



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

NEWSLETTER - June 2021

Welcome to the June Newsletter

It is with relief that we believe we can still hold our General Meeting on Wednesday 28th July. We were awaiting the updated government guidance about meeting inside and had our fingers crossed that we could go ahead. Unless any further announcements are made it looks like we will be able to meet at 2pm on Wednesday 28th July in the Memorial Hall. It will be great to see you all then.

AGM

The AGM papers will be sent to all members within the next week or so. Our last AGM took place on Zoom in September 2020 so it will be good to meet in person this year. After this we will be entertained by a performance from our Music Makers Group followed by tea and cakes.

Membership Renewal 2021

Barbara Wilson, our Membership Secretary, will be at the July Meeting and those attending will be able to collect their Membership cards. Please remember that Barbara will **not** be accepting cash. This year the FINAL date for renewal of membership is the 31st July.

Meet and Greet

I would like to thank the members who have indicated a willingness to be involved in meeting and greeting people as they arrive at General Meetings. It looks like we will be able to have a rota for this activity. Anyone else interested in volunteering please let me know by email at: jan-net.wright@gmail.com

Best wishes, Jannet Wright, Chair, Executive Committee

Village Planters



Collingham u3a has cared for and maintained the two village planters for some years now. This year, to mark the 1st National u3a day, the planters have been arranged to reflect the logo colours of blue, yellow and white. It is hoped this will draw people's attention to the benefits of joining us and enjoying some of the many groups on offer.



Groups

Circle Dancing

Leads: Sue Brauer, Telephone: 01636 894106
email: sebrauer@btinternet.com
Sue Fleet. Telephone 01636 893458
Email susanfleet04@gmail.com
2nd Friday in the month, 2-4

The Circle dancers enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon in the garden last Thursday; reliving past triumphs, welcoming a new member and just generally chatting again over tea and cake. The weather was lovely.

Unfortunately, with the extended restrictions, we will not be able to re-start dancing in the Phoenix Hall in July, but fingers crossed for August when we should meet on the 13th, 2-4pm.

Ukelele

Lead: Sue Fleet. Telephone 01636 893458
Email susanfleet04@gmail.com

Our small friendly group continue to play weekly in my garden whenever the weather is clement. Happily my neighbours haven't yet made any complaints, whilst one has even been complimentary about our playing.

Although we had planned to begin using the Mayfield Room from July, in keeping with Government guidance, we shall have to wait a little longer to do so.

Recently we have explored a few new chords to extend our repertoire of songs and have enjoyed a nostalgic 'mini Beatles fest' which included 'All My Loving' and 'Octopus Garden'. Currently we are learning a few new Country and Western style pieces which includes 'Rhinestone Cowboy'. If you would like to learn to play a few songs to sing along to, or even enjoy a sing a long without playing, we would love hear from you; we can always use an extra voice.

We meet Tuesdays 3-4.30pm
Sue

Literature

Lead: Sheelah Reynolds, Telephone: 01636 892348,
email: sheelahreynolds@btinternet.com

We have had another very enjoyable get together at the Royal Oak sharing our appreciation of Thomas Hardy's novel 'The Woodlanders'. The story is set in a village deep in the heart of the Wessex forests, where the villagers depend for their livelihood on the trees around them, their lives governed by the slow changes of the seasons. They are at one with the natural world, but this tranquility is disrupted by three relative outsiders - the self-indulgent lady of the manor, the ambitious young Dr. Fitzpiers and Grace Melbury, the timber-merchant's daughter.

This novel takes up the familiar Hardy theme of the destructive power of sexual attraction, desire and ambition, as opposed to abstract humanism.

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Coming out of the forests , and 'the goings' on in St. Ives last week, has brought us to John Betjeman;

## SEASIDE GOLF .....

How straight it flew, how long it flew,  
It clear'd the ruddy track  
And soaring, disappeared from view  
Beyond the bunker's back -  
A glorious, sailing, bounding drive  
That made me glad I was alive.

And down the fairway, far along  
It glowed a lonely white;  
I played an iron sure and strong,  
And clipp'd it out of sight,  
And spite of grassy banks between  
I knew I'd find it on the green.

And so I did. It lay content  
Two paces from the pin;  
A steady putt and then it went  
Oh , most surely in.  
The very turf rejoiced to see  
That quite unprecedented three.

