



The Deepings Third Age Group
 Reg. Charity No: 1166782

NEWSLETTER

Visit our U3A



Issue No. 192

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019



Chairman's Reflections

Don't you just hate someone who bores you with their holiday photographs! I have been lucky enough to have walked 165 miles of wonderful paths, amongst this beautiful scenery, and amongst very friendly and kind people, who make great efforts to welcome you and give you superb service. Thankfully they are very tolerant and helpful to an Englishman who, in true colonial fashion, can't (or won't!) speak much of their language! It is very embarrassing to be engaged in conversation, halfway up a mountain, by a couple of Swiss walkers who spoke faultless English, especially when they wanted to know what had happened to moral standards in England. They were very troubled that we allowed a Prime Minister, who is still married, to move his mistress into his official residence! I told them that it wasn't a new situation, as it had happened many times in our history, not only with politicians, but with a few monarchs as well!

My first week home was very strange. I have heard tales of seamen, who after long periods at sea, find walking on land difficult, but hadn't experienced anything like it myself before. However, after three weeks of walking up and down steep slopes, over rocks and some uneven ground, walking without boots on the flat ground felt most peculiar, and I could have given the impression of being the worse for wear!

I only had three problems worthy of note. One was over a problem with a train, that meant that I could have missed an important connection, but this was solved by two express trains making unscheduled stops, to allow me to transfer trains, and achieve my connection – eat your heart out British Rail! The second was that at the beginning of a walk on the hot southern flank of the Alps, there was a notice that the forest through which the first few miles passed were irrigated when necessary, and you were recommended to take wet weather gear! Sure enough, I got irrigated in two stretches of forest. When I say irrigated – there were permanently installed watering systems, which were more like water cannons, and despite good waterproofs and an umbrella, I got a bit damp! The final problem was that I wrecked my boots – the soles fell off both boots three days before I came home. A large tube of glue, and a ball of string to tie the soles on while they set, saw me through my remaining days.

Back to reality. We are approaching the AGM in October, and I have to return to some of the comments that I made, about Group Leaders, in July, but this time they are in relation to your Committee. Most of the Committee have been in post for many years, and it is not fair or reasonable that you should sit back and assume that they are going to serve forever.

.../...



No apologies for using so many of Garth's holiday photographs, just sorry it was not possible to reproduce some he had showing the erosion over the years of several major Glaciers in the Alps. Quite frightening to see the extent to which they have disappeared over a short timescale. Central pic is enlargement of a goat crossing bridge in bottom left pic! ANN

.../...

We have a Constitution which specifies maximum permitted lengths of service, and this situation will become critical by next year, when the Chairman, Secretary, and at least two Members will stand down. We are already relying on the dedication and goodwill of several people – for instance Ann Holmes wants to carry on her work as Editor, even though she cannot stand as a Committee Member, and Lyall Seale who had hoped to hand over, or at least get some help with, the Speaker Finder job, in order to pursue other responsibilities. I am pleased to say that we have one new nomination for a Committee Member – David Blessett – for which we are very grateful – but we need more.

All U3A's and similar organisations are suffering from the same problem at the moment – not enough people want to participate in the running of the organisation – however, without this effort, your U3A will fade away.

Best wishes
GARTH
 Chairman

NOTE; OCTOBER MEETING STARTS AT 10.15 AM

NORMAL SERVICE IS NOW RESUMED !

Committee Members 2018/2019

Garth Perry	01778 347932	Chairman
Ann Parkes	01778 343769	Secretary
Anne Burton	01733 252615	Treasurer
Liz Noble	01778 342855	Membership Secretary
Susanne Hoadley	01778 343194	Groups Coordinator
Phil Jones	01778 343515	Deputy Groups Co-ordinator
Kath Allen	01778 344789	Vote of Thanks Organiser
Lyll Seale	01778 345100	Co-opted
Ann Holmes	01778 346907	Newsletter Editor
David Scott	01778 344753	Newsletter Distribution/ Webmaster

Programme of Speakers

- 16 September **A HISTORY OF TOLTHORPE HALL AND STAMFORD SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** by Mike Harrison covering the life of the Hall and of significant People who lived here and Stamford Shakespeare Company involvement in restoring it, whilst becoming a theatre company of national importance.
- 21 October **THE RADIANT ART OF STAINED GLASS** by Dr Jasmine Allen, curator of The Stained Glass Museum at Ely Cathedral. *Please note this meeting will start at 10.15 am with the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.*
- 18 November **GRAHAM SHORT—THE HANDS OF GENIUS**

Unless otherwise stated all monthly meetings are at **THE METHODIST CHURCH**, Deeping St. James. Doors open at 9.30 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.

AGM and COMMITTEE ELECTION OCTOBER MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Deepings U3A will be held at **10.15 am** on Monday 21st October 2019, at the Methodist Church, Deeping St. James. In accordance with our Constitution, **ALL** Committee Members have to seek re-election **EVERY** year, so your nominations are required for **EACH** Member – The Officers (Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer), and up to seven General Members.

Members willing and eligible for re-election, with their current positions and responsibilities, are as follows :- Garth Perry (Chairman), Ann Parkes (Secretary), Anne Burton (Treasurer), Liz Noble (Membership Secretary), Susanne Hoadley (Group Coordinator), Phil Jones (Deputy Group Coordinator), and Kath Allen (Vote of Thanks Coordinator). Nominations other than the present incumbent of the above roles, will be accepted, and a vote will be carried out for that position.

Lyll Seale, who was co-opted to continue the Speaker Finder role, as our appeal in 2018 for a replacement was unsuccessful, has been nominated, and is willing and eligible, to return to the Committee in that role.

Ann Holmes, the Editor of our excellent Newsletter, has reached the Constitutional limit for continuous membership of the Committee, and cannot stand for re-election to the Committee this year. We are very grateful that Ann wishes to continue her role as Editor. We therefore have vacancies for up to two more General Members, in addition to the above positions.

