



Deeping St. James

Issue No.249 November 2023

The Deepings u3a NEWSLETTER

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

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Market Deeping

Welcome

New members: None this month

NEXT MEETING: 20 November. Unless otherwise stated, all monthly meetings are at the Methodist Church, Deeping St James. Doors open at 9.30am. Coffee is served until 10.20 and the meetings begin at 10.30.

PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS:

20 November: Thomas Cook and the Origins of Popular Tourism

Paul Smith's talk tells the story of Thomas Cook, widely regarded as the father of popular tourism. He conducted his first excursion, a 12-mile rail journey from Leicester in July 1841. This marked the start of his venture into the world of travel. Over the next 30 years, Thomas would lead his customers into Europe, across America, up the Nile and around the globe.

18 December (ticket only): Christmas - The Midwinter Festival's Different Traditions

Philippa Massey looks at the seasons, the worship, the feast, the decorations, the entertainments, from pre-Christian celebrations to the present day.

MARGARET'S MUSINGS

Dear members

It was good to welcome members at our AGM last month when we elected and welcomed committee members; Mary Martin was newly elected to the role of Secretary and Anne Burton has rejoined the committee. Again, we extend our thanks to Elaine Batchelor for her work as Secretary; thanks also to Lyall Seale, who has stood down as speaker finder but will be coordinating until the end of the year with the speakers whom he has engaged.

We are also looking for a Webmaster who would not need to be a committee member; this would be an excellent opportunity to learn how to set up and maintain a website, as full training is to be provided by national u3a. I am sure there is someone among our membership with the skills that could be built on to fulfill this role. Please have a word with one of the committee if you would like to volunteer.

Another idea! We would like set up a small team of "meeters and greeters" for the monthly meetings, so please get in touch if you feel you would like to do this once in a while.

The December meeting will be our Christmas Party and tickets are now available for £3. There will be Christmas refreshments on arrival, followed by the talk on a festive theme. I look forward to welcoming you to celebrate together.

Meanwhile, in this last month of Autumn enjoy the golden days and keep warm and dry in the damp and dismal days!

With best wishes

Margaret

Chair, The Deepings u3a



Membership Secretary's report

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – January to December 2024. It's renewal time again– forms are attached and as advised at the AGM the subscription remains at £10 for full membership, £6 for Associated Members who belong to another U3A.

HOW TO PAY - Either by: BACS or TELEPHONE BANKING - please quote your membership number(s), and if paying for more than one person from a joint account then add a "J" to the Reference.

Or by CHEQUE payable to "The Deepings U3A"

A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM is required for **ALL** methods of payment.

Hand in the form at the Monthly Meeting or send to the Membership Secretary at: membership@deepingsu3a.com or post/deliver to 23 The Parslins, Deeping St James, Peterborough PE6 8NQ.

COMPLETING THE FORM

Two versions of the form are included with this Newsletter:

- A Word document (.docx) This can be completed on-line

- A pdf document (.pdf) This can be printed
- A limited number of forms will also be available at November/December meetings

Please try the following methods, in the order shown, to complete your membership form:

1. If you have a windows-based PC or laptop with Word or a similar program (Libre Office, WPS, etc – Not Google Docs as this corrupts the Word document) you may be able to complete the Word version on the computer and email it to the Membership Secretary. If using Gmail, you will need to download it so that the form opens in Word and not in Google Docs (corrupts form). If you are a Mac/Ipad user you will need to download it and send to Pages (note that the Check Boxes will not work in Pages – insert an X next to them as required). If you complete the form online it is recommended that you convert it to a PDF before returning using Print to PDF in Word or Export to PDF in Pages.
2. If you have a printer try and print out the PDF version from your device, if successful, complete it manually, scan or photograph it and email/post/deliver the completed form to the Membership Secretary.
3. If both the above have not been successful try using the link <https://form.jotform.com/232903376959065>
This will open a simpler structured form that can be completed on any device. Once you have filled in all the boxes, don't forget to **Submit** it.

AFTER COMPLETING AN ONLINE FORM REMEMBER TO MAKE A PAYMENT BY BACS OR CHEQUE

Just a reminder that we are no longer issuing annual badges. Group Leaders will be checking their group members are paid up members. If there are any queries the Membership Secretary will be pleased to confirm a subscription has been renewed.

