



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

An amazing woman - Ida King

Dyslexia Breakthrough

St Lucia Day Celebrations



Orkney's Italian Chapel



Mousa Broch



Basque child Refugees of 1937

Autumn 2021

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Mousa Broch	18	There are reports on all of our meetings, with a number of photos as usual. Diana Bell has been particularly helpful, and skilful, for this edition as my technology, or expertise, has failed me a number of times. We hope you will enjoy our joint production.
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<p>The front picture has photos of Unity's Mousa Broch, our Zoom Social Event and Deerdre, the recycled reindeer. This was made by Anne out of an old kitchen roll, a Kit-Kat wrapper, Amazon packaging and pages from Tunbridge Wells local free magazines. Find out more on page 11.</p>		<p>Next term I shall be asking people to prepare reports on specific meetings, as I used to do. This gives variety in the presentation, as you may notice from the fact that I wrote the reports on all the meetings. I had asked for volunteers, but answer came there none!</p> <p>Please let me have all reports in Word, attached to an email to the address below, with any photos in jpg format. Any other format makes compilation very difficult for Diana and me. Many thanks. Contributions for the spring edition should be with me by mid-April please.</p>

State President's Report



How wrong can you be? Being forever optimistic, very wrong!

Looking back to the beginning of this year, I have decided I was very naïve. I really did believe that the situation we were in then would be over quite soon and life would be back to 'normal.' Sadly, this did not happen and for most of the year we had our meetings on Zoom.

But it was not all doom and gloom as, thanks to our resourceful Chapter Presidents, Penny and Carole, and Dorcas, Anne Goldstein and Joan, we have had regular meetings on a wide variety of subjects. The advantage of being on Zoom has enabled our members, who live a distance away, to join us more often than they previously could. Also, we have been able to invite our European Sisters to 'tune in' as well. It has been pleasing to see so many doing so and I know that has pleased our Regional Director, Margarita Hanschmidt, as one of her aims this year is to get the European members more unified. This, I think, judging from the numbers from the different countries who attend the joint meetings, has been quite successful.

In the middle of the year, when we thought that the situation in the country was easing, we had a celebration meeting entitled 'Optimism, Happiness and Hope'. Members expressed the joy and hope of seeing their families, children and grand-children again, and showed joyous photographs of events taken when they met together.

Taking advantage of this window of relaxed rules, Diana invited members to her house for a meeting to hear Sally Anne Olivier give a very interesting talk on 'The effect Visual Perception Problems have on Education'.

Sandra hosted a joyful 'bring and share' Christmas meeting in her home in December. At both these meetings it was so obvious how members were pleased to see each other when one listened to all the happy chatter!!

Sadly, there have been sad events during the year with members suffering losses of loved ones and the loss of one of our dear long-standing member, Mary Wardrop. Mary had been such a valuable member of the Society. As well as serving as our State President she had served on several International



Mary at our 2018 State Conference in Kingston.

Committees. She was a kind, caring person with an extremely compassionate nature, and will be sadly missed.

I am reminded that is now time to think about the Canterbury Award. Details of the qualifications needed to receive this valuable Award can be found below and it is on our Website with applications to be made to Liz Malik. Do think about applying as this is a valuable aspect of our organization for personal growth.

I wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year, and a hope that we can soon meet together 'face to face'

once again.

Evelyn Goodsell (*GB State President*)

The Canterbury Award

Now is the time to think of applying for the award

The Canterbury Award has become well-established over the years with the aim of helping members develop both as educators and as enthusiastic members of the Society. Members have undertaken diverse and interesting projects.

There are two avenues members might follow to be considered for the award. Either it will subsidise an **educational project** that you would like to pursue, or the money could go towards expenses for first time **travel** to a Regional or International Conference. In 2022 the International Conference will be held in **New Orleans from 12th – 16th July**, provided travel between the UK and the USA is possible by then. It should be most stimulating and lots of fun!

Please look at our website www.dkqgb.org.uk (Documents section on the home page, lower right) where you will be directed to information and application forms. **The deadline is 1st February 2022.**

Liz Malik (Chair of Canterbury Award Committee)

elizabethandfarid@btinternet.com

An Amazing Woman

Hilary Goy introduced Jane Liddell-King, who told us about the fascinating life of her great-aunt, Ida King. She told us that her father, when he lay dying in 1996, had told her a startling family story: she had a clever great-aunt who was also at Girton, and more importantly, had been the first black student to go there. Jane already knew that her paternal grandfather had come from Trinidad to Britain, where he was admitted to the Middle Temple in 1914, and became a barrister. She had not previously heard of his sister.

