Bourton and District U3A requests the pleasure of your company at:
“A CHRISTMAS CRACKER”

Wednesday, 2nd December
10.30am to 1.30pm
British Legion Hall, Bourton-on-the-Water.
RSVP to Steve & Myra Ford
This event will be run like a Variety Show, with some of our Groups and individuals “strutting their stuff”. For example the Country Dancing Group will be demonstrating some of their dances (with a chance to join in if you wish), the Recorder Group will play for us and the Quiz Group will provide some fun brainteasers.

If your Group would like to perform something please contact us ASAP so we can arrange a timetable.

This event will be for members only. Entry will be FREE with the normal tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Please do come along! You can join in the fun or just sit back and enjoy watching what our varied groups get up to. There will be plenty of time to chat and socialize and enjoy the “Bring and Share” Lunch.

We would like everyone to bring along plates of food and /or a bottle of drink for the “Bring and Share” lunch. This can be whatever you like e.g. sandwiches, nibbles, dips, salads, cakes etc. It would be very useful if you could let us know what you are planning to bring when you RSVP so we can get a balance of dishes.

To give us an idea of the number that will be attending please RSVP by 1st November to
Steve and Myra Ford

Greetings from our Chairperson – Anne Jones

Dear friends

How quickly time has gone by since I last wrote to you all. There have been many activities taking advantage of the longer days and warmer weather.

We have a new committee member Jenny Hill, we welcome her expertise in assisting us to progress.

Four of the committee plan to attend a regional meeting of the U3A, a Cotswold Link meeting and Seminar in Ross on Wye on 24th September. The focus of the meeting will be Group Leading De-Mystified which fits in very well with our current needs.

We recently held a thank you tea party for our group leaders and deputies, all of whom have worked tirelessly on your behalf over the past four years. Thirty six people attended. They took part in a fun exercise called “5 Thinking hats” designed to help inform us of the good things we are doing and more importantly where we need to improve. (The results of this are to be collated shortly and we will feed back to you after we have been to the seminar). We then enjoyed lots of chat, tea and cakes. The afternoon was a great success. Most of our groups are expanding rapidly so please offer to assist the facilitator of your group as much as you can.

Our display and renewal day in August was also very well received with 151 members and visitors attending the morning. There was a real “buzz” in the room as members enjoyed a coffee and a chat. The displays

Getting in Touch
To contact any Group Organisers please go to the “Groups Page”, click on the “Group” you are interested in and then click on the “Bird Icon”. This will allow you to email the Group Organiser.

If you wish to contact anybody who is mentioned but is not listed as a Group Organiser please email:
banddu3a@btinternet
and I will see the message is passed on to them.

Susan Dodd

Continued on page 2 column 1
were even better this year, including a light constellation from the Wider Horizons group. The new sugar craft display of wonderful cake decorations created a lot of interest. 185 members have already rejoined and 21 new members came to see what we did and have signed on. This shows what an important role we are fulfilling for some members of our community.

For those who have yet to renew their annual subscription please note that the renewal date for the next twelve months is 30th September and Maurice Coles will inform you of the process later in this newsletter. Your new card for the coming year is a lilac colour. Please take your card along to your next group meeting and get re registered for the new academic year.

There are lots of new interest groups beginning this autumn and some groups are so successful they are dividing in order for new members to access them. Please see the group list and the web site if you can access it. We plan a December Christmas activity so read on and see Jenny Stanfield’s article for more details about this and also what and where the new groups are.

I hope you all have a fruitful autumn and can continue to enjoy your membership to the full.

Best wishes Anne

Secretary’s Notes

KEEPING IN TOUCH
Please let the Membership Secretary Maurice Coles know if you change postal or e-mail addresses.

If you need to contact members other than the Group Organisers (these are in the Newsletters) please contact Maurice Coles your Membership secretary for details. (see e-mail address above)

Keep sending interesting articles & photographs to Audrey for the web site www.u3asites.org.uk/bourton & Susan Dodd banddu3a@btinternet.com for the Newsletter.

NEWS

2016 DIARIES
(dark green cover) I still have a couple of diaries to sell. £2 each

FALL PREVENTION
www.lifestyle3wisemonkeys.com contains a Page entitled Fall Prevention – might be useful?

EVENTS MAILING LIST
Members can sign up to receive updates regarding national events by email. The form can be found in the Latest News section of the national website.