David Perkins
Membership Secretary

CHRISTMAS MEETING TICKETS ON SALE £3 –at the November meeting



Our Christmas meeting on 18 December 2023 from 9.30 is in our usual meeting venue, The Methodist Church, Deeping St James. Coffee on arrival followed by a talk on Christmas – Mid-winter Festivals' different traditions, followed by Christmas refreshments.

As usual entry is by TICKET ONLY – price £3 - and will be on sale at the November monthly meetings or email/phone Liz Noble to reserve yours. Liznoble102@gmail.com or 01778 342855.



Correct money would be most helpful!

U3a 2024 diaries – “Best and most sought-after diaries in the World”

Please note!!

The last chance to get hold of Deepings u3a's 2024 diaries will be at our monthly meeting on 20 November. There are just less than 10 left so if you want one, please be sure to see me at this meeting or telephone me on 01778 344916 to secure your copy. They cost £4.50 each but they contain an extra month so they start on 1 December 2023..... very handy to start recording all your December appointments running into the New Year. Contact me as soon as possible if you want a copy.

June Wheatcroft

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A VOLUNTEER?

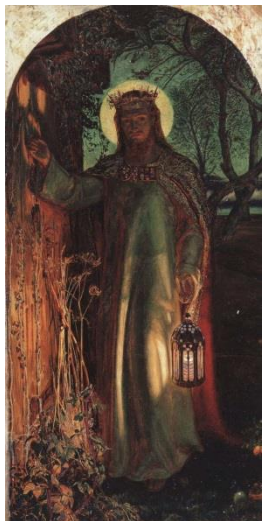
Here are a couple of volunteering opportunities in our u3a
Do you enjoy IT? Would you like to gain more skills?
Why not become our Webmaster?
And what about becoming a “meeter and greeter” at monthly meetings?
See Margaret's letter from the Chair for more details and contact her on
07887623230 or at margaret.beardshaw@btinternet.com

SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

The next Sunday lunch will be on the 26th November, at the Blue Bell, Helpston. Contact either Helen on 01778345674 or Enid Withers on 01778 342936 or book with Enid at the Monday meeting.

Report and Group Leader: Tony Semple

ART APPRECIATION GROUP



VICTORIAN ART By ALLAN BROOKE

We were treated to an excellent talk this morning, illustrated with examples of Victorian paintings. They represented the social changes and also the industrial progress made during the reign of Queen Victoria. Allan spoke for 45 minutes, without notes, which amazed us. Also, he pointed out the detail on paintings, such as the hare frantically running away from the train in J.M.W. Turner's *Rain, Steam and Speed*.

He pointed out the acronym of the word WHARF which was Ware House At River Front. However, on investigation for this report, it actually comes from Old English and Germanic word *hwearf*, meaning heap or embankment. I think I prefer Allan's version.

This painting was shared worldwide when prints became available to buy. It is by William Holman Hunt. The original is at Keble College Oxford, the second painting is in Manchester Art Gallery and the last piece is at St Paul's Cathedral. It was painted 50 years later with the help of Edward Robert Hughes.

Many thanks to Allan who will hopefully visit us again next year.

Next month our guest speaker is the artist John Bangay a well-known Artist from Stamford. He is bringing some of his collection of Art books as well as his Power Point presentation. There is interesting information about John on the Internet if you want further information.

Next meeting November 21st - 10 for 10.30

Report and Group Leader: Sandra Jones

LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

September report

Our September meeting was at the home of Frank Mills and the title of Frank's programme was -CONCERTOS

'A concerto is a composition for a solo instrument or instruments accompanied by an Orchestra.'

Antonio Vivaldi began our musical morning with his concerto RV 580 for four guitars, *Los Romeros*, with The Academy of St.Martin-in-the-Fields orchestra, conducted by Iona Brown. Their second offering was from Johann Bach. His Mov 3 Allegro from the Brandenburg Concerto No.2.

Anthony Marwood with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra gave us Samuel Coleridge Taylor's Violin Concerto Op. 80 2nd Mov Andante conducted by Martyn Brabbins.

