

THE GT BEDWYN POST

News and Views

From and For

Members



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POST BBQ STORY AND PICTURES

An ex London RouteMaster at the bus stop in Imber about to return to Warminster on Saturday 3rd August. An annual event with a timetable covering many places on the Imber ranges. Mainly serviced by RouteMaster's. It also takes you to Chitterne and in the opposite direction to West Lavington. On Sunday 13th October a dozen or so Vintage Buses take you to various towns and villages in the area all for free. They also run a free feeder service from other towns in the area. More info. at

www.warminstervbrd.wordpress.com

Words and picture by Brian Davis



The Routemaster was a London Transport design and built by the Associated Equipment Company and Park Royal Vehicles. The prototype was delivered in 1956 and the last production version in 1968.



In all 2876 were built and approximately 1000 survive. The type entered service with London Transport in 1956 and

were withdrawn in 2005 though some are retained on heritage routes in London.



The Golden Jubilee bus (2 days before withdrawal) by John Bennett. The green and red RT's by Elsie esq and the 'Routemaster cafe' by oxyman. (All sourced via Wikipedia)

A few days in Brighton with the wife and daughter. This is one of the exhibits in the "Sand Sculpture". As you probably know Brighton is possibly the longest traffic jam in England and parking is sparse and expensive. A visit to the Pavilion was enjoyable. I was amazed at the mosaic of the Prince of Wales which appeared to be a normal portrait painting until I put my glasses on to see the minute detail of the mosaic. 500,000 little pieces of stone all perfectly fitting one to another. Ornate brickwork on a minute scale!

Thanks to Brian Davis for this item and picture



Picture by Dean Turbo

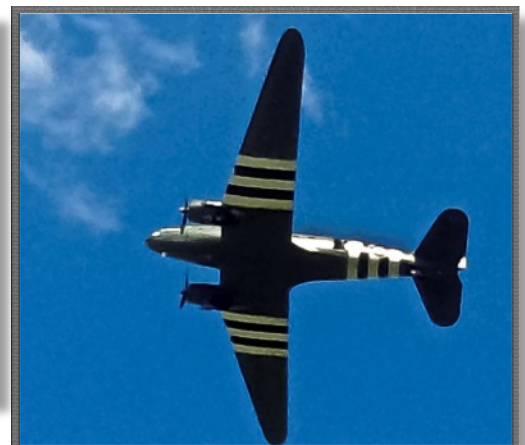
On the South Downs above Brighton is The Chattri, a memorial to Sikh and Hindu Soldiers who died in the First World War. It was erected on the site of a 'ghar' or funeral pyre where the bodies of



Picture by The Voice of Hassocks

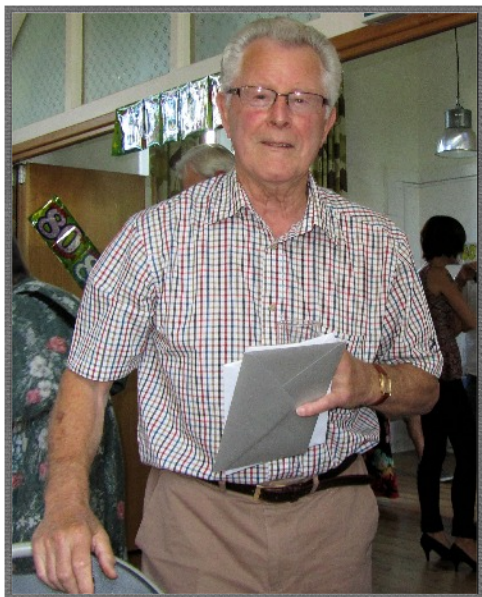
soldiers who died not only in the Pavilion but also in the other hospitals used in Brighton during this conflict, were cremated in accordance with their religion, and their ashes were scattered in the English Channel. The wording on the memorial reads :- *'To the memory of all Indian soldiers who gave their lives for the King-Emperor in the Great War'*. More than 800,000 Indian soldiers fought in this war.

