



The Deepings Third Age Group
Reg. Charity No: 1166782

NEWSLETTER

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Issue No. 186

FEBRUARY 2019

IT'S OFFICIAL—SPRING IS ON THE WAY



This photograph was provided by David Scott with small additions by Ann!

Committee Members 2018/2019

Garth Perry	Chairman
Ann Parkes	Secretary
Anne Burton	Treasurer
Liz Noble	Membership Secretary
Susanne Hoadley	Groups Coordinator
Phil Jones	Deputy Gps Co-ordinator
Kath Allen	
Lyll Seale	Co-opted
Ann Holmes	Newsletter Editor
David Scott	Newsletter Distribution/ Webmaster

Programme of Speakers

- 2019**
18 February **DEEPING LAKES** by David Mainwaring
- 18 March **FAKES AND FORGERIES** by Malcolm Underwood, a former police specialist investigating art and antique crime, will use his case studies to tell us how skilled Forgers successfully pass off their work as that of well known artists to dupe the experts.
- 15 April **WOMEN IN AVIATION BY** Sonia Chapman

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 served until 10.20 and meetings begin at 10.30 am.



This is absolutely your last chance to purchase a 2017 U3A Diary!

June still has two for sale at £2.50 each so please contact her if the diary you are presently using is not satisfactory. Our diaries have plenty of room for engagements, notes, etc. and are good value. Ring June - she will be delighted to hear from you!!

Chairman's Reflections



Where did January go? I had hoped that this year would be a little less hectic than last year, but the early signs are not good!

Despite the cold, we had some beautiful days in the last couple of weeks of January. On one such day I had the pleasure of going for a walk in South Derbyshire, under a clear blue sky in the winter sunshine. For some time now, I have had the feeling that when walking in the countryside, I should take a rubbish bag with me, to pick up the bits of discarded litter in the hedgerows. Probably as a result of seeing the pictures recently published in a national newspaper, in support of their anti-litter campaign, I found that, on that walk, I took much more notice of the state of the countryside. Even in relatively remote areas, there were significant levels of litter. Some of it, particularly the lighter plastic packaging, was probably carried there by the wind, but there were a lot of plastic bottles and metal cans that had quite clearly been rammed into the hedges and undergrowth. The roadside verges were in a very much worse state. It seems to be an insoluble problem – making the manufacturers responsible for their packaging will only rebound on us, as the cost will be passed on in prices, sanctions are impossible to enforce effectively, and “clean-up” campaigns seem to encourage the litterers, in the confidence that someone will clear up after them. How do we create a change in culture, such that littering is seen as unacceptable and anti-social?

The other related problem that I have observed myself is how difficult it is to give anything away. In the process of de-cluttering and down-sizing, I have tried to give away several items of furniture and domestic equipment, all in good, useable condition, rather than send it to landfill, expending a lot of time and energy, but with very little result. Even youngsters who are struggling, financially, to establish their first household, seem dead set against having anything second hand. The only exception to this seems to be if the item is “up-cycled”, as demonstrated by the TV programme “Something for Nothing”. Take your old rusty lawn mower, and add a light bulb and shade, to make it a quirky lamp for the front room, or paint furniture with the dregs of several old paint pots, then attack it with sandpaper to “distress” it, and strange people will pay decent money for it! An enterprising lady in Finland, who had observed this trend, was the subject of a report on the radio this week. She bought up a failing shopping centre, and turned it into a centre in which all the shops sold only second hand goods, and it is booming! People heading for the adjacent recycling centre, are encouraged to deposit any household goods, clothes, textiles etc., in their basement, where it is sorted. Everyday, shop keepers pick up any of the “rubbish” that they want, and they up-cycle, clean up, or repair it, and put it on sale. What a good idea!

That's it – I have got my “Victor” moment out of my system for another month!

With all good wishes,

Garth
Chairman

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Sue Murrell, Werrington, Elizabeth Feasey James and Dolores Drake, Jill Forrester and Leslie Wright Market Deeping, Pamela Ayto and Kevin Hingle, Deeping St James and Elizabeth Barr (a rejoinder) Market Deeping.



