

Deeping St. James

# The Deepings Third Age Group

Reg. Charity No: 1166782

## NEWSLETTER

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Market Deeping

Issue No. 179

JULY 2018

### COOLER DAYS FROM THE ARCHIVES!



The Botanical Gardens, Cambridge, a couple (?) of years ago.

#### Committee Members 2017/2018

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

#### Programme of Speakers

2018

- 16 July **EAST ANGLIA** by Stephen Lovell. From reed beds, fens, cliffs, heaths to saltmarsh, this region really does have them all. Find out why this area is recognised as Britain's most ecologically diverse and the wildlife that lives here.
- 20 August **STORIES WITH STRINGS** by Acoustic duo Fool's Gold followed by buffet lunch. This meeting is at **DEEPINGS ACADEMY MAIN HALL**, normal £1 entrance fee for meeting followed by ticket only Buffet —now on sale £6 per person. (See next column).
- 17 September **BARROW TO BAGHDAD AND BACK**—Philip Caine Talks about incidents in his working life in several countries which inspired him to write his adventure/thriller novels,

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.

#### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Pete Sheppard Deeping St James. Claire and Brian Tarrant, Deeping Gate.



### Chairman's Reflections



“Phew – what a scorcher” to quote a famous Sun newspaper headline of some years ago! We should be careful what we wish for! Everyone and everything is wilting at the moment. It's a good job that I used a picture of my Heucheras last month, because some of them don't appreciate strong sunshine, and their leaves are turning brown and crispy at the moment. But what can you do? I am, like many of you, on a water meter, and frequent watering can soon push the bills up, so the old “wartime spirit” kicks in. The water that is run off before the tap starts running hot is captured, as is the used washing up water, which not only provides hydration to the plants, but keeps them clear of black fly! I have even tried putting a bowl in the shower tray to trap some of the excess water, but I wouldn't recommend the practice, as the bowl is difficult to avoid when you've got water in your eyes, and can't see it!

Even the poor garden birds are finding it hot, and frequently they can be seen with their beaks open, panting. I have four young families in my garden, and they seem particularly vulnerable, so following the expert's advice, that water is as essential to them as food in these conditions, I keep the birdbaths topped up. Why is it that as soon as you do that, either a large wood pigeon comes and sits in it, with one wing stuck up like a sail, blocking access to the water, or a squadron of starlings appear from nowhere, and have a mass bath, scattering all the water over the floor! I don't know why we bother feeding and watering these birds, they aren't very grateful, wrecking the garden and dirtying the windows!

Now that the use of oil is steadily declining, water has become a more frequent source of disputes, and climate change, combined in many cases with population increase is likely to exacerbate these problems. There are already rows between countries that share rivers, when the source country decides to extract or store more of the water in the upper reaches of the waterway, severely reducing the volume of water in the other country that is available for domestic and commercial use. I was in Southampton last week, and saw a Water Company representative on TV saying that the problem was not that there was not enough water in the reservoirs, but that they couldn't get treated water into the supply pipes fast enough to cope with the rate at which it was being drawn off.

Anyway, I've waffled on long enough, and I am off to start my least favourite job of the whole year – packing. Don't worry, I'm not going to bore you with the details again – I did that in the July newsletter last year! Suffice it to say that my normal good humour will not be to the fore over the next couple of weeks! However all will be forgotten when I am up in the Swiss mountains, being obliged by the water shortage to have a stein of ice cold beer instead!

I hope that you can enjoy the summer months, despite the tennis and football! – after all, it's only 25 weekends to Christmas!  
Best wishes

*Garth*  
Chairman

#### HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST BUFFET TICKET YET?



Meeting only at **DEEPINGS ACADEMY MAIN HALL** – normal entrance on door £1.

**BUFFET AFTER MEETING** – £6 including drinks (tickets required) and are on sale at July meeting or contact Liz.

**COACH TRIP TO BAUMBER WALLED GARDEN AND GUNBY HALL, HOUSE AND GARDEN**

The gardeners' coach trip this year will be featuring two Lincolnshire gardens on Tuesday 11th September. Both are interesting and beautiful.