NATIONAL LIFE STORIES
London School of Economics Legal Biography Project are looking for people in England & Wales who have worked as clerks in Crown Courts or in the old Assize & Quarter Sessions (pre 1972) if you are interested in taking part in their study email d.liberman@lse.ac.uk for more information.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PUPPY FOR YOU
New BBC 2 series If you are thinking of getting a puppy in the next few months, RDF TV would like to film you as you make this important decision for an exciting new BBC2 Science series. More information and application form from puppies@rdftelevision.com.

The swings also involved “children” members of our walking group!....Caryl and Lise

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Group Organiser (GO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Play Reading</td>
<td>White Hart, Moreton</td>
<td>1st Friday 10am</td>
<td>Richard Vaughan-Davies Deputy Roger Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry Appreciation</td>
<td>White Hart Moreton</td>
<td>1st Monday 10.30am</td>
<td>Sheila Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry Circle</td>
<td>White Hart Moreton</td>
<td>10.30 Thurs 24th Sept</td>
<td>GO required but contact Sheila Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>Fisher House, Stow</td>
<td>2nd Friday 10.30-12.30 Coffee from 10am</td>
<td>Ray and Susan Dodd Deputy Christine Gorton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorder 1</td>
<td>Bourton</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Friday 2.30-4pm</td>
<td>Myra Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorder Beginners</td>
<td>Bourton</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thurs 2.30-4pm</td>
<td>Myra Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skittles</td>
<td>Swan Inn, Moreton</td>
<td>2nd Monday 7pm</td>
<td>Jim Cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skittles</td>
<td>Swan Inn, Moreton</td>
<td>4th Monday 7pm</td>
<td>Janet Prout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Craft</td>
<td>Bourton</td>
<td>Weekly, Friday 10-12</td>
<td>Jenny Hill Rose Coles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Lunch Club</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Usually 4th Sundays 12.30ish</td>
<td>Beth Bryan Deputies Joan Manchip and George Sloggett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>Longborough</td>
<td>Every other Thurs 2.30pm</td>
<td>Geoff Williams Deputy Laurie Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Jenny Hill Deputy Audrey Dockery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walks Short 3-5 miles</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday 9.30am</td>
<td>Jenny Stanfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walks Medium 6-8 miles</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>2nd Thursday 9.30am</td>
<td>Emie Rumsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walks Long 10-12 miles</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday &amp; last Thursday</td>
<td>Bruno Pacini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wider Horizons</td>
<td>Newlands, Stow</td>
<td>1st Wed for 10.30am</td>
<td>Howard Crook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group Organisers please remember to inform Jenny Stanfield (Groups Co-ordinator) of any changes to your Group’s details. Jenny will notify changes to Newsletter & Website Editors.

=New Group
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Group Organiser (GO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family History 1</td>
<td>Moreton Area Centre</td>
<td>1st Thursday 10am</td>
<td>Sheila Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Group</td>
<td>George Moore Community Centre, Bourton</td>
<td>2015 3rd Sat 2016 Last Sat 7pm</td>
<td>Bruno Pacini (NB The meeting on 26th Sept will be at Victoria Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Bourton</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Wed 10.30-12</td>
<td>Catherine Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History (General)</td>
<td>Newlands, Stow</td>
<td>Last Monday in month, am.</td>
<td>Jo Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Kurling</td>
<td>British Legion Hall, Bourton</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday 2-4pm</td>
<td>Peter Boxall Deputy Irene Summers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>White Hart, Moreton</td>
<td>Last Monday in month 10.30-12</td>
<td>Ghislaine Craik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knitting and Crochet</td>
<td>Newlands, Stow</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Friday 10-12</td>
<td>Beth Bryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening to Music</td>
<td>Fisher House, Stow</td>
<td>1st meeting 17th Sept 10am</td>
<td>Roger Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mah Jong</td>
<td>George Moore Community Centre, Bourton</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays 10-12</td>
<td>Mary Bryant Deputy Lu Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly Novel Book Group</td>
<td>Moreton Area Centre</td>
<td>2nd Thursday 2-4pm</td>
<td>Sheila Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meditation</td>
<td>George Moore Community Centre, Bourton</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday 11.30</td>
<td>Howard Crook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Group</td>
<td>George Moore Community Centre, Bourton</td>
<td>2nd Tues 10am &amp; some 1st Tues</td>
<td>Andy Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Vegetable Gardening</td>
<td>Oddington</td>
<td>1st Wednesday 2pm</td>
<td>Rheema French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Fisher House, Stow</td>
<td>1st Thursday 2-4pm</td>
<td>Sue Salmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Places of Interest</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Various days in 5th week of month</td>
<td>Jenny Hill Deputy Audrey Dockery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEW U3A YEAR**

We are now beginning the New U3A Year, renewals are now taking place. Please remember to take your lilac membership card to the first meeting of groups you attend in the New U3A Year.