With the help of the Girton archivist, Jane found out that Ida King (1881-1968) had attended Girton from 1903 to 1906, reading Medieval and Modern Languages. Jane showed us a series of wonderful photographs during her talk, among them Ida in a matriculation photograph with her 1903 year group, a young black woman in a Cambridge college. What courage it must have taken to leave home and enter a totally new environment on her own. Jane explored a number of ideas about the power of poetry in women expressing themselves in a sea of 'white fathers', discussing issues of race and culture.

Ida was fortunate in her parents. They decided she should have an English education, which of course gave her the same kind of advantages as those enjoyed by her brother, Percy, and her cousin Conrad, both of whom read for the bar at Middle Temple and became barristers. She attended school in Trinidad and Barbados, and then came to England to prepare for university entrance at Sunny Hill School in Somerset.

Ida was clearly an excellent student and went up to Girton in 1903, when she was 22. She was fortunate in having as Director of Studies in Medieval and Modern Languages, Miss Bentick Smith, herself a published author and exactly the sort of role model who could inspire Ida, and nurture in her the obvious gifts she displayed. Ida developed a passion for early English and for drama. She read Anglo-Saxon, Chaucer and medieval Scottish poets, Provencal and early Norman, and of course Shakespeare and other literature of 1579-1650, as this was her special period for Tripos in 1906. She developed a particular interest in metre in both poetry and drama. She was, however, not good at examinations, and took a Third in her Tripos. She gained a college certificate - as a woman she could not at that time gain a degree.

The certificate was sufficient to earn her a teaching post at Heathfield School in Ilkley where she spent 7 years, also teaching at the Ilkley University Extension

Centre. She became Pageant Master and included local children in the Ilkley Pageant. She moved to Stafford High School, and became involved in the Pageant to celebrate the millennium since King Arthur's daughter, Aethelfleda, Lady of Mercia, had fortified Stafford. There were 1000 performers as the Pageant moved through the streets. (I know how compelling this can be, as I saw the York Pageant when I was a Medieval English student). Ida led the episode celebrating Queen Elizabeth 1's visit in 1573, which 'stole the show'.

Ida wrote a foreword to 'New Plays for Boys and Girls' (London, 1936) and identified drama with adventure. World War I took place while she was at Stafford, and she organised some charity events. London was her target however, and she secured a lectureship in English at Whitelands Teacher Training College in Chelsea, which is now part of Roehampton University. She emphasised the importance of giving every pupil a role in drama. She loved Hiawatha, and would recite lines to emphasise the metre. Ida was rigorous, professional and passionate, but also kind. She spent 20 years at Whitelands, and in retirement helped girls in a remand home. Unfortunately she suffered a disabling accident but continued to help refugees.

Jane ended by saying that her Caribbean relatives still have a powerful sense of connection to the UK. Although she was not fortunate enough to meet Ida, she feels strong ties to her, and remains very proud of her achievements.

Diane Billam (*Gamma Chapter*)



Dyslexia Breakthrough

On Saturday, 23 October, we met at Diana Bell's house in Streatham, and first serenaded Barbara in the usual way for her birthday! We were then treated to a most interesting talk by Sally Anne Olivier, pictured right. She explained that visual stress caused many problems for people, the first being that it is often not recognised early enough, causing children to fall behind with their studies. This leads to a loss of confidence, making it very difficult to live with. The root cause is visual stress, due to an imbalance in the eye, which leads to difficulties in reading, and also affects other areas in life, such as writing, spelling, maths symbols, and measuring, and causes considerable computer stress, exacerbated of course during the last 18 months or so, with more time being spent looking at computer screens.



The root cause is problems with vision, particularly peripheral vision. When reading, letters or whole words may move, or disappear from the page completely. If you can't see it, you can't process it. The stress caused by this difficulty, with so much of modern life requiring reading, means that people become discouraged. A high proportion of offenders are dyslexic. It can also cause problems in socialising: people with prosopagnosia (face blindness) often don't look at you, they can't interpret what is happening, and all too often don't get friends. They can come across as 'odd'. Looking at brain scans during attempts at reading, it became obvious that some parts of the brain were not being activated. In maths, for instance, the reader sees black blobs on the page, so they get the wrong answers, but do not know why.