Mozart followed with the Flute and Harp Concerto. Mov 3 Allegro, the BBC Orchestra of Wales, conducted by Garry Walker. Josef Fiala's *Capella Istropolitana*, a Concerto for two horns. Mov 1 Allegro, was conducted by Frantisek Vajnar.

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, played the Clarinet Concerto No.1. Mov 3 Rondo, by Bernhard Cruse and we heard the Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani, soloist- Gillian Weir, The BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Davis.

Maurice Ravel and his Piano concerto for the left hand, Mov 2 Adagio was played by the Polish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Antoni Wit. The amazing pianist was Francois-Joel Thioller.

Our morning closed with Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No 1 played by Tasmin Little and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Mov 2 Adagio, Mov 4 Allegro, conducted by David Atherton

Our thanks to Frank for providing the group with an interesting and pleasant morning of musical concertos.

Our October meeting is at the home of Joy Elliman and in November we meet at Terry Noble's home.

October report

Our October meeting was held at the home of Joy Elliman and Joy's programme title was: ALL AT SEA.

We began with Frank Bridge's - *The Sea, Seascape, Sea-Foam, Moonlight, and Storm* by the BBC National Orchestra conducted by Richard Hickox. Then, Benjamin Britten's composition *Four Sea Interludes* from Peter Grimes.

A lovely version of *The Skye Boat Song*, sung in Gaelic by Bear McCrear, followed this, and then *Sailor's Chorus*, from *The Flying Dutchman* by Richard Waner and then Peter Tchaikovsky's familiar *Dance of the Reeds*, from his Nutcracker Suite played by The London Festival Orchestra conducted by Henry Adolph.

Camile Saint-Saens gave us *Aquarium*, from the *Carnival of the Animals*, and George Bizet composed *Smuggler's March* again played by the London Festival Orchestra, this time conducted by Alfred Scholz.

On The Sea Shore by Arnold Bax was followed by Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Sea Songs* for Brass Band, (arr. Longfield) played by the Charleston Community Band.

John Ireland's *Sea Fever*, came from the 2016 Leeds Lieder Festival with Roderick Williams- baritone and Julius Drake on the piano.

Our morning closed with - what else but *Rule Britannia*, the 2009 last night of the Proms by the BBC Symphony Orchestra with David Robertson, soprano, Dame Sarah Connolly, soprano.

Many thanks to Joy and Donald for hosting the morning which was a treat for us all.

**Report: Anne Jones
Group Leader: Terry Noble**

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP



The October meeting was for our annual fungus forage expedition, this year in Bourne Woods. The forecast was not promising and, sure enough, it was raining. A brave and eager group of twelve set out under dripping trees, pledging to find 10 different species before giving up – we found 11 in less than an hour! Our finds included Sulphur tuft, Crown topped coral, Turkey tail, Liberty cap and Candle snuff as well as the better-known Bracket and Puffball.

We returned to the shelter of our cars soaked but satisfied with our research.



Report and Group Leader: Margaret Beardshaw

CRAFT GROUP 2



Only 67 days to Christmas as I write this so Christmas cards were started with a delightful and very intricate card from Maureen. Thank you to her particularly as there was a lot of cutting out procedures to do in preparation. Getting it in the right order was the challenge but fun to do.

Look forward to seeing you on Monday 20 November, 2pm as usual.

**Report: Liz Noble
Group Leader: Liz Noble**

JAZZ AND BIG BANDS GROUP

The programme for our October 2023 meeting was compiled by Anne Jones, who managed to hit the jazz section of our group title 'On the beat'.

Anne managed to draw our attention to a few lesser-known names, such as Bill Tole (with his orchestra), Shelly Berg (piano) and Michael Feinstein. The last in this list being a mere 67 years old, is a great voice, surprisingly little known in this country. He has a massive presence in the USA.

Having a chance to visit the Modern Jazz Quartet and Errol Garner, not forgetting Oscar Peterson, Anne's choice leaned to the USA. Moving off-piste a little, for Billy Joel and *It's Only Rock and Roll To Me* and riding on *The Midnight Train To Georgia* with Gladys Knight and The Pips, these were enjoyable.

