



April 2022 Newsletter

Next Meeting at Great Oakley Village Hall

Wednesday 25th April 2022

By popular request a Presentation from Inspector Scott Little to follow on from his visit 2 years ago.

Message from the Chair

Membership

By now you should have received a renewal note from Helen Watts, our Membership Secretary and we would be grateful if you could pay for your Membership Bank Transfer or cheque by the end of April.

If your contact details have changed, please advise Helen Watts by E-Mail to Membership.gou3a@gmail.com

"Mile a Member" Walking Challenge

The chair has been active and the committee has agreed that we should join the Mile a Member walking challenge.

This is viewed as an opportunity for u3as to work together on a challenge that will show us as active, healthy, outdoor loving members – not the "pipe and slippers brigade" that we are sometimes portrayed as?

Each u3a is autonomous and can carry out the challenge as it best suits them – so long as they all agree to walk the number of miles we have as members between now and September 21st when there will be a special event at Chester House Wellingborough.

Wellingborough U3a have a walking group that is leading their challenge and as they usually have 20 approx persons walking 4-5 miles each once per month so are confident of achieving more than 600 miles goal with another u3a is considering more of an organised "mass walk" of many members during the summer months.

If you have any ideas on how we may be able to exceed our preliminary 250 miles target or want to know more please contact the Chair, Peter Moden at Chair.gou3a@gmail.com

Picnic in the Park

A new initiative is instead of having an event over the Jubilee and Pole Fair Bank Holiday we should have our own Party.

Instead our meeting on Wednesday 22nd June we are going to open the doors at the Village Hall and ask you to use your imagination to use area surrounding the hall as a Park.

We will have chairs and tables and if the weather is not helpful we will have an indoor party from 2:00p.m. to around 5:00p.m.

The idea is you bring a bottle and food for yourselves to consume and Jon Kirby, the singer we originally booked for last Christmas will be there to perform and lead us in some singing. We are going to warn the neighbours just in case we do not sound like the best U3a Choir in the country?

Message from the new Social Secretary

Hi All.

It's Sue Stachini as in 'bikini' here.

Thank you for giving me such a warm welcome at last month's meeting. I am really looking forward to being your Social Secretary and organising lots of things on your behalf.

It was good to see your enthusiasm for the Picnic in the Park and am sure it will be fun and the sun will shine on us for the afternoon.

If any of you have any specific activities you think we might like to do as a u3a group please drop me an email at

sue.stachini89@hotmail.co.uk I will be happy to make enquires and give you an update of the progress made at our next meeting.

Bye for now Sue

Group Information

Walking Group

The group was unable to do the Barnwell walk planned for March due to extremely wet conditions but, we were not to be daunted, and, instead, we completed a pleasant canal side walk from the Black Horse in Foxton up past Foxton Locks and north towards Debdale Wharf, returning to the pub for a nice lunch.



The Barnwell walk will now be in April from the Montagu Arms.

We will be walking round the Hambleton peninsular at Rutland Water in May when we hope to see a fine display of bluebells. June will see us walking from Wadenhoe to Lyveden. In July we plan to walk from Bulwick and in August from Nassington. Plans can of course change but this is just a taster of things to come.

The Barnwell walk will now be in April from the Montagu Arms.

We will be walking round the Hambleton peninsular at Rutland Water in May when we hope to see a fine display of bluebells. June will see us walking from Wadenhoe to Lyveden. In July we plan to walk from Bulwick and in August from Nassington. Plans can of course change but this is just a taster of things to come.



As ever, new walkers are always welcome.

Craft group

We would just like to thank Janet Smith, who has now decided to step down from running the group, for all her work over the last few years.

As a group we are currently working on making bunting for Corby Library to help them celebrate the Queens Jubilee and our own Pole Fair. We will also be knitting, crocheting and sewing flowers to go towards making a floral arch to be used at the Pole Fair at our next meeting on the 4th of April.

So, we don't clash with Easter our following meeting will be on Monday 25th April and then the 9th May and fortnightly after that.

We are always on the look out for new crafts and ideas so if you feel you could teach us something new or would like to demonstrate a craft you would be made most welcome. Jane Parker

Lunch Group

The group are looking for a new leader who is willing to find food establishments before making bookings and would be grateful if anyone who can help would contact Jane Parker at greatoakleyu3agroupleaders@outlook.com

Bowls for Bowlers

The Bowls group meet from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 midday on Fridays at Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre with Tea or Coffee for £1:50 a time. If you are interested in joining come along and / or contact John Bugby johnbugby@hotmail.com.

