



Deeping St. James

Issue No.233

The Deepings u3a NEWSLETTER

Website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/deepings/home>



Market Deeping

June 2022

Welcome

to new members Jennie & Stephen Jackson, (Bourne), Avril Lumley-Prior (Peakirk) Marie Witt & Jackie Randall (Deeping St James) and to several rejoinders as well.

PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS

20 June LEONARDO DA VINCI - Artist and Inventor
by Dr Javad Hashemi

18 July If At First You Don't Succeed, Try
Something Different

John Hope's light-hearted look at a few people who have turned failure into fame and success, featuring well-known names in the fields of business, entertainment, sport, science and politics. He also talks about challenges he met throughout his own career.

15 Aug NO MEETING

19 Sept You Must Remember This
Bernard Bale, broadcaster, actor, author & writer, steps back in time to childhood, going to school, growing up and living through the 1940s, 1950s, 1960s and 70s. Remember gob-stoppers, woollen swimming trunks, Watch with Mother, Dick Barton special agent, and many more - a fun look at life as it was.

PLANT A ROSE FOR THE JUBILEE

One of the Platinum Jubilee initiatives has been the call to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". The committee explored various possibilities locally to take part in the scheme. However, the commitment to ongoing maintenance of a tree was raised as a concern.

After much discussion the idea of planting a climbing rose in the sensory garden at the Community Centre was discussed and agreed. Our offer was accepted and plans are in place.

We have researched a strongly scented variety and, having taken advice from experts, we have chosen a beautiful pink rose "Compassion". The rose will be planted with a plaque giving details of the donation. We hope that you all support our choice of planting to commemorate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.



Margaret

MARGARET'S MUSINGS

I begin to muse as the rain pours down, threatening street party celebrations. However, I hope members have enjoyed the festivities they attended. In Crowland a large crowd, led by our Town Crier, joined in a torchlit procession to light the beacon on the Snowden Field; a great community event which has been one of the hallmarks of this Jubilee.



We include details in this Newsletter of your committee's plans for a u3a commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee in the Deepings.

I understand that I missed a very good talk at the May monthly meeting, which I am sad about. However, I was enjoying a wonderful long weekend in Berlin, a present from my granddaughter. The city, due to its history, has a unique character as a tourist destination, I felt. We were moved by the artwork on the long section of the Wall, a guided walk of Hitler's Berlin, took the train to Potsdam to walk around the grounds of the palaces, attended a chamber concert at the Berlin Philharmonic and went up into the dome of the Reichstag building. Lots of walking!

We are very grateful to Liz Noble for editing the Newsletter this month. We send our best wishes to Sandra. Thank you, Sandra and Ruth, for volunteering to take on the editorial role.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the June monthly meeting.

Margaret

Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2021/2022

Chair	Margaret Beardshaw
Secretary	Elaine Batchelor
Treasurer	Anne Burton
Deputy Treasurer	Stuart Wilson
Membership Sec.	Liz Noble
Speaker Finder	Lyall Seale
Group Co-ordination	June Wheatcroft
Team:	Phil Jones
	Jennifer Rogers
	Kath Allen
	Liz Noble
	David Scott

GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

As things are steadily getting back to normal, it's a good time to look again at our Groups and review and refresh our activities if desired. We are in the process of reviewing and updating our notice boards and all Group Leaders should now have the updated venue list. If you are looking again at your venues and would like a copy, please get in touch.

Thank you to the Group Leaders for sending the lists of members and it is good to see how the groups are progressing. I hope to visit your group meeting one day to better understand your group's activity.

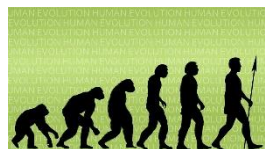
Group Co-Ordinator: June Wheatcroft

SCIENCE GROUP April & May

The absence of a newsletter in May has meant that two meetings have occurred since the last one.



On the 19th April David Perkins gave the first part of his 2-part presentation on Sources of Sustainable Energy. Having seen the amount of information that he managed to cram into his talk, we now understand why it is in two parts! It was a very interesting and informative talk, very well illustrated by the slide presentation, and we look forward to part 2 in September.



On the 17th May Peter Allen bravely tackled "Revolutionary Theories of Evolution", which contained several Latin names of species, which took some pronouncing, and were difficult for us to remember! It was however a very enlightening talk, covering the development of the theories, and the reaction of the Church, State, and other Scholars to them.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st June, at 2pm, in the Learning Room at the Community Centre, but it is far too early for me to speculate what I will be talking about!

Report: Garth Perry

Joint Group Leaders: Garth Perry/David Scott

CRAFT GROUP 2 April & May



In our April meeting we tried a variant of iris folding, patchwork card designs, challenging at times but successful in the end. Thanks to

Anita Setchfield for her support and ideas with these. Heather Bumfrey is providing ideas for the May meeting, currently unknown but look forward to

seeing you all 2pm on 16 May at 102 Church St, DSJ.



In our May meeting Heather Bumfrey brought a star card design for us to try. Lots of measuring, cutting and gluing but very versatile card in the end. Thank you Heather.