Saturday and Sunday 17th and 18th August saw the military vehicle group at Lacock on the village playing field. There were military and civilian



enactment groups and the whole event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. There was also a flypast or flypasts by the DC3 Dakota. Our Gary and June were there with their 'toys' and provided these pictures.

Happy 80th Birthday Ivor



Ivor Butler's family chose this day, 18th August, to hold a 'surprise' birthday party for him at Poulshot Village Hall. The family kept it a secret and it was only when he got to the



hall and recognised some of the cars that he twigged. Tony Peach, Maurice Mullings and Andrew Shepherd represented our group at the festivities. Thanks Maurice



Thursday 22nd was marked by the second 'annual' Curry Night at 'The Taste of Bengal' in Devizes. This event is organised by our very own gourmet

Brian Davis. Nine cast iron constitutions turned out for this, and with a very nice venue, great food and excellent company an enjoyable evening was experienced by all. Thanks to Brian for his organisation.



The Great Bedwyn Royal Observer Corps Heritage Group Annual Barbeque took Place on Saturday 24th August at the post site. Luckily the weather stayed dry and a feast was enjoyed by sixty guests, including ex-observers and their wives, family and friends.

A Grand Total of £294.00 was raised from an excellent raffle and donations. (Some expenditure to be met yet)

The planning of the barbeque begins with the local farmer Mr Andrew Stone designating a field for the car park. This years field had Oil Seed Rape grown and this is why the date was held back, to facilitate the harvesting of same. Most of the field had been cultivated but sufficient left for the parking.

The first task is to decide on the theme for the event and this year marked the 75th anniversary of the Bedwyn Observer Corps foundation, 70th Anniversary of the Dambuster's Raid and the 60th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War, local veterans invited

along.

During the week leading up Paul Mc Clean cuts the hedges and grass and carries out some of the site maintenance with the final grass cut on Thursday along with the erection of the cooking gazebo. On the Friday Maurice Mullings, Tony Peach, Gary and Paul erect the other gazebos to provide shelter from inclement weather or hopefully hot sunshine. This is followed by refreshments at Gary and June's. In the evening Gary and June take tables and chairs to site along with the cooker and flags. Post instruments are taken down and installed on the Saturday morning. Once Gary and Paul have opened the site and started with decoration and posters June delivers the cutlery and food. Around lunchtime the rolls arrive from the local bakery and these are followed by chef for the afternoon Ms Lynn Orchard, this frees Gary and June to mingle etc. The first guests arrive about noon and the final departures are usually around 5:00 p.m. During the afternoon invited guests enter the post where Paul explains the 'going on' to the uninitiated.

After the last guest has departed the process of taking down begins, this is shorter than putting up but still takes time. Most is removed on the Saturday but the rubbish and some of the tables are left till Sunday. Our post equipment goes back into store and the loaned equipment back to the museum. Then the field is cultivated ready for the next crop to be sown.

This was another successful barbeque and our thanks go to everyone who attended and supported us, as this all keeps the Post in its pristine condition.

THANK YOU *Gary and June Crook*











Hi Chris,

Picture of one of the many traction engines at The Dorset Steam Show. I have not been for, probably, thirty years. An enormous show, covering three large fields. You could lose yourself for three days and still not see it all. I went on the first day on Wednesday 28th, and was exhausted it at the end of it. Cannot imagine all the planning that goes in to it !

Brian

Thanks Brian, this is 'Royal Star' a Showman's Tractor built by Wallis and Steevens in 1914 Works No 7482.



Dates for the Diary

Sep 10th Heritage Group Mtg at Wagon and Horses Beckhampton

Sep 14th ROCA Steam Train Trip on Isle Of Wight

Sep 15th Battle of Britain Service Westminster Abbey

Oct 11 - 13th National ROCA Re-union, Didsbury

Nov 10th Remembrance Sunday

Dec 8th 14 Group ROCA Christmas Lunch.