A nomination form is on page 7 of this Newsletter, and if you know of anyone who is interested and willing to serve on the Committee, then, with their permission, let us have a completed nomination for them. All nominations should be sent to the Secretary, Ann Parkes, by Monday 30th September 2019.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2019/2020

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership for the new year starting on 1st August but regret those not renewed will be removed from the Newsletter mailing after the September issue. If you have forgotten to renew then please do so quickly before losing your membership benefits.



We hope you think the small credit card size card for emergency contacts is useful for your purse/wallet. If anyone was missed out please let me know.

Membership Secretary

WILL ALL GROUP LEADERS PLEASE ENSURE THEIR MEMBERS HAVE THE UP TO DATE (2019/2020) MEMBERSHIP BADGE. LIZ NOBLE

POLYPLOIDY LILLY

On the 7th August I received the first of a series of photographs and excited notes from our member Maureen Jackson about a very unusual Lilly she had flowering in her garden. Gardening, I regret to say is not one of my talents but I did realise it was somewhat unusual and put Maureen in touch with the leaders of our four gardening groups, thus enabling them to spread the word to their



members. I understand from Maureen quite a number turned up to view the Lilly. The bulb is at least six years old and has had around 70 flowers on it. Maureen had been in touch with one or two experts who informed her that this is very unusual and is due to stress, chemicals and genetic disruption in the plant cells and next year it may come as normal. She was told to collect the seeds and see what happens to them, they may come the same or go back to as it was. Maureen will also split the bulb in the winter and reset the new bulbs. ANN



GROUP NEWS

Hope you are all having a good summer, and for those of you who like a bit of gardening we are going to start a **new gardening group**. Please see the sign up sheet at the next meeting or contact me by phone or email if you are interested.



Member James Drake has contacted us suggesting a **Metal Detecting group**. Living in the area we do, there should be no shortage of interesting sites to explore so if you are interested in such a venture, as usual please sign the sheet at the next meeting or contact me if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Bourne U3A's **Railway/Train Group** is struggling for members to attend events. If this is something you might be able to help with please see the poster at the next meeting or again contact me for information.

SUSANNE HOADLEY
Groups Co-ordinator

U3A 2019 DIARIES

Copies of the 2019 U3A Diary are now available but ... unfortunately June will not be available this month to twist our arms into buying one.

However Susanne Hoadley has offered to stand in for her at Monday's meeting, so if you would like to purchase one please see Susanne on Monday.

The price this year is £3— which June says is value"!



Unfortunately the following two reports spent some time in cyberspace and missed being included in the July Newsletter!

U3A HISTORY GROUP (June report)

The story of the Red Cross by Liz Waterland



Today we were given a very interesting talk by Liz who was a trainer for The Red Cross and a long serving volunteer. It was an inspirational story, related by an excellent story teller.



The journey started with its

founder member Henri Dunant, how his vision began and how it was achieved over a number of years. He was awarded The Nobel Peace Prize in 1901.



Mention was made of the relationship between the setting up of The Geneva Conference of five, the Geneva Convention and the instigation of the Red Cross, the symbol of which is protected (It is also the Swiss flag's colours in reverse). His book entitled 'A Memory of Solferino', was quoted and recommended as it is still in print. Henri Durant was inspired to set up a neutral volunteer service after witnessing the carnage following a war between France, Italy and Austria. The book tells of this event.

The story ended with a poignant video showing how the Red Cross responds to day to day emergencies, thanks to the number of volunteer trainers. Thank You Liz.

Report: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONES / ELIZABETH PARKINSON

U3A ART APPRECIATION GROUP (June report)

Visit to Willoughby Gallery, Corby Glen

Unfortunately, only five members attended the gallery this year. The artist who was exhibiting work was Kate Genever of Uffington, a print maker who has exhibited in some of our most famous galleries. (Has an Internet site) The theme was 'Slowly I Found My Way In'.



The exhibition was comprised of large scale charcoal drawings, pastels and digital prints responding to the artist's family farm and surrounding countryside. There was also an exhibition of pupils' work following on from a workshop at the local secondary school. We do not meet in August but we have a speaker for September and hope to see you then.

Report: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONES / YVONNE McCULLOCH

U3A FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP

This month we were pleased to welcome a new member, Sue Murrant, into the group. We used many varieties of foliage, different colours, and form to prove that flowers are not always needed. Some large seed heads and twigs also added interest but some competition rules would not allow their use in this type of arrangement.



Next month we will have a seasonal Harvest theme, using fruit and vegetables, as well as any flowers and foliage we choose.

PAT LUDLOW

Group Leader

U3A CYCLING GROUP

July report



This month we managed to arrange transport for our cycles and after loading the cycles into cars and on cycle racks, three cars and seven cyclists set out from Rainbow car park for Rutland.

The ride began with a rainy start at the White Horse pub in Empingham from where we cycled through some lovely countryside over a couple of mountains, sorry hillocks (not used to these around the Deepings), to the village of Exton. Despite the persisting rain we cycled through Exton Park Estate, with Ketton Cement and the Morborne Transmitter mast just visible through the rain, to Fort Henry which is a picturesque Folly now used for events and weddings (see picture).

We then proceeded through the estate and past Barnsdale Gardens to Whitwell. Here we joined the cycle track around Rutland Water at the Aquatic Centre which needless to say was deserted. We cycled from here to Sykes Lane car park where we joined the main Stamford to Oakham road and returned to the White Horse to dry out and partake of a well earned lunch.

The round trip was approx. 16 miles and was organised by Eddie. All agreed that despite the weather it was a good trip made all the better by being away from our normal routes around the Deeping area. Our thanks to Eddie for organising it and to Fred, Mike and Kevin for providing the transport.

JIM TORRANCE

Group Leader

August report

As a contrast to the hilly territory of our last outing, this month's ride was through the flat countryside of the fens.