As I write this, next month is a mystery project to tackle on Monday 20 June at 2pm!

Group Leader: Liz Noble

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP March, April & May

The group held its first meeting, post Covid, on the 16/03/22 at the Deepings Sports and Social Club Outgang Road. A new venue, for the group, with much to recommend it.

The subjects covered were, Image composition. The works of



Henri Cartier Bresson and some early photographs of the Deepings. These evoked many memories from members.

April Meeting 22/04/22

The second meeting gave a brief introduction to the various photo manipulation programmes from Photoshop to Faststone. The images of Ansel Adams the American landscape photographer were also covered.



May Meeting 18/05/22

Our third meeting, again at the Deepings Sports and Social club, featured a presentation on portraiture mainly videos on how to and the common mistakes made taking the images.

The famous photographers featured the work of David Bailey (the one everyone knows about) and an American of the same name. The images displayed promoted light hearted discussion on their merits.

Our group like many others has shrunk over the last two years, so there is plenty of space for new members. Our group has mixed abilities so do not be shy. We welcome expert and novice alike.

Next meeting 15/06/22 2pm till 4 pm. Venue to be advised.

Group Leaders: Pete Allen/David Blessett

JAZZ/BIG BAND GROUP April & May

Our April meeting was held at Phil Jones' home and Phil put together a programme suggested by Anne Jones, entitled: THE FEMININE TOUCH

Anne's program began with Alma Cogan singing 'Life is just a Bowl of Cherries.' Not so sure about that at present! A name from way back - Anne Shelton, gave us her version of 'And the Angels Sing' and then 'Swinging On a Star.' Annie Ross sang 'A Handful of Songs' (just in one) and then 'Nature Boy,' which had been a bit hit for Nat 'King' Cole.

Shirley Bassey, Marion Montgomery and Claire Teal followed and Cleo Laine sang 'I Got Rhythm,' and 'I Want to be Happy,' a sentiment we all embrace I'm sure.



A lady who, for me, was up there among some of the great Band Leaders of the time, was Ivy Benson and we heard 'I Cover the Waterfront,' & 'Not so Quiet Please,' with a drummer equal to anything Buddy Rich could play.

Lin Hardin Armstrong, (2nd wife of Louis) Arr. Blanche Calloway, (sister of Cab Calloway), Valaida Snow & Ina Ray Hutton continued to entertain as did Dolly Dawn & her Dawn Patrol with 'You're A Sweetheart,' ending with 'Shine.'

A big 'Thank You' to Phil for putting this enjoyable selection together and for the refreshments provided by Kath. Our next meeting is also at Phil's home and will be selected by Geoff Whittle.
Report: Anne Jones

May Meeting

Our May selection was chosen by Geoff Whittle and featured many of the 1920/1930's Jazz, which had quite a different sound back then.

The program began with Mill's 'Ten Black Berries,' & 'Double Check Stomp,' recorded in 1930. Duke Ellington & Johnny Hodges were included in the group of musicians. Following on we had 'The Chocolate Dandies, and then Lucky Millinder playing 'Algiers Stomp,' & 'Jammin for the Jackpot.' Dexter Gordon was next & then two female vocalists - Ella Mae Morse & Ruth Etting. Woody Herman gave us 'Rose Room,' & an early Nat 'King' Cole (1946) sang & played 'I'm in the Mood For Love,'

Meade Lux Lewis, Duke Ellington & Teddy Wilson made an interesting selection with 1928, 1935 & 1941 offerings. Oscar Peterson in fine form played 'Flying Home' & Gerry Mulligan & Lionel Hampton gave us 'Walking Shoes,' & "Apple Core,' After more from the 'Duke'.



We heard a very different item from Valaida Snow, an American jazz musician, internationally celebrated as Queen of the Trumpet! 'My Castle's Rockin,' came from Alberta Hunter & we felt the less said about that - the better!

Andy Kirk, Frankie Newton & then Leo Watson & his orchestra with 'The Man with the Mandolin.' recorded in 1939 closed our musical morning.

Geoff always finds something to get us talking and his choice today certainly did that for which we say 'Thank you.' Phil & Kath were our hosts and provided the excellent refreshments. Our next meeting is at 67, Granville Avenue with Anne Jones.

Report: Anne Jones
Group Leaders: Phil Jones/Anne Jones

GOOD FOOD GROUP May & June

The Good Food Group met at the beginning of May and although no report was prepared we did tackle some Nigella recipes, but in June with so much nostalgia about at the moment we decided our theme should be 'Retro Food' for our monthly shared lunch.

We often start with a glass of something fizzy and some nibbles so this time it was Babysham and bags of plain crisps with the salt in a little blue sachet. Our starter just had to be Prawn Cocktail and we also had Mackerel Pate.

Next was Coronation Chicken, made from the original recipe which had quite a few more ingredients than my usual bit of

curry powder in mayonnaise. Then we had Toad in the Hole with Bisto gravy. We finished with Lemon Meringue Pie.



