



Deeping St. James

Issue No.214

The Deepings u3a

Reg. Charity No: 1166782

NEWSLETTER

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Market Deeping

JULY 2021



Melbourn, July 2013

This is the second summer we have been unable to go on those trips we all so enjoyed so much. Here here are a few 'reminders' of happier times. Saw Eddie Adams on Monday and he assured me he has an outing planned for next year! Hurrah—fingers crossed! A.



Chairman's Reflections.

At last there were signs in June that some degree of normality was returning to life. A group of us went back to Derbyshire for a day walk, for the first time since last summer. We took more cars than usual, in order to minimise car sharing, and were careful about distancing, but the feeling of increased freedom was great. We were very lucky with

the weather – it wasn't exactly summery, but on a day when Deeping experienced torrential rain all day, we only got a few spots as we finished the walk. Evidence of what this area had suffered, was the barely navigable foot-and-a-half of water under a railway bridge on the Colsterworth to Bourne road!

The big event of the month occurred on the 28th, when I saw my Great Granddaughter for the first time. Maisie was born in early December 2020, but her parents moved to Cannock three weeks later, before I could get to see her. It was a real joy to meet her at last, and we got on very well – she is a very smiley and inquisitive little girl.

While sorting out the arrangements for their visit, I suddenly remembered Jeremy. Jemery, as Sue used to call him, is a large toy panda, standing about 3ft 6ins high, that was given to Sue by her parents when she was two years old. He had been much loved and played with, and used as a chair, by Sue, and by both my daughter, and my granddaughter, and I thought that Sue would have approved that he was passed on to another generation of the family.

Thankfully, when Jemery was safely down and unwrapped, he had suffered no moth damage, and looked pretty good after his long confinement, and for his age of 62!

The first problem was that because he had been wrapped up for such a long time, with his head on his chest, and his feet around his ears, his stuffing had settled in that position, and, like me, his chest had sunk and his waist had expanded. In an effort to rectify this, I laid him on his back on the front room floor, and tried to move the stuffing in his body back into its original position. If any of my neighbours had looked through the window at that point, they would have said "Why is that senile old fool giving a toy panda CPR?!"

Eventually I succeeded in restoring sufficient redistribution to enable Jemery to once more be self-supporting, and sit up straight without flopping forward (I wish I could do that, instead of nodding off when I attempt to watch the whole of the 10 o'clock news!). He had never been cleaned, so I decided a spruce-up was in order. Away from the prying eyes of the neighbours, I laid Jemery in the bath, and carefully cleaned him with the upholstery head of my carpet cleaner. After a session with a hair dryer, he was dry and softly fluffy, and looked like new. Maisie wasn't phased by his size, and took to him immediately, hugging him (well at least the bits of him that fitted in her arms!). I am sure Sue would have been happy to see her Jemery being loved again.



Garth, Chairman



Deene Park, June 2010



Coton Manor, (Northants,) July 2011



Sandringham August 2013



Cotswolds August 2014



THESE MONTHLY ARTICLES ARE INTENDED TO KEEP MEMBERS INFORMED ABOUT THE CURRENT STATE, AND FUTURE PLANS, OF OUR U3A. WE ARE OPEN TO, AND WOULD APPRECIATE, ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE. THESE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO :-

chair@deepingsu3a.com

Where do we go from here?

The Government seem to be determined to remove all legal restrictions on our freedom on 19th July, despite the current rise in cases of infection. People will be urged to continue to exercise care, and whatever precautions they feel the need for. We are sure that our Members will exercise common sense, and we will do our best to ensure that none of our activities will intentionally increase their risk.

However, for the sake of the health of your U3A, we do need to get as much moving as our Members are comfortable with. Several Groups are starting up again, and we would urge you to support those Group Leaders who are trying to find a way forward. As we have been expecting, the biggest problem that we have is the availability and cost of meeting venues.

There is still no prospect of returning to a Monthly Meeting of up to 140 people, and we have made bookings to continue offering a monthly online talk. The take up of the talk last month was very low, which was very discouraging to us, and in particular to Lyall, who works very hard to find them and get them set up.

