

6th June 2017

It is windy and raining today but apparently it is Summer. Although it is closed season for the Everyman Club, work goes on behind the scenes. Sally Taylor, our speaker finder is busy putting the finishing touches to the 2017 -18 programme. Once completed and confirmed comes the job of getting it into shape for the printers and then of course getting it out to members. Once again we hope to have a varied and interesting programme of meetings with something for everyone.

12th April 2017

The final event of our season is The AGM which takes place on Tuesday 16th of May at 7.30pm. All members are welcome. The formal meeting will be preceded by a wine and soft drink reception, followed by entertainment featuring local performers

12th April 2017



Our final meeting of the season, apart from the AGM took place on 11th April, when our guest speakers Dick and Lisa Robinson brought to life the World War One diaries of Nurse Edith Appleton. Nurse Edith was Dick's great aunt who spent the war years attending to the injured from all sides in various medical centres on and around the battlefield areas. The presentation was really brought to life as Dick explained what was going on at the time in the different locations and also gave a rundown of her life, while Lisa read directly from Nurse Appleton's comprehensive diaries. She managed to paint a graphic picture of the work being carried out and the conditions under which they worked. The diaries make direct reference to certain soldiers and what happened to them. She also remarks about the other nurses, VAD's, who were volunteers and some of her seniors. She describes the locations and the lighter moments when she and her colleagues got some time off together. There was even some humour in her writings. Clearly a sombre topic but presented in an entertaining way by Dick and Lisa, much appreciated by the members present.

9th March 2017



The March meeting proved to be very educational for most of the members present as we learned about the remote Kingdom of Zanskar set in a remote part of Northern India in the Himalayas. Very few if any had heard of this area and certainly no-one had visited it. Except of course our guest speakers, John and Rosamund Macfarlane who have been there several times and know it well. They have developed links to some of the local people through a contact made in the UK. Their presentation, supported by many excellent photographs graphically illustrated the remoteness of the area as demonstrated by the often precarious journey to get there, some by treacherous roads and many miles on foot through the valleys and mountains. They were able to show us the way life of the villagers in the region, how they survive, their traditions and difficulties. Again supported by superb pictures which clearly illustrated the people their lifestyle and the spectacular scenery. Mind you the visit took place in the short summer months and we were informed winter lasts for 8 months of the year. You need to be tough to survive but some local people make into old age with one very proud man being 90 and still very active. The amenities are sparse but the faces are full of smiles and the garments colourful. Most present will have reflected how we in the western world take so much for granted. John and Rosamund are passionate about the area and donate any money made from their talks to help support the people of Zanskar.

22nd February 2017



Our guest speaker in February was Mr Stephen Gay a Yorkshire character, rail enthusiast and photographer. Stephen gave us an entertaining and informative presentation about the railway line from Sheffield to Edale, illustrated by super images of various places of interest and of course trains pictured throughout the seasons of the year. He told of his walks in this area with his faithful companion Wrawby, a German Shepherd dog, who featured in several pictures. He

told of fascinating places along the route, disused signal boxes and station buildings, hidden tea shops and the building of tunnels and the Ladybower reservoir. The line is very much in use today and I am sure the next time we travel on the Trans Pennine Express to Manchester we will pay particular attention to this section and see it in a completely different light.

11th January 2017



First of all we extend our best wishes to all our members for 2017. Well, The Everyman Club certainly started with a bang, when our January meeting sold out. Some 320 people filled The Grimsby Institute auditorium for an Evening with Martin Withers DFC and Vulcan XH558. Martin did us proud as he explained what went on during the Vulcan's bombing mission to the Falklands Islands. As the pilot, he was able to give first hand information about the mission to bomb the airfield at Port Stanley. A tricky and brave operation it was but nevertheless it was successful and gave the British forces a strategic advantage. He then gave second presentation about his later flying career, culminating in being reunited with XH558 after its restoration and what it was like to fly it in air displays. He spoke of his sadness when he took her on her last ever flight before her retirement to Robin Hood airport. In between a member of The Vulcan to the Sky Trust, Ian Homer spoke about the restoration itself the fund raising and the technical challenges. There were excellent images of the plane in flight including a video shot from the cockpit whilst flying with the Red Arrows display team. Martin signed countless books and memorabilia and was still doing so at 10.30pm, testament to his and the aircraft's popularity. A fabulous night and our apologies to those who were unable to get tickets.

