

*Founded
1989*



*French
Association
3035*

March 2021 Newsletter

*Events, activities, news
and reports for members*



Mushroom Hotel, taken by Steve Marshall

Firstly some sad news, we would like to pass on our sincere condolences to Diane and Keith Mousdale, who many of you will know. Their adored grandson Bradley, aged just 23 yrs, died a few days ago from a very rare form of colon cancer. It is hard to imagine the heartache and sorrow they must be feeling. Our thoughts are with them both and their family at this most difficult of times.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GT Zoom Quiz	Thurs 4 th March 2021	15.00 hrs	Via Zoom
Photo Group	Mon 8 th and 22 nd March 2021	14.00 hrs	Via Zoom
Reading Circle 2	Wed 17 th Mar 2021	14.00 hrs	Via Zoom

- **Next Committee Meeting** **Wed 10th March**
- **Final Copy Date January Newsletter Items** **Wed 24th March**
(gtnewsletter79@gmail.com)
- **for publication on** **Mon 29th March**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GT Zoom Quiz

Thurs 4th March

15.00 hrs

Michele Hansford

Calling all quizzers and anyone wanting a bit of fun!!

After a successful first quiz on Zoom, we have decided to run a second, similar event. This time we are going for an afternoon slot since this does allow for households who would like to be together rather than depend on phone/WhatsApp etc to join in.

Clearly it is currently out of the question to get together in large groups so Zoom it shall be!

To take part, you will need to download the Zoom app to your computer/phone/iPad/android, if you haven't already. (This is free of charge). As before, there will be a 'pre-quiz' round for you to answer.

On the day there will be 4 rounds, with a break of 10 minutes after round 2.

There will be no prizes, just prestige for the winners!

Let me know if you would like to take part and shortly before the due date I will email you the Meeting ID. If you need any help with the technology, let me know and I will be happy to talk you through the system.

To register: please email Michele

Photo Group

**Monday
8th March**

14.00 hrs

Via Zoom

**Steve Marshall
Roger Amsden**



Steve will be discussing copyright law and how it differs between the UK and France.

We will be discussing how we might exhibit photographs on line.

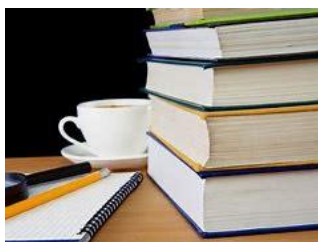
The challenge is to submit up to four photographs 'shot from an unusual angle'. If we have enough pictures where the subject is difficult but not impossible to identify we might offer them as a quiz for GT.

**Second Circle
Lesley Ritchie**

Wed 17th Mar

14.00 hrs

via Zoom



The next zoom meeting will be on Wednesday March 17th at 2.00pm to discuss '**The Beekeeper of Aleppo**' by Christy Lefteri.

If you fancy doing something different during these unusual times and maybe try books that you wouldn't normally read, please contact contact Lesley Ritchie.

REPORTS ON RECENT EVENTS

GT ZOOM QUIZ

Thurs 4th Feb

19.25 hrs

Report by John Chard

At 7.25pm we logged onto the internet and joined 11 quiz teams to participate in the first GT quiz night to be held on "Zoom". The teams were on 20 screens including one with an upside down picture. The quiz was organised by Michelle and Eric and involved four rounds of 10 questions each. The questions were presented by Michelle as a slide show with text and pictures.

We were challenged by a first round where the answers were all colours which was followed by a round about historical events. At this point we had a short intermission. After the break we were puzzled by an ingenious round where all the answers had the same double initials. The final round was about crafts.

Scores were reported by each team after every round and added by our organiser. We also reported our scores from a round about pop groups that had been circulated in advance. Some of the teams were split at different places using phone or WhatsApp to communicate. A team who called themselves "Headscratchers" (Lesley and Neil Ritchie with Helen Horton) worked out to be the winners.

The evening was a very enjoyable change from watching old films on the tele and an opportunity to see friends again even if it wasn't in the flesh.

I think all the participants enjoyed the event and hope that it can be repeated. Our thanks to Michelle and Eric for their effort in organising the evening.

Photo Group

Mon 8th February

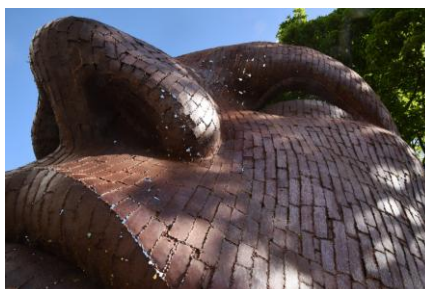
Via Zoom

Report by Steve
Marshall

We heard an interesting talk from Howard Needs on photographing fescues in medieval churches - difficult lighting and difficult angles.

We looked at members' favourites they had taken in 2020 and chose Vinny's canoes, Tim's face, Steve's teazel, Roger's butterfly, Phil's grasshopper, Howard's meerkat, Caz's pier and Carol's iris.

The challenge for the next meeting at 1400 on 22 February is to submit up to 4 photographs taken between now and the meeting. Subject matter is open. One possible area is food, but you can shoot anything that interests you. Focus on composition and lighting. You may want to deliberately look for photographs that are not your usual fare.