In an attempt to replace the social contact of the Monthly Meeting, we have started offering a coffee morning over the summer. The Waterton Arms have generously offered us the use of their marquee and garden on agreed dates, and will make tea and coffee available at a reasonable cost. In order to control numbers, these events are by invitation, and initially will be offered (alphabetically from the attendance register) to Members who used to attend the Monthly Meetings.

We have had no comments or suggestions following previous articles on the way forward – please feel free to give us some feedback.

The Committee.



THE CLOCK IS STILL TICKING

13 WEEKS TO AGM.

We must continue to remind you that we will be holding our AGM in October, primarily to appoint a Committee to take us forward. We **must** have volunteers for Chair and Secretary, and have a vacancy for Group

Organiser(s). Our Treasurer can serve for one more year, but it would be good to have a new Committee Member to shadow her work, with a view to taking over in October 2022.

If everybody sits back, takes advantage of what is provided, and assumes that someone else will do the work, then Deepings U3A will cease to exist.

Our Monthly Talk

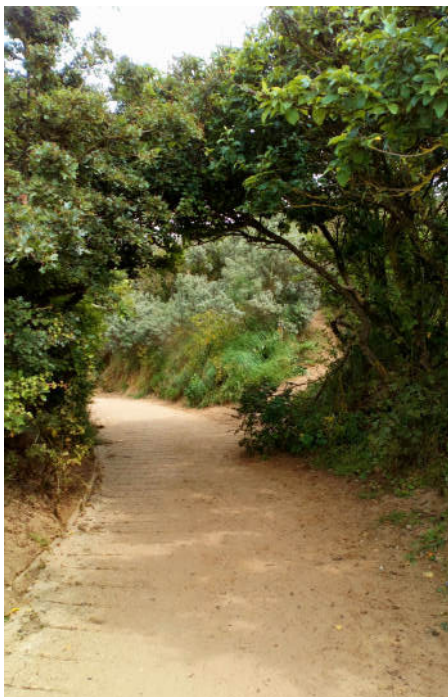
This month's talk, starting at 10.30am on Monday 19th July, will be “**Brilliant British Humour in the Forgotten Art of the Picture Postcard: 1840-1950**” given by Dr James Taylor. James is an expert on maritime art and a former curator of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. He is a collector of humorous postcards. These postcards were the most popular art form from the Edwardian era up to World War II. They entertained, inspired, instructed, motivated, persuaded and lifted-up the spirits – something that we could all do with at the moment.

Instructions on how to join this meeting will appear in the Members' Newsletter

A reminder - For those who have been enjoying the Mirthy talks, you can still get their talks free every Thursday at 4pm. To do this you will need to go on to the Mirthy website using the link <https://www.mirthy.co.uk> and click on **Log In** (if you already have an account) or if you haven't yet set up an account, click on **Register** and insert your name, email address, and a password, then click on **Create Account**. On the website top menu bar click on **Free Events** and register for one or more of the talks. You will receive an email confirming any booking, and a reminder and link the day before the event. There are also talks on other weekday mornings for which they charge.

‘OH, I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEA SIDE!’

David hasn't sent in any photographs this month. Perhaps he's somewhere nice on holiday! Luckily Lin Witherington has been to Old Hunstanton for a short stay, took these views of the sea and has kindly shared them. Its three year now since I managed a trip to the coast and I am sure I am not alone, so thanks Lin for reminding us what it looks like!! A.



NEWS

U3A JAZZ, SWING AND BIG BAND GROUP

23 June 2021 Concert by Peter Baylis

How long it is before we can meet and enjoy our music in the comfort of our homes is still anyone's guess. Right now we can only continue to look forward to when we can meet in person to enjoy the music we love at some date in the future. It will come – we just don't know when.



Our last concert, compiled by Peter Baylis was almost predictable and that's a compliment. We were treated to a varied section of performers and music to suit many tastes in the world of Jazz, Swing and Big Band. As I write I'm hearing once again cool vibes of The Modern Jazz Quartet with the superb voices of Dinah Washington and Nancy Wilson in prospect.

Sorry Peter, I'll forgive you for *Night Bird* by Shakatak, which, in all fairness, is a favourite inside the group, but a hearty thanks for the *Main Title* from "*The Carpetbaggers*" a real punchy business-like piece from the great band of Jimmy Smith. I am convinced it was used as the theme tune for The Money Programme on the TV.