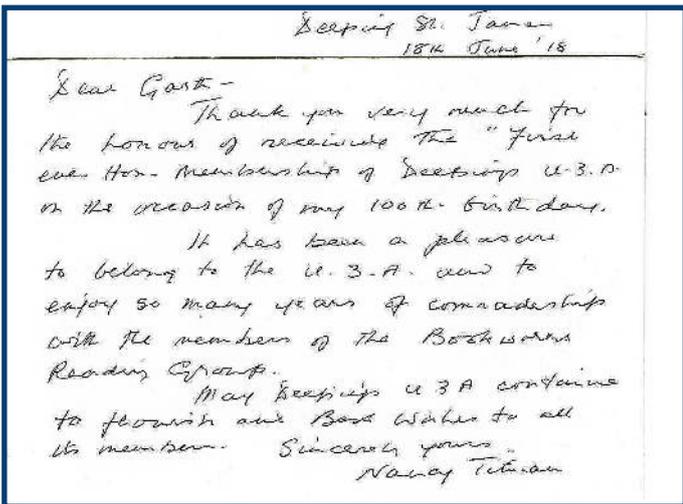


Gunby Hall house (right) will also be open and included. The price is £27 (£20.50 to NT members) Coffee and a light lunch are also included in the price.

For more information, please pick up a leaflet at the main meeting or from the leaders of the Gardening Groups of U3A or John Marsh or Eddie Adams .

**CORRESPONDENCE**

As you will have seen in the June Newsletter, Garth presented a Certificate to Nancy Titman awarding her Honorary Membership of the Deepings U3A in recognition of her 100th birthday. In return he received the following letter from Nancy :



**HARP PROJECT** by Andy Lowings—our talk for the June meeting.



It is unusual for us to 'look back' and comment on our monthly speakers but surely last month has to be an exception—with much credit due to our Speaker Finder, Lyall Seale.

Family problems caused our scheduled speaker to cancel at short notice but Lyall was able book Andy who gave us a most interesting talk about building a replica of the Gold Lyre of Ur (2,500 BC) destroyed in the Iraq war.

Thanks from us all Lyall

Photo: ANNE BURTON

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE BY END OF JULY 2018**



Renewals are due by the end of this month and you should have received forms for renewal and gift aid last month. I do have some printed off at the monthly meeting if required.

I have had a steady trickle of renewals after the first avalanche but there are one or two points I would like to remind members to do:

Because of the changes in the Data Protection Act and Privacy Policy the form must be SIGNED and in the case of two members at the same address by BOTH of them.

PLEASE put cash/cheque subscriptions in an envelope with the completed form (both pages!) and EITHER put in the box on the Reception Desk at July meeting or post/deliver to Membership Secretary, 102 Church Street, Deeping St James, PE6 8HB.

The completed renewal form is also required for payments made by BACS. Please hand in at meeting or post/deliver as above. An SAE is required if you are not able to get to the monthly meetings please.

The membership form is the only way I have to check the data I hold is correct and unfortunately some forms are coming in incomplete.....often no email or phone number. PLEASE do ensure all details are included to ensure the necessary amendments can be made.

Unfortunately the new Data Protection law has impinged on the Gift Aid situation as well and for simplicity we are asking all currently giving or wishing to Gift Aid their subs, to complete a NEW FORM this year only. I confirm that two members living at the same address wishing to gift aid their subs must complete a form each. Please complete and KEEP the small tear off section for your records. Sorry it is such a pain, but it is only once! Thank you for your co-operation.

LIZ NOBLE  
Membership Secretary

**GROUP NEWS**

**U3A ART APPRECIATION GROUP**



The Willoughby Memorial Library and Art Gallery is housed in a pretty Grade 1 Listed 17<sup>th</sup> Century stone building at Corby Glen. We heard all about the history of the building while sitting in the Library. The books are mainly on the subject of Art and include a spectacular copy of the Lutteral Psalter (a vivid illuminated manuscript).

We learned about Photorealism and the difference between that and a photograph: imagine using different lenses to take a photograph so that every part of the photo was in the same very sharp focus...

