



# *Senior Moments*

*The quarterly newsletter  
of Bookham & District  
u3a*

*Issue 85*

*May*

*2025*

## Report from the Chair

As I sit writing this piece I am pleased to look out at the sunshine in my garden and hope we get more days like this as it certainly cheers me up as I hope it does for you.

Talking of being cheered up, I am very pleased to say that following my appeal in the last Senior Moments, one member has come forward with a view to taking on the role of Vice Chair. I am looking forward to introducing her to you at the May monthly meeting and feel that Bookham & District u3a will be in safe hands going forward.

Other good news includes increased attendances at the monthly meetings. Since November 2024, when we had 105 members at the talk, numbers have been growing reaching a height of 128 in February. I am pleased that more members are joining us and would like to acknowledge the work of Frank Cross, our Speakers Secretary, for arranging a programme of such interesting topics.

Since Kay Angell joined us as our Social Secretary we have held three sold out fun quiz nights at Ye Olde Windsor Castle when it seems a good time was had by all. My thanks extend to Paul Wilde, our quizmaster, for variously challenging and annoying us with his wide, and often amusing, range of questions.

By the time you read this, our Rat Pack evening will also have taken place and I am sure that all will have been thoroughly entertained. I am keen to hear from anyone who attended whether you would be interested in future such evenings and, if so, what sort of entertainment you think we might provide. Similarly, if you chose not to attend your views on what we might do later in the year would be very welcome. You can email me at [chair@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookhamu3a.org.uk) or simply bend my ear at one of the monthly meetings.

At the heart of our u3a are our Interest Groups. Whilst we have lost a couple over recent months, generally because no-one was prepared to take over from a retiring Group Administrator, it is pleasing that new ones are still being created, eg Historical Dressmaking and Social Games which operated during the winter months and will be back in the Autumn. I am happy to record my thanks to all GAs and others who make these Groups successful. If you have a passion for something not currently in our portfolio, please feel free to talk to Chris Middleton, Groups Coordinator, who will guide you into bringing this to the membership.

Philip Brown



## Bookham & District u3a

Registered Charity No 1036386 u3a Membership No 254/239/93

### The Committee 2025

<https://bookhamu3a.org.uk>



**Phil Brown**  
Chair  
[chair@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookhamu3a.org.uk)

**Vacant**  
Vice Chair



**Pat Mander**  
Secretary  
[secretary@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Peter Osborne**  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Frank Cross**  
Speakers Secretary  
[speakers@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:speakers@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Liz Looney**  
Membership Secretary  
[membership@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Kay Angell**  
Social Secretary  
[social@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:social@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Chris Middleton**  
Groups Coordinator  
[groups@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@bookhamu3a.org.uk)

**Editorial** This Spring edition of Senior Moments contains many interesting articles to keep all members enjoying their reading this month. I particularly liked the short piece from Bill Whitman, one of our oldest founder members, who still gets amusement from writing about hospital A&E visits. Then there is a piece from our regular contributor Anita Laycock who has written most interestingly about Guildford Guildhall. How many times I have walked by that building without appreciating its history or significance. While obituaries don't usually feature in Senior Moments we do make exceptions for members who have served the u3a with distinction and of course one such is Tom Adam who served as Chairman when I first started editing the magazine. Chris Middleton has a piece about a visit he made to Svalbard, a place I had never heard of but when I discovered it's Spitsbergen that I did know was the world's northern most urban community. I did know about the furniture maker who carved a mouse on many of his pieces, but I never knew the connection with Myra Usher, one of our artistic members. Many of you will know, like many editors I'm always banging on about written contributions. Well I think a piece of modern computer science is about to help us—namely AI or Artificial Intelligence that will help with grammar and writing and all I am asking from any member is "What subject would you like to read about in SM?" I will then, with the help of AI, put it all together and submit it for your approval before publication. Just email me your questions.

