
◀ CLEEVE CLARION ▶

Newsletter of the
BISHOPS CLEEVE U3A

Chairman: Mary Beasant,
Secretary: Wendy Stow,
Treasurer: Roxy Base,
Groups Organiser: Madge Eastman,

No.1 - OCTOBER 2007

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to this the first Newsletter of the Bishops Cleeve U3A!

More than 120 people attended the Inaugural Meeting on Wednesday 12 September and we now have 140+ signed-up members. I am encouraged by the number of people who have come forward as potential group leaders. A few groups will have already had their first meeting by the time this message goes to press. Please contact leaders for information regarding dates and venues.

More group leaders (facilitators) are needed - advice and support are available. If you would like to discuss the possibility of leading a group, please contact Groups Organiser Madge Eastman on

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the Steering Committee who have worked incredibly hard over the past weeks to get things up and running. Special thanks to Wendy Stow for proposing a Bishops Cleeve U3A in the first place.

Finally a big thank you to all enrolled members of the new Bishops Cleeve U3A for their enthusiasm and encouragement.

Mary Beasant

MONTHLY MEETINGS

At St. Michael's Hall, Bishops Cleeve, 2.30 - 4pm on 2nd Thursdays.

These meetings are open to all members and visitors interested in joining Bishops Cleeve U3A.

Admission 50p. Refreshments served 1.45 - 2.15pm.

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

"TRAVELLING THROUGH THE AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK"

An illustrated talk by BOB PRICE, seasoned worldwide traveller

THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER

"GUSTAV HOLST AND THE HOLST MUSEUM"

by KEITH JAMES, Trustee of the Holst Museum

THURSDAY 13 DECEMBER

"THE UPS AND DOWNS OF LIFE"

A light-hearted Christmas presentation by
CYNTHIA BARON, popular raconteur

GROUP INFORMATION

(All telephone numbers are local (01242) unless a different STD code is given)

BADMINTON

Will members interested in Badminton please ring EDDIE BORRELLI on

BOOK CIRCLE

Meeting on 1st WEDNESDAYS (with occasional exceptions) at 2pm in members' homes - please ring for details.

- ♦ NOV. 7: ATONEMENT - Ian McEwan
- ♦ DEC. 5: THE READER - Bernhard Schlink
- ♦ JAN. 9 (NB: 2nd Wednesday): BIRDSONG - Sebastian Faulks
- ♦ FEB. 6: HALF OF A YELLOW SUN - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- ♦ MARCH 5: FUGITIVE PIECES - Anne Michaels
- ♦ APRIL 2: TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES - Thomas Hardy

For further information contact MARY BEASANT on

BRIDGE

THURSDAYS 2-4pm. Please ring JEAN KING on for further information.

DISCUSSIONS

TERRY WHEELWRIGHT has offered to lead this group when a suitable venue is found. Anyone interested should contact him on

FAMILY HISTORY

Meetings will be held once a month on FRIDAY mornings at Woodmancote Old Village Hall (dates to be arranged). For further information contact WENDY STOW on

HANDICRAFTS

BRENDA WHEELWRIGHT has offered to lead this group - any members interested should contact her on

HISTORY (Learning from diaries, letters, journals etc.)

MAUREEN STEPHENSON has a group from Cheltenham U3A studying this subject. Members are invited to join them in Winchcombe. Please ring her on

LUNCHEONS

Meeting monthly in various hostelrys/venues, to share good food and conversation. Booking will normally be with the group leader, MARIE BRAIN, at the monthly meeting when meal orders and payment can be made. Maximum 20 members for each venue, first come first served.

- ♦ WED. 31 OCT. - TEDDINGTON HANDS, Evesham Road. Cost £8.50 + 50p.
 - ♦ WED. 28 NOV. - SHUTTERS INN, Gotherington. Cost £7.50 + 50p.
- Comment on venues and meals, and also

suggestions for future outings, would be welcome. For menu details and to book October lunch, contact MARIE BRAIN on between OCT. 19 & 24.

MUSIC APPRECIATION (Classical)

TONY KING will lead this group at his home in Winchcombe. Please ring him on if you wish to attend.

OLD DOCUMENTS (A study of wills, probate, etc.)

