

Learn Laugh Live



Newsletter no 89 February 2024

Hello Everybody

Most of you by now know that I, like many of you, am so grateful for things we have now that makes our lives easier.



I was watching something on TV recently that really highlighted this, it showed the old black lead range. I remember Grannie's range in her 1930's council house. A fire at one side and the (really quite small) oven at the other with a lever to regulate the temperature, so the only way she could cook was to have a fire, OK during the winter, but must have been awful during the summer, never mind the clearing the grate out in the morning.

We now have a plethora of cooking methods, I know that we have had microwaves and slow cookers for over 40 years. In the last couple of years the slow cooker has come back into fashion as the price of fuel has us all looking for cheaper ways of cooking.



I have a Goldilocks collection of slow cookers. Mummy Bear is about 40 years old and uses the equivalent of an old-fashioned light bulb. Baby Bear is much younger and smaller but uses even less electricity. Daddy Bear identifies as a transformer and can do lots of different things and "slow" cooks as lot quicker than the others but uses more electric but not as much as the oven. Not shown is the air fryer.

When I cook my Sunday roast today I will use Daddy Bear for cooking the chicken and making the gravy and the air fryer for the roast potatoes, roast carrots and Yorkies.

Every time I use these machines to cook I thank my lucky stars that I was born when I was and don't have to light a fire to cook my dinner.

Janice Hargreaves, Chairman.

daventryu3a@gmail.com

February 15th 2024 Helen Frost - The Women's Land Army First World War

Be enthralled by this new army doing their National Service that made such and incredible contribution to the war effort at home, but have, in the intervening decades been all but forgotten.

March 21st 2024 **Open Afternoon** **Showcasing our u3a** **It's**

Note the correct date - Bring your friends so that they may also enjoy the displays from many int
chat with Group Leaders and other members.

FREE

Enjoy some refreshments too!

January 2024 Meeting - Singing for Victory – The forces' sweethearts of WW2



Melody Flyte talked about the lives and experiences of WW2 sweethearts Gracie Fields, Joyce Grenfell and Vera Lynn, the story behind ENSA and many of the aspects of the stars working with entertaining the troops.

Melody entertained us with some of the best-known songs.



Make new friends - Join our tea rota once per year, meet everyone while you work as a team!



The Photographic Group were in the lounge this month, showcasing and talking about their beautiful photographs

An appeal from the Editor of Daventry & District u3a Newsletter

You are lovely people! – from a show of hands at January's meeting, I took a survey which resulted in you saying: Most of you viewed it on your computer, just some on the phone.

You don't print it out, often you haven't a printer, and ink is expensive too.

You find it interesting and enjoy reading the Group News and its' pictures too.

Overwhelmingly you would like to continue for it to be a monthly newsletter as opposed to quarterly.

Therein lies the problem, I shall not be on the committee after June, so we need members to step up and help.

It does need skill in using Microsoft Word and participation as a committee member.

I have always enjoyed creating each edition and shall be sad when it ends, but we all know nothing lasts forever.

Please think about it and contact me, Alison Torr, via the dedicated newsletter email address with any questions.

Thank you

Daventryu3anewsletter@gmail.com

Group News

u3asites.org.uk/daventry/groups



Group Leaders – **Your** group can also be featured here - pictures and some explanatory text. (No pdf's though). Send to the email address at end of this Newsletter.



RAMBLERS' GROUP January Walk

Crisp Winter Weather... Good Company... Good Walk ... Excellent Views ... AND a nice English Pub at the end. What a lovely way to spend a January morning?

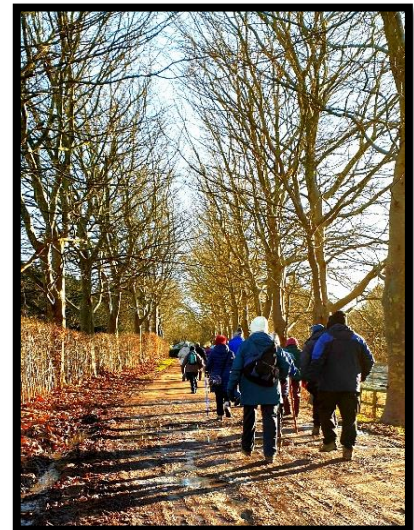
The sun was shining as fourteen of us met up at The Admiral Nelson Pub at Braunston to commence a 5 mile walk.