If we have whet your appetite and you would like to join us for our next lunch, please contact me or Hilary Akham. We will meet on July 4th so our theme will be American Independence Day, obviously!
Report: Sheila McGurk

Group Leaders: Hilary Akham/ Sheila McGurk

SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP May

The latest venue for the group was The Black Horse at Baston on the 22nd of May. Despite the length of time since our last meeting, there were nine people in attendance. The lunch was enjoyed by all and it was nice to see familiar faces.



Our next meeting will be on the 26th June at the Wagon and Horses, Langtoft.

Any U3A members wishing to attend can contact me on 01778 342776, alternatively, I will be in my usual seat at the next monthly meeting on 20th June, at the Methodist Church.

Group Leader: Tony Semple

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP May & June

Twelve members of the Group met at the Community Centre and our subject was "Old Occupations".

We all found something from our Family Trees, some were more obvious and continued today, and some more obscure ones, that we could not even guess as to what they were. Health and safety was non-existent and the use of highly questionable substances by the workers was a daily occurrence.

My choice of trades was from the mills of Lancashire and Yorkshire. "Piecers and Scavengers" were children in the Textile Mills. It was a very dangerous job reconnecting the broken threads under the working looms. The 1833 Factory Act banned children under the age of 9 from working in the Textile Factories, very few inspectors, so many younger children still worked there. Long days, with 2 hours basic schooling and after 13, 12 hour days and no schooling.



"Throstle doffers" were adults who exchanged the full spindles for empty ones on the "Throstle" spinners. The machines so named because the locals thought they sounded like the Song Thrush when working.

The Family History Group is looking for new members so if there is anyone in Deepings U3A interested and would like to join us please contact me.

Report: Jean Brennan

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP June

Thanks to Peg Torrance for leading our June meeting when she challenged us to produce some "Odds and Ends" documents from our ancestors other than the Birth, Marriage and Death certificates etc. However the examples Peg brought of letters, envelopes, insurance certificates, membership cards for churches or sports clubs, not to mention her overseas marriage certificate which was vast compared to the UK current ones were so fascinating and demonstrated just what minute details can be gained from the most ordinary item. It stirred many questions and thoughts about what else we too might have in a box in the loft, that we ran out of time. We plan to continue the discussion next month together with a demonstration of some of the various family history computer systems.

Report: Liz Noble
Group Leader: Jean Brennan

GARDENING 4 PETALS & PRODUCE May & June



Our May meeting took us to the beautiful garden of Brian and Hilary Smith at Ashton. It was a warm sunny day and the garden was really at its best. We were amazed that only 10 years ago the garden was an open meadow. So in

that short time our hosts have developed a fully mature and stunning showpiece. Not only were we impressed with that, but after our tour, we were treated to delicious cakes and scones! As a result we will all have to toil extra hard in our gardens to work off the calories! Our sincere thanks to Hilary and Brian for a wonderful morning.



If any new members are interested in joining a small group of active and very friendly gardeners, then please do get in touch with Glenys or Eddie.

Our next meeting will be the coach trip to Kelmarsh Hall and Coton Manor Gardens, on 19th July, now fully booked.

Report: Eddie Adams

June Report

Our meeting this month was to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee. This we did in style on a lovely sunny morning, in Pam and Dave's lovely garden. We were unusually lazy, chatting, drinking tea and coffee and eating scones and a union cake made by Pam and Angie. Both extremely delicious! We did stroll around the garden which was as colourful and varied as always. However I think we over indulged as I saw no-one climb the bank to see the river! Our next meeting is the coach trip on 19th July, which Eddie will no doubt remind everyone about at the next general meeting.

Report: Glenys Nice
Group Leaders: Glenys Nice/Eddie Adams

THURSDAY GARDENING May and June

What a contrast from April's meeting of severe winds and showers, but our visit to Grimsthorpe Castle gardens was spectacular weather – sunshine all the way and the gardens were at their peak of spring blossom. The Head Gardener, Jim, gave us a really informative tour and the views of the surrounding parkland were stunning. They are obviously working very hard to expand facilities - superb car parking now all planted up with trees and also building an art gallery. Their obvious care for the numerous trees, some particularly old, was very evident throughout the whole garden and parkland together with a lot of the woodland areas now left for wild



flower meadows. The topiary gardens were stunning too, again just at their peak having had a recent trim.

We finished the tour with an excellent light lunch and sorry that three of our group had missed it because of covid – we wish them a speedy recovery.

Report: Liz Noble

June Report

This month, after a year's pandemic delay, we headed out to visit Francis Pryor's gardens at Inley Drove Farm near Spalding for a lovely morning complete with tea and cake. Our thanks to Kay Parker for organising it all.



The gardens are a mix of formal beds filled with traditional plants like lupins, geranium and C19th fragrant roses, with others areas heavily focused on wildlife. The meadow was filled with buttercups.

Anyone interested in visiting might like to know that the gardens will be open under the NGS on 17th and 18th September with details here

<https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/13908> Be prepared to use a reliable SATNAV!

Report: Linda Hill
Group Leaders: Linda Hill and Kay Parker

WEDNESDAY GARDENING June

Ten members of the Wednesday Gardening Group met at Rutland Water Garden Centre near Edith Weston. The array of excellent plants and shrubs for sale was too much of a temptation for most of the Group! We then met in the café for lunch and the usual chat. Again, the food on offer was very good.