The guitar of Wes Montgomery and the Wynton Kelly Trio provided a great contrast with a great Brazilian beat playing *Once I loved* from the album *Trip to Brazil*. *Intermission Riff* is another towering classic Big Band piece provided by Stan Kenton. As with much of the music we heard, there's a great solo included, this time from a saxophone.

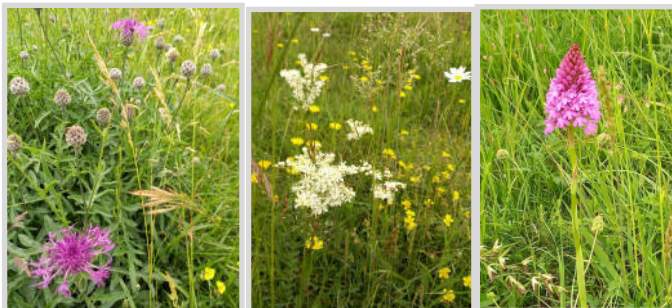
The name Frank Comstock might not be familiar to some. That said members of the group are pretty knowledgeable! *Am I Blue*, by Frank and his orchestra has the casual swing that only a big band can do. Great stuff. Frank Sinatra conjured up the *Moonlight in Vermont* in the way he could with such mastery.

To sum up the collection of music we heard (and I could write much more) I would start with, sophisticated. What other category could apply to Nat King Cole and George Shearing with *Let There Be Love*. Ending with *The Girl From Ipanema* (Stan Getz with Astrud Gilberto) was a cool move. Classics had made their welcome appearances and from all the music it's clear we were treated to some of the best there is. Thanks again Peter.

We look forward to our next concert, scheduled for 28 July will be *Barbara's Choice*,
Report: PHIL JONES

Group Leaders: PHIL JONES / ANNE JONES

U3A NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



June's visit for the Natural History Group was to Hills and Holes Nature Reserve, Barnack. The site of a mediaeval quarry, it's one of Britain's most important wildlife sites with orchid rich grassland.

The weather was good and it was a joy to see such a wide variety of wild flowers, particularly the fragrant, pyramidal and man orchids as well as rock roses, drop wort, ox-eye daisies and many others. It's a lovely place to spend a morning and well worth a visit at the moment to see the orchids.
Report: JO ASTLE

Group Leaders: JO ASTLE / MARGARET BEARDSHAW

U3A CYCLING GROUP



Friday 25th June saw our second outing, delayed by one week due to rain last week. Six of us set off from the bridge in Market Deeping for a 15 mile ride. The weather was a bit overcast but quite nice for cycling.

We meandered down Sutton Lane across to Deeping Gate then on to Peakirk where we took the path along the river to Decoy Road. From here we followed Thorney Road then along Drain Road via Bainton Road to Werrington Bridge Road.

We left Werrington Bridge Road onto Meadow Road which took us back to Peakirk and from there we rode through Peakirk to Foxcovert Road and over the railway bridge to Werrington. We rode parallel to the railway line and crossed it at the newly opened bridge over the reconfigured railway junction for the northbound tunnel traffic from the East Coast Main Line (looks very close to completion). From here it was a fairly straightforward ride through Glinton to the Packhosre at Northborough for a well earned lunch.

Thanks to Terry for planning the route which we all enjoyed and looking forward to our next outing on the 16th July.

JIM TORRANCE
Group Leader

U3A "PACERS" WALKING GROUP

Eight Pacers walking this month so we are building up after the long lockdown. Stuart and Barbara Wilson organised and led the walk and many thanks to them.



We started at the Ruddy Duck in Peakirk. We were very lucky with the weather

– warm but not too hot and only a couple of spots of rain. In the afternoon there was heavy rain.

We walked for four miles along various footpaths beside fields with an assortment of different crops. I don't think we had a farmer with us so it was educated guesswork as to what they were. We reached the Maxey cut and walked to Nine Bridges before turning towards Glinton and then taking a number of footpaths back to Peakirk.

The Ruddy Duck served a most enjoyable meal – we had our own room so socially distanced from the rest of the world.

