will have to assume, if we do not hear from you by the end of the year, that you do not wish to receive future Newsletters.

Brian Welch (Chairman)

Dave Newland (Newsletter Editor)

EDITORIAL

A short editorial this time! Most importantly I want to emphasise the above message. Do act upon it if you wish to continue to receive printed Newsletters. But here are some other points:

First, some good news in these times of constraint – we shall be receiving ‘proper’ AVIVA diaries again for next year, probably in early November.

Secondly, do come forward with ideas for events for next year – and you will volunteer to organise them, won’t you?

Finally, regrettably Sue Barber felt she could no longer continue on your committee due to her work commitments. Thank you, Sue, for your contribution, particularly in organising this year’s New Year Lunch.

DN

EVENTS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

QUIZ NIGHT and SUPPER

Wednesday 6th August - Whyteleafe Football Club

?

Bringing back memories of Friday lunchtimes for those of us who worked at Whyteleafe!

A new event, and in an evening. Have you entered yet? Come as a team or as an individual, when we will organise you into a team with other individuals. Do get that grey-matter in trim! But hurry with your entry. We need it by the 31st July.



I keep six honest serving-men (They taught me all I knew); Their names are **What** and **Why** and **When** And **How** and **Where** and **Who**. [Who wrote that? Answer on back page] (and don't forget **Which!** Ed)

BUFFET LUNCH

Monday 15th September – Croydon Park Hotel 12:30 for 13:00



Those who have attended our previous two lunches at Croydon Park Hotel will know we can expect a first class meal. At £13 a head for a five course buffet this is a real bargain. Booking forms are now available.

Closing date 9th September.



VISIT TO THE POPPY FACTORY

Thursday 9th October - Richmond



A chance to see where and how the poppies that we wear are made. Very timely as Remembrance Sunday will only be a month later and we are commemorating both the centenary of World War I and the 70th anniversary of the D-Day Landings this year.

Joan is organising this event.



CONDUCTED LONDON WALK - ? OLYMPIC PARK

October – Exact date and meeting point to be advised.



We had a conducted tour of this area when the various stadia were under construction. Judy is hoping to arrange a follow-up visit to see the site after the event. These conducted tours are always very good – see the report on the recent 'Unknown East End' walk.



Subject to confirmation

FISH'N'CHIP LUNCH

Wednesday 5th November – McDermott's Forestdale



40 members enjoyed the excellent food and service we always receive at this popular repeat event, when we celebrated St. George's Day and William Shakespeare's birthday. The introduction of a dessert went down without too much difficulty and we plan to repeat the meal for our November lunchtime date, when you can celebrate Guy Fawkes! But please leave your fireworks until the evening!



Being Guy Fawkes day, shouldn't we be having **bangers** and mash? Ed.

* * * * *

LONDON AUTUMN STROLL

November – Exact date and meeting point to be advised.



I am investigating a stroll along the Thames end of the Lee Valley Walk. A chance to see where some of our Council Tax is spent! As it will be beside the river or the navigation channel, it will be flat! Nothing very strenuous or long, with either a break for lunch or eating place(s) at the finish. Exact details nearer the time

DN

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PLANS FOR 2015

NEW YEAR LUNCH

The date and venue for the New Year Lunch has already been fixed:

Friday 2nd January 2015 at Croydon Park Hotel.

OTHER PLANS

There are also plans for a possible visit to **Bletchley Park**, a **Boat Trip on the Thames from Windsor**, a second **Genealogy** event and another **Treasure Hunt** like the one we did around Oxted last year (this time at Reigate), as well as our usual range of popular walks and eating events.

Plus our regular coffee mornings:

Clocktower Cafe, Croydon Town Hall / Library Building complex, Katherine Street.

Second Tuesday of every month. 10:00 a.m.

Quarterly (March, June, September and December) breakfast will also be available.

The Dene Restaurant in Knights Garden Centre, Woldingham

Last Wednesday in February, May, August and November. 10:30 a.m.

Chartwell

Last Thursday in July. 10:30 a.m.

Polhill Garden Centre

Last Thursday in March, June and September. 10:30 a.m.

Your Committee's next meeting will be on 4th September, when the main item on the agenda will be to plan next year's programme. If you have any suggestions for what you would like us to arrange – or better still that you will arrange for us - please let any committee member know.

* * * * *

REPORTS ON RECENT EVENTS

SPRING STROLL

Friday 9th May – Coulsdon Common / Happy Valley



Fourteen of us enjoyed this stroll in fine weather, with most of us refreshing ourselves afterwards in the 'Fox' pub. The primroses had already finished, so a small diversion was made to see more cowslips and bluebells, the latter just beginning to go over.



It is difficult to judge nature accurately—the bluebells were in their full glory just four days earlier!