Jazz from this country was represented by Dixie Mix, a band often heard at the now defunct Stamford Jazz Club, last convened at Bourne. The tunes may have originated in America, but the Dixie Mix offering had instantly recognisable and indeed, welcome, British sound.

Thanks to Anne for her programme and hospitality. Our next meeting is to be hosted by Terry Noble on 22 November 2023.

By the way, there is plenty of room for new members in our group. No specialist knowledge is necessary. Our title says it all, using a broadest of brushes. If you are interested then please contact Phi Jones – 01778343515.

**Report: Phil Jones
Group Leader: Phil Jones/Anne Jones.**

MONDAY WALKING

November's walk, with 19 walkers, began and finished at the Crab & Winkle, Werrington. The weather was cool but dry with a clear blue sky. Perfect walking conditions!



We initially headed down Lincoln Road, turning left onto Sheldrick Walk. Walking around the parks we emerged onto Fenbridge Road. After crossing Goodwin Walk, we entered the park area containing Cuckoo Hollow. Crossing over the footbridge we skirted the lake and walked through the underpass, under Fulbridge Road. The underpass walls are adorned with huge colourful paintings of wildlife local to Britain (see photo).

Continuing alongside the river we emerged onto Gunthorpe Road. Crossing this we entered John Claire recreation Ground. A bridge over the river took us onto Fulbridge Road, which we crossed and then followed the paths alongside the small river to emerge alongside the Werrington Parkway. After a few metres, we re-joined the river, now running westwards, through the static dwellings on Dukesmead. This led us to the huge green metal railway over-pass. On arrival at the top tier, our railway expert, Brian Driscoll, treated us to a talk on the costly rail subway work, in the distance, separating crossing rail tracks.

From here, heading south-west we entered Pocock's Wood and through grassland alongside Belham Wood and exited onto Woodcroft Road. Now heading northwards, we had to re-cross the railway over another, smaller, footbridge. Woodcroft Road now became Hurn Road and leaving this we walked alongside the rail tracks and under the A15. Passing over the adjacent new service road bridge, over the rail tracks, we came onto David's Close. Only a short way now back to our start. An agreed distance of 6.3 miles.

A very enjoyable walk, followed by a very tasty lunch.



**Report: Richard Coulson
Group Leader: Steve Hanson**

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Our October meeting saw 24 members and visitors listen to a very interesting talk by Abigail Rowlands of the "Commonwealth War Graves Commission". She covered lots of different areas of the CWGC's work across the Commonwealth, the Royal Charter and Fabian Ware a 45-year-old Civil Servant and Journalist who was too old to join the Services but established the Commission.

The Commission covers those killed between 4 August 1914 - 31 August 1921 and 3 September 1939 - 31 December 1947 who were serving in the Commonwealth military force or after discharge if the death was caused by wartime service.

Also, Commonwealth civilians who died between 3 September 1939 - 31 December 1947 as a consequence of enemy action or whilst in an enemy prison camp.

A volunteer team of 2,000 called "Eyes On, Hands On" inspect the graves' condition making sure they are clean and repaired also gardeners and guides.

To make it more relevant to us she told us about the War Graves we have in our local churches and what we are able to find out about these men. Another new feature is a new app for your phone where you are able to enter a location or post code and find out if that church or cemetery has any graves with all the details of the person and a photo of the grave.

She also told us of a project called "For Evermore-Stories of the Fallen" which at the time of the talk was not live but is now. You can search for your relative/soldier and enter their life story even adding photos. You are also able to read other stories of comrades who fought and died in the same regiment. She ended her talk by taking questions and speaking of the "MOD War Detectives" as they have been called. The JCCC, the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre, who research and put names to any graves found in the Battlefields today.

