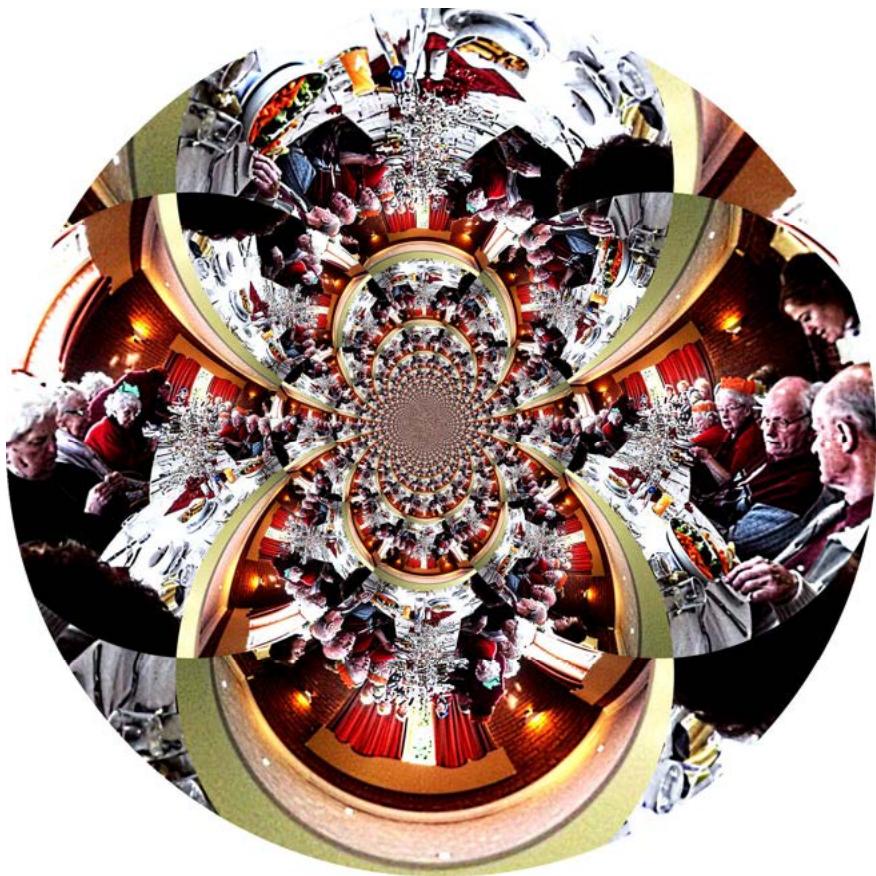


KING'S LYNN



KaLeidoScope

Spring 2015



For members, About members,
By members

Editorial.....	3
From Your Committee.....	4
Chairman's Report	4
Treasurer's report.....	5
Apologies and clarifications.....	6
King's Lynn U3A Website	7
[REDACTED] Memorial Day	8
Obituary: Barbara Andrews.....	8
Special Interest Groups and Outings Update.....	9
Play Reading and Theatre Appreciation	9
Barbershop Singers.....	10
Hand Bells.....	10
U3A King's Lynn Curlers	11
Scottish Country Dancing.....	12
Chess.....	12
Grimsthorpe Castle	12
Dates for your Diary	13

Editorial

Living up to its name, ***Kaleidoscope*** is shifting the pattern of the opening Editorial in this and the next few issues by rotating authorship amongst the ***Kaleidoscope*** team. First to shake us up is **Edward Harrison**.

I thought I would reflect on the development of our newsletter.

The first edition was produced in 1991 by Sandy Thorpe shortly after the founding of King's Lynn U3A. It was a double sided A4 sheet. From 1994, it became an A5 booklet with between 6-38 pages. In 1996 Eric Seddon-Stoves took over as Editor followed by Alan Cleps in 2002. In 2005 it returned to being an A4 newsheet of 4-8 double sided pages. In 2010, it appeared in its present A5 format and when Brian Smith took over as Editor he added coloured pictures. I was on his newsletter team.

*We adopted the magazine style of 28 pages, normally 4 of which are in colour. In 2013 Morag Bean became Editor and since it was taking more of the form of a magazine rather than a newsletter, in 2013 we adopted the name *Kaleidoscope* to reflect the colourful mixture of its contents.*

We welcome articles and photographs from the special interest groups to inform us what they are doing, especially for new groups or those under a new leader. We include reports on the Monthly Meeting Talks and various Outings, especially for those who could not attend them, as well as articles from members which may be of interest to many of us. We also try to introduce humour and the occasional puzzle.

Our ethos is 'For members, About members, By members' and we hope you will continue to supply us with material to publish. I hope it has developed into a magazine that is informative and that you enjoy reading. All feedback is noted, whether favourable or positive criticism, so we can continue to evolve.

Copies of all the Newsletters from 2010 onward can be found on the King's Lynn website (kingslynnu3a.org.uk) under 'Links'.

You may find the following extract from a past Newsletter edited by Alan Cleps on 'How to Stay Young' to be of interest. (No, it's not too late!)



Throw out essential numbers such as age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them – it's what they are paid for.

Keep only cheerful friends. The gourches pull you down.

Laugh often, long and loud. If you have friends who make you laugh, spend lots of time with them.

Cherish your health. If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, seek help.

Editor

From Your Committee

Chairman's Report

Photograph removed

The following is a slightly abridged version of the full report presented at the AGM

*The title on many of the publications coming to us from the Third Age Trust is: **LEARN, LAUGH and LIVE.** I think this encapsulates what our U3A means to most of us and why it is of such benefit to us in our retirement.*

***Learning** new facts, ideas or skills helps keep our brains active*

***Laughing** is reported as being good for our health*

***Living** with a good state of body and mind is not only better for us but also for those around us.*

You may not be certain what the Third Age Trust is and how it relates to us here in King's Lynn. It is the national support and advisory body for the U3As in the UK, providing advice to individual U3As which are expected to abide by the Vision, Mission and Principles. We make our own decisions about how we are organised.

