



REDBOURN

Registered Charity 1156462

Notes and Information from the Chair

October General Meeting

Wednesday 15th October 2025 at Redbourn Village Hall

Our talk was titled –

'Climbing Everest' – by Pete Ellis

Pete Ellis escaped office life in 2000 to take up a life in the outdoors. Soon becoming an International Mountain Leader; he led trekking holidays in the UK, Europe and further afield for the next twenty years. During this time, he also indulged his passion for climbing mountains including, in 2012, Mount Everest. This completed the Seven Continental Summits (the highest points on all seven continents), an achievement accomplished by just a select group of about 400 people.

His talk was about the final, Everest, stage of the Seven Summits challenge. The climb was from the north, through Tibet, the route originally taken by Mallory and Irvine in the 1920's. This was Pete's personal tale of the trip and was illustrated with many photographs.

Christmas Lunch – 1st December

This popular event will be held once again at Redbourn Golf Club where we will enjoy a three-course festive feast, including a welcoming glass of prosecco/soft drink, a glass of wine or soft drink with your meal, followed by tea or coffee to finish. All for the very reasonable cost of £35, with no increase on last year! Non-members £38. Applications by 7th November, please.

And don't worry if you don't know many members, we're all very friendly and inclusive, so come along and enjoy! Further details of how to apply and reserve your seat, were circulated recently by Val Brown who is kindly heading up the organising team. Get in touch with Val, via vabrown50@gmail.com or 01582 793174

Coffee Morning for new Members – Tuesday 18th November 11-12 noon

Members who have joined since June, and some not-so-new who were unable to attend the last Coffee Morning, will soon receive a personal invitation to join me and other committee members to learn more about how Redbourn u3a can work for you. So please reserve the date and I will send further details shortly.

The Big Quiz – 25th October

The maximum eleven tables for teams of up to six people have now registered to compete; should make for a great atmosphere. Remember to bring £5 cash pp plus drinks and nibbles to share. We will also be taking optional donations, cash or card, to assist Redbourn Community Group working to help residents of the village.

Theatre and Social events

In addition to those events listed in the diary below, further entertainment opportunities have been/are being organised by our Social Secretary, Annette, including a ballet on 12th February, details to be published soon, an April 'Tulip Festival' at Hampton Court (if tickets available), 'To Kill a Mocking Bird' in May and visit to a 'Royal Garden' (Sandringham or Highgrove in spring/summer.

So, lots of possibilities for you to look out for and enjoy!

Please contact Annette via annette.cotter@icloud.com with your suggestions of what events you might like to be considered.

Interest Groups – Currently we have 52 groups, with quite a few more in the pipeline, so there is lots of choice. Most groups are able to welcome new members, but if you wish to join a group that is advertised as being currently full, please contact the group leader direct, or our groups coordinator, Val Brown, via vabrown50@gmail.com or 01582 793174

Diary Dates for 2025

25th October – The 'Big Quiz'!

27th November – Coach outing to Winchester Christmas Market (All tickets sold, with waiting list)

1st December – Christmas Lunch at Redbourn Golf Club

Diary Dates for 2026

Watch this space!

Wed 19th November

'From a Hard Place to a Rock' – by Timandra Slade

Two members of Timandra's family were fighting with the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) in the summer of 1940. Both were, separately, captured by the Germans, but both managed to escape. Together with fellow officers they made their way through France and into Spain, where they were again captured by the authorities. Their final destination was Gibraltar, where a Vichy French bombing raid on 'the Rock' took place - sadly, not all of the party made a 'home run'.

Whilst in captivity in Spain, Timandra's father and his partner wrote an account of their escape, which has led to Timandra undertaking further research, which includes letters which his father's cousin sent home whilst held in an internment camp in the south of France. As a result of this research, Timandra has published a book entitled "From a Hard Place to a Rock".

Finally – if you have any issues or are unsure who to contact, please reach out to me.

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