

GUISBOROUGH U3A NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2020

University of the Third Age

Registered Charity No. 1125829

Hello everyone, this is your fourth Alternative Newsletter from the Committee, to keep in touch with you during the government's continuing restrictions.

When more of the Interest Groups are able to meet again, your two-monthly Newsletter will return in the usual format with Alan Graham back at the helm.

Chair's Report September 2020

Despite the problems presented by Covid 19 we have finally managed to complete our AGM. A great effort by the committee in contacting members by phone to obtain email addresses resulted in 507 members receiving online invitations to vote, leaving 76 requiring hard copies to be posted. Of the postal votes sent out 13 were submitted and of the 507 emailed copies 58 members voted. A total of 71 votes. All motions were carried.

Normally at an AGM our constitution would require a quorum of 20% of membership ie approx. 120 votes. Since we had attempted to hold the AGM in May, at a second attempt the quorum requirements could be relaxed.

So we have to give a big vote of thanks to the retiring committee members. Brenda Elliot, Peta Margetts, Norma Richardson and Brian Smith and welcome their replacements Brian Coulston for Treasurer and Edna Featherstone for Room booking.

Brenda has offered to continue in her safeguarding role and Brian will remain available to complete the handover of his role and for advice for which we are very grateful.

In August some relaxations in the Covid 19 rules meant that, if certain conditions are met, some of our "in person" activities could recommence. All such activities require a Risk Assessment to be prepared to demonstrate how the rules can be complied with. Also each participant must consider their own position in order to decide whether or not they should attend. The U3A has produced a form to help members make this decision. This form will be circulated by Group Coordinators together with the GU3A Risk Assessment for the particular activity. The Personal Checklist is to help you make a decision and is not subject to approval by anyone else, however you should not take part in any activity if you feel unwell in any way.

For indoor activities each Venue must prepare a Risk Assessment showing how they are going to maintain the premises in a safe condition and then we must prepare our own Risk Assessment/Method Statement showing how we will comply with both the Venue's requirements and the government's restrictions applicable at the time.

The Committee has received the Risk Assessment prepared by Sunnyfield House but not yet from any other of our normal venues, although we are talking to them.

The Committee has approved our own Risk Assessments and Checklist for Groups to be able to return to Sunnyfield House and also for the use of Walking Groups.

Sandra has been liaising with relevant Group Coordinators to establish which of them might be interested in restarting their activities. Those that have expressed an interest will be sent the GU3A Risk Assessments for consideration and for forwarding to their interested members to enable them to consider their own position. There is no requirement for anybody, including Coordinators, to consider doing anything they do not feel comfortable with.

Those Groups that have managed to maintain activity online so far will continue to do so.

In the meantime I hope you enjoy this latest edition of our Alternative Newsletter which again has been compiled by Pam Rayment.

John Wardill

The Committee continues to hold virtual monthly meetings on-line, by Zoom, the Minutes of which are published on the Website a month later, after they've been agreed.

If you'd like to raise any points for consideration, please send them to John.

Membership update

Just a quick few words about membership, now that there is the possibility that some activities might restart, albeit cautiously and covid compliant.

Although some people had rejoined before we closed things down in March, we realised that a lot of people had not. That absolutely hasn't been an issue, and we plan to level that playing field with adjustments to next year's subscriptions. At present we are NOT encouraging folk to rejoin until next January, and are happy to keep sending newsletters to those who were members last year. HOWEVER, if you plan to participate in one of the groups which restart before then, you will need current membership, ie 2020/2021. Your coordinator will need to be reassured that you have a current purple card! In this event, please contact me, either directly with a form, or via the website if you aren't sure, and we can sort that out.

Diana (Membership Secretary)

September 2020

Bored? Why not try something else?

During the continuing restrictions, you don't have to be a member of these groups, or have previous experience:

- John Simmonds continues his invitation to all of us to take time out to write something for his **Creative Writing/Poetry Groups**. Contributions may be in handwriting or typed in the style you prefer, ie journal, verse, short story, play or poetry. *He's given us two further topics:*
 - 1) Responding to Covid 19s silence.