Our next meeting is on 13th July to the "Plant Lovers Garden" at Morton. As usual, details and directions will follow.

Report: Jane Cooke
Group Leaders: Jean Foster/Jane Cooke

MONDAY WALKING GROUP May

12 of us met on a sunny, warm day at the Black Horse, Elton. The walk was led by David & Linda Perkins. It was a varied walk on country lanes, footpaths & bridleways. The farmers left well defined paths through their fields, as opposed to just ploughing straight through.

We were giving some history of Fotheringhay Castle. Thus being where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned & finally executed.

On our walk we found what looked like apples hanging from the lower branches of an Oak tree. Taking a photo & using lens I was able to find out they were Oak Apples/ Oak gall. These are formed by being injected by the larve of the gall wasp. - Well you learn something every day !!



As usual there were variations on the length of the walk, 5.7 miles ish!!! A good lunch was had by 7 walkers at the pub.

The next walk will be on 13.6.22 from The Prince Wales Feathers, Castor still to be recce'd by me.

Group Leader: Steve Hanson



June

13 of us met at The Prince of Wales Feathers, Castor. After choosing our lunchtime meals we set off on the walk. The route took us through Castor to a field, where the footpath was somewhat tricky. This was due to the farmer pinching more land from the edges, reducing the footpath width.

Progressing later on a better footpath, we crossed over the A47, coming across Pyramidal Orchids. I personally have not seen these before.



Proceeding toward Upton we took the wooded path, then the track towards Southey Woods, diverting off to Castor Hanglands. We eventually got into the Hanglands and followed the blue route. (I have to admit that this was not what I recce'd). It took us through open common, wooded areas and various paths & gates. Coming out south of the Hanglands we proceeded towards Ailsworth, partly on the outgoing route.

Eventually via Allotment Lane we returned to the pub having walked 6.1- 6.5 miles depending whose app was right!!!



We had a good meal as usual at this pub, who specially opened for us on a Monday.

The next walk on 4th July from The Black Horse, Baston.

Report & Group Leader: Steve Hanson

STROLLER'S GROUP April & May

Our April stroll was led by Stuart, starting from the car park of the Ruddy Duck at Peakirk. We left the village, following the road to Glington, turning off to the right close to the junction with Fox Covert Road. Walking along a track northwards towards the Maxey Cut, we ventured left joining North Fen Road on the northern fringe of the village. Passing through the village we then left it as we took the former main road towards Northborough.

Just before Nine Bridges we turned off the path and crossed pasture rejoin North Fen Road where we walked along the southern bank of one of the branches of the Cut, which returned us to Peakirk.

Group Leader: Bob Deller

May Report

Our May sojourn started from the Prince of Wales Feathers public house at Castor, where, led by David we climbed the hill out of the village and worked our way round to Castor Heights and alongside the old A47. It was a lovely sunny Spring morning, with a cloudless sky as the group went down Mill Lane, over the Nene Valley railway into Nene Meadows.



It was very pleasant to walk through a wildflower meadow alongside the River Nene, looking at wild orchids and a field full of buttercups as well as drawing the attention of marsh harriers. As we crossed over a stream, making it's leisurely way to the river, we noted 2 mute swans enjoying the morning sunshine. The photograph shows some of the group taking a break at this point. We tracked back to Castor, guided by the church spire of St. Kyneburgh and back to the Prince of Wales Feathers.

The venue for our June walk has not been decided yet, but the programmed visit for a full day out to Woodhall Spa has been postponed. Members of the group will be advised shortly.

Group Leader: Bob Deller

QUILTING REPORT June

We were given a large quantity of fabric to share amongst the group. So for part of this class we were sorting through & discussing ideas of how the fabric could be used to make things for charity.

Carol & Ann had month on their Carol made a 'Star roll. She was also on an English Paper Something you can TV or travelling



Ann had been making some handy little gift bags which were distributed amongst the group. These were made from scraps of fabric. Ann used a different technique making these bags with a bottom base. Thank you Ann.

I think members left with ideas that can be put into practise using the donated fabric.

Group Leader: Margaret Griffiths

HISTORY April & May

Speaker Maureen James –
ST GEORGE THE MYTHS & FACTS



A well-attended gathering and a well-received talk.

Maureen entertained us from start to finish with the legend of St George and The

Dragon. It was illustrated with medieval paintings, photographs from modern day events and also buildings dedicated to St George from across the world. Although we think of a Red Cross on a white background, Royal Blue is also a feature in paintings. (See above).



There were far too many facts to record here but it is suffice to say that it was a very pleasant way to spend a sunny April morning, so close to St George's Day. He was quite an adventurer! One or two cartoons caused a laugh out loud response from the audience. A Monty Python moment!

Thank you to everyone who helped and to Barbara for collecting in the deposits for the August visit to Huntingdon. Balance is due in June.

Next month we will hear about life as a child being brought up in Borstal! Kay Plunkett is our speaker for May.