New members are always welcome, please contact one of us if you fancy a not too hard walk on the first Wednesday of the month. We usually walk between four and five miles. Next walk on Wednesday 4th August will be led by Steve and Lynn White - details as usual by email.
Report: GEOFF WHITTLE

Group Leaders: GEOFF WHITTLE / MARGARET BEARDSHAW

U3A GARDENING 4 PETALS AND PRODUCE GROUP



The Gardening 4 Petals and Produce Group was delighted to meet again at last, outside, in Eddie and Chris's lovely garden .

We saw beautiful peonies, delphiniums , roses and many more. We swapped plants and caught up with gardening and family news, and thought about ideas for future meetings, weather and health issues permitting.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th July, 10.00am, in Glinton, courtesy of Anne and John Burton. For further information contact:

KATHLEEN TANNER
Group Leader

U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP (June)



Our June 'Virtual Meeting' was collated for the group by Terry Noble and again it's a 'Thank you' to him for that and the delivery service too.

Entitled '**CONCERTOS FOR FOUR INSTRUMENTS**', we had music from Telemann to Beethoven this month, all with four instruments

playing, except for the final piece which was a trio. The programme started with George Telemann's Concerto for four unaccompanied violins, played by the Members of Musica Antiqua Koln, who gave us a Largo, Allegro, Adagio and Vivace. On a personal note Terry has, together with three other violinists, played this piece with the Stamford Chamber Orchestra. They gave many enjoyable evenings of music when life was 'normal'!

J.S.Bach followed with the Concerto in A minor for four Harpsichords. Bach arranged various Vivaldi concertos for organ and harpsichord. This concerto in A minor is largely based on Vivaldi's Concerto in B minor for four violins, but Bach gave it a twist, replacing violins with harpsichords and B minor transposed to A minor. Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante for Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon followed and was played respectively by Jiri Krejci, Vaclav, Kyzivat, Zdenek Tylsar and Jiri Seidi.

Robert Schumann composed a piece for Four Horns, Robert Montgomery, Gavin Edwards, Susan Dent and Robert Maskell, the horn players; John Eliot Gardiner conducting the Orchestra Revolutionnaire et Romantique. The trio that closed our programme was from Beethoven. The Triple Concerto was for Violin, Cello and Piano, Op.56. It has been claimed that this work was written for Beethoven's royal pupil, Archduke Rudolf of Austria, only in his teens at the time. There does not appear to be any evidence of Rudolph performing the work!

Terry gave us a varied programme of music this time and we had lots of information regarding the how and why they were written, always something new there. The personal addition was certainly worthy of mention.

Thanks again to Terry.

Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE

U3A TEN PIN BOWLING GROUP



Hello All. I hope everyone is fit and well considering the state of the Nation. Our group of Ten Pin bowlers have started to bowl again and we are so pleased to get out. This is the second time we have played - the first time was just a trial and it worked well. The lanes are partitioned off and the balls are wiped down after each game which is very good. The only thing left is to knock those pesky pins down, which at times one feels are glued to the floor!

We have a new date for our meets, that is we bowl on the second Wednesday and the fourth Tuesday, which seems to work fine.

Our group leaders are still the same. That is Chris and myself.

Report: DAVID LUNN

Group Leaders: DAVID LKUNN / CHRIS PATMAN

U3A ART APPRECIATION GROUP

Gwen John 1876—1939

I once viewed one of Gwen John's masterpieces in The Tate. It was a very drab looking effort but was worth a fortune!



Gwen was brought up in Tenby but spent her adult life, (after The Slade School of Art), in France. She spent much of her time painting women (often with their hands in their laps) and cats, but did produce some landscapes. She didn't paint with strong colours but preferred the subtle approach.



Her brother thought her a better artist than him. She liked the company of men and women but had a long relationship with the sculptor, Rodin. (Famous for the Thinker)



This is a painting of Gwen's cat named Edgar Quinet, after the street in Paris where she lived in 1904

One of Gwen John's landscapes called Rue Terre Neuve, Mendon.

Gwen became more and more introverted in later life and ended her days practically a hermit.

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader



U3A ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES GROUP

I am disappointed by the response to my request last month for members who are still interested in continuing the Antiques Group when it becomes possible again, to get in touch. So far I have only had 11 replies and it would be impossible to hire a room, pay speakers, etc. unless more people are interested. We shall just have to see how things go.