Seven cyclists started from the Market Deeping Bridge. We took Sutton's Lane and on to Peakirk, over the level crossing and headed towards Newborough, but turned right on Drain Road eventually leading to Werrington Bridge Road returning us to Peakirk. Then towards Werrington via Fox Covert Road and the Green Wheel cycle track. From here it was straight back to the Bull at Market Deeping.

The weather was kind as the rain held off until everyone had managed to cycle home after the Bull. Report: TERRY NOBLE

Group Leader: JIM TORRANCE

U3A POETRY GROUP

August report

We met at Juliet's home for our August meeting. Unfortunately two members were unable to attend due to being indisposed, but they sent in their Poems which were much appreciated.

One member, Ann, chose 'Explain Revenge' by the Poet Lotte Kramer, whom Ann has known for many years and visits her as she lives in Peterborough. Another member, Lynn, had the pleasure of meeting the Poet Sophie Hannah at the Priory Church during the 'Arts Festival'. She chose one of her poems, 'Early Bird Blues'.

We then had 'Everyone Sang' by Siegfried Sassoon, 'Earth has not anything to show more fair' by William Wordsworth, 'Eclogue 11, by John Scott, 'Engineer's Corner' by Wendy Cope, 'Evening Primrose' by John Clare, and 'East Anglian Bathe' by Sir John Betjeman.

We all seemed to find a lovely variety of Poems, which gave us a most interesting afternoon. Our Thanks to Juliet for keeping us refreshed.

September report

For our September meeting we had the letter 'F' to arrange and find our poetry. Although we were down in numbers due to various reasons this month, we still managed to meet the challenge.

We had 'Fanir and the Knights' by Stevie Smith, Father William, by Lewis Carroll, 'First Time In' by Ivor Gurney, 'February-not-everywhere' by Norman MacCraig, 'Fatigue' by Hilaire Belloc and 'Fatima' by Lord Alfred Tennyson.

Our thanks to Cathryn who made us welcome and kept us well refreshed. Our next meeting will be on October 7th, with the letter 'G' at Susanne's house.

IRENE BEEKEN
Group Leader

U3A CRAFT GROUP 2

Thanks to Heather Bumfrey who had been turning out her craft cupboard and provided the papers this month to successfully tackle our first Christmas Card of the year!!!



We did not meet in August but have a beading bracelet to make, thanks to Barbara Baylis in September. See you on 16th September.

LIZ NOBLE
Group Leader

U3A QUIZ GROUP

We have two vacancies. Every second Friday we meet at the homes of the members who set the questions and provide the refreshments. This is not a prerequisite though. Occasionally we go as a team to quizzes set by outside organisations. Please ring for more details.

DAVID MACVITE
Group Leader

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS



Karyn Hillier, Werrington; Christine and Graham Charity, Caroline and Brian Osborne, Roland Austin and Beverley Tegala Deeping St James; Colin and Sue Murrant Thurlby; Sue Good, Karen Atkinson Grinton; Greg and Lynnette Ford, Kevin Dawson Market Deeping and Em Nicholls, Uffington.



U3A ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES GROUP

At our July meeting Malcolm Kenwood made a return visit and talked to us about 'The Fine Art of Crime'. It was a most interesting and intriguing talk with regard to how skilled forgers have duped many at the highest level within the 'Art Market', and it seems there are no lengths that criminals will not go to.



Of course they are not always successful in their thefts of Art. One instant we were told of was when two men posing as visitors, paid their £5 entry fee to the home of the Duke of Buccleigh at Drumlanrig Castle then decided, as there were not many visitors, they would steal a painting. The one they managed to steal was of 'The Madonna' by Leonardo-da-Vinci dated 1750. This so happened to be the Duke's most treasured painting and the thieves then, as in several other cases, found themselves with an item 'too hot to handle'. They then have to resort to using items they can't get rid of easily, as collateral for getting hold of drugs. Malcolm stressed that we should all photo our property and mark items of value in our homes.

Our next meeting will be on September 23rd. and will be 'Show and Tell', I look forward to that. Report: IRENE BEEKEN

Group Leaders: IRENE BEEKEN / PAM PENDRY

U3A "BOOKWORMS" READING GROUP

July report

"Mitford Murders" by Jessica Fellowes



On 12th January 1920, Florence Nightingale Shore, a middle-aged nursing heroine of World War I battlefields is being settled in a train at Victoria Station by her friend Mabel Rogers. She is off to enjoy her retirement but on the journey she is assaulted and robbed and dies soon after.

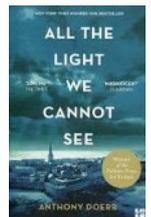
This is a real crime which has never been solved but Jessica Fellowes offers a solution in this book with the help of a most unlikely set of characters also from real life members of the aristocratic Mitford family, who condescend to cooperate with Louisa, the daughter of a washerwoman and quite capable of picking a pocket or two, who becomes nurserymaid to the Mitford children

The plot is somewhat confusing, but the book is a pleasant fantasy and a good read. Report: NANCY TITMAN

August Report

"All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

This book is a love story of WW II but with a difference. The boy, Werner Pfennig is German. He lives with his sister and other poor children in a house for orphans in a coal mining village near Essen. He is small for his age, has white hair and sticking out ears but he is bright, understands maths and has a wireless receiver made out of bits and pieces. This talent saves him from working in the mine and he is sent to a special school where he is trained in the Nazi Youth Movement and eventually for the German army.



The girl, Marie-Laure Le Blanc is French. She lives in Paris with her father, she is petite, has auburn hair and freckles on her nose. She is motherless and blind but her father dotes on her. He makes a model of their neighbourhood to help her navigate the real streets. He is a locksmith at the museum. When France is occupied he is sent away and Marie-Laure goes to live with a great uncle in St Malo, who also uses a radio transmitter.

The author writes in beautiful prose; perfectly observed descriptions bring scenes and characters to life and gives us an and of the barbarity of the Nazi regime.