**VISITORS**

On Monday August 24th we were very pleased to welcome three ladies from the Wigan U3A who came to see what the noise was about and discovered us enjoying our skittles evening. We also welcomed a Bradford U3A lady on August 26th. It is so nice to see members of other U3A. Visitors are always welcome at our Monthly meetings.

Janet Prout

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**It’s time to Renew your Membership**

Thank you to all the members who have renewed their membership and a warm welcome to the new members.

We shall still be renewing at the September monthly meeting, so do come along.

If you are not available to attend please let me know and a renewal application form will be sent out.

The subscription continues at £12 for Single Members, £22 for joint and £6.50 for a Dual Membership (if you are a Full member of another U3A).

Look forward to seeing you.

Maurice Coles
Membership Secretary

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**“Flare Path”**

The Play reading group are planning a trip to The Belgrade Theatre in Coventry to see the above play on Saturday 7th November (matinee). We wondered if this might be of interest to a wider audience? We have just finished reading it in our group and its a lovely play by Terence Rattigan. If you are interested please contact Richard Vaughan-Davies.  

Roger Harris
Forthcoming Events 2015-

September 30th Three Choirs Vineyard
Private guided tour of vineyard + wine tastings. Visit to Three Shires Garden Centre for lunch. £22 pp includes travel & gratuities, tour & wine tastings.

Sunday Nov 15th Last Night of the Proms
Rotary Club charity concert. Last year’s price has been upheld - £35

Nov 29th & 30th Thurfords Spectacular
Overnight Johnson’s coach trip to Norfolk to see this very popular Christmas extravaganza – 3 hours of exciting entertainment - 1 night half-board.

Proposed programme for 2016-

January 21st or 28th TBA
Everyman Theatre. This will be self-drive or service bus for a matinee performance and tickets are usually approx. £24

February 25th Thursday
Visit to Gordon Russell furniture design museum in Broadway. This will be self-drive and the cost will be £30. This visit has been provisionally booked for 20 places.

March 31st Thursday
Everyman Theatre. TBA This will be self-drive or service bus for a matinee performance and tickets are usually approx. £24 (please note—this is the week after Easter)

April 28th Thursday
Visit to the Taylor Bell Foundry in Loughborough at 1.30pm. Coach and entry will cost approx. £28. We will stop for lunch before arrival.

Reports of recent Events:

Puttin' on the Ritz, Cheltenham
A big thank you to Jenny for once again organising another outing with good seats - last Thursday 28 Sept. Although not everyone's "cup of tea" you could not fault the choreography, costumes and energetic, slick, split timing of the dancers oozing with glamour. Truly a walk down memory lane featuring music from Irving Berlin, Gershwin and Cole Porter with the added bonus of two dancers from the Strictly Come Dancing series.

Lin Stevens

Jenny Hill

These visits will be listed and all updates will be on the website. These visits are very popular and therefore the places fill quickly. There will always be a waiting list and it will be your responsibility to find someone to replace you if for some reason you are unable to go. You must inform me if you do this. Unfortunately, unless there are exceptional circumstances, there are no refunds as tickets and coaches have to be paid for. Payment for all the visits is by cash or cheque – made payable to Bourton and District U3A. Separate cheques for each visit please.

PLACES OF INTEREST and THEATRE OUTINGS

Now that we have a regular newsletter going to every member these visits will be listed and all updates will be on the website. These visits are very popular and therefore the places fill quickly. There will always be a waiting list and it will be your responsibility to find someone to replace you if for some reason you are unable to go. You must inform me if you do this. Unfortunately, unless there are exceptional circumstances, there are no refunds as tickets and coaches have to be paid for. Payment for all the visits is by cash or cheque – made payable to Bourton and District U3A. Separate cheques for each visit please.

Jenny Hill

Involves some standing and walking. This visit has been booked for 22 places.