The exhibition space shows a constantly changing programme of works – we saw “Pyrography and Coloured Pencils”. We were amazed what an affect the artists could achieve with the humble coloured pencil. A seascape by Peter Nelson appeared to have such a strong texture on the breaking waves that it was difficult to believe we were looking at a completely flat surface with tiny pencil marks rather than thick paint.

A lovely lunch was enjoyed by 10 members of our group after a visit to the Art Gallery just across the road from the Woodman’s Arms.

Our July meeting was a joint visit to Kings Lynn with the Church Mice Group. Our August meeting is a visit to Peterborough Museum taking in a walk around Cathedral Square to see the Antony Gormley statues which are on permanent display on buildings around the Square. They were commissioned 30 years ago by Peterborough City Council called ‘Places to be’

Our September meeting is a talk by Bill Sandles. The subject is to be confirmed. We meet at The Catholic Church on third Tuesday of the month, 10.00 am for a 10.30 start. Coffee and biscuits from 10.00am. New members welcome.

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONES / YVONNE McCULLOCH

### U3A "OVER THE GARDEN WALL" GARDENING GROUP

The group's June visit was to an English Heritage house and garden at Audley End. It is one of the greatest Jacobean Houses of the early 17th Century. Members took the opportunity to visit the house as well as the extensive gardens which had been remodelled by the renowned designer 'Capability Brown'. The gardens and grounds included pretty parterre, wild woodland, manicured lawns, and a Victorian kitchen garden. Everything was immaculate the roses smelt beautiful. There wasn't a weed in sight. The hedges were clipped and shaped to perfection forming cloud like structures. A delightful place to visit and for once our group didn't get wet!



Our next visit on 31st July is to St Ives and Hemingford Grey Manor House and garden. Bus leaves Rainbow Long Stay Car Park at 9.30am. If you haven't confirmed your seat please contact Maggie.

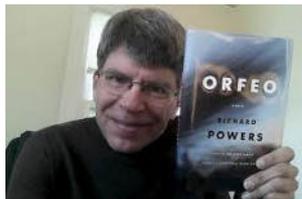
Report and photo: MAGGIE

Group leaders: MAGGIE GRIFFITHS/ JOSIE SMITH

### U3A "BOOKWORMS" READING GROUP

*'Orfeo' By Richard Powers*

Set in USA after WW2, Peter Els is a student of music and chemistry. He hears music in everything and becomes a composer who "wants to break free of time and hear the future". His loyal friends help and encourage him but his is never satisfied so they despair of him and his wife leaves him.



In retirement he reverts to his love of chemistry and dabbles in experiments in DNA in his private laboratory. This comes to the jittery attention of Homeland Security who suspect him of terrorist activities. They ransack his home and confiscate his equipment but he manages to evade them and escapes seeking asylum with his daughter and old friends.

This rounds off the story of a lonely man who lived and breathes music. The group had mixed feeling about the book, not everyone finished reading it. Next meeting at Kath's home on 23 July, 2 pm.

Report: NANCY TITMAN

Group Leader: ANN THORNTHWAITE

### U3A NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

Thirteen of the Natural History Group enjoyed a very pleasant walk at the Deeping Lakes Reserve. It was lovely to meet Mary, friend of Chris Adams, and hope she was pleased with the amazing place we have on our doorstep. It was hot and sunny so we headed for the woodland for a bit of shade. The wild flowers are spectacular this time of year. We saw the first ever Pyramidal Orchids (pic.) to be recorded on the visitor route. The Marsh Harrier also put in an appearance and gave us a fine display. Thanks to all who attended.



Report written by Norah Littler who organised and lead our visit, sharing her expertise and enthusiasm with us. Our next meeting is on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> July at Hills and Holes, Barnack, another lovely place to visit with so much to see which is on our doorstep. We will be meeting at 10.00 am in the car park. Please let Margaret or Jo know if you would like to join us.