Highly recommended. (Very enjoyable - a book you wish would not end!) Report: NANCY TITMAN

Next Bookworms meeting at Diana's home on September 23rd at 2pm.

Group Leader: ANN THORNTWAITE

U3A JAZZ, SWING AND BIG BAND GROUP (July Report)

Our July event was held at the home of Barbara and Peter Baylis with a programme put together by Geoff Whittle. We knew that Geoff would give us an entertaining morning and we weren't disappointed. It began with three pieces from Charlie Parker which were a pleasant change from his usual 'bebop style' - 'Summertime', 'They Can't Take That Away From Me' and 'Lover'.



'I Can't Get Started With You,' from Bunny Berigan, was followed by Benny Carter and his Orchestra playing 'Swing It'. Jimmie Lunceford and his Orchestra played 'My Blue Heaven' and Fletcher Henderson and his Orchestra gave us 'Christopher Columbus. Well known in Jazz circles, sadly many of these talented musicians died too soon from a mixture of drugs and alcohol.

Mildred Bailey sang 'Trust In Me' which Peter Grey enjoyed and Sarah Vaughan sang 'It Might As Well Be Spring' from the film 'State Fair'. Our third female vocalist was Dinah Washington and her lovely version of 'September in the Rain' after which we returned to the big band of Duke Ellington with singer Ivie Anderson and 'It Don't Mean a Thing, If It Ain't Got That Swing'. Teddy Wilson, his Orchestra and Billie Holiday followed with 'Who Loves You?' 'The Elks Parade' came from Bobby Sherwood and his Orchestra, 'Cherokee,' from Charlie Barnet, then 'Flying Home' delighted us, played by Lionel Hampton. Another of the big bands - Count Basie played 'Between The Devil and The Deep Blue Sea' vocal by Helen Humes, 'Careless Love,' sang by Lena Horne backed by Henry Levine and the NBC Dixieland Jazz Group continued our morning - we heard the Master of all Clarinetists - well he said he was— Artie Shaw with 'Traffic Jam'.

Woody Herman gave us 'Four Brothers', Benny Goodman and his Orchestra played and Ella Fitzgerald sang 'Oh Yes, Take Another Guess', a new one to me. Another great - Gene Krupa gave us two items 'Georgia On My Mind' with Anita O'Day and 'There'll Be Some Changes Made' with Irene Day. We heard 'All Of Me' from Billy May and concluded with Benny Goodman once more playing 'Stomping At The Savoy'.

Such an interesting mix of amazingly talented musicians and singers, who despite the aforementioned problems and numerous marriages/divorces, still gave of their best, doing something they loved. Geoff gave us a great morning of music and information for which we thank him
Report: ANNE JONES

August report



Peter Baylis once again hosted the meeting for August and so we knew that it would be an interesting morning. Peter is so knowledgeable about music and we always hear things about the various musicians, when they were around, who they played their music with etc. and today was no exception.

The programme began with Stan Getz and Joao Gilberto's 'The Girl From Ipanema' vocal by Astrid Gilberto, his wife at the time. It was a huge hit from a singer who was not well known. 'Night Birds' from Shakatak followed and then the Modern Jazz Quartet played 'Between The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea'. Amy Roberts, a regular at the Toft Hotel Jazz evenings, played her saxophone, and we heard 'The Very Thought of You', Great Ladies of song, Dinah Washington and Nancy Wilson sang two songs and Shelly Manne played 'I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face' from 'My Fair Lady'.

Jimmy Smith gave us 'The Cat' from the film 'The Carpetbaggers', 'I've Got You Under My Skin', was Bill Evans, a great improviser on the piano. Wes Montgomery, Urbie Green and Count Basie with his Orchestra continued the morning's music and Stan Kenton played 'Intermission Riff' in true Stan Kenton style. Then Frank Comstock and his Orchestra was followed by the one and only Frank Sinatra and likewise, Nat 'King' Cole, then Johnny Mathis. Ted Heath played two items, 'Morning Glory,' and 'Dark Eyes'. The morning closed with Ella, another great lady of song, 'Dancing On The Ceiling'.

This venture into some of Peter's musical collection was as enjoyable as usual and we thank him for putting this programme together at short notice. Thanks also Barbara for the refreshments too. The next meeting will be at the home of Phil Jones.

The group sent best wishes for a speedy recovery to Jessie Turner.

U3A HISTORY GROUP July report

'Liverpool Docks during the Blitz'



Today's speaker was Brian Thornthwaite who had prepared a very interesting talk about his home town of Liverpool and the period during WW2, known as the Blitz. It was illustrated with slides of interest to the area and some showed the up to date, refurbished buildings such as The Albert Dock.

The word Blitz was derived from Blitzkrieg, meaning Lightning War. It had been used as a propaganda phrase by the newspapers at the time.

Liverpool was a very important port and had links to the Manchester Ship Canal. The port imported and exported numerous cargoes including vital food supplies.

Brian's message today was not only about the futility of war, the casualties of war but also the fact that we all think of Blitz being relative to London when in fact, Liverpool suffered immensely and also earlier than London.

Did you realise that Adolph Hitler's brother was living in Liverpool in 1910? Adolph was thrown out of a public house for spouting politics when visiting him. Brian's conspiracy theory was the eviction from the pub harboured a grudge and meant that Liverpool's name was first in the book. (As in Pike re Dad's Army!!).

The talk was very interesting and showed how stoic the people were when under duress. There is a part 2 for the future entitled Liverpool during the war. Keep a look out for the date! Many thanks Brian.

AUGUST HISTORY GROUP TRIP REPORT

Once again, a very well planned and organised visit for the History Group. All down to the patience and skills of Barbara McNicol. She was helped by the group members who collected and collated the finances. Ann Parkes, our treasurer needs a mention too as she had the responsibility of balancing the books!