2) If we smiled in every queue instead of looking away, or perhaps being preoccupied with a mobile phone, what might happen?

- The **Photography Group** has sent more lovely photos for publication, which are at the end of this Alternative Newsletter. I've put them there simply because they take up quite a lot of space and they make a lovely article to end on. Do you have a special photo(s) you could share?

NATURE NOTES – SUMMER 2020

23rd June. Braved the bus to Redcar. Lovely walk through Coatham Marsh seeing a lot of pyramidal orchids as well as marsh orchids, kidney vetch, restharrow and weld. Went on towards South Gare looking for bee orchids. First one or two, then quite a few, then suddenly what seemed like hundreds. A magnificent film of lilac over the ground. Made our way to the Gare seeing centaury, purple milk vetch, mignonette, wild carrot, more marsh and pyramidal orchids amongst many other things. Found the sea holly before wandering back in the heat of the day. Came across a large area covered in hundreds of viper's bugloss, their brilliant blue petals and red buds showing up above the rest. On the path by the Golf Club were white melilot, crown vetch and lucerne. A wonderful day.

26th June. Walked down to see bee orchids on way to Guisborough. Unfortunately five minutes too late. The mowers had just lopped all seven. I picked one up and showed it to the mower. He said he was sorry! Returning home found the self-seeded poppies I had left growing on the edge of the pavement in front of my wall and across the drive were not flowering the same and seemed to be dying. A neighbour said the council had been round spraying. They say nature is red in tooth and claw but these are the acts of ignorant humans. Not a good day.

30th June. On the way back from Eston Nab saw a blue flower which had been sowed in a field. The vivid blue reminded me of viper's bugloss but I had no idea what it was. Saw the agronomist checking the barley and he said it was phacelia. Mixed with black oats it had been planted as a conservation crop. Certainly a better idea than the scars of set-aside.

1st July. Saw a roe deer in the woods.

4th July. Found last weekend's heavy rain had cleared shale on the path above Hutton Village and exposed the scallop fossils. On the open patch above were white storksbill, madder, dove's foot cranesbill, eyebright and carline thistle.

13th July. Walking across Eston Hills from Cross Keys saw cut-leaved cranesbill, fumitory and field pansies growing at the edge of crops. Heads appeared above rough grass which looked like helmeted guinea fowl. Lots of butterflies, red admiral, tortoiseshell and ringlet mainly.

16th July. On the road above Hutton Village saw a lovely shield bug. Adding to the flower list were valerian, figwort, enchanter's nightshade, monkey flower and another which I knew but its name escaped me. You know how it is! All I could think was "Agamemnon". The problem was resolved when my friend with the app laughed and told us it was "agrimony". Well, I was nearly there.

17th July. Picked a box of bilberries on Little Roseberry. Lovely grub!

21st July. Walked to Captain Cook's Monument and back by Gribdale and Percy Rigg. Saw lesser stitchwort flowers shining like little stars, sneezewort, first hare bells, spotted orchid just going over and Russian comfrey.

No sound of curlews and golden plovers on the moors now.

25th July. Found broad leaved helleborine had come back to the railway line alongside Hutton Lane. Another member of the orchid family.

Common frog under my dustbin, no water source nearby.

29th July. Decided to "find" track from Percy Rig across the moor and bog, to Highcliff Farm. My hard work yomping when the path disappeared was rewarded when I came across a golden splash of colour – bog asphodel looking brilliant.

31st July. Common damselflies settling along the path behind The Priory. Brilliant electric blue shining in the sun.

3rd August. On the track towards Roseberry I heard a mewing noise and immediately thought buzzard. I looked up through the avenue of trees and a large bird with angled wings flew into view. The forked tail confirmed it was a red kite. Never seen one this close to home before.

Two buzzards then came into view, had a 'conversation' with the kite and it flew off the way it came. The two buzzards circled for a while, perhaps a training flight, before disappearing above the trees. Later coming back from Sleddale I saw two buzzards again circling.

Possibly the same two. After a few minutes they were joined by a third.

