

## Summer's Almost Gone!



Picture: Roy Spencer

**B**ut not yet! Perhaps there is still time for us to enjoy the delights of an Indian Summer before the leaves start to fall. Walking Group Leader Roy Spencer sent in this picture of the group at Eton Wick during last month's walk. They all look happy enough in the grounds of Eton College and that's before they ended up in a real English pub *The Greyhound* also in Eton Wick.

# Dates for your diary

**Visit booked for 2020**

## Riseley Tearooms

Trip to Riseley Tearooms on Thursday  
28th of May at 2:45 pm till 5.00 pm.

**38 people maximum.**

£14 per person to include  
sandwiches, scones and cakes.

Unlimited tea or coffee.

Own transport needed.

Signup sheet will be available from  
the September monthly meeting.

*A board will be displayed at our  
September meeting. Book soon to  
avoid disappointment.*

# THE PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

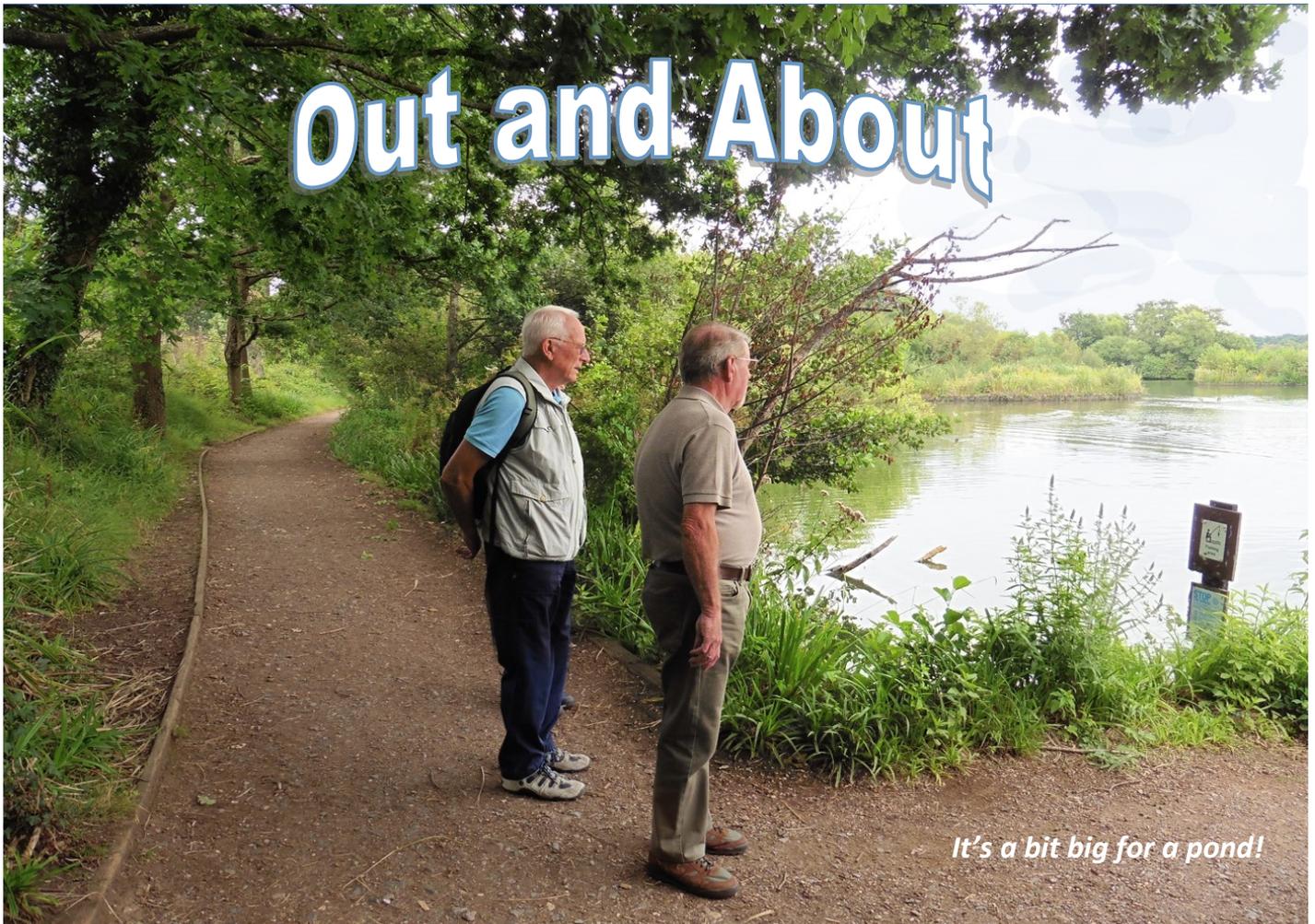
## The Photography Group meets next in September

During August the Group pictured below made a visit to West Dene Gardens. Those attending found conditions difficult with temperatures in excess of 30°. The hunt for exciting pictures became more a matter of finding enough shade for survival.