Due to the frost during the night the towpaths were much easier to walk on than when I originally did the recce. However, some paths across country to the abandoned village of Wolfhampcote proved a little slippery. We could even say we crossed the border from Northamptonshire to Warwickshire and back again.

Fourteen began the walk and fourteen ended it and stopped for fodder and fuel at the Admiral Nelson.

Mariet Tidmarsh
Walk Leader

Photos courtesy of Brenda Collinson and Jean Ridler



Gardens Vistas & Views

Twenty four members of the group met on the 12th January at The Boat House, Braunston for a very enjoyable Christmas Lunch.

Between courses we were entertained by Lyn Puleston reading some of his poems.

Here is one we thought suited the Garden Theme.

The gardener's life is full of care, there is no time to stand and stare.
 Come the Spring you must sow the seeds and then of course there comes the weeds.
 The weather can be quite a pain, too much drought or too much rain.
 The gardener's foes are snails and slugs, pigeons, rabbits, and other bugs.
 These creatures think it is OK to help themselves, but never pay.
 After April in comes May, you think that frost has gone away.
 Bright sunny days may bring delight, but often followed by frost at night.
 In summer you're gardening every day, it is not the time to go away.
 Holidays for some in France and Spain, not for me, I have my garden to maintain.
 January is the holiday time for me, I go to Bognor by the sea.
 Harvest time brings lots of stuff, for me and others more than enough.
 My family come for food that's free, then I find there's none left for me.
 Perhaps I'll find another life and see a bit more of my wife.

History Group

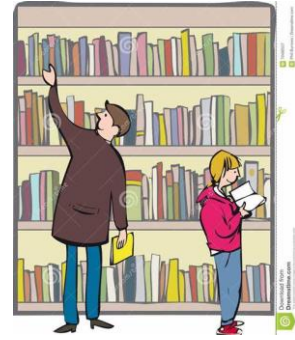
A Personal perspective on 1930s Arts and Crafts

Our year started off with a very personal story delivered by Lorraine Hardiman who spoke about her artistic parents and some of their experiences. Lorraine also highlighted an intriguing twist in her mother's story which linked to u3a in a most unexpected way which could never have been forecast. Sadly, Lorraine's mother did not live to hear it.





Daventry & District u3a Interest Groups



Group	Day	AM	PM	Group	Day	AM	PM
Alternative Book Group	THU	X		Photography for Pleasure	TUE		X
Any Craft Will Do	MON		X	Rambles 5 - 6 miles	MON	X	
Art Appreciation	TUE		X	Reading Shakespeare	FRI	X	
BakeXchange	FRI		X	Reading Shakespeare 2	MON		X
Book Group	TUE		X	Rummikub 1	TUE		EVE
Climate Change	THU		X	Rummikub 2	WED		EVE
Creative Writing	MON		X	Rummikub 3	TUE	X	
Family History Beginners 1 & 2	WED		X	Spanish Conversation	MON	X	
Folk Dancing	THU	X		Supper Club	WED		EVE
French Conversation 2	TUE	X		The Art of Painting	WED		X
French Conversation	WED		X	The Stories in my Life	THU		X
Garden Vistas + Views	FRI	X	X	Virtual Book Group	TUE		X
German	MON		X	Weekenders	SAT/ SUN	X	X
History	WED		X	Wine Appreciation	Bi- monthly		
Motoring	TUE	X					
Philosophy	TUE	X					

February 2024

Please note – no group is ever 'FULL', there will be a waiting list until either there is room, or another group is started.

Make a Note

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New email for contacting the editor of the monthly newsletter with all your news and photos

daventryu3a.newsletter@gmail.com