I propose to do a similar walk next year through another bluebell wood.

DN

PUB LUNCH

Tuesday 20th May – 'Horseshoe' Warlingham

This is a copy of the item that Chris posted on 'Trip Advisor'



I am an Event Organiser for our group and we have regularly used this pub for well over 15 years. It changed hands a number of times and now forms part of Baron's Pub Group.

For our group, I arranged this time a three course meal with three choices for each course followed by tea or coffee. Their Conservatory Restaurant is an extension of the main pub which



has some advantages. Our member cost was very competitive and The Horseshoe were happy to rearrange seating, for nearly 50 of us, in a 'Horseshoe' layout all in one group.

Their Area Manager Helen also attended and the pub Manager Joe, with his helpful team, served us all. The meals were served promptly and all the various choices our members advised me were excellent. Some members said the best yet! As the Organiser I have found them very easy to deal with our special requirements and have only received positive member comments.

We look forward to returning again!

CH

UNKNOWN EAST END OF LONDON Tuesday 17th June - Whitechapel

We have just had another very interesting guided walk, this time around Whitechapel



Our Guide, Harry Jackson (*left*), was born in Whitechapel and he seemed to have a story for every building and road in the area. The area has always been a mishmash of locals and immigrants, all with a story to tell and dominated by The Royal London Hospital with the Helipad on the roof for the Air Ambulance.



We saw The Blind Beggar pub, notorious for its links to the Kray Brothers, and the blackmail and crime associated with them

We saw Sydney Street (heavily bombed but rebuilt) where a siege of armed robbers holed up in a house, was brought to a successful conclusion by Winston Churchill, then Home Secretary.



The Whitechapel Bell Foundry is probably the oldest 'Factory' in the country and we peered in, to see several bells, possibly waiting to be transported to some distant church spire.



Alongside Mosques and Synagogues were local shops with strange looking vegetables, including Jackfruit, enormous green boulder sized fruit., and Brick Lane with all its restaurants.

After a very gruesome description of the murder of a young girl, probably by Jack the Ripper, we all dispersed to get lunch!

JD

Italian Lunch Wednesday 16th July



36 of us sat down to a very tasty meal from a choice of pizza, farfalle or lasagne, followed by tiramisu, ice cream or meringue and giant cherries. As usual the staff and service were first rate and we look forward to returning this time next year. Our thanks to Brian for organising it.



Seaford Walk

This event was taking place as the Newsletter went to print, and a report will appear in the next edition

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Brian WELCH (BW)	020 8657 1354	brian.welch3@btinternet.com
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DIARY OF EVENTS FOR REMAINDER OF 2014 AND EARLY 2015

Date	Organiser	Event	Venue	Time
JULY				
Thu 31	MM	Coffee Morning †	Chartwell	10:30
AUGUST				
Wed 6	CH	NEW Quiz Night/Supper	Whyteleafe Football Club	19:00 for 19:30
Tue 12	MM	Coffee Morning †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30
Wed 27	MM	Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10:30
SEPTEMBER				
Tue 9	MM	Coffee/Breakfast †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30
Mon 15	CH/PP	Buffet Lunch	Croydon Park Hotel	12:30 for 13:00
Thu 25	MM	Coffee Morning †	Polhill Garden Centre	10:30
OCTOBER				
Thu 9	JP	Factory Visit	Poppy Factory, Richmond	13:30 for 14:00
Tue 14	MM	Coffee Morning †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30
TBA	JD	*London Walk	Provisionally The Olympic Site	TBA
NOVEMBER				
Wed 5	MM	*Fish 'n' Chips Lunch	McDermott's, Forestdale Centre, Croydon	11:30 for 12:00
Tue 11	MM	Coffee Morning †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30
TBA	DN	Autumn Stroll †	Provisionally Part of the Lee Valley Walk	TBA
Wed 26	MM	Coffee Morning †	Knight's Garden Centre, Woldingham	10:30
DECEMBER				
Tue 9	MM	Coffee/Breakfast †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30
JANUARY 2015				
Fri 2	CC/PP	New Year Lunch	Croydon Park Hotel	12:15 for 12:45
Tue 16	MM	Coffee Morning †	Clocktower Café, Katherine Street, Croydon	10:00 to 11:30

Notes: For organisers' contact details, see list of committee members and other event organisers above.

† No booking is required for events with the † symbol. Just turn up, although in some cases you may be requested to intimate your intention of coming in case of last-minute changes.

* Dates and / or times of starred events are liable to alteration /cancellation.

Please note: When members have booked an event and cancel or do not turn up on the day, we will still bank their cheques as we need to cover our costs. Failure to appear could also stop other members on the waiting list from attending the event.

Answer: Who wrote the little verse?

Rudyard Kipling