How should teachers tackle all this? What are the dyslexia indicators? Pupils who are bright and alert, can express good ideas orally but are unable to write them down. They may be unable to remember instructions, or be generally forgetful. Secondary pupils may be unable to find particular rooms, when they have to move for lessons. Written work may be untidy, with reversals, badly formed letters, erratic spelling mistakes, inability to space words or place them on lines. Reversals in maths are another problem, and they will often be unable to extract information from a passage for comprehension. A visual perception questionnaire may be helpful in establishing the root cause of difficulties, and suggesting a strategy to improve the situation. Coloured overlays are often used to correct any imbalance, making correct diagnosis very important. A better alternative has been found to be coloured lenses for glasses, and again

accurate testing is needed. The 'Read Eye' instrument used by Sally Anne is the one to enable use under three different lighting conditions. Children reported great improvement from getting suitably tinted lenses for glasses. Teachers reported on the many benefits for children, a reduction in negative effects such as headaches, feeling stupid, or not feeling comfortable in social situations. Improvements in reading skills lead to great improvement in their lives.



Penny Kinnear, far right, thanked Sally Anne for giving us such food for thought. We had all learned so much from what she had to say.

Diane Billam (*Gamma Chapter*)

Anne Goldstein gave a fascinating talk on 20th November on a subject she had

Basque Child Refugees of 1937

learned about whilst doing some research on her local area, Rusthall, near Tunbridge Wells. It was very rewarding to welcome among our number eight of our European members from several different countries. The benefits of online talks! Although it has been wonderful to be able to meet again in person, for real!, we also recognise how good it is to be able to see our fellow European members on screen if not in person.. Anne accompanied her talk with some fascinating photographs, unfortunately copyright issues prevent us including them here..

Anne explained the terrible events which led to the children coming here. It was the escalating violence of the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), with the terrible saturation bombing of Guernica in 1937 (so memorably depicted by Picasso), which precipitated such a reaction. The British Government, led by Stanley Baldwin, had taken a stance of non-intervention, which meant there could be no official response to the threat. So SS Habana, captained by Ricardo Fernandes, set sail from Bilbao to Southampton on Friday, 27 May 1937. He had already taken 2 shiploads of refugees to France. The ship was desperately overcrowded. On arrival it was good to see the Salvation Army right there from the

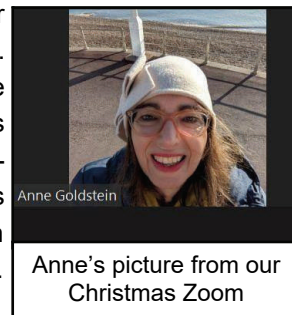
start, contributing their considerable experience and expertise. The 3286 children coming here were aged 5 to 16, accompanied by maestras (teachers), helpers (asistentas) and 15 Catholic priests. The children were taken to a tented camp which had been set up in Eastleigh, South Hampshire. The tents were rented from the British Government. Communist dockers had dug latrines, people had contributed money. The children were given showers, but must have wondered at their accommodation! The original plan had been for them to stay for only 3 months, but many stayed beyond 2 years, and 250 never went back at all. For some reason the children loved our white bread in particular, and some would squirrel away an extra slice if they could. So they were given coloured armbands to ensure they got only one slice. The helpers were not aware that yellow was Franco's colour, and children given yellow armbands would not take any bread. There was still no government support – Baldwin was following a policy of appeasement of the Fascists – so the enterprise had to be supported by public donations.

The enterprise was managed by the Basque Children's Committee. Other organisations which helped with fundraising included the NUT and other Trade Unions, and the Catholic Church. There were several key women involved, especially Katharine Duchess of Atholl (1874-1960). She was a Member of Parliament for the Scottish Unionist Party, Scotland's first female MP. She was against appeasement with Hitler, but at first did not support women's suffrage. Her subsequent friendship with Sylvia Pankhurst later changed her views, and announced her support. Another prominent campaigner was Dame Leah Manning, who was educated at Homerton College, Cambridge, became a teacher and subsequently President of the National Union of Teachers and a pacifist Labour MP. She also campaigned for family planning. She was well respected in the Basque country, and has a square named after her in Bilbao.

Anne then brought the story nearer home. The Beacon in Happy Valley, Rust-hall, near Tunbridge Wells is now a wedding venue and restaurant. It became the home of 60 Spanish refugee children, and later welcomed children from the Kindertransport. They found some Spanish speakers, and asked for gifts in money or kind, which was much appreciated, since there was still no government support for the enterprise, although the Beacon was one of 80 places in Britain which accepted child refugees. Gifts such as one pound of food, one shilling in money, or clothes, were welcomed. The local Mayor, Councillor E J Strange, spoke about everyone's 'Christian duty' to support the refugees. Many churches and townspeople 'adopted' a child, and gave 10 shillings a week. One

child who had been crippled in the war was helped to walk again by a local physiotherapist.

