



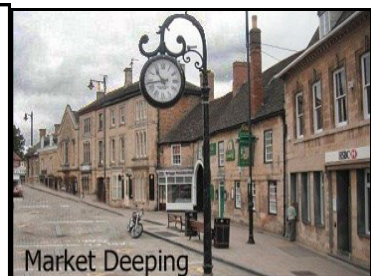
Issue No.231

The Deepings u3a

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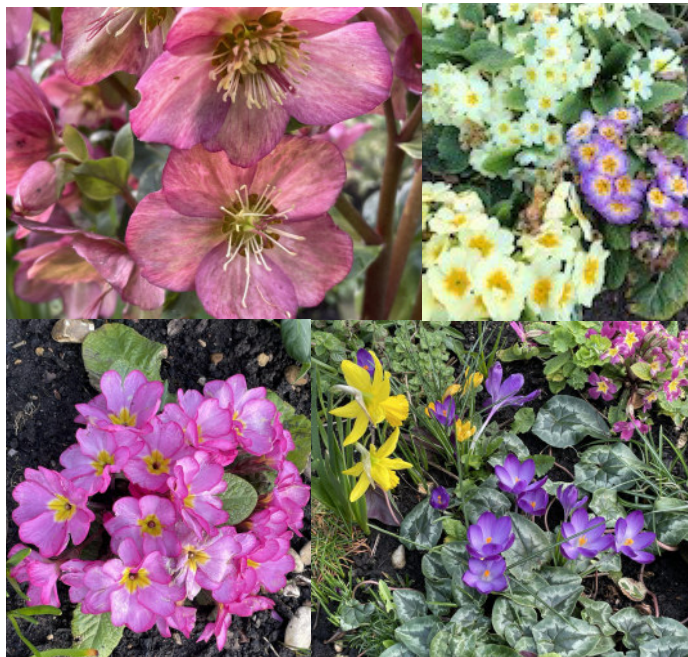
NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2022

WELCOME TO SPRING—AND BETTER DAYS



‘MARGARET’S MUSINGS’



Dear members

March Musings begin with a plea

As many of you already know, we are looking for a new editor for our popular monthly Newsletter, an important feature of The Deepings u3a. Ann Holmes is retiring after editing the Newsletter for many years. I know that there is a great variety of talent amongst our members, with the skills to continue the excellent traditions of our Newsletter, together with their own ideas for the future. Who will step up? Just contact a member of the committee. We are waiting to hear from you!

I'm looking forward to joining my granddaughter, Emily, on Zoom this evening. She lives in Barcelona and on Sunday evenings we cook together – yes, on Zoom! – a dish chosen by one or other of us. Then we sit down and eat “together”. We have kept up the tradition for almost a year, with a different recipe each time; we take it in turns to select. This evening it will be “Super Spinach Pancake” a la Jamie Oliver.

Zoom has been a boon in so many ways, but I know that it is not enjoyable for or accessible to everyone. That’s why it is so good to be able to hold our u3a activities in person again.

We are welcoming new members and welcoming back some of you whose membership lapsed during lockdowns etcetera. You will see from Newsletter items that some groups are looking for new members, so there are opportunities if you feel like exploring or reviving an interest.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the monthly meeting and send my best wishes to all members.

Margaret

Chair

Welcome to new Members - catch up!



Now that we are running a little more normally we are taking the opportunity to catch up with welcoming our new members since the autumn when groups began opening up again. I hope we have covered everybody, but apologies if your name has been missed, you are just as welcome together with all our re-joiners after the lockdowns!

