



OPEN BOOK

The Walton Library Newsletter

Versione Francaise May 2017



'Allo, bonjour, salut mah Eengleesh chums. Mah name eez Pierre Le Stereotype, and ah weel be your guest editor for zeez issue of Urpen Booooook.

Een case you are wondering why ah amm doing zis it is because your editor, 'e as moved to France, zee land of lurve wine, cheese, wine and cheese. So ah offered mah serveeces for jurst zees issue.

By zee way, zis is not racist becuse zee editor has a French fiancee and two Franglais kids, zo I zeenk he has earned zee right to poke fun at uz a leettle bit, oui?

Walton Choir Hit All The Right Notes

CHOIR DIRECTOR'S FACE WHEN YOU'RE SINGING THE WRONG NOTE



The Walton Singers raised the roof again when they took part in the community section at Rothwell Music Festival on the 25th March. The choir did exceptionally well with their renditions of *By The Rivers Of Babylon*, *Jesu Ukukhanya* and *As Long As I Have Music*.

For fans of the tuneful bunch there's plenty to look forward to; a summer concert at St Pauls Church, The Balk, Walton 2nd July 3pm - 5pm. Please be advised that the Walton Ukelele Group - despite the pending ASBOs - will also be making a guest appearance there.

Looking further into the future the choir will be getting in the festive mood in early December, when they perform in The Ridings. They will then dish up some real yuletide-treats at the Walton Social Club, when they perform their Christmas Concert on Monday 18th December.

('What ez zees? a choir? Eeez it lahk een France where zee singing eez just an excuse to get out zee wine afterwards?')

George Formby Fanclub Strikes Again



Those 'plucky' so and sos were at it again this month when the Ukelele Group descended on Walton Library. The banjo-esque bunch had a great night, as they rocked out the sounds of the 60s to the assembled crowd.

Yes, I know what you are thinking, there's more Ukelele players than there are spectators, but credit where credit's due - the people in attendance weren't *all* friends and family of the Ukelele players...oh they were? Right, well moving swiftly on...

Those in attendance were reported to have had a great night and, as well as the 'music', they enjoyed a glass of wine and a bite to eat. They also sang along to the songs, which some viewed as a failed attempt to drown out the sounds of the Ukeleles.

('Zees things, zees Ukeleles came to France in zee 60s. We burnt zem, every last one')

AH, AH, AH, AH STAYIN' ALIVE STAYIN' ALIVE!

**Did you Know
Bee Gee's song "Staying Alive" could actually
keep someone alive**



**The 1977 disco hit is used to
train medical professional to
provide correct number of chest
compressions per minute while
performing CPR**

The song has 103 beats which is the best rhythm for performing CPR

The Third Thursday Topic for March featured Donald Buxton, from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, who gave a talk on how to perform basic First Aid.

Donald ensured that his talk was entertaining and informative, by injecting plenty of humour and life into his delivery.

('Ah have performed CPR many, many times in mah life. Ah am sure zat at least one of zose beautiful ladees did actually need it. At least, zat iz wat ah told zee Gendarme!')

Wheels On Fire, Rolling Down The Road....



In case you were wondering, the Walton Library cycle group is still spinning its wheels every week, and is more than happy to welcome newcomers.

Every Monday they meet at the New Inn at 9.15 a.m and embark on a 15+miles round trip. If you are interested please contact Richard Hancock 07775625964.

If Thursdays are more for you then give Richard Hall a call on 01924 251452, he'll soon have you 'saddled up'.

Finally absolute beginners can roll up on Fridays, at 9.30am (again, at The New Inn). The plan for the morning is a short ride, along quiet tracks with a very long coffee stop!

('Zere eez zees common misconception, zat all French people ride bicycles, wear stripy tops and have a string of onions round zere necks. Zees eez not true. We are far too busy smoking, eating frog's legs and dreenking coffee to do zat')

Upcoming Third Thursday Events



First up on May 18th there's *Keeping An Eye On Wakefield for 50 Years*, an informative talk held by Kevin Trickett, president of the Wakefield Civic Society. The society has been going since 1964, and so there's certain to be topics covered that will peak your interest.

Coming up in June is the regrettable announcement of the Ukelele Nights Group's *Ukuleles, Music and Conversation*. This promises to be a, subjectively, entertaining night where attendees will be introduced to the Ukelele, can partake in a quiz and will then listen to popular songs played by the group. If that sounds like your idea of fun then head along to the library on June 15th - Cherry Tree Stores have informed me that earplugs will be available to all Walton Residents on the night.

July 20th's Thursday topic will be *Pieces of History* a talk about interesting items from 1707-1945, giving a background on them and 'fleshing out' their stories.

Starting time for all events is 7pm and tickets are £3 in advance from the library, or £4 on the door.

('£3? Why zat eez nosing to us now! Thanks to Brexit £3 eez roughly 50 cents in French money!')

**Pretty Photographs Of Some Place In France You've
Never Heard Of**



So this is where the editor of what you have just read - and for the newbies amongst you, hopefully enjoyed - now resides.

For a bit of history on the town I will now defer to that esteemed internet resource, Wikipedia, which I will now shamelessly copy-and-paste from:

Aubigny-sur-Nère is a commune in the Cher department in the Centre region of France. An area of forestry and farming surround this small, light industrial town, situated in the valley of the river Nère. It is some 30 miles (48km) north of Bourges at the junction of the D940, D924, D30 and the D923 roads.

First known as Albinacum in Roman times, the commune was established as a royal town in 1189 by Phillip II. This is the location by which the Duke of Gordon gets his honorific title, as the Duke of Aubigny. In 1419, John Stewart of Darnley, a junior member of the House of Stuart, arrived in France with a large contingent of Scottish soldiers, to fight for Charles VII. He was awarded many titles, among them the Lordship of Aubigny. The family stayed here for 400 years.

Aubigny is a common tourist destination for Scots and others from the United Kingdom. The commune is very attached to the Auld Alliance due to its 400 years of French-Scottish history and is the only place in France that still celebrates this long association each year, on Bastille Day. It is twinned with the Scottish town of Haddington East Lothian.

('Zey celebrate zee Scottish heritage each year, and people curm and play zere bag pipes 'ere. It is a dreadful noise, even worse zan your 'Ukeleles'. Eef you can believe zat')



A new initiative that has been launched in the village is the 'Boite A Livres' as seen in the picture above. It's a simple system wherein you can leave, and take, whatever books you wish. Just open the box, and help yourself!

So far it has been successful and there are three boxes dotted around the village at key points. (*'Ah have suggested zat zey introduce a 'Boite A Vin', but zey frowned at zees!*)

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