Muriel Anny Payne, a nurse educator and writer was General Secretary of the Home and School Council of Great Britain, and made the Spanish child refugees welcome in Tunbridge Wells. She was a Quaker, and a campaigner for children's rights and health care. She later set up a school in India with Aldous Huxley and Annie Bessant. She was an early proponent of art therapy. It was noticeable that the Spanish children's pictures at first showed bombers raining explosives down on houses and people, which later changed as they became more settled and secure. Anne showed us pictures of reunions of the Basque children, and another of people who had arrived in this country on the Kindertransport. For many it was a painful return home to the Basque country. Many families were poor, many were illiterate, and the children returned with a good education, some with degrees. They were separated by education and experience.



Many of our European audience could relate to this story. We heard about Finland, where between 1939 and 1944 there was movement of children from babies to the age of 10, 12, or 13. Some did not return after the war. This was in Karelia: if the children came back, some had done well but others had lived in very poor conditions. Returners also had problems with the language. Finland was very poor after the war, and lost 10% of its land. Margarita described Estonia's experience in 1941 and 1949, when 30,000 Estonians were deported to Siberia including children. Families were deliberately separated.

Following Anne's talk, and subsequent comments, we had so much to think about, and to be thankful for. Kathy then spoke about the memorial service for our beloved Mary Wardrop. Anne and Kathy had compiled a show of photographs, most showing Mary with DKG friends over the years, many of them taken at DKG conferences, mostly European conferences, when we tried to remember when and where they took place. We have so many happy memories of Mary, as well as happy experiences from the conferences.

Diane Billam (*Gamma Chapter*)

'Whoever saves one life saves the world entire'.

Many of Anne's pictures can be found at the University of Southampton, Special Collections website.

Social Gathering on Zoom

Who would have thought two years ago that we would become so adept at socialising on Zoom? If we had ever heard of it that is. But now we have adapted as humans always do to the changed circumstances, and although we would rather meet in the same space, we have learned how to interact on screen.



Thus it was that on 4 December 8 of us met online, and it was good to see Thi and Margarita among us. We had been well briefed in advance by Anne, with instructions attached for how to make a reindeer (or two) out of card, and be prepared to read a Christmas poem. I don't usually attempt craft tasks these days, but got quite excited when I entered a local craft shop in search of 3 different colours of card. I was astounded to find a large rack of several sizes, several thicknesses and about 30 different colours! Armed with light brown, dark brown and white, and a new glue stick, I was quite pleased with the little fella that I wrought. Many of us had a go, and you will see a compendium of our efforts below. I was particularly impressed by Thi's, made out of a peg and some twigs, and there were a couple of mini-herds of three! It was amazing that our efforts had actually become characters.



Then we moved on to the poems, which covered a broad range. Unfortunately we can't include those which are in copyright, which is the more recent ones. Anne read a rap version by Benjamin Zephaniah, and I read one which we sing in one of our choirs. I chose it because unusually, being 'The Ballad of Mary', it

comes from her point of view, just as she approaches the birth of her son, and then celebrates the fact that he has arrived safely. Many of us have happily had the same feelings of relief. The composer of the music for this song is one written by our accompanist at one of our choirs in Canterbury.

Diana read 'Twas the night before Christmas', Unity rather ingeniously had produced some wonderfully appropriate sound effects: the wind blowing, the sound of people walking across crunchy snow, church bells ringing, which added some atmosphere for us sitting on our own in front of our devices! Margarita had also added a poem.

Anne had also asked us to produce some jokes, at which I had failed dismally, and I wasn't the only one. Nevertheless a good time was had by all, and luckily it is an event which can be repeated every time we can think of an excuse – sorry, reason – for celebration!

Diane Billam (*Gamma Chapter*)

Joan Carroll wrote:- Sorry I was unable to join our Christmas meeting. Alison, who was unable to be here, wrote two Christmas poems inspired by a cartoon which appeared recently in newspapers and on Facebook. It depicted the Holy Family sitting together in a tiny dinghy in the middle of the English Channel.

Christmas

In the midst of darkness, a light.

In the midst of coldness, a warmth.

In the midst of poverty, a hope.

In the midst of cruelty, a kindness.

In the midst of homelessness, a shelter.

In the midst of loneliness, a family.