Committee Members 2021/2022

Chair	Margaret Beardshaw
Secretary	Elaine Batchelor
Treasurer	Anne Burton
Deputy Treasurer	Stuart Wilson
Membership Secretary	Liz Noble
Speaker Finder	Lyall Seale
Group Co-ordination	June Wheatcroft
Team:	Phil Jones
	Jennifer Rogers
Vote of thanks org.	Kath Allen
Newsletter Editor	Ann Holmes
Newsletter Distribution / Webmaster	David Scott

Programme of Speakers - 2022

- 21 March **LIFE AT NORMAN CROSS, the world’s first POW camp.** We welcome back Stuart Orme to talk about the World’s first purpose-built prisoner of war camp, built in the Napoleonic wars on the outskirts of Peterborough. He tells the story of the camp and its inmates, as well as the beautiful items which they made.
- 25 April **DEENE PARK** - home of the Brudenell family since 1514, by Kelly Holland, Deene Park Administrator
- 16 May **THE TRANSFORMATION OF ST PANCRAS STATION** by Nigel Lowey.

Unless otherwise stated all monthly meetings are at **THE METHODIST CHURCH**, Deeping St James. Doors open at 9.30 am. To enable us to set out chairs, etc. please do not arrive before this time. Coffee is served until 10.20 and meetings begin at 10.30 am.

Market Deeping

- Helen Bembridge
- Janet & David Ladds
- Lucy Smith
- Dorothy Terry
- Peter Lomas
- Karen & Peter Briggs-Fish
- Barbara Moore
- Christine O’Connell
- Sharon Edwards

Deeping St James

- Catherine Mitchell
- Ann & Peter Robinson
- Maureen Hudson
- Susan Pollard
- Stephen Tyler
- Chris Williams
- Lynette Shahmoradian
- Trish Midgley
- Kevin Wilde
- Hilary Hosking

LIZ NOBLE
Membership Secretary



GROUP NEWS

Coach Trip to Kelmarsh Hall & Coton Manor Gardens, Tuesday 19th July 2022



The Gardens at Kelmarsh Hall are designated by English Heritage (Historic England) as Grade II*, a garden of national significance. The gardens surrounding the Hall are known for their relaxed

charm and 'haphazard luxuriance'. The gardens were also a finalist in the Historic Houses Garden of the Year 2021. Nancy Lancaster, who lived at Kelmarsh Hall, brought much of the immediate landscape to life during the late 1920s and again in the 1940s, with the help of garden designer Norah Lindsay and landscape architect Geoffrey Jellicoe. Despite their grand canvas, the gardens have an intimate, feminine feel, occasionally broken by wide pastoral views over a lost medieval village or the 18th century lake.

This beautiful garden at Coton Manor occupies a hillside position extending down from the 17th century manor house



constructed of mellow Northamptonshire stone. The 10 acre garden has luxuriant borders that will delight the plant enthusiast while everyone will enjoy the garden's charm and special

atmosphere, with colour and interest throughout the seasons. Beyond the garden is a magical five acre bluebell wood and a wildflower meadow.

The Stableyard Cafe serves homemade lunches and teas when the garden is open. The extensive nursery has over a thousand varieties of plants, many of which are unusual and are propagated from the garden.

Our pick up points are:

- **The Cross, Deeping St James, 8.35 am**
- **The Bell by Deeping Gate Bridge, 8.40 am**
The Deeping Stage, Market Deeping, 8.45 am

The price of the trip is £27.50 and includes entry to both gardens and driver's tip. We plan to be back in the Deepings by 6.30 pm. Please confirm your booking by completing the separate booking form and do so as soon as you can, as this is likely to be a popular trip.

Further information and booking form available from Eddie Adams.

U3A "CHURCH MICE" GROUP



On a sunny but cool March day 24 members of Church Mice visited St Mary's Church in Whittlesey. The inside of the church was well lit by the sun shining through the many stained glass windows.

Sue, the churchwarden, talked to us about the church. There were a number of questions that she posed without knowing the answers herself. What was in the space above the main door, accessed by a door which didn't open? Why were there steps down, when the water level was high? What was odd about one of the stained glass windows? We were asked to find out (answer: one of the saints had only one foot!).

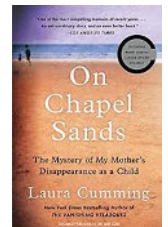
We were then let loose on the church to look around and talk to Sue and her husband, also a churchwarden. This was followed by refreshments, consisting of copious cakes.