Group Leaders: JO ASTLE / MARGARET BERDSHAW

### U3A THURSDAY GARDENING

This month we had a later, afternoon, meeting and visited the allotments in Stamford, thanks to Vanessa and John MacKinnon who organised it for us. After seeing what Vanessa and John had done with their plot we were welcomed by Kay and Neil Bamford who have an equally impressive allotment and who provided us with smashing refreshments on a gloriously sunny afternoon.



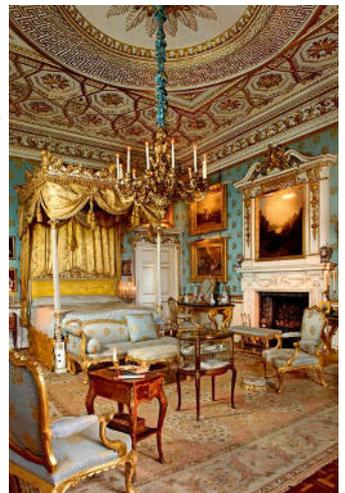
Proceeds from the visit are going to Prostate Cancer UK. We were amazed at the size of allotments in this Stamford allocation.

Next month we will be paying a return visit to Ponton Hall at our usual 10.00 am start time.

LINDA HILL  
Group Leader

### U3A ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES GROUP

For our June meeting we went on a coach to visit Woburn Abbey, arranged for members by Pam and it proved most enjoyable with the lovely summer weather at its best.



Woburn is the home of the Duke and Duchess of Bedford and their family and was founded as a Cistercian Monastery in 1145. Following the Reformation it was bequeathed by the will of Henry VIII to the Russell family in 1547, and thanks to the work of important architects over 400 years it has become a beautiful historic house, which has been passed down the generations of the Russell family.

The house with all its treasures is just breath taking, with its art, cabinets of silver and gold items, also cabinets and displays of Crown Derby, Sevres porcelain and Chinese figurines tea-sets etc. There are so many rooms and corridors in the house. Queen Victoria paid a visit there in 1841 and we were able to see the bed she slept in (*picture from Google*). With so much to see in the house, there was also the 28 acres of gardens to visit. These were designed by Humphrey Repton in 1804 to enhance the Abbey's Gardens.

We also paid a visit to the Duchess Tea Rooms which were well enjoyed. There was also the gift shop, the pottery shop, and many more places of interest the time past all too quickly. Thank you Pam.

Our next meeting is on July 23rd to Oakham Museum own transport meet at 2pm.

Report: IRENE BEEKEN

Group Leaders: IRENE BEEKEN / PAM PENDRY

## U3A CYCLING GROUP

(A photograph that says it all!)



Once again the famous five took to the road to tour round the Deepings. We met on the bridge at 11am Friday and then rode on to Maxey and down Woodgate Lane to reach Maxey Lakes, over the bridge took us to Etton and then straight on to the railway crossing that leads to Woodcroft castle. There we turned right down Maxhams Green Lane which brought us to Heath Road. We carried on to Stamford Road and then on to Marholm Road which brought us to Ashton.

We turned right on to Helpston Road and over the railway crossing again on to Maxey past Grasmere Mill and back to the Bull Inn where we had lunch. All in all a ride of about 15 miles.

Report: DAVID LUNN  
Group Leader: JIM TORRANCE

*Welcome to Jim who has become the new Leader of this Group and many thanks to Fred Skipper who has held the post since July 2013.*

## U3A JAZZ, SWING AND BIG BAND GROUP

Our June meeting was at the home of Peter and Barbara Baylis and Peter arranged the programme which he entitled - 'A QUICK TRIP AROUND THE WORLD.... Itinerary



We heard 'There's A Small Hotel' from George Shearing, and then visited 'April in Paris' accompanied by Stan Kenton, from his 'Portraits of Standards' album. Two pieces from Michel Legrand and the album 'Paris Jazz Piano', 'Moulin Rouge' and 'Paris in the Spring'. Then a quick trip to hear Ray Anthony with 'Autumn in New York' and 'Stars Fell on Alabama' by the Hi - Lo's. 'Mambo in Miami,' came from Peggy Lee and George Shearing, while Ella and Louis enjoyed 'Moonlight in Vermont'. 'Maryland my Maryland' from Humphrey Lyttleton and his band, then Ella again in 'Manhattan'. 'Slaughter on 10th Avenue' from Ray Anthony was a place we didn't linger!