Ah! Seaweed smells from sandy caves  
And thyme and mist in whiffs,  
In-coming tide, Atlantic waves  
Slapping the sunny cliffs,  
Lark song and sea sounds in the air  
And splendour, splendour everywhere.

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# Local History Research

Leads: Keith Morgan, Telephone: 01636 894168

email: morgan.keithp@gmail.com

David Barker Telephone 01636 893665

Email davidbarker67@btinternet.com

Meet third Wednesday in the month 2 p.m. Mayfield Room

We set our meeting to be outdoors at Collingham Cross which offered us seating. Keith was to take us through a brief history of the Crown, now 158 High Street. However the weather was searingly hot and luckily most members turned up with hats and water.

Keith explained that there were two key parliamentary acts from which all our current legislation has evolved. He covered the Beerhouse Act of 1830, and suggested that the Crown was typical of the archetypal Beerhouse explaining, that this was probably where our word “pub” comes from. Prior to this time all establishments had been inns, taverns or hotels but this created a fourth category, the public beerhouse which subsequently became public house and then “pub”.

John Forman had offered to talk to us about the maltsters down Low Street so Keith quickly completed the history of the Crown, and we went round the corner to Low Street ( having temporarily “ditched” the history of the Grey Horse, and the 1869 Wine and Beerhouse Act ).

Although cooler in the shade of Low Street, it was difficult to keep the group together because of social distancing, and the heat. Keith explained the basic principles of malting and we looked at the architecture of the buildings, now domestic premises, which is often a giveaway, particularly the high granary at one end of the building and the very low nature of the length of the building where the malting floors were constructed including very small windows at a low level to house the malt kilns below the floors and to regulate the temperature critical to the malting process.

John pointed out several significant houses, lived in or owned by Master Maltsters who were clearly men of great knowledge and means for example, Crescent House, the Willows, and Fleet House.

By this point, running out of time ( and hydration! ) we walked on to John’s house on Low Street to the garden and welcome refreshment where Keith picked up the 1869 Act. The meeting concluded with an informal question and answer session.

Keith Morgan and David Barker

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# Music Makers

Lead: Phil Leckenby

Meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 10.00 am

Venue: Youth and Community Centre (until September)

Telephone: 01522 778280/07483 296822

Email: [pjleckenby@gmail.com](mailto:pjleckenby@gmail.com)

There has been a real hiatus in musical activity, for reasons obvious to all. I can't remember when we last performed together as a group, but it was so long ago that when we do eventually resume rehearsals it will be like starting all over again. In the meantime there has been a flurry of home recording, from which we cobbled together a lockdown playlist, but our old enemy, the mutual incompatibility of recording hardware and software, prevented participation by all group members. So we do have something to show for the long period of isolation, albeit incomplete.

We have been asked to play for 20 minutes or so at the AGM on 28 July. Although rehearsal time is severely limited, the commitment does have the benefit of focussing everybody's attention. We won't be able to include many new pieces but hopefully a short programme might include the odd one.

We hope to resume rehearsals on 28<sup>th</sup> June, even though we will be limited to six players, under current Covid restrictions. In the future, however, rehearsal space itself becomes a concern. The Youth and Community Centre is in great demand and from September onwards our U3A schedule does conflict with other groups. We are presently looking into other options, one of which is North Scarle's Village Hall.

Hopefully there will not be a further delay beyond 19<sup>th</sup> July in transitioning to Stage 4 of the Government's 'Road Map' so we can look forward to seeing everybody at the AGM.



