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Stephanie Cox; Annie Lowing; Mary Taylor; Erica Tinsley		

Chairman's Corner

Thanks, once again, to Trish for producing this newsletter.

Most of you, I hope, will have read my report sent as part of the AGM papers.

I am writing to you for the last time as you will soon have a new Chairman.

Thank you all those who have supported me over the last three years and those who have "volunteered" for the various tasks associated with Anton U3A. I hope you will continue to work with the new committee to keep the group a lively one that is both welcoming and innovative.

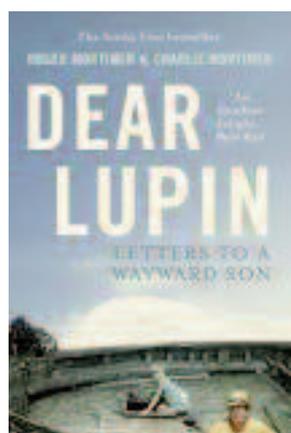
Most of you will be sick of reading about the consent forms for receiving information but there are still a few members who have not replied, I urge you to do so in order to know what we are doing!

Good luck for the future.

Lynda Stockings

Reading Group

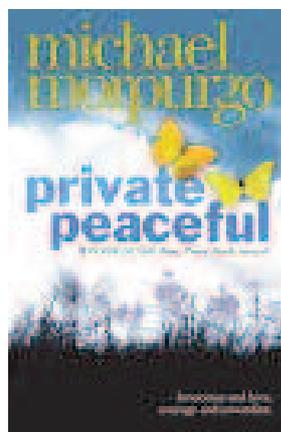
March — *Dear Lupin* by Roger and Charlie Mortimer



A father writes very dead-pan letters to his son Charlie whom he nicknames Lupin after Lupin Pooter in 'The Diary of a Nobody', from the time he goes to Eton through all his years of not settling down to anything. Nostalgic, witty and filled with characters and situations that people of all ages will recognise. The letters are full of anecdotes and sharp observations, with a unique analogy for each and every scrape Mortimer got himself into. The trials and tribulations of his youth and early adulthood are received by his father with humour, understanding and a touch of resignation, making them the perfect reminder of when letters were common, but always special. A racing journalist himself, Roger Mortimer wrote for a living, yet still wrote more than 150 letters to his son as he left school, and lived in places such as South America, Africa, Weston-super-Mare and eventually London. These letters form a memoir of their

relationship, and an affectionate portrait of by-gone times, and a glimpse into a class system which probably still exists. An enjoyable read.

April — *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo

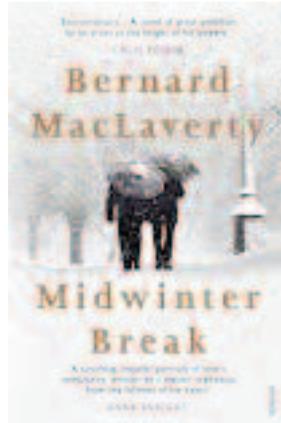


Heroism or cowardice, this is a stunning story of the First World War from a master storyteller.

Told in the voice of a young soldier, the story follows 24 hours in his life at the front during WW1, and captures his memories as he looks back over his life. Full of stunningly researched detail and engrossing atmosphere, the book leads to a dramatic and moving conclusion.

Although this book is really aimed at young teenagers, it is well written and held the attention of us oldies. It is a novel of two halves. The first half covers the lives of the young Peaceful brothers in pre-First World War Devon (the author revealed in an afterword that there really was a family of brothers surnamed Peacefull (sic) who fought and in some cases died in the war). The second half is about the experiences of Charlie and Tommo at the front. Much of the narrative is quite matter of fact in its descriptions of what they are going through, while still giving a good feel for the hardships of serving in the trenches. The last chapter is extremely moving and tragic. A good read.

May — *Midwinter Break* by Bernard MacLaverty



Two people who have been married for a long, long time, and now appear to not like each other very much. One is virtually an alcoholic, the other a religious fanatic. So what do they do to maybe try to save and repair their marriage? They go to Amsterdam for a long weekend in the middle of a really cold winter. Well that's going to work?

This novel is extremely well written, but it is rather depressing and sad. Neither character was attractive,

and it did seem like a very long weekend! Maybe a joint suicide pact would have been more successful.

Diane Richards

History

The Group's topics over the last few months have all been drawn from the 20th century - all very different and all followed by lively discussion.



In March, Mary Taylor looked at the remarkable life and work of Clare Hollingworth, one of the most fearless and active war correspondents of the 20th century. Clare had only had some freelance articles published when in August 1939 she was hired as a

foreign correspondent by the Daily Telegraph. Aged 27 and just four days into the job, she was sent to Poland to report on worsening tensions in Europe and got the brilliant scoop that established her reputation.