'On Green Dolphin Street' came from Peter's favourite organist - Rhoda Scott, with Kenny Clarke and we skipped down to 'New Orleans' with Chas. McDevitt's Skiffle Group. Duke Ellington took us to 'Perdido', Benny Goodman visited 'Avalon,' and then it was home to Ted Heath and 'Bakerloo Non Stop II.' Ted joined Stan Kenton in 'Chelsea' and Steve Allen took us to sample the 'Limehouse Blues'. 'London by Night' a lovely version came from Frank Sinatra with Robert Farnon's Orchestra. then we were off again with Manhattan Transfer 'On A Little Street in Singapore'. Our morning ended far from home with Tommy Dorsey and 'Song of India,' but we made it back in time for lunch!

Such a great morning of music and all enjoyed from our easy chairs. Thank you Barbara and Peter for your hospitality. Next meeting is at 67 Granville Ave.

Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: PETER BYLIS / ANNE JONES

## U3A FILM GROUP

Just to confirm for members - as usual, there is no Film Club in July and August, but we look forward to meeting up with you all again in September, and any new people who would like to join us.



Group Leaders: MAUREEN WHITTLE / RITA BROWN

## U3A GARDENING 4 PETALS AND PRODUCE GROUP



For our June meeting, arranged by Charlie Stevens, we made a second visit to Railworld Wildlife Haven in Peterborough. For those who don't know and have never visited, this is not just about trains but a wildlife conservation product run by volunteers and we were able to witness how much it had developed since our last visit a couple of years ago.

We were given a very warm and enthusiastic welcome by proprietor Brian Pearce who showed great pride in the work achieved by his army of helpers and shared with us his thoughts on how the project will develop as time and financial resources allow.

In early July we slipped in an extra visit to witness Sweet Pea Week at Easton Walled Gardens. Like Railworld, the restoration of the gardens at Easton is another project which is developing at a fair pace and has come a long way since our last visit. As would be expected, the sweet peas were exceptional although we all expressed more than a little surprise at how little perfume they appeared to have! Maybe our visit, from opening time at 11 until about 1 o'clock, was the wrong time of day for scent especially on what was another particularly hot summer's day?

For our next meeting, on 17th, we will be visiting the garden of member Jean Foster who, like the rest of us, is concerned at the lack of rain and the effect it is having on her lovely garden. None the less, we are assured of a warm welcome from both Jean and husband Don.

Report and Photo: JOHN MARSH

Group Leaders: PAM PENDRY / JOHN MARSH

## U3A HISTORY GROUP

Today's talk by Peter Lee, supported by Toby Wood, dealt with the history of Peterborough as seen through the architecture of the town and surrounding areas. Both Peter and Toby are members of The Peterborough Civic Society and are very knowledgeable.



Peter showed slides of various landmarks, churches and houses in the area. Each slide had a clue relating to a period of history, starting with the Romans and ending in the modern city of Peterborough. It was fascinating. There is a book to go with the talk. This can be purchased from the Cathedral. Cards depicting elements of the book are also available.

Thank you to everyone who helped today. It was 'trip collection' day so the desk was busy.

Next month we have Geoff Whittle back by popular demand (also called arm twisting!) Geoff is talking about Airships. We are looking forward to this as Geoff always manages to bring humour into his talks. (No pressure Geoff). The meeting will be on the third Wednesday of July— (18th).

The Christmas lunch is booked for December 19<sup>th</sup> and is the same caterer as last year. Just giving advance warning!!

Report: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders SANDRA JONES / ELIZABETH PARKINSON

### U3A 'STROLLER'S' WALKING GROUP

Starting on a sad note, we heard that Derek Nice, who was instrumental in starting the Stroller's Group, back in 2010, passed away in June. He was group leader for the first two years, before handing over the reins to myself. Our thoughts are with Glenys, their family and friends.



