

Su3aN



Sudbury Newsletter

u3a learn,
laugh,
live



Photo taken by a member of the Sudbury u3a Photography group

Chairman's message

A happy and healthy New Year to you all!

I am writing this in early January when there is still uncertainty about any new restrictions being imposed upon our lives. I would suggest that you should check with your group leaders and also on the website that activities and events are proceeding as planned.

Our AGM takes place on 22 February, please see separate article later in this edition. Having a full and changing committee is an essential element to a strong progressive u3a. The committee meets just six times per year so membership is not too onerous. Would you please consider contributing to our u3a by joining the committee? Nominations close on 11 February, so plenty of time for you to put yourself forward.

After the AGM we will be entertained by Robert Neal and "Harbour Lights Trio". The trio all sing and play a range of instruments such as concertinas, guitar, cello, banjo and melodeon bringing a light-hearted finish to our meeting.

We have plans for a busy 2022 and in addition to the regular monthly meetings, coffee mornings and group activities there will be holidays and field trips. We will be participating in the Sudbury on Show exhibition on 5 March, also in March we are planning a special meeting for new members. We will also have a group leaders meeting (date to be agreed) and u3a day 2022 will be on 22 September.

I hope you will get a lot of enjoyment from your u3a membership during 2022 and I look forward to seeing you at some of the activities planned.

Please note that the copy deadline for all future issues of Su3aN will be the 3rd of the month.

Brian Orton

Coffee morning - third Wednesday of each month

Our drop-in coffee mornings continue to be popular. They give an opportunity to meet some committee members and other u3a members in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Everyone is welcome - whether you are a new or prospective member, or you have been a member for a while. You may have some questions or you may just want to sit and chat. Coffee mornings are free and held on the third Wednesday of each month so our next meetings are: 16 February and 16 March. Venue: The Friends Meeting House, 22 Friars Street, Sudbury, CO10 2AA. Start time: 10.00am, finish around 11.30.

If you would like any further information you can contact me or any committee member.

Brian Orton

Next Newsletter

For the March issue please send your contributions by **Thursday 3 March 2022**.

If you miss the deadline we may not be able to include your copy. Please, wherever possible, send details by email as a **Word attachment to the email in Arial 12p font in plain text, 350 words maximum, to heavenly_white_one@yahoo.co.uk**

Alternatively handwritten contributions may be sent to:

Jean White, 64 Vicarage Lane, Acton, Sudbury CO10 0UQ. Tel: 01787 370654

Whilst every care has been taken in the compilation of this newsletter, errors and omissions are not the responsibility of the publisher or of the editor.

Opinions, where expressed, are not necessarily those of the publisher or the editor.

If a group isn't mentioned in Su3aN, please check your Membership Card or the Sudbury u3a website, for details of Leader and Telephone Number.

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Speaker's report for November



Charles Garland: Dad's Army - the nation's favourite comedy

Charles gave us an interesting and funny insight into behind the scenes of this favourite programme. Charles worked with Dad's Army creators Jimmy Perry and David Croft for over 35 years.

It was written by Jimmy Perry and David Croft, and originally broadcast on the BBC from 1968 to 1977. It ran for nine series and 80 episodes (although three episodes are still missing because in the 60s and 70s the BBC often wiped over tapes so that they could re-use them as tapes were expensive!). A feature film was released in 1971, also a stage show and a radio version based on the television scripts. The series regularly gained audiences of 18 million viewers.

Originally intended to be called *The Fighting Tigers*, *Dad's Army* was based partly on co-writer and creator Jimmy Perry's experiences in the Home Guard.

There are 7seven principal characters, Jimmy Perry called them ***The Magnificent Seven***.

Arthur Lowe as Captain Mainwaring was dismissed initially as he was an ITV actor not a BBC actor. Michael Mills gave in under pressure.

John Le Mesurier who played Sergeant Wilson wasn't sure at first as he was a ladies' man and preferred working with women. The cast is mostly made up of men. He said he would "think about it".

Clive Dunn, Corporal Jones, wasn't the first choice for the part as he was only 37. Jack Haig from "Allo Allo" turned it down, so it was given to Clive because he was such a fine character actor.

John Laurie, who played Private Frazer ("We're doomed, we're doomed!") was a great Shakespearean actor. He had a sort of love-hate relationship with the show' as, despite earning him a lot a money, he felt that a sitcom was beneath him.

Arthur Ridley, Private Godfrey. He was thrilled with the part and said it changed his life. He also wrote over 50 plays, "The Ghost Train" being the most famous.

