

## GARDEN GROUP

We are taking a break in December but will welcome all members back in January to enjoy some seasonal refreshments and wake up the little grey cells with a fun Quiz.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy 2024.

*Kath Gifkins & Rosemary Foreman*

## CARPET BOWLS AT POTTERS

Once again, we had a very enjoyable break at Potters. Alan & I performed miserably but I'm glad to report that the remainder of the group had some of their best results so far. Some got through to the knockout stages with Brian & Grace once again reaching the final and finishing runners up.

If anyone fancies joining us next year either to bowl, watch, or do their own thing please get in touch. We usually need to book and pay a deposit at the end of February.

*Kath & Alan Gifkins*

## CAMERA GROUP

**PLEASE NOTE:** Tesco are unable to host us for the December meeting so we will instead meet at the Racing Centre.

**We won't have a meeting in January 2024 because of the bank holiday. Instead our photo challenge will be an online competition.**

## BRUNCH

**The gathering at The Stable in November was lively despite the wet weather.**

**In December the date will be 13th December same time 11.00-12.00 and there are menus for meals if desired.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



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In fact, thank you to all members who have contributed in many ways, helping our U3A become the welcoming organisation that so many enjoy.

There are a couple of special events to look forward to in the next two months. On December 18th we have a very different Speaker Meeting on offer. A trio of performers, Hexachordia, promise us a programme of 'Mirth & Merriment' for the Festive season. They will be playing authentic copies of old instruments and revealing what Christmas was like in the 16th & 17th centuries. The cost for this is a mere £3 to include tea/coffee and refreshments. I hope to see many of you there.

In the New Year there is our Annual Lunch to look forward to. This is on Friday January 12th at The Cherry Tree in Soham, where there is plenty of parking and good food on offer. Numbers are limited for this and so if you are still to book your place, please do not leave it much longer. Booking forms are online but paper copies are available on request.

Please keep a close eye on the online calendar for any last-minute changes to meetings or venues as some do vary over the Christmas period. It would also be helpful if you could tell any member who you know does not have internet access should you spot any changes.

With all good wishes for a very Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

*Kath Gifkins, Chairman*

## MUSIC APPRECIATION

**December 15th:** Richard's programme – "**Highlights of the 2023 BBC Proms**". Two outstanding performances from this year's Promenade concerts, Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini plus Walton's Belshazzar's Feast.

**January 19th:** Mike's programme – "**The 3 B's (Bach, Beethoven, Brahms)**". Works by three of the great German classical composers.

*Richard Unwin*

## WINGS, WHEELS & WATER

**BIG NEWS:** As of the first meeting next year, 2024, Wings, Wheels & Water will be moving to the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month in order to avoid the Bank Holidays, of which there are three which affect us in 2024.

David will open the season on 8 January with the topic of pipelines for fuel, starting with **PLUTO**.

After some consideration and discussion about a possible move to the Racing Centre, we have decided to remain at Exning Road Club, particularly as the parking arrangements are much easier.

**4 DECEMBER:** David and Tim will share the presentation, following up on recent topics, with the latest developments.

**8 JANUARY 2024:** David explores the pipelines of England, a virtually unknown network criss-crossing the country.

*David Soanes, Tim Young*

## RUMMIKUB

The Tesco Community Room will not be available for the Rummikub November meeting.

Therefore Rummikub will now be at the Racing Centre on Tuesday, November 28th NOT at Tesco.

*Best Wishes. Rose Baxter*

## REALM OF BOOKS

The Realm of Books met at the Racing Centre in October to talk about 'Behind Closed Doors' by B A Paris. There were mixed views about this novel even though it was definitely a page turner. It turned out to be a rather horrifying psychological thriller although the psychopath did get his 'just deserts' in the end.

At the moment we are reading "Small things like these" by Claire Keegan.

There will be no meeting in December and the book for 26th January is 'The Rose Code' by Kate Quinn. It is a rather longer novel than we would normally have chosen but we will have the extra time to read it as it had been highly recommended. Many of the characters and finer points of this book are based on history

The full list of our latest authors appears on our website or you can get details by contacting

**Margaret Jocelyn**

***marg.jocelyn21@gmail.com or 01638 615252.***

## HISTORY

*A very happy Christmas to one and all.*

**1 December: No regular meeting as the group are lunching at Exning White Horse.**

**5 January 2024: NO MEETING**

**2 February 2024:** Members will report back to the group on their own research for the Exning Village Project. I shall require photos after Christmas in order to create a PowerPoint to accompany your verbal report. The written report should not exceed four sides of A4, (in 12pt type), and include not more than four photos.



