



Deeping St. James

The Deepings Third Age Group

Reg. Charity No: 1166782

NEWSLETTER

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Market Deeping

Issue No. 204

SEPTEMBER 2020

CRUISING DOWN THE NENE ON A LOVELY AFTERNOON



Chairman's Reflections

Firstly, a big thank you to all who voted in the SGM – at the time of writing, the resolutions have received the unanimous approval of the 158 votes cast to date, so we can now go ahead

and get the AGM set up. Mind you, when the Committee voted, it felt a bit like turkeys voting for Christmas!

The last few weeks have given rise to a number of “flashbacks”. When the weather started to close in, I had to get very busy, as I realised that there were a number of outdoor jobs that I have been putting off, thinking that there was plenty of time to do them, as the good weather looked likely to last. As I was frantically dodging the showers to get the jobs done, I could hear my Mother’s favourite admonishment ringing in my ears – “Procrastination is the thief of time” – I bet that many of you were told the same!

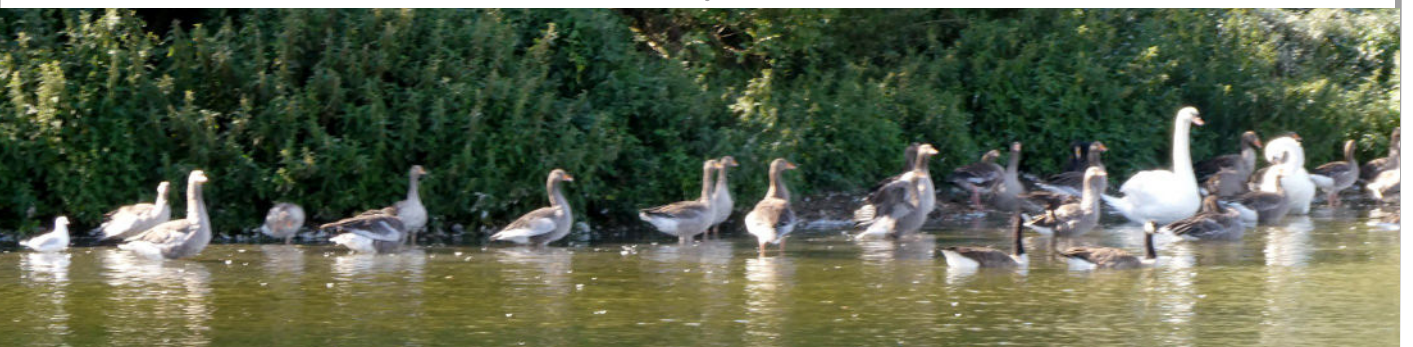
I finally gave up thinking that the council would ever get around to dealing with the deteriorating condition of the pavement outside my house. My drive was constantly being covered in grit from the broken up area of path adjacent to the drop kerb, which then got carried into the house, and the holes adjacent to the front garden were a trip hazard, and a breeding ground for rampant weed growth. So I purchased a bag of cold lay tarmac, and as I squatted uncomfortably on the pavement to fill the holes, plagued by frequent sharp showers, I heard my Mother again! She said once, during my rebellious teenage years, when school work seemed an inconvenient limitation to my social life, “If you don’t get down to your studies, you’ll end up working on the roads”! Right again Mum!

I’ll explain the background to the third flashback, then you can try and guess what it was. For several weeks I have been painting the inside of stables at the yard where my Daughter Annette keeps her two Exmoor Ponies. There are 14 stables, and 13 horses, so there is one spare stable. The painting has to be done when the occupant of the stable is not there, but with one spare stable that should be easy shouldn’t it? Annette’s ponies are no trouble, as they are hardy, and will stay out all day in all weathers, as long as there is grass to munch! However some of the thoroughbred whimps have to be warm and dry, and can’t stay out all day anyway, so their stables have to be done in the early morning, so that they are dry by lunchtime, when they just have to lay down! There are a few other problems. Some horses don’t like being in a stable next to some others, and then of course there is a Mare in season, who can’t be put anywhere near the Stallions without causing mayhem! So it is an interesting challenge to work out how to move horses around, using the spare stable, in order to get a stable to paint.

