

u3a
NEWMARKET

E-News



Newmarket U3A win the 2021 Potters Leisure Bowls Competition

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS



In early November 2021, one month after returning to regular meetings, a group of 14 Carpet Bowlers took a midweek break at Potters Leisure in Norfolk. The competition had been delayed by a year but all were keen to get back in action and results showed they had lost none of their skills during the enforced break.

Everyone's results had improved over previous visits, with Mike and Brenda Hastings beating the winners of the competition in 2019 and two other couples making it through to the knockout stages. Kath and Alan Gifkins were beaten in the next round, but Grace and Brian Crump progressed to the final and came out as tournament winners. They were presented with a trophy to retain for one year, a voucher towards a further carpet bowls break, and a goody bag containing bowls related items. Many congratulations to them both. Plans are now being made to book for November this year.

Many thanks to Brian and Lorraine and Michael and Jean for taking over the reins while we were away in December.

Alan & Kath Gifkins

ANNUAL LUNCH



After a gap of a year, caused by the pandemic, we were able to hold our annual lunch in its traditional slot in January. The lunch was a very convivial meeting at The Rosery. Even though our numbers were down compared to previous years, this made a good start to 2022 with great food and excellent service.

Many thanks to Rosemary for her excellent organisation.

Phil Boggie: a message to members from Iris

Iris Boggie wishes to make the following statement on the website and in our E-News.



Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to say a public thank you to all the members of Newmarket U3A who supported me and my family when Phil passed away in November last year. I was very touched. Firstly, by the letters and cards I received: it gave me great strength to realise how highly thought of Phil was. Secondly, many members joined us at the funeral. More than a hundred mourners were present for the service, which Phil had planned himself, and we received £802.06 for our collection for Dr George Follows and the LLPP Leukaemia fund, which was the particular type from which Phil suffered - a very rare type which needs a great deal of further research. That is such a generous amount and again reflects the respect and affection in which Phil was held.

Phil and I did everything together and I have had to cope with the world again without Phil, which is not easy, but I am hoping to be able to join U3A activities in the weeks ahead when I look forward to seeing many of you again.

Thank you for your support in many different ways.

Iris Boggie

GARDEN GROUP

Things are slowly returning to normal with speakers and members being welcomed back to the Exning Road Club on the third Wednesday of each month.

Following a virtual tour of Rosemary's garden via a slideshow and a fun quiz in January, on **February 16th Barry Gayton** will speak to us about Hellebores at the usual time of **2.30pm**. Also in February a 'seed swap' board will appear and members are encouraged to bring any unwanted, in date, packet (or part packet) of seeds to swap for seeds they do not have.

In March, April and May we will be trying something different. Our speaker for each of these meetings will be Andrew Sankey, who some of you will know from his previous visits. Andrew is an entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. His talks will be on a variety of garden related subjects: Miss Wilmott of Warley Place, Shakespeare's flowers and funny garden features. To allow him to go into more depth the **talks will be from 2pm until 4pm** with a short interval halfway for refreshments.

Please arrive before 2pm to allow the talk to start promptly. There will be no raffle at these meetings. Please remember we are always grateful for donations of raffle prizes at any meeting as proceeds from these go towards the payments for speakers.

Rosemary Foreman & Kath Gifkins

ART APPRECIATION

We continue with our face-to-face meetings at the **Racing Centre** on the **first Tuesday** in the month, **2.30pm-4.00pm**, currently on the theme of favourite pictures or artists. Please come along if you are interested, or contact Anna - anna.smith81@outlook.com

There will be visits to galleries and museums later in the year, when they announce their programmes.

Anna Smith

ANTIQUES

Next meetings:

Wednesday 2nd February at 2.30pm
and

Wednesday 2nd March at 2.30pm
in the Moller Room at the **Racing Centre**

HISTORY

The first talk of 2022 will be about the **Scottish Lighthouses** built by four generations of the same family, the Stevensons, on **4th February** at the **Exning Road Club**.

4th March will be about **three crops** grown in East Anglia long ago: **Hemp, Flax** and **Opium**.

