

Diary Dates: August 2023

Tues 01 Aug	Croquet
Wed 02 Aug	Walking / Bookworms
Thur 03 Aug	Creative Crafts / Blurr
Mon 07 Aug	Country Dancing
Tues 08 Aug	Croquet
Fri 11 Aug	Members Meeting – Summer Social
Mon 14 Aug	Crib / Country Dancing
Tues 15 Aug	Croquet
Wed 16 Aug	Dining Club
Thur 17 Aug	Wildlife / British History
Mon 21 Aug	Blurr
Tues 22 Aug	Croquet
Mon 28 Aug	Gourmet Diggers
Tues 29 Aug	Croquet
Mon 04 Sept	Country Dancing
Tues 05 Sept	Croquet
Wed 06 Sept	Walking / Bookworms
Thur 07 Sept	Blurr / Creative Crafts
Fri 08 Sept	Members Meeting
Mon 11 Sept	Crib / Country Dancing
Tues 12 Sept	Croquet
Mon 18 Sept	Blurr
Tues 19 Sept	Croquet
For sailing dates please see Sailing report	

HBu3a Committee Monthly Update

At our meeting on Friday 14th July at Hickling Barn, volunteer ambassador Clive Evans from Priscilla Bacon Lodge came to tell us all about the outstanding work at this local Hospice. We were all interested to hear about the work done by this important local Charity, and we made a generous donation to their funds both by giving the proceeds of our monthly raffle, and by members making personal donations to this very worthy cause. After Clive's presentation we enjoyed, as always, home made tea and cakes provided by our ever generous cake bakers, and we chatted and caught up with each others news and the activities of our interest groups.

Our August meeting, on Friday 11th August 2pm at Hickling Barn, is our Annual Summer Social - please bring along a plate to share if you can - we will be providing the drinks! Our interest groups will also be putting up information displays about their various activities. Don't forget that at Hickling Broad U3A we have a wide range of groups - from Country Dancing to Sailing, Crafts, British History to a Cooking and Gardening group to name but a few. Our group leaders are always keen to welcome new members. Interested? Curious? Why not take a look at the group displays at the August social and see if you'd like to get involved a bit more.

News from our Interest Groups

Group Contact Co-ordinator

Helen Foster:

Bookworms – Reading Group: 1st Wednesday (2:00 – 4:00 pm) Hickling Barn

Kathy Cooper:

Bookworms meet at Hickling Barn on the first Wednesday of the month 2-4pm. Members choose their own book from the library list and the member who chooses the book to be discussed that month will lead the meeting.

On Wednesday, 5 July the group discussed 'Belgravia' by Julian Fellowes which was chosen by Sharon.

Julian Fellowes is an actor, novelist, film director, screenwriter, and Peer of the House of Lords. Among other novels he is the writer and author of Downton Abby and Belgravia which were both adapted for television.

Set in the 1800s the book follows the story of two upper class families, their children the consequences of war. The content has it all... war, love, snobbery, poverty and even addiction. Although a predictable outcome it provided a good discussion. Overall, the group gave it 8/10.

Bookworms take a break in August to catch up with family, holidays and an opportunity to read other books. We will resume on 6 September with the group discussing 'The Illusion of Separateness' by Simon Von Booy and I will hand out 'Museum of Broken Promises' by Elizabeth Buchan, chosen by Debbie.

BLURR – The Camera Group: 3rd Monday (2:00-4:00pm) at Hickling Barn

Dick Roberts: hicklingblurr@gmail.com

CALLING ALL BLURR MEMBERS:

We would love to see your photographs. These have always been a feature of our monthly newsletters. If you would like to send something you have taken that you think other members would like to see then please send them in! Don't be shy! I will try to publish as many as possible, space permitting, so if yours doesn't appear straight away don't worry because I will include something from everyone eventually. The email address to send them to is always at the end of the newsletter and here it is again: hbu3anews@gmail.com We all look forward to seeing your contributions.

If you are interested in joining this group then please contact Dick on the email above. The group often meets on location on a Thursday also.

British History

Steve Whitby:

Nearly everybody has heard of Elizabeth Fry and her part in prison reforms. Most of us will also remember her picture on the £5 note.

Less well known is Sarah Martin but she was the subject of our last meeting with Janet telling us about her life and work. Also a prison visitor and reformer Sarah spent her early years in Caister. Orphaned at an early age she was brought up in a strong Christian environment by her grandmother. In her teenage years she drifted from the church but returned to her faith later in life. She was active as a prison visitor and reformer and frequently put herself in jeopardy whilst visiting the Tollhouse gaol in Yarmouth. She died in 1843 at the relatively early age of 52.

Next month's meeting sees us move away from the cosy environment of the Barn as we visit Gressenhall Workhouse and Museum on Thursday 17th August.

Country Dancing: 1st and 2nd Mondays (2:00 – 4:00 pm) in Hickling Barn

Dinah Slatter:

Please contact Dinah if you are interested in joining.

Creative Crafts: 1st Thursday (2:00 – 4:00 pm)

Rose Pigula:

Do you enjoy crafting? Any sort at all? We are a small, friendly group who enjoy a variety of different crafting hobbies and we would be very pleased for you to join us. Just contact Rose if you are interested.

