



May 5th
Linda Farrand
and the
World Cheese
Awards



Cream Tea June 23rd, 2pm

at the Lakeside Kitchen,
Manor Farm, Todber
Sturminster Newton,
DT10 1JB

Cost is £7 for members only

Please book with Judy at jood58@gmail.com

Please pay by bank transfer, or by cash or cheque at the May meeting



GARDEN VISITS GROUP

We have had a couple of very good garden group trips recently, both of which were slightly further afield. Our trip back in March was in a lovely location in Wiltshire (Heale House), where a smaller number than usual attended this, which was organised by Brita, as I was on holiday - so thanks to her! Apparently, this was a really stunning place, which some members want to return to later in the year.



Our trip earlier this month was to the stunning Forde Abbey, near Chard, where 14 of us went on a lovely sunny day. Some of us also went into the House besides going around the gorgeous garden, including seeing the very tall fountain, which went



off just as we arrived (see photos). We also had both coffee and lunch in their lovely new Cafe there, which was impressive.



Our next visit in May will be more local, but we will discuss the options at our next coffee morning, which will be on: Mon 11th May (slightly later, because of the bank holiday in early May). We still have 30 members, plus one member on our 'waitlist'.

Jan Nast



WALKING GROUPS

We have done some walking over the last couple of months, having had to cancel the January walk for both groups because of the very wet weather.

In February, the Tuesday group managed a walk from Shaftesbury, but the weather was not good enough for the Wednesday group to walk on the allotted day. This is a lovely walk and is well suited to wet conditions as it can be entirely on a hard surface. The starting point is near the bottom of Gold Hill, then climbs up to the park by the Abbey ruins by a footpath. This part of the walk offers lovely views to the south. We walked through the park beyond the hospital to another area of park which faces roughly north, again with wonderful views. The route continues through the edge of Shaftesbury and down Gold Hill. From here it goes out-of-town down a valley to Three Ways, then right at the end and back to the start point. As Ye Old Two Brewers was not open on a Tuesday lunchtime, lunch was taken at The Bird in Henstridge. I'm pleased to report that the walk went well and nobody got wet.

In March, a tougher walk was selected, up Hambledon Hill – not just once, but twice. Again, the poor weather meant that the Wednesday group could not walk on their appointed day, so they were invited to join the Tuesday group, which some members did. The walk starts from Child Okeford, near the Church, passes through the graveyard and over a “stile” comprising stepping stones built into a wall. This part of the walk is deceptive as it is very pleasant and is almost flat; however, Hambledon Hill looms high on the left. Soon, the track turns left up the hill with a long, steady



climb to reach the trig point at the top of the hill. As you can probably imagine, there are superb 360-degree views which are well worth the climb. The group split, with five members opting to take the shorter route and return to their cars via a nearly level route around the back of the hill until the point where the track heads downhill. At this point the path is very steep and leads to a track through trees with prominent roots and some stumps to the minor road back to Child Okeford.

Four intrepid members of the group continued to do the full walk. This involved descending on a footpath along the Stour Valley Way on the southern side of the hill, quite close to Hod Hill. Near the bottom, there is a left turn which leads towards Iwerne Courtney (or Shroton) and then up the hill to the trig point again. The last part of the walk followed the same route as the advance party, who had taken the shorter option.

Most people met up for lunch afterwards in the Virginia Ash.

Hilary Smith



CRAFT GROUP

Not much to report this month, but be advised that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, 13th May at 9.30 to 11.30 am. The cost per session is £3.00 to cover the costs of materials (no need to bring your own). Booking is essential.

This will be at my home in Milborne Wick. Please see the back page for my contact details.

Natalie Thompson



GAMES GROUP

February's meeting was a successful afternoon with 12 members attending. We split into four groups. One group played Scrabble. A second group learned the card game canasta, which they enjoyed. The third group had a go at a family game involving magnets, called Cluster, which was a quick game but a lot of fun trying to put magnets down within a limited area without them 'jumping' together. Then they had a couple of games of Uno, before finishing with another game of quick-answer questions involving cards. Which tested their quick thinking and knowledge.



The March games group was a successful afternoon, with 8 people split into two groups. One group learned -Mahjong, which Sue Latimer brought in. The second group played Yatzee, and Uno brought in by myself and we revisited the instructions for the group.

The group is moving to Henstridge Village Hall from April, as it is a cheaper and better-lit room. We all found the lighting at Milborne rather dim, and not very large windows to compensate.

Sue Cawaladr



Future events

(CAN BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

All talks and meetings are held in
Henstridge Village Hall from 2.15pm

June 23rd
Cream Tea
Lakeside Kitchen

July 7th
James Taylor
Careless Talk Costs Lives

September 8th
Open Afternoon

November 3rd
Charlotte Carty
In my Grandfather's Footsteps



Your Committee

Chair	Alison Shilling	alisonshilling@gmail.com
Secretary	Martin White	Martinwhite898@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Alison Shilling	Bvmembershipu3a@gmail.com
Treasurer	Judy Penfold	Bvu3atreasurer.gmail.com
Publicity	Susan Kidd	Skiddsbvu3a@gmail.com 01963 362107
Creative Director	Judy Penfold	Jood58@gmail.com
Speaker Secretary (temporary)	Hilary Smith	Hilarysmith967@gmail.com
Groups Coordinator	Martyn Lennon	martyn_lennon@yahoo.co.uk
Committee Member	Dennis Ollington	

Group contacts

Walking Group, Tuesday	Richard Kidd	richardakidd64@gmail.com
Walking Group, Wednesday		
Reading Groups	Lydia Avery	lydia.1cranbrookcottage@gmail.com
Lunch Group	Gill Westall	Gillwestall@hotmail.com
Bridge	Howard Warden	Warden444@btinternet.com
Garden Visits	Jan Nast	Janice.nast@gmail.com
Arst & Crafts	Natalie Thompson	thompsonjn@hotmail.com
Games	Sue Cadwaladr	scaddiewag17@gmail.com

GENERAL MEETINGS

Are usually held in Henstridge Village Hall from 2.15pm on the first Tuesday of alternate months.

Members £2.00 Visitors 3.00

All our general meetings are publicised in the online Blackmore Vale magazine, local Facebook pages, websites and magazines. Posters are circulated to public places in Stalbridge, Henstridge, Wincanton, Templecombe and Milborne Port.

Venue hire

Please remember when making bookings that each group is self-funding, therefore, if there are any costs involved, a suitable fee should be charged to attendees to cover these costs. **Also, a copy of the invoice and receipt is required to be sent to the Treasurer each month to be entered into the main accounts.**

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