The border between Poland and Germany was closed to all but diplomatic vehicles so she persuaded the British Consul-General in Katowice to lend her his car and drove through the exclusion zone for a fact-finding mission into Germany. In one place on the way back there was a large hessian screen blocking the view of the valley below. As she passed, a gust of wind lifted the screen to reveal Hitler's army mustered for the invasion of Poland. Once back in Poland, she produced her shopping - German products unavailable there - to prove that she had crossed the border and, while she telephoned her report back to her paper, the consul-general alerted the Foreign Office.

Mary went on to talk about Clare's long career as a war correspondent covering all the major conflicts and trouble spots across the world for the rest of the century. Her journalism did not promote causes or dwell on personalities but she went to great lengths to give an objective presentation of the facts. She never asked for special treatment as a woman and thrived on danger believing that the more dangerous the assignment the better the story. There were countless examples of her bravery and resourcefulness when things got tough.

She lived her final years in Hong Kong, spending her days at the Foreign Correspondents' Club where she kept a keen interest in world affairs. When she was 104 her great-nephew revealed that, although she had given up her habit of drinking beer for breakfast, she still kept her shoes by her bedside in case she had to leave in a hurry. Clare Hollingworth died on 10 January 2017 aged 105.

The April talk came from Ron Bryan who spoke about the global nature of the First World War and, in particular about the consequences of the Russian Revolution on all of the participating countries. He

noted that vast scale of Russian casualties and the inability of Russian industry to adequately supply munitions to their troops. This led to huge quantities of armaments being supplied by the Allies, mainly the UK and the USA.



After the Revolution the Allies were concerned that remaining stockpiles would be used by the Bolsheviks to consolidate their tenuous hold on the Russian Empire. The unin-

tended consequence of this was that various countries sent soldiers to guard the stockpiles, and in many cases fight with the White armies against the Reds. Ron showed maps indicating that the White armies very nearly succeeded in retaking the country, but did not succeed because of their very poor leadership. The Czech Legion advanced to within 30 miles of Ekaterinburg where the Czar and his family were imprisoned, almost certainly leading to their hasty murder. The last British warship left Vladivostok in 1922. The occupation of Russia helped create the extreme distrust which existed between Stalin and western leaders in WW2.

In May Norma Bryan looked at the life and career of Sir Oswald Mosley, famous as the leader of the fascist movement in Britain in the years before WW2.



He was born in 1896 into the aristocratic family from which he inherited his title and his early life took a path that was normal for his social class - prep-school aged 9 followed by Winchester College and then on to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. His academic ability was limited but he was an accomplished sportsman. He served in WW1

but after 1916 an old ankle injury confined him to a desk job.

Mosley was a gifted orator and in 1918 became Parliament's youngest MP when he won Harrow for the Conservatives. He was dashing, much in demand socially and well-known for his pursuit of married women. In 1920 he married Cynthia Curzon, daughter of Lord Curzon a former Viceroy of India, but continued to have numerous affairs including relationships with his wife's younger sister and their stepmother.

In the 1920s Mosley left the Conservatives and was elected as an Independent. Then in 1926 became Labour MP for Smethwick and joined the NEC of the Labour Party. He was disappointed to be given a government post outside of the cabinet by Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald and resigned when his plans for dealing with unemployment were not endorsed. In his view, Britain needed more executive government with a lesser role for Parliament. He

formed the short-lived New Party to promote his ideas but after a visit to Mussolini in Italy in January 1932 he formed the British Union of Fascists. His choice for its Propaganda Director was William Joyce, later infamous as the traitor and pro-Nazi broadcaster Lord Haw-Haw. Norma spoke about the BUF's rapid growth with support from the popular press and then about how both public and press support were lost because of the violence displayed by Mosley's black-shirted stewards. In 1936 Mosley tried to exploit anti-Semitism in the East End of London which resulted in violent clashes on the streets and, until the outbreak of WW2, he continued to attract large crowds at public meetings.

In 1932 Mosley had begun an affair with Diana Mitford who was a devotee of Hitler and, after the death of his wife, he and Diana were secretly married in 1936 in the house of the Nazi propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. Adolf Hitler was one of only six guests at the ceremony. At the start of WW2 the Mosleys were interned in Holloway Prison and in 1943 released on house arrest to live in Crux Easton north of Andover. After the war Mosley tried unsuccessfully to rebuild his political career. He died in his home near Paris in December 1980.

Erica Tinsley

Mahjong – or Ping Pong Poo



In our games of Mahjong you can often hear the sound of someone wanting to shout 'pung' but all too often getting over excited and calling ping or pong or worse – ask Brenda or Geoff! Despite our limitations, the group continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and great fun is had by all regardless of

ability. Each time we meet we seem to learn a bit more and grow in confidence. We still have a few spaces so just contact Leslie if you would like to try your hand. Coffee/tea and good humour assured.

