

Around our Groups

- Abingdon** *Meets most Mondays at The Flowing Well, Sunningwell Road, Sunningwell, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX13 6RB from 8:30pm*
- Andover** *Meets every Tuesday The Anton Arms, Salisbury Road, Andover SP10 2JN from 8:30pm*
- Didcot** *Meets every Thursday at The Fleur-De-Lys, 30 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 9LN from 8:00pm*
- Fareham** *Meets every Tuesday at The Fareham, 54 Trinity Street, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7SA from 8:30pm*
- Oxford** *Meets every Tuesday at The Original Swan, Oxford Road, Cowley, Oxford OX4 2LF from 8:30pm*
- Reading** *From 3 July 2003 Reading group will meet at Bar Risa/Jongleurs, 110 -117 Friar Street, Reading RG1 1EP at 8:30pm*
- Slough, Windsor and Eton** *Meets every Thursday at The College Arms , 55 High Street , Eton, Windsor SL4 6BL from 9:00pm*
- Southampton** *Meets every Wednesday at Bar Risa, 2-4 High Street, Southampton SO14 2DH from 8:30pm*
- South Bucks** *Meets every Wednesday at T.J O'Reillys, 61 Marlow Bottom Road, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 3NA from 8:30pm*
- Thatcham** *Meets every Wednesday at The Red House, Andover Road, Highclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 9PU from 8:45pm*

No group near you? If you would like to start a new group in your town please feel free to contact any member of the area committee who will be very willing to help.



Flying South



THE CHILTERN BREWERY TOUR



Slough 18+ group organised a minibus trip for 17 people, to The Chiltern Brewery in Aylesbury on March 1st, with Adrian as our driver. We collected the minibus at 8.00am, then picked people up from various points and arrived at the brewery for the 12 noon tour.

We saw a small museum, and how beer is made. Then in the shop we sampled beers and wines. The lunch, included, consisted of a beer and a mustard cheese ploughmans, with ale chutney, or mash, pork and ale or beef and mustard cheese sausages. Some people had barley wine fruitcake and tea to follow.



After more drinking, sampling and purchasing their many products, like chocolate hop fudge, (which was very popular), marmalades, beers and wines, we set off towards home, via another pub and a Harvester restaurant. Then dropped people home and returned the minibus. A full day out, very enjoyable. Look out for details of another brewery trip next year.

*The Chiltern Brewery Nash Lee Road, Terrick, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire
<http://www.chilternbrewery.co.uk/>*

Photos: Leo Glover, Story Tina Bunyan



Southern Area of the National Federation of 18 Plus Groups of Great Britain. Editor, Steve Crothers, 8 Coromandel, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 5QG; stephen.crothers@ntlworld.com

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*Vacancies exist for Activities, Development and Assistant posts,
please speak to any committee member if you feel you can help*

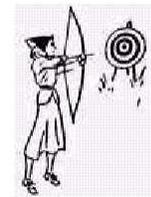


*Aunt Sally and Barbecue
9th August 2003
Abingdon*

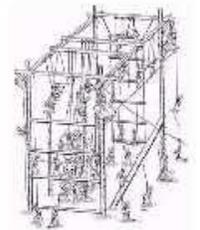
*Southern Area Council Meeting
10th August 2003 13:00
Basingstoke*



*Southern Area Petanque
16th August 2003
Porchester*



*Multi-Activity Weekend
29th - 31st August 2003
Cambridgeshire, £48.50 before 29 Jun,
£53.50 before 27 Jul, £63.50 before
17 Aug*



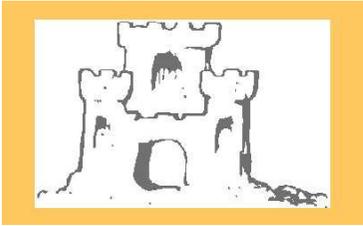
Other events Booking Now

*September
6-7 "Taking Control" National Training Stoke-on-Trent £45
14 National Paintball Hot Shots Newbury
25-2 Oct Greek Week Zakynthos*

*November
1-4 WASH Searles Holiday Park, Hunstanton
28-1 Nov Centre Parcs Elveden*

*January 2004
10-17 Skiing Bulgaria*

Coming Soon



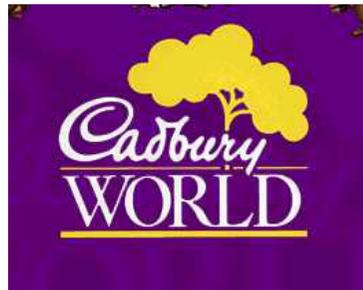
*Beach BBQ & Sandcastle Competition.
21st June 2003 15:00 (Sandcastles)
18:00 (Barbecue)
Sandbanks Beach £6 (£8 non members)*

*London "Park and Ride" Treasure Hunt
28 June 2003 17:00
Tattershall Castle, Embankment
£5 - members only*



*Gliding
13th July 2003 08:00
Wyvern Gliding Club, Salisbury Plain
£20 for 2 launches*

*Cadbury World Mini Bus Tour
26th July - tour starts 13:00
£19 inc mini bus, fuel, admision
and samples*



*Next Issue of Flying South
1st August 2003
Articles to editor please*

nvttech.com

WOOKEY HOLE - World Famous Caves and Papermill.

