

News: Season 2015 to 2016

11 July 2016

Time is moving on but we are on schedule to send out the programme for 2016-17. They are due back from the printers later this week and the secretary and his helpers will be licking and sticking envelopes and stamps shortly after that. When it arrives we really hope members like the new season's offerings and that they rejoin. New members are of course most welcome and the programme details will also be put onto this website as soon as possible.

31st May 2016

On May 17th our AGM was held at The Grimsby Institute. Chairman Susan Warren has agreed to remain in that role for another year. Ray Drury was elected Secretary replacing Stephen Cripsey. The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports were presented and accepted, which included a membership fee increase of £1 per person. The new programme for 2016-17 was presented and it promises to be a very interesting one. Entertainment was provided by young talented local violinists and they were very well received.

22nd April 2016

It is with great sadness and shock that we have to announce the sudden death of our Secretary, Stephen Cripsey, who died at home on 21st April 2016. Our thoughts go out to his wife, Judith, and family at this time. Stephen had been a member of The Everyman Club since 1984 and had held the position of Secretary since September 2000, duties he carried out diligently and efficiently. Stephen will be greatly missed by us all. His funeral service takes place at St Peter's Church Cleethorpes on Wednesday 4th of May at 2.00pm

12th April 2016

Think of Rome and a fountain and the chances are you will come up with The Trevi Fountain, or "The three road fountain" as it can be translated. Just one of the many facts and stories about Rome and its Fountains contained in Keith Holmes' presentation at our latest and final meeting of the season. Keith is no stranger to The Everyman having previously done some 8 talks over the years. Once again he informed, entertained and maybe even inspired us with his information and knowledge. His talk was beautifully illustrated by his photographs which showed not only some of the more familiar Rome scenes but also took us down many of the streets and squares off the beaten track. It was in these areas where Keith had managed to find hidden gems of fountains, impressively designed and built centuries ago. He had even managed to gain access to some of the more private courtyards which too yielded fine examples of ornate fountains. He did not overlook the humble drinking fountains of which there are some 2000 in Rome, still fulfilling their purpose today. He also took us out of Rome to see The Tivoli Gardens with its spectacular terraces and flowing waters. We learned a bit about the history of the city and especially about the Roman's expertise in moving and controlling water and providing a constant source of clean water using Aqueducts linking the city to the hills and mountains over long distances. Using his trusty Leica equipment, Keith is clearly a talented photographer and traveller with a skill as a story teller. We were very pleased to have him with us again and his talk was warmly appreciated by a good turnout of members and guests. Our next meeting is our AGM which will take place on Tues 17th May. All are welcome.

8th March 2016

Cleethorpes born Actress and presenter, Julie Peasgood was our very welcome guest speaker on this occasion. Her career spans over 40 years of prestigious theatre and television. Julie touched on her early life and how she got into the world of entertainment, but the main theme of her talk on this occasion was to help us understand how memory works and how, by following some fairly elementary good practice and practical tips we can all work to improve or retain our memory. So how did Julie get into this aspect of her life? She was asked to do talks on cruise ships and she considered what might be a good topic for a cruise ship audience and memory fitted the bill as it affects everyone. So what can we do to improve and retain our memory? After explaining the different types of memory, Julie's talk concentrated on short term memory. Saying things out loud to yourself will help reinforce things you want to remember. Remembering names can be helped by repeating the name to yourself of someone you have just been introduced to, or by saying it back to them with a phrase such as "Nice to meet you Mary" rather than just "nice to meet you". Creating a pictorial image of someone in your mind or a can also be of help. Lists are very useful, apparently we have some of our best ideas and "to dos" occur when we awake so a pen and paper by the bed is handy. Some foods such as Omega 3 can help boost memory power apparently. In essence it is like a muscle in the body of you do not use it it will deteriorate. Her talk proved to be relevant, interesting and eloquently put across. She also dealt with a range of questions from our audience. All done in bare feet due to having brought 2 right shoes with her from 2 pairs of identical shoes. Nothing to do with memory problems though!

9th February 2016

Financial meltdown in 1720 was the topic for our February meeting. Now on the face of it you might be forgiven for thinking that this might be a somewhat drab topic with little to entertain us, but you would be wrong. Enter our speaker for the evening, Jim Williams, a dapper chap with a friendly manner. Jim is a semi retired lawyer and author, even having one of his works nominated for a Booker Prize. He has a particular interest in frauds and charlatans and he used this interest and knowledge to good effect as he brought to life the history leading up to the first great credit crunch known as The South Sea Bubble. He explained what was happening with the struggles to find royal successors and the scheming that went on, the situation with power struggles abroad and the wars taking place in the lead up to 1720. Equally fascinating were the various "get rich quick" characters made up of lawyers, accountants and speculators. Much money was made by those in a position to invest, but as so often happens greed meant the whole plan got out of hand with a inevitable crash as "The Bubble Burst". We were all reflecting upon the fact that little has changed since then with the events of 2008 fresh in our minds. A thoroughly enjoyable meeting with well delivered, entertaining talk by Jim.