Start time 10.30. Coffee from 10am. **Report: Sandra Jones**

May Report

My Childhood in Borstal - Kay Plunkett - Slides by Tony

We all found the talk very interesting. We no longer hear the word Borstal so it was good to look back at the past when Kay and her brother were young and their father was Steward of Hewell Grange Borstal which was between Redditch and Bromsgrove. Kay described their life living on site and in a prefab in



the grounds. It sounded like a very pleasant place to be brought in up and Kay attended the local village school.

The Borstal System was a concept from 1895 and was meant to educate 'The Lads' who were aged between 15 and 18/21 years old. The name The Borstal Reform System was taken from a place called Borstal in The Medway, Kent, near Rochester.

Hewell Grange changed to an open Prison and the Borstal System ended in 1982 with the Criminal Justice Act. Many thanks to Kay and Tony.

Barbara told everyone that the balance for August's trip would be £17. There were over 40 going.

Next month Sandra will be telling the tale of the biscuit!

Report: Mary Burton
Group Leader: Sandra Jones

MONDAY READERS May & June

We had a very interesting discussion this month – in fact, so interesting that we very nearly forgot to stop for our usual coffee and cake break!

Kate Atkinson and, itself, our discussion with many people only about it. However, began to pick up pace meeting we nearly all felt that it was a much better book than we had first realised.



Our book was Big Sky by much like the book began as a slow burn, moderately enthusiastic again like the book, it all and by the end of the

Big Sky is the fifth in Kate Atkinson's series about Jackson Brodie, an ex-police officer turned private detective. In this book, based in and around Scarborough, he becomes involved in a variety of plots and sub-plots, of which the main one is the illegal importation of young women as sex workers. The book is far more complex, though, and has a large cast of characters and sub-plots, which seemed confusing at first to many of us.

The story is also a slow starter, with the characters and their involvement being introduced slowly over many pages, which tried some readers' patience; it then gradually picked up speed, until the last third and the denouement went along at breakneck speed.

As we discussed it however, it became clear that the characters, including Brodie himself, were highly memorable & well-drawn, & the plotting was also involving & rich. By the end of the morning virtually everyone agreed that they would like to read more of the Jackson Brodie books – & that the question we would most like to ask the author was, how did she keep track of all her characters & the twists in their plots!

Our next meeting will be on Monday June 13th at the library & our book is The Coffin Path by Katherine Clements.

Group Leader: Liz Waterland

June Meeting



We had a very good discussion this month which, as often happens, gave us all differing insights & ideas about the book. We had read The Coffin Path by Katherine Clements which, as the cover design suggests, was a dark tale set in the 1600s on the Yorkshire Moors. In a brooding old Hall, Mercy is trying to keep the family farm & a few workers afloat in hard weather & hard times. There are strange

stories around the place, but it is her home & she loves it with a passion. Her elderly father is behaving more & more strangely, there is an ill-natured character working for her, & the weather & nature are often against her. Then a stranger, Ellis, arrives to take up work. Who is he? & how does he change Mercy's life (& death) for ever?

Full of supernatural foreboding & superstitious fears, the story unfolds with many questions unanswered until the very end. Is the Hall haunted? Is the stranger friend or foe, & why has he come? What is the relationship between Ellis & Mercy? & is the hall really haunted? With an ending that took most of us by surprise, this atmospheric book, with very well drawn characters, & wonderful descriptions of the period & the place, will appeal to any reader who loves mystery, suspense, & not a little spookiness, with strong characters, especially female ones. Well recommended!

Group Leader: Liz Waterland

THE CRAFTY CREW – new craft group April & May

The newly formed group met for the first time on Monday 4th April. We were 2 members down due to COVID but both ladies are getting better by the day & will soon be back in circulation so hopefully by May we will be a full complement of crafters!

On Monday we all enjoyed meeting & learning about each other, we looked at a few crafts we might like to do during future meetings & even found the time to paint a pot!



The original plan was to meet every 2 weeks but with 2 Bank Holidays personal holidays & planned days out in April, our official next meeting will be on 16th May when we will be making animal face book marks at the home of Jennie Jackson in Bourne. It was a lovely afternoon, everyone gelled & I am sure we can all look forward to some fun, inspiration & crafting. Thank you to Christine for looking after us in your lovely home & garden & introducing us to Bella (the dog) & the ducks who flew in for their tea!!

2nd Meeting report

The Crafty Crew met for the second time on 17th May...the original plan for 2 meetings each month is proving a little difficult as prior commitments, bank & personal holidays get in the way but as a small group we can work round that.

We have all agreed that our crafts will be varied, uncomplicated, fun, something for everyone & hopefully can be completed within the 2 hour slot we have settled on.

This week we made butterfly corner bookmarks (a bit of card & paper folding, a little cutting & gluing) & each person putting their artistic skills to the decoration! The basic folded form can be used to make a multitude of animal bookmarks, "pink pig" was the favourite but everyone went home with ideas for all sorts of others.



We are hoping to meet again on 23rd May (an extra catch up session) & our project a Snap Bag.

3rd Meeting report



Only 3 members today, 3 sewing machines, lots of coffee, chat & cake but still time to make "snap bags"! Discussed other crafts we would like to try, cube doorstops a possibility, fairly easy & quick but animal shapes more interesting & probably more fun as well as more complicated...watch this space!