In the midst of desperation, a friend.

In the midst of Christianity, a mystery.

Alison Ajayi (*Alpha Chapter*)

Who would Jesus Be?

If Jesus returned
What would he be?
Who would He be?
To you? To me?
Who His mother?
Who His Judge?
Would He be other?
Would He be drudge?
What His continent? What His race?
What His sexuality? What His place?
What tongue would His words state?
What form they articulate?
Who interpret and translate?
Would He transubstantiate?
Would He rule dispassionate?
Would he love us? Would He bleed?
Would He form a whole new creed?
What would Jesus do and say?
To the Pharisees of our day?
Who is Jesus? Who is He?
Truly now, to you, to me?

Alison Ajayi (*Alpha Chapter*)

Saint Lucia Day Celebrations

In much of Northern Europe, St Lucia Day is celebrated on 13 December, which was the day we met on Zoom. It was thrilling to see that at one point 73 people were present online at this event, including some from the USA. The 8 European DKG States were all represented, and several had prepared presentations which added real interest. For instance, in Tallinn we walked through the Christmas market through the snow, and we saw some familiar Christmas themes of food, including sausages and sauerkraut, Christmas jumpers, mitts, and other clothing needed for these Northern winters. The video went on to the sound of sleighbells, and we could almost smell the cinnamon spices!

In Finland there is a visit to the Christmas Cottage, and there are always lots of cheerful songs, especially with children. From GB State, Diana, Anne and myself read poems, and Evie told the story of our traditional Christmas pudding. How it is made – often months beforehand to ensure it is well imbued with spices – everyone has a go at stirring the mixture, remembering to make a wish as they do so, and for a grand finale the lights are turned off, and the pudding is processed into the dining room having been doused with brandy or similar and set alight. It is a real celebration.

Iceland also has a number of Christmas traditions, where it is very important to buy, or better still to make, gifts, and to ensure that the less fortunate are looked after. Families come together when possible, and a particular feature is different sorts of cookie, including one special half-moon shaped one with jam in the middle. Families leave a shoe in the window so the postman knows where to come. Everyone used to exchange Christmas cards, but this custom seems to be fading as people increasingly send them online. There is always a Christmas tree in the town square, and people gather at 8 pm on Christmas Eve to eat traditional food including ham and smoked lamb.

In Norway the main celebration is on Christmas Eve, when friends and family congregate. Again there is a Christmas tree in the town square, well decorated with twinkling lights. Since 1947 Oslo has sent a Christmas tree to the UK in thanks for their help during the war, and it is displayed in Trafalgar Square in London. Food includes cloudberry in various forms, gingerbread houses and gingerbread men. Games are played and the New Year, and people look out for those without friends. We are indeed fortunate.

Sweden has an impressive candle ceremony where girls dressed in white, some with candles in a circle on their head. In the video we saw it was impressive to see a procession of girls walking upstairs, one with candles on her head, the others carrying them. It had been filmed in low lighting and we could sense the ceremony of the occasion. Lucia was from Syracuse in Vastergotland, in 1764, with the first public ceremony in 1927. And the candle ceremony described above takes place on 13 December (the night of our meeting!), often seen as exemplifying Nordic blondness.

In the Netherlands on Kerstnachtdienst, Christmas Eve, people go to church, including many families who do not go for the rest of the year. There is a definite family atmosphere to the whole service. People exchange visits for 2 days, everyone takes their own dinner and it is exchanged between them, what we call `bring and share` in England.

It was fascinating to hear about the similarities, and the differences, between the various ways of celebrating the time leading up to Christmas in our European DKG member states.

Diane Billam (Gamma Chapter)

I was lucky enough on one visit to Estonia to enjoy a ride on a horsedrawn sleigh in the woods. It was February I think, and the sea was frozen! I had been reprimanded, quite rightly, for not having brought a warm enough coat, and I certainly felt the need on that occasion.

A small Celebration

On 11 December a number of Gamma members met in Sandra Blacker's house in Rusthall. It was entirely a social occasion, without a theme except the pleasure of meeting, eating and drinking together, and chatting. The uncertainty of what lies ahead made it even more of a treat. We wish you all the season's greetings, as we wished one another.

Diane Billam (Gamma Chapter)

Mary Wardrop

Eulogy for Mary – 18th November 2021

Mary was a member of DKG for almost 40 years. As well as being prominent in Great Britain, she was a member of 3 international committees, involving regular trips to Austin, Texas – the home of DKG. Mary was also invited to be an international speaker in Oregon.