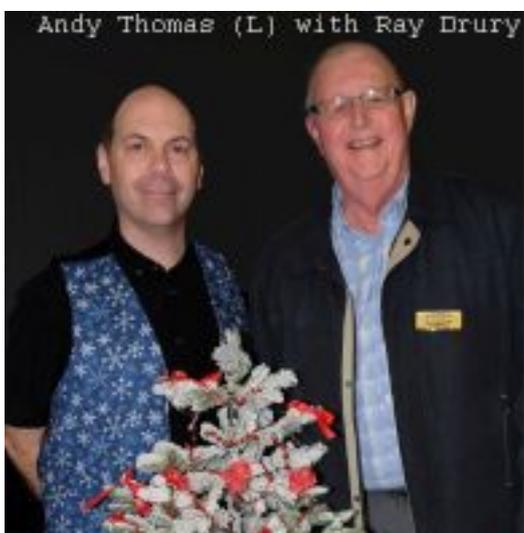


12th January 2015

Doug Stewart was the speaker at the January meeting. He took us behind the scenes at the Chelsea Flower Show. Many hints and tips were given for potential exhibitors. Doug took us through the 'career path' which needs to be trodden by the gardener: from humble local flower shows, to national shows and ultimately to Chelsea. He cautioned the novice exhibitor at Chelsea that they would probably be given the worst spot in which to create a garden and that they would need three times as many plants as were actually displayed to ensure that flowers were at the peak of perfection on the day! Doug also gave hints and tips for both exhibitors and judges. A plan has to be submitted to the judges beforehand and then the garden created has to comply with the plan. For example, if your garden is a Shingle Garden by the Beach, then the display should look like that!

Doug kept the audience entertained with many amusing anecdotes including the mispronunciations he had heard from gardeners such as gazebo pronounced as gaze-zee-bow! The talk was very well received and at the end of the evening, Doug was warmly thanked.

14th December 2015



The History of Christmas was the theme for our December event and very fascinating it was too. Our guest speaker was Mr Andy Thomas, who is one of the UK's leading speakers on Mysteries and Histories. On this occasion he provided an informative journey through the origins and traditions associated with the festive season. Right through from Greek times through Pagan Festivals, Christian celebrations and right up to the present day. We were informed about the time when Christmas was banned by Oliver Cromwell and how people took to the streets to have it reinstated. Andy's talk shed light on the origins of many of the things we do today at this time of year. Christmas trees, Christmas cards, Christmas crackers and Santa Claus all came under scrutiny. The

origins and meanings of Christmas Carols and even an insight into the words of modern Christmas Songs. Andy was a real Christmas enthusiast trying hard to soften any "Bah Humbug" members in the audience! Anyway The Everyman Club wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and looks forward to seeing again at our next event on Tuesday 12th January, when we will be ably informed about the goings on at The Chelsea Flower Show.

16th November 2015

November saw our musical event when we were entertained by The Rhodes Singers, in this case a quartet of performers. Kathleen Watson, Debbie Berry, Edward le Brock, and Ian Smith. The repertoire comprised a very wide range of songs from choral pieces in Latin to 16th and 17th century Madrigals. French and Spanish love songs, music by Purcell, and English pieces such as Linden Lea. In the second half we had what was a first for The Everyman Club, Audience Participation, when guided and coached by Kathleen we were divided in the 4 parts and encouraged to try to learn our parts and put it all together. I have to say after some reluctance many participated and made a decent fist of it. Memorable anyway. As for the singers themselves they had great voices and worked together well even



though we understand it was a first for this particular quartet. Just shows talent will shine through. Maybe some of our members got the singing bug too, you never know.

16th October 2015



We have had some great feedback following our second meeting of the season which attracted an audience of over 130. The talk was by Nick Barratt and was entitled "Behind the scenes of Who Do You Think You Are and beyond. Nick gave a short personal history including his time as an Archivist with The National Archives which in due course led to him becoming a researcher for The BBC and ultimately working on the popular TV Series Who do you think you are? He gave a fascinating insight into the making of the programme and

some of the people who have featured. He then talked about the wider subject of family history research in which he stressed the importance of it and how it has become so much more accessible due to the use of the internet and the sheer amount of information which is now available. It means it is possible to research ancestors and understand more about how they lived and what made them the people they became. He did however stress the need to retain key documents and evidence and not rely entirely on electronic data. Nick's talk, which was delivered without the use of notes or visual aids was very well appreciated by those who attended.

10th September 2015

Well the first meeting of the new season took place on Tuesday 8th of September and what a great start it was. A very enlightening and entertaining talk by Erik Grigg of Manchester University about the origins, meanings and myths of The Magna Carta. Maybe contrary to popular belief, apparently King John was a thoroughly bad lot, devious and not to be trusted. He basically ignored the charter and even went as far as getting The Pope to annul it at one stage! We learned about the skills and techniques employed to actually produce the documents at the time, and what has happened to them during most their 800 years. Fascinating stuff presented and explained by a real enthusiast. The attendance of well over 100, including a good number of new members, did the evening justice and we look forward to many more equally good evenings throughout the season.



If you wish to join, just go to the membership page on this website, fill in you details and we will get back to you. More new members are signing up which we are pleased about. If you are not sure just come along to any meeting you like the look of, pay £10 on the door and experience the event for yourself. In other words if you wish "try before you buy". Also help us by telling all your friends.