The key to the philosophy is that we are a mutual aid organisation in which third age members' interests, skills and experiences are shared for reciprocal benefit ... by the members, for the members. Leading on from that, I would bring to your attention those in our U3A who are prominent in offering their time and talents to further this 'mutual aid'.

Firstly the Group leaders. We have a wide variety of interest groups which has expanded this current year. Our Groups Co-ordinator aims to bring people together who have a common interest and tries to get a group going. However it is up to someone else to organise venue, dates and programme, but who need not have knowledge of the specific topic, but has the will to get the group going. It is customary if meeting in someone's home to offer a small (50p) donation towards refreshments. I stress that this is a donation, not payment, otherwise we would not be upholding the philosophy of the Third Age Trust. This also applies to monetary donations offered to those giving lifts; it is a courtesy and is not compulsory. There are more groups now sharing the cost of hiring rooms so can accommodate more members and be more active. As new members join, new groups develop and others may change and evolve.

Secondly the committee, who work throughout the year to make sure things are running smoothly. We try to respond to what members want from the organisation. The fact that each U3A is autonomous gives us flexibility, so long as we work within the guiding principles. Those who know members in other U3As will realise how different each group can be. I will introduce committee members and how they contribute.

*Thirdly, I must mention those who are here each month to ensure that equipment and resources are ready, and refreshments waiting for us at the break. We also have volunteers who make sure attendance is recorded. This is important to comply with fire regulations and ensure that no member misses out on important notices or a copy of **KaLeidoscope**. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the newsletter team on the continuing high standard of the publication.*

Over the past year we have had an interesting variety of speakers, new members and new groups, and further involvement in the Norfolk network. However, I think the most momentous happening is the move to our new venue. We have a very willing band of volunteers who helped with the move and I would like to thank all of them. Despite this hard work I am sure there will be a few teething problems to sort out but am optimistic that the Gaywood Community Centre will prove to be a good place to meet. It may be easier to get to for the majority, but if you know of someone having difficulties, please let us know and we can try to put them in contact with someone willing to offer a lift. Unfortunately there are no guarantees that we can be successful in all cases. Like the North Lynn Community Centre this one is run entirely by volunteers with no financial aid from the council. To help raise funds they run a shop and café each weekday, apart from Wednesdays, from 9.30 – 4pm. Please pop in either after the meeting or any time you are in town.

Finally I would like to thank you all for making Kings Lynn U3A such a stimulating, happy and supportive organisation. I feel sure we can look forward to another interesting and exciting year ahead.

Gloria Pantling

Treasurer's report

Further copy of the Statement of Accounts presented at the AGM may be requested.

I would like to thank Barry Keenan and Jeff Graham for verifying the U3A accounts, and Grace Hogan and Ron Graham for verifying the Travel accounts.

Photograph removed

Our income this year was £7119, which was due to an increase in membership, the numbers attending the monthly meetings, increase in the number of members signing up to gift aid and a generous donation from one of our members.

Expenditure: We had no major added expenditure during 2014 and the surplus will reduce significantly in 2015 and the next few years.

Investment: The investment in COIF (Charities Official Investment Fund) still stands at £2,000 with a return of £8.10 interest, a slight decrease on last year.

Speakers: The cost of the speakers decreased this year but I hope you agree they were all up to the same high standard of other years.

Reserves: Our level of reserves is still at an acceptable £2,000 in the investment account and £6054.53 in the bank. We have a surplus of £2540 this year which includes Barry Keenan's donation.

Membership: The membership has increased again this year and around 140 have signed up for Gift Aid. As you may remember the subscription forms last January had a section for Gift Aid so we could update our records. For the tax year 2013-2014 we received £364 from HMRC.

Outings Account: This has a surplus of £866, some of which enables pre payments to be made before any income is generated. The committee has decided that a significant amount of the money should be used to subsidise the cost of the trips next year which will be to the benefit of the membership.

Surplus: Under the charities act we are required to keep an amount of money for emergency purchases and the £2000 in the COIF account is more than enough for this purpose. Consequently we need to look at how to reduce the surplus we hold in our bank account and as a committee we have discussed some spending measures that will be of benefit to our members, namely:

- 1 We will no longer charge for attendance at our monthly meetings. This will cost approximately £1600. We will review this before the next AGM and decide whether we can continue with this policy.
- 2 We are increasing our payment to speakers who wish a donation to charity from £50 to £75.
- 3 We are incurring costs for our move to the new Centre and this has to be taken into account.
4. We will be asking group leaders if they need any funding for their group and give this due consideration.

We will continually review the situation at our committee meetings.

Vivienne Merryweather

Apologies and clarifications

We offer apologies to **Julie Carter** for not having acknowledged her as joint organiser of Theatre Visits, along with Sylvia Cliffe, in our Autumn 2014 **KaLeidoscope**. Julie's photograph can be seen on the back cover of this edition.

King's Lynn U3A Website

May I remind you of our website which can be accessed by typing in kingslynnu3a.org.uk or u3asites.org.uk/kingslynn or Kings Lynn U3A.

The site is designed as an initial introduction to our branch indicating how to join, details of Special Interest Groups and our various events, and Links to useful information. It is illustrated by a Gallery of photos. It also hopefully provides an up to date link to present events. Month by month, I try to update these; Monthly meetings, Outings by Ros, Local History and Theatre Trips with background information of where they are visiting, as well as details about Friday and Sunday Lunches and Sunday Strollers all with an address with postcode for SatNav users!

