



Welcome to the latest edition of our E-Newsletter,

January 2019 Meeting

Our January meeting was very well attended, and all had an enjoyable time with good food and an interesting presentation provided by Patsy Taylor who talked about the history of Cunard and the QE2 plus some of the eccentric characters that were encountered on board during a world cruise.

Our thanks go to Wendy and her team for their excellent work in providing the food and drink on the day.

February 2019 Meeting

One of our Members, Gordon Denson, will be giving a talk entitled "A Wild Colonial Boy" sharing his reminiscences of his childhood in Malaya. Please come and support Gordon who is the first of our Members in a long time to give a presentation at one of our meetings. The meeting is on Thursday 7th February and doors will open at 09.45 for a 10.30 start.

Membership of Men's Get Together Group

Membership renewals for the year commencing 1st April 2019 will be payable at the Meeting on Thursday 4th April 2019 and the Committee will be recommending an increase of the annual membership fee by £2.00 to £18.00 to cover the increasing costs of good speakers etc., This will be the first increase in nine years and, if approved, will start for the year commencing 1st April 2019.

Community Centre Membership

Members of our Men's Group are reminded that a pre-requisite for being a member of the Men's Group is that you must be a member of the New Milton Community Centre.

Members can renew their Community Centre membership for 2019 now. It will speed up the renewal process if you have your old membership card and the correct money which is the same as last year i.e.

- £8.00 for 2019 membership
- £1.00 for a 2019 car park permit, (a permit does not guarantee a space will be available), and
- 50p if a new windscreen holder is required

This membership runs for each calendar year and can be renewed by talking to the team on the front desk.

Visits by Members to Fort Nelson

Frank Willett has now booked a visit to Fort Nelson on the Portsdown hills behind Portsmouth on Tuesday 9th April 2019. A minibus will leave the Community Centre at 09.30am and is booked to leave Fort Nelson at 3.00pm. Members who wish to join this visit should talk to Frank at the next meeting.

A guided tour of the Fort has been booked for 11.00am.

The cost for those travelling on the minibus will be £15, to cover both the minibus and the tour. Any members electing to go by car will be asked to pay £5 .00 towards the cost of the tour and there will be a £3.00 parking charge for cars payable at the reception desk.

For full information about Fort Nelson which is part of the Royal Armouries group of Museums go to the following website: <https://royalarmouries.org/venue/fort-nelson/>

For those without access to the web, in short, built between 1860 and 1870, Fort Nelson along with four other forts were the biggest defence projects ever undertaken in Britain and they were dedicated to providing the fire power to deter an enemy attack on Portsmouth from inland, although it never saw any action against the French.

The Royal Armouries museum was opened in 1984 and today is one of the largest such museums in the UK. Over 700 items of artillery from many countries and spanning 600 years have been brought to life whilst sensitively telling the unique stories behind them.

Fort Nelson is one of the few places where you can experience live black-powder firings of historic artillery pieces and daily gun firing occurs every day at 1pm.

Men's Shed Organisation

The Men's Shed Organisation is an expanding group of meeting points for men which started in 2013 and is now a registered charity with over 400 branches across the UK, the nearest is in Highcliffe (the Christchurch Shed).

New Milton Sheddors are meeting for a Friday natter at the House Martin pub every Friday from 11.30 and if anyone is interested in helping to form or join a New Milton Shed then pop along or e-mail newmiltonmensshed@btinternet.com to be put on the mailing list for future updates.

Walking Football in New Milton

Members are reminded that this activity occurs on Friday mornings from 10.00 on the all-weather pitch at the New Milton Recreation Ground. If interested, email Stan Dencher at JSD333UK@gmail.com or just turn up.

Sending out Monthly Newsletters

I am aware that there are some members who do not have e-mail addresses, so I am hand delivering or posting the monthly newsletter to them. If you acquire an e-mail address or change it at any stage, please let me know so that I can update your details. Thanks.

Amendment to December 2019 Date

Please note - The December 2019 meeting is shown as 7th December 2019 on the Program of Speakers for 2019 distributed at our last meeting but should be Thursday 5th December 2019. Our apologies for this mistake.

Finally, It is with great sadness that we have to advise that two of our members, Ray Russell and Christopher Fradd have passed away over the last 2 months. Our thoughts are with their families at this time.

Look out for our notice board in the hall at our meetings, where we advertise all of our activities and news of recent events etc.

Kind regards,

David Eley
(Men's Get Together Secretary)
eleydave@outlook.com