# MADYSS Matters

August 2023 No.198

#### **Birthday Greetings**

We have only one member with an August birthday:

Yvonne Smith

With our best wishes for a Happy Birthday.

#### **Social Events**

## Wilmslow Garden Centre, Wilmslow SK9 2JN Thursday, 24 August

The above date has been chosen for the garden centre visit. At 4.30 pm we can have the garden centre's dining deal of two main courses for £15 with £3 extra for pudding. Please let Kay know at the Flower Pot meeting if you are interested.

### Quiz, The Poachers Inn, Bollington SK10 5RE Sunday, 24 September

A fundraising quiz for MADYSS. Details to follow.

### Coach to British Iron Works Centre, Oswestry Wednesday, 27 September

The Ironworks is the largest centre in the UK for decorative ironworks and has some amazing sculptures.



British Iron Works rhino sculpture

The cost for this outing will be £20 for members and £25 for guests. A £10 deposit is required by the August meeting and final payment is due by the September Flower Pot meeting. Coach times are still to be determined.

### Viceroy Indian Meal, Bollington Sunday, 29 October

Details to follow.

### Report on Jodrell Bank Observatory Thursday, 13 July

Twenty-two members and friends met up at Jodrell Bank for our day out. We were so lucky with the weather as it had been a wet week, but Thursday was dry, warm and sunny. This meant wandering around the Observatory was a more pleasant experience than it would have been otherwise!

At noon we attended the Through the Night Sky show held in the Space Dome. The one-hour presentation, which was given by a very knowledgeable lady, gave lots of interesting data on the Sun, Moon, and planets. As the night sky changed, she was able to point out the different constellations and drew our attention to familiar Star Signs such as Virgo and Cancer and to other less familiar Signs. The writer learned that it takes 8 minutes for the light from the Sun to reach Earth, that Saturn's rings are made of ice, and that the Apollo moon landing in 1969 was on the Sea of Tranquility.



Bev, Colin, Don, Sylvia, Sue & Keith relaxing post-lunch

The Observatory's café was conveniently located in the same building and many of us repaired there after the show for sustenance. As it was warm and sunny, some members chose to eat outside.

There are plenty of different areas to explore. A walk down the Exhibition Pathway, which has a number of poster stands, proved both interesting and educational, as did the Space Pavilion with stands about the Lovell telescope and various other telescopes and equipment, which included a space debris tracker.



The Exhibition Pathway with poster boards

A visit to Jodrell Bank wouldn't be complete without going down to the Lovell Telescope; at 76 metres in diameter, it is the world's third largest telescope.



The Lovell Telescope (with a MADYSS attendee to give some perspective)

#### **Thank You**

Many thanks from MADYSS, and from Kay Evans in particular, must go to Anne Swindell who has done the lion's share of the work for the trip to RHS Bridgewater, for the Jodrell Bank outing and for the upcoming coach trip to the British Ironworks in September. Of course, this was all undertaken before she had her surgery in early July. It was a lovely surprise to see her manage a brief visit to last month's Flower Pot meeting.

#### **Bonus Ball Competition**

Last month's bonus ball winner was Anne Swindell. During her short visit to the meeting, she managed to pick the winning number, which was number 45. Congratulations Anne!

The next Flower Pot meeting is

on Monday, 14 August 2023

#### **MADYSS Committee**

John Swindell (Chairman) 01625 575753; Michael Fleming (Deputy Chairman) 01625 426879; Judy Fleming (Treasurer) 01625 426879; Sue Stephenson (Membership Secretary) 01625 876285; Anne Swindell (Administrative Secretary) 01625 575753; Kay Evans (Activities Organiser) 01625 574330; Bev Eccles (Activities Assistant) 07947 996585; Julie Karnon (Greetings Cards) 01260 273969; Diane Thomas (Fundraiser) 01625 613004; Kay Kennedy (Meeter and Greeter) 01625 871314.