A family of wheatears flitted about near the track, all with the tell-tale white rump.

10th August. Walked up to Hanging Stone. Delicate hedge parsley in profusion now taking the place of cow parsley. Wild angelica and red bartsia also appearing. Cross-leaved heath and bell heather now going over but some purple ling showing on the higher paths.

Lots of butterfly activity - peacock, ringlet, small heath, comma, speckled wood and small copper.

A greater spotted woodpecker was feeding on one of the dead trees left after the felling of the forest.

18 August. Enjoying the heather just above the woods I came across a slow worm lying across the path. It wasn't dead but made no attempt to move away so I got a good look at its shiny bronzy-brown skin. A rare sight.

On entering the wood I looked into an old fire pond. There was some crowfoot and a wren making his alarm call as he flitted along the edge but I was surprised to see two water lilies growing, one with three big white flowers.

Further down I heard "little bit of bread and no cheese" and I found the yellow hammer making the call from the top of a bush.

Almost down to the railway line I heard mewing calls and saw a single buzzard, then there was a charm of goldfinches gaily flying past, chittering as they went.

Canadian golden rod and greater willow herb (aka codlings and cream) looked bright against the rather drab and now prolific mugwort along the railway line.

22nd August. Several bracket fungi on an ash tree and house martins congregating and circling around noisily at Home Farm, preparing to fly south, are signs that summer is fading.

Kath.

[Odds and Ends:](#)

Morrisons Doorstep Delivery. This is a **telephone** service. Please phone 0345 611 6111 and select option 5. Delivery is free of charge in the afternoon from Tuesday to Sunday. If you have any questions, please phone Mandy Shutt, Morrisons Community Champion on 07811 715777.

Gisborough Priory is now open 10-4pm, Wednesday to Sunday, inclusive. Entry is free and there's lots of space to enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

Summer Sounds at the Priory. The concerts planned for September have been cancelled.

The Tuesday afternoon **talks at Kirkleatham Museum** are continuing online. It was hoped to restart them at the Museum, but Redcar & Cleveland Council has decided not to restart them until next year now. If you'd like to know more – please contact: **Peter Sotheran** <peter.sotheran@gmail.com>

Redcar & Cleveland Council additional collections:

Bulky items: The price has been reduced to £10 for 5 items, £20 for 6-10 items, etc. This includes fridges, freezers, carpets, sofas, furniture, cookers, clothing (in bags) and mattresses.

Small electrical/electronic items: To reduce fires occurring in bin wagons and our carbon footprint, the Council asks that we leave items such as batteries including lead acid batteries, vape pens, hairdryers, electric toys, electric toothbrushes, shavers, irons, clocks, radios, mobile phones and other small items up to the size of an electric kettle, in a clear plastic bag at the kerbside. Collection is free.

They **don't collect** fixtures, fittings or internal doors.

Tel: 01642 774774 to arrange a bulky collection.

Neighbourhood Action Partnership (“NAP”). If you haven't come across NAPs, they provide the opportunity to put questions direct to Councillors, the Police, Fire Service etc. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend meetings (yes, you guessed – suspended at present!). Here are a couple of extracts from Cllr Anne Watts recent follow up report that might be of interest. Anne is Chair of Guisborough and Belmont wards NAP. Hutton ward meets separately.

“2. (GUISBOROUGH 7.5. TONNE WEIGHT LIMIT) EXPERIMENTAL ORDER.

“2.1 Andrew Clare, Engineers, completed all the necessary checks and the signs were due

to be installed within a couple of weeks when Covid-19 Lockdown struck. As the situation started to settle, both John Blades and I tried to find out where the Council Officers were up to on the matter but, as Andrew had left the Council by that time, there appeared to be some confusion as to who was dealing with the matter. We were then told that we were out of time for the necessary Consultations taking place and it would take 6 weeks for these checks to be completed. We both tried to inform the Officers that these checks were done before Christmas 2019 but to no avail. I am pleased to tell you that the signage is now due to go up in the first week of September 2020.