May 18th Wednesday
Full day visit to Laycock Abbey, Chippenham. This is a National Trust property. Entry to non NT members is approx. £11. The cost of the coach will be approx. £14. There are catering facilities on site.

NB The next theatre brochures do not come out until the Autumn – therefore these dates may change depending on what is on. I will update the website as soon as decisions have been made.

Please note that all of these costs are approximate at this stage. No confirmations of any bookings have been made.

For further information, reservations or bookings, please contact

Audrey Dockery

Groups List
Anyone wishing to join a group should contact the Group Organiser

<table>
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<th>Group</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Group Organiser (GO)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambles with Interest. (Walks &amp; Talks)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>4th Tuesday 11am</td>
<td>Jo Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Club Bourton</td>
<td>Naintg Club, Bourton</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Resuming in the Autumn if a new GO comes forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History Appreciation</td>
<td>Fisher House, Stow</td>
<td>1st Tuesday 2-4pm</td>
<td>Jo Young, Deputy Roger Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Crafts Appreciation Group</td>
<td>Moreton Area Centre</td>
<td>1st meeting 29th October 1.30-3pm</td>
<td>Sheila Thomas, Lys Cowap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best of Taste Lunch Club</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday Lunchtime</td>
<td>Judy Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bourton Book Club</td>
<td>George Moore Community Centre Bourton</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday 2-4pm</td>
<td>Susan Foster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Beginners</td>
<td>Stow</td>
<td>1st/3rd Tuesday pm</td>
<td>Judith Harley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Improvers</td>
<td>Moreton Area Centre</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Monday 1.30-3.30</td>
<td>Bob Hoyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Dancing</td>
<td>Baden Powell Hall, Bourton</td>
<td>3rd Thursday 10-11.30am</td>
<td>Steve Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing Improvers</td>
<td>Bourton</td>
<td>4th Thursday 10am-12pm</td>
<td>Anne Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing Beginners</td>
<td>Moreton</td>
<td>4th Tuesday 10am-12pm</td>
<td>Anne Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Group</td>
<td>Newlands, Stow</td>
<td>3rd Monday 10am-12pm</td>
<td>Trish Ashley, First meeting on Sept 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Challenges</td>
<td>Own homes</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>John Cork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroidery</td>
<td>Newlands, Stow</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 3rd Mon 10am-12pm</td>
<td>Angela Gibson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A long way from Splott......
a grandfather’s tale by Tony O’Neil

Tony, a member of the Bourton & District U3A lives in Moreton-in-Marsh. This is his first (and last) book which he self-published after attending a U3A seminar in London. A grandfather’s memories to share with his grandchildren his life’s journey from 1938 through to the 21st century. Written in a light-hearted vein, the 314 pages record Tony’s life but also describe what was going on in the world around him. His research has produced a fascinating history of the growth of Cardiff Docks which his ancestors helped build after escaping the Great Famine in Ireland in the mid 19th century as human ballast in empty coal boats returning to Cardiff. His grandfather, a docker, was blinded when cleaning out a chemical vat. Eight years after he died his widow received compensation of £18!

Tony describes his working class childhood in Cardiff during World War 2 and growing up in the post-war years. In a life which saw many changes his story encompasses religion, his wayward schooldays, his family roots in the Irish enclave of Newtow, his working life and his involvement as a trustee and prolific fundraiser with a national children’s charity.

“Tony has a perceptive eye for the telling details of character and place that illuminated and magnified the joie de vivre of both our early lives. From the unpromising chaos of his dysfunctional boyhood and boozzy, rough early manhood Tony emerged relatively unscathed into a life of successful satisfying normality. A great read.”

Paul Flynn, M.P., author and prefect at Tony’s school

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Paul Flynn, M.P., author and prefect at Tony’s school

The book has also impressed Cardiff Librarians who have ordered six copies for its branches. Available in paperback from www.lulu.com £13.38 inc. p&p or collected from Tony £10 (signed)

See Tony’s webpage for more detail – www.tonyofsplott.wix.com/alongwayfromsplott/

New Theatre Oxford

40 of our members went to Oxford on 15th July to attend the matinee production of “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time” based on Mark Haddon’s award-winning novel and performed by a National Theatre cast. The play started dramatically with a spotlight falling on a (stuffed!) dog lying in the middle of the stage killed by a garden fork. The main character was Christopher, a teenager with an extraordinary brain – exceptional at maths but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life.