27th December 2016



As we bow out of 2016 we can report that our December meeting was very much enjoyed by all those who attended. Our guest was Sue Hickson Marsay, "The storm tossed lady". What an inspirational person Sue is, as she told how she went from being a safety trainer for offshore workers to being the only female Pilot Boat Coxswain in Britain. What it was like entering a man's world and proving she could do the job just as well. She told stories of her regular journeys out through the Humber estuary and into the North Sea in all weather conditions and at any time of day or night to deliver and collect Humber Pilots who are required to navigate ships in and out of the Humber Ports. She told of her determination to replace the Hornsea Lifeboat Service when it was withdrawn by the RNLI and how now they have a new boathouse, inshore rescue boat and a jet boat to carry out rescues in that area. She never took no for an answer and still does the work with great enthusiasm, little wonder she won 2 women in business awards in 2014. She informed and entertained in a relaxed and competent manner. Thank you Sue.

9th December 2016

Ticket sales for our January meeting "An evening with Martin Withers and Vulcan XH558", are going very well with 122 sold so far, so with our usual 100 or so members attending it looks set to be a successful evening. Tickets for this will be on sale at our next meeting on Tues 13th December.

16th November 2016

The guest speaker at our December meeting on Tues 13th December is Sue Hickson Marsay who is the only female pilot launch coxswain in Britain. Her talk is entitled "The Storm Tossed Lady". She is the founder of the Hornsea Inshore Rescue service and she will share stories of her life on the waves.

16th November 2016



Well our November meeting went very well indeed. Our guest speaker, Russell Bowes gave a very enlightening insight into the life and times of Lancelot "Capability" Brown the renowned landscape designer. As Russell said most of us have heard of him and are aware of what he did but at the same time know very little about Lancelot the man. From extremely humble beginnings he rose to rub shoulders with the top aristocracy and Royalty in the land. He was such in demand he had to turn commissions down. Consequently he became a very rich man yet remained approachable and affable. Unfortunately he died a very sudden and ignominious death when he collapsed and died of a heart attack on his daughter's doorstep. Buried humbly in Fenstanton churchyard near Cambridge his landscapes are his lasting legacy. I can't help

feeling that there should be a more formal memorial somewhere as we celebrate 300 years since his birth. We were pleased to welcome a good number of guests to this meeting, who I feel sure found it well worth while. Pictured are Russell Bowes (left) with Secretary Ray Drury

5th November 2016

JANUARY MEETING UPDATE. Our meeting on Tuesday 10th January is our special joint event with The Vulcan To The Sky Trust. BOOKINGS FOR GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC for this event can now be made via the Vulcan To The Sky website and by phone. The website address is www.vulcantotheskystore.co.uk, then click on event tickets. The phone number for telephone bookings is 02476 322259

5th November 2016

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 8th November when our guest speaker is Russell Bowes whose talk is entitled "The Capable Mr Brown", in recognition of the 300th anniversary of the great landscape designer, Lancelot "Capability" Brown". Looking forward to this, even if you are not a gardening enthusiast we can all marvel at his achievements. Russell will give an insight into the life and times of this great man.

14th October 2016

The second meeting of the season was very well attended and we were entertained and informed by Dr Michael Leach who gave a talk entitled "A funny way to make a living". Michael is a renowned wildlife photographer and writer and he gave an interesting and humorous insight into the tricks of the trade employed to get those magical and unique shots and films of wild creatures. I think we will all view wildlife pictures and films in a different light after listening to his talk. He also gave some fascinating glimpses into the behaviour and psychology of animals and birds. Who knew that Ravens can only count up to 9? Feedback after the talk has been very positive and we look forward to another good turn out next time.

8th October 2016

It will soon be time for our second meeting of the season already so don't miss it. Next Tuesday 11th October, Dr Michael Leech will talk to us about the trials and tribulations of wild life photography. Should be fascinating.

15th September 2016

Well, our new season got underway in fine style on Tuesday when the Antiques Roadshow expert Andy McConnell educated and entertained a very good turn out with his talk "The Impact of Glass". With a well illustrated presentation Andy took us back to the origins of glass in the Middle East, right through its development up to the present day with fibre optics. At each stage he pointed out the many things we would not have or be able to do if we did not have glass. Basically, life would be miserable at best and unbearable at worst. Andy also spoke about the making of The Antiques Roadshow and some of the memorable incidents he has experienced. He gave a very lively animated presentation which clearly showed his enthusiasm for his subject.... glass.

15th August 2016

It is 4 weeks tomorrow when the Fifty Fifth season of The Everyman Club starts. You may have checked out the programme on the programme page already. If not have a look now. We think our speaker finder, Sally Taylor has once again put together an exciting and varied series of events which we hope you will enjoy. If you have not done so already, please get your membership renewal forms in to the secretary as soon as possible.