(This routes HGVs along the by-pass and into Guisborough along the Whitby Road, giving a clear run into the large Guisborough stores, instead of them squeezing along our narrow roads, driving over curbs and pavements to get round corners causing damage, scaring me for one by their huge size vs my small car, shaking houses along Westgate etc. If you're interested in supporting this, please let the Sub Ed know. You need the vehicle registration number, time of the offence and direction of travel.)

“3. WHEELCHAIR ACCESS TO GUISBOROUGH WOODS.

“3.1 I am pleased to tell you all that Jenny has successfully taken her new lightweight wheelchair up to the top of Highcliff. A great success I'm sure you will agree.

“7. RECYCLING HUB

“7.1 A Community Interest Company has opened in the former Electrics Shop in Fountain Street, Guisborough. They will be selling donated goods and offering a sale or return service on commission. As Guisborough no longer has a permanent specialist toy shop, they have decided to focus on pre-loved children's toys and equipment, along with clothes for kids. Any profits will go to local initiatives and good causes, including Maxie's Mates animal sanctuary. The Recycling Hub will run educational workshops and crafting activities, when safe, and will sell locally made items. Text 07546 380011 to donate toys, clothes or equipment.”

COMPUTER FRAUD, etc.

The Third Age Trust (the 'governing body' for all U3A branches) said: We are aware of a phishing email which appears to have been distributed among U3A contacts. It will appear to have been sent by someone in your email address list, so someone you probably know. It contains a blue box with the word '**Preview**' in it and wants you to click on it. **DO NOT OPEN OR CLICK ON IT.** **Delete** the email from your inbox and your deleted folder and change your password.

If you have tried to open it or clicked on it then please let us know so we can help you sort this out. Please email national.office@u3a.org.uk or call one of our team on 0208 466 6139.

Our staff team will note your details and help you accordingly.

Cleveland Connected. This is a useful source of information and you may register online. Messages are also sent from other organisations including the Action Fraud, National Administrator, from whom a recent newsletter says:

“**Have you bought anything online recently?...** Almost 34% of all retail sales during May 2020 were carried out online, and new research suggests that only 16% of UK consumers intend to return to their old shopping habits post-lockdown.

“**Online shopping fraud during lockdown.** Action Fraud, the UK’s national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime, received **over 16,000 reports** relating to online shopping and auction fraud during the lockdown, with losses totalling over **£16m**.

“For more information about how to stay safe online, please visit www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime

THE FRIENDS OF GUISBOROUGH LIBRARY

Kate Smith, Membership Secretary, has confirmed I may share a summary of her periodic Newsletter with you. I thought you might be interested in some of the activities, so here it is:

It was several months ago that I sent a brief Newsletter saying I would write again when there was something to report – well, there is not a lot but we are starting to think about what we can do to get the Friends Group started again. But firstly, I really hope that you have all come through this pandemic in one piece and are able to see light at the end of the tunnel.

Friday Talks

It looks like it will be 2021 before these can recommence because the Library is currently unable to allow the use of the meeting room.

Craft Sessions

I know several of you are interested in attending these and we have three provisional dates:

Friday 2-4pm 30 October - making Christmas tablecloths and serviettes, led by Hazel

Friday 2-4pm 13 November - making a Snowman flowerpot display, led by Andrea. This will involve creating a snowman from felt and ribbons and attaching to a terracotta pot. Using a variety of silk and real flora and decorative pieces, you will create a display within the pot.

Friday 2-4pm 27 November - decorating a small Christmas gift box, led by Jennifer

These sessions will be held in Sunnyfield House. All relevant Health and Safety measures will be in place and the equipment provided will be sanitised. If you would prefer to bring your own tools we will advise what is needed nearer the time. The charge is £3 for each and all materials will be supplied.

If you are interested and comfortable in coming along to one or all of these sessions please **reply to me direct** and not to the Library kmsmith2707@aol.com

Reading Group

Our Reading Group has obviously been in abeyance for many months and I’m sure, like me, you have read many books recently. I am hoping to get this started again and suggest that in the first instance we could meet and discuss the books we have read during the pandemic. If you are able and comfortable to return to the Group, or interested in joining us for the first time, please let me know by e-mail and I will take it from there.