COACH TRIP TO NEWSTEAD ABBEY GARDENS AND THE GARDEN AT FELLEY PRIORY, 18TH JUNE 2019, £17.50



This year we are visiting north Nottinghamshire for our gardens visit. Newstead Abbey, the ancestral home of Lord Byron has beautiful formal gardens, a Japanese oasis as well as 300 acres of parkland.

Felley Priory is situated very closeby and is renowned for its rare and unusual plants, with 2.5 acres of beds and borders. It is known as Nottinghamshire's best kept secret. There are Tea rooms at each stop.



The total cost of the trip, including entry to both gardens is £17.50. Although Newstead Abbey, the house, is not open, they will organise a private tour for us, at an extra cost of £9.

For more detailed information please get in touch with Eddie Adams,

"BEES KNEES"

We do not normally mention the previous month's talk in our Newsletters but I thought those members who did not attend our January meeting might like to see this photograph of the speaker, Sue Jakeman. She arrived fully kitted out as in the photograph, with several large wooden boxes. A buzz went round the room—had she really brought live bees?



Sue kept us entertained with a very humorous and informative talk. Unfortunately we ran out of time, so many of us hope she will return at some future date to complete her story.

Photograph by DAVID SCOTT. Words from ANN and no, there weren't any live bees but the honey Sue brought to sell

was scrumptious.

GROUP NEWS

Hope you are all enjoying your groups. I would love to hear from you if you have any ideas for new groups, please phone or email me, or if anything changes in your group like the name or the leaders please let me know, it helps to keep the Group Activities List up to date..

It's nice to see a bit of sun, I am sure the gardening groups are busy planning for the summer. See you at the next meeting

SUSANNE HOADLEY
Groups Co-ordinator

U3A ART APPRECIATION GROUP

Twenty members attended the meeting and plans were put together for the year ahead. There were some good ideas following this part of the morning.



A picture quiz followed and members were asked to identify the paintings and match them up with the artists. It was a challenge and caused some laughter and some light hearted complaints! Following the picture quiz there was a question and 'Shout out the Answer' quiz. This was fun (sort of!).

Next month we will be looking at the work of Andy Warhol. New members are always welcome. An appreciation of Art is all that is required!! Knowledge is optional! Report: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONE / YVONNE McCULLOCH

U3A CYCLING GROUP

Friday 18th January was a bitterly cold day (maximum temperature 4⁰C). However, six of us undeterred by the weather set off from Market Deeping Bridge.



This time our route took us across to Maxey then south to Marholm. Turning left took us back to the railway where a good view was had from the foot bridge of the major civil engineering works taking the Spalding branch line across the main line and ultimately crossing the Parkway. From there it was on to Glington, Peakirk and Northborough where we de-frosted over a well-earned lunch at The Packhorse. The total distance covered was approximately 15 miles in 1 3/4 hours.

During the ride a number of low-flying heavy transport planes were encountered, presumably heading for landing at Wittering. On the natural aviation side, a red kite was seen perching in a tree.

Thanks must go to Fred Skipper for organising this most invigorating ride.

Report: TERRY NOBLE
Temporary Group Leader: FRED SKIPPER

U3A "BOOKWORMS" READING GROUP



This month we did not have a book from the library to report on. I set the group a challenge to read "Theatrical" a book by Maggie Harcourt a friend of my daughters. The ladies of the Bookworms have agreed to read and report on it and to send a report to the author and her publisher and the U3A newsletter. Many thanks to Alistair for taking the photograph.

Next meeting at Hazel's home at 2pm on February 25th

ANN THORNTHWAITE
Group Leader

Photo: ALISTAIR SMITH

U3A ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES GROUP

At our first meeting of 2019 we were busy planning our activities for the coming months. We all managed to arrange an interesting programme, with speakers, demonstrations, and two outings.



We finished the afternoon with a quiz on Antiques which enlightened us on many items of arts and crafts and their designers and makers. We learned a little, and laughed a lot.

Our next meeting will be on February 25th. at the Catholic Church Hall at 2.0 pm, when Keith Talbot will be putting on a show of 'Vintage Shop Fronts', which I'm sure we shall find interesting

Report: IRENE BEEKEN
Group Leaders: IRENE BEEKEN / PAM PENDRY

U3A MONDAY WALKING GROUP



Thirty two of us set off from The Boathouse on a damp and mizzly morning.