If you are a group leader it does depend on you to provide information about your groups and to check what is shown on the website is correct. I am happy to include information about when your group runs and include detailed dates for Scottish Country Dancing and Petanque. We would be happy to feature a planned programme for your group so others know what you are doing, as well as any pieces of work or photos your group may have produced.

I avoid including any addresses or phone numbers on the site as the Web is open World Wide. However in Contacts one can send a message through our site provider to the Group Co-ordinator, Speaker organiser, Membership Secretary or Website Editor. Although we post our newsletters in Links, all details of Group Leaders and Committee members are removed.

On our Webpage there is a link to the main U3A website or enter www.u3a.org.uk. Details of how to log in and create an account were published in the last issue of KaLeidoscope, though it is fairly self-explanatory. I hope you will try to find time to have a look at these websites and make use of them. It offers 6 week **Untutored Online courses** (see U3A homepage). Group Leaders or Members might like to try out and report back on one of them e.g. Digital Imaging; Garden History; Writing for publication, Creative writing- Fiction or Poetry, Writing to good effect; Great Northern Europe Art, Italian Art 1400-1600, Artists of Spain.

An article by member Bill Brakes about on line courses (**Massive Online Open Courses**) was also featured in the last issue. Here are some other websites:

www.futurelearn.com/courses	www.bbc.co.uk/learning/adults	
www.richannel.org	www.mooc-list.com	www.open.edu/openlearn

I hope you will try to find time to have a look at some of these Websites and make use of some of them as they may provide useful background to your groups or may even inspire you and provide confidence to start up a new one!

Edward Harrison



***The King's Lynn U3A representatives on the Norfolk Network
are Joy Dunham and Edward Harrison. Any member may
attend its meetings, by prior arrangement.***

[REDACTED] Memorial Day

The sum of £500 was bequeathed to our U3A following the death of [REDACTED] in January 2014. She and Barry had enjoyed being active members for many years.

The Committee discussed how to incorporate this money for the benefit of all members. An [REDACTED] Memorial Day' was suggested, the topic to be one of Yvonne's interests. Barry is very supportive of this.

As Yvonne loved books, a BookFest has been arranged for **March 27th**, at the Professional Development Centre, Kilhams Way, King's Lynn. Coffee will be available from 10am, prior to the programme commencing at 10 30am. There will be two speakers in the morning, Tina Payne and Claire Upton, who have E read publications. Both are relatively local people, inspired by their surroundings. Following a buffet lunch, we will welcome Elly Griffiths, a popular author who has written a series of books featuring a fictional forensic archaeologist - Ruth Galloway - who lives in North Norfolk. We are hoping many members will be interested and attend the event, making it successful.

A charge of £10 (£15 for non-members) will be made so we can recoup some of the cost, thus enabling us to hold an 'Yvonne Keenan Memorial Day' event next year, sharing another one of Yvonne's interests.

Maybe it could become an annual event.

Margaret Neal and Vivienne Merryweather

Obituary: Barbara Andrews

*Kathleen Lees pays tribute to Barbara, whose
charismatic presence is much missed by
her family, friends and fellow members.*

(Also with acknowledgement to Barbara's son, Pete.)

Barbara came to live in Grimston some 15 years ago and soon became active in U3A, enjoying participation in a number of groups, including Card Making, Mah-jong, Bridge, Scrabble, and the lunches, and she was soon to be skilfully organising the regular Friday lunches.

Barbara always tried to do her best for others. She donated to good causes most of the high-quality items that she made (mainly knitted toys, greetings cards and embroidered products). Her charitable nature lives on, in that her corneas have improved two people's sight.

Barbara's three sons have asked me to pass on her thanks for the friendship and support of all her friends at U3A, among others.

We give thanks for her loyalty, friendship and generosity.

Special Interest Groups and Outings Update

(See page 27 for a full list of Groups and contact details)

* * * * * **Awarded Star status for starting new Groups are** * * * * *

Chess

Curling

Drama

All photographs removed

Bill Brakes

Ann Smith

Denise Mansell

Louise Smith

History

Writing for Pleasure

*... and for
taking over
as Leaders
of existing
groups*



No photograph available

Photograph removed

Sheila Shimmin

Sheila Drewery

Play Reading and Theatre Appreciation

The group meets on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Farmers Arms, Knights Hill, to read and discuss the merits of a variety of plays, thrillers, farces and comedy by popular (and sometimes not so popular) authors and playwrights such as Ibsen, JB Priestley, Alan Ayckbourne, Alan Bennett, John Godber, etc. Plays with the same number of characters as there are group members/readers are selected insofar as possible.

We arrange theatre visits within an approximate 40-50 mile radius to see professional and amateur productions which the group has read, or are of general interest.

We can accommodate a maximum of 18 people, ideally of both sexes to enable us to do full justice to the chosen material, although the ability to be flexible is probably the biggest asset of all. *Margaret Neal*

*The Play Reading and
Theatre Appreciation
Group members entertain
us in 1950s' style in
February with a reading of
'Queer Street'
(Report on page 20)*



Barbershop Singers

What is Barbershop singing? It is unaccompanied close harmony sung in Quartet or Chorus formation, and made up of four voice parts, namely:

- Leads** who usually sing the melody
- Tenors** who harmonise above the melody
- Baritones** who usually sing below the Leads
- Basses** who sing the lowest harmonising notes.

We sing as a mixed chorus, each being given a CD of all their voice parts together with the full harmony, plus a copy of the relevant music and words. Members do not have to be able read music to participate.

We try to meet every other week. We aim to have at least two people singing each part in the repertoire currently being sung, '*Heart of my Heart*', '*Dream a Little Dream of Me*' and '*My Wild Irish Rose*'.