Jigsaw Puzzles

The Library has been continuing to operate our ‘Jigsaw Corner’ since it has re-opened in a limited way, which is very much appreciated. However, all returned jigsaws have to be quarantined for 72 hours and the staff have requested that no more puzzles be donated.

Guisborough Town 'Treasure Hunt Quiz'

Another thing we are intending to do is a themed Guisborough Town 'Treasure Hunt Quiz', with the answers to 20 questions to be found around the town. More info on this to follow – or maybe I should say, when the questions have been written !!

Finally

The Friends Group have been pleased to run craft events in partnership with East Cleveland Arts. Whilst this is not a Friends initiative, you might be interested to learn that this Community Interest Company are seeking funding to re-open the Carlton Cinema in Guisborough as a cinema and performance space. They have a very short questionnaire to gauge local support. To add your support, please go to www.eastclevelandarts.org.uk/guisborough

Kate Smith

I'm pleased to bring you the following articles from Members this month.

PHYLLIS'S STORY, CHAPTER 1.

Thank you to everyone who has written an article for the Alternative Newsletter, because it has cheered me up. Now it's my turn, what shall I write about, lockdown, my travels or my sport?

The lockdown has made me remember and look at the past and all the wonderful places I have lived.

We will start off in South Wales. Though I wasn't born there, we moved there for safety when Dad had to join up. I was 18 mths at the time. The Rhonda Valley was a great place to start growing. Mum and her sister used to take us all further up the valley for picnics. The coal miners on train trucks used to often throw a few small nuggets of coal for our fire. When the war finished and my Dad came home there was little work to be had. He came to Middlesbrough and stayed with his brother and wife. Once he secured work he sent for the family.

At the time I did not want to go and swore as soon as I could I would join the Land Army girls. By the time I reached fifteen they had been disbanded. I was so disappointed.

I worked in the head office of E Upton and Son for three years as a clerk and relief telephonist. At the time the Boro was very dull, and Dad very strict. I went to night school for typing at Constantine College, and when they had their dances I wanted to go. My father said be home by 11pm but the dance didn't start until 9.30pm (frustration). In the end it was ok but I had to get the last bus home at 11pm. Now you must remember that after so many got on the bus the conductor would put his arm down and say "that's it". Many a time I have had to run the three miles home and just about made it'. I've been into sport since I was four and used to running, thank goodness.

As I mentioned the Boro was dull and no traveling with the Land Girls. So I put to my Dad, can I go and live in Reading with my Aunt? NO. A couple of weeks later, can I go and live with my Uncle in Wales? NO. Three months later I asked if I could join the forces, the RAF in particular, and he said yes. Imagine my surprise. I asked why them and not a relative? He said if I did wrong the aunt/uncle would not be strict enough but the forces would punish me of any wrong doing. Fortunately, I have never done “jankers” for wrong doing. Although there was a chap on my first camp who was supposed to be National Service for 18 months, but had done 3yrs. In the end he signed up as a regular.

More in the next chapter.

Phyllis Walker.

HAPPY MEMORIES

During lockdown I have found it very helpful to reflect on the visits I have made over time with the Excursions Group – new places, new friends and much laughter.

Particularly memorable was a visit to ‘Kynren’ which took us on an emotional journey through 2000 years of British History. The open-air show was illuminated to sensational effect with dazzling pyrotechnics and lighting, set to spine chilling sound tracks. As suggested everyone was wearing warm, waterproof clothing and arrived at the coach pick up points clutching cushions, as we understood the seats would be rather hard. Everyone was in high spirits and the buzz of chatter on the coach seemed much louder than normal that day. Despite the huge volume of people on the Kynren site, we managed to negotiate the crowds to find our seats, and amazingly found our way back to the coach after the show, tired but happy.