Table Tennis

We have recently had 2 new members join us which means that we are likely to be playing Doubles on both of our tables. Anyone wishing to join, please come along to Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre on any Friday for a 10:00 start with Tea or Coffee for £1:50 a time.

Photographic Group

For our March meeting we visited Brigstock to take photographs of subjects starting with an R. This may have not been the best choice and resulted in some inventive use.



JaguaR

And



Ruddy Moles

Following a gentle walk around the village we tried out the Bake & Brew Café and can recommend a visit.

We normally meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and do our best to different places rather than meet in our new home at Great Oakley Village hall. The April meeting was rescheduled to the first Wednesday of the month to take the opportunity to look at a Share Photography group exhibition in Oundle and in May we should be taking pictures of Bluebells at a yet to be determined venue. If you would like to join us E-Mail: johnbugby@hotmail.com

Badminton

We have recently had a couple of members deciding that they could longer play, however with new energetic members joining we sometimes have enough people playing to have the odd break between games. For anyone wanting a game we meet at Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre at 10:00 to 12:00 on Tuesdays – just turn up.

Corby Pole Fair Volunteers Wanted

It is getting ever nearer the date for the Pole Fair on 3rd June.

As it only happens every 20 years you have a rare opportunity to assist at the Fair.

They are looking for volunteers to work in shifts for all sorts of roles as it is anticipated that there will be between 10,000 and 30,000 visiting the Fair.

If you can help please contact Phil Watts on 07743 791180 or Helen Watts on 07427 033337.

Please Tell Us

If anyone has a BIG birthday, Anniversary or if you hear a member is ill, please let us know by e-mail to chair.gou3a@gmail.com. or Membership.gou3a@gmail.com

The Executive Committee is currently:

- **Chairperson** Peter Moden
- **Vice Chairperson** John Bugby
- **Treasurer** Doreen Tracey
- **Assistant Treasurer** Damian Tracey
- **Business Secretary** Phil Watts
- **Membership Secretary** Helen Watts
- **Group Co-Ordinator** Jane Parker
- **Social Secretary** Sue Stachini
- **Newsletter Editor** John Bugby
- **Web Co-Ordinator** Jane Parker
- **Public Relations Secretary** Sue Stachini
- **I.T. Assistant** (Vacant)
- **Publicity Assistant** (Vacant)
- **Welfare Assistant** (Vacant)
- **Members Representative** Helen Gibson

If you think you can help the Committee and would like to assist, please volunteer to join us.

Suggestions Welcome

As we continue to open up and as a new committee we are looking for your views on what we are doing.

If you have any suggestions that are not rude please forward them to Peter Moden at Chair.gou3a@gmail.com

Correct Contact Details

If you hear that someone who has E-Mail and has not received this Newsletter it means that we do not have their email address recorded correctly or it may have gone to Junk in an email account. In order to rectify this please ask the member to email the membership address above.



Spring is coming

National Office News

You can find the Newsletters and information on The Third Age Trust at this link [The Third Age Trust \(campaign-archive.com\)](http://TheThirdAgeTrust(campaign-archive.com))

Which will allow you to Zoom in to Articles and easily look at other items.

You can View information as a leaflet in [Colour](#) or [Black & White](#) Or by going to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/member-link>

Column Filler

Do not be envious of a mature Politician without glasses they are reading text on a screen large enough to be seen on Google Earth.

Morning routine: Wake Up, grope for glasses, open newspaper, read obituaries and if your not in it – Get Up.

Acronyms for U3a Members:

ATD – At The Doctors

BTW – Broke the Wheelchair

FWB – Fitted with Betablockers

GHA – Got Heartburn Again

LOL – Lots Of Lumbago

Zoom Apologies

We know some of you have been trying to join us on Zoom and apologise for the problems we are having.

We have had several people look at all of the equipment we have and unfortunately they cannot find what is going on.

It seems that every time we try it outside of meetings, all is O.K. and volunteers have easily joined us.

Looking Forward

As is always the case, we could do with some humorous articles or anecdotes to improve this Newsletter together with any interesting pictures you have taken.

We look forward to meeting you all at the next meeting on Wednesday 25th April at 2:00p.m.

Take Care

Great Oakley & District U3A Executive Committee.