Following the summer break meetings resume on **Tuesday 24th September** at 2.00 p.m. at the Tythings. **Subject: Back Alleys.**



*Picture: Martin Brooks*



*It's a bit big for a pond!*

**F**leet Pond is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a local Nature Reserve. The pond at over fifty acres is Hampshire's largest freshwater lake and is very shallow with a maximum depth of under three feet. Larger than some lakes it is believed to have been formed by damming an existing watercourse to build up a head of water. Being man-made it is called a pond as lakes are naturally formed. The pond is believed to have been in existence since the 12th Century.

The total area of the Reserve is around 140 acres with reed beds, marshes, heathland and woodland providing a diverse community of animal and plant life.

Fleet Pond is a popular venue for our Ambling Group who cite its proximity and easy walking as the main attraction. Our "professional" Walkers say, a little unkindly, that the Amblers like the pond because they know if they keep the water on their left hand side they won't get lost. Ambling Group Leader Chris Bowen knows that her group have ambidextrous wayfaring skills and obviously can accept the challenge of a clockwise circumnavigation.

Seriously, we think it's worth a visit just because it's another wonderful place on our doorstep and an added bonus of living in North Hampshire.

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

**T**ony Weston's *A Woman of Wax* describing the life and times of Madame Tussaud proved to be an interesting and entertaining presentation.

He vividly captured the Reign of Terror when to lose one's head had an entirely different meaning and his portrayal of a young woman caught up in this horror of the French Revolution shed a new light upon that well-known name and a very British institution.

Born as Marie Grosholtz in Strasbourg in 1761 she created her first wax sculpture in 1777 of Voltaire. During the French Revolution, she was imprisoned and awaiting execution but was released after the intervention of influential friends. Throughout the Revolution, she made models of many prominent victims.

These sculptures with many more including those in a Chamber of Horrors became the basis of a travelling exhibition that she took around Europe for many years before finally settling in Britain where it has remained.

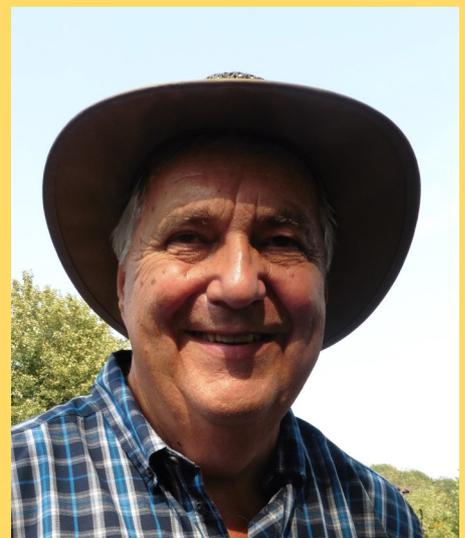
Tony Weston's scholarship and research is to be admired.



## ***Meet a Member***

"I'm a bit of an old git", Martin Brooks tells us and adds: "or so my wife would say"; but we're sure that he and spouse Barbara are much too nice either for her to use or for him to warrant that description. They arrived in this area from Strand on the Green in Chiswick, West London, where he had been an Exhibition Designer, sometime in 1975.

Martin enjoys art and is a member of our art group. Barbara strikes just the right note and we may hear more of her later.



# Future Meeting - 19th September

## Tom Way Wildlife Photography

**T**om is an award-winning Fine Art wildlife photographer based in the UK and overseas with his biggest passion being Africa where he leads a number of photographic wildlife Safaris. Come and see his amazing and beautiful photos of the large animals of Africa. Tom is a very engaging speaker and his love of both photography and animals is plain to see., and he explains what lengths he took to get his amazing photos. Should you wish to see his work before the meeting you can see them on [www.tomwayphotography.co.uk](http://www.tomwayphotography.co.uk)



*A must for the Photography Group*

# The Book Group

## Ruth by Elizabeth Gaskell

**R**uth, an orphan, works in a respectable sweatshop where she meets aristocratic rake Henry Bellingham and they form a secret friendship but she is dismissed when found out.

Ruth is taken by Bellingham to London where it is implied that she becomes a fallen woman.

In this story Gaskell deals compassionately with Victorian views about the sin and the social stigma of illegitimacy; and the novel looks at whether a “sinful woman” can be reintegrated into society.



*Elizabeth Gaskell*

*The Book Group meets on the last Thursday of the month at 2.00 p.m.*

# From our Kernow Correspondent

Greetings from damp Cornwall .

I love the life here but haven't done much exploring as I damaged my knee when I moved in.

Had my first proper walk last week and that was just under 4 miles which I coped with well. Miss all my walking friends.

I have joined the local U3A which has very interesting speakers, good walking groups which I intend trying.

Best wishes to everyone, Kathie.