As the disgraced Rolf Harris would have said “can you see what it is yet?” The flashback was of course to the plastic puzzles that had a number of tiles in a frame, with one missing, which enabled you to slide them around in order to form the intended picture. The one I remember particularly was a cream and green drawing of the Shell Petrol logo, which was of course a shell! I guess that I remember that one, because it was given away free at the local filling station!

This isolation is having some strange effects on our minds isn’t it – heaven knows what we will be like when it is over! I am off to lay down in a darkened room! I hope that you stay safe and well.

Best wishes, *Garth*. Chairman



Schoolreaders Appeal.

The Schoolreaders Charity approached us through our website. Their Operations Coordinator, Laura Abbas (L.abbas@schoolreaders.org) wrote:-

"I would like to introduce you to Schoolreaders, which is a charity that recruits volunteers to listen to children read in primary schools. We provide this service for free to schools and the demand is high. Schoolreaders needs more volunteers across Lincolnshire to support children's reading and prevent them falling further behind. The scheme has proved very successful, not least because all parties benefit, including our volunteers, who derive great pleasure from seeing what a difference a few hours of their time can make to a child's reading ability and enjoyment.

I completely understand that a lot of your members will fall into the vulnerable category, many of our existing volunteers also do. We are working on matching people to schools for the autumn term should they wish to be, otherwise we will be looking at January 2021 starts."

If you are interested, the contact details are on their poster. (See page 8).

NEWS

U3A ART APPRECIATION GROUP

The Bad Boy of Art

Being in Lockdown and semi Lockdown for a few months begins to get a bit boring so finding an article for the Art Appreciation has become the highlight of the month! (Sad isn't it!).

The month of September didn't bring too many names, not like good old July when there were several artists of note. However September did throw up one recognizable name. Can you guess who it is by the following clues?

Born on September 29th 1571
Christened Michelangelo Merici
Considered the father of modern painting
Italian
Orphaned aged 11 after family died of bubonic plague
Apprenticed to a painter in Milan
Moved to Rome
Used shadow to emphasize lighter areas of his work
Hot tempered
Killed a man in a brawl so fled from Rome
Went to Naples
Had another serious fight in 1609 which left him badly injured
Died in 1610 from a fever
Named after his place of birth Caravaggio

He was pardoned for the murder before he died



Just in case you still don't know the answer!
Caravaggio is our man. A naughty one at that!

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader

Once again Sandra, on behalf of all members of the Deepings U3A, very many thanks for your contributions to the Newsletter. They are always so enjoyable and interesting to read. Ann.

U3A HISTORY GROUP

Knowledge Web

One morning, after walking the dog, I heard a very interesting programme on Radio 4 which connected events in history. The web for this report is **From Dutch Linen to The Brooklyn Bridge**.

I have taken this information from the radio programme and found it quite good fun to recall and investigate.

Starts off with **Anton Van Leeuwenhoek** who worked for a linen merchant in the Netherlands and used to count the threads in cloth. He not only counted threads but went on to examine everything he could using lenses.



He discovered bacteria. He made lots of optical lenses and 25 microscopes. His work was recognized in England by The Royal Society and **Christiaan Huygens**, who discovered Saturn's rings and its Titan Moon, was one of his admirers. Christiaan Huygens wrote a book on Probability which was translated by **John Arbuthnot**, who invented John Bull.

Arbuthnot was quite fun and befriended and encouraged a Lady called **Mary Montague** who was a self-taught Latin scholar and who had much to do with smallpox inoculation before Jenner.



She in turn, wrote letters from Turkey, which were translated by an art teacher called **Fuseli** who was an associate of The Royal Academy and a friend of Sir Joshua Reynolds. Fuseli was a friend of a man named **Lavater** who wrote a book about physiognomy (Reading faces)

He dedicated this book to **Moses Mendelssohn**, the grandfather of **Felix Mendelssohn** who was the famous composer. Felix was tutored at Hamburg University by who was a brilliant teacher named **Hegel**.