Maurice Baker



**Maurice Baker**  
Editor Senior Moments  
[seniormoments@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:seniormoments@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Carol Stilwell**  
Webmaster  
[webmaster@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Viv Bignell**  
Publicity Officer  
[publicity@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:publicity@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Harold Reglar**  
Events Support  
[events@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:events@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Kim Kitson**  
Asst Membership Secretary  
[membership@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



**Cindy Fanger**  
Asst Webmaster  
[asstwebmaster@bookhamu3a.org.uk](mailto:asstwebmaster@bookhamu3a.org.uk)



## The Guildhall in Guildford

My 10 minute talk to the Social History Group in November featured the Guildhall.



The Guildhall in Guildford is a historical building that has witnessed centuries of change and development. The main structure dates back to the 1500s and perhaps even further back to the 1300s, serving as a testament to the enduring architecture of medieval England.

In 1589, the building experienced its first recorded extension on the north side, an event marked by the visit of Queen Elizabeth I to Guildford. The expansion continued into the 1600s with significant enhancements, including the addition of the Council Chamber on the first floor. This period also saw the construction of a new

front facade, complete with a balcony that offered an impressive view over the High Street, and a bell turret perched majestically



above.

Among the Guildhall's most recognisable features is its iconic clock, gifted to the town in 1683 by its maker, John Aylward. In return for his generous contribution, Aylward was granted the freedom to trade within the town, showcasing the symbiotic relationship between artisans and the community in that era. The Guildhall was used as a Court of Law. Firstly, as the Assizes and later other courts



including those enforcing trading standards, hearing civil actions and petty crimes. The court was a



central aspect of the Guildhall, reflecting its importance as a centre of governance and justice.

In 1893, a police station was built in North Street, to the rear of the building, with a direct path from the



cells to the Guildhall. It was also the meeting place for the Mayor and the Corporation of Guildford, where they regulated the town's affairs and appointed borough officials.

The Court Room is notable for its stained-glass windows and four bronzed measures on the left-hand side of the judge's bench. The jury sat along the left-hand side, and there was seating for journalists. Above the witness box hangs the sign 'be just and fear not,' and the room features an 'Act of Parliament' clock and portraits of Charles II, James II, William III, and Mary II.

In the Ante Chamber the mayoral mace, chains of office and the rails of robe remain in use today. Guildford is unusual in having two mayoral maces.

The chandeliers in the Council Chamber were donated by Sir Edward Maufe, the Architect of Guildford Cathedral in 1957. The large paintings show an unknown man possibly an official, Queen Elizabeth II and the Right Honourable Arthur Onslow.

The fireplace is said to have been removed from Stoughton Manor and the large painting shows Vice Admiral Sir Richard Onslow and James I.

The Guildford Borough Coat of Arms is inscribed with the Latin words 'Fortiter et fideliter' – bravely and faithfully. The castle is symbolic of Guildford's Norman castle and is flanked by wool sacks showing the importance of wool to the town. The blue and white waves underneath symbolise the River Wey.

Visit the Guildford Tourist Office website for details on opening days and times.

Anita Laycock





## Tom Adam, a past chairman of Bookham u3a died 11 February 2025



When I became Editor of Senior Moments in July 2012 Tom Adam was in his second year as Chairman of Bookham u3a and I can't claim to have known him well, but his wife Margaret has contributed this memory of him:

I do remember how pleased he was to be elected and his incentives to do the best he could. At that time we were just beginning to establish ourselves in the open opportunities of what the u3a could offer! As we looked through the lists of groups, firstly we agreed to do things together, as previously Tom had spent many

years travelling the World. So, with encouragement from Bill Whitman we joined a wine tasting group (back in the day it was the first wine group) which has now sadly closed down! Then we signed on to a Spanish Group to try and improve our conversational side. Our son had a strong relationship with a wonderful



Spanish girl, they are still together. Then we decided we would pursue Military History which was very much Tom's subject and hobby. He included me as well. He was always willing to arrange day trips even taking members to France to follow WW1 and WW2 campaigns. My



timing might be a bit off with some of this, because in fact Tom never actually lead a group but as Chairman he did visit as many of the groups as he could, and I always accompanied him. He was also very concerned about the



fact that members were happy with what they were doing—always helpful to the last. To the extent he wants me to keep my membership and to start going out again. I have spoken with Liz Looney and her assistant and as soon as I feel confident enough I will return.