Due to last minute circumstances, on a gloriously sunny June morning, only five Strollers set forth for a "First time, all day venture" into Norfolk. On arrival at Sandringham Visitors Centre two Strollers enjoyed coffee in the tearooms, intending to visit the Church later.

Acquiring a basic map from the Plant Centre three leaderless Strollers decided to take the wooded red route (which confusingly mingled with the blue and yellow routes)! However, proceeding along sun-dappled paths, a circular walk led us round the "Wild Wood" area, where in a tree clearing we came across a large wooden structure. Clambering to the top we were rewarded with splendid views of the coast. Tea and scones at the Tearooms were next on our agenda before driving into Hunstanton for a very welcome lunch. After a short stroll by the sea, admiring the views, we reluctantly headed home.

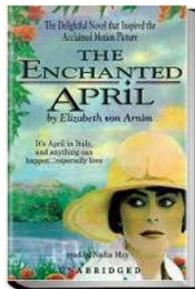
Many thanks to Colin for his willingness to drive, enabling us to have such a lovely "First Strollers venture" into Norfolk.  
Report: DOROTHY SISTERN

The walk this month will take place on Monday 23 July and will take in part of Bourne, the village of Cawthorpe and a corner of Bourne Wood. Details of the arrangements for the meet up and lunch will be circulated to group members. Members of the group wishing to take part should contact me a few days before.

BOB DELLER  
Group Leader

### U3A MONDAY READERS GROUP

Our book this month was that rare thing – a book that united us all in delight! *The Enchanted April* by Elizabeth Von Armin was the star of the meeting because everyone enjoyed it thoroughly.



The story is set in the 1920s and tells of four women who come together to share a month's holiday in a castle in rural Italy. All the women are unhappy in some way and find redemption and happiness during the month. There is a strong feminist agenda, in that their unhappiness is largely a result of the repressed and controlling relationships they have with their husbands or their religion, but the story is not one of escape to different relationships. Instead, their peace is found by looking afresh at the situations they thought they had escaped from and discovering happiness in them.

All of which sounds very serious – but the book is anything but. It is very cleverly plotted with one or two unexpected twists and turns, and the characters are beautifully and often amusingly drawn; however, its chief pleasure is in the writing, which is elegant and extremely witty.

The descriptions of the castle and its surroundings in the lovely countryside of spring in Italy make you almost able to smell and feel the flowers and herbs, whilst the wit made for a very rewarding read.

Highly recommended!

Our next book is Elizabeth is Missing by Emma Healy and we meet on August 13 at the Library to discuss it.

LIZ WATERLAND  
Group Leader

### U3A SUNDY LUNCH GROUP

The Waggon and Horses at Langtoft has been chosen by the Group for July's lunch on Sunday, 22nd July. It is the usual timing - 12.30 for 1.00 pm.

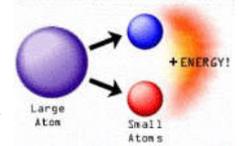


If you wish to attend, please notify Tony Semple or Michael Griffin or add your name to Tony's list at the meeting on Monday, 16th July.

### U3A SCIENCE GROUP

The last meeting, in June, was a bit heavy! Garth gave a talk on Nuclear Fission and Fusion, the latter being investigated as the ultimate future source of energy. A few eyes glazed, and some short naps were taken, but most survived until the end!

### Nuclear Fission



On July 17<sup>th</sup> we will be visiting the Loughborough Bell Foundry – if the heat persists we will be thankful that they don't cast bells on Tuesdays!

A reminder to members that we will not be meeting in August, so the next date for the diary is 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Group Leaders: GARTH PERRY / DAVID SCOTT

### U3A MODAY WALKING GROUP



We met at the New Inn, Folkingham, who opened for us specially. The walk was mostly through countryside, fallow fields, barley, wheat. The ground had pretty big cracks in it in places due to lack of water. Think most of the walkers almost used up their water as it was a hot day, with a breeze in places. Returning to the pub we had a very good meal as usual. Thanks to Yvonne and Murdoch for the walk.