We will meet again on Tuesday 14th June (days of the week will change because of commitments) this time at Molly Wright's home & we will try our hand at crepe paper Gladioli.

Group Leaders: Jennie Jackson/Molly Wright (Admin)

CYCLING GROUP May



Five of us departed the Bridge in Market Deeping for May's Bike Ride.

The weather was overcast & there were a few spots of rain throughout the ride but nothing of any major concern.

We initially rode through Market Deeping along Towngate to Cross Road where we crossed the A1175 & on to Langtoft via Meadow Road & New Road. After crossing the A15 we carried on along Stowe Road to Greatford. From Greatford we went along Baston Road & turned off heading for Wilesthorpe & once through the lovely village of Wilesthorpe we continued on to Braceborough where we stopped for our Group Photo.

As a quick aside, we had received some negative reviews about our photos being "boring" so have tried a new "SLANT" in the hope of better reviews!!

After our photo shoot, we carried on to Barholm & from there back to Langtoft for a very nice lunch in the Waggon & Horses. This 15-mile route was prepared by Kevin who unfortunately couldn't make it, so thank you Kevin, we all enjoyed it.

Next ride will be on the 17th June so hopefully see everyone there.

Group Leader: Jim Torrance

PS: Well done for initiative! Liz, Temporary Editor

PACERS WALKING GROUP

An elite (i.e. small) group of six pacers, led by Geoff, set off on the May walk from the Talbot in Stilton – a new walk for this group. The number of walkers had been reduced by holidays & illness.



John, the very friendly manager at the Talbot, was ready at 10.00 to take our orders & we set off at about 10.10.

We walked past the Church & up to the end of Church Street where we joined the footpath (wide & well marked) over three fields that seemed to go on for ever. Arriving at the farm in Denton at the end of the footpath we stopped for a long chat with the farmer who was keen for us to see his 33 little calves, still in an open shed – due out into the fields the next day (best not to think about the burger ordered for lunch!).

We continued on grassy fields & then to Caldecote where we saw a motor bike going up the road, turning & then going back, turning again, etc. It seemed we had come across 'a photoshoot for Bike magazine' – beats working! We offered to be centrefold for the month but were rejected.

On to Folksworth & back to Stilton after a pleasant (if a little wet for the first 20 minutes) 4.5 mile walk. Excellent & good value meal at the Talbot.

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 4 & 5 miles.

No walk in June due to the Jubilee so the next walk will be on Wednesday 6th July - details as usual by email.

Group Leaders: Geoff Whittle/Margaret Beardshaw

POETS & POETRY GROUP May

Our theme this month was typically June & the Jubilee held at Kath's home as usual.

We had a good variety of poems relating to the month of June & Jubilee celebrations including Pam Ayres, Annette Wynne, Jan Addison, Austin Dobson, Lenore Hedrick, Sara Coleridge & Elizabeth Barrett Browning. A fine selection.



We also celebrated Kath's 'big' birthday with a cake & wished her many happy returns.

Next month, 5th July, we are looking at the Romantic poets.

**Report: Angie Dorward
Group Leader: Irene Beeken**

THURSDAY WALKING GROUP May & June

For the group's May 2022 walk, Garth Perry took 15 members on a very pleasant walk in good weather through rolling countryside on a return visit to The Stilton Circuit. The walk commenced from The Talbot Inn at Stilton & took in the villages of Denton, Caldecote, the site of a medieval village at Washingley, the Morborne Masts & Folksworth before returning for a well earned lunch at the Talbot. Many thanks to Garth for leading the walk & organising the lunch.

Group Leaders: Godfrey Parkes/David Scott

June

For our June walk the two Group Leaders led a smaller group of 12 members on a very pleasant rural walk in good weather which commenced in warm sunshine gradually turning cloudy



as the walk progressed but still warm compared to the two days at the end of the Jubilee celebrations. The walk commenced from The Cholmeley Arms at Burton Le Coggles where we joined Her Maj for a cup of tea on the verge opposite the pub!! Continuing, our first encounter was through a hilly field of cows with the bull eyeing us all up!!

Continuing along farm tracks & mown paths through the rolling countryside of the surrounding area we then descended down to Bitchfield & through a field of sheep to Lower Bitchfield just off the B1176. It was at this latter village that we noted an interesting row of gravestones in the churchyard all relating to the same family before we then returned to the Cholmeley Arms for an excellent & very fulsome lunch.



The next walk on 14 July will be led by Brian Lawrence & will be in the Ropsley area commencing from The Green Man, 24 High Street, Ropsley, Grantham, Lincs NG33 4BE. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please e-mail Brian on brianlawrence519@btinternet.com or telephone on 01778 348336 by the Tuesday evening preceding the walk, if possible, & indicating whether you will be staying for lunch.

Group Leaders: Godfrey Parkes/David Scott

LISTENING TO MUSIC May & June



WELCOME TO THE BBC LIGHT PROGRAMME!