We made some very strong friendships through u3a for which we are very grateful and knowing they are there any time gives me comfort.

Tom was born on 25th October 1936 at a Nursing home in Mitcham. He passed away peacefully in his sleep at home in

Bookham on the 11th February 2025.

Tom and I met back in 1951/2 we 'Courtied' for 5 years, interrupted for 2 years by his spell in the Royal Signals, National Service. He was demobbed in August 1957. In a short

period of time he wanted to get wed, so on the 21st December 1957 we were married at St Christopher's Church, Colliers Wood. His whole working years were devoted to GPO/BT. Climbing all the ladders to the top to become a Deputy Director and representing BT around the world in Telecommunications & Computer Systems. Not to forget he also took a post graduate award in 1968 and was rewarded with his MSc. We moved into Great Bookham in 2001, making lots of wonderful friends through the years. We were together for 73 years and married for just under 68 years.



Maurice Baker

## Winnie the Pooh Quiz

1. Who wrote the stories about Winnie The Pooh?
2. What do the authors initials stand for?
3. Who illustrated the books ?
4. In what year was 'The House at Pooh Corner' published ?
5. What was the name of Christopher Robin's swan ?
6. Apart from Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh, name 4 of the other characters in the book 'Winnie the Pooh.'
7. Who lives in the House at Pooh Corner ?
8. What does Tigger like to eat for breakfast ?
9. Who or what is Henry Rush?
10. How did Pooh discover how to play Pooh Sticks?
11. Who or what appeared from under the bridge when they played Pooh Sticks (not Sticks)?
12. Where are the original Winnie the Pooh toys now?
13. Who or what is CORDOWACE?
14. What was Winnie the Pooh's original name?
15. Who lives in 'The Wolery'?
16. What relationship was Christopher Robin to A A Milne?
17. In what year was Christopher Robin born ?
18. How old was Christopher Robin when he was given Winnie the Pooh?
19. Why did Winnie the Pooh have to blow a fly off his nose after he had been floating with the balloon?
20. What colour was the balloon and why?



Don Edwards



Cassie Waters

Isn't it high time we had another woman to Chair Bookham u3a? Apart from Lynn Farrell, Eileen Bedford and our founder Cassie Waters no women have volunteered for Chair and yet almost every woman and particularly those who have raised a family, run a household, supported a husband have all the qualifications and more to lead a u3a. It's just a question of motivation and time to take on this important task to keep our u3a running in a way we all appreciate.



Lynn Farrell

Women who have raised a family know a great deal about people and how to deal with difficult situations that are always sure to crop up from time to time.

In running a household they know how to organise things and keep everything under control, both financially and personally.

In supporting a husband in whatever career he is following they know how to support and assist their partner to achieve his goals and position in the company or organisation.

When I was a school governor, some years ago, I always tried to attend teacher appointment meetings in the two schools in the area I lived, where I always encouraged women returning to teaching after they had begun to raise a family. Many of them thought they were out of touch, but I always tried to reassure them that their experience while they were raising their family had given them invaluable knowledge in how to deal with tricky situations that new teachers straight from training college knew practically nothing about.

While it is invidious to make generalisations it still amazes me that so many men frequently boost their own ego and so many women rarely do, which may explain why I so often find women so much more interesting. This also shows in Jim Al-khaili's radio 4 programme *The Life Scientific*, when he often has a woman scientist who has done some outstanding work which she explains and I get bewildered by the advanced knowledge and can hardly keep up and he says "Oh yes and you had four children!"



Rosalind Franklin

Of all the remarkable women there have been there are two who worked in very different fields and were never fully recognised in their lifetime. One was Rosalind Franklin 1920-1958 an outstanding scientist who should have won the Nobel prize for her photographic work on DNA but died too young to receive the award. The other was Berthe Morisot 1841-1895 who was a leading impressionist painter along with Monet, Renoir, Manet, Degas and all the others, but died in her early 50s and is only being fully recognised the last 7 or 8 years.