We would welcome new members, so if you would like to sing in harmony please join us. A warm welcome awaits you. *Ron Boxer*

Hand Bells

Just before Christmas, the Hand Bells group went to Park House to entertain the residents. We started with a selection of Strauss waltzes, a nursery rhyme, Beethoven and Aura Lee (better known as Elvis's Love Me Tender). We then played a variety of Christmas Carols which the residents sang along to.



This was our first public performance and we were nervous; in fact, we had to start one piece again as we lost track of where we were, but they laughed (kindly) and gave us a good round of applause when we finished. Several were happy to try ringing the bells and seemed quite impressed with our skill.

Later we went to Lynn Museum, an old Baptist Chapel, and rang during a coffee morning at which participants made pomanders. We were less nervous this time and did not have to stop and re-start. The bells sounded really good, echoing from the high arched roof and we could hear the pomander makers singing along.

Ann Bolton (See Photo Gallery)



If you know the melody of *Love Me Tender*, you may like to apply the original lyric by W W Fosdick. The first two verses and chorus of *Aura Lee* - also referred to as *Aura Lea* - are shown on the following page (courtesy of Wikipedia). Published in 1861, the music is by George R Poulton.

Aura Lee...

*When the blackbird in the Spring,
On the willow tree,
Sat and rocked, I heard him sing,
Singing Aura Lea.
Aura Lea, Aura Lea,
Maid with golden hair;
Sunshine came along with thee,
And swallows in the air.*

(The last four lines are sung as Chorus)

*In thy blush the rose was born,
Music, when you spake,
Through thine azure eye the morn,
Sparkling seemed to break.
Aura Lea, Aura Lea,
Birds of crimson wing,
Never song have sung to me,
As in that sweet spring*

Chorus....

U3A King's Lynn Curlers

My imagination was caught by the sport of curling last year when on TV I saw it played at the Winter Olympics in Russia. Of course, this is a sport played on an ice rink and with the heavy granite 'stones' (the correct name for the wonderful polished granite circles which comes from a quarry on the Island of Arran off the West coast of Scotland). The stone, pushed by the competitor, glides along the ice towards a bulls-eye type of target and can be speeded along by brushing the surface of the ice to smooth and heat it to make the stones glide further.

I tried a new version of curling, gliding heavy plastic stones along a boarded floor aided by three ball bearings on the underside of the stone towards a numbered target last autumn while enjoying a short hotel break. The stone could be pushed along with the player bending down, holding the handle on top of the stone and then releasing it towards the target or using a tool like a broom handle with a plastic plate to fix onto the handle of the stone and then in a standing position, pushing the stone along the smooth floor.

I came home wondering if Lynnsport, our local leisure centre, had any New Age Kurling equipment as the new game is called. The answer was 'yes' and so began the negotiations with Lynnsport and our U3A to see if I could set up a group to play this new type of indoor sport. Many thanks to Val Sparkes here at U3A for supporting the idea of this new activity and to the officers at Lynnsport who have been 100% behind the idea, as no such group had yet been set up at Lynnsport.

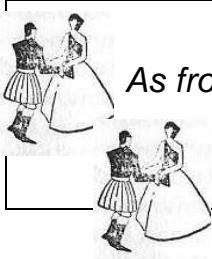
I was delighted by the response from our U3A members when the idea was put to them and the 16 interested people who signed up have now had a taster session. It is encouraging that the majority want to continue and we look forward to getting used to the game and improving our technique. There will be a real chance to be competitive. Most of the group prefer to use the 'pusher' as we call it, rather than bend down to release the stone. It really is a game that can be played by a variety of age groups and people who perhaps are not as agile as they have been.

Ann Smith

Scottish Country Dancing

*As from 17 September, the group will meet at U3A's new venue,
Gaywood Community Centre*

(We continue at NLCC until the end of March)



Chess

Our U3A now has a chess club. We had our first meetings just before Christmas and now play regularly. There are usually about six to eight players, so we still have room for more. Some are complete beginners, still learning the basics; some are 'experienced' but are so rusty they feel like beginners! But all are keen to play and hope to improve.

Our meetings take place on the first and third Thursday of every month, from 2pm to about 4pm, in the Family Room of the Farmers Arms, Knights Hill. If you want more information, don't hesitate to contact me [REDACTED] or just drop in to a meeting. If you are a beginner we'll help you learn, if you're a grandmaster we'll hope you can teach us a thing or two. Whoever you are, if you're interested in chess you'll be most welcome.

Bill Brakes (See Photo Gallery)



Chess, then known as chaturanga, was first played in ancient India. The earliest reference is from c. 600 AD, the current pieces existing in standard form for more than 500 years. (Cambridge Encyclopædia)

Outings

Grimsthorpe Castle

We left King's Lynn with a full coach to make our way to Bourne in Lincolnshire. The fine September weather was a bonus, and after one-and-a-half hours we arrived at our destination, to be met by the Estate Manager who took us to the coffee shop where we refreshed ourselves with tea, coffee and homemade cakes, and pre-ordered our lunch.

Back on the coach, we were taken on an escorted tour around Grimsthorpe Park which occupies about 3,000 acres and contains many ancient oaks, horse chestnut trees and a lake, and is a haven for wildlife. In the 12th century there was an Abbey occupied by Cistercian monks. However, this part of Lincolnshire would not conform to Henry VIII's new religious needs, so, with the help of his brother-in-law Charles Brandon, 1st Duke of Suffolk, the Abbey was demolished and some of the stone used for extending and rebuilding the original house.