Our May meeting was at the home of Cynthia & Chris Hartley, programme collated by Chris. This was a trip down Memory Lane for some of them tune to Radio 4's 'Desert Island Discs,' namely: 'By a Sleepy Lagoon' composed by Eric Coates, followed the 'Robin Hood Suite; March of the Bowmen.' 'Bells Across The Meadow, 'Coronation Scot,' & Haydn Wood's 'Roses of Picardy' & his 'Sketch of a Dandy'.

Robert Farnon, a regular on the Light Programme gave us 'The Westminster Waltz', Eric Coates again with 'London Suite; Knightsbridge March.' which was the theme tune for 'In Town Tonight.' Trevor Duncan's 'Little Suite: March,' Ernest Tomlinson's 'Little Serenade', Puffin Billy,' from Edward White & Ronald Binge's 'Sailing By,' were all familiar as was Gioacchino Rossini's 'Cat's Duet.'

Michael Hurd gave us 'Shepherd's Calendar: May. John Clare's poem set to music & we were then treated to a TV film of Fela Sowande & his 'African Suite: No.4. Akinla. This was delightful & performed by talented young musicians of the Pioneer High Schools Orchestra.

Dimitri Shostakovich's recording of 'Tahiti Trot' & the popular 'Elizabethan Serenade' another Ronald Binge work were followed by the finale to our most enjoyable visit, Eric Coates & his 'Dam Busters March.' A stirring end to the morning & a great piece of music.

Thank you Chris for a really enjoyable musical experience. The melodies lingered for quite awhile. Thanks too to Cynthia for the refreshments. Our next meeting 8th June at Terry's house.

Report: Anne Jones

June

Our June meeting began with a moments silence in which we remembered one of our Group Leaders - Jim Pringle, who recently passed away. He was one of the first members of Deepings u3a (no 43) & held many roles in that time & will be greatly missed.

Terry Noble devised our programme & dedicated it to Jim. We enjoyed a selection of 'FIRST SYMPHONIES,' - a Symphony being, & I quote 'an elaborate composition usually for full orchestra'. The 'Firsts' today comprised 3 or 4 movements.

Beginning with William Boyce, an English composer, (1711 - 1779) we heard 3 movements played by the Academy of Ancient Music, conducted by Christopher Hogwood. Mozart followed with 3 movements he had written at the age of 8.

Carl Maria von Weber, a German composer (1786 - 1826) gave



us 4 movements, played by the London Classical Players, conducted by Roger Norrington. 4 movements also from Beethoven were conducted by Leonard Bernstein, with the Wiener Philharmoniker & we ended the morning with the Ukranian born Sergi Prokofiev's 4 movementd played by the

Ulster Orchestra, conducted by David Porcelijn .

It was a programme Jim would have enjoyed, as we all did & thanks to Terry for putting it together, & to Liz for the excellent refreshments. We meet next on 13th July again at Terry's house.

Report: Anne Jones
Group Leader: Terry Noble

WEEKENDERS GROUP June



The Weekenders Group celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with enthusiasm. We started the celebration with 15 members enjoying a delicious Platinum Jubilee Afternoon Tea at the Oasis Restaurant at Waterside Garden Centre.

Our regular monthly meeting on Saturday 4th June continued our Jubilee celebrations with a bring & share buffet, a raffle & a quiz set by Anita to test our royal knowledge which proved to be a little lacking! But everyone enjoyed the morning with plenty of chatting & laughter as well as much eating of the many mouth-watering cakes & savouries brought by members.



Our next meeting is on July 2nd at the Oddfellows Hall. New members are always welcome.

Report: Barbara McNicol
Group Leaders: Ann Bradshaw/Barbara McNicol

ART APPRECIATION April & May

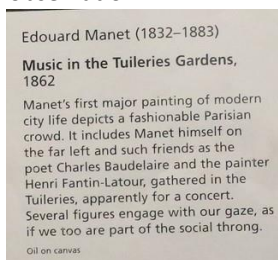
Speaker – John Shearman

MUSIC IN THE TUILERIES GARDENS BY EDOUARD MANET 1832-1883



Today, we studied **one** painting & looked at various clues in the content of the painting. We learned about the history & life & times of Manet & his contemporaries. It was fascinating & showed

the amount of detail & discussion that can be gained from observation.



Next month is Peterborough Museum's Art exhibition 'Urban' and is a 10 am gathering at the café. June's speaker is Bill Sandles. Title

to be confirmed. July will be the Coventry trip. This has been organized by Margaret & was originally arranged for July 2020! Thank you Margaret for keeping it in such secure wraps!

Report & Group Leader: Sandra Jones

May

PETERBOROUGH MUSEUM URBAN EXHIBITION

A few of the group met to find that the café was closed, as one member commented, 'Plan A failed! Undaunted, we continued into the Urban exhibition to find many wonderful surprises. Who would have thought we could see so many Banksy

artworks and several Damien Hurst and Tracey Emin works under one roof in Peterborough?



Many other artists were represented, showing thought-provoking images, often created on scrap material, making them even more poignant.

Some displayed new techniques, reflecting how, historically, artists have

led the way with ground-breaking materials and methods. We saw work that was joyous, unbearably sad, comical, confrontational, delightful, angry and challenging. It was a real treat for the senses and a memorable trip.