The next Walk on 6th August is from Manton, known as the "Lost Village Walk" -- hopefully it will now be found. This will be led by Penny and Geoff Hurst - details later. Photo: DAVID SCOTT

STEVE HANSON  
Group Leader

### U3A FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

For our July meeting, members brought along an item that belonged to one of their ancestors and spoke of its history. We had some very interesting objects, from WW1 medals, recipe books and scrap book with old newspaper cuttings telling of the news of the day. We also read of my great aunt's own memories of the **Old Time Music Hall** and the artists who appeared in them. Many thanks to members for all their input.



There will be no meeting in August. We have a speaker for September - subject being the Railways. Report JOSIE SMITH

Group Leaders: JOSIE SMITH / JEAN BRENNAND

### U3A GUITAR FOR PLEASURE GROUP

Our repertoire is increasing each time with suggestions from all participants. Barry produced a book of Buskers Song and this provided a rich seam of tunes for us to try out. Geoff sorted the easiest way for us to play the chords although the barred chords gave some of us hand ache. We managed to play our way through some golden oldies such as 'The Sounds of Silence', 'The Streets of London', 'Raggle Taggle Gypsies', and the 'Last thing on my Mind'.



As ever I went home with the tunes buzzing round my head and resolution to practice more!

LIZ LONSDALE  
Group Leader

### U3A "PACERS" WALKING GROUP



This month the Pacers walking group did a Norfolk day walk on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. Twelve of the group set off from Wells-Next-the-Sea at 10.30am on a warm sunny morning. We went down the Beach Road path that runs alongside the waterway to the beach café and decided to stop for an early coffee.

The next stage was to take the coastal path to the Holkham beach road and then on through Holkham park to Holkham Hall where we stopped for two and a half hours for lunch and to allow visits to the hall or gardens.

We set off at 3.30pm and returned to Wells through the Holkham estate woods.

The next walk will be led by Steve White on the 1<sup>st</sup> August from the Ferry Meadows Water Sports car park. It is an open walk, just turn up by 10.30am if you want to walk.

Group Leaders: LYNN & STEVE WHITE

### U3A WRITING FOR PLEASURE GROUP

At our group meeting in July, we were pleased to welcome a new member who came with a children's story he had written, and which we thoroughly enjoyed listening to. The rest of us had chosen topics from our previous list, and as usual, each one was very different.



Julie brought along twenty five suggested topics for future stories, downloaded from the internet, so we won't be short of subjects to write about for the rest of this year!

Because of people leaving the group, we still have space for one or two new members. Our group is exactly what it says - 'Writing for Pleasure'. The aim of our group is to improve our writing, by encouraging each other and sharing ideas. Our meetings are also enjoyable social occasions, and if you think you might be interested in joining us, come along for a session and see what we do. No obligation to return if it's not for you!

JUDY ROBINSON  
Group Leader

### U3A WEDNESDAY GARDENING GROUP

This month we had a visit to the Boarding Kennels at Deeping St. Nicholas. A former farm, the area nearest to the bungalow is lawn with a number of large island beds mostly with a back protection hedge.



Bill, the owner, took us on an extended tour and we saw the ha-ha he has made at the end of part of the garden so that when the horses are in the field there is nothing to interrupt the view. Our walk took us to several different areas with many different trees, including one long grassy avenue with younger trees. We saw a large ancient pond, went through a woodland area and finally the wild flower meadow.

This was an unusual visit and we were all surprised at the extent of the property. Finally Heather (Bill's wife) provided us with tea/coffee etc. back in the kitchen.

Report: JEAN FOSTER

Group Leaders: JEAN FOSTER / JANE COOKE

### U3A "CHURCH MICE" GROUP



On a cool (!!!) July day 24 members of Church Mice spent a day in King's Lynn visiting two churches.

In fact one of them is a chapel. St Nicholas is a chapel of ease. A chapel of ease is a building to drop in to and pray if the nearest church is too far away. St Nicholas chapel is as big as some cathedrals. Its large nave has more than 20 oak angels on its fine ceiling. It has an excellent two-storey porch and a facade covered in niches and panelling. After our guide had explained everything at length we had time to either explore a town that has the most Grade 1 listed buildings in the country or to have lunch or probably to do both, before we moved on to the next church.