When I asked our members of memories of Mary, the terms that came up time and time again were of:

- her kindness and thoughtfulness
- her ability to make new members welcome
- her concern for the wellbeing of others
- the friendships she made in all of the countries where DKG is present
- the affection in which she was held by those who knew her
- her experience and willingness to share it.

This last point is exemplified by Sheila Roberts who also knew Mary through her work. Sheila says:



At Buckingham
Palace for a
Garden Party

I first met Mary in 1987 when I was a new and raw, young head teacher. Kent put on an 18-month leadership and management training course for 60 recently appointed head teachers. Mary was part of a group of 10 serving experienced heads, brought in by the Kent team to discuss issues and worries with us. I was part of her assigned group. Mary was caring and supportive and able to offer practical advice to the many new situations we found ourselves coping with. She knew all of us and took a great interest, not just in our professional lives, but also our personal situations. Mary stayed in touch with us long after the course and her responsibilities were finished.

This is from her long standing friend, Anne Cattoor:

I have many happy memories of our times together:

spending an afternoon and evening on a Mississippi Showboat drinking 'mint juleps'

riding a 'Streetcar' in Nashville while singing 'Clang, Clang, Clang went the Trolley'

cruising the canals in Amsterdam on an old potato boat. That was at the first European Regional and was held in a hotel originally built as a Japanese Teahouse and brothell!!

And finally, my own fondest memory of Mary was of our time spent together, sharing a hotel room in Nashville, in 2016, at an international convention. I think we spent most of our week giggling – sometimes really inappropriately. She could be quite mischievous! It was on those occasions, meeting with many European and American friends, that it was obvious just how loved Mary was by all.

Mary's Eulogy written and read at her service by **Kathy Hodgson** (Gamma Chapter).



Trijny and Mary in Amsterdam 2013



Gloria, Mary and Carole in Baden
Baden 2011



Mary at the Palace being photo-
bombed by Prince Harry

Three members of Alpha Chapter spent their Summer Holiday in July 2021 visiting Shetland and Orkney on an Archaeological Tour.

The following articles show different aspects of their holiday.

Mousa Broch



Unity battling the wind on Mousa.

After Covid-19 self-isolation for 15 months, what better holiday could I have had than a trip to the Shetland and Orkney Islands with Diana Bell and Lavinia Soul? None! In eleven days, we saw the sun for about 4 hours but despite the cold, mist and fierce winds we had a great time.

The islands are bleak: -

the Shetlands have no trees; those from the well forested land were used centuries ago and not replanted. There are low hills; diverse gneiss rocks, mostly covered with heathers or peat moorland and sparse tussocky grass. The land is slowly being recovered for farming with plenty of sheep and a few pet Shetland ponies.

Orkney is slightly milder being further south; it feels so too, with more varied geology which shows some red sandstone rocks and fertile soil, but it is still bleak. More of the low hills have grassy tops; the lower land is given to barley and cattle as well as sheep.

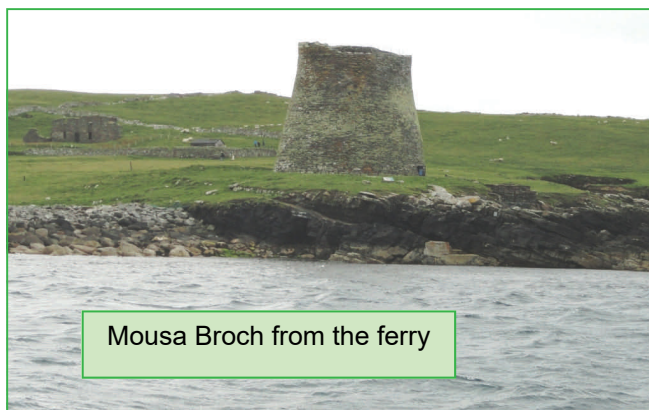
The sea, evidenced by mussel lines near the shore and by boats in the harbours, is one of the richest fishing grounds in the world. Both the Shetland Islands and Orkney have sandy beaches and wonderful cliffs; hence they have plenty of wild life, mostly birds and small mammals. We were not bothered by the expected insects.



A Puffin on the cliff

In the past, the people have found ways to eke out a living and were, at times, being exploited by the land owners. More recently, revenues from oil and wind energy sources contribute to incomes – a hydrogen plant is being constructed. The crofts are further apart than I imagined and there are a couple of industrial villages to support workers. We found the people most welcoming.