Crib: 2nd Monday, Hickling Barn

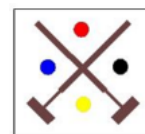
Roy Smith:

The next meetings are on the second Monday of the month, 11.30 am to 1.30 pm at the Barn all welcome.

Contact Roy roysidsmith@yahoo.co.uk for further details

Croquet: Tuesdays at 10:00 am

Michael Steward: msteward1214@outlook.com



For more information before attending you can always contact Michael Steward by phone on 01493 509538 [OR](mailto:msteward1214@outlook.com) via email: msteward1214@outlook.com

Dining Club: 3rd Wednesday (various locations)

Diana Fossett: dianafossett1@gmail.com

Gill Sage is organising the next lunch which will be at the Boathouse, Ormesby St Margaret 12.00 for 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 16th August. If you would like to join the Dining Club, please contact me - dianafossett1@gmail.com

Discovering the Broads

Chris Foster:

This month we booked the Electric Eel Boat from How Hill. Having met for lunch in Ludham we made our way to How Hill and enjoyed a very relaxing trip on the small but very quiet electric boat. This boat can go into Reedham marsh which is inaccessible to other craft. There is a hide that is a short walk from the docking site. The NWT boat captain was very knowledgeable about wildlife and made the tour very interesting. We also took the opportunity to look round Hathor a passenger wherry decorated in an Egyptian style. And to round off the afternoon we followed a lovely nature trail that starts close to where the wherry was moored.



Gourmet Diggers: 4th Monday (2:00-4:00 pm) at Hickling Barn

*Jane Brooker: and
Kate Fletcher:*

This month we were all invited to the Maggie's house to see all the work she and Peter have been doing in their garden. They have a very large garden to deal with, full of many varieties of trees. Peter has an established, framed vegetable plot, that is full of broad beans, runner beans, peas, parsnips plus more, all looking very healthy. Peter then showed us the other areas of the garden and described to us the plans he has. This was followed back at the house by an afternoon tea of scones with cream and jam, and fresh strawberries and cherries. Thank you to Maggie and Peter.



Photos from
the Gourmet
Diggers social
evening at
Jane's house
last month.



Sailing: Every Tuesday and Friday, Newbies on alternate Thursdays

John Stacey: hbu3asailing@gmail.com

We are now half way through the sailing season and the main group has sailed on 26 days with a total of 131 individual bookings on Tuesdays and Fridays. Fortunately we have only lost two days due to bad weather. Our 'Newbies' have had 6 training days so far with 18 individual bookings, we are expecting all the members to attain a level that enables them to move to the main group. As the main group gains experience they are becoming more adventurous. Apart from just sailing they are learning 'person overboard drill'. This has never been needed but it is good to know we can cope with the situation. The bravest members enjoy sailing to Barton Turf down the River Ant. River sailing presents many different challenges and to complete the course without running into the bank is quite an achievement. For fun, races are sometimes arranged. This brings out the competitive nature of our members as they try to steal the wind from the opposition. We are all friends once we cross the finishing line.

One of the continuing challenges, normal for the Broads in the holiday season, is contending with rented cruisers and day boats. Some of them seem to forget or just do not know that sail has right of way, not a problem when there is a breeze as Yeoman sail boats are highly manoeuvrable and can get out of the way easily. But, if there is no wind you are literally a sitting duck and you just have resort to loud verbal directions and frantic waving and this hopefully wakes up their helmsman and mishaps are avoided.

The future is looking good for the group as more members are coming in but there is always room for more, if you are interested please contact us on 07771914672 or hbu3a.sailing@gmail.com

Voices of Hickling

Steve Whitby:

Last month saw us meet to plan a scheduled transfer of recordings and transcripts to the Norfolk Records Office so that they are available for posterity.

Around half of the recordings and transcripts have now been deposited and the remainder are being worked on in order to perform a final edit on their contents.

Walking: 1st Wednesday (usually 10:00 am) Various locations

Roy Smith: roysidsmith@yahoo.co.uk

Unfortunately, due to the absence of group members there was no walk in July. The next walk will be on Wednesday 06 September. Please contact Roy if you are interested in joining the group.

Wildlife Group: 3rd Thursday (10:00 am)

Various locations

Chris Foster:

We went back to an old favourite - Cley NWT visitors centre this month. Instead of planning a walk we decided to go to one of the main hides and let the wildlife come to us. It was a lovely sunny day and there was plenty of activity to keep us interested. The spoonbills feeding in such a distinctive way, Little Egrets strutting their stuff, scruffy Roughs, preening Lapwings, Black Tail Godwit having left Iceland and resting up as they fly south, were some of the many birds identified. A very exciting and relaxing morning finished off with a pleasant lunch at the centre.



What's on at your next monthly meetings

August 11 2023	Summer Social – bring a plate of food to the buffet for all to share.
September 08 2023	Mike Flett – How Hill Trust. It's history and modern day work
October 13 2023	Gareth Davies – Pablo Fanques Fair and the Victorian Circus

All items for the newsletter should be sent to: hbu3anews@gmail.com