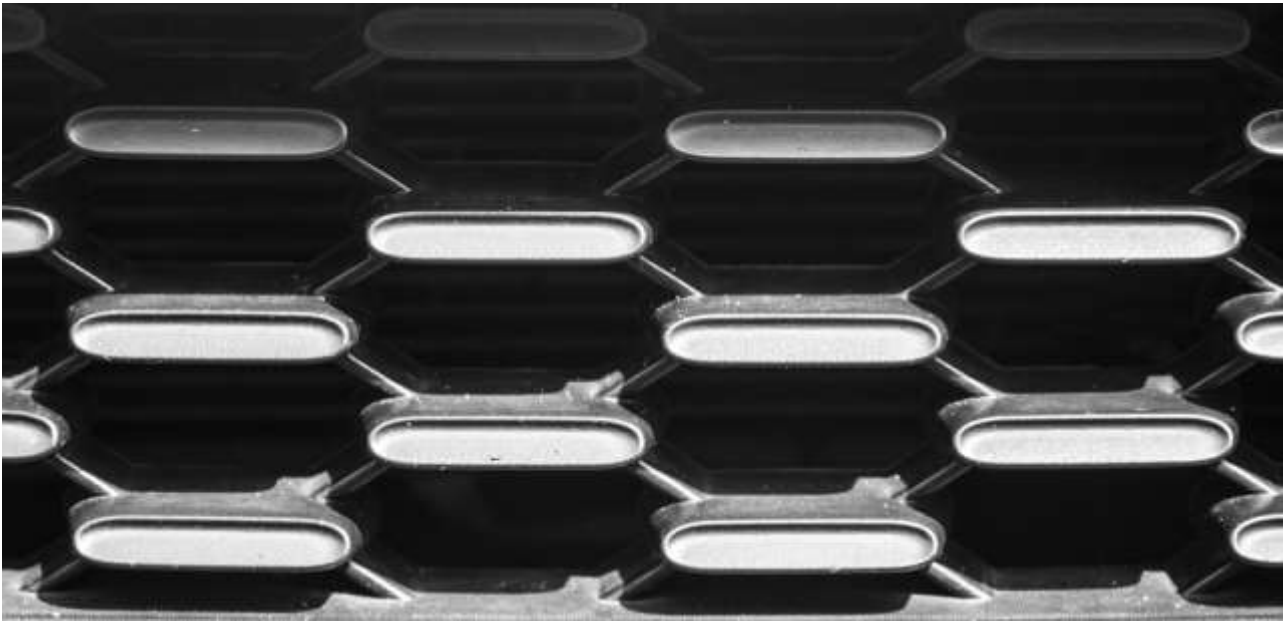
# Photography

Lead: Paul Bass, Telephone: 01636 892057  
email: bass.ps@gmail.com

The group met again virtually this month reviewing our "Texture and Patterns" themed images. We also had a presentation on "Tips for People Photography" followed by a discussion.

Our theme for next month is "Order".