More recently there was a visit to Levens Hall in Cumbria for a tour of their famous topiary garden with the Head Gardener. The Bellingham Buttery gave us the opportunity to enjoy some local Lakeland fayre, which we were able to eat at picnic tables in the courtyard as it was a wonderfully warm day. (If anyone is planning a visit to Levens Hall there is now a new eatery called ‘Levens Kitchen’ – well worth a try!)

I have had some splendid experiences with the group from the first excursion to Harlow Carr in 2008, to stately homes, flower shows and gardens, evenings at the Sage and local theatres – just too many to mention!

Thank you for very happy times and I look forward to many more to come!
Judith Bagshaw.

**Do you have a story, an event, music or performance you'd like to share?
If so please contact Pam so we can all enjoy it. If you like, she'll write your
story down and type it for you to approve, before it's published.**

**Ian Stubbs, Local Historian, has very kindly agreed to let me publish some of
his research articles for Guisborough U3A. Here is the first one.**

Alexander Gallaway R.N.

I first came across Alexander Galloway in a book called "Trafalgar Geordies" in 2005. The only information it contained was that Alexander Galloway was from Guisborough and was a midshipman and was aboard H.M.S. Thunderer and was wounded. I could not find any more about him in searches, however as an aid to research it is always helpful to try other spellings of names and lo and behold I discovered that he was actually Alexander Gallaway.

From looking at a few entries in naval biographies and the Trafalgar Roll as well as a quick look on ancestry this is now what we know. **I am still undertaking more research and some of the items in brackets are not 100 % accurate and need verification.**

He was the son of a boatswain who had also served in the Royal Navy. He was born at Gisborough, Yorkshire, on 28th May 1792. He entered the Royal Navy as a boy on 28th February 1800 and served aboard the Topaze, a 32 gun frigate of 1793 under the command of Captain Stephen George Church. In May 1801 he became a Volunteer 1st Class and served aboard the Renown a 74 gun third rate ship of the line. The vessel served as the flagship of Sir John Borlase Warren (1753-1832) in the English Channel and in the Mediterranean. From May 1805 he was serving as a Midshipman in in the Thunderer Capts. Wm. Lechmere, John Stockham, and John Talbot, she was a 74 gun 3rd rate. She was built in 1783 in Rotherhithe on the Thames. She was broken up in 1814. He was aboard when the ship was involved in Sir Robert Calder's action in 1805—he was then wounded at Trafalgar where Thunderer was in Vice Ad. Collingwood's lee division. She was commanded by Capt. John Stockham (act.) She entered the battle by going to the assistance of HMS Revenge which was attempting to break the enemy's line. She raked the Spanish flagship Pricipe De Asturias and engaged the French vessel Neptune which had come to the aid of the Spanish flagship. After a short time the two enemy ships made off. During the battle Thunderer lost 4 crew killed and 12 of the crew including Gallaway were wounded.

Galloway then went on to be present at the siege of Gaeta, 1806; he was with the ship during the passage of the Dardanelles, 1807 where he was again wounded; he was also in the expedition to Egypt in 1807. He served aboard the Thunderer until November 1808. He then served aboard the recently launched Cordelia which was a 10-gun Cherokee-class brig-sloop and took part in the

Walcheren expedition in 1809. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 21st March, 1812, he afterwards, occasionally as Acting-Lieutenant, served, on the Home and Jamaica stations, in the Cordelia, Captain Thomas Fortescue Kennedy (1773 -1846), then he served aboard HMS Hound under Captain Nicholas Lockyer, HMS Cordelia again under Captain Kennedy, and it was under Kennedy's command he served during the expedition to the Walcheren. He then served aboard the HMS Podargus under Captain William Hellard, then the HMS Polyphemus the 64 gun flag-ship of Vice-Admiral Bartholomew Sam. Rowley, he then served aboard HMS Racoon under Captain Wm. Black, and HMS Pique a 36 gun under Captain Hon. Anthony Maitland. From 15th March, 1813, to 18th April, 1815, he officiated as Lieutenant, on the Baltic and Jamaica stations, aboard H.M.S. Thracian sloop, under the command of Captain John Carter. After his naval service ended he was employed in the merchant service. He retired with the rank of Commander 2nd January 1854 and was given a Greenwich Hospital naval pension in 1856. He was also given the Trafalgar Medal and Clasp designed by Matthew Boulton. He had already been given an Egypt clasp.