After lunch, three groups were shown around the castle, granted by Henry VIII to William, Baron Willoughby de Eresby, on the occasion of his 1516 marriage to Maria de Salinas, lady-in-waiting to Catherine of Aragon. The castle has remained in the family since. It contains important collections of furniture which include coronation thrones from

the Palace of Westminster, together with tapestries and family portraits. After a walk around the formal Gardens and more tea and cakes we returned to King's Lynn. The visit was very enjoyable, the company was excellent and I am looking forward to more such outings in 2015.

Gill Cassidy (See Photo Gallery)

Dates for your Diary

Local History Group:

The following gives a taste of what Anne and Keith Lemmon have in store for us. Details as announced at meetings supersede this information.

March	Trues' Yard	April	Peterborough Cathedral
May	Castle Acre Priory	June	Peckover House
July	Norwich - Open topped bus ride and Castle Museum	August	King's Lynn town walk
September	To be advised	October	To be advised
November	To be advised	December	Quiz

Excursions:



Details of the outings programme will be announced at meetings nearer to the planned dates. Please refer to Rosalind Greene for all queries and bookings.

(All outings are with Harrods Coaches)

Saturday 23rd May 2015 – Knebworth House & Gardens

Leaving from Gaywood library at 8.30 am, we will stop for morning coffee along the way and reach Knebworth around noon. At 1.30 there will be a guided tour of the house after which you will be free to wander in the gardens. Note that there is no lift. We will depart around 4 pm with expectation of arrival in King's Lynn around 6.30 pm. **Cost £20**

Thursday 25th June – Blickling and the beautiful village of Heydon

We leave Gaywood library at 9 am and stop for coffee at The Earle Arms in Heydon before moving on to Blickling for lunch (or picnic, as you prefer) and freeflow tour of the house and gardens. We leave around 4 pm and should be home by 6 pm. **Cost £17.50 for non National Trust members, £6.00 for NT members** (please bring NT membership card).

Thursday 13th August – Chenies Manor House, lunch in Aldbury

We will leave Gaywood Library at 8 am, heading first for Aldbury in Buckinghamshire, meeting at The Greyhound Inn for lunch (you are welcome to take your own). We leave around 1.30 and should be at Chenies by 2 pm. We leave around 4.30, expecting to be home by 7.30 pm. **Cost: £18**



Congratulations to Gerald Cross, 2014 winner of the Petanque trophy



Photo Gallery



Members at Grimsthorpe Castle in September(left)

Coffee Morning
in October, at which Group Leaders talked about and demonstrated their various activities

(below)



Our first meeting in February at Gaywood Community Centre (above)



Jackie and Helen, North Lynn Community Centre Administrators, are presented with a token of our thanks by Committee members Vivienne Merryweather and Margaret Neal (left)

Not Happy Housemaids inc., just members preparing our new premises at **Gaywood Community Centre** for our first meeting (right)



Groups in action



The **Friday Lunch Group's**
pre-Christmas meal at
Middleton Golf Club
(also on front cover)



The **Hand Bells Group** ring out a
Christmas message at
King's Lynn Museum
Photograph courtesy of **your local paper**



Chess Group members
contemplate the next move

Some members of
the **Petanque**
Group towards the
close of the 2014
season.



Local History Group members
admire the Great Hall during a tour of
King's Lynn Town Hall conducted
by Mr Richard Morley in February

Front Cover: In *KaLeidoscopic* mode,
members enjoy their pre-Christmas **Friday
lunch** (not seen through the bottom of a
wine bottle, but a little digital trickery)

Photo: **Morag Bean**

Our thanks to those
who have taken photographs,
submitted photographs or allowed
themselves to be photographed,
all in the name of the U3A

Monthly Reviews (*continued ...*)

February: AGM and Play Reading presentation.....	2
Members' Miscellany	3
Gobbledy Gook	3
Jungle Walks in Norfolk	4
'Alright, Albert?'	5
Revealed - The Mystery Object	6
My travel plans for 2015	6
The lighter side of life	6
In brief.....	7
Committee 2015 – 2016.....	8
Special Interest Groups	9
Who's Who: Committee Members	10

February: AGM and Play Reading presentation (by the Play Reading and Theatre Appreciation Group)

Business:

Members were welcomed to our new premises, Gaywood Community Centre, by Chairman Gloria Pantling, a move necessitated by the proposed closure of our former meeting place in North Lynn.

Transcripts of the Chairman's and Treasurer's reports for the past year can be read on pages 4 and 5 respectively (*note: these may not include answers to any queries which arose at the AGM*).

Members were advised of the formation of a new Committee; Valerie Sparkes and Judy Eskell indicated they wished to stand down, whilst four new members were welcomed, namely Catherine Gooch, Doris Watson, Julia Carter and Sylvia Cliffe. Val and Judy were thanked for their contribution to the smooth running of our U3A over recent years. Val, who had held the position of Groups Co-ordinator for the past five years, had responsibility for pulling together the diverse interests of members, channelling them into Special Interest Groups, whilst Judy acted as Befriender and the contact for car sharing arrangement for members who may have had transport difficulties. The Committee will re-allocate these roles.

Queer Street: A one act comedy by John Donald Kelly

Replicating a 1930s' wireless broadcast, seven members of the group plus Leader **Margaret Neal**, setting the scene in her introduction, transported us to the London sitting room of amiable Cockney rogue Bill Hart and wife Liza (*read by Hazel Clench and Maureen Feeney*), accompanied by their newly engaged daughter Edith (*Beryl Long*).

A burglar by profession, Bill is confounded by the news that Edith's dapper 'fiancy' Albert (*Alistair Milner*) is a policeman, recently alluded to by a judge for his relationship with the Metropolitan Constabulary (the latter being not a wholly untrue claim, just slightly distorted in the telling).

As introductions are undertaken and hospitality offered, many a slip 'twixt cup and lip is made, but adroitly turned around to support Edith's claim of Bill being a plumber by trade. After all, why else would he be in possession of a bag of tools and be on late night 'call out' duty?

