



EDITORIAL

Hi There,

Welcome to the Christmas issue of the News.

As always, our club is celebrating the forthcoming festive season in style with the Christmas lunch, hamper draw and party, all well worth noting in you diary. See below for full details, dates etc.

Our thanks go to Spence ,our newest member of staff, for his invaluable input to the technical production of this issue.

STAR CLUB at Christmas

December

1st -Decorating the club for Christmas (From 09:30 onwards)

10th - Christmas Lunch - please book early to avoid disappointment; names and payment of £5 to be given to a member of staff by the 1st December.

17th - Christmas Hamper Draw to be held in the afternoon. complimentary tea/coffee and cake will be served.

23rd -Christmas Party– to be held in the afternoon book your place with a team member and receive your free raffle ticket.

Please see notice board for other festive events and opening times.

OUTING TO ARD JERKYLL

Our first stop was for lunch at the new café at St John's and afterwards we moved on to the animal sanctuary at ARD JERKYLL. We saw a large variety of species: dogs, cats, rabbits, hedgehogs and birds. Two parrots particularly caught my attention, as between them they could talk, sing and dance!

It was good to see that the creatures were all being well cared for and were living in a pleasant and stimulating environment. Four club members were accompanied by Katie, and many thanks to her for taking us for a day out which everyone enjoyed.

Written by Mandy Bollon



TYNWALD DAY CELEBRATION

For the first time, the club celebrated our national day on Friday, July 2nd. Not quite Tynwald day itself, but pretty close! Gill Lambden baked delicious Manx bread and fairy cakes supported by other Manx products.

Our thanks go to those who added all the festive touches to the club. After lunch, Bethany gave us a stunning display of traditional dance and Lorraine held a quiz based on Manx culture and history. This was won by Gill with only one or two marks dropped out of a possible twenty-five. Very impressive indeed. As a "comeover" I approached this quiz

with some sense of trepidation— I was right: I only got ten correct answers! As one of my school teachers would have said, "could do better". This event was very well attended, and I'm sure that we'll be doing it again next year

"NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT..."

'It takes 499 seconds for light from the Sun to reach Earth'

'Over the years, the Niagara Falls have moved seven miles upstream from their original site.'

Windsor Safari park, in Surrey, exports lions to Africa'

'Only human beings sleep on their backs'



“TRIP TO THE ARBORETUM”

“ St John’s. Tynwald Hill: all the history. It’s halfway to Peel. But just down the road, St John’s has something else to explore: the Arboretum. Four club members accompanied by Craig did just that at the end of June.

We had the weather on our side: not too hot, not too cold. In fact, ideal for a stroll around this beautiful area. I took photographs of young ducklings being rounded up by a protective mother, who was obviously taking no chances with us humans around.

The Arboretum is probably quite logically laid out, but when it was time to head back, we looked at each other for the right direction. The only problem with the Arboretum is there are a lot of trees! They do tend to make confusing landmarks. However, Malcolm came to our rescue: he said quite simply, “it’s that way” and he was quite right.

Before getting the bus home, we stopped off at the new café opposite the hill for a refreshing cup of tea and a cake, which was a nice ending to a lovely trip out.

By Karen Mann



“JUST FOR A LAUGH...”

‘What do you get when cross a snowman with a vampire?...**FROST BITE!**’

‘I said to the gym teacher;”can you teach me to do the splits?” he said : “how flexible are you?” I replied : I can’t make Tuesdays”.’

‘What do you call a hundred year old ant? An **ANTI**que!’

“SOMEONE ONCE SAID...”

‘ Progress is the exchange of one nuisance for another’.

Life is like playing a violin solo in public and learning the instrument as one goes on’.

‘Good humour is one of the best articles of dress one can wear in society’.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are always looking for items for inclusion in the News. If you would like to contribute an article, but need some help turning an idea into words, Colin or I will gladly give you any assistance you need. Go on, give it a try—Writing is fun!

THE 'VISIBOX' CAMPAIGN

A few months ago, Fiona and Craig organised a fundraising project involving donation boxes which are called 'Visiboxes'. They have the 'Friends of STAR CLUB' displayed on them, and Fiona and Craig visited a large number of retail outlets to see if they would agree to displaying a 'visibox' to help us. Many kindly agreed, and so far, funds raised have topped the one hundred pounds mark!

This is a splendid ongoing initiative, and many thanks to Fiona and Craig for giving their time which has been rewarded with such success. Well done!



VISIT TO RUSHEN ABBEY

In early September, club members spent a very enjoyable afternoon at Rushen Abbey. The weather was on our side and we were able to explore the Abbey buildings and gardens in ideal conditions.



Rushen Abbey was founded in A.D 1134 and flourished over four hundred years until big trouble arrived, literally, in the form of King Henry VIII. In 1536, Henry was in dispute with the Pope and decided, vindictively, to ban monasteries throughout the British Isles. Rushen Abbey like so many others, was stripped bare and never recovered.



However, the remnants are fascinating to see, and Manx Heritage has imaginatively evoked the atmosphere of what the Abbey was like in its heyday. The whole site exudes an air of tranquillity even now, which we all noticed and commented on. Many thanks to Mick who accompanied us on this fine afternoon out.



STOP PRESS!

We have received a very generous donation of £250 from the Royal Bank of Scotland! Our club was specifically chosen for the donation by Ms Susie Lightfoot of RBS and our thanks go to her and RBS.

Website: www.thestarclub.co.uk