1st April the talk will be on **The Tiptofts**; an important mediaeval family with a manor in Burwell, including the Earl of Worcester known as the Butcher of England! Or was he just a man of his time?

Niddy Walpole

HISTORY OF SCIENCE

We will be exploring **botany and botanical models** on the **9th of March** at **11.30am**, with meetings continuing to take place over **Zoom**.

Contact Alison on
07855 184549 or are26@cam.ac.uk
to be added to the list or to be sent the link for the next meeting.

Alison Giles



VILLAGE LIFE

February 1st: the farming year
March 1st: windmills and milling

Meetings start at **10.30am** at **Burwell Museum**.

New members are always welcome.

Contact Alison on
07855 184549 or
education@burwellmuseum.org.uk
to be added to the mailing list.

Alison Giles



WALKING GROUP

2nd February - meet in the car park at the **Ellesmere Centre**, Ley Road, Stetchworth, CB8 9TS at **10.30am**. There is a £1 donation per car for the Centre. Ann **Cant** will be leading the walk and lunch will be at the Wellington, Newmarket.

2nd March - meet at **RSPB Lakenheath Fen**, Station Road, Lakenheath, IP27 9AD at **10.30am** for a walk led by **Kath** and **Alan Gifkins**. If you are not an RSPB member, there is an entrance fee of £4 per person. Lunch will be at the Red Lion, Main Street, Hockwold, IP26 4NB.

REALM OF BOOKS

The last meeting of the Realm of Books was held at All Saints Church in November 2021. We now look forward to getting together again in the new year, to select titles for the next months.

Already our members have sent in many intriguing and varying ideas, and we will have to vote on which ones to choose. For instance, how about:

Miss Austen by Gill Hornby - have Jane Austen's letters been destroyed by her sister?

or

Munich by Robert Harris - opening in a debate reviewing the worth of the maligned Prime Minister (Chamberlain)?

But these are just two of the books suggested so far.

The outcome will be known in February and the list will be available then.

Margaret Jocelyn

SCRABBLE

We are back in action at the **Racing Centre** on **Monday 14th February**.

We hope you stayed well over Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming you back.

Liz Langley & Janet Neville



LUNCH GROUP

The lunch on **Wednesday, 9th February**, is at **The Shed**, Lode, CB25 9ET; **meeting at 12.00** for lunch at **12.30pm**.

If you haven't already ordered, their menu is online. Please let me know if you will be coming/menu choices by 5th February.

***Rosemary Foreman on
01638730072
Rofore22@gmail.com***

Lunch on **Wednesday 9th March** will be at **Mangiare**, Newmarket, again meeting at **12.00** for lunch at **12.30pm**.

The menu for this will be available at the February lunch and is also on-line.



CAMERA GROUP

We weren't able to get together in January because the first Monday of the month, our usual meeting day, was a bank holiday. Instead, we held our competition online with the subject 'Icy Cold'. It was nice to see plenty of entries and eventually joint winners, Chris Timmins' photo *"Better get your skates on"* and Gordon Duthie with his photo *"It's going to be cold tonight"*.



ABOVE: *"Better get your skates on"* by Chris Timmins BELOW: *"It's going to be cold tonight"* by Gordon Duthie



"Better get your skates on" was taken locally during the 'Beast from the East' in February 2021 showing the extraordinary accumulation of ice. *"It's going to be cold tonight"* was taken at Wicken Fen one January evening at sunset. It had already been a cold day (snow on the ground all day) when the sky cleared promising another cold night.

On Monday 7th February we will be able to meet again with our prints at the Racing Centre Newmarket. The subject for February is 'Birds'.

WINGS WHEELS WATER

February's meeting, on **Monday the 1st**, will be held at the Exning Road Club, as usual, where Tim will be presenting three short films.

These will represent the land, sea and air aspects of 'Wings, Wheels & Water' and will hopefully stimulate discussion between the Group members. The three films below will also demonstrate the wealth of interesting and useful information to be found on YouTube:

1. Spitfire Mk1 to Mk24: How Spitfires kept getting better (15 minutes.). (*A current exhibition at Duxford*)
2. The Story of Grafham Water (10 minutes).



