

MADYSS Matters

September 2024 No.211

Birthday Greetings

September is another popular month for birthdays:

- Kay Kennedy
- Ann Pape
- Sue Pembery
- Mark Stansfield
- Anne Swindell
- Gary Yearsley

Happy Birthday everyone!

Social Events

Blackpool Zoo Coach Trip Monday, 16 September

If you have booked to go on this trip, please be at the Flower Pot for boarding the coach at 9.30 am. The coach will leave at 9.45 am prompt.

Afternoon Tea, Sutton Hall, Sutton Macclesfield SK11 0HE Tuesday, 22 October at 2.30 pm

We have arranged for afternoon tea here; please see details above. The tea includes sandwiches, cakes, and home-made scones with clotted cream served with a pot of tea or coffee. The cost is subsidised for members at £15.00 per head and for guests the cost is £24.95. Please pay by the October Flower Pot meeting via BACS using the reference Sutton Hall, or with cash at the meeting.

Avro Museum and Aviator Lunch Report by Jim Borggren

This trip was very popular with MADYSS members and friends, meaning that we had to split the outing over two days. There were 13 attendees on Tuesday, 20 August and 16 went on the following Tuesday, 27 August. I think that most people found it very interesting, even those without a keen interest in aviation history.

There was a great deal of information on display, far too much to take in given that most of our time was taken up with the very interesting tour, which was led by our guide, Roger.



Some of the numerous exhibits and displays

In the first part of the tour, we were escorted into a replica cockpit of a Lancaster Bomber, and also into the cockpit of a Vulcan Bomber, where the knowledgeable guides explained the duties of the various members of the air crews. We were also given the chance to operate an actual Nimrod Tactical Navigation System and simulate launching sonar buoys to locate enemy submarines. Apparently, this system was accurate enough to detect an empty beer keg in 400 square miles of ocean.



A Vulcan Bomber (with Monica to show scale)

The second part of the tour was a chronological exposition on the history of aviation technology, beginning with the Wright Brothers and quickly moving on to A.V. Roe building his first gliders in 1907. The talk proceeded through early aviation, WW1, the inter-war years, and WW2.



Roger explaining the history of aviation

The talk finished with two of the final missions of the AVRO Lancashire bomber. The first was Operation Manna, where food and supplies were air dropped to help alleviate the suffering of the Dutch in the German occupied Netherlands. The second was the repatriation of British prisoners of war, and we learned that this included our guide's father.

Following the museum visit we all made our way to the nearby Aviator pub where we had a very nice lunch (even if they ran out of white bread for John's ham sandwich!).

Our thanks go to Anne Swindell for organising both tour dates and for arranging the lunches at The Aviator pub afterwards.

Bonus Ball Competition

The winning bonus ball number last month was 27. This number wasn't chosen by anyone at the meeting so it is another roll-over month.

News of Our Members

Judy Fleming was hospitalised last month and has been diagnosed with pneumonia. She was discharged on 16 August to a Virtual Ward at home and she must submit observations each morning. Judy receives regular nurse visits for blood samples and to check her chest. We hope that she soon starts to feel better. Fortunately, her daughter Michele was able to accompany Michael to the August Flower Pot meeting to ensure that a Fleming representative was in attendance!

Donations Sought

The Meet Move and Improve group, which is attended by many of our members, is still looking for a range of donations for its fundraiser at the Gawsworth Coffee Morning on 12 September. Food cupboard items, tombola and raffle prizes, books, and bric a brac are needed. As previously, the Church's policy means that NO ALCOHOL can be accepted. Please pass on any donations to Kay Evans, Sue Pembroly or Anne Swindell.

Thought for the Month

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.
Winston Churchill

**The next Flower Pot meeting is on
Monday, 9 September 2024**

MADYSS Committee

John Swindell (Chairman) 01625 575753; Michael Fleming (Deputy Chairman) 01625 426879; Judy Fleming (Treasurer) 01625 426879; Jim Borggren (Assistant Treasurer) 01625 430886; Sue Stephenson (Membership Secretary) 01625 876285; Anne Swindell (Administrative Secretary) 01625 575753; Kay Evans (Activities Organiser) 01625 574330; Kay Kennedy (Meeter and Greeter) 01625 871314.