Hegel had a very talented engineering student in one of his classes who wanted to broaden his horizons. He was into the twisted rope type of engineering that led to bridge building.



This man's name was **John Roebling**. He designed and built The Brooklyn Bridge.

Job Done!!

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader

Committee Members 2019/2020

Garth Perry	Chairman
Ann Parkes	Secretary
Anne Burton	Treasurer
Liz Noble	Membership Secretary
Susanne Hoadley	Groups Coordinator
Phil Jones	Deputy Groups Co-ordinator
Kath Allen	Vote of Thanks Organiser
Lyll Seale	Speaker Finder (Co-opted)
David Blessett	
Ann Holmes	Newsletter Editor (Co-opted)
David Scott	Newsletter Distribution/ Webmaster.

Please keep your sending your contributions for the Newsletter. Anything (within reason!) accepted—photographs, jokes, interesting snippets.

Of necessity the last two issues have had to contain a large amount of 'official information', but, without your help it will be difficult to continue producing worthwhile issues, I am fast running out of inspiration so please HELP.. Grateful thanks to those who do send items on a regular basis.

On your behalf—thanks also to David Scott for his hard work on our Website. A

CLOSING DAY FOR OCTOBER EDITION, FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER.
Please send to deepiugsu3a@gmail.com

U3A THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP



With uncertain weather and a change of date it was a real treat for some members of the group to be able to have a socially distanced visit to the lovely garden of Roy and Ann Pettitt in Peakirk this month. There were two separate sessions to ensure the visit stayed within the Covid guidelines! With fabulous fruit trees and stunning begonias it's always a pleasure to see plenty of colour and members were so pleased to be able to catch up with news in person. Many thanks to Roy and Ann for organising this.

Again, sadly, our next month's proposed visit to Country Herbs and Plants is postponed until life is more normal. Photo: DAVID SCOTT

LINDA HILL
Group Leader

U3A JAZZ, SWING AND BIG BAND GROUP

Our August programme of *'Fascinating Rhythm'* was once more put together by Phil Jones and we can always expect something different from Phil. This month was no exception, beginning our virtual get together with a Salute to the Count. 'The Basic Band is Back in Town'. It celebrated Dave Brubeck's 80th birthday and was recorded live with the London Symphony Orchestra, in which his three sons all played. Dave followed on with his arrangement of 'Blue Rondo A La Turk' which is a regular in our programmes lately.



A very different piece was 'Brandenburg Gate, Revisited,' something most of us heard for the first time. This was arranged by another Brubeck, (they got everywhere) namely; Howard. Russell Gloyd did an arrangement of 'Take Five' and the Dutch Swing College Band played 'Creole Jazz'. They were a traditional Dixieland band founded on May 5th, 1945 by bandleader and musician, Peter Schilperoord.

Stan Kenton gave out with 'Sue is Swinging' and Anita O'Day with Norman Simmons followed with 'As Time Goes By'. 'Indian Summer' (will we get one?) came from Chris Connor and 'Numero Uno Jazz' with a famous version of 'Mack The Knife' with all the right words but not necessarily in the right order! She sang it with The Paul Smith Quartet.

Then, the cause of some discussion in our last programme, we heard 'Perfidia' from the Reno Youth Jazz Orchestra, possibly the Spanish version, followed by - guess what - 'And The Angels Sing' played by Benny Goodman with Martha Tilton doing the vocal!

Nelson Riddle (said to be Frank Sinatra's favourite arranger) played the 'Theme From Route 66' and then we came home to Ted Heath and Dynamic Swing's version of 'Can't Buy Me Love' and 'Fascinating Rhythm'. Two from Julie London closed the programme. From 'The Very Best of' - she sang 'Slightly Out Of Tune' (no way!) and 'Let There Be Love'.