A lot of people from 18+ went on the Spring Holiday to Brean Sands Leisure Park. Six of us found time Saturday morning to visit Wookey Hole Caves and Papermill 2 miles from Wells and very near beautiful Cheddar.

We first started the Cave Tour with some breathtaking underground scenery, lighting effects and included Chamber 2, The Legend of the Witch. Chamber 3, The Witch' Parlour is a very broad cave with a low ceiling, carved out by the swirl of the underground river, over millions of years. It is now a base for the cave divers.



Cathedral Cave, Chamber 9 and the Cave Divers, is one of the most famous caverns in the history of cave diving, is 100 feet high, its green water 70 feet deep, its vast walls red with iron oxide and shining with flowstone stalactite formations.

Outside the caves is a tree-lined canal path and the River Axe descending in dozens of little waterfalls, at the end of which we entered the Victorian Papermill itself.

A Museum of the Caves traces back millions of years of history, including the beginning of cave diving at Wookey Hole. We could see a film about the history of paper and saw traditional craftsmen handmaking paper, (which you can try). After 400 years the papermill is still producing. Wookey Hole has the biggest collection of original Edwardian Penny Arcade machines in the country and we had fun playing them with real old pennies.



Also here is a Victorian and Western Studio, where we all dressed up in 1920' American Gangsters costumes and had various photos taken. Lastly we lost ourselves in the Magical Mirror Maze and raised a giggle or two, on looking at

ourselves in a number of old distorting mirrors. Don't miss Brean March 2004.



Photos: Leo Glover Story Tina Bunyan

Brean Sands Real Ale Trip

Sunday morning of the sprint holiday dawned and it was time for the Real Ale trip. Two coach loads of people headed out for a whole afternoon of drinking. It was at the same venue as last year; yes they did have us back. Some of the lads, all from the Midlands area, dressed up in drag, to add to the afternoon's entertainment.



We eventually arrived having got slightly lost on the way. Food was available, for an extra charge, which was a good way to start the afternoon of drinking. An impromptu competition was launched for all the men in drag with Mike Sutton coming out as the winner. I think the short dress and the hair was the winner in the Landlady's eyes. The live entertainment was excellent, and it helped that it was a really nice day so we could all sit out in the garden.

Some of the locals came for what they thought would be a relaxing drink on a quite Sunday afternoon, and wanted to know what we were all about. I believe that someone even wanted us to send them some information, so we must have set a good impression.



The end came all too soon, and the landlady and bar staff stripped the lads, nicked their dresses and wore them themselves.

Of course the day would not have been right without our Area Chairman at the time falling asleep during the competition. As we made our way back up the motorway, we had the usual stop at the services for the toilet, almost leaving Pete Mann behind, but unfortunately for all of us, he came back in the nick of time.

A good time was had by all, see you all next year.

Photos: Leo Glover, Story: Susan Jardine

Dragons in Oxford

It all started when for the first time in years the organisers approached us in good time i.e. four months in advance not 2 weeks! It took all of those four months to raise a team.

Members from Coventry, Dunstable, Didcot, Abingdon, South Bucks, Banbury, Oxford, Southampton and Andover took part raising over £100 for the Anthony Nolan Trust.



The Friday before the event saw the completion of the team. Sunday arrived and so did all the participants, most in good time, some cutting it to the edge. Support was there early in the day but grew in noise with the eventual arrival of Danni and posse from Southampton, bringing the rain with them.

Our first race saw a double quick beat from Biggles and the team doing a good impression of an epileptic spider on acid! We lost quite convincingly. After a team talk and a look over the video we altered the team composition and layout.



The second race saw a far more concerted effort and a neck and neck race that we just nosed ahead in keeping to the beat of the screamed out 1, 2's if not the drum! The boat felt most unstable though and a few alterations were made for the next time out. The third race saw much about the same with Danni providing a following wind from the bank for both teams, and likely the latest around the world balloon attempt!

Regrettably a little too much haste in the last 50 yards saw a loss of stroke giving the opposition the nose ahead they needed to win. We retired, coming 15th out of 21 teams attending.

Final members attending were around 20, the Ferryman Inn staging for the event proved rather crowded though so some groups opted to break to other eateries after the event. Thanks to all those who sponsored us for doing it.



Photos: Steve Crothers Story: Adrian Barnard