Report and Group Leader: Jean Brennand

POETS & POETRY GROUP

Angie was our host for the November meeting with nine members present, our task was to find a poet or a piece of poetry beginning with the letter 'I', and how interesting the poems chosen turned out to be. We had *The Nymphy's reply to the Shepard* by Sir Walter Raleigh, *Indifference* by Studdert-Kennedy, *In the Bathroom* by Roy Fuller, *I've got you under my skin* by Cole Porter, *The singing lesson* by Jean Ingelow, *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrea, *It is a Beauteous evening* by William Wordsworth, *Tell Tale Signs* by Brian Bilston, *I Say, I Say* by Simon Armitage, *The Oak Leaves* by Edna Vincent Millay. With so many subjects in the poems for us to discuss and talk about we spent a very pleasant afternoon, very well refreshed by Angie our thanks to her. Our next meeting is on December 5th.

Report and Group Leader: Irene Beeken

THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

October report

This month's walk began at the 16th Century Fortesque Arms in Billingborough. The day was dry and cool, but cloudy.

Fourteen walkers headed northwards alongside the B1177 towards Horbling. Just before entering the village, we turned left onto Spring Lane, past the Plough Inn, and then left over a stile to enter the countryside. Heading west, our route should have taken us under the disused rail line through a tunnel, but this had been blocked off due to it becoming unsafe. Skirting a field, we managed to re-join our path.

Long grass had become very wet due to the heavy rain the day before and it was not long



before the majority of us had wet feet and realised that the advert promising our footwear being waterproof was in fact untrue. Squelching our way alongside several field edges we arrived onto Stow Lane. Heading now south we walked through Stow Farm and continued south onto Folkingham Road. Crossing a small brook (it didn't really matter about getting our feet any wetter) we turned west to meet Mareham Lane. After a short distance on the lane we turned east toward Birthorpe. This pretty little hamlet is regarded as a 'shrunken medieval village' with the Manor House and farm house being listed. Straight on now eastwards back to Billingborough. Before entering the inn we walked around behind it to view Spring Wells, the reason Billingborough originally came to exist. This spot is known as Spring Wells **and** probably attracted the first settlers here because the water is rich with iron salts and reputed to have healing qualities and other benefits for good health.

The Spring Wells are natural artesian springs and are fed by rain falling on the uplands near Grantham, flowing eastwards along the dipping limestone strata and being forced up under pressure. The water is slightly warm and seldom freezes. The springs have only dried up twice in living memory – in 1967 and in 2011 when the water did not reappear for

six months.

The water no doubt attracted early settlers and there is evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlement nearby. The village itself is named after the post-Roman Billings tribe of invaders.

The 6.5 mile walk now over, we sat down a variety of well-prepared, enjoyable meals.



November report



Our November walk saw 15 walkers start, and finish, from the Wishing Well Inn, at Dyke. We began by having a group photo in the car park with the old mill as a backdrop.

Built around 1650 the mill was first used for powering water pumps in nearby Deeping Fen. The design with a stone or brick base and timber upper structure is known as a 'smock mill' and this one is the last that exists in Lincolnshire. The mill continued working until 1926 when one of the sails broke off halting the production of flour.

The walk began with us heading across fields due north towards Morton.

Crossing High Street, still heading north, we then continued across sticky fields but now heading east.

Upon reaching Haconby Lane, we then headed past a few dwellings down Pearce Lane and once again joined the countryside. Still heading east, across fields we came to Cardyke Farm. Alongside the farm house ran the famous Car Dyke.

Constructed by the Romans in AD125 the dyke originally ran from the river Cam, near Cambridge to the river Witham, just south of Lincoln, a distance of approximately 85 miles. Surveys have shown that the dyke was originally 14.5 metres wide at the top and between 2 and 4 metres deep. Its primary intention was to drain the land and it is estimated that it took 300 years to drain the fen lands.

Walking still east, for a few hundred metres, along the farm access road, we now turned sharp right and started to head back, bearing south west. Still crossing fields, we emerged onto Morton Drove. Due south now took us straight alongside field edges back to Dyke.

The weather kept fine throughout the walk, a few muddy patches, and we recorded a distance of 6 miles.

An excellent meal was provided for us by friendly, pleasant staff.



Report and Group Leader: Richard Coulson

CYCLING GROUP

October report



No standing outside for photos today!

Our October Ride looked like it was going to be affected by the weather yet again as 5 of us set off from the Bridge in very windy and rain threatening conditions.

We cycled down High Street in Market Deeping, along Bridge Street, Church Street and Eastgate through Deeping St James to Station Road at what we may all remember as "Casey's Corner" where in time gone past second-hand furniture was sold from the plot on the corner.