We walked up towards the Staunch and onwards along the river on the Golf Course side to the Iron Bridge crossing the River Nene. Unfortunately one of our Group slipped and had a muddy experience!! We then continued to the Swaying bridge which made for an interesting crossing. Around Overton Lake and along the River Nene back to the Staunch, keeping to the muddy path ('cos we like a bit of mud) to return to the pub. Lots of muddy boots to clean thereafter but an enjoyable meal was had by all.

The next walk will be led by Lesley and Viv - approx 5.5 miles - details to follow.

STEVE HANSON
Group Leader



U3A POETS AND POETRY GROUP

By our February meeting we had reached the letter 'Y' in the alphabet. There are not many Poets with a surname beginning with that initial but we all did well. However the Irish Poet W.B. Yeats 1865-1939, featured quite prominently with five different poems chosen out of the 174 that he wrote, a favourite being 'The Isle of Innisfree'.

We then had an American Poet, Jane Yoland 1939. As well as Poetry she is the author of 300 books, whose work has been translated into 24 languages. Her poem 'Earth Day' was very understandable and thoughtful. We also had Andrew Young, a Scottish poet 1885-1971. His poem 'Field Glasses' was really descriptive of how things look when viewed through field glasses.

We had a lot of discussion regarding the contents of the poems and our thanks go to Sheila for making us so warm and welcome with lovely refreshments.

Our next meeting is on March 4th, venue to be decided, and the subject for poems is 'The Spring'.

IRENE BEEKEN
Group Leader

U3A "OVER THE GARDEN WALL" GARDENING GROUP

Our January meeting was held at Waterside Garden Centre where we confirmed our programme for 2019. I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the group who have volunteered to undertake some of the arrangements for me.



Our next meeting is at Little Ponton Hall and Gardens to see the snowdrops on February 19th. Cost: £7.00 entry including tea/coffee and biscuits. Meet at Rainbow Long Stay Car Park at 9.45am. Transport own cars. Report: MARGARET GRIFFITHS

Group Leaders MARGARET GRIFFITHS / JOSIE SMITH

U3A GOOD FOOD GROUP



In the spirit of 2019, eight of the Good Food Group tried Vegan Food in February. The results were very successful, with a lovely pea and spinach soup, some leek pasties, and a variety of rice based dishes and stuffed vegetables.

A very good Chocolate Roulade (without eggs, cream or butter) was offered for dessert, with an oat based cream alternative. However, the Vegan cheese that was tried was not recommended. Thanks to our hosts for their hospitality, and to all participants for their contributions.

Next meeting on Monday 4th March, is to be Scandinavian Food - does that mean IKEA meat balls? I am sure we can think of some alternatives. Guests and enquirers welcome,

KATHLEEN TANNER
Group Leader

U3A "PACERS" WALKING GROUP



Seventeen members of the group started from the Crab and Winkle at Werrington on a lovely sunny February morning to walk to Marholm and back. The walk began down Hurn Road where we could see the vast area being cleared as part of the massive Network Rail project to put in a new 'freight line' to improve services on the East Coast Main Line. A new line will be coming through in the Hurn Road area and it will be interesting to see what this walk is like in a couple of years (or maybe more) when the project is finished.

We stopped at Marholm so the picture shown could be taken. From there we walked past the crematorium, cut through the housing estate and arrived at the old Thomas Cook offices. The whole site is in the process of being refurbished prior to being advertised for rent.

Back over the railway and then a short walk through Werrington before returning to the pub for an excellent, and very good value, meal. A very pleasant 4.6 mile walk.

Next walk will be at Bourne Woods - details by usual email.

Report: GEOFF WHITTLE
Group Leaders: LYNN & STEVE WHITE

U3A CRAFT GROUP 3

Despite a howling wind and rain everyone attended.

We all, some who had never learnt to crochet before, started making an Octopus, progress was made and we will hopefully finish them at next months meeting.



ANITA SETCHFIELD
Group Leader

U3A "STROLLER'S" WALKING GROUP



Our first stroll of the year saw us return to Helpston, after a break of a few years.

Starting from the car park of the Bluebell on a fine sunny morning in January, ten strollers had a short walk to the crossroads, then up the main village street towards the primary school, then traversed a footpath to Broadwheel Lane.

