

King's Lynn U3A

Bulletin October 2018

Friday 12th October

The Duke's Head Ballroom

156 members attended and 9 visitors

We welcome the following new members who have joined us this month; half of these joined at the Open Day morning we held on the 9th October .

Stan Baldwin, Susie Campbell, Pat & Robin Caseley, Brenda Cox, Janet & John Dennett, Marion Denny, Carol & Colin Edwards, Sally Gillman, Richard Hanslip, Peter Hirst, Caroline & Paul Holbrook, Sally Hudson, Freda & Graham Morris, Margaret Nye, Evie Scott, Irene Shell, Doug Styles, Marion & Royston Tyrrell, Martin Williamson.

Chairman

- Penny Dossetor welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave out Health and Safety notices and a reminder that mobile phones should be switched off.
- Penny introduced Karen Robson from Lily (Living Independently in Later Years). She told members that the organisation had been re-branded, including new funding, and now helps people aged 18 and older in West Norfolk and Swaffham, to access and become involved in their communities.

Lily works with 5 local charities, West Norfolk Be-Friending, West Norfolk Carers, West Norfolk Deaf Association, West Norfolk MIND and Swaffham Family Action and offers on-line, in the community and face-to-face support for adults. Lily can provide help for someone going to a new group, or to access computer training as well as a large range of other services in the area. The Lily on-line Directory is www.asklily.org.uk

- Members were told that Kaleidoscope was available. A signature is only required if taking a copy for a member not at the meeting.
- A new borrowed microphone system was in place.
- A notice from Marion (Membership Secretary) that it was the last opportunity to order a U3A diary.
- Name badges were also available at the back of the hall.
- **Change of venue**

Penny told the meeting that in **2019** we would continue to hold our monthly meetings at **The Duke's Head Ballroom on the second Friday of each month**, with the exception of January when the hotel cannot host us on the 11th.

The January monthly meeting will be held on Friday 18th at The Duke's Head Ballroom from 10:00 am to 12:00 mid-day.

From **January 2020** our monthly meetings will be held at Gaywood Community Centre on the **second Wednesday of each month from 10:00 am to 12:00 mid-day.**

Group Notices (as at 10.08.18)

Julie Carter - Group Co-ordinator

New Groups

Crochet - please let me, Julie, know if you are interested in being part of this group.

Valerie Staff and Brian invite you to join them for **Sunday Afternoon Bowling** at Lynnsport from 2.30 – 5.00. Coaching and Equipment provided. Please let me, Julie, know if you are interested in this group.

Group News

Country and Western – I am grateful to Jennie Foster for agreeing to lead this new group. Are you interested in going to Country and Western evenings and events? Jennie will take your e-mail addresses and will inform you of events in the area so that you can meet and go together.

Group Leader: Jennie Foster

Classical Guitar – Can you play classical guitar and would like to play simple classical pieces arranged for two or more guitars? You would need to read music (or be prepared to learn) and commit to regular practice. This is not a group for complete beginners but for fairly modest guitarists making music together.

Group Leader: Charles Heginbotham

Model Railways – This group meets monthly – the next meeting is on Thursday 18th October at 7.00 at Ken's home.

Group Leader: Ken Harpley

Pentanque – King's Lynn U3A Petanque players provided the winners in the West Norfolk Petanque League Ladies' Singles Tournament at Heacham last Sunday, 7th October. Congratulations to Denise Mole for winning the Ladies' Cup and to Jane Hindry for winning the runner-up trophy. Thank you to all U3A members who took part in both the men's and ladies' tournaments.

Please note that from 9th November the Petanque group, meeting on the afternoons following the U3A meetings, will begin at 2.00.

Local History – The group is meeting on Wednesday 17th October at the bus stop in The Hollies car park in Downham Market for a walking tour of Downham. After lunch you will meet at 2.00 at the Discover Downham Heritage Centre, Priory Road (the old fire station). Cost not known at present.

Group Leaders: Anne and Keith Lemmon

Friday Lunch – This month's Friday lunch will be at the Farmers Arms, Knights Hill on 26th October. You can have a carvery or choose from the main menu. New members are welcome to join this group. The Christmas Lunch will be at Andel Lodge on 21st December. Cost £26.50. A £10 non-refundable deposit is being required. Numbers for this lunch are limited to 30.

Pat and Stan Roberts

Excursions – The trip to Bletchley Park is currently fully subscribed but there is a waiting list. Payments are due by the November meeting to guarantee your ticket. Please let the team, Niki, Di or Mandy, know as soon as possible if you are unable to go.

Group Leaders: Di Leeder

Pickleball – Stella Mills has kindly agreed to be the Group Leader for the Winter months whilst Richard and Geri are away. Stella will take over from October 24th.

Sunday Lunch – The lunch on 21st October will be at The Chequers, Wimbotsham, 12.30 for 1.00. Numbers are limited to 26. Please sign the sheet at the back if you would like to go.

Group Leader: Les Watson

Humour – The next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th November from 10 – 12 at the Scout Hut in Beulah Street. New members very welcome.

Group Leader: Roger Cetti

Discussion – The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th October at 2.00. Please note this will be the third Wednesday, not the second just for this month. The topic will be Climate change: how might it affect the environment and human and animal life? It will be led by Julia Hay.

Group Leader: Morag Bean

Afternoon Tea – The next tea will be at The Duke's Head on Tuesday 23rd October at 3.30.

Group Leader: Kath Wood

Evening Meal – The next Evening Meal will be at The Riverside Restaurant on Tuesday 6th November, 6.30 for 7.00. This will be a week earlier than normal to take advantage of Norfolk Restaurant Week.

Group Leader: Kath Wood

Talk: “Thursford” by John Cushing

King's Lynn U3A enjoyed a lively and entertaining talk given by John Cushing of Thursford fame at their October monthly meeting.

Mr Cushing spoke about his father's humble beginnings in the small Norfolk village of Thursford, a few miles from Fakenham and Wells. He described rural life at the turn of the last century and the beginning of his father's love for steam engines of the type that were used in road making throughout the country. He bought his first steam engine when he was only 17 and so began a long history of his use, purchase and preservation of steam engines of all types.



From small beginnings in a field at Thursford which I recall visiting with my young family in about 1970 for which at first there was no charge to the complex, colourful and unique entertainment that Thursford has become, Mr Cushing traced his own involvement for the last 42 years.

The word Thursford needs no explanation to the people of Norfolk nor throughout the UK. It usually means the approach to Christmas, a coach ride through Norfolk country lanes, a large marquee for mince pies and mulled wine, or a cup of tea, before the show. There is a chance to see Santa's World, buy a Christmas souvenir before settling into your seats in a building holding 1400 people when the curtain goes up for music, glamour, humour and a feeling that Christmas is not far away.

From the first 'Thursford' when choristers from King's College, Cambridge entertained in a small building, Mr Cushing described all the detailed planning necessary to plan and prepare for next year's show: the ideas, London auditions, choices of entertainers, costumes, music, orchestra, scenery down to accommodation for the entertainers and the help in the laundry to ensure all costumes remain as colourful and attractive on the final performance as on the first. The whole year is taken up with preparations, rehearsals and performances.

We would like to thank Mr Cushing for giving up his valuable time at such a busy time of year to come to speak to us.

Ann Smith