As comrade-in-crime Joe Smart (*Tony Long*) joins the group, he and Bill pore over plans of local premises, essential to Joe's career as an 'arcy tick', a surprise honorary status bestowed upon him courtesy of Bill who is anxious to conceal the real purpose of the plans from Albert, who in turn takes an avid interest in the location of doors and windows in the drawings.

Cue the arrival of a 'defective detective' (*Vivienne Merryweather*) to arrest one Albert Smith, wanted for robbery in 14 Belgrave Crescent.

Supported by Liz François' and Pat Jones' timely rattling of teacups,

knocking on wood (no convenient doors on stage) and dropping of tools-of-the-trade – *now where did they get those from, you may ask* – the cast led us through half an hour of gentle mayhem, reflecting a close knit family of dubious social standing, living by their own moral mores.

As Albert is led away (six months should do it), Bill's final utterance of "The bleedin' 'ypocrite!" beautifully and succinctly summarises the irony.

* * * * *

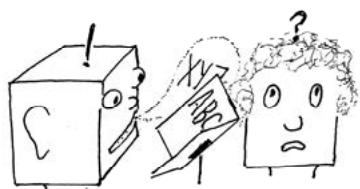
Margaret and all group members are to be commended on the selection, preparation and delivery of their performance, more so as this coincided with our move to new premises, hitherto untried and untested. The audience very much enjoyed the entertainment; we hope for an encore.

Morag Bean

Members' Miscellany

Gobbledy Gook

The title may be a bit strong but have you noticed how our spoken language is changing? It is deviating from the written word by insidious degrees. There has always been slippage of syllables in conversation, for example: "eve'ning" not "evening", "p'raps" not "perhaps", and who actually says "Prime Minister" and not "Pri'minister"? I can accept this as colloquialism and not say it is lazy or slovenly speech.



What I find puzzling, illogical and I provocatively call "irritating gobbley gook" is the growing tendency to insert additional syllables. Why does struggling become *struggelling*, wobbling *wobbeling*, and the fourth word of this paragraph might well be read as "*puzzelling*"?

Of course the extra syllables are not written in (yet), but if they were, the words would look ridiculous, as you can see on this 'label'. (*My spell checker is going mad!*)

Warning

If handelling a saucepan with bubbelling liquid you may find it wobbeling.

Do you think I am exaggerating? The spread of the extra-syllable virus is inexorable! You may even hear it on the BBC; weather forecasters are saying "drizzelly", newscasters can slip into saying "the economy is struggelling". The problem is doubling and redoubelling.

I will not go into other curiosities now, but watch out for hours becoming "owers", fires becoming "fyers" and Wales extending to "Wayells" etc.

Gobbledy Gook! Watch out, it's coming to get you, as well!