**Niddy Walpole**

## NEWMARKET U3A

**Is delighted to propose a new  
CREATIVE WRITING GROUP  
to be led by Sarah McManus**

*Sarah's proposal is as follows:*

I see the workshop being totally self-help, no tuition, where members can share their ideas, experience and knowledge with others, and provide genuine critique for work read, while keeping the sessions positive. Writers from beginners to published authors would be welcome.

A monthly topic to write about could be chosen by the group, but writers would also be welcome to bring along their own works in progress they would like the group to read and feedback on.

Depending on the numbers attending, between 500 to 1500 words would be submitted by the attendees each month.

It might also be possible to occasionally invite local, published authors to come along and talk about their own experiences with writing, and discuss topics from starting writing to being published.

*If you are interested in this new group, please contact Sarah at **saramac57@gmail.com or 07765255904.** Date, times and meeting venue will be confirmed when the group seems viable.*



Sarah McManus



***Everyone  
enjoyed another  
great show at  
Thursford. Our  
thanks to Kath  
and Di for  
organising this  
trip for us.***



# DECEMBER 2023

## GROUP MEETINGS

DAY/DATE	TIME	GROUP	VENUE
Friday 1	-	History	<b>Christmas Lunch</b>
Monday 4	10:30	Wings Wheels Water	Exning Road Club
	14:00	Bridge	Exning Road Club
	14:30	Camera Group	Exning Road Club
Tuesday 5	14:30	Art Appreciation	<b><i>see website</i></b>
Wednesday 6	10:30	Walking Group	Venue - see Website
	14:30	Antiques	<b>Exning Road Club</b>
Monday 11	14:30	Scrabble	<b>Exning Road Club</b>
Tuesday 12	-	Model Making, Craft	<b>No meeting</b>
Wednesday 13	11:00	Brunch Meeting	<b>The Stable Cafe</b>
Thursday 14	10:30	Carpet Bowls	Exning Road Club
Friday 15	14:30	Music Appreciation	The Racing Centre
	12:00	<b>MOTO</b>	<b>Lunch - Scotsdales Horningsea</b>
Monday 18	10:00	Executive Committee	-
	-	Bridge	<b>No meeting</b>
	14:30	<b>Christmas Event</b>	Exning Road Club
Tuesday 19	14:30	Discussion	The Racing Centre
Wednesday 20	-	Garden Group	<b>No meeting</b>
Friday 22	-	Realm of Books	<b>No meeting</b>
Tuesday 26	-	Rummikub	<b>No meeting</b>
Thursday 28	-	Carpet Bowls	<b>No meeting</b>

# JANUARY 2024

## GROUP MEETINGS

DAY/DATE	TIME	GROUP	VENUE
Monday 1	-	Bridge	<b>No meeting</b>
	14:30	Camera Group	<b>Online - see Website</b>
Tuesday 2	-	Art Appreciation	<b>No meeting</b>
Wednesday 3	10:30	Walking Group	Venue - see Website
	-	Antiques	<b>No meeting</b>
Friday 5	-	History	<b>No meeting</b>
Monday 8	10:30	<b>Wings Wheels Water</b>	<b>Exning Road Club</b>
	14:30	Scrabble	Tesco Community Room
Tuesday 9	10:30	Model Making, Craft	Tesco Community Room
	11.15	Coffee & Cook Off	Tesco Community Room
	14:30	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>The Racing Centre</b>
Wednesday 10	11:00	Brunch Meeting	The Stable Cafe
Thursday 11	10:30	Carpet Bowls	Exning Road Club
<b>Friday 12</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>Annual Lunch</b>	<b>The Cherry Tree Soham</b>
Monday 15	10:00	Executive Committee	-
	14:00	Bridge	Exning Road Club
Wednesday 17	14:30	Garden Group	Exning Road Club
Friday 19	14:30	Music Appreciation	The Racing Centre
Tuesday 23	14:30	Rummikub	Tesco Community Room
Thursday 25	10:30	Carpet Bowls	Exning Road Club
Friday 26	14:30	Realm of Books	The Racing Centre
Monday 29	14:30	Speaker Meeting	Exning Road Club
-	<b>Note:</b> MOTO Group - see Website		