April's visit will be to Upton and Sutton churches. We will meet at Upton Church at 2.30 (please note change to "summer time") for a talk lasting approximately 45 minutes, then go on to Sutton for a talk and tea.

HENRY RPBERTS
Group Leader

U3A MONDAY READERS GROUP

As usual, we met in the pleasant lounge area in the library for our March meeting. Our book this month proved to be one which provoked mixed feelings. It was *On Chapel Sands* by Laura Cumming and, unusually for us, it was non-fiction. Laura Cumming, who is the art critic for *The Observer*, discovered a mystery in her family when she found out that her mother Betty, at three years old, had been kidnapped from the beach at Chapel-St-Leonards and was missing for five days before being discovered safely. Her mother had no recollection of this and nothing was said or, apparently, known among other family members. *On Chapel Sands* is the account of the author's investigation through her family history to uncover the strange truth of her mother's background, despite a wall of secrecy in the family and community.



The book told an intriguing and meticulously researched story which, our group felt, could have made a very good fiction story in the hands of a skilled writer. However, we felt that Laura Cumming's approach and style was very off putting and awkward. It is a complex story and the writing moved between periods and voices in a confusing way, which made it difficult to follow.

We did have an interesting discussion about the characters, whose actions and motives were very much of their time, and often complex, especially George and Veda, Laura Cumming's grandfather and step grandmother (as she discovers), who are described touchingly and carefully.

Despite the strangeness and intrigue of the story the author uncovers, the book was not warmly liked by the group, who awarded it only three stars out of five, largely due to the style in which it was written. Our next meeting will be on April 11th and our book will be *The Bone Clocks* by David Mitchell.

LIZ WATERLAND
Group Leader

U3A "PACERS" WALKING GROUP



It was a damp morning in early March when ten Pacers set off for a four mile walk from Greatford. Numbers reduced a little due to COVID and holidays (ancient word – look it up in the dictionary).

Pre-ordered lunch and then admired Greatford Hall and the Church as we started out. We went passed the many attractive houses and gardens, most with streams, before we passed the old school house and headed into the country.

Couple of easy stiles and then two slab step overs which were a little more of a challenge. We eventually arrived at the two muddy fields. The second was alright but the first was very muddy and slippery but no problems other than feeling you had small lead weights on your feet! On arriving back at the pub the first order of events were shoe and wet clothes changing. At the Hare and Hounds we had an excellent, and large, meal. Pub can be recommended.

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 6th April will be led by Stuart and Barbara - details as usual by email.

Report: GEOFF WHITTLE

Group Leaders: GEOFF WHITTLE / MARGARET BEARDSHAW

U3A POETS AND POETRY GROUP

Our meeting this month was held on the 1st - St David's Day. One of our members who has Welsh heritage, brought along delicious home made Welsh cakes, still warm, which were very good.



Among the many poems today we did have one Welsh poet, Idris Davies, whose poem was entitled 'The Village of Fochriw'. We also enjoyed 'Vindaloo in Merthyr Tydfil' by Les Murray, an Australian poet. This was quite a humorous poem which helped to lift the despair we are all feeling due to the situation in Ukraine.

Other poems also included 'Veils' by Ella W. Wilcox and 'Via Delarosa' by Mary Torrie, 'Valentine' by Elaine Feinstein, 'Venice' by H. Longfellow, 'Virgin Bees' by Carol Ann Duffy, 'Vagabonds' by M J Cawein and 'The Vagabond' by R L Stevenson.

We had a very enjoyable and interesting afternoon and we would like to thank Kathleen for her hospitality.

IRENE BEEKEN
Group Leader

U3A "WEEKENDERS" GROUP

The Weekenders group is returning to the Oddfellows Hall for our meetings so the meeting in April will be 10:30 April 2nd at the Oddfellows Hall NOT at the Green School as was announced at the last meeting. Dorothy and Susan are on the rota to do refreshments. We hope to see you all on the 2nd and welcome new members.