## Get your boots on

### Ambling Group

**Thursday October 3rd**

Yateley Common

[Meet at *The Cricketers* 10.45 for 11.00]

Team Leader: **Chris Bowen**

**01252 872709**

### Walking Group

**Thursday October 3rd**

Devil's Punch Bowl

Meet Frogmore 9.00 [leaving 9.15 sharp]

Team Leader: **Karin & Mike Robey**

**01276 504979**

### Walk Too Group

**Thursday October 10th**

Bramshill Forest/Blackwater Valley

Meet Frogmore 9.45 [leaving 10.00 sharp]

Team Leader: **Tony Buckle**

**01276 501271**

**... and of course every week there's always Friday afternoons at Frogmore**

## On a Musical Note

Just when you thought it had gone very quiet on the Choir front, we had a contralto note breaking the silence.

We have another volunteer who says she will help Christine Pibworth.

Barbara Brooks thinks we need an initial meeting to get together those interested to see what is needed to get the group singing.

She says that she is willing to organise this [the meeting]. More details at this month's meeting.



# We have a Winner!

## *And again it's Diane*

The winner of last month's grand draw was **Diane Middleton**. If there's a draw around you may bet your bottom dollar that either Diane or husband Ken will be on the leader board when the prizes are handed out. Just to prove this point, he won a prize in the raffle held on the same afternoon.



# You could be a Winner!

The next monthly draw is about to commence in October and **you could be a winner** too!

First of all you need to join and to do this you should have your entry money ready, **only £10**, to give to Sue Puxley at this month's meeting on 19th September.

You will then be able to share in the great excitement each month as the visiting speaker draws out the winning number and that could so easily be yours!

It's much better odds than the Lottery or the Premium Bonds.



**BRING YOUR MONEY TO THE MEETING**

## Blackwater Valley U3A

### **Phil Rowling Members' Welfare officer**

Please contact Phil direct to report any illness or bereavement or ask about accessibility to a particular event:

Tel: 01252 870879 e-mail: [rowingphilip@gmail.com](mailto:rowingphilip@gmail.com)

Editor: [bv3anewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bvu3anewsletter@gmail.com)

	Venue	Time/date	Contact	Phone number
Ambling (approx. 2 miles)	Various	1st Thursday in each month at 11am	Chris Bowen	01252 872709
Art	Darby Green and Frogmore Social Hall	Monday 11am- 1.00pm	Jerry France	01252 671325
Books	Private House	Last Thursday in the month - 2 pm	Chris Bowen	01252 872709
Bowls (summer)	Fleet Social Bowling Club	Tuesday at 11am	Bob Atkins	01252 871899
Bridge	Private House	Monday at 2.30pm	Toni Spencer	01276 423428
Canasta 1 & 2 and other card games	Private house	Wednesdays 2pm (1) (2)	Pam Cuthbertson Clive Singer	01252 872221 01252 324304
Crafts	Private House	Every other Monday afternoon 2-4 pm	Jean Huckle	01252 878152
MOTO	St. Barnabas Church Blackwater	2nd Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm	Pam Cuthbertson	01252 872221
Photography	The Tythings, Yateley	4th Tuesday of the month 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.	Phil Rowling	01252 870879
Pub Lunches	Variable	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in every month at 12:30 pm	Mike Pippard	01344 772595
'Rummikub'	Private House	2nd and 4th Tuesday in every month at 7.00pm	Pam Cuthbertson	01252 872221
Ten-Pin Bowling	Farnborough Recreation Centre	Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 2.00 p.m.	Bob Atkins	01252 871899
Trips and Excursions	Various	To be arranged.	Phil Rowling	01252 870879
Various Sports Table Tennis, Curling	Frogmore Leisure Centre	Friday 1.00pm to 2.30pm	Val Green	01276 512838
Walking (approx. 7 miles)	Various	1st Thursday in every month.	Roy Spencer	01276 423428
'Walking Too' (approx. 5 miles)	Various	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday in every month	Rosemary White	01276 503813

### The Blackwater Valley U3A Committee comprises: -

<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Marilynne Gardiner	Raffle	01252 877510	<a href="mailto:xansamaz@aol.com">xansamaz@aol.com</a>
Meg Thomson	Treasurer and Membership Secretary	01276 33727	<a href="mailto:megtho@ntlworld.com">megtho@ntlworld.com</a>
Sue Puxley	Minutes Secretary and Groups' Co-ordinator	01276 513031	<a href="mailto:suepuxley@virginmedia.com">suepuxley@virginmedia.com</a>
Jackie Barkaway	Speakers' Secretary	01276 502812	<a href="mailto:jackiebarkaway@yahoo.co.uk">jackiebarkaway@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Dave Dickinson	Chairman	01252 879056	<a href="mailto:daviddickinson9@btinternet.com">daviddickinson9@btinternet.com</a>
Phil Rowling	Members' Welfare and Newsletter Editor	01252 870879	<a href="mailto:rowingphilip@gmail.com">rowingphilip@gmail.com</a>

The Blackwater Valley U3A is affiliated to the Yateley U3A. Our website: [www.blackwatervalleyu3a.org.uk](http://www.blackwatervalleyu3a.org.uk)

**Webmaster: - Val Green 01276 512838**

**email: - [webmasterbv3a@gmail.com](mailto:webmasterbv3a@gmail.com)**