It was an inventive, ingenious and moving depiction of an autistic boy’s journey when his life is upturned after he falls under suspicion for killing the dog. However, the production was very loud and was peppered with unnecessary bad language. The show, rather like Marmite, divided the group between those who loved it and those who hated it and stimulated interesting discussions on the coach home. Our thanks to Jenny Hill for organising the trip.

Malcolm Llewellyn-Jones

Coombe Mill

A group of 30 members visited this sawmill in the depths of the Oxford countryside during June and greatly enjoyed learning about its history and seeing demonstrations of some of its equipment.

There has been a mill on this site since at least Saxon times but the present sawmill belonging to the Blenheim Estate of the Duke of Marlborough dates from the mid-nineteenth century. It has been restored as a working industrial museum which offers visitors a good insight into what work was like in Victorian times. It is operated as a working hands-on museum by the Combe Mill Society which is run entirely by unpaid volunteers, many of whom are engineers and delight in talking about and demonstrating the exhibits. The mill machinery is driven via flat belts from pulleys on the line shafting powered by a water wheel and a beam engine, both of which survive having been re-stored to working order. The two sources of power allowed work to continue regardless of the state of the river.

In addition to the sawmill, a number of other interesting items are on view. For example, a collection of mostly working historic tower clocks. It was astonishing to learn that the Stonesfield clock was made in 1543. Also on display are many of the tools associated with various trades required in support of Blenheim Palace including those used by carpenters, blacksmiths, metal casters, wheelwrights, roof slaters, pattern makers & furniture makers. We all enjoyed the outing.

Ralph Williams

Sunday Lunch Club

Unfortunately it hasn’t been possible to arrange any get-togethers during recent months. However, Joan Manchip and George Sloggett have very kindly offered to step in when I am not available. So as from September the aim is to meet once a month usually on the 4th Sunday. Joan has arranged our next meal at The Wychwood Golf Club on Sunday 20th September at 12.30. Please contact Joan or myself if you would like to come along.

Beth/Betty Bryan

Notes from the Editor

Thanks to everyone who sent in articles and photographs. I particularly like the “Railway Children” and “Swing” pictures sent in by the Long Walks Group. Who will come up with some original shots for the December Newsletter? Keep your cameras handy and remember the deadline is 3rd December, the Newsletters should be with you all before Christmas.

If you are a new U3A Member I hope you find this Newsletter particularly useful. We will be organising a New Members Coffee Morning sometime in late October or November and if you have just joined you will receive an invitation nearer the time. I hope to meet you then.

Tony describes his working class childhood in Cardiff during World War 2 and growing up in the post-war years. In a life which saw many changes his story encompasses religion, his wayward schooldays, his family roots in the Irish enclave of Newtown, his working life and his involvement as a trustee and prolific fundraiser with a national children’s charity.

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See Tony’s webpage for more detail – www.tonyofsplott.wix.com/alongwayfromsplott/

Group Organiser Co-ordinators Report

The Group Organisers tea party went very well, it was good for us all to get together and share experiences. Please support your Group Organiser, it sometimes is encouraging to offer help, even if it’s only making tea and coffee. The Art Group will restart if there is enough interest. Some tuition will be available. Contact Jenny Stanfield if you are interested and haven’t already done so.

There are several new groups starting this September and the Discussion Group is restarting. Check out the Groups List and why not try out a new group this Autumn, we have a record number on offer.

Someone has suggested an Ipad group where people can get together for advice and help with their Ipad. Contact myself if you are interested.

Finally, if anyone has an idea for a new group, please contact me.

Jenny Stanfield
Reports from Interest Groups and Ideas for New Ones
For Group Organisers contact details see pages 9-11

Meditation Group
Our Meditation Group has now met for a few months and we are exploring the way ahead for us, mindful that there are many methods used by different people and we need to discover what suits all of us. At present we share short periods of silence and a time of discussion on theory and practice.
While we are distinct from the Wider Horizons Group a few of us are in both and expect to be mutually beneficial. Enquiries very welcome from ‘Old hands’ and newcomers to the art. “In Quietness and Confidence shall be you Strength”

Howard Crook

Arts and Crafts Appreciation Group
A new self help group is proposed with the aim of learning more about the Arts and Crafts Movement which is so synonymous with our local area. As a group we could plan:
- Visits to museums, houses and gardens
- Talks by outside speakers
- Presentations by group members
- DVDs from U3A resource centre

We will have a planning meeting in the Moreton Area Centre for those interested on 29 October 2015 from 1.30pm to 3pm.
Any suggestions for topics and visits welcome. For more information and links to houses and gardens designed in the Arts and Crafts style please visit the Arts and Crafts Appreciation Group page on the website.
We will be encouraging the U3A ethos of active participation by group members.