Group leaders ANN BRADSHAW / BARBARA MCNICOL

U3A ART APPRCCIATION GROUP (FEBRUARY)

Yippee! We were back together again. The rain poured outside but we were comfortable in our new venue. There were 18 of us. Three new members were welcomed. David was his expert self on the new set up, even though he had to go home and collect his own speakers. It was a very clear presentation, on a large screen.



Margaret gave out information about the Coventry trip in July.

We watched a DVD about the Children's Art Laureate, in this case Quentin Blake. It was very interesting and dealt with the topic of stimulating an interest in Art from a very young age and how the pictures could be used to increase interest in writing etc.

We also had an Art picture quiz, where we had to identify the artist from famous paintings. It didn't help that two names were missing from the prompt sheet. SO! No one won the trip to Mallorca! Thanks to Kathy for providing the quiz.

This is a painting by Grandma Moses. (One of the quiz questions.)



Next month is John McGowan a printmaker from Northborough. New members always welcome. 3rd Tuesday of each month at The Deepings Sports and Social Club. 10 am for a 10.30 start.

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader

U3A CYCLING GROUP



Our second ride of the year was curtailed by Storm Eunice and had to be delayed for a week. However undaunted on the Friday 25th, five of us set off in still quite windy (20mph) but sunny conditions.

We cycled through Market Deeping to Langtoft and from here along to King Street which we crossed and continued into Barham. We then had a longer stint into the strong headwind along to Uffington where we rested for a while in the Church Yard to get our breath back and admire all the Snowdrops around the grave stones (as can be seen in the photograph).

After posing for the obligatory photo, things started to get a little easier as we headed for home with the wind mainly behind us as we continued into Barnack and on to Bainton. From Bainton we cycled towards Helpston turning off for West Deeping and after negotiating the Level Crossing continued on to turn towards Maxey where we meandered along Mill Road to cross the A15 then along the track and onto Lincoln Road. From here it was a straight dash to the Bull for our well-earned lunch after this strenuous 15-mile ride.

All enjoyed the ride and many thanks to Mike for planning the route and arranging lunch, hopefully our next ride will be in somewhat calmer conditions.

JIM TORRANCE
Group Leader

U3A HISTORY GROUP

1860 and 1960 - Comparisons and 100 Years Apart

By Tony Plunkett

This was a very interesting and well received talk. Tony presented a retrospective view of Elizabethan (2nd) times and Victorian, looking at certain headings such as transport. Tony had put a great deal of research into the presentation and came up with some facts that were new to us.

For instance, did you know that Garibaldi blouses and shirts became a fashion trend?



Also the Garibaldi biscuit was invented in 1861!
So many slides and not enough room here to show them all.



A big THANK YOU Tony.

In March, the speaker is Henry Roberts who will be talking about Women in WW1. We will also be talking about the questionnaire findings regarding the proposed August visit to Huntingdon and the Cromwell Museum and surrounding areas of interest.

Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and to the people in the background, without whom we would not be able to function so efficiently. See you on the 3rd Wednesday in March when Spring might just have arrived!

SANDRA JONES
Group Leader

U3A DISCUSSION GROUP

Our numbers have recently been depleted by medical and relocation issues. This means that when not all active members are able to attend, the viability of the meeting is questionable. Two or three new members would be more than welcome.



Meetings take place on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 10.30am, lasting until noon. Coffee and biscuits start the proceedings and a short introduction gets the discussion of the day's topic underway. Informality rules and even the most serious of issues can produce some amusement.

Members host meetings in their homes but there is no obligation to do so – venues are never a problem. Topics for discussion are decided by the group and now and then we have a “Press Cuttings” session which allows current issues to have an airing. The current programme includes “How Important is Music?”, “Family History- useful or not?”, “Social Care”, and “The Importance of Truth in Public Life”.