We then ventured across fields in the direction of Maxey, some of which were a bit muddy, following rain which fell during the previous weekend. Joining the road from Marholm to the road leading to Helpston Heath, we eventually arrived at Helpston Wood. We then enjoyed a stroll through the wood, where the accompanying photograph was taken. On leaving the wood, we negotiated some more village footpaths and returned to the Bluebell.

Our February stroll will be our first visit to Little Bytham, where Searle Clark will be our leader. The start point will be the car park of the Willoughby Arms, which is on the road from Careby, meeting at 10:15. Members of the group who wish to take part should contact Searle as Leader of the walk.

BOB DELLER
Group Leader

U3A THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP



It was a cold, wet and windy trip to Haconby this month when the 'hardy perennials' amongst us went to see snowdrops at the gardens of the late Cliff Curtis, open this year for the last time in his memory for the NGS.

There were hundreds of snowdrops of all types in bloom, alongside proliferous aconites and hellebores set in an interesting garden. It was such a shame the weather was so awful, but once we had had a chance to buy some potted snowdrops and retire to the warmth to enjoy freshly baked scones and cakes we soon thawed out.

Hopefully it will be warmer for our trip on March 7th at 10AM when we head to the offices of Garden Answers Magazine to hear all about putting an issue together.

Photo: DAVID SCOTT

LINDA HILL
Group Leader

U3A "CHURCH MICE" GROUP: The planned visit to Kirton had again to be cancelled at short notice, this time by the Church as they had a funeral at the time of our visit. Our March visit will be to Hill Methodist Church, Stamford and members will receive details at the usual time.
JIM PRINGLE, Group Leader

U3A HISTORY GROUP

The morning started with no electricity in the power points and the water heater broken. However, our stalwart members rose above this problem and all was up and running for Stuart Orme's lively presentation entitled 'The World Turned Upside Down'. This was a reference to the civil war and Oliver Cromwell's role. It came hot on the heels of the current Parliament's vote on Brexit so a few comparisons were made!



As usual, Stuart's presentation was not only highly professional, it was educational, amusing and resulted in people wondering why all History teachers weren't like him! He illustrated his talk but didn't use any notes. It was a very entertaining morning.

We had six new members and the room was full. A big thank you to the chair movers, the coffee makers and everyone who managed to make the power work!

Next month our speaker is Henry Roberts who will talk about The Treaty of Versailles.
Report: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONES / ELIZABETH PARKINSON

U3A FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP



In the February meeting we enjoyed arranging some lovely spring flowers in baskets. We mainly used daffodils and tulips, but some had the early hellebores, hyacinths and snowdrops from their gardens, and together they brought the lovely fragrance of spring to the room.

Our next meeting will be 7th March when we will be interpreting 'Time for tea'. We will all start with a tea cup and saucer for a small arrangement and add whatever other arrangements we wish, using anything else to do with tea time, such as tea-pot, plate, cake stand etc.

Please contact me for further details or if you are interested in joining us

PAT LUDLOW
Group Leader

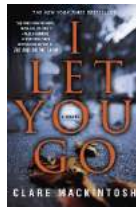
U3A SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

Lunch this month will be at the 'Hare and Hounds', Haconby on Sunday, 24th February, 12.30 for 1.00 pm.. As usual please notify Tony Semple or Michael Griffin (or add your name to the list at the meeting on Monday, 18th February.



U3A MONDAY READERS GROUP

This month we had read *I Let You Go* by Clare Mackintosh. This is a very well written, unsettling page turner which begins with a hit-and-run accident on a wet, dark road, resulting in the death of a little boy. The book then unfolds the story of those involved in the incident, from the mother, the driver, the police investigators and those enmeshed in their lives. There is a real sense of fear and psychological menace in the story and there is a twist which shakes the plot up completely and sends it off on a very unexpected path, ending in a cliff hanging finale with an ambiguous denouement. Is all resolved - or not?



We all enjoyed this and found it a very good read. There were some reservations about parts of the plot which seem a little contrived but the characters were satisfyingly drawn, the heroes, the villains and those who are drawn into their orbit are fascinating in their interaction. We also thought it would make a good film or television series! We gave the book four stars out of five and would recommend it to those who like a very cleverly plotted thriller.