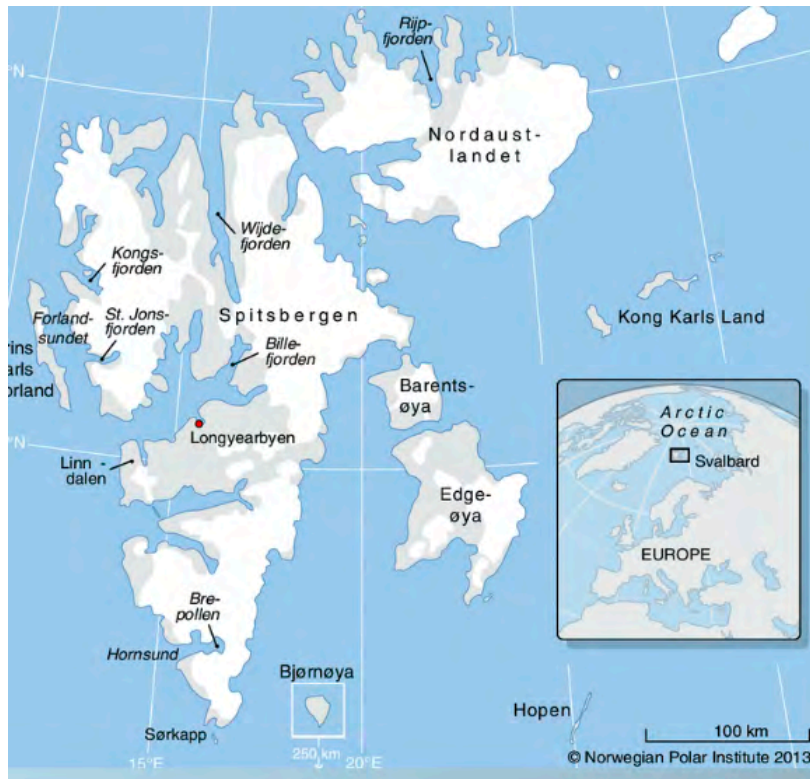


Berthe Morisot

Maurice Baker







## Chris Middleton visited Svalbard in the summer of 2024

What is Svalbard? The largest island of Spitsbergen (pointed mountains in Dutch) was discovered by Dutch explorer Willem Barentsz in 1596. Now known as an archipelago located between 74° - 81° N & 10° - 35° E.



Svalbard history has included:

- International whaling (1600 – 1750)
- Overwintering, hunting and trapping by Russians (1700 – 1850) and Norwegians (1850 – 1973)
- American pioneer John Munroe Longyear established the first coal mine



in 1906; this was taken over by the Store Norske Spitsbergen Kullkompani in 1916 and the settlement was named Longyearbyen.

- Roald Amundsen made several attempts to reach the North Pole which he crossed in May 1926 in the airship Norge.
- Coal mining ceased in 1963 and Ny-Ålesund transitioned into an international research base.
- Today there are research stations from Norway, the Netherlands, Korea, China, India and the UK conducting polar and Arctic/Antarctic research.
- Longyearbyen is the world's northernmost urban community, 1300 km from the North Pole. Most of the residents are Norwegians, but there are also people from around 45 other countries making a population total of

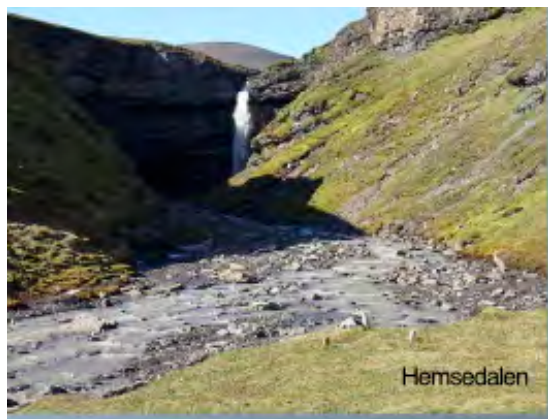


about 2,100 who call this place 'home'. They live in Svalbard for various reasons.