Please consider joining us and share the friendship of the group. If you would like further information please contact me -

JIM WINSTONE
Group Leader

U3A SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

We were very saddened to lose Michael Griffiths during the national lock-down period. I was pleased to have shared the leadership of our group with Michael and on behalf of members, I offer our sympathy to his family.



Would all members please note that we are resuming our next lunch meeting at **The Black Horse at Baston on Sunday, 24th April, 12.30 for 1pm.**

* **PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE** as the April Newsletter will not be published in time to remind you. I will be at the U3A monthly meeting on 21st March, please see me there, or call me.

TONY SEMPLE
Group Leader

U3A THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP



We had a slight change to our plans this month which meant we got to see Margaret and David Scott's smashing spring garden. It was looking glorious with so many pockets of colour and interest everywhere. Our thanks to them both for hosting us. At the meeting we updated our plans for the year and shared what has been happening in our own gardens before watching a video about growing lettuce. Several of us were unimpressed by the size of the seedlings being pricked out and the manner with which they were watered and we thought we might know better! Ann and Roy Pettitt distributed several packets of seeds amongst the group too, which were very gratefully received.

Our next meeting will be for gardening chat at Gill Rolandson's on Thursday 7th April at 10.30. Report: LINDA HILL

Group Leaders: LINDA HILL / KAY PARKER

U3A JAZZ, SWING & BIG BAND REPORT

Our February meeting was at the home of Terry Noble and the programme was 'TERRY'S CHOICES.' Beginning with 'Out of this World' from Johnny Griffin, Michael Weiss, Kenny Washington and Denis Irwin, it was followed by Stephan Grappelli next with 'Anything Goes'. Dexter Gordon gave us 'They Say That Falling in Love' from the musical - 'Annie Get Your Gun'. 'My Funny Valentine' was played by Lionel Hampton with a low key Buddy Rich on drums, which added a seasonal note to the programme and it was followed by 'That Old Black Magic' sung by Carmen McCrea.



Eddie 'Lockjaw' Davis played 'I Can't Get Started', although he did. Some discussion followed as to the origin of his nickname - 'Lockjaw' and the general consensus was that it came from the way he played his tenor sax... but if you know different... A different version of 'The Folks Who Live On The Hill' (more familiar sung by Peggy Lee) followed, played by Ahmed Jamaï on piano, Payton Crossly on drums and Sabu Deyola - Bass. Hmmm! Some of these names... But - always good to hear another arrangement of a familiar piece and 'Every Time We Say Goodbye' from Sonny Rollins followed that.

Teddy Wilson with a group of musicians that included Teddy Wilson Jr. gave us 'Sweet Sue' and Woody Herman with a group that included Lionel Hampton on Vibes and Sam Turner playing the 'Conga', which is an elongated Bongo Drum, played 'Body and Soul'. Lionel again with 'On The Sunny Side of the Street', this time with Olive Jackson's Orchestra.

We heard Earl Hines play 'Rosetta' (not the Alan Price song), then a jazz favourite 'On Green Dolphin Street,' which also featured Lionel once more, with Candido Cameron on the Conga. The programme ended with 'You Are the Sunshine of My Life' - thanks to Stephan Grappelli again and a lovely way to close the programme. We all enjoyed 'Terry's Choices' along with Liz's excellent refreshments. Our thanks to them both.

Our next meeting is at the home of Peter and Barbara Baylis on March 23rd and we would really love to welcome some new members to our group. No musical talent is required, just listening to music the group members put together which is seldom heard these days, unless you come along and join us, so please think about it, we would love to see you. Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: PHIL JONES / ANNE JONES

U3A MONDAY WALKING GROUP

This walk was led by me at the eleventh hour. Fifteen of us set off from The Bull, Market Deeping, on a bright but crisp morning. Not until we reached the first hurdle did I mention it !!! A very large, decayed tree had gone over during storm Eunice, blocking the footpath towards the river.

Someone had placed breeze blocks either side to assist climbing over, very useful unless you had short legs. Those walkers had to straddle the trunk and shuffle over. Next we came to a path (Hurdle 2) just before the river which was very muddy and slippery, but we had a fence to hold onto.