Our holiday was specifically to see the archaeology and the highlight of my tour was Mousa Broch. To get there we travelled in a coach with panoramic windows, on a ferry to Mousa Island and then walked along the coast. I was



Mousa Broch from the ferry

glad of my stick but the half mile walk made me feel young again. I was last in our group to arrive at the site but I did it, not delaying the group too much feeling that I was not a burden to the kind tour manager. She cheered me even more with the information that it was the longest walk of

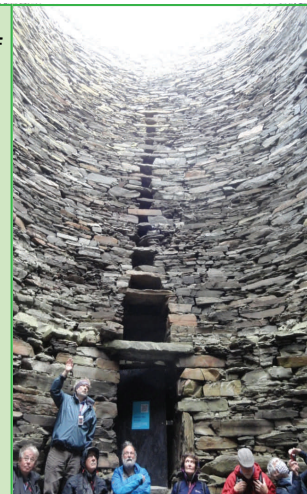
the holiday.

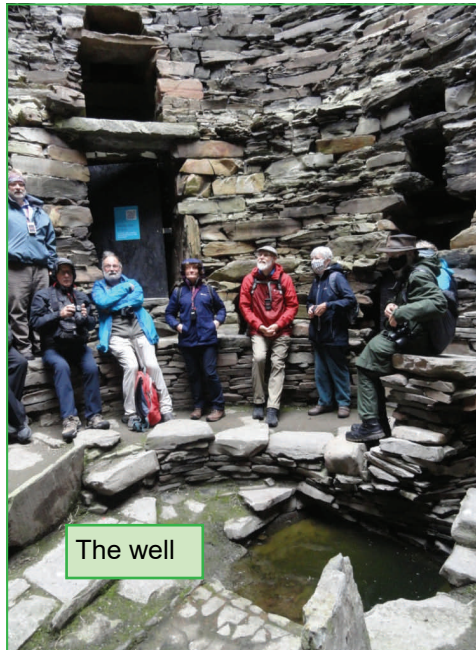
Mousa Broch is a dry-stone wall circular tower, 49 feet tall with no windows, built in the Iron Age. The centre had a water supply and a fireplace with 3 corbelled chambers in the solid base which spans 42 feet.



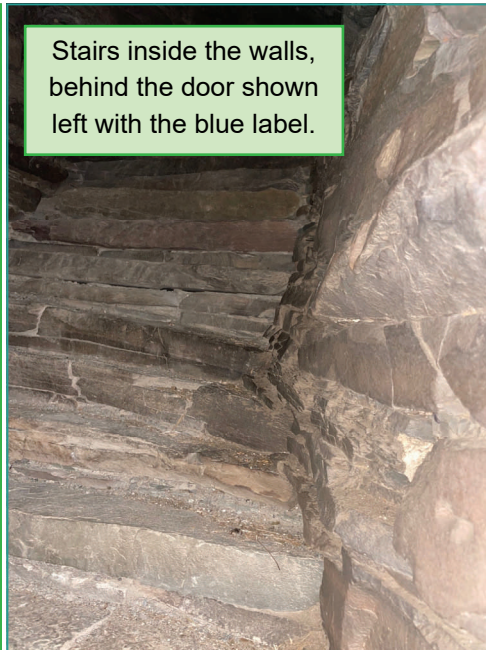
Photograph of the diagram outside the broch showing it in cross section.

The group Inside the broch listening to a talk.





The well



Stairs inside the walls, behind the door shown left with the blue label.

Between the tapering walls, in a space wide enough for a sheep or two to be kept at the bottom, steps led to the top. Some time after it was built, two interior floors were fitted, presumably resting on ledges and wooden posts. With height to see the landscape and room for stores to sustain a siege, it was a perfect home to defend against marauders

It was the precursor of the castle keep! Having previously had no idea of the meaning of broch, I was still learning.

That day, we also went to Jarlshof at the south of the Shetlands to see other historical sites, the age of which spanned 4000 years. Afterwards we visited the spectacular headland to see the coastal wildlife - seals and birds such as puffin – the orca decided to stay out of sight.

Being very deaf, I appreciated the help of my two friends so much, helping me wake when I could not hear alarm clocks, repeating conversation when I missed it and helping me organise my trip with bookings. The tour guide enabled me to stand close by to hear the historic details too; it was a delightful holiday.