- Some explorers in search of a new Arctic adventure, some are researchers who have come to study geology and geophysics, flora & fauna or space



technology, whilst others are families who like to live an ordinary life in a place that is anything but ordinary.



- When visiting Svalbard, you are in the High Arctic and you need to dress accordingly. Frostbite is one of the most common injuries in Svalbard.

- The weather can change very quickly at any time of the year. Strong winds make the actual temperature lower than the measured temperature.



- The terrain in Svalbard is uneven and rocky, and you will need waterproof and solid walking shoes/ mountain boots for hikes in the mountains and the surrounding areas

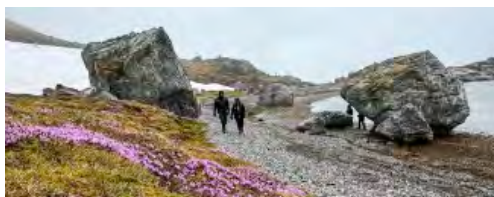
and for the lower part, waterproof trousers

### Tourist Options

- As part of protecting the wildlife and environment, the Governor of Svalbard has introduced new legislation effective from January 2025 which reduces the number of permissible landing sites within protected areas to 43 out of a total of more than 200

### Some Useful Reminders

- Always carry a firearm outside Longyearbyen!



All traces of human activity dating from before 1946 are protected cultural heritage sites - Svalbard Environmental Protection Act. This applies to all types of buildings, building ruins, hunting and fishing equipment, graves, crosses, inscriptions and the large number of moveable objects such as whale bones.

- Tourism has slowly become a major industry in Longyearbyen and is now one of the main pillars of society.

- Research and education is another important industry.

Students from all over the world come to study at the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS), which focuses on Arctic research in the fields of biology, geology, geophysics and technology.

- In 2023, amid continuing tensions around Russia's war in Ukraine, the Russian Consulate General staged a "May 9<sup>th</sup> victory parade" through Barentsburg, consisting of 50 cars, snowmobiles, trucks and buses and including a low-flying Mi8 helicopter. The Governor of Svalbard was reportedly invited to attend; he declined.

- Apart from visits ashore, tourists on Expedition ships can participate in the following activities:

- Arts & Crafts - inspired by various local animals, draw images and paint with watercolours (even without prior experience)

- Cloud Observations - helping NASA improve the understanding of Earth's atmosphere and climate by providing valuable data for scientific research and climate modelling

- Lectures covering history and culture, and wildlife (birds, land and marine mammals) aimed at understanding the culture and

biodiversity of Svalbard



- Science Boat - conducting water sampling and measurements to explore the diversity and density of plankton and measure the physical properties of water at different depths in the ocean



Chris Middleton



## 'Microbes and Other Animals' – A potter round Paddington

On a sunny day in March, London Walking Group enjoyed a varied visit to Paddington, combining art, architecture and science. Immediately outside the station, we encountered wild animals having dinner together – a very civilised affair, safely encapsulated in bronze! Watching over them was a man in a clock! Dressed in 19<sup>th</sup> Century



clothing (in a nod to Brunel, the architect of Paddington Station), he was busy tirelessly cleaning the inside of the clock-face, rubbing out the hands and repositioning them for the next minute.



This is the Marten Baas Real Time Clock.

At our coffee stop, we spotted the first of a series of 17 little sculptures whose trail we then followed around Paddington. Displayed in shop, hotel and office windows or outside walls and railings, they

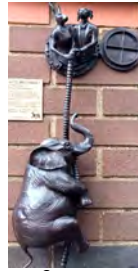


were the inspirational creation of Australian sculptors Gillie & Marc Schattner; the same artists that made the incredible 'Table of Wild Love' opposite, and the Paparazzi dogs above.

Featuring 'rabbitwoman' and 'dogman', the 'Little Things Lead to Big Changes' series tells the tale of two animals supporting their friends, community and the planet, presenting uplifting messages about environmental awareness, friendship and love.