A morning of music that gave us all something to enjoy and discuss. Thanks once again Phil for putting the programme together and then delivering a copy to the group members. We require someone in the group to put together a programme for September if that's possible. Please call me or Peter Baylis. Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders - PETER BAYLIS / ANNE JONES

U3A "WANDERERS" WALKING GROUP



The Wanderers had tried on two separate occasions to do the Elton to Warmington circuit and each time it had been cancelled because of adverse weather conditions, so it was fitting that we chose it for our first outing since you know what.

Fifteen socially distanced and bubbled Wanderers set off from The Black Horse in Elton and, having dived with death crossing the A605, made our way through fields and woods to Warmington and from thence to Elton Park and back to the Black Horse for an excellent lunch. The weather was kind to us and the going was dry and easy. It was good to meet up again, despite being spread out over the route.

Steve Fisk is leading a local walk in October so long as regulations allow.

BARRY AND HILARY AKAM
Group Leaders.

U3A "STROLLER'S" WALKING GROUP



We were blessed with a lovely summer's morning on the day of our August stroll. Meeting at Morrison's car park, we had our pre-walk Covid chat and split into two sub-groups, before Searle led 11 Strollers along Uffington Road, before leading us down a track towards the River Welland.

After crossing the river we turned onto an embankment, which carried a former railway line from Stamford East to Wansford. Watching our steps very carefully, as there were numerous entrances to rabbit burrows to negotiate, the summer sun rose in the sky, but we were shielded by an overhead canopy of trees. Eventually, we reached Uffington and we crossed over the river again and made tracks on the return journey on the north side of it. The route was very interesting with different trees, bushes and flowers to note. Stopping briefly for a photo call, we strolled back to Uffington Road and back to the start.

Our stroll this month was either going to be a return visit to Northamptonshire, or a local affair in Deeping on 28 September. However, due to the latest restrictions on groups meeting, following a concerning rise in Covid cases, this stroll will be postponed.

I would like to thank all Strollers who have taken part in the two walks since we returned to action, but in the meantime, I hope that you all can get some strolling done until we are allowed to meet up again, which hopefully will be before Christmas.

BOB DELLER
Group Leader

U3A CYCLING GROUP

It was a real pleasure it was to resume the Cycling Group rides after such a long period of forced lockdown. Jim, the group leader, had completed a risk assessment that permitted us to take up riding again. At first it seemed strange cycling with face masks on but we soon adapted to it.

Setting off from Market Deeping Bridge towards Tallington and then up to Barholm. Just before reaching Uffington a right turn took us towards Essendine but then another right turn headed to Greatford. From here we went to Langtoft where we stopped at a playing field for a picnic lunch – socially distanced of course. The weather was kind, being not too warm which made cycling most pleasant. The round trip totalled 16 miles.

Thank you Jim for organising this trip and for completing the risk assessment. Report: TERRY NOBLE

Group Leader: JIM TORRANCE

U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

Another 'Virtual' meeting for our September Listening to Music group and once again many thanks to Terry Noble for putting together a programme and circulating it to all of the group. Many thanks too for the great artwork from Liz on the printed programme.,

This is another group of duos and we began with Double Bass and Piano playing Schubert's 'Arpeggione Sonata 1st. Movement, with Bozo Paradzik (double base) and Mira Wollman (piano) after which we had a complete change of tempo with Yehudi Menuhin and Stefan Grappelli, on violins of course, playing with John Etheridge and Jan Blok on guitars, Pierre Michelot, bass and Ronnie Verrell, Drums. A great pairing.

Time for another change and we heard a very skilful and funny version of 'Two Cats' by Rossini with two boy soloists from the PCCB, (Les Petits Chanyeurs a la Crux de Bois) the French Boys Choir. For those who don't know this piece, it consists of just one word - repeated - 'Meow'. It was often sung as concert encore. Continuing, we had Ella Fitzgerald with Louis Armstrong singing 'Don't Be That Way' and then 'Stomping at The Savoy. Quite a line-up of musicians accompanied them with Oscar Peterson, piano, Herb Ellis, guitar, Ray Brow, bass and Louis Belson, drums. This was followed by another change of mood with Mozart's Duo for Violin and Viola (K 423), (1st Movement) soloists Augustin Dumay (violin) ad Gerard Causse' (viola).