We carried on along Station Road, past Grasmere Farm and Kennedy Wild Bird Food Shop to the cross roads at Stowgate Road and Cranmore Drove where our first weather-imposed deviation took place.

Originally our route took us down Cranmore Drove but due to the very high winds we decided to continue straight on via Custom Road to Hards Lane where we turned right and followed this and then took a left turn to bring us to the junction of Spalding Road

and Towngate East.

We then followed Towngate east to Cross Road and cycled along here to the by-pass which we crossed and continued along Cross Road to Meadow Road where we had our second weather-imposed detour.

Instead of continuing along Cross Road to Baston Outgang Road, due to the start of the rain we took Meadow Road to the A15 Peterborough Road and cycled back into Market Deeping via Halfleet and Church Street.

We continued out of Market Deeping on Lincoln Road and veering left onto the old Lincoln Road into Northborough to the now reopened Packhorse for some well-deserved sustenance, dryness and warmth.

Thanks to Dave for planning this 17-mile route which unfortunately with the deviations ended up as only 12.5 miles. Despite the poor weather, once in the warmth of the pub, it was a rewarding Friday outing.



Last month's photo taken at Ailsworth

November report

On a brisk sunny 10:30 on 11 November, four of us set off on our monthly ride.

This month's route was put together by Brad so there would be no hills and no wind??



We set off along Lincoln Road through Northborough to Glinton and then onto the old Lincoln Road to cross over the new foot bridge into Werrington. Here we followed David's Close We cycled via David's Close onto David's Lane which we followed to Goodwin Walk and then onto Skater's Way. We continued on Skater's Way to Fulbridge Road and then took the A15 underpass of Paston Parkway onto Werrington Bridge Road after stopping at the underpass exit for our photo.

We carried on along Werrington Bridge Road and took a right turn onto Bridgehill Road and followed this Drain Road.

This is where Brad's hopes of no wind evaporated as when cycling on Drain Road, we began to encounter a strong North Westerly wind which stayed with us for the remainder of the ride. At the end of Drain

Road, we turned left onto Thorney Road and headed for Peakirk.

At Peakirk, we turned right onto Deeping Road for a short time before turning onto Mile Drove towards which took us to the Lincoln Road at Nine Bridges. We crossed Lincoln Road here and headed through the tunnels under the A15 to Main Road and turned left there and on to Etton and the Golden Pheasant for our lunch.

A fairly leisurely 12.5-mile ride to this point (still need to get home) where we had a very nice lunch (recommend this place). Many thanks to Brad for this enjoyable route.

Report and Group Leader: Jim Torrance

“PACERS” WALKING GROUP

Thirteen this month for our now traditional November walk in Burghley. We met in the new car park where there is plenty of space and no mud. Excellent improvement. Margaret took our orders for lunch and phoned them through to the Birch Tree café – more later.



The weather was good to us again. The forecast had been pretty terrible with a major storm due but clearly it missed us and there was even a little sunshine during the morning.

We walked round the edge of a large field and saw 6 deer who appeared to have escaped from the main herd in the paddock. However, we found the gate was open so the deer had a choice of where to go. Then over the cattle grid, down the path to the right and on to the Diana memorial site.

November is probably not the best time to visit it and we noticed that maintenance was needed to some trees and rose bushes.

Past the cricket club and the lovely views of Stamford and back to the cattle grid. Turned right and walked to the Lion Bridge, passing a number of the jumps used at the horse trials. The bridge was closed but signs gave details

of the major work done to the bridge over the last couple of years.

A very pleasant walk at just over 3 miles. We then drove to Easton on the Hill and the Birch Tree café.

This is run by a charity to support young adults with Downs Syndrome. They serve light lunches – soup, paninis, toasties, wraps, etc. all very tasty. Six of the group nobly agreed to test the cakes and scones and they were also excellent. The café 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 4 and 5 miles.

No walk next month but Christmas Lunch instead at the Waggon and Horses on Wednesday 6th December

Report: Geoff Whittle

Group Leaders: Geoff Whittle and Margaret Beardshaw

QUILTING GROUP



The October meeting was kindly led by Liz Lonsdale. At this meeting we looked at various ways of finishing the binding on a quilt. The use of double-sided tape was a useful tip!