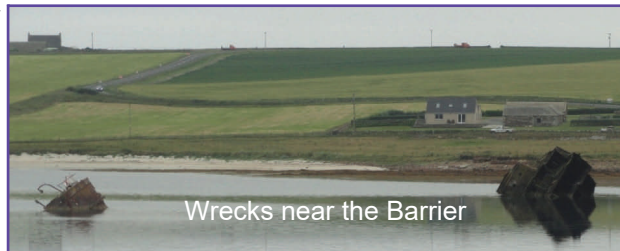
Unity Harvey (*Alpha Chapter*)



Seals on the beach

Orkney's Italian Chapel

This is the only relic of Camp 60 on Orkney (apart from the statue of St George) where several hundred Italian prisoners were housed during the war. These prisoners had been captured during the North Africa Campaign and were sent to Orkney to work on the Churchill Barriers. These barriers, of stone and concrete, were laid on the sea bed from island to island to seal the eastern entrance to Scapa Flow. This was after a U-boat had sunk the HMS Royal Oak with the loss of 800 lives after it managed to get past the many wrecks acting as a defence against attack.



The camp consisted of 13 bleak huts, but the Italians made paths from the concrete used to make the barriers and they also planted flowers to make the place less bleak. An artistic prisoner, Domenico Chiocchetti made the figure of St George, seen near the entrance, with barbed wire covered in cement. New amenities were created including a concrete billiard table!

The prisoners lacked a chapel, but thanks to the new commandant Major (later promoted to colonel) T.P. Buckland, the padre and Chiocchetti it was gradually built. A small band of helpers worked with Chiocchetti using the simple materials to hand.



Thanks to Major Buckland, two huts were joined together, the corrugated iron then being covered by plaster board. This board was fixed to a wooden frame leaving an air space and was then smoothed above and panelled below. The altar, altar rail and holy water stoop were moulded from concrete. One man, a wrought iron worker, made a rood screen. The windows had decorated glass.



The outside of the chapel was covered with an impressive façade and concreted over. It was surmounted by a belfry.

The prisoners left the island in September 1944, but Chiocchetti remained behind because he wished to finish the font.

The Lord Lieutenant of Orkney promised that the locals would cherish the chapel.

In 1958 a preservation Committee was established. In March 1960, thanks to the BBC financing Chiocchetti, he returned. Helped by a local man he restored and repaired the chapel. Two hundred locals were present at the re-dedication ceremony.

We arrived at the chapel having used the road that crosses the barrier. On entering it we were amazed at the wall painting, it was so like the real stone and tiles it was meant to represent. What an amazing achievement.



Diana Bell (*Alpha Chapter*).

The Churchill Barrier today. Wrecks on the previous page are to the left.



DKG GB Planning group meeting notes

3rd December 2021

Present: Penny Kinnear, Carole Stirling, Anne Goldstein, Joan Carroll.

Apologies: Dorcas Rodgers.

1. Dates for Spring meetings 2022 – 22nd January, 19th February, 19th March.
2. January – a theme of theatre was agreed. Anne to approach friend to speak on her work with the Globe theatre. Followed by group performance of a Shakespeare soliloquy and options of discussions on individual experiences of drama performances and the importance of theatre in British culture.

February – speaker on the Kinder Transport.

March – topic, Women's Safety - examination of increasing risk of violence against and Involving girls and women in public venues, on streets and on public transport. Possible speaker t.b.a.
3. May to July meetings, dates to be agreed. Possible general theme – holidays. Continuing theatre and entertainment topics from Spring, possible cruise ship entertainer as speaker, presentation on music hall and/or seaside end of the pier shows. Anne to research contacts.

Other ideas for meeting topics. photography, any topic initially suggested for conference which was not possible to include at that time. Suggestion for a joint face to face Summer event – garden party?
4. Next planning meeting agreed for Friday 25th March at 9.30.a.m. on Zoom.

Barbara Kern celebrated her birthday at Diana Bell's house after the Dyslexia Breakthrough meeting.



DKG Opportunities for all members

- * **Share and learn together in an international society especially for women in education.**
- * **Enjoy annual international conferences with colleagues and friends from many different countries.**
- * **Develop personal and professional skills, including leadership.**
- * **Become an international speaker in North America or Europe with all expenses paid.**
- * **Opportunities include:**
 - * **Regular meetings with great speakers on interesting topics in London and Kent.**
 - * **Scholarships available for individual projects.**
 - * **Outstanding leadership & management training at The University of Texas. (Golden Gift).**

There are many more opportunities available – view the DKG websites for the full list.

International Headquarters: www.dkg.org

Details of GB meetings are on the website

Great Britain: www.dkgyb.org.uk

Find out more about DKG in Europe

Europe: www.dkgeurope.org

Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.