We proceeded along the river, beyond Low Locks until we reached a track taking us to Northborough. Following this until we reached Peakirk Road, then along Church Street into Northborough. Continuing through until reaching Deeping St James Road, back towards Deepings.

A bit of walk was added on as we were ahead of time and this took us along a wide path formerly known as Bridgegate Lane. By the time we got here the wind had dropped and the sun came out and became somewhat warm (not complaining of course).

We had a good lunch at The Bull, and thanks to them for opening up especially for us. Amazingly numerous passers by came in too.

The next walk is from Milton Golf Club, details to follow.

STEVE HANSON
Group Leader

U3A CRAFT GROUP 2



Having made up some of the cards from the donated goodies box in January, which will be on-going so we can get a collection to give to charity in the future, we tackled two lovely cards created and prepared by Anita Setchfield in February – thank you to her for all the preparation too.

We hope to go back to some parchment work in March so see you at 2pm on 21 March.

LIZ NOBLE
Group Leader

U3A FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP

It was great to get together again, this month, for our first proper meeting since Covid lockdown. Spring flowers are beautiful and we used a variety of foliage, twigs and flowers to make natural landscape arrangements.



The next meeting will be 7th April at Northborough Village Hall, 2pm. to arrange an upward curving crescent. If anyone would like more details about the group, please contact me.

PAT LUDLOW

U3A THURSDAY WALKING GROUP



Well what a morning for the March walk. The weather was mild and sunny with a lovely blue sky as we went further afield where Steve Hanson led 17 members on a very pleasant six mile circular walk commencing from the Woodhouse Arms at Corby Glen.

Leaving the pub we soon encountered the rolling countryside around the area and using good paths and tracks we arrived at the village of Swayfield. On route much bird watching was in evidence particularly red kites as well as noticing the numerous express trains passing on the east coast main line but unlike last month we were able to go through bridges under the lines rather than waiting for the trains to pass!! Continuing onwards we reached the village of Swinstead before following the B1176 taking a slight deviation by Eager Farm before re-joining the said road to finish in the centre of Corby Glen and back to the Woodhouse Arms for an excellent lunch. Many thanks to Steve for organising the walk and arranging the lunch.

The next walk on 14 April 2022 will be led by Brian and Helen Driscoll and team and will be around the Newton and Pickworth area commencing from The Red Lion, Newton, Sleaford NG34 0EE. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please e-mail Helen by the Tuesday evening preceding the walk, if possible, and also indicating whether you will be staying for lunch.

GODFREY PARKES / DAVID SCOTT
Group Leaders

U3A FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUPS



Since our pre-lockdown meeting (2020), we are pleased to resume our Group meetings, held fortnightly in our homes. Bienvenue!! Any French speakers, or those interested, are welcome; please contact Group Leaders Rhae Elliott or Mary Lawrence

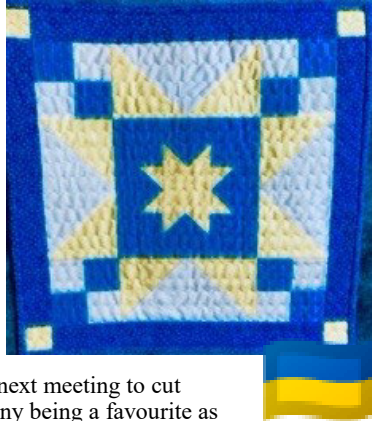
Sent by JUNE WHEATCROFT
Groups Co-ordinators

Harold Macmillan, former Prime Minister, once said:

"It has been said, that there is no fool like an old fool, except a young fool. But the young fool has first to grow up to be an old fool to realise what a damn fool he was when he was a young fool!"

U3A QUILTING GROUP

The focus of the March group was the 'Quilt as you go technique'. Liz very kindly undertook responsibility to demonstrate this technique to those who needed this. Those members who had perfected this technique bought samples of completed quilts in.



