



May Reminder/June Magazine 2023

St Ives (Cambs) u3a



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As I am writing this message for the newsletter the weather is finally improving. After what seems like months of cold and rain the sun is out and it is finally warming up. Our groups that rely on fine weather will be able to get outside. Our digital photography group has planned its first trip out to Johnson's Zoo at Old Hurst.

With the Coronation on the horizon, I am sure many of you will be watching and taking part in local celebrations with your families. I hope you all have a great time. People are being encouraged to volunteer and if you are thinking about it our u3a could use your services. We have vacancies for a speaker organiser and we are looking for a small team to take on the role of webmasters. Our current website will be upgraded to use WordPress. So, if you have experience, please contact me for more information. We can always find a role for anyone who wants to volunteer their services.

Our AGM will be held at the May monthly meeting on 11th May at 2pm in the Corn Exchange. We need 20% of the membership to be quorate so please come along. We will also have a speaker, Paul Smith on the subject of Thomas Cook & the origins of popular tourism.

A date for your diary: We will be holding our group fair at the Corn Exchange on Wednesday 21st of June from 10:30 to 13:30. Please come along and see if there is anything that interests you.

Finally, please remember this u3a is for you. Let us know how we are doing and if there is a group you would wish to see please contact me.

Brian Gilmour Email chairstivesu3a@btinternet.com

Open Meeting Programme

Date	Subject	Speaker
May 11 th 2023	AGM then Thomas Cook & The Origins of Popular Tourism	Paul Smith
June 8 th 2023	Rise & Fall of Seaside Resorts since 1750	Tony Kirby
July 13 th 2023	The Beatles Story	Martin Orkin

**All open meetings are held at The Corn Exchange, St Ives.
1.30 for 2.00 start**

BEACON

Beacon continues to be a valuable tool to manage our membership system and for communicating with you by email. You may have noticed that when you receive a message via Beacon, the address it comes from says noreply@u3abeacon.org.uk. Unlike other sites, where this means, you cannot directly reply to the sender, I have discovered that you can reply directly to the sender when it comes via Beacon. This may be useful to know if you wish to reply, for instance, to a message from your group leader.

The majority of our group leaders are now set up as Beacon users which enables them to have access to up-to-date contact details for their members, to email the group, and to use the ledger facility to record their finances if they wish. If any leader not currently using Beacon would like more information, please contact me at: BeaconAdmStivesu3a@gmail.com

Joy Cooper

News from around the Groups

Sketchbook Art Group Leader – Barry Tankard

There are four vacancies for new members of Sketchbook Art Group, please contact Barry Tankard through the contact button on the group page which can be found on the u3astivesgroups@gmail.com web page.

Outings Group Leaders – Wendy Wagstaffe, Lydia Harris, Pam Medicott & Sue Belcher (call Sue Belcher 01480 497592. Strictly only to be used by members with no Internet).

For outings booking procedure see Page 7

Wednesday 17th May 2023

Bedford and Kathy Brown's Garden

Morning visit to market town of Bedford where we meet our guide for a walking tour entitled 'I Never Knew That' If you prefer not to do the walk you can choose to enjoy the town centre, Time allowed to purchase lunch or take a picnic in Bedford.



Short coach journey to

Stevington where we meet Kathy Brown who will introduce us to her wonderful garden. Tour of the Garden 45- 60 mins

Choice of homemade cakes with Tea/Coffee/Juice included.

Cost including driver's gratuity, all guide fees and entry.

Plus the Cake! £32.00 pp

Friday 9th June Norfolk Treats Historical Walsingham and East Ruston Vicarage Gardens

Blue Badge Guide talk and guided tour of Walsingham. Morning coffee and biscuits on arrival. Time allowed to find lunch in Walsingham. Afternoon coach journey to East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens. Wander at will in the splendid award-winning 30+ acres. Tea rooms on site.



Cost includes: Guide's fees, tea and biscuits on arrival, entry to Abbey Gardens Walsingham, entry to Vicarage gardens east Ruston.

Dews coach and gratuity. **£44.00 pp**

Thursday 29th June 2023 Coughton Court Warwickshire

The family home of the Throckmortons for 6 generations. Imposing Tudor house set in beautiful gardens, riverside and lakeside walks, award-winning walled

garden. House has a Priest's Hole and connections with the Gunpowder Plotters. There may be a talk on this available on the day. If not, room stewards are very knowledgeable and will be delighted to share the stories with you. Kitchen cafe serves



hot and cold food and tempting sweet treats.

Includes: Entrance to House facilities and driver's gratuity.

