

Holiday Time!

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Summer Holidays are here for most of us and the Schools have broken up for what seems like an age! Lovely for those who can drive into work at a fraction of the usual time but not so great for anyone who has to amuse these children! I have included a section this month on children's pastimes through the ages so make sure you have enough activities in your house for any of the little ones!



Traveling holidays only started to become popular during Victorian times and I have also touched a little on Seaside Holidays.

Last Month's meeting confirmed the Autumn Fair date as Sunday 19th November so keep this date free in your diary—we may need helpers if you don't require a stall. Full details to be confirmed in the coming months. I will keep you updated as to any advertising I manage to secure.

Don't forget to keep checking the website for the latest news between Club Nights...

Michelle

Special points of interest:

- Sunday 13 August—
Four Seasons Fair
at Sketchley Grange
Hotel, Leics.
10am—4pm
- Sunday 27 August—
Four Seasons Fair
at Bankhouse Hotel,
Worcs.
10am—4pm
- Saturday 2 Sept—
MGM Fair at Imperial
Rooms,
Matlock.
10.30-4.00pm

Review of July Meeting

Kevin showed us some alternatives to Dolls Houses where you can create miniature scenes in items much smaller yet still create something just as enchanting.

Kevin showed us some very useful boxes available quite cheaply from places such as Ikea and Au Neutral, some with protective glass fronting and that could hang on the wall if space is short. There was quite a collection of scenes created in eggs such as goose, ostrich and even Emu eggs! There were lots of lovely ideas, if anyone

makes anything based on these themes, bring it along to show us all!

We confirmed that the WADDHAMS Autumn Fair would be held on **Sunday 19th November** at Goodyear Pavilions so we need to ensure we all work hard to pass the word around. The committee will investigate all the Advertising avenues and we will create flyers that we may ask people to hand around where ever possible. Watch this space or the Website for further news.

We are also starting to plan activities for Club Nights next year so if any of you are able to hold any Workshops, let us know what you would like to do and we can plan it in.

Finally, don't forget to work on your box file project as the deadline will approach quicker than you think! There will be no excuses!!

Also, don't forget to keep checking the website if you can, there may be club news posted and the latest copy of the Newsletter...



Oh I do like to be beside the Seaside...!

Trips to the Seaside started to become popular during the Victorian era when transport became more available to the general public. Popular seaside towns at this time were Bournemouth, Blackpool and Bognor Regis. The Victorians went to the Seaside because they thought the bracing air was healthy. Nobody went to sunbathe as it was not fashionable and they would walk along the beach fully clothed.

As more and more people started going to these resorts entertainment such as music hall, dancing,

theatre and exhibitions started to appear to eventually form the entertainment we know today.

Piers were built to accommodate holiday makers arriving by steam boat and a few of these still survive today.



Swimming pools and hotels became the fashion in the 20's and 30's where people were now quite open about sunbathing and exposing skin.

The 40's were obviously occupied by the war but the 30's and 60's saw the first Holiday Camps and Caravans and Camping.

Unfortunately, the great British Holiday has declined by the very thing that saw it rise—the development of Transport. It is now so easy to go abroad combined with the unpredictable British Weather have driven a lot of people to spend their hard earned money elsewhere...

***Paid
Annual
leave
from
work
didn't
become
law until
1938***

Wolverhampton & District Dolls House & Miniature Society

WADDHAMS meet on the first Wednesday of every month at:
United Reform Church
Penn Road
Wolverhampton
West Midlands

Contact Us:
Email: info@waddhams.co.uk
Web: www.waddhams.co.uk

Chair Person:
Kevin McGuire—0787 0787838
Secretary/Treasurer:
Michelle Whitby—0770 3058756

How to amuse the Little Ones...

Children have always had some sort of toy throughout history. During the Middle Ages children played with pebbles and balls.

Home made toys were the norm up until the 18th Century when toys became manufactured. Educational toys were popular around this time after the introduction of printing techniques such as alphabet cards, jigsaws and board games.

Technical toys began to appear during the 19th century such as trains and the kaleidoscope.



Victorians believed the only toy allowed to be played with on a Sunday was Noah's Ark because of the religious significance.

Mass production saw things like toy soldiers, farmyards and zoos, and dolls. The war interrupted this production and home made toys became popular again such as wooden or knitted toys.

Television has influenced toys since the 60's and merchandising is now one of the biggest markets.

Although computers and batteries have changed the toys we have today, the principals remain much the same and there is currently a revival of more traditional toys such as teddies and wooden toys, and, indeed Dolls Houses!

Dolls Houses were not really intended as playthings. The



earliest recorded Dolls House was for Albert V around 1550 as a replica of his own residence. He called it his "Baby House".

In the 17th and 18th Centuries they were popular in Germany and England and, much as today, the interiors reflected the lifestyles and craftsmanship the owners would dream of in reality.

Single rooms were actually made as a learning tool to teach home crafts to young ladies.!