A course lasting approximately 6 weeks to be held at Leader's home. Can be repeated if interest demands. For further information please contact TED NUTBOURNE on

PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

No tutor at present but JOHN GOADSBY is willing to assist in setting up this group. If you are interested please ring John on

PLAY READING

Meeting on last TUESDAY of month from 2.30 to 4.30pm, commencing on NOV. 27. For further information contact VAL THOMAS on

POETRY FOR PLEASURE

Meetings will be held monthly, date and venue to be decided. For further information contact MARIE CARROLL on

SCRABBLE

MICHELLE BENEVIDES will lead this group and any members interested in playing should ring her on

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

Dates and venue to be decided. For further information contact MONA DAWSON on

SOLOS

This is a group for members who live alone and want to widen their social circle. We will meet once a month. Members bring along suggestions of things they are interested in doing but would like to share the experience with one or more of the group. Examples include: visiting gardens, theatre, cinema, concerts, pub lunches or simply meeting for coffee, days out using your bus pass, visits to National Exhibitions. Anything and everything individual members are interested in. For further information please contact DIANA JONES on

STROLLERS

SHEILA BROCKMAN will be arranging short walks of 2-3 miles. Please contact her on for details.

WALKING

Initially we will organise country walks of 5 to 6 miles, mainly on tracks and defined footpaths, starting and finishing at a pub or inn. It is hoped that members will enjoy walking and then socialising over their lunch. It is anticipated that in the future members will offer to lead the group on their favourite walks.

Co-ordinator - TONY BEAMAN

Proposed Walk Programme for October to December 2007

Start times will allow 15 minutes to pre-order lunch. Walk fee 50p.

♦ TUES. 30 OCT. Start 09:45, Halfway House Inn, Kington, near Guiting Power. 5 mile moderate walk with one short climb and a couple of stiles. Good views of the rolling Cotswolds. Please book with MICK & MARIE the previous week on

♦ WED. 14 NOV. Start 09:45, Yew Tree Inn, Conderton, near Beckford. 6 mile moderate walk around the rim of Bredon Hill; one short climb and a couple of stiles. Pleasing views in all directions if clear....Please book with TONY the previous week on

♦ THURS. 29 NOV. Start 09:45, Corner Cupboard Inn, Winchcombe. 5.5 mile moderate walk with a steady climb up Salters Lane. Good views of Evesham Vale. Please book with MICK & MARIE the previous week on

♦ TUES. 11 DEC. Start 09:45, Fostons Ash Inn, near Birdlip. 6 mile moderate walk via Cranham woods and common and Sheepscombe. Please book with TONY the previous week on

WORLD RELIGIONS

TONY KING will lead this group at his home in Winchcombe. Please ring him on if you are interested in joining.

MORE GROUP LEADERS REQUIRED

We have several members interested in the following subjects and would like to start groups for them. If you can help to launch any of these by leading or co-ordinating the group, would you please contact me.

Architecture : Art Appreciation
Computers : Dancing : Digital Photography
Gardening : Languages : Literature
Local History : Natural History
Painting for Pleasure : Travel
Trips and Outings
also Qualified Instructors for
Keep Fit : Tai Chi : Yoga : Meditation

MADGE EASTMAN
Groups Organiser

WHAT IS A GROUP LEADER?

Please don't be daunted by the idea of being a Group Leader! If you are keenly interested in a subject it can be a very rewarding experience, and your contribution will always be appreciated by other members wanting to learn more about it.

First of all, Group Leaders are not teachers or instructors - they are 'facilitators' who encourage members to share their knowledge and experience for the benefit of the group.

Secondly, Group Leaders are not expected to take sole responsibility (unless they prefer to). It is always a good idea to have a Deputy to work with, who can take over whenever necessary, and also to delegate tasks to group members.

Thirdly, Group Leaders may prefer to limit their commitment, e.g. run a group for a short period (say six months) before handing over the reins, or even offer a short course of 6-10 meetings if they have specialised knowledge they are willing to pass on.

In some cases the Group Leader acts only as a co-ordinator, with members taking turns at preparing the subject matter for their meetings.

Groups may decide to meet weekly, fortnightly or once a month.

So there are many different ways to organise a group and there must be one that suits your style!

If you would like to find out more, please contact our Groups Organiser, Madge Eastman, who is hoping to get several more groups started fairly soon. She will be delighted to hear from you!

HALL/ROOM BOOKINGS

Many new groups will start by holding meetings in private homes, but as numbers increase they will obviously have to look for more space. Some will want a small committee room, while others will need a larger hall.

In order to help Group Leaders with selecting suitable accommodation, our Hall Secretaries -

BRENDA LITCHFIELD and
SHEILA BROCKMAN

- will keep up-to-date lists of availability and costs, and will be able to advise on the most appropriate venue for the group.

Please contact Brenda or Sheila well in advance so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

All bookings must be made through the Hall Secretaries, who will be the main contact for the various accommodation agencies. They will also deal with invoices and payment etc.