IRENE BEEKEN
Group Leaders: IRENE BEEKEN / PAM PENDRY

U3A HISTORY GROUP

End of term quiz—a light hearted test to see if you have been reading the Newsletter. The questions are based on articles from the past year (those that I remembered to save)



1. Who is this and who invented Him?
2. Who died aged 90, after dinner and was sitting in his comfy chair? What occurred in 1665 and what followed in 1666?
3. What was Jack Sheppard's claim to fame and who helped him?
4. What did Greta Garbo, David Lloyd George and Walt Disney have in common?
5. What does this commemorate? What was the first name of Mr Loveless? Where was he transported to?



6. What was brought into use in 1840 and we can still buy today in a different colour?



7. Who is this? How many children did she give birth to and how many survived into adulthood?
8. If you put mercuric oxide in a glass in strong sunlight, what gas is formed? Who is said to have invented this?
9. If a cat sits in the sun in February, where will he be in March?
10. Who was the partner of Pierrot?

Answers on page 8 but sorry no prizes this year!

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader

U3A SCIENCE GROUP

At our meeting on 15th June, on Google Meet, we had a talk about some seemingly indestructible creatures call Tardigrades. These creatures were in the news at the time, as NASA were just about to send them to the International Space Station, where they are being used to study the effects on the body of prolonged stays in space, and to see if any of their survival mechanisms had any relevance to human protection in that environment. We had a bonus talk on 6th July, courtesy of an exchange with Bourne Science Group. Bruno Guillaume gave an excellent presentation about the Engineering Challenges of Tunnelling, based on his work as a Consultant Engineer on the Crossrail project. We thank Malcolm Scrivens for arranging this.



We will continue to hold meetings online until the situation clarifies, and until we can identify a new venue, and how to deal with the financial impact.

Our next meeting is to be held on Google Meet on Tuesday 20th July, when we will have a much anticipated presentation about our Skin!

Report GARTH PERRY
Group Leaders GARTH PERRY /DAVID SCOTT

U3A THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP



After truly awful weather at the end of June it was, thankfully, a glorious morning as the Thursday Garden Group met together for the first time in 19 months in the beautiful garden of Liz and Terry Noble.



Although we didn't talk much about gardening as we had so much to catch up with before our usual summer 'bring and share' buffet lunch, we were able to welcome new group member Iris Phillips along with her husband Ernie.

Iris has been thrown in at the deep end, not only contributing a delicious apple and apricot pie and Grantham biscuits to our lunch, but being 'volunteered' to host our meeting next month.

Sadly several of our friendly group were unable to attend because of illness or surgery recovery and they were very much missed. We hope to see as many of the group as possible at Iris's at 10.30 on Thursday 5th August. Let's hope the weather is as good!

LINDA HILL
Group Leader

U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

'GARDENS and FLOWERS'.



The programme began with an old favourite—'An English Country Garden', one of a number of old Morris tunes, gathered by Cecil Sharp and arranged by Australian composer, arranger

and pianist, Percy Grainger. Next came 'L' Horloge de Flore (The Flower Clock) by Jean Francaix, a live performance.

Puccini's 'Christemi' (Chrysanthemums) played by the Ense String Quartet. A flower of mourning. Puccini composed this as his response to the death of the Duke of Saxony. Benjamin Britten composed 'There is no Rose' from Ceremony of the Carols, the choir of New College Oxford, Francis Kelly (harp) and Edward Higginbottom conducting.

A delightful piece of nonsense followed with Flanders and Swan and their 'Misalliance' telling of the doomed love between the Honeysuckle and the Bindweed. 'Down by the Salley Gardens, arranged by Patrick Hawes as recorded by the Toki Quartet, Hawes also played the piano, in St John's Church, Peterborough in November 2011. Claudio Arrau was at the piano with Blumenstuck's 'Flower Piece', Op.19, by Schumann. Catherine Hanshaw with an Orchestra, alas unknown, sang the whimsical 'Tip-toe Through The Tulips' (previously given a different treatment by 'Tiny Tim')! 'Come Into The Garden Maude' followed, with a solo by John McCormack and another unknown orchestra., sung with much emotion!