3. Liverpool to Manchester - the world's first modern railway - History of Railways (10 minutes).

The **March** session will be led by **Steve** and his topic is **"Ken Small and Slapton Sands"**: unravelling a tragedy where wings, wheels and water went wrong.

Tim Young & Steve Garner

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Our next Music Appreciation get together will be on **Friday February 18th** when we should see better weather, longer daylight hours and lots of members attending. Any new U3A members are very welcome to join us for a taster.

We hope members will feel comfortable to come to our meeting at **2:30pm** in the well spaced bar area of the **Exning Road Club** and enjoy tea or coffee with a relaxing video presentation entitled:

"One Hit Wonders" - music from composers remembered mainly for just one musical offering. The most obvious of these is Pachelbel and his Canon. Written in around 1696 for three violins and basso continuo, it has stood the test of time and now, some 300 years later, there are versions for all sorts of wonderful and weird combinations of instruments and even choral renderings.



Mike Jocelyn

BURWELL AT LARGE



The village of Burwell is one of the largest villages served by Newmarket U3A, and we already have numerous members from Burwell.

This is an opportunity for us to extend our membership and perhaps our range of activities. It is also about letting the area know who we are and what we do.

COOK OFF TUESDAY

Easy, Cheesy Muffin Scones

Ingredients:

A little butter or oil for greasing
7 sundried tomatoes (about 45g) or 7 cherry tomatoes
250g self raising flour
80g mature cheese, grated
Handful fresh chopped herbs (*optional*)
200ml low fat natural yoghurt
1 large free-range egg
3 tbsp olive oil



To make:

Preheat the oven to 190°C/Fan or 170°/Gas 5. Lightly grease a 12-hole muffin tin with butter or oil. Cut the tomatoes into small pieces.

Put the flour into a bowl, add the tomatoes and cheese, and herbs if using.

Put the yoghurt into a jug, add the egg and oil, and stir. Add this to the flour mix and blend everything together.

Spoon into the muffin tins and bake for 20-25 minutes or until light golden.

MEMBERS ON THEIR OWN

Sunday, 27th February: Chippenham Park gardens to look at the snowdrops and early spring flowers. They are **open from 10.00am to 4.00pm**, with an **admission fee of £7.00 per person**. Snacks and light lunches are available in their Potting Shed Café.

In March, (*date to be confirmed*), we will be visiting **The Ark Church**, Isleham, a £4m timber-framed building built by its members. It took over 10 years to build and is believed to be the biggest structure in Europe made in modern times from green oak. The size of the project meant a saw mill had to be built first in 2009 to enable extra-long oak beams to be cut.

Rosemary Foreman

Your Ideas and Suggestions Please ...

We are hoping that we will be able to have a programme of trips on an annual basis, one in the summer and one in the winter. Last summer's trip was called off because of Covid; the winter trip - eventually - was to the show at Thursford.

What trips would you like us to organise?

Answers please to **Niddy Walpole: 01353 721144**

MEMBERSHIP FEES: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Executive Committee has been concerned at our levels of income and expenditure, particularly since the disruption caused by the pandemic. You may know that we have a much more organised, centralised system of accounting than do many other U3As where each group funds itself and if income is not equal to expenditure the group fails. As a result of this we are able to support the smaller groups and maintain a wide variety of activity. If you belonged to many U3A groups you would have to pay up to £5.00 per meeting and there would be no free refreshments!

Our activities are supported by the membership fee, which has remained at £10 for some years now, and the Executive Committee feels that it is time for an increase to £12.50 per annum. We wish to put this matter to the membership at a Special General Meeting before the April Speakers Meeting.

You will receive all the appropriate paperwork in due course. I trust that you will feel this is an appropriate course of action and will support us.

Meanwhile the sun has come out, the Covid numbers are looking better and spring is just round the corner.

Best wishes for 2022.

Tim Young