Leslie Ward

AHA Group (Art, History and Architecture)

April visit to the Solent Sky Museum, Southampton



A group of AHA members visited the Solent Sky Museum and what a delight it was. The selection of vintage planes included a Sandringham flying boat (civilian ver-

sion of the Sunderland) with the interior accessible, which gave an idea of the seating configuration and a visit to the flight deck. Other exhibits included a Spitfire,



Folland Gnat and plenty of other contributory historic information. The walls and upper gallery tell the story of aviation activities in the Southampton

region. Also on the upper floor was a splendid display of Hampshire Police and Fire Service history including information on Andover and Whitchurch. Following our visit, we all went for lunch and enjoyed chatting over the mornings experience.

May visit to the Swindon Art Gallery & Museum



After a very pleasant drive over the Wiltshire downs a group of AHA Members met at the Art Gallery & Museum Swindon.

The collection was established in 1944

by a local benefactor, H.J.P. Bomford, displaying a varied selection of renowned 20th-century art, including Lowry and Nash. The group found the art interesting and sparked some amusing comments.



In addition, the museum had other sections covering local history, archaeology etc. I have seen many collections of Roman coins, but it is the first time that I have seen a

quality range of silver historical coins

Following our tour of the Museum, the Staff recommended a place called Jack's for lunch and we all agreed it was excellent. To finish the day off, we made a short stop for tea at the Crofton Beam Engines near Great Bedwyn.

Please note that our planned trip for June 29th is a Walking Tour of Wilton.

Rosemary Crumplin

MOTO

MOTO continues to meet in The Lights on the second Monday each month. We tend to go out to lunch every third or fourth month which we all enjoy. Recently we have visited The Chalkhill Blue, Weyhill and the restaurant at The Hawk Conservancy.

Tricia Andrews

Anton U3A Monthly Meetings

June 13th	AGM The Regent Diamond	<i>Erica Tinsley</i>
July 11th	The Story of E.N.S.A.	<i>Alan Grace</i>
August 8th	Summer Picnic/Party at Appleshaw Village Green	
September 12th	Life Behind the Veil	<i>Sandra Simmonds</i>
October 10th	History of the Weyhill Fair	<i>Anthony Raper</i>
November 14th	The Cockney Detective	<i>Steve Roberts</i>
December 12th	Is It Fun To Be Fooled?	<i>Simon Williams</i>

FirstAssist Commercial LawCare

The Third Age Trust has an arrangement with FirstAssist to provide legal advice to U3A members.
It is a free service, available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. Just phone:

01455 251 500 and quote the AntonU3A code number **70494**

GROUP CO-ORDINATORS

SUBJECT	DAY & TIME	CO-ORDINATOR	E-MAIL
Art	Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm	Ann Truss (01264 313 242)	aatruss@yahoo.co.uk
Art, History & Architecture	By arrangement	Glennis Dale (01264 323356)	glennis.dale@yahoo.co.uk
Birders & Natural History	4th Thursday at 10.30am	Rev Roger Bennett (01264 782 336)	revrogbennett@googlemail.com
Bridge	Thursdays 10am-12noon	Barbie Morrey-Stone (01264 335 597)	beesbubbles4@gmail.com
French Conversation	Wednesday 10am-12pm fortnightly	Gillian Roberts (01264 335 899)	pelhamhouse@gmail.com
Genealogy	Fourth Wednesday 2pm	Mary Taylor (01264 364 752)	roberttaylor@btconnect.com
History	2nd Friday 10.15am	Erica Tinsley (01264 365 563)	erica.tinsley@btinternet.com
Mah Jong	1st & 3rd Wednesday 1.45pm	Leslie Ward (01264 332789)	cliveandleslie@sky.com
MOTO	2nd Monday 2.15pm	Tricia Andrews (01264 736 227)	TriciaOnTheHill@btinternet.com
Petanque	1st Friday 6pm 10.30am in Winter	Adrian & Ann Truss (01264 313 242)	aatruss@yahoo.co.uk
Photography	Third Monday 10am	Chris Penney	ccpenney@btinternet.com
Poetry	Third Friday 10.30am	Glennis Dale (01264 323356)	glennis.dale@yahoo.co.uk
Questers	By arrangement	Anne Scott (01264 323011)	anne.scott@yahoo.co.uk
Reading Group	1st Tuesday - 10am	Diane Richards (01264 392367)	georgeandedward@sky.com
Walkers	Third Tuesday 10.15am	Roger Beaumont (01264 710504) Anne Scott (01264 323011)	ardeebie@btinternet.com anne.scott@yahoo.co.uk
Webmaster	Contact webmaster to update website	Robert Smith	randc.smith@virginmedia.com

Contributions to the Newsletter to Tricia Andrews - TriciaOnTheHill@btinternet.com or 01264 332 921