This year we went to Colchester and to Flatford Mill (Constable Country). The weather was good, not too hot. The Blue Badge Guide was excellent and the driver was very diligent, he had some very narrow lanes to negotiate. The restaurant was efficient and the pizzas looked very tasty and rather large! The

only irritation was the A14 on the outward journey. Let's hope the road is finished on time next year as it is a very congested link to the East.

There are too many facts about Colchester to mention however, the Greek Orthodox Church was impressive as it had numerous icons displayed along its walls. It was dedicated to St Helen of Colchester. We had a brief explanation of the history behind the building. It was fascinating. Thank you to everyone who supported Barbara before and during the visit.



We look forward to seeing you in September when our speaker is Dr Martyn Thomas. The title of his talk is 'The Story of Alfred Caleb Taylor'.
Reports: SANDRA JONES

Group Leaders: SANDRA JONES / ELIZABETH PARKINSON

U3A MONDAY WALKING GROUP August report



Nineteen of us attended the walk led by Bruce Zenthon. We set off from the Packhorse Northborough debating whether to take waterproofs as the forecast was variable.

A circular route took us towards Market Deeping, along old Maxey road into Maxey and then a loop via Eton to return. The weather was kind to us with only a few minutes shower on the return leg. As usual the distance walked was open to whose app was used, but as two got 5.5 miles that is the winner !!! Lunch was had at The Packhorse but not at all impressed !!!

September report



All 29 of us met at The Bertie Arms for the walk led by Brian, Helen and Pat. Amazingly the Tallington crossing was "Good" for a change and we were all ready to start wading at 9.40 am.

We did a figure eight walk from Uffington towards the river and Stamford and returned on the opposite side. It was a fine warm day and yet again no rain. Part of the route was on what was probably the towpath for the Welland Canal.

The canal was one of the earliest in the country, built to make the River Welland navigable to Stamford. It was fully navigable by 1673 and remained in operation until 1863. It is still possible to identify the course of the canal and see bridges, locks and other features amongst the undergrowth. There were 12 locks to handle the drop of 13m between Stamford and Deeping St James. More information on Wikipedia if needed.

Lunch was had at The Bertie Arms. The next walk is from Toft led by Yvonne and Murdoch McCulloch.

STEVE HANSON
Group Leader

U3A CRAFT GROUP 3

As the group is unable to meet in September, we met in August and had an enjoyable time decorating plastic flower pots. In October we will be weaving flower baskets.



ANITA SETCHFIELD
Group Leader

U3A GARDENING FOR PETALS AND PRODUCE GROUP

July report

Seven members of the Petals and Produce group went to Norwell Gardens and Nursery (near Newark) and it was well worth the journey. It was a lovely day and we were welcomed by Dr Andrew Ward (despite the fact that they were not usually open on Tuesdays) and introduced to the beautiful gardens and rare and unusual plants. We had coffee and cake (self service with an honesty box) and spent quite a time looking round and trying not to choose too many plants to take home. Eventually, we paid for our choices, loaded the car boots, and went to the nearby Plough Inn for some (very large) portions of fish and chips etc. A very pleasant outing.

August report



Ten members were lucky enough to go on a visit to Margaret and David Scotts' garden this month, where we admired a great selection of plants and imaginative planting. It was interesting to see photographs of the garden as they took it over, and to compare with the current lovely display.

The unpredictable British weather had damaged some of the clematis etc. we had hoped to see, but there was still plenty of interest. Some of us came away with plants or cuttings, others just with inspiration for the future!

Next month, 17th September, hope to have a visit to Swines Meadow

KATHLEEN TANNER
Group Leader

Photo: DAVID SCOTT

U3A SCIENCE GROUP



Terry Noble not only enlightened us on the subject of Bridge Design and Construction at our last meeting in July, but sent us off in holiday mood, by including some informative and amusing demonstrations involving tins of baked beans and very long vintage rulers! Thank you very much Terry

Following our August break, we are easing ourselves back into Autumn by going on another trip! On Tuesday 15th October we are going for a ride on the Cambridge Guided Bus, and visiting the Whipple Museum of the History of Science. This trip will be led by Dave Scott.

Photo: TERRY NOBLE

GARTH PERRY /DAVID SCOTT
Group Leaders

U3A TEN PIN BOWLING GROUP

Ten Pin bowling comes to a different meaning sometimes when some one gets a good score as on the last bowl we had,



The highest score one can achieve is 300 which is what we all try to get, so when the figure of 208 is reached we all stand in awe and clap that person. (Some times I think those pins are glued to the floor.) Six strikes, and five in a row is very good so well done Godfrey.

We are not competitive but we just like to have fun trying to beat our own score and it is a way of catching up with any news. So roll on the next meet.
Report: DAVE LUNN

Group Leaders: DAVE LUNN / CHRIS PATMAN

U3A QUILTING GROUP

After pur meeting in July we took a break and resumed our classes in September. The July meeting gave members the opportunity to do a catch up and complete outstanding work.



Janice bought in a sample of a trinket bag she had made of Japanese fabric and enough fabric for those who wanted to try to make one. Some of the group took the opportunity to do so. Thank you Janice for that lovely simple idea.

MARGARET GRIFFITHS
Group Leader

U3A "PACERS" WALKING GROUP

On Wednesday September 4th . 16 Pacers left Deeping in the pouring rain, but by the time we arrived in Nassington the rain had stopped and the sun was breaking through giving us a beautiful sunny day with a cooling breeze – perfect walking weather.



We left the Black Horse in Nassington and followed the Nene Way along the river to Yarwell Mill and from there over the fields, pausing to ooh and aah over the baby alpacas in one of the fields, into Yarwell Village. Resisting the temptation to play on the wonderful equipment in the children's play area we wended our way back to Nassington through woods and fields and even an area called a pocket park.

Having been fortified by gorgeous, juicy ripe blackberries we arrived back at the Black Horse where we enjoyed a superb buffet lunch. The fun of the day didn't end there as we (or some of us) went scrumping in the pub garden helping ourselves to pears from a laden tree!! (we did have the landlord's permission to be honest !!)