Popular with many people is Lakme's 'Flower Duet' by Delibe, sung here by Dame Joan Sutherland and Jane Berbie, the Opera de Monte Carlo conducted by Sutherland's husband - Richard Bonyngue. Moira Lympany played 'The Lover and the Nightingale', then we heard 'Five Flower Songs by Britten' featuring poems from Robert Herrick, John Clare and George Crabbe set to music in a delightful way. The program closed with that familiar piece by Johann Strauss, 'Roses From the South' with Eugene Ormandy conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra.

A lovely selection by Joy to lift the spirits and charm the listener, so thank you Joy for that. Thanks to Terry Noble for putting our 'Virtual' meeting together and for the delivery. Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE

U3A MONDAY WALKING GROUP



Sixteen of us met at The George Hotel, Whittlesey. on a bright sunny day. The walk was led by Helen, Brian and Co, so a big thanks to them for organising the walk.

We wended our way through the back streets until we reached Stonald Road. I believe that this is the longest Road in Whittlesey, it definitely went on and on. Eventually we ended up at the football pitches at Crossways Hand called "The Fields of Dreams". Thereafter we picked up the Green Wheel Cycle route and continued towards Kings Dyke.

Whilst walking this part we came across David who was walking 6,000 miles in aid of the Samaritans. By this juncture he had completed 4,500 miles, he had a mono cycle attachment to his waist to carry his tent and clothes. What an amazing man, he started in 2019, but Covid delayed things. and now continues his journey. Several members of the group will be sponsoring him.

We left the Green Wheel path and headed towards McCains and crossed the Whittlesey Road to follow the stream Middle Level. This is a man made cut linking the Nene and the Ouse rivers. The original drain was used to transport Barnack Stone to build Ely Cathedral.

We followed the path all the way back to The George. Fortunately the route back was not waterlogged as per the original recees by the leaders. A good meal and drink were had outside in the fresh air and it didn't rain !!!!

The next walk in August is from the Royal Oak at Duddington, details to follow.

STEVE HANSON
Group Leader



Steve also sent this photograph. Not sure if taken on walk but it's a good one anyway!. A

U3A "WEEKENDERS" GROUP

Finally 25 Weekenders met up for the first time since March 2020 . We met up at the Oasis Café, Eventus Centre, on Saturday, July 10th for a delicious and much enjoyed afternoon tea. There was much catching up to do as many of us hadn't seen each other for over a year. Fortunately Sonia and Karen very generously re-filled the teapots as quickly as we emptied them.



Everyone enjoyed it so much that we're going to do the same again next month, well, we couldn't fit a year's news into one afternoon !! So, any Weekenders who can join us at 3pm Oasis café on August 14th can you please let Ann know by August 1st so that she can give numbers to Sonia. Report BARBARA MCNICOL

Group Leaders: ANN BRADSHAW / BARBARA MCNICOL

U3A THURSDAY WALKING GROUP



After much patience and perseverance over the past two years due to flooded footpaths followed by the pandemic, Helen and Brian Driscoll and team were finally able to lead a group of 16 walkers on a walk in one of our popular South Lincolnshire areas from The New Inn at Folkingham. The weather was warm and sunny and so after leaving the village we made our way on a circular route but this time doing it in reverse from previous times thus giving ourselves a completely different perspective to the walk. We walked through the villages of Walcot and Pickworth and the undulating countryside where those villages are situated before arriving back at the New Inn for a very good lunch.

Three particular items of interest were encountered on the walk:

a) one section of the walk through grassland contained many examples of mushroom circles or fairy rings as they are also known,

b) Our attention was drawn to an Ordnance Survey benchmark on a house in Pickworth which Richard explained the history of, and



c) whilst in Pickworth a short visit was made to view St Andrews Church and some of the murals which were re-discovered when a Second World War bomb exploded in a nearby field shaking off much of the paint and plaster. There is a good write up of this church on the website.

Many thanks to Helen and Brian, Richard and the team for leading the walk and organising the lunch.