The show and tell was varied which shows that patchwork and quilting is not all about bed quilts. Along with two bed quilts, a play mat, there was a hot water bottle cover Christmas stocking, card and decoration.

The quilt was made by Liz and used in the demo to

illustrate binding techniques.

The hot water bottle cover made by Christine. The Christmas tree card and decoration was made using the flying geese method by Ann.



Report: Liz Lonsdale

Group Leader: Margaret Griffiths

THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP



Sadly the weather did not co-operate this month (storm Ciaran!) for our gardening annual planning meeting at my house, but I can claim the one colourful spot in between the rain and wind with my lovely bright red Acer!

We had a good turnout and actually got some planned visits/quizzes and plenty of ideas to work on. Next month we have our Christmas lunch on the 7th December and don't meet in January so we actually start 2024 off with a super quiz prepared by the Scotts...there was a suggestion of repeating last year's quiz because we wouldn't remember the answers anyway! David has promised an easy one for us!

Report and photos: Liz Noble

Joint Leaders: Kay Parker and Ann Pettitt

HISTORY GROUP

A VESPA TRIP THROUGH EUROPE BY PAT ABEL, ABLY ASSISTED BY DAVID MACVINIE



The route taken through Europe

Today we had a taste of living History when Pat gave an account of her wonderful holiday to Europe in 1956. It was a very adventurous thing to do considering it was only 10 years after WW2 had finished and everyone was on a journey of recovery. Pat described how little they took with them, how she clung on to her wicker basket and how welcoming most people were towards the young couple. They stopped on 'spec' in most 'B and B' places and spent three days in one special hotel. She remembered an omelette made with what must have taken 6 eggs and also the red wine they brought home. It was May, there was still snow on the mountains but wrapped in her Sunday best coat, they had a wonderful time.



1956 advert for a Vespa scooter

The talk resulted in quite a lot of discussion.

Thank you, David, for collating the information and also to Godfrey for doing a very good impersonation of Dave Scott!

Thanks to everyone who helped and to Barbara for taking the orders for the Christmas meal. November's speaker is Henry Roberts and the talk is entitled 'Appeasement in the 1930s'.

Report and Group Leader: Sandra Jones

STROLLERS GROUP

October report

After the glorious weather enjoyed during September's walk, it was a letdown to be faced with a dull overcast October morning as we met at the Pack Horse at Northborough.

This was an improvised walk as David Ladds was unable to lead the walk, so Bob arranged the route, which he led for the first part of the way round, with Geoff completing the rest.

We set off down Church Street and we donned waterproofs as rain started to fall, although after two minutes we kissed it goodbye for the duration of the walk. There were 13 of us taking part as we set turned down Paradise Lane heading for the eponymous bridge over the Maxey Cut.

Stopping at the bridge for a photograph, we then accessed North Fen Road, which took us straight to Glinton. In the village, we made our way to the playing field and to the main road.

Turning back, we continued alongside the old A15, before turning on to a track which brought us back to North Fen Road and then backtracked to the Pack Horse.

November's stroll will see another change to the programme, as the original plan to go to Edenham and Bourne Wood has hit two problems with the lunchtime meal and the predicted state of some parts of the walk. Instead, we will be returning to Peterborough with a walk starting from the Crab and Winkle.

Details of the walk, which will be on 24 November, will be forwarded to members of the group next week.

**Report by Bob Deller and Geoff Fitzjohn
Group Leader: Bob Deller**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2022/2023

Chair	Margaret Beardshaw
Secretary	Elaine Batchelor
Treasurer	Stuart Wilson
Membership Sec.	David Perkins
Speaker Finder	Lyll Seale
Group Co-ordination	June Wheatcroft
Team:	Phil Jones

Newsletter Editor	Sandra Jones/ Ruth Griffiths
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Newsletter Distribution / Webmaster	David Scott
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**DEADLINE FOR REPORTS: 8 DECEMBER
SEND TO:
NEWSEDITOR@DEEPINGSU3A.COM**