This was the parish church of St Margaret of Antioch, St Mary Magdalene and all the Virgin Saints, now known as King's Lynn Minster. The Minster shows how the rich merchants of medieval times spent their money and then commemorated themselves. There are two elaborate 14th century brasses, among the largest in the country. There are elaborate leaves on every capital, there is excellent wood carving, particularly on the misericords and on the outside on the west facade one can clearly see the development of the church from the 12th to 15th century. In all an excellent day and thanks are due to Margaret for all her organisation.

Report: HENRY ROBERTS Photo: LYALL SEALE  
Group Leaders: JIM PRINGLE / SANDRA JONES

### U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

Our July meeting was at the home of Marilyn and Frank and entitled 'Music at Tinwell'.



We enjoyed a delightful programme this morning, taking us through a musical day which began with Stravinski's 'Daybreak,' from 'Firebird' with Ilan Volkov conducting the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Grieg's 'Morning' with the same orchestra, was followed by Elgar's 'Chanson de Matin,' with Owain Arwel Hughes conducting the Halle' Orchestra.

'L'Hoprlorge de Flore' composed by Jean Francaix, comprised six charming compositions featuring flowers blooming at 3 am with Galant de jour through to 9 pm and Silene Noctiflore.' with accompanying photos. 'Prelude a l'apres-midi d' un faune,' by Debussy never fails to please. A second piece by Elgar - 'Chanson de Nuit'. The only vocalist in the programme, soprano, Elisabeth Soderstrom performed one of Richard Strauss' 'Last Four Songs'. 'The Moonlight Sonata' by Beethoven featured the 'Adagio,' the 'Andante' and apologies from Frank for not noticing, the third movement, played by pianist, Louis Schwizgebel. A rousing finish, and a fitting close to the day, we heard, Mussorgsky's 'Night On The Bare Mountain' by the Orchestra Symphonique de Montreal conducted by Charles Dutoit.

Lots of beautiful music enjoyed by us all. Thank you Marilyn and Frank for your hospitality. Our August meeting will be at the home of Jim and Ivy. Please notify Jim (as host) whether or not you can attend.

Report: ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE

**U3A QUILTING GROUP**



Our July meeting gave members the opportunity to catch up on projects that needed finishing and to try out new ideas gaining feedback from the group. Some making baby bibs, evening bags using the very complex Cathedral window technique and one member promising to make us all a mat for our coffee mugs to name just a few items.

It was a pleasant social occasion. This is before a serious 'Quilting' course begins in September. Liz assisted by Carol our two most experienced quilters in the group are taking on the role of tutors. They are in the process of planning a series of workshops to enable us to learn a variety of quilting techniques. Starting with the importance of accurate cutting and measuring. Everyone agreed we've had plenty of time to play and to gain confidence and need to get to the serious side of quilting now.

Our next meeting: Tuesday 14th August 2018.

MAGGIE GRIFFITHS  
Group leader:

**U3A THURSDAY WALKING GROUP**



For the group's July walk, Brian and Mimi Lawrence took 22 members on a very pleasant walk which started off in overcast weather but gradually became warmer as the walk progressed, though not as warm as the heatwave of the previous two weeks, thereby giving us good walking conditions. The walk commenced from The Green Man at Ropsley near Grantham, a relatively unknown area to us, and took us through the rolling Lincolnshire countryside taking in the village of Humby before returning to the pub for a very good lunch. Many thanks to Brian and Mimi for leading the walk and organising the lunch.

The next walk on 9 August will be led by Bruce Zenthon and will be the Bridgegate Lane, Northborough and Deeping St James area commencing from The Packhorse, Lincoln Road, Northborough PE6 9BL. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please phone Bruce by the Tuesday evening preceding the walk, if possible, and also indicating whether you will be staying for lunch.

Photo: BRIAN LAWRENCE  
Group Leader: GODFREY PARKES



Top 3: Thursday walk David Scott  
Bottom right 2: Interesting plumbing and Bruce's new boots, Steve Hanson  
Bottom left: St. Nicholas' Chapel, King's Lynn Ann Holmes