The next walk on 12 August will be led by Olive Parrin and will be in the Warmington area commencing from The Red Lion, Peterborough Road, Warmington PE8 6TN. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please phone Olive by the Tuesday evening preceding the walk. Photos: RICHARD COULSON / STEVE HANSON

Group Leaders: GODFREY PARKES / DAVID SCOTT

U3A POETS AND POETRY GROUP

We had our July meeting in Juliet's lovely garden, the weather was kind to us, and we enjoyed our Poetry. The letter for this month was 'O' we found three poems about Owls, including the 'Owl and the Pussycat' by Edward Lear. Then followed 'O Captain, My Captain' by Walt Whitman; 'Oft in the Stilly night' by Thomas Moore; 'O my love is like a Red Red Rose' by Robert Burns; 'One Art' by Elizabeth Bishop.



We welcomed a new member, Chris, to the Group, and hope she will enjoy the meetings as much as we all do. Our letter for next month is 'P' and it will be interesting to see what we find. Our thanks to Juliet, for hosting the afternoon, and keeping us so refreshed.

IRENE BEEKEN,
Group Leader

U3A “STROLLERS” WALKING GROUP

The omens didn't look too promising when I drew back the curtains at 8:00 on the morning of last month's stroll, with thoughts that the weather would affect our sojourn for the second month running. In May, recent heavy rain had forced a change of plan which worked well, but this time steady rain looked as though a postponement could be in the offing. I hurriedly, wolfed down some breakfast, expecting a few phone calls concerning the prospects, but surprisingly, there weren't any.



Arriving at the start point, the car park of The Pack Horse at Northborough, all those who signed up for the stroll turned up and were ready to go, undaunted by a mere 'shower', including our debutant, Mary Lawrence. Stuart led the way out of the village, before leading us towards the Paradise Bridge over the Maxey Cut and on to Glinton. As we did so, the rain became steady, but our intrepid group soldiered on, uncomplaining.

As we approached Glinton, the rain eased for a bit and then stopped. Walking through the village, passed the church, we joined the old A15 and walked back towards Northborough before tracking another footpath eastwards, then returning to the same road at Nine Bridges. From there, it was a straight walk back to the Pack Horse for our lunches. As in May, the conversation during the walk and at lunch was about the future, with the detractions of the last 16 months put to one side, for this morning at least.

This month's stroll will be on Monday 26 July and will be led by myself, centring on Maxey, with the start point being Tucker's Nook, in the village. Hopefully, by then, we will have further restrictions lifted. Any member of the group wishing to take part, please contact me by phone or email.

BOB DELLER
Group Leader

Committee Members 2020/2021

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

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

- 1 John Arbuthnot who invented John Bull
- 2 Christopher Wren, 1665 The Plague 1666 The Great Fire of London. Wren died in a chair after dinner aged 90.
- 3 Amazing escapes. Bess
- 4 They all had Spanish Flu
- 5 Tolpuddle, Van Diemens Land
- 6 Penny Black stamp
- 7 Queen Charlotte. 15..13 survived.
- 8 Oxygen, Joseph Priestley
- 9 Behind the stove
- 10 Columbine.



Closing date for the AUGUST issue is FRIDAY, 6TH AUGUST.

The following report literally arrived in the nick of time! I was casting around for something to fill the space when I heard a "ping". (No—not that sort—it was Geoff's message!)



U3A WRITING FOR PLEASURE

Six members of the group met for our July meeting at the home of Julie Mancey. This month we all wrote a piece with the starting line of "At midnight the café was crowded". This was from a short story by O. Henry.

We all agreed the first problem was to find a reason why a café was full at midnight (we blamed the group member who had suggested the line) and the results ranged from a family of mice to an amateur dramatic group meeting after a show with romance in the air, with other ideas in between.

As usual there was a lot of chat about everything under the sun – and covid!. We would welcome new members so if you fancy a chatty morning with no pressure to produce a masterpiece contact us. The next meeting, which will be in September, is at the home of Kay Plunkett.
Report: GEOFF WHITTLE

JULIE MANCEY
Group Contact

A very special 'thank you' is due to Lin Witherington for her help once again with proof reading. ANN

At a couples' conference the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected that 85% husbands don't know their wives favourite flower.

Paddy turned to his wife and whispered "It's self raising, isn't it?"

Another thanks to Steve—hope 'Paddy' shouldn't read 'Steve'!! ANN