

Corona Plateau Mauritius

Newsletter February 2016

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Our next meeting: **Friday, the 19th of February at 10h00** at the Gymkhana.



The next Coffee Morning will be on **Friday, the 5th of February 2016 at 10h30** at the **Food Lovers Market Coffee Shop in Bagatelle.**

The Coffee Morning on the **4th of March** will be at the **Café Lux in Bagatelle.**



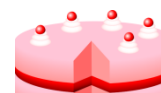
Happy birthday to our members born in February: *Lyndsay, Huguette and Sheila.*



The Cake in January was donated by Stella Lutchanah and was won by Jane.

The cake raffle brought us RS 1400.- and the sale of DVD's RS 175.-

The cake for February will be donated by Marie Lyne Richards.



The Potluck Lunch will be hosted by Mireille.

She will be personally contacting Potluck ladies as places are limited.



Membership RS 1000.- due in March.

At the end of this newsletter you will find a nomination form for Corona Committee Membership 2016/17.

Some members have been making enquiries about Life Membership. Margaret and Heather (from Corona North) very kindly helped us out with finding out more about Life members. Some time ago, it was possible to become a Life Member by paying a £100 to Head Office in London.

However, the benefits of this were dubious, and Life memberships are no longer available. Even Life members had to pay annual subs to their club. In the register that each club maintains, "L" (Life Member) or "A" is inserted before the member's name, and this denotes the status of members.

A warm welcome to our new members: Manda Boolell and Jotee Padaruth.



Thank you very much to Captain Dick Twomey, our speaker in January who was talking about his Airline Company which he founded in Cold-War Berlin.

The 'ISLAND' West Berlin

During the long years of the Cold War the citizens of the walled-in, Russian tank surrounded, half-city of West Berlin had only air corridors to rely on, if they were not to be completely cut off from the democratic Germany and the world beyond. Corridors that were height-limited, overflown by Russian MIG fighter aircraft, protected always by the Berlin Air Safety Centre which was staffed by UK,FR representatives, plus the Russians whose job it was to give "diplomatic clearance" to every flight.

Route rights along the Air Corridors had been parcelled up among the Berlin carriers long since, and development of new destinations had stagnated years before 1981, when Captain Dick Twomey had first been given a job in Germany. By August 1985 he had already served British Airways for more than 30 years: Should he leave BA and do something else? It seemed to him that there was plenty of opportunity, so he decided to do so, and started planning with a few friends.

Berlin Regional was incorporated as a UK Private Company in Dec. 1985. By July 1986 he had signed a contract with BA for 2 Jet-Stream turboprops at GBP2.7M each, financed by a lease agreement with Citibank, and with delivery promised for Nov.1986 and Jan.1987. There were delays, the first one arrived 1st April 1987, they received their route licences and their AOC by 7th April 1987, by which time all crew and ground training had been completed. The first passenger flight .to Copenhagen was flown a few days later,

That year (1987) they carried over 200,000 passengers and at last made a profit. As a matter of pride, he also record that in Germany their operations had a proven punctuality better than Lufthansa's... who like German cars or Swiss watches enjoyed a good reputation for being on time.....and they never had to answer a single written passenger complaint.



Dick Twomey donated RS 1000.- to the club. We donated this and the RS 1000.- we would have given him for a charity of his choice together with a donation of RS 3000.- from our club to sister Colette. She was back here on holiday and told us about the newly opened Loretto girl's school in South Sudan with which she is involved. She was thrilled to receive the donation and will keep in touch with us.



Next month, Nathalie Marot, who owns and runs a soap making enterprise in Calodyne called In'Fusion Cosmetics will talk about the process of soap making. She will bring samples of different perfumes.

The Corona library is in need of updating. Maggie removed several damp and mouldy books from the boxes. Book donations are most welcome.



Committee for 2015/2016

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Here is the nomination form for the Corona Membership 2016/17.
Two signatures are necessary for nominating a volunteer.
Please print out if you want to nominate anyone, but extra forms will be available at the February meeting.

Nomination Form for Corona Committee Membership 2016/17

Please complete the following nomination form and submit it to the Chairperson or a Committee Member during our meeting on Friday the 19th of February or by Friday 11th March 2016 at the latest.

Name of Nominee/Volunteer

..... *

Nominated by

.....

And nominated by

.....

*Please obtain the permission of the Nominee prior to submitting this form.

Committee Members agree to attend the monthly general meetings and Committee meetings on a regular basis, to accept an office or Committee role as agreed to in Committee, and to participate actively in organizing and facilitating events/activities that are planned for Members by the Committee.