These sculptures appear in many cities worldwide, but only in Paddington can you see them all in one locality – and we did!

There is so much more to see in Paddington though! At midday we watched the Fan Bridge open, before crossing the other kinetic sculpture, the Rolling Bridge.



Next we visited the Fleming museum, standing in the very laboratory where he discovered penicillin. A fascinating film and



steward's talk taught us all about this most useful antibiotic that has benefited us all.

Appropriately, we had lunch in Fleming's local pub, where fish and chips has been served since

1860. After lunch we found quiet backwaters in picturesque mews.

Returning to Paddington station, we showed our respect to the GWR servicemen and women who died in the two World Wars, and to Brunel, at their respective statues, before enjoying the various tributes to the fictional and ever popular Paddington Bear.



A final unmissable art installation was 'Message from an unseen world', presenting a poem to Alan Turing by Nick Drake. Turing, best

known for breaking the Enigma code in WW2, was Paddington

born and is celebrated in aluminium panels displaying extracts from his 'Computing Machinery and Intelligence' in patterns based on Baudot code. As the LEDs light up they

reveal words and verses from Drake's poem, with the display controlled by an algorithm which experiments with different combinations of letters and words. Strange but quite intriguing

A bear called Paddington concludes "And so, Paddington stayed with the Browns, and they were very happy." And so were we, at the end of a fascinating potter round Paddington!

Michelle Howes





## An A&E experience

Have you been to A & E recently? I have memories of taking children there, usually sniffing, cold and in the dark. And of being crammed with other victims in a rather cramped room while a triage nurse tried to sort out types of problems and urgency. When one got called, the actual department was a hive of activity, with lots of little cubicles. Each with its own bed and an impressive array of knobs and switches.

Just a few days ago I got to visit A & E after a fall and a cut on the head. The place seemed to be enormous; which was just as well as everyone seemed to be very busy. A couple of quick checks seemed to reassure everyone that my brain had not fallen out so they glued the cut [vinegar and brown paper], leaving copious quantities of glue in my hair. No one has looked at it since.

Once a year or so ago, I got the impression that the whole place was intent on doing so many tests that no patient ever needed to be admitted. This time it was rather similar; after a first round of tests peri-carditis seemed to be the hot favourite. I countered with a birthday; they transferred me to a medical team and I tried to invoke a son visiting from

Promising an early assessment, the overnight stay was not fun but next morning a physio' took me for a short walk around the ward, a quite different quiet one, and signed my release papers subject to his consultant's consent. I was duly released for the balance of my birthday and the following morning the physio' turned-up to check that I was still upright.

Two days later I was invited to attend, a follow-up clinic in yet another bit of A & E. There, they took more blood, did an ECG and other tests and eventually let me go with a letter to my GP. Other patients in the clinic were not best pleased by the slow pace of the thorough testing but, if it keeps me from being hospitalised I am all for an enhanced role and space for A& E.



Bill Whitman

## Croquet News

A croquet Committee meeting held at David Snow's house at the end of March meant the croquet season and summer were not far away. The seven croquet groups are still established with an



overall membership of over sixty. Permission to carry on from Polesden had been given so another summer in the beautiful surroundings of the croquet lawns beckoned.

A cloudless blue sky shone above nine potentially new croquet members on 8th April as they spent two hours on the lawns learning the joys (and tribulations) of golf croquet.

We started with the basics, learning how to use the mallet, hitting straight, practising distance shots near and far and how to correctly run a hoop. Which is exactly what Angela Ashcroft did

when you see her celebrating her very first one in the attached photo!

We then went on to learn the rules of the actual game (not difficult!) and played a game up to whatever time was left.

A new team of u3a croquet group members who have kindly volunteered to join the white lining rota were also there, but we all managed to dodge round each other!

The lawns have obviously been well looked after over the winter and prepared for the season for which, as ever, we thank the Polesden gardeners.

Some new croquet players are pictured on a rather dull day but at least no rain! By the time you read this they will have integrated into groups and hopefully enjoy many years of fun, friendship and fresh air!