Sheila Thomas

‘Best of Taste’ Lunch Group
This group is for people who enjoy going out for lunch in a group and experiencing new places – be they cafes, restaurants, wine bars or pubs. The group has been running with a new format for three months, with all members participating in organising a lunch on a rota basis.
So far we have enjoyed lunches at Chester House in Bourton and The Langton at Charlton Kings. By the time you read this we will have also been to Wyck Hill House.
We are looking forward to:
- Oct 13th – The Mill, Kingham
- Nov 10th – The Spice Lounge, Burford
- December – No meal has been organised

For more information please contact Judy Smith.

Judy Smith

Poetry Circle (Proposed New Group)
The Poetry Appreciation Group is now full. However it seems we may have enough interest from members to form a second group. A preliminary meeting of the new group (Poetry Circle) will be held on: Thursday September 24th in the Oxford Room of the White Hart Royal at 10.30am.
For this group to proceed we will need a couple of people to volunteer as organisers/administrators. (Not at all an onerous job).
At this first meeting you can discuss dates, times, location (Stow?, Bourton?) etc and also the format of the meetings. I can give you some ideas and if any one would like to bring along a favourite poem to talk about that would be fine. If you think this group might be for you please register your interest.

Sheila Thomas

Art History Appreciation
We meet on the first Tuesday afternoon of the month at Fisher House. So far we have discussed painting, sculpture, glass, pottery, various “isms” and Ice Age Art, cave paintings amongst others. We have visited the National Gallery in London and Birmingham Museum.

Jo Young

Ambles with Interest
NO more ambles until March 2016!!!!
Life and bad weather means staying indoors until then. I would welcome suggestions, polite ones, of where to amble next year. 27 turned up for Oxford, so they take some organising.

Jo Young

Nature Group
All change! Andy Lewis has taken over the Nature Group now that Jenny Stanfield has returned to the main U3A committee.
We are changing our outdoor meetings to 10am on the SECOND TUESDAY of the month at the Bourton Community Centre. We also hope to have outdoor meetings and trips on the first Tuesday of many months, but that will depend on the seasons and the weather.

Indoor meetings:
- 13th Oct: Will Masefield – Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust’s Cotswold Rivers project
- 10th Nov: Mornee Button – Yorkshire Dales geology and natural history

Outdoor meetings:
- Mid-Oct – Batsford autumn colours
- 3rd Nov – trip to Nature in Art, Twigworth – Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition
- 1st Dec: lunch at Chester House Hotel

Andy Lewis

Discussion Group
This group's next meeting at Newlands, SOTW, Monday, 21st September, 10am - 12noon, when we will discuss possible subjects for research and discussion for the monthly sessions to follow. Come armed with some suggestions. A selection so far, that members have put forward, include the following:-
- What makes you laugh? BBC - the future...
- NHS - How would you spend the money? People watching. People labelling - Are we over-sensitive?

Public Transport - live off route, out of mind! GM Crops.
Young Binge Drinking or Retirement Drinking? Another, please. Subject topics, I mean !!!!

Trish Ashley

History (General)
We meet on the last Monday of the month at Newlands. So far we have discussed Eleanor of Aquitaine, Freya Stark, Tom Paine, Abolition of slavery in Britain, East India Company and much, much more. This year we covered the Battle of Waterloo and the Magna Carta and some of us went to the 800th. anniversary at the British Library.

Jo Young

Medium Walks
We walk every second Thursday morning starting at 9.30 usually at a pub where those that want to can then have a lunch or snack at the finish. Our walks are varied, interesting, not overly strenuous & about 5-6 miles with a break for drink (bring your own). We have just recruited another 7 members so we are gently growing. We have a really nice bunch of folks & we aim to keep it all light hearted & enjoyable (not a ‘route march’!) If you feel the short walks are not quite demanding enough but you simply haven’t time for the (excellent) longer morning & afternoon walks then join us!
Please contact me.
Happy walking!

Ernie Rumsey