Next walk will be on October 2nd details to follow.

Report: BARBARA McNICOL
Group Leaders: LYNN & STEVE WHITE

U3A NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

The group ventured out on the hottest day of the year (25 July) to the Hills and Holes at Barnack and had a splendid morning. We were treated to sightings of the rare *Polyommatus coridon* plus a good number of *Maniola jurtina* and the occasional *Inachis io*. Star of the day was the biggest, no not aspidistra, but *Anacamptis pyramidalis* I have ever seen. We also discovered a new species, to me that is, *Cirsium acaule*.



Report: NORAH LITTLER
Group Leaders: JO ASTLE / MARGARET BEARDSHAW

U3A THURSDAY GARDENING GROUP

August report

With the unpredictable weather it was a pleasure to visit Ponton Hall Gardens this month in warm dry sunshine without torrential rain or excessive heat. As well as having access to the small church where many of us searched for ex-Deeping actor Richard Todd's



gravestone, we enjoyed refreshments and the opportunity to buy plants as we wandered the grounds though vegetable plots, along the river, across formal lawns and through archways and past herbaceous borders. Run by George McCorquodale, whose family home this is, Ponton Hall Gardens are well worth a visit.

Report: LINDA HILL

September report



The rise and fall of the Thursday Gardening Group were discussed with a select few at Alistair and Ray Smith's house last week.

The Scotts told of the sad tale of a much loved and very large *Euonymus* shrub that had developed a terminal disease for some unknown reason. The Garden Centre's advice was remove and burn offending shrub resulting in a great gap in their garden. On the other hand Roy Pettit had had a bumper crop of peaches, apricots (despite the attempts of inquisitive squirrels and hedgehogs) and now Victoria plums which the members were fortunate to take home samples.

We did manage to discuss the very important Christmas lunch booking options and we look forward to that in due course when all our other members return from their holidays. Thanks to Alistair and Ray for hosting the meeting.
Report: LIZ NOBLE

Group Leader: LINDA HILL

U3A GOOD FOOD GROUP

Seven of us met on 2nd September to try some Spanish Tapas. Not quite Spanish weather but we did sit outside initially.



Our mixture of dishes included meat balls, artichoke hearts in tomato sauce, skewers of ham and artichoke, a smoked salmon dip, etc. No dessert this month!

Next meeting, 7th October, sampling Nadiya Hussai recipes. Guests or interested enquirers welcome. We could do with some more members.

KATHLEEN TANNER
Group Leader



I propose As an Officer (Chairman, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) or

..... As General Member on the Deepings' U3A Committee

Proposed Print Date.....

Seconded PrintDate.....

U3A “STROLLERS” WALKING GROUP

Since the last newsletter, the Strollers have undertaken two walks. Firstly, in July, Stuart Wilson led us on a walk setting off from the Bull in the Market Place at Market Deeping. The walk took us over the River Welland and immediately turning off across fields to join the south bank of the river in Deeping Gate. Continuing along we arrived at the bridge at Deeping St. James, where we crossed the road and followed Riverside.



At the end of this road we followed the south bank all the way to low locks where we crossed the river to Eastgate. We then made our way back, passing the Priory church and footpaths leading to Hereward Way, Bridge Street and back to the Bull.

In August, our walk took place on the Bank Holiday Monday and what a scorcher. We met at the Granary at Ferry Meadows in Peterborough, where we set off for a stroll, passing the Nene Valley Railway at Overton towards Ferry Meadows, where we walked around the various lakes there. During the walk, Julie Fitzjohn snapped a heron, which is shown, before a welcome return to the coolness of the Granary for lunch.

Our walk this month will be led by David and Linda Mann, starting from the Wishing Well at Dyke, which is a small village to the north of Bourne. It will be on Monday 23 September, meeting about 10:15. Any member of the group wishing to take part should contact them by phone or email a few days before.

BOB DELLER
Group Leader

U3A FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting this month we enjoyed listening to a very informative talk on the history of the railways.

The railway boom was in the 1840's and run by dozens of competing companies. The entire network was brought under government control during the 1st World War. In 1923 nearly all the remaining companies were grouped into the big four. The Great Western Railway, The London & North Eastern Railway, The London Midland & Scottish Railway & The Southern Railway. The big four were joint stock public companies and they continued to run the railway system until 1947. From 1948 the big four were nationalised to form **British Railways**.



Our meeting next month is a talk by the editor of the Family Tree Magazine. Report JOSIE SMITH

Group Leaders: JOSIE SMITH / JEAR BRENNAND

U3A WRITING FOR PLEASURE GROUP

We had a full turn out of members, eight in all, for our August meeting. Some people had chosen a topic off our list, others had written on something entirely different. As usual we enjoyed our morning and the social side as well as the writing.



We do have space for one or two new members. If you enjoy writing you are welcome to come along and join us for a session to see what goes on. No pressure to come back if it isn't for you! In our group we try to improve our writing by encouraging each other and making helpful suggestions. There is no pressure to write something for each meeting, and the group is very informal and friendly.

JUDY ROBINSON
Group Leader

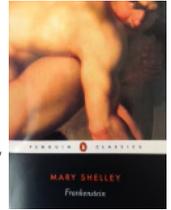
U3A SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

Lunch this month is on Sunday, 28th September at the 'Wagon and Horses', Langtoft, 12.30 for 1.00 pm. Please let Tony Semple or Michael Griffiths know if you wish to attend or, of course, add your name to the board at Monday's meeting.



U3A MONDAY READERS GROUP

On August 30th I said 'Good Morning' to Alexa on my Amazon Echo and she replied, "Good Morning, Happy Frankenstein Day! This day in 1797, Mary Wollstonecraft, later Mary Shelley, was born; she is the celebrated author of Frankenstein, the first Gothic / Horror/ Science Fiction tale to be published, beginning a new genre in literature".