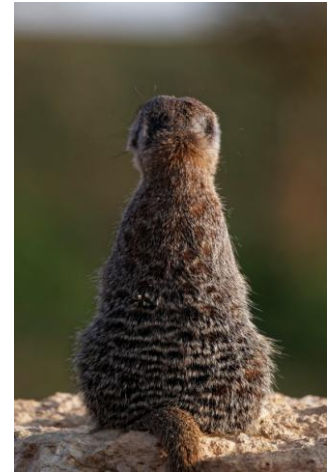
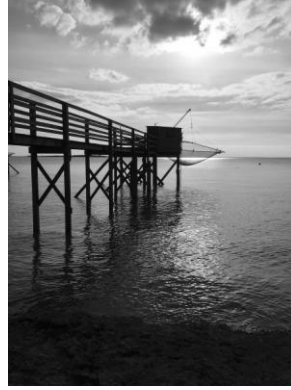


Photo Group

Mon 22nd Feb

Via Zoom

**Report by Steve
Marshall**

Roger gave a talk on creating duplicates of printed photographs and slides - rather than using scanners he recommended using a modern camera to take a photograph of the original photograph - with some excellent results.

We were meant to be looking at members photographs of food or other unusual subjects but almost all the shots were of the astonishing ice we had 12/13 February.

Winner by a whisker was Howard with his mill pond. Runners up were Carol's geometry, two shots from Roger of trees and Terry's birds.



Second Reading Wed 10th February Via Zoom

Report by Lesley Ritchie



In our February zoom meeting, we discussed 'Unseen Academicals' by Terry Pratchett.

Some of us were already Terry Pratchett enthusiasts so knew what to expect.. For those of us who had never read any of his books before, it was quite a unique experience to say the least! We all agreed that it was witty, clever, well crafted and completely mad with some very inciteful social commentary slipped in - just what we needed in these dreary times, and a very

welcome break from more serious books, .

I won't try to describe it - just try one!

Book review - It's a start by Margaret Baldwin

Margaret Baldwin has been a member of GT for 22 years, the book can be purchased via Amazon.

This book, entitled **It's a Start**, was written by Margaret Baldwin. She wanted to join the Police Force, perhaps resulting at a very young age from listening to Dick Barton – Special Agent!

In 1963, having reached the statutory age of 22 years she was sent to Ryton-on-Dunsmore for three months training, then posted to a Home Counties Constabulary (Watford).

The book starts with a scenario of how she thought life would be in her new role. The second half relates what life was really like as a Probationer – dealing with women and children and filling in where and when required. Meals and coffee breaks were to be taken in their office, so there would be no social fraternising with male officers. However, attitudes gradually changed and finally she was able to become more involved in all aspects of police investigation.

Recipes - Sticky date and ginger pudding



Ingredients

85g **butter** , plus extra for greasing

200g **medjool dates** , pitted and roughly chopped

200ml **milk**

1 tsp **vanilla** essence

1 tsp **bicarbonate of soda**

140g **self-raising flour**

2 tsp **ground ginger**

85g **dark muscovado sugar**

2 **egg** , beaten

2 **balls stem ginger** , chopped

FOR THE SAUCE

100g **dark muscovado sugar**

3 tbsp syrup , from the ginger jar

METHOD

STEP 1

Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Lightly grease a deep 2-litre (about 28 x 20cm) oval baking dish. Tip the dates into a pan, pour over the milk and bring up to scalding point. Remove from the heat, add the vanilla essence and bicarbonate of soda, then leave to one side. Sift the flour and ginger into a bowl, then add the sugar, butter and eggs. Beat with an electric whisk for about 5 mins. Fold in the date mixture and stem ginger, then pour into the baking dish.

STEP 2

For the sauce, sprinkle the sugar over the pudding batter, then drizzle with the syrup. Pour 250ml boiling water over (do not stir), then bake for 40-45 mins until the pudding is firm to the touch. Serve spoonfuls of the pudding with a generous helping of syrupy sauce from the bottom of the dish. Great with vanilla ice cream or pouring cream.

NON GT NEWS

FREE Canon eos 500 35 mm Camera

Leonie and John Henstridge would like to offer to any GT member a canon eos 500 35mm camera with zoom lens (no charge).

If you are interested please contact Annette at gtnewsletter79@gmail.com who will facilitate the handover.

Leonie and John live in 85120 Breuil Barret.

Cancer Support Deux Sevres

aims to improve the lives of people affected by Cancer in Deux Sevres

CSDS direct number is 06 40 77 27 35

or contact Cancer Support France on freephone number 0800 240 200

or email Cancer Support France on helpline@cancersupportfrance.org

Cancer Support France will forward your details if you need local support

Emergency Phone Numbers

15 SAMU (Medical)

17 Gendarmes

18 Pompiers (Fire Service – also trained for Medical Emergencies)

112 European Emergency Number

Don't Forget to Download the 'In Case of Emergency' Leaflet off the Get Together website,

gettogether-france.org, move your mouse to 'information', then click on 'Useful Links'. You will find the ICE leaflet at the top of the list. Why not keep a copy by your phone and in your car.

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DINGBATS 3

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<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>

Quiz

1. Known as 'The Three Hundred and Thirty-five Year War', which country was officially at war with the Isles of Scilly (located off the southwest coast of England) between 1651 and 1866?
a. France b. The Netherlands c. The Vatican State d. Spain
2. Joshua Slocum was the first man to accomplish what between the years 1895 and 1898?
3. In which river did the RMS Empress of Ireland sink with a loss of 1,012 souls?
4. A Churchillian expression and the name of an American jazz-rock band that played at the legendary Woodstock Festival. Four words.
5. Which four US Presidents or former Presidents have won the Nobel Peace Prize? One point for each correct answer.
6. Which 1873 repeater is known as 'The Gun that Won the West'?
7. What was the name of the chess playing computer that defeated World Champion Gary Kasparov in 1997?
8. Gavrilo Princip assassinated which man?
9. The unsuccessful US invasion of Cuba in April 1961 is known as what?
10. Which superlative does one associate with the Anglo-Zanzibar War?