Liz kindly brought in her fabric die cutter for us to try. It is decided to bring fabric into the next meeting to cut appliqué shapes, the Easter Bunny being a favourite as Easter will soon be upon us.

Carol was working on a large block in the Colours of Ukraine flag. (See photo.) Our hearts go to all the people suffering.

If there are any members (including the lady who did contact me previously) who feel they would like to try Quilting they are welcome to come along and have a look at us. We are a small, very friendly group. Please email me if possible.

Our next meeting is about appliqué shapes and how to apply these to fabric, and is on Tuesday 12th April at 10am in the Community Centre.

MARGARET GRIFFITHS
Group Leader

U3A SCIENCE GROUP

By the time you read this report, because of the way that the dates fall, we will have had two meetings.



On Tuesday 15th February Garth devised a quiz, which covered a wide variety of topics, which was won by the team of Anne Stokes and Gill Godden (we chaps won't hear the last of that for a few months!). On Tuesday 15th March, an external speaker, Mr Colin Ray will have presented "Talking Machines – the history of recorded sound" illustrated by a number of old devices.

So that leads us to our next meeting, on the 19th April at 2pm, in the Learning Room of the Community Centre, when David Perkins will be giving the first part of his two part presentation on 'Sources of Green Energy'.
Report: GARTH PERRY

Group Leaders GARTH PERRY / DAVID SCOTT

Our Treasurer, Anne Burton, sent this photograph of her Star Magnolia which blossomed in the warm sunshine on 12 March. Thanks for sharing it with us Anne. ANN



U3A "STROLLER'S" WALKING GROUP



A lovely sunny morning greeted 10 Strollers as we met at the Birch Tree Café at Easton-on-the-Hill for our February walk. This was our first stroll on a Friday morning, a switch agreed at our annual planning meeting.

The walk itself, led by Geoff Fitzjohn, took us through this pleasant village which overlooks the Welland valley and the town of Stamford. The picturesque limestone cottages and houses gleamed in the late winter sunshine. As we strolled through the village, we passed the Priest's House, dating from the 15th century and arguably, the smallest National Trust property in England.

It was occupied by the Pastor of the local church, Rev'd John Skynner, who was father of Lancelot Skynner, captain of the HMS Lutine, which sank off the Dutch coast in 1799, whilst carrying a cargo of gold. The bell was retrieved and is now housed in the Lloyd's building in the City of London and rang whenever a shipping disaster occurs.

Leaving the village we went down a track dropping into the valley, where we crossed the Peterborough-Leicester railway line. Recent heavy rain had made this track slightly muddy, but was passable. Having reached the valley bottom we walked through a field before crossing the railway line again.

Well, what goes down, must come up, so we faced a steady climb back up to Easton, which was through a ploughed field, frequently turning round to view Stamford, with its five churches dominating the skyline.

Upon entering the village we visited the Easton Labyrinth and Peace Garden, which is within the churchyard of All Saint's church, where the group photograph was taken, before returning to the Birch Tree Café for our lunches.

I would like to elaborate more about this cafe which is a new charitable venture, supporting children affected by Down's syndrome. It is run by volunteers, with assistance and training offered to such children. Indeed at our lunch children were helping serve meals and drinks and assisting at the till. Geoff, our walk leader for the day, with Julie, have assisted in setting up this venture. I would recommend this venue to members of U3A and consider supporting it by visiting for a lunch or just a cup of tea or coffee, possibly whilst taking part in a group activity.

BOB DELLER
Group Leader

"UNUSUAL STYLE" - this Photograph was sent in by Steve Hanson.



U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

The March meeting of the 'Listening to Music' group was held at the home of Ann Holmes, who also chose the programme.



Entitled "Ann's Miscellany of Music", the programme began with

"Winter Daydreams" by Tchaikovsky, played by the BBC Philharmonic, conductor Vassily Sinaisky. Beethoven's 'Moonlight Sonata' followed this but it was the 3rd. Movement (presto agitato) (Op.27) with Christina Ortiz very enthusiastically at the piano, so not the romantic piece that is more familiar. Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp (K.299) 2nd movement (andantino) was played by Jiri Valek on flute, Hana Mullerova on harp.