There are three narratives; Robert Walton's, Victor Frankenstein's and the monster's:- The tale begins with a sea captain, Robert Walton, on his mission to the North Pole, writing to his sister Margaret about his rescue from the ice locked sea of a young man, Victor Frankenstein, who is fleeing from a 'monster', and tells his horrific tale of a scientific experiment he carried out at Ingolstadt University to 'infuse life into an inanimate body'. This body becomes Frankenstein's 'abhorred Monster'. Made from multiple body parts robbed from graves, Frankenstein is horrified when he succeeds in bringing this creature to life and runs away leaving the 'monster' to fend for himself with no thought of the outcome or the reign of terror he may cause to his fellow man. This abandonment is crucial in the development of the 'monster'.

The 'monster' now tells his tale of strife, eating berries and drinking water from a stream to stay alive. He learns by finding an abandoned hovel next to a cottage where he observes through a gap in the wall, the De Lacey family; father De Lacey, son Felix, daughter Agatha and a female visitor from the East, Safie. Felix is teaching Safie his language which is French and the monster learns this at the same time. The monster learns kindness from the way the family behave to each other and chops piles of wood for their fire which he leaves anonymously outside their cottage each morning. Eventually the monster finds the courage to engage with De Lacey, who is blind, and they have some friendly conversations until one day Felix, Agatha and Safie arrive home from a walk to find this ugly monster holding the hand of their father. Horror struck, and with super human strength Felix pulls the monster away and strikes him in the shoulder with a stick which causes him much pain then they all flee from their cottage in terror. The monster has previously saved a child from drowning and has a mild manner but the way he is treated by people makes him bitter towards his maker, Victor Frankenstein, effectively his father, who has not looked after him as a father should and he sets out to avenge him, with dire consequences.

This tale takes the reader on travels from Geneva, Frankenstein's homeland, across Europe to Ireland and contrasts Victor's happy upbringing by a responsible father and kind stepmother with the monster's lonely abandonment by an irresponsible 'parent', Victor Frankenstein. There are other major and minor characters each with their story to tell involving Victor's family, Elizabeth who is his betrothed, his best friend, Clerval and others intertwined in this tale which make for very absorbing reading but for those who haven't read it I won't spoil it for you. I do, however, urge you to read it as it is such an iconic forward thinking novel written by an incredibly talented 19 year old Mary Shelley. I recommend The York Notes on Frankenstein as a beneficial aid.

Report: JANIS DIXON.

September report

Our book this month was *Wise Children* by Angela Carter. This was her last book before her death in 1992 and it certainly closed her life with a strikingly different book. It tells the story of theatrical twin sisters, Dora and Nora Chance, late of the London stage and rep all over Britain, and their convoluted and larger than life family. Dora Chance is the narrator and her story covers a life full of farce, pathos and very odd characters.



It was a book that one of our group (me) loved for its hugely comedic cast, its weird events and farcical happens – with an undertone of pathos. But it was not popular with the rest of the group, despite some acknowledging the skill of Angela Carter's writing. Criticism ranged from its being too complicated, too bawdy or just 'not my thing', so, on the whole, it had only two stars out of five allocated to it.

It was agreed, however that it might make a good film, probably starring Bill Nighy!

Our next meeting will be at a different venue, Ray's house, on Monday October 14th. Our book is *Dad's War* by Chris Tarrant.

LIZ WATERLAND
Group Leader

U3A “WANDERERS” WALKING GROUP

August report:

A small, but enthusiastic group of Wanderers set off from The Wheatsheaf, Edith Weston for a six mile walk around the Luffenhams. Walking in the sunshine we were able to appreciate the lovely stone built houses and very attractive gardens (and the comical llamas who came to greet us!). The ridge between the two villages gave us an excellent panoramic view across the fields, with the combine harvester at work.

After crossing the River Chater for the last time, we climbed up through the meadow to North Luffenham churchyard and wound our way back to the pub via the cricket pitch, the allotments and the newly planted tree area. Back at the pub we all enjoyed a well deserved lunch.
Report: HILARY AKAM

September report:



On one of the few dry and sunny days in September 17 members of the group met at the Cuckoo in Alwalton for a very pleasant stroll along the banks and tributaries of the Nene. Our route took us around the lakes in Ferry Meadows and back through the very pretty village of Alwalton.

What we didn't anticipate were the events and hazards we encountered along the way! Our first stop was to watch a narrow boat negotiating a lock on the Nene when we met and chatted to a friendly couple who had been away for six months – along with their canine friend complete with his own lifejacket! Moving on the party became separated by a herd of cows and enthusiastic bullocks! It is fair to say that some of us were a little perturbed by this and moved rather rapidly to safety! All was well for a while, plenty more livestock in the form of horses, swans and birds of prey but nothing to worry about. Until we passed a field being irrigated – made a beautiful rainbow in the sunshine but also watered the footpath we were walking along! Had to time that one carefully. Finally, on leaving Ferry Meadows we found our way blocked and needed to do a quick detour!

Then back to The Cuckoo for a very pleasant and uneventful lunch! Phew!
Report: MARJE ARMSTRONG

Photos: MELANIE EDWARDS & MARJE ARMSTRONG
Group Leaders: HILARY & BARRY AKAM

U3A WEDNESDAY GARDENING GROUP

Ten members including three husbands visited Neil and Kay's allotment at Stamford. We were met by Neil who took us down to his extensive plot by the side of the River Gwash. Luckily the rain held off while we were walking round with Neil - a most entertaining and knowledgeable guide.



Members were then able to sit under a shelter for tea/coffee with delicious and tempting cakes. All in all a most enjoyable morning which was due in no small part to our very hospitable hosts who were raising money for the Red Cross.
Report: JANE COOKE

Group Leaders: JEAN FOSTER / JANE COOKE

U3A “CHURCH MICE” GROUP

August report:

August's 'Church Mice' visit was to St Peter and St Paul's church in Kirton in Holland. Father Paul gave an excellent talk about the history of the church and about worship in the church.

