

August is one of those months when you never know how many are going to turn up to a meeting, whether it is due to the weather (this month has once again started off with temperatures more akin to the Sahara than a typical UK summer), holidays, family visits or heaven forbid grand parent duties. We've always had healthy numbers turning out, however this year numbers were a little down at 21, but to be fair it was hot and humid. It must have been warm as we had to have the main door open to let at least some air flow through (since the renovations the windows have lost the ropes to open them).

In a change from previous years the meeting did not involve getting fingers covered in glue/paint/pen, but rather it was a more sedate affair with a speaker. Those members who were in attendance were entertained to a talk by Maria Pennington on the history of the Fabergé jewellery name. From it's small beginnings with French Huguenot Gustave Farvi (he changed the family name over a period of time before ending up the Fabergé name) who fled France due to religious persecution, ending up via Germany in Latvia and then subsequently moving to the imperial Russian Capital of St Peterburg. Encompassing those very famous eggs, the family's loss of the company name during the Russian Revolution until finally being able to buy back the trademark and name in 2007. For those who love jewellery it was a very interesting talk, Maria is an excellent speaker, the talk also appealed to those who like a bit of history behind brand names.

Once again the craft sub group didn't meet. Members were all busy doing more 'important' things although Anne's painting of her boat on the Broads does kind of count as a craft activity. Our small but dedicated group of board gamers enjoyed their monthly meet up. Whilst the 'walking' group were busy with more important stuff namely family, illness, holiday's, or confused and abandoned so there wasn't a meet up. Next month they are off to Norwich to Mousehold Heath where no doubt they will manage to view some trees, a 'vinegar pond' (if it has filled up with water) and visit a certain restaurant for a light lunch.

On top of all this our Committee has been very busy this month putting the final touches on our upcoming over 50's community event, sorting out next year's programme (amazingly only one of the first choice speakers was unavailable which must be a first for us) and looking to the Birthday meeting in October which will mean another year has been ticked off.