Val Cross



## From the House of the Mouse

I have in my home a number of objects, hand-carved in oak, many of which are decorated with a little mouse, the trademark of wood-carver Robert Thompson of Kilburn.



This is the story of how that came about.

Two men are central characters in this story, Robert Thompson—'Mousey Thompson', and my great-uncle, Henry George Drake-Brockman. They were both born in 1876 but in very different circumstances. Robert Thompson was the son of the village carpenter and stone-mason in the small village of Kilburn in North Yorkshire. Uncle George was born in Madras, Tamil Nadu, into a wealthy aristocratic family, sent to a prestigious boarding school in England at the age of six, became a doctor and eventually the Medical Superintendent at the Middlesbrough Asylum.

Despite these tremendous differences of birth and life experience, in later life they became friends and Uncle George spent weekends and short holidays in Kilburn, learning to carve in the Thompson workshop. He became so accomplished that Thompson suggested that he should come to live in Kilburn on his retirement and become part of the team in the workshop. This did not happen, as George's wife did not want to leave her family and friends in Middlesbrough.

As a young man Thompson began experimenting with his own ideas for producing furniture in the traditional way, using mortice and tenon joints, dowelled for strength and using an adze for shaping and smoothing surfaces. This gave his furniture its distinctive rippled appearance.

Inspired by mediaeval carving in Ripon Cathedral, he started carving his own designs for church furniture and in 1919 got his first major commission from Ampleforth College. It was here in the early 1920s that he hit upon his trademark.

One of his fellow carvers remarked that they were as poor as church mice, Thompson decided to carve a mouse on a screen there and a tradition was born.



Skills central to the workshop were the carving of Thompson's trademark mouse and the use of the adze and each craftsman had to learn these skills before they could be considered a competent member of the team. I do not know for certain if Uncle George learnt these skills but I think it highly likely.



Of the pieces I have in my home, some are of identical designs to those still being produced in the workshop today and these all have a mouse on them. Other pieces are quite different and do not have a mouse, so I assume these were designed as well as carved by Uncle George.



The octagonal coffee table, square dining table, a pair of candlesticks and a pair of tall table lamps are all Mouseman pieces.







The rest are Uncle George's creations. The footstool, bootbox and ornate table lamp are carved with Indian-inspired motifs.



Uncle George was also passionately interested in heraldry and had researched the various coats of arms of the Drake-Brockman family over time. He carved four large coats of arms which hung in his study and, as a teenager, he explained to me the meanings of the heraldic symbols and pointed out how changes in family liaisons changed the quarterings, some being amalgamated, others dropped completely.

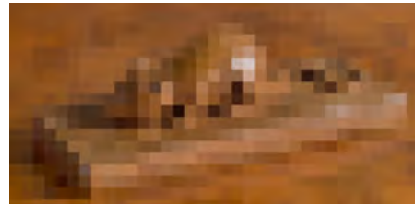
The carving, which I have, is of the final version.



He carved the Drake crest (a wyvern) into the top of the boot box and the Brockman crest (a stag's head pierced by a sword) into the top of the octagonal table.



Thompson mice can be found in many places up and down the land, not only in churches. They were not placed in regular positions so mouse hunters have fun searching them out. The earliest mice had front feet but these were fragile and chipped off easily so from the mid 1930s they were dropped.



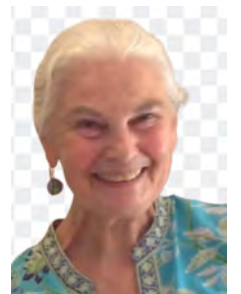
The original workshop with Thompson carving at the bench



Furniture is still being produced in the traditional way in the Thompson workshop, using seasoned oak and traditional methods. It is very expensive, reflecting the high costs of production as well as the skills involved and high quality of the finished work.

Thompson's Elizabethan cottage has been turned into a museum depicting his life and work, as well as showcasing some of the classic furniture and a range of smaller items.