Brian Smith

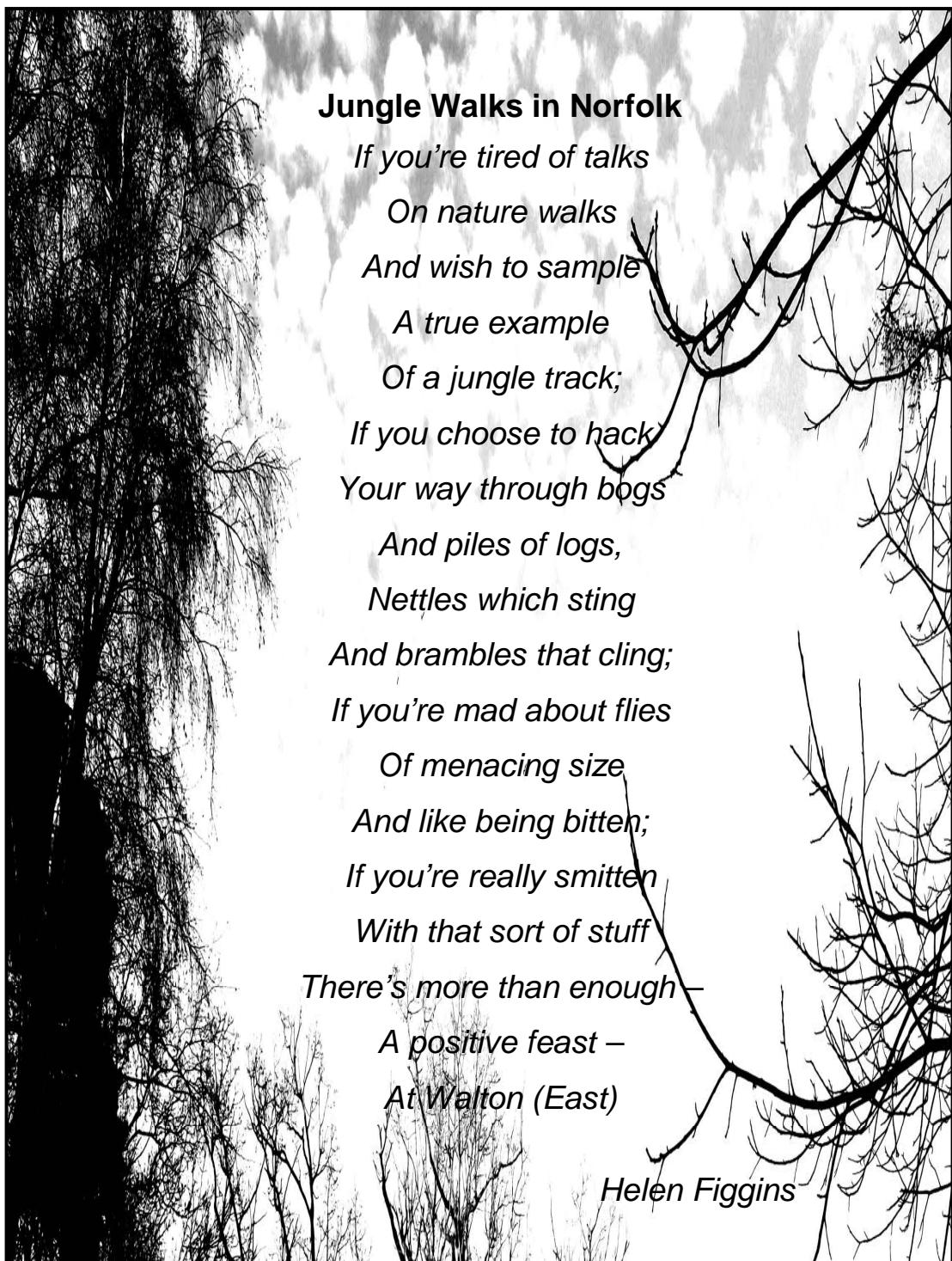


U3A International Chess by email for members in UK, New Zealand and Australia. Interested? If so, contact King's Lynn U3A Group Leader Bill Brakes or the UK National Adviser for U3A Chess, Dick Chapman, on

When my late parents came to stay some years ago we went for a walk in the woods at East Walton.

So far, so good, but unfortunately walks with my husband, Jonathan, tend to start off well but finish with a scramble through nettles and brambles and sometimes over or under barbed wire fences. This one was no exception (apart from the barbed wire) and afterwards my mother sent me this poem, which I came across again recently when I was sorting through some papers.

Penny Dossetor



'Alright, Albert?'

A short story by Fudge Blue (aka Bill Brakes)

They keep calling me Albert. Why do they do that? I'd like to tell them they've got it wrong. But I can't remember what my real name is. And anyway, I can't speak. If I could speak I could tell them they should ask ... Who could they ask? Who knows me? I can't remember. Slowly, I realise I don't remember anything. Except ... I do remember there are things I ought to remember. Like my name and how to speak. So my brain's not empty. It's just smudged, lacking connections. What has happened to me?

I can hear. I can hear them calling me Albert. I can see nothing and I can feel nothing. Never mind. Think positive. I can hear. I can think.

'You're going to be alright,' says a voice. Female. Young. So I do remember some things. 'You're in hospital, Albert. But there's nothing to worry about.' There's everything to worry about. Why is she telling me I'm alright if I'm alright? They don't keep 'alright' people in hospital. I do remember that. Who am I? And who's Albert?

* * * * *

Now I can see. I can't move anything, apart from my eyes. My head is held in some sort of vice. My head hurts. So some feeling is returning, along with the hearing and the seeing. I still can't speak.

I hear the nurse: 'It's your wife, Albert, come to visit you.' My stomach and brain convulse in unison. A painful memory floods over me; a lumpy body, a ruddy face, fierce eyebrows, angry eyes, down-turned lips and a rasping, sneering voice. I close my eyes. I hear fragments of whispers from the corner. *RTA ... horrific ... poor thing ... he nearly died ... oh, look at his face ... can he hear me?* Then closer, a tender voice: 'Darling'.

I open my eyes and see an elegant vision in soft diaphanous silk. Not my wife. Quite the opposite. Sweet smile. Dancing eyes. She kisses me lightly on the lips and reaches for my hand. I'm sure I can feel her soothing touch. 'I'm here, Albert. I'm going to look after you. You're going to be alright.' I feel a warm glow. Now I know I'll be alright. Because I've had an idea. I'll stick with Albert. It's not such a bad name.



***A book of short stories entitled 'One by One' by Fudge Blue is available to download as an e-book.
Fudge Blue is the pen-name of member Bill Brakes.
Bill can be contacted on [REDACTED].***

Revealed - The Mystery Object

Ann Bolton reveals the purpose of our Autumn '14 mystery object

When photographing the objects in the Town House Museum before it was closed, we came across this item in the Victorian Kitchen (*on right of picture*). It was clearly a mould of some sort but as it wouldn't stand on the curved surface it was a bit of a puzzle. Museum staff thought it was for bread, so we borrowed it and washed it.



Half filled with dough and left to rise, we put the 'lid' on and put it in the oven. As the tin had lost most of its tinning we didn't feel like eating the result (*on left of picture*), so let it dry out and took it to the Museum.

A recent catalogue from Lakeland has an identical tin for bread - they call it a Walnut Tin. I suppose it does look a bit like half a walnut.

I haven't bought one yet, but I might if I want to impress a visitor.

My travel plans for 2015

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently you cannot go alone - you have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there!

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport, you have to be driven there. I have made several trips, thanks to children, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too keen on physical activity any more.

I've also been in Doubt - a sad place to go, and I try not to visit too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart!

Gloria Hollocks (original source In Question)

The lighter side of life

An unusual ingredient? They are 'kidding', surely...

Birds love fat cakes and at this time of year, these provide them with essential energy. Make your own, they're cheap and easy and great to make with children!

With acknowledgement and apologies to Norfolk Link Magazine

In brief...

Do you have a hobby which you think members may be interested in reading about? Perhaps you are an avid collector and would like to share the stories behind your items, regardless of whether they be ebay or ebony, Victorian or vintage. Maybe you have researched the life of a famous person, local or otherwise, as in Norma Chaplin's account of the experiences of Percy Gazley in the Autumn '14 KaLeidoscope. If so, why not tell us about it, along with a photo (or two), if possible.

In addition to the Committee positions listed on page 26, details of non-Committee members, without whose input our U3A would not run as smoothly as it does, are shown below.