Lieut. Gallaway had been pecuniarily rewarded for his wounds by the Patriotic Society.

He married, Mary (Baggett) on 28th July, 1812 (possibly in St James Church Piccadilly), and had they four children. She died in 1854. Obituary Gentleman's Magazine Vol XLI Jan-June 1854 "At the Retreat, Lewisham, aged 69, Mary, wife of Alexander Gallaway, retired Comm. R.N."

His daughter Mary Ann was born on April 27th 1824 and baptised on 23rd May at St Alphege's church, Greenwich.

In 1847. The poll for the knights of the shire, to represent the western division of the County of Kent included Alexander Gallaway as an elector residing at 4, Prospect Place, South Street, Greenwich

In 1851 he was aged 58 and living at 4, Prospect Place, Greenwich with his wife mary aged 50 who had been born in Deptford in Kent and his daughter Mary Anne aged 22.

By the 1861 census he was aged 68, widowed and living at 18 Church Grove Lewisham with his 36 year old unmarried daughter Mary Ann who had been born in Greenwich.

By the time of the 1871 census he was aged 78 and listed as living at 18 Church Grove, and a retired naval commander living on a naval pension with his daughter Mary Ann still unmarried and now said to be aged 47 and employed as a housekeeper.

According to the Naval Biography he was represented by Agents, Messrs. Stilwell. "They were a naval agency established by John Gathorne (born 1726) in the City of London at Crutched Friars, next to the Navy Office, sometime before 1774. Gathorne was a merchant trading with Madeira, Azores and South America. He later took his friend James Sykes into partnership, and after Gathorne's death in 1774 Sykes continued to trade alone. The firm moved to 22 Arundel Street, Strand, in 1792 when the Navy Office was relocated to Somerset House. Subsequently Sykes took his son James into the partnership, which became known as Sykes & Son. In 1813 Thomas Stilwell, a kinsman, was taken into partnership. Sykes senior and junior both died in 1816, leaving Thomas Stilwell as sole partner. Stilwell was eventually joined by his sons and grandsons and the firm was later known as Stilwell & Sons." * Nat West Archive

Alexander died in 1873 at the age of 83 and was buried on the 8th August In Lewisham.

Ian Stubbs

Local Historian, Lecturer, Researcher, Photographer.

Illustration of a stamp depicting the ship H.M.S. Thunderer which Alexander Galloway R.N. served on at Trafalgar



FORESTRY COMMISSION PLAN FOR GUISBOROUGH FOREST

Many of you will be aware of this, but so many have missed it. Although consultation closes on 12 September, I believe it's important to everyone who lives in and around Guisborough. The Darlington & Stockton Times published the following:

"The Forestry Commission plan for Guisborough Forest has come up for renewal. It is asking for feedback to ensure that objectives are considered and balanced for the proposals being put forward. The consultation will run until September 12 at consult.forestryengland.uk/forest-districts/guisborough_forest_plan.

"Species composition in the forest has changed significantly over the last 12 years, influenced by felling across the visually prominent upper slopes at Hanging Stone Wood, Highcliff Wood, Belmanbank Gate and adjacent Westworth Wood, creating open woodland and wooded heath. In addition, conifer plantation ancient woodland sites have started the process of restoration to site-native broadleaf woodland. The new plan will continue the improvements and to develop a mixed-species woodland. The plan details management operations, including approved felling and restocking for the ten years through until 2030, with outline proposals for a 50 year period. Active harvesting programmes will continue across mature conifer stands, unless identified as being retained for landscape or environmental reasons. Full details of the plan are shown at www.forestryengland.uk/forest-planning/guisborough-forest-plan "

THE FESTIVAL OF THRIFT

Have you been to this annual festival yet? I've been once and while there was quite a lot of commercialism and some Street Food could be pricey, there were many creative ideas to stimulate creative urges.