Kirton was mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086. There was probably a church in Kirton then but by the 13th century it was already larger than it is today. It was cruciform in shape, but by the 18th century the church was in such a bad condition that parts had to be removed. The tower was moved from its position between the nave and the chancel to outside the west end of the church, which means the original fine Norman dog-tooth arch and doorway are now inside the church.

Notable inside the church are the early 20th century rood screen with a restored replica rood above (pic), a plain 15th century font and memorials to two famous inhabitants of Kirton, Dame Sarah Swift, founder of the Royal College of Nursing and Harold Jackson, who was awarded the Victoria Cross in the 1st World War.

The visit was capped with an excellent tea, far too large for the 18 members.
Report: HENRY ROBERTS



September report:

Twenty members of 'Church Mice' spent a warm September's afternoon at St Bartholomew's church in West Pinchbeck.

Built in the 1850's the church was to help Pinchbeck parish to cope with the large numbers. This is in a farming community and the buildings comprised a parish church, a parsonage and a school. The first curate was also the village schoolmaster.

The foundation stone was laid in 1848 and the church was consecrated by the bishop of



Lincoln in 1850. By 1890 the foundations had shifted enough for restoration work to be instituted and the church was rededicated in 1897.

Entering the church you are first conscious of the height of the ceiling in the nave. There is one aisle and a chancel noticeable for the colourful stained glass window behind the altar. The church has a pleasant feel to it and Wendy, the churchwarden, gave us the background and history of the church.

The afternoon was rounded off with cake and tea.

Report: HENRY ROBERTS
Photo: ANN HOLMES
Group Leaders: JIM PRINGLE / SANDRA JONES



This photo obviously ought to be under the "Natural History Group" heading, but Bob Deller, Group Leader of the "Strollers" Walking Group, sent it along with his report.

The caterpillar is a 'Elephant Hawk Moth' caterpillar and was photographed by his wife Jenifer.v

Thank you for sharing it with us. Pity we've all seen it now—it might have made a good item for one of your quizzes David M. ANN

U3A LISTENING TO MUSIC GROUP

August report:

Our August meeting was hosted by Peter Baylis, who gave us a most enjoyable programme of 18 well chosen and contrasting pieces.

Peter began appropriately with the Inspector Morse theme, composed by Barrington Pheloung, who died recently. Venus, from Holst's "Planets", was followed by pieces by Gluck, Lehar and Dvorak, then Memory from Cats. Performers ranged from Andre Rieu to Barry Tuckwell, and included Claire Jones, the Girl with the Golden Harp.

Other composers included Debussy, Sibelius, Elgar, Mascagni, Mozart, Verdi, Ravel, Ponchielli, Saint-Saens, and Dvorak again. We took a trip on the Stairway to Heaven before ending on a slightly more serious note with Aaron Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man.

Peter was thanked for giving us such a varied programme, which succeeded in being both relaxing and stimulating, and thanks were also given to Barbara for the excellent refreshments.

Report: JIM PRINGLE



September report:

Our September programme was at the home of Chris Hartley who did not have a title for his event and so he called it 'A Programme Without A Title.'

We were treated to a cornucopia of music ranging from Shostakovich to Schubert, with Overtures, Requiems, Choral and solo performances and a Walt Whitman poem, set to music with Chris thoughtfully providing the words.

We have so many knowledgeable people in our music groups and we all come away from our events knowing a little more than we did. Thank you Chris for a very enjoyable morning and thanks to Mrs. Chris for the lovely refreshments.

We were also pleased to welcome Jessie back to our group too.

Next meeting is at the home of Peter and Barbara Baylis, with a programme devised by Peter Lofts. Report; ANNE JONES

Group Leaders: TERRY NOBLE / JIM PRINGLE
01778 342855 / 01778 346431

U3A THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

On a lovely summer August morning 21 members of the group led by Simon and Claire Bysshe set off from The Green Dragon in Ryhall on a very pleasant circular walk to the north west of the village. Leaving the pub and heading to the outskirts of the village and along Back Lane we soon passed Grange Farm and the edge of the wooded Toletorpe Oaks before joining The Drift for a short period and then turning south and completing the walk along well marked footpaths through the grain fields, in one of which a combine harvester was well at work as we crossed. Just before arriving back at The Green Dragon for a very good meal and drink we were able to have a quick look around the local St John's Church in the village. Many thanks to Simon and Claire for organising the walk and arranging the lunch.



For the group's September walk we were able to take advantage of the walk that Brian and Mimi Lawrence had organised for the June walk but which unfortunately was rained off. This time 17 members attended on a revisit to the Ropsley area to undertake a previous walk in the reverse direction, which we regularly say gives a completely different perspective to the walk. 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 an excellent lunch. This was a very pleasant walk which started off in bright sunshine cool but became much warmer if a little breezy at times as the walk progressed giving good walking conditions. Again many thanks to Brian and Mimi for leading the walk and organising the lunch.

The next walk on 10 October will be led by Olive Parrin and will be around the Elton Park and Warmington areas commencing from The Red Lion, Peterborough Road, Warmington, PE8 6TN. If you would like to attend this walk, could you please phone Olive by the **Monday** evening preceding the walk, if possible, on 01778 344969 or e-mail ericandolive1967@gmail.com and also indicating whether you will be staying for lunch.

GODFREY PARKES
Group Leader 01778 343769

DAVID SCOTT - Photo and
Deputy Group Leader 01778
344753

As I am sure you will realise this double issue has taken an enormous amount of time and hard work. It has involved a lot of "cut and paste" to make everything fit and although I have tried very hard, it is more than possible some Group's report and/or photograph, although initially included, may have 'disappeared' without me noticing. If this has happened, please let me know and I will include it in the October issue. **HAPPY READING!**

PS: Remember, not everything is included in the Newsletter anyway. Keep an eye on our Web Site, David does a wonderful job with keeping that up to date for us. ANN