

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

Welcome to the August and September 2015 edition of our Magazine.

Things are a bit slow during August and some groups close up for the month.

Reports include:

Walking Group—August.

Science Seminar at Harper Adams University

Nature Ramble—Friday 28th August

Creative Crafts.

All Swing and Jazz Group Birthday Party

Last update: 18th October 2015

We would love further contributions from Groups who may never have been featured. Take some photographs (or ask me to come and take them for you. I am not a professional and I am sure most of you can do as well as I do. Send them as either digital images by email or as actual photographs with a description of your event. I will return any photographs after I have scanned them)



Pictured above is the Clopton Bridge, Stratford. Built in 1490 and widened in 1827.

Contributions of images of Stratford for this space would be welcome.

This photograph was taken by the Editor whilst on an outing looking at Stones in Stratford, a Science, Nature and All Things Technical Group meeting.

Walking Group—Wednesday 12th August 2015

Eleven members of the Walking Group met in the carpark at Hidcote Gardens (National Trust) for a walk in the area. Fred Redfern led the walk, Val being indisposed.

The day was pleasantly warm with some sunshine, but not too hot to make walking unpleasant.

We started by crossing the Kiftsgate Court

Garden and walking a roughly circular route anti-clockwise via Hidcote Boyce to the mast on the hill above Ilmington. From there we walked down a stone track back to Hidcote National Trust Carpark.

Thanks to Tony Whiteley for the photograph.



U3A National Science Technology and Society Network Seminar 2015 at Harper Adams University

Two members from Heart of England U3A attended the Seminar at Harper Adams University 10th - 13th August. Elka Standen and Aline Cumming wrote this report.

The Seminar (or Conference) consisted of a series of talks given by U3A members and a half-day trip to the Black Country Museum by coach. Two members of staff took us around the University laboratories and explained the many varied science projects concerning agriculture and environment that students and post graduate students were conducting. One of the best talks was on the colour Blue and how it was used in art and human perception, including the term 'once in a blue moon'. The first lecture and practical experiment showed us the effects of the Camera Obscura. There

were heated discussions on both positive and negative views about whether the future would be better or worse for our grandchildren, with the help of science and technology or if the horrors we read about in the media would get worse. Other topics included the Nuclides, Los Alamos, Microscopy, Henry Mosely, a history of a Stainless Steel Fabricating Company. and finally Optical Illusions. It was informative and very enjoyable, including the discussions over meals and ability to talk to different people with various interests and experience. We both hope to go again next year.

A few photographs follow taken in the Black Country Museum.



Replica Newcomen Beam Engine



Replica Petrol Lorry



Workers' Institute—note also the tram supply wires.

View of Canal Wharf and tunnel entrance in distance.

Restored Electric Tram.



Nature Walk along the River Avon - Friday 28th August

A small group of SNATTERS made an unofficial saunter along the bank of the River Avon in the recreation ground. The weather was dry with some sunshine. We did have the choice of a tour in the Butterfly House prior to the walk, but nobody took advantage.

Geoff Bridgewater was the organiser and led



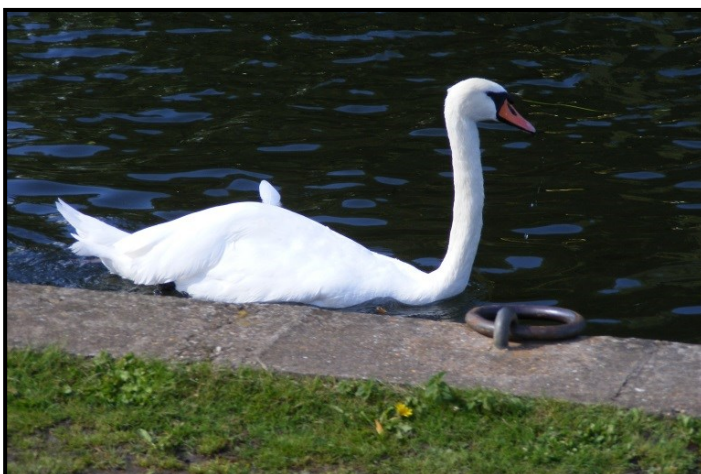
the group alongside the riverbank. There were quite a few boats moored along the bank and



there was plenty of bird activity on the water—swans, mallards, coots and geese were the main birds visible.



There were also people enjoying themselves pottering about in small boats.



David thought he could see a Heron on the wier but we could not be certain. We did confirm the

Later we were entertained to afternoon tea by



sighting later in the afternoon from the Lucy Mill island.

We watched the Countess of Evesham negotiate the lock and proceed downstream on an afternoon tea trip.

Down below the lock we could see some canoeists playing in the surf below the weir.



Group Photograph near Colin Witter Lock

Creative Craft Group

The main project the group completed during the past 12 months (2014-15), has been multi-purpose.

- To knit/crochet squares to make a coat for the Chairman with members sponsoring a square in aid of The Stroke Association. (£100 was donated).
- To reassemble the squares to make knee rugs - 7 rugs were made.
- To distribute the rugs to residents at care homes in Stratford.



This
To
These



All Swing and Jazz Group 7th Birthday

At the September meeting of the All Swing and Jazz Group we celebrated our 7th birthday. At the tea break members were treated to cakes with their tea.

One of the cakes was a lovely birthday cake specially iced for the occasion, as can be seen in the photograph.

The other photo shows our group leader Dennis Sully ceremoniously cutting the cake.



Report and photographs from Mary Fishleigh