Next month Bill Sandles with an unknown title. Sports and Social Club. 10am for 10.30.

Report: Ann Stokes
Group Leader: Sandra Jones

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP May

On the last Thursday in May, the Natural History Group went to explore Penfield Nature Reserve, the new nature reserve that has opened at Langtoft. What was quarry land is now being developed into a wild life area.



We were only able to walk on the

upper path because of flooding from the lake caused by the quarry still operating next to it but that will soon be sorted & the lower path around the lake will be reopened. We were able to enjoy the lovely views across the lake with wild fowl such as mallards, grebe & pochard ducks on the water & sand martins flying across. The area is now woodland with benches put at regular intervals for people to enjoy & an easy walk with lots of wild flowers & different trees to see.



From Penfield we went across to Willow Tree Fen, hoping to see the cranes & their chicks. On this occasion they had moved into the longer grass & we couldn't see them from the carpark which is as far as you are allowed to go. However the cranes will be there until the end of August & there is plenty of other wildfowl to see in the area as well. Altogether, two lovely places to go to enjoy the quiet & the wildlife.

Report: Jo Astle
Group Leaders: Jo Astle/Margaret Beardshaw

FLOWER ARRANGING June

Our June meeting took place on 9th June. After watching a demonstration video at our previous meeting, the group were well prepared to tackle this month's theme of A Summer Garden Party Ring. Foliage & flowers from the member's own gardens, plus a few bought flowers, where needed, helped to produce an attractive display of a wide variety of arrangements, everyone different.



As a newcomer to the group, I have already learnt so much from the more experienced members & have been amazed to discover that our own gardens are such a rich source of material for flower arranging.

**Report: Anne Cassidy
Group Leader: Pat Ludlow**

WANDERERS June

Having assembled at the Black Horse in Baston fourteen Wanderers ambled eastwards along Main Street towards the North Meadow track. Soon we had left the village behind and were out in the countryside and heading towards the River Glen. We climbed up the steep slope to the top of the Glen's embankment which also forms a small part of the 290 mile Macmillan Way.

From this vantage point the vastness of the Fens became apparent with its seemingly endless green fields interspersed with woods and occasional farm buildings. After some minutes we came to the Baston Fen Nature Reserve, a long tract of permanent pasture which is flooded in winter and attracts large numbers of wildfowl. In the summer it is alive with insects and wild flowers. The only notable bird we saw was an Egret but a Kingfisher was spotted on our recce.

Soon it was time to return and we retraced our steps westwards with the sun and soft breeze on our faces. Back at the Black Horse we enjoyed an excellent lunch.

There is no July walk and August's will be publicised in the usual way.

Group Leaders: Barry and Hilary Akam

CHURCH MICE May & June



15 members of Church Mice visited Wittering Church in May. This is one of the oldest churches we have visited, dating from the 10th century. It has an amazing Saxon arch, totally dominating the interior.

There are also two more arches from the 12th century, well worth noting. The north chapel is dedicated to the RAF base with a modern stained glass window.

David kept us fully interested with his research about the church and the village, showing us close up slides of items in the church, rather than making us peer at them from a distance.

The talk was followed by excellent cakes and cups of tea.

Our next visit in June is to two churches, Horbling and Billingborough.

Group Leader: Henry Roberts

June

On a lovely sunny summer's day 21 members of Church Mice made the journey to Billingborough to visit two churches less than a mile apart and both named St Andrew's.



Our first church was at Horbling where Derek gave us a very fluent, interesting and humorous talk. He called his church 'idiosyncratic'. Dating from the 12th century it was easy to see the Norman, Early English and Gothic influences. Built on sand it was a miracle it was still standing. The nave pillars were leaning backwards, the chancel arch was not



straight, deathwatch beetle and woodworm had turned some woodwork to crumbs and the tower and ceiling were held together with iron straps. Unusually the bell tower was at the crossing in the church, meaning the congregation could watch the bell ringers at work, except for the fact that the tower was unsafe for bellringing. Michael Ramsay, a future archbishop of Canterbury was christened by his grandfather at the font decorated with the tools of Christ's torture. There was a fine Easter Sepulchre in the Lady Chapel and an unusual west gallery choir.

Moving on it took most of us a while to find our way to Billingborough parish church,



although we could clearly see the spire. There Trevor and Geoff, the churchwardens, told us about the church, founded in the late 13th century. Of note were the stained glass windows, one of which featured a 1st World War

revolver.



As interesting as the church was, the highlight for most of us was a marvellous tea and a chance to chat to each other.

Group Leader: Henry Roberts



Well I did have a bit of spare space! Liz

Just in case you are not jubileed out, here are some of the things that happened in the Deepings



Aircraft of yesteryear and today in the London skies 2nd June 2022 and someone who found it too noisy!



AROUND DEEPINGS

"2nd – 5th June - Vintage Car Parade around the villages & some of Deepings Flower Club displays



Even crafters got in on the act with some appropriate earrings! (well done Kath Allen)



5th June – sadly the weather failed to co-operate in the Deepings & the events on the John Eve playing field in Market Deeping were cancelled

CONGRATULATIONS to all in the community for celebrating this unique anniversary.