Cost pp £14.50

£28.00 for non-National Trust members

**Tuesday 18th July
Holdenby House**

Lyveden NT guided tour included.

Afternoon Holdenby House (Northants)

Guided House Tour. Garden visit + Tea and Cake

Cost pp £35.00

£44.00 for non-National Trust members

Lyveden NT (nr Oundle) and



Tuesday 22nd August Stowe School (Bucks)



Tea and cake on arrival

Guided tour of Stowe School

Very short drive to Stowe NT

Opportunity to purchase lunch (free flow) or picnic

Guided historical garden tours included or wander at will.

Cost pp £24.50

£37.50 for non-National Trust members

Booking Procedure for Outings

PLEASE DO NOT PAY FOR TRIPS BEFORE YOUR BOOKING HAS BEEN CONFIRMED

Bookings can be made at Open Meetings, through the St Ives Cambs. u3a web page, or call Sue Belcher 01480 497592 (Strictly for members with no internet)

When booking a trip on the web page, click on the blue envelope which can be found either on the top right of the Outings Group on the St Ives web-page or at the very bottom depending on whether you are using a laptop or iPad /iPhone.

Please **DO NOT** click on 'CONTACT' at the very top of the page.

ALWAYS BOOK BEFORE PAYING.

All bookings will be confirmed.

BACS payment preferred please, either online or by going into your branch

Payment online details: - St Ives (Cambs) U3A Social Account Sort code: 40-16-08

Account: 74557352

Ref: U3A membership number and

trip name

If no alternative, cheques to be made payable to: St Ives (Cambs) U3A Social Account

Payment to be made at least a month prior to the trip. (Bookings made within a month should be paid ASAP)

Invitation to a Norris Museum Coach Trip

Friends of the Norris Museum have a coach trip to Newark and the Civil War Museum on Wednesday 14th June which is open to U3A members.

Further details from myself on 01480 497592 or email me at

redwell18@gmail.com

Sue Belcher

Trip Report by the Outings Group – Gunby Hall and Tattershall Castle

Perhaps it was a touch of March madness to plan a trip to the Lincolnshire Wolds, so early in the year.

My fears were realised when two days prior to our visit, Gunby Hall was closed due to high winds. The suggested alternatives of Skegness or Lincoln, held little appeal in cold windy weather.

Amazingly, the sun shone and the daffodils enhanced the pretty villages with their cheerful smiling nods as we drove along.

Properties designed to accommodate coach and horses always prove challenging for Dews executive coaches. Gunby was no exception.

It was the country estate for the quietly influential Massingbird family. The intimate rooms and homely decor with original furniture were topped off for me by original William Morris wallpaper showing scuffs

of family wear and tear.

A quick hot drink and on the road again. Just 25 mins to our next adventure - Tattershall Castle. Designed to display wealth, position and power, it was built by Lord Ralph Cromwell, Treasurer of England.

One of the earliest examples of English Medieval brickwork. Recent research and new dating shows it influenced Eton College and Hampton Court Palace. Dramatically saved from being dismantled, it was restored by Lord Curzon of Kedleston. Many of our group climbed the 149-step spiral staircase to

the battlements. This afforded spectacular views, even Lincoln Cathedral 18 miles distant.

A very popular day trip that surpassed our expectations.

Please join us for more adventures. Wendy, Sue, Lydia and Pam.



Theatre Group Group Leaders – Ron & Kathy Meadows

Wednesday 24th May The Mouse Trap, Milton Keynes

If you have not already booked to see **The Mouse Trap** and you would like to go, could you please let Kathy Meadows know.

Contact kathymeadows@hotmail.co.uk

Waiting List only

Wednesday 13th September Sister Act Cliffs Pavilion at Southend Matinee performance



Cost between £45 and £50

Wednesday 29th November Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Booking will open at May monthly meeting.



U3A Indoor Bowls

Group Leader – Barry Ward

The Indoor Bowls group held its season end Target Bowls competition on Wednesday 5th April which was won by Tony Brown won. The season's Champion League winner was John Holden and they were both presented with their trophies by Nick Brett, who is England's top ranked indoor bowler and member of Huntingdon Indoor Blows Club. Group Leader Barry Ward said that this year had been the best attended with the majority of last season's bowlers returning for more fun and games. It is hoped that the Group will reform for the 2023/24 season in September and further details will be posted in the magazine in due course.