Catering Co-ordinator	Liz François	
Door Manager	Pam Rowe	Contact details removed
Outings Organiser	Rosalind Greene	
Welfare Contact	Iris Perry	
KaLeidoscope team	Morag Bean , Edward Harrison, Penny Dossetor (see page 26) Anne Lemmon Keith Lemmon	Contact details removed

... and (almost) finally, what is this?

Ann Bolton teases us again with a mystery object. If you know what it is (or think you do), please tell us.

We will reveal all in our Autumn issue.



The deadline for submissions to the Autumn 2015 KaLeidoscope is 15 September, but earlier is advised.

The KaLeidoscope team is grateful for the interest shown in this publication by readers and contributors, without whom there would be no KaLeidoscope. It should however be noted that, in this and subsequent editions, we exercise the right to select articles for publication, to edit those items as considered appropriate, and to hold items over for possible publication at a future date, whilst treating all contributions with courtesy and respect.

We hope you will continue to enjoy this and future editions of KaLeidoscope and visit our website (www.kingslynnu3a) for further U3A information.

Committee 2015 – 2016

Chairman	Gloria Pantling	
Vice Chairman	Penny Dossetor	
Secretary	Judith Harrison	Contact details removed
Treasurer	Vivienne Merryweather	
Membership Secretary	Edward Harrison	
Groups Co-ordinator	To be appointed (refer queries to Chairman until otherwise advised)	
Kaleidoscope Representative	Morag Bean	
Meeter and Greeter	Margaret Neal	
Norfolk Network Representatives	Joy Dunham Edward Harrison	
Press Officer	Penny Dossetor	
Speaker Organiser	Ann Higgins	Contact details removed
Website Editor	Edward Harrison	
New member	Catherine Gooch	
New member	Doris Watson	
New member	Julie Carter	
New member	Sylvia Cliffe	
<i>Owing to shortage of space on this page, non-Committee positions are listed on page 25</i>		

Special Interest Groups (refer queries to Chairman until otherwise advised)

Art Appreciation	A new Leader is required to take over this Group	
Barbershop Singers	2 nd & 4 th Wed 10-noon	Ron Boxer
Book of the month (1)	2 nd Wednesday 2-4 pm	Di Buckland
Book of the month (2)	4 th Wednesday 2-4 pm	Anne Lindley
Book of the month (3)	2 nd Thursday 2-4 pm	Christine Stockley
Bridge	Mon & Tues weekly 10-noon	Kathleen Lees
Bridge (advanced)	Tuesday weekly 10-noon	Phil Aelberry
Card Making	2 nd Monday 2-4 pm	Dorothy Rawlings
Chess	1 st & 3 rd Thursday 2-4pm	Bill Brakes
Classical music	A new Leader is required to take over this Group	
Computer Users (1)	1 st Wednesday 2-4 pm	Anna Cortens
Computer Users (2)	1 st Wednesday 10.30-12.30	
Curling	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday 1.30-2.30	Ann Smith
Drama	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays 10-noon	Louise Smith and Denise Mansell
Exploring Philosophy	3 rd Thursday 2-4 pm	Vicky Hudson
French conversation	3 rd Monday 2.30-4 pm	Val Wilson
Genealogy (1)	1 st Friday 10-noon	Barry Keenan
Genealogy (2)	4 th Thursday 2-4 pm	Doris Watson
Hand Bells (1)	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday 10-11am	Ann Bolton
History	4 th Thursday 2-4 pm	Sheila Shimmin
Humour	1 st Wednesday 10-noon	Rosalind Greene
Local History	3 rd Wednesday 2pm	Anne & Keith Lemmon
Lunch - Friday	As announced at meetings	Joy Dunham
Lunch - Sunday	As announced at meetings	Les Watson
Mah Jong	3 rd Monday 2-4 pm	Penny Dossetor
Mixed Games	4 th Monday 2.30-4.30	Margaret Fox
Nostalgia	1 st Monday 2-4 pm	Dorothy Rawlings
Outings	As announced at meetings	Rosalind Greene
Petanque (March to November)	1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Fri 10-noon 2 nd Friday 2-4 pm	Bob Rawlings
Play Reading and Theatre Appreciation	Alternate Tuesdays 2-4 pm	Margaret Neal
Recorders	2 nd & 4 th Mon, 1.30 (begin), 2.30 (improve)	Ann Higgins
Scottish Country Dancing	Thursday weekly 10-12 with term breaks	Mary Cox
Scrabble	2 nd Tuesday 10-noon	Margaret Fox
Stitchery	3 rd Monday 2-4 pm	Brigitte Bayley
Sunday Strollers	As announced at meetings	
Table Tennis	1 st & 3 rd Tues 2.30-3.30	Frank Gallagher
Theatre Visits	Announced at meetings	Sylvia Cliffe and Julie Carter
Writing for Pleasure	3 rd Monday 2-4 pm	Sheila Drewery

Who's Who: Committee Members

(Also see pages 4 and 5)

Vice Chairman	Secretary	Membership/ Website/ Norfolk Network	
<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	
<i>Penny Dossetor</i>	<i>Judith Harrison</i>	<i>Edward Harrison</i>	
Kaleidoscope Representative	Meeter and Greeter	Norfolk Network Representative	Speaker Organiser
<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>
<i>Morag Bean</i>	<i>Margaret Neal</i>	<i>Joy Dunham</i>	<i>Ann Higgins</i>
New member	New member	New member	New member
<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>	<i>Photograph removed</i>
<i>Catherine Gooch</i>	<i>Doris Watson</i>	<i>Julie Carter</i>	<i>Sylvia Cliffe</i>

All rights reserved. Any reproduction without permission of the Editor is prohibited. Contact

King's Lynn U3A Registered Charity no. 1100986
Chairman: Gloria Pantling