

Cambourne & District u3a

Bulletin December 2022

Issue No. 49



Chair report December 2022

Christmas! A time for communicating traditionally with family or friends you perhaps do not see very often. A time when you actively write on card and not on screen. Although with issues of cost and electronic alternatives I'm sure this is a dwindling endeavour.

I buy airmail pads and envelopes as I have a 90 year old sister in Australia who still writes letters. I get at least three for each one I send. Why is it so difficult to sit down and compose a letter when you hurl out emails by the dozen?

I went to see a display of Darwin's letters and sketches in the Cambridge library. The cost of sending a letter then was such that he sometimes wrote diagonally over a page he had already written on. I would need an evolutionary leap in my sight ability to even begin to decipher them. But there they are preserved in time: the physical representation of a great man's thoughts. Darwin himself wrote that a letter is something living. I possibly understand that as I have a photocopy of a short story written by my Dad about 70 years ago. I'm grateful for it, but how much more meaningful would it be to hold the brown, somewhat frail, hand-written original.

But we are of our time. So on behalf of the committee we would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas. (that's saved on postage!)

Very best wishes
Kath



Christmas Celebration
16th December at 10.30
At the Hub
Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Quiz

The mulled wine, mince pies, coffee/tea will be served from 10.30 onwards. There is no need to bring and share food unless you have a particular preference.

Tables will accommodate a maximum of six players to make up the teams for the quiz. There will be four rounds and a festive prize will be awarded to the winning team and a consolation prize for the losing team.

The rounds will be comprised of:

- 1. Christmas themes.**
- 2. The most famous pop group ever.**
- 3. Guess the tunes – audio music round.**
- 4. Local knowledge.**

So sharpen the pencils and the brains and have a go at this devilishly easy Christmas Quiz. We very much look forward to getting together at our festive celebration.

Walks Programme 2022

9 December

Leader: Ann Mead

Walk to The Stove in Bourn for mulled wine and mince pies.

Meet at the Hub at 10.00

Ann is proposing having short walks of no more than 2 miles around Cambourne on alternate Wednesdays. If you would like to be part of that group to enjoy a walk that is short and easy, please contact Ann via the walking page of the website.

More information on the walking programme in 2023 will be shown in the January Newsletter.



A gloriously sunny walk at Wimpole on 23 November led by Janet Rogers.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/cambourne>

Coming in 2023

Visits to beautiful gardens and sorties to local eateries for lunch have been researched and organised by Lesley Woodger. Please see her letters below:-

The Gardens Galore Group

Dear All,

Yes the gardens are preparing to welcome you back for 2023 so please find some dates below and suggested venues.

**Jan 31st Botanical Gardens, Cambridge
- The Snowdrop Trail**

Feb 21st Anglesey Abbey, Winter Garden

**Mar 21st Chippenham Park,
Daffodils and Spring flowers**

April 25th Audley End

N.B 2022/2023 2 for 1 Gardeners World tickets are still valid for Chippenham Park and hopefully Audley End will still appear in the 2023/2024 offers.

More information to follow in early January on times, cost and travel.

Wishing you all the best

Lesley



Audley End in spring

Out to Lunch Group

Please find below some ideas for lunch in the New Year-

Jan 19th No 77, Thai Restaurant and Bar, Caxton 1 p.m. Car shares will be available

Feb 16th Cote Brassiere, Bridge Street, Cambridge 1 p.m. (modern French dining)

Mar 16th Lalbagh Restaurant, Bourn (Indian and Bangladeshi dishes)

April 13th The Olive Grove, Regent Street, Cambridge (Greek dishes with a modern twist)

More details will follow in the New Year.

Wishing you all the best

Lesley

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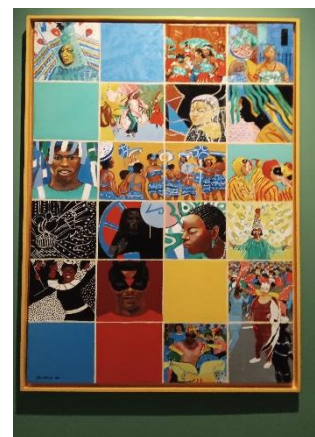
Forthcoming Talks	
20 January	Visible WW2 Defences in Cambridgeshire by Richard Davies, Papworth Everard resident and C&D u3a member.
17 February	National Trust volunteering at the Wimpole Estate by Anne French, volunteering coordinator at Wimpole.
17 March	Milling Through the Ages by Kate Armstrong and Graham Bruce, Bourn Mill volunteer guides.
21 April	The Immune System for Beginners by Ian Cameron, Cambourne resident whose talks on various subjects have been enjoyed by u3a members.
19 May	Britain's traditional feasts and seasons by Joanna Bogle, author and historian.
16 June	Weather in Space by Emma Kavanagh. Cambridge University space weather researcher
21 July	18 th Century civilian Re-enactment by Archie Black, C&D u3a member and 18 th century history aficionado.

20th Century Art Group Visit to Kettles Yard Exhibition

Members of the C20 art group visited Kettles Yard on December 1st to see an exhibition called 'Paint like the swallow sings calypso' which I will admit to not understanding until I got there! The exhibition was a collaboration between Kettles Yard and the Fitzwilliam Museum, who loaned paintings based on the themes of masquerade and festival to stand

alongside modern paintings, and showing the origins of the ideas.

We were extremely lucky to be guided round part of the exhibition by a curator from the Fitzwilliam and also one of the artists, whose works formed a major part of the exhibition, and which made it a very special experience indeed!



This exhibition is running until February 19th 2023, from 11-5pm, and is well worth a visit.

Fran Panrucker



The Descent from the Cross - modernist style

A big thank you to all those who have authored articles, taken photographs and have composed poetry. If anybody has any questions please contact a member of the committee through the website. Also please keep your contributions coming!
Christine Tyler

<https://u3asites.org.uk/cambourne>

A Christmas poem from Lucy Purvey will complete the Newsletter for December. See you all in 2023 – if not before./...



I believe in Christmas

**I saw a little Christmas tree
Its baubles blinked and winked at me
A fully laden sleigh stood by
In readiness to fly sky high
On Christmas Eve
If you believe**

**The rich aroma of mince pies
The childlike thrill of butterflies
Rossetti's frosty wind made moan
Macauley Culkin's Home Alone
On Christmas Eve
If you believe**

**Marley's ghost came to Scrooge
Made him think and made him choose
To become a better, kinder man
Let's all do that, if we can
On Christmas Eve
If we believe**

**Hark the Herald Angels sing
And I remember one more thing
Don't send me any lords a-leaping
I might just have a problem sleeping
On Christmas Eve
For I believe**

Lucy Purvey

Merry Christmas everyone!