League Winner John Holden



Target Bowls Tony Brown



U3A Indoor Bowls Members

Country Walking Group

Group Leaders - John & Linda

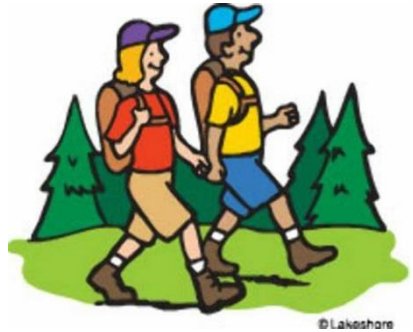
DeFries

Country Walking Group-Day out to Sheringham.

Country Walking Group are going on their annual away day, the first since lock down.

The coach has been booked for Wednesday 28th June 2023 from St Ives to Sheringham in Norfolk.

We will be leaving St. Ives from the bus station at 8-15 and the rainbow Co-Op at 8-30. Travelling time will be about 2 hours with a refreshment stop near Sheringham at Cley Marshes Bird Reserve.



The coach will be dropping off walkers to walk approx. 5 miles into Sheringham along the Norfolk Coastal Path, also called the Peddars Way.

Non walkers will be dropped off in Sheringham for a day at the seaside. Expected to return to St. Ives at approx. 6-30pm.

Price of excursion £20.00 per person. To book a ticket please send a message via the Country Walk Group page on the web site.

John & Linda DeFries

Elementary Italian Group - Group Leader Ann Jackson

The Elementary Italian Group is looking to welcome new members. We meet on Thursday mornings from 9.30-11.00 usually in café locations around St Ives or in one of our homes. We began as beginners approximately 3 years ago meeting on Zoom for at least a year. Currently our comprehension skills exceed our conversation skills which we are seeking to improve now we meet face to face. We have worked through the two BBC Talk Italian books and currently use BBC Buongiorno Italia as our core text, supplemented with Easy Italian Reader and Internet resources. If interested please contact Ann Jackson on the Groups page of the website.

Library newsletter

Engage Events at the Library (free).

Wednesday 3rd May 2pm to 3pm. "Cambridgeshire Beekeeping Association"

Wednesday 7th June 2pm to 3pm. "Holt Island Volunteers" sharing future plans for Holt Island

Book Clubs

We have a new book group starting on Saturday 3rd June at 11 am, in the Library. Subject matter is Sci Fi and Fantasy.

There are other book clubs. If you are interested, please ask at the desk.

Other Services

Free computer use for Library members.

Photocopying and printer services. There is a small charge for these.

Age UK give free health check - blood pressure, cholesterol etc, up to age 74.

Don't forget, you can renew or order a new bus pass, but best to book at the desk for this. Another free service.

Open Plus - the Library can be used when it is not staffed, during Open Plus+ hours. Your card can be given a free upgrade to use this service.

Looking forward to seeing more of you in our fantastic local Library.

Jeff Heather

If you are interested in joining a group, becoming a group leader, or have an idea for a new interest group, speak to Ian Greaves, Group Coordinator, at the open meeting or contact him by email: ianbradburygreaves@gmail.com or telephone: 07812159370

Our next issue will be a Reminder for July. Any items for inclusion to be with the editors by 17th June please.

Your Committee

Chairman – Brian Gilmour

Treasurer – Pat James

Secretary – Sheila Louth

Vice-chairman – Roy Moyser

Membership Secretary – Pat James

Beacon Organizer – Joy Cooper

Reception – TBA

Group Coordinator – Ian Greaves

Assistant Group Coordinator – Bruce Hanworth

Outings – Wendy Wagstaffe & Lydia Harris

Newsletter – John & Sue Ralph

St Ives U3A Groups

Full details of groups (including venues) are available on the Groups page of the St Ives U3A website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/st-ives-camb>
 The information here has been compiled from the website by Bruce Hanworth (Assistant U3A Group Coordinator). If anything is incorrect, please contact him at bruce.hanworth@gmail.com).

Groups	
Art Appreciation – Your Way	Needlecraft
Badminton	Outings
Birdwatching Group 1	Painting for Pleasure
Birdwatching Group 2	Petanque
Canasta	Philosophy
Country Dancing	Poetry
Country Walks	Science & Technology
Cribbage	Scrabble
Current Affairs	Shakespeare Appreciation
Digital Photography	Singing 4 Pleasure
French Intermediate	Sketchbook Art
French Advanced	Social Outdoor Bowls
German Intermediate	Spanish Conversation
Greetings Card Making	Swedish Beginners
Indoor Bowls	Table Tennis 1
Italian Improvers 2 (Elementary)	Table Tennis 2
Italian Improvers	The Painters
Italian Intermediate	Theatre Trips
Leisure Walks	Tuesday 12 Book Club
Local & Social History	Uke-Troupe
Music Appreciation	

Information on times can be found on St Ives Cambs. Website <https://u3ast-ives-camb>