It was going to be held at Kirkleatham again, but you guessed it!

This link gives details of 13 activities suitable for all ages which focus on creating, fixing, swapping and sharing at home; some of the things you might have tried at this

year's Festival of Thrift. If you would like to take part they would like to see your photos which may form part of the Festival's online Best in Show on 12th September.

Although you might miss the opportunity to send your photos, it's well worth a look.

Here is the link <https://www.festivalofthrift.co.uk/activity-pack/>

RHS BIG SOUP SHARE

This is one for everyone to join in!

"Please follow the below link for further information on this year's RHS Big Soup Share which is taking place Monday 5th to Sunday 11th of October. Community groups, schools, businesses and organisations across the UK are being invited to take part in the Big Soup Share using home-grown produce or donations, to make delicious soup to be shared with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours. It could be a way to celebrate the amazing community spirit and kindness seen over the last six months.

"The link offers a range of tools and resources to help you host a Big Soup Share and connect with your neighbourhood, be that physically or digitally. You may want to open a socially distant soup station or hold virtual meet and greet for those who are still shielding. You don't have to have an allotment full of vegetables to join in, a trip to the local shop or donations can be used and whether you use the event to make new connections or support those in need, the important thing is to stay safe and enjoy it."

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/competitions/big-soup-share>

Be mindful. Husband the earth.
Protect her from greed and violence,
Build humbly, plant trees, grow flowers
and clothe her with dignity.
Respect all her creatures.
Honour her natural laws and the universe
which cradles her.
Above all, heartily worship the source of all that is.

"Exhortation", 1987, John P Rogers, Manor Farm, Rendham,
Suffolk IP17 2AH

THE THIRD AGE TRUST U3A NEWSLETTER has lots of interesting items. Please consider “subscribing” if you haven’t already. It’s free and provides links to what’s happening around the rest of the country. Click on [sign up directly](#) to receive the newsletter. Amongst other items, the August edition includes:

Invitations to take part in:

- ❖ **The High Street project:**
“We want to find out, and compare the 2022 position with now. This survey will involve you walking along your local high streets and writing down details of each shop including photographs.
- ❖ **A new online learning hub survey**

And information about:

- ✓ Adapted Sport Interactive Sessions
- ✓ Amateur Radio
- ✓ U3A Virtual Choir
- ✓ News of other U3A activities around the country.

House of Lords Select Committee Post Covid-19 Inquiry

To Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers

The Third Age Trust and U3A movement has been given an opportunity to respond to a House of Lords Inquiry.

U3A Movement's CEO Sam Mauger said, "Many of you have contacted us about Covid and how it has impacted upon you. The Trust can respond to the Inquiry with the points that you feel should be included."

The button below contains a link to the questions that they are gathering information about.

Please could you respond to the questions by **15 September**.

Please share the link with your members and colleagues so they can also take part in the survey.

We will collate the answers and send them in by the deadline of 18 September.

Thank you so much

[Link to Survey Questions](#)

Chair of the Third Age Trust, Ian McCannah, has created a report based from U3A members' thoughts on how the U3A movement can move forward post lockdown.

Read the report in the button below.

[Beyond Lockdown Report](#)



Back to Guisborough and environs. We know many Members are beginning to feel bored and wish to get back to their activities. Please don't be lonely. If you feel you'd like to talk to a real person and would like a chat, please get in touch with either Diana Wardill, our Membership Secretary or the temporary deputy sub ed.

PHOTOS FROM GU3A PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP (published at the end to leave everyone with a smile)

Margaret Grant – Topping View



Dorothy Robins – Ormesby Hall



Vera Sewell – Looking for my pond!!



Joan Smith – Fungi



Pauline Taylor - A very lucky moment watching a Hare watching me!



Margaret Wallen – Great Willowherb



Ann Willis – A Tortoiseshell Butterfly basks in the Sunshine in Ann Willis’s garden in Guisborough



Pam Rayment – Found in the Woodland Gardens, at the Priory.



GU3A Alternative Newsletter Sub Editor (temporary!)