Next came a Piano Duet and we heard Poulenc's Piano Sonata for four hands, the Prelude, Rustique and Final, played by the popular Labeque Sisters. Another violin duet followed this time Telemann and his 'Gulliver Suite' which told the story of Jonathon Swift's 'Gullivers Travels' with music, Andrew Manze and Caroline Balding playing baroque violins. Violin and Cello played by Elisabeth Batiashvili, Violin and Alban Gerhardt, Cello with the BBC Philharmonic conducted by Yan Pascal Tortelier.

A musical instrument not heard very much is the Mandolin and Vivaldi composed his Concerto for Two Mandolins ,Allegro, Largo and Allegro. Elena Zabavskaya and Ekaterina Mochalova played with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra. Handel closed our 'Virtual' meeting today with Two Sopranos. 'No, di voi non vo' fidarmi and Quai fior che all' alba ride. The sopranos were Emma Kirby and Judith Nelson with Susan Sheppard Cello continuo, Christopher Hogwood harpsichord.

It was certainly a varied selection Terry gave us this month and we always have something to expand our musical knowledge, so many thanks to him. We may not be meeting for awhile but the members of our group who put these programmes together each month are really appreciated as it's all too easy to lose touch.

Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE



U3A MONDAY WALKING GROUP



Our first U3A walk since lockdown. Fourteen of the group met at Ailsworth and were organised into social distancing "bubbles".

The walk took us along tracks and footpaths towards Sutton. Here we posed for a photo outside a small (not!) Sutton Lodge - a recent build.

We walked through Sutton and then on towards Wansford Station where, unfortunately, the facilities were closed. The path then went along the side of the Nene Valley Railway and river Nene to Water Newton. Afterwards we headed towards Ailsworth. Upon crossing the railway there we had two options—to return to the cars but, being intrepid walkers, we added on another half mile to the walk.

It was ideal weather for walking and it was nice to see people from the Group after five months plus. The walk was 5.3 miles

STEVE HANSON

Group Leader

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS

THE FACE MASK BLUES

I wish I'd looked after me face masks.
Their purchase cost quite a bit.
I tried to keep them isolated
putting them with me hand-washing kit.
Alas they've been in me handbag,
in me pocket, car glove compartment.
Wherever I thought they'd be needed,
ready to use in whatever department.
Now they're bent out of shape
and the bit at the top's gone all twisty.
They're covered in fluff
and if that's not enough
Well, me glasses keep going all misty!
So it's not really bin that successful,
despite trying to protect me proboscis,
and though others may think I'm respectful -
I've had to inhale me own halitosis!.

ANNE JONES

Be sure to send this to your relatives also
so they will know what happened to you.



To help save the economy, the Government will announce next month that the Immigration Department will start deporting seniors (instead of illegals) in order to lower Social Security and Medicare costs. Older people are easier to catch and will not remember how to get back home. I started to cry when I thought of you. Then it dawned on me...oh, crap...I'll see you on the bus.

This item was texted to me by a neighbour. I hesitated to share it with you as I would not wish to offend any member, but it made me laugh in a "down" moment, (her intention), so have included it hoping it will make you laugh. ANN

A beautiful rainbow photographed by Anne Burton—should there be a pot of gold at its end I personally would swap it for a wish for 'better times' for us all. A



Top left: Steve Hanson
2nd row: Thursday Gardening Group. Swans on Welland, Lin Witherington. Second pic from Steve H.
3rd row: left Burghley Park from Anne Burton; right-Walking Group pic from file dated April 2015.
Bottom: Swans pic dated Jan 2020 photographer ?
The now disbanded 'Over Garden Wall' Group visit to Coton Manor. Supplied by Ann Rowlett.