LIZ WATERLAND
Group Leader

U3A "WANDERERS" WALKING GROUP



Nine Wanderers met at the Crown Inn Surfleet for a five mile circular walk to the reservoir at Surfleet Seas End and return. The weather was very kind to us for the walk on country lanes down to the reservoir; a very picturesque setting and one where lucky locals have for many years had the pleasure of owning little properties right on the water's edge of the river Glen. From there we continued to the public footpath across the course of Spalding Golf Club, rejoining the path along the riverside via the underpass of the A16 and finishing with a short section through Surfleet park.

The first signs of Spring - always a welcome sight - were very much in evidence in the park, with beautiful displays of snowdrops. Then it was back to the Crown and its quirky old fashioned interior (no messing around here with your trendy upcycling) for a very hearty home cooked lunch.

Report: JANE HARGRAVE

Group Leaders: HILARY & BARRY AKAM

U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

Jim Pringle was our host this month and provided an interesting and varied programme entitled "Off the Beaten Track". This covered music by Mozart, Benjamin Britten, Hans Christian Lumby, Darius Milhaud and Hamish MacCunn to name but a few.



Most of us heard a composer or composers for the first time and certainly music new us. This was interspersed with Jim's recollections about where and when he has first heard them. One intriguing piece was entitled 'Central Park in the Dark' by the American composer Charles Ives. It would have been interesting to have had the time to listen to everyone's interpretation of what each of us thought we heard!

Unfortunately our usual reporter for this group, Anne Jones, has problems with her computer at the moment and timewise there was no time to find someone else to do it. So although I am the least qualified to do so, I am attempting to give a flavour of the morning but offer my sincere apologies to Jim whose efforts deserved better recognition.

The Group send best wishes to Jessie Turner, who has fallen and broken her hip. Our host in March will be Joy Elliman. Please let her know if you cannot attend - phone 01778 344147.

Report: ANN HOLMES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE

U3A QUILTING GROUP

Carol kindly led the class today. Thank you for standing in at last minute.



Carol showed us how to put a quilt/cushion together, followed by the undertaking mitred of corners. This process did not prove an easy task with everyone needing individual help. There was however some pleasing results as you can see by the picture. It is so lovely to see people 'having a go' and trying out a variety of projects for themselves with some lovely end results. Well done ladies.

The next meeting will be a free and easy session to allow for members to do a catch up.

MARGARET GRIFFITHS
Group Leader

U3A WRITING FOR PLEASURE GROUP

Our Writing group had its own 'Poets' Corner' at our February meeting! Half of the group had written a poem. There were various types, on various topics and very impressive they were. Maureen had written a poem for Valentine's Day and really gone to town as it was written on a white heart pasted on a red background!



At the meeting we discussed future topics and chose one of Anne's ideas which was to write on the seasons of the year and our thoughts about them. We will start with 'Spring' for our March meeting, rather appropriately. We would be pleased to have one or two new members in our group. If you would like to join us for a session and see what we do, you would be very welcome.

JUDY ROBINSON
Group Leader

U3A ACCORDIAN GROUP



We hear very little about our Accordion Group so I was delighted to get this photograph of them giving a 'recital' one afternoon this week to an audience in Deeping St. Nicholas. I had heard that they periodically visit various Clubs, Care Homes, etc. to entertain the elderly residents but detail is always hard to get. WELL DONE. Keep up the good work ANN. Photo: BARBARA BAYLIS

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We end with a quiz. Answers to David Scott please!

Prize maybe another meal!

Monday walking group members enjoying a pudding and a main meal. Guess who?

U3A THURSDAY WALKING GROUP



Under the guidance of Steve Hanson our February walk took 21 of us from the Prince of Wales Feathers at Castor. It was a bright and sunny day and took us out of the village of Castor and through the Castor Hangland woods. Just under six miles and slightly muddy in places but a really good walk for the time of year. We arrived back at the pub in good spirits for the very good lunches which this pub provides. Many thanks to Steve for leading this walk and organising the lunch.

The next walk on 14 March will be led by Lesley and Viv Evans. Final details are currently being sorted and these will be issued in the usual e-mail nearer the time. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please phone Lesley by the Tuesday evening preceding the walk, if possible, and also indicating whether you will be staying for lunch.

GODFREY PARKES
Group Leader

Photo: STEVE HANSON

DAVID SCOTT
Deputy Group Leader