The 'Warsaw Concerto' composed by Richard Addinsell had Christina Ortiz again on the piano and Moshe Atzmon conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in this very enjoyable arrangement of music that was played throughout the film 'Dangerous Moonlight' many years ago.

'The Lark Ascending,' voted the country's most popular piece of classical music recently, was composed by Vaughan Williams. Nicola Benedetti gave beautiful rendition of this accompanied by Andrew Litton conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Smetana's 'Vltava' from his composition 'My Country', was played by the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor: Raphael Kubelik was good to hear once more as was Schubert's 'Ave Maria' sung by Bryn Terfel with Sissel Kyrkjebø, the London Singers and the London Symphony Orchestra, but with an unknown conductor.

Our musical morning drew to a close with Mozart once more and the Clarinet Concerto (K.622) 3rd movement (rondo, allegro) played by the Prague Chamber Orchestra. Vlastimil Mares on clarinet and Libor Pesek conducting.

A very enjoyable 'Miscellany of Music' chosen by Ann who also provided the refreshments and thanks to Terry for taking charge of the musical controls. Next meeting is on April 13th.

Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE

My thanks to Terry for his help with assembling this programme, first played at a meeting of this group in 2014 and 'tweaked' a little for 2022! Ann

U3A WEDNESDAY GARDENING GROUP

Members of the group met at Jane's house for a talk by Johnny Walker. Johnny's parents were both Dutch and he was brought up in Spalding in a bulb growing family. His whole working life was in the bulb and flower industry. Johnny showed slides and gave us a really interesting talk on the History of Bulb Growing in our area.



Our next meeting will be at Springfields at 10 am as usual. We have been asked to meet at the far end of the avenue of shops. Cost will be £5 a head including tea/coffee. Report: JANE COOKE

Group Leaders: JEAN FOSTER / JANE COOKE

BOOKS

The best selling books today are cookbooks. The second bestselling books are dieting manuals, which teach you not to eat what you've just learned to cook!

How true! - Taken from a "Bits and Pieces" book I bought somewhere, thinking it would be useful one day! ANN

U3A FAMILY HISTORY GROUP



The March meeting of the Family History group took an 'Antiques Roadshow' approach and members brought along an interesting array of family heirlooms, from an enormous and much treasured family bible to smaller items such as souvenir brooches and a pilgrimage keepsake. Other artefacts included family portraits in a frame, a 100 years old silk baby dress, a 150 years old basket of cobbler's tools, dinner service plates and a common prayer book. It was fascinating to hear the stories behind each artefact from the members and how they came into their possession.

We all reflected on how important it is to get our family stories right and record what elderly relatives say, so that we can pass our stories on to the next generation.

Report: ANNE CASSIDY

Group Leader: JEAN BRENNAND

U3A 'WANDERER'S' WALKING GROUP



Thirteen members, one guest and three well mannered dogs set off from Barnack Road, Uffington, at around 10.30 am on this bright and clear morning. This was not an unfamiliar walk to most members and we set off in a clockwise direction across a meadow on the south side of the River Welland.

The path soon found us on top of the bank and pushing through a kissing gate leading to a well worn track with plenty of tree growth on both sides. This was the old railway line and the new one lies next to it. It wasn't a very busy morning for rail traffic and there was more than just a hint of Spring in the air. There were plenty of protruding tree roots on the track but we managed to avoid all of them.

The path took us to Uffington Meadows where we crossed back to the north side of the river and then followed the track over a footbridge, through a stile and then onto a path that for much of the way followed the old Stamford Canal. It was a delight to see a lot of daffodils blooming on a small hillside to our left. The path took us back to our cars parked in Barnack Road and we drove back to the Deeping Stage for a welcome and enjoyable lunch.

Report: STEVE & JAN FISK

Group Leaders: HILARY & BARRY AKAM