Paul Bass



Car Grill by Gill Bass



Natural Pattern by  
Jannet Wright

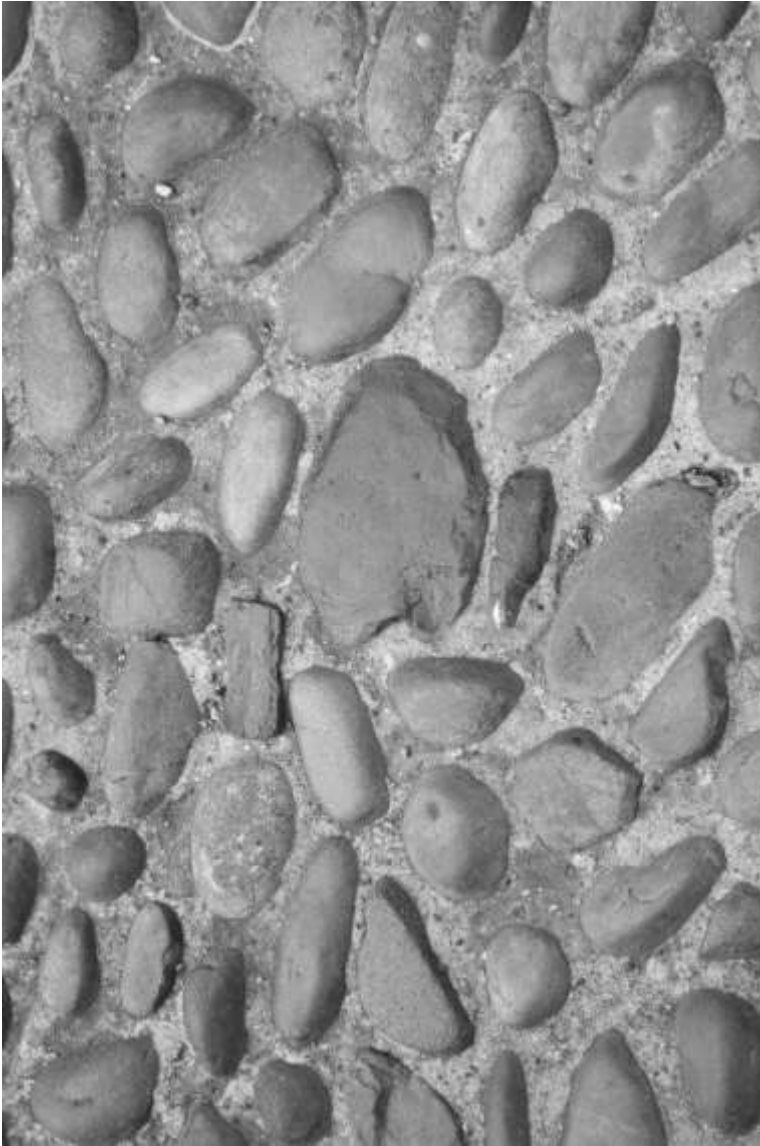


Cirrus Clouds by Paul Bass



Gargoyle by Phil Leckenby





Cobbles by Jenny Mcpherson



Furrowed Field by Les Murray



Red Hot Poker by Roger Davis



Water Droplets by Colin Smith

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# Play Reading

Lead: Sue Brauer, Telephone: 01636 894106  
email: sebrauer@btinternet.com  
Third Tuesday in the month 10-12

The Play Readers plan to meet up in the garden on Monday, weather permitting, with coffee, cake, chat, and ideas. We hope to still be able to meet in the YCC on Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, but may need to defer until August. I shall keep members posted.

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# Strollers

Lead: Margaret Lewis, Telephone: 07754771610  
Email margellen@googlemail.com  
2nd Tuesday in the month, meet Co-op car park

Seven of us had a very pleasant walk of just over two miles on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June.

We met at the Co-op car park at 1030 and walked along Low Street until we reached Pitomy Drive. We then took the footpath to the right of the houses. This brings you out onto a footpath bordering a field and we followed this until we reached a pond on the right, from here it was across a marked path through crops, over the Fleet and another path until we reached Northcroft Lane. Turning left here we continued until we joined Carlton Ferry Lane, turned left, over the Fleet again and rejoined Low Street. We finished with cake and coffee at the Royal Oak.

Next month's walk is a week earlier than normal and will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July.

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# Table Tennis

Lead: Peter Brauer, Telephone: 01636 894106  
email: p.brauer@btinternet.com  
Meet Winthorpe Community Centre 2nd and 4th Thursday in month

We had hoped to start table tennis again on Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, however, as the final Covid restrictions we not lifted earlier this month we have to postpone the start date to July 29<sup>th</sup> in the hope that all restrictions will be lifted by then. This means that the planned fixtures on July 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 have been cancelled.

The reason behind the cancellations is that "Table Tennis England" does not allow the play of doubles under the current Covid rules.

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# Thursday Talking Shop

Lead: Mary Hughes, 01636 892 415, [mea.hughes@gmail.com](mailto:mea.hughes@gmail.com)  
Anita Maunsell, 01636 892928, [marriott40@live.co.uk](mailto:marriott40@live.co.uk)

This conversation group is planning to re-launch on Thursday 23 September, at 2.30 at 25 Rio Drive. This will be an opportunity for members to catch up with each other and discuss future plans and topics.

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# Wine Appreciation

Lead: Graham Eaton, Telephone: 01636 893895  
email: eastlound@btinternet.com

On Thursday 27th May we held our first meeting 'in the flesh' since restrictions were eased although I hasten to add that we were all fully clothed even after a few glasses of wine. All nine members met in the garden at Sue and Peter Brauers house to enjoy the wonderful sunshine while sampling each others wine contributions - well most did because the cunning group leader forgot to bring his own bottle so had to drink other people's! There is an upside to being forgetful.

We started proceedings with a pink fizz from Australia called Bird in Hand which has proved very popular with members as it makes for a great aperitif to drink on a sunny afternoon. It is readily available from a national supermarket whose name incorporates a very English flower.

Our hosts provided us with a delicious buffet which included the house speciality - smoked mackerel pate.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 2nd July in Sonia and Derrick Brodell's garden.

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