Myra Usher





SvalbardCANOEING

The sunlight danced upon the lake,  
Catching the ripples of our wake,  
As we propelled the canoe along  
With a paddling action firm and strong.

Hugging close to the rocky shore,  
We planned a trip of ten miles or more.  
The water of Lake Windermere,  
In the mountain air so sparkling clear,  
Stretched as far as the eye could see  
As we paddled in unison rhythmically.

But Lakeland weather can rapidly change  
As clouds banked up o’er the mountain range.  
Before the time had reached mid-day,  
The sky had turned to darkly grey,  
With wet weather clearly on the way.

When the rain began to fall,  
The temperature turned distinctly cool.  
Rushing to don foul weather gear,  
My friend at helm forgot to steer.

Thus we collided with a rock,  
And overturned the blooming lot,  
But we managed to haul the canoe ashore  
To bail out and set off once more.

\*\*\*\*\*

David J. King (December 2014)



Some of Myra Usher's garden flowers in March

Answers to Winnie the Pooh Quiz		
1.	Who wrote the stories about Winnie the Pooh ?	—A.A. Milne
2.	What do the authors initials stand for?	—Alan Alexander
3.	Who illustrated the books ?	—E.H.Shepard
4.	In what year was 'The House at Pooh Corner' published?	—11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1928
5.	What was the name of Christopher Robin's swan ?	—Pooh
6.	Apart from Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh, name 4 of the other characters in the book 'Winnie the Pooh.—Eeore, Owl, a beetle, Tigger	
7.	Who lives in the House at Pooh Corner ?	—Eeyore
8.	What does Tigger like to eat for breakfast ?	—Extract of Malt
9.	Who or what is Henry Rush?	—A beetle
10.	How did Pooh discover how to play Pooh Sticks?	—His fir cone fell into the stream and came out of the other side of the bridge.
11.	Who or what appeared from under the bridge when they played Pooh Sticks (not Sticks) —Eeyore	
12.	Where are the original Winnie the Pooh toys now? —Under Guard on display in New York Public Library. They are so small they can be held in palm of your hand.	
13.	Who or what is CORDOWACE?	—100 Acre Wood
14.	What was Winnie the Pooh's original name?	—Edward Bear
15.	Who lives in 'The Wolery'?	—Owl
16.	What relationship was Christopher Robin to A A Milne?	—His son
17.	In what year was Christopher Robin born ?	—1920
18.	How old was Christopher Robin when he was given Winnie the Pooh?	—1 year old
19.	Why did Winnie the Pooh have to blow a fly off his nose after he had been floating with the balloon?	—His arms were so stiff they stayed straight up for a week.
20.	What colour was the balloon and why?	—Blue to blend in with the sky. Camouflage.



## Bookham u3a future events

The table below shows upcoming meetings open to all members. For more information on these meetings please refer to the Bookham u3a website. You will need to be logged in to see the additional information.

The monthly meetings always start at 2.30pm

06 May 14:30 | hr OBH Hidden Histories of Women's Writing

03 Jun 14:30 | 1 hour Old Barn Hall Bandstands

01 Jul 14:30 | 1 hour Old Barn Hall From Barrow to Baghdad

### Study Days at Yehudi Menuhin School

Always on a Friday 10am to 4pm

Bring your own lunch

£12 u3a members

Friday April 11th - [Vincent van Gogh & Painting in C19 France](#)  
Presented by Leslie Pitcher

Friday May 16th - [The Asian Century?](#)  
Presented by Steve Bird

Friday June 20th - [NHS: The Next 10 Years](#)  
Presented by Dr Catherine Heffernan, Director of  
Southwest London Integrated Care Board

Friday September 19th - [Vulcan & Concorde: Iconic Aircraft](#)  
Presented by Guy Bartlett, Aviation Historian

Friday October 17th - [Guiding Ghosts & Gossip at Royal Palaces](#)  
Presented by Sarah Slater, White Badge Guide  
Lecturer, Hampton Court Palace & Blue Badge  
Tourist Guide, Windsor Castle

Places will be available in the hall or for on-line viewing.