Ian Lavender, Private Pike, was the youngest actor at 23. When the show finally came to an end he asked David Croft: "Was Sergeant Wilson really my dad?"

James Beck, Private Walker, was the part Jimmy Perry originally wrote for himself.

Frank Williams, Reverend Timothy Farthing, now aged 90. He had played a lot of church roles and was actually a member of the General Synod.

I have only managed to capture a small portion of Charles' talk but space dictates and I leave you with some of the catchphrases:

"You stupid boy."

"Don't panic!"

"Put that light out!"

"They don't like it up 'em!"

Helen Halton

Future Speakers

Tuesday 22 March 2022:

Please note this is a change from the one printed in your membership card as Stephen Poulter is unavailable in March. New Speaker is Andy Moore, Conservation Education Manager at Colchester Zoo and his talk is entitled "What does Colchester Zoo do? - A look at the past, present and futures of Zoos"

Tuesday 26 April 2022:

Speaker Celia Stephens "Being a Woman Racing Driver and Racing at Le Mans" The most prestigious classic car race in the world. Her experience of racing historic cars and she still is!

Colette Bentley

AGM - 22 February 2022

Our 2022 AGM will be held at Sudbury Rugby Club at 10.00 am on the 22 February.

In addition to electing the committee and setting this year's membership fee, we will be seeking the membership's approval to adopt the new Constitution which has been drawn up by the National Office and their legal advisers, and approved by the Charity Commissioners. The new constitution has substantial differences with the current edition. Major changes include the option to hold committee meetings and AGM's virtually should the need arise, and the length of service members may serve on the committee has been reduced. Copies of the new and existing Constitutions can be found on the website on the Policies page for you to read.

Nominations for the Committee can be made until 11 February. An Agenda and Nomination Form is included as a separate document with this Su3aN or alternatively it can be found together with the minutes of last year's meeting on the AGM page of our website.

We would like to see as many members as possible at the AGM - it is your opportunity to hear exactly how Sudbury u3a is performing and to ask questions, express your views and approve the election of the Officers and Committee members.

To bring a light hearted end to the AGM we will be entertained by Robert Neal and "Harbour Lights Trio". The trio all sing and play a range of instruments such as concertinas, guitar, cello, banjo and melodeon.

Brian Orton

Group News

New groups



Anyone wanting to join a new **Spanish Beginners group**, for those with little or no knowledge of the language but interested in learning something new, please contact Tony Lee at tony.s.lee@icloud.com or text to 07875 685504. Leave your name, membership number and contact details.

I would also like to launch the following new groups soon:

Portrait Drawing
Rock and Stroll Dancing
Stained Glass
Rummikub

However, due to the precarious situation with Covid, I am hesitating until our future is more certain (if it ever is!). So... watch for notices on our website, groups and activity noticeboard, and messages given out at monthly speakers' meetings.

Jennie Leech

Stained Glass taster sessions



I can offer again hands-on taster sessions in Stained Glass work during the month of February, involving a weekday morning class of approximately two hours. Each session will cost £5, which I give to two charities. If you are interested in producing a small item to take away please ring me on 07469 898283 or email tredis3@gmail.com

Mike Hall

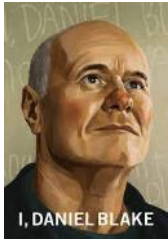
Film Group



A Happy New Year to Everyone

We meet on the last Friday of the month at 2pm at the Bridge Project, 20 Gainsborough St, Sudbury CO10 2EU.

As many of you are aware the Bridge Project is moving to the AFC Sudbury Football Ground at the end of February. We have therefore had to find a new venue to host the U3A Film Group, but have been fortunate to be able to book the Christopher Centre, also in Gainsborough Street, to show our films starting with the March 2022 film showing. It is a downstairs room that has a toilet close by and a kitchen for refreshments. We are still working out the logistics but hope to do this during January.



28 January:

We are looking to show 'I, Daniel Blake'. Daniel Blake (Dave Johns) is a 59-year-old widowed carpenter who must rely on welfare after a recent heart attack leaves him unable to work. Despite his doctor's diagnosis, British authorities deny Blake's benefits and tell him to return to his job. As Daniel navigates his way through an agonizing appeal process, he begins to develop a strong bond with a destitute, single mother (Hayley Squires) who's struggling to take care of her two children.



25 February: We will be looking to show 'Rocketman' starring Taron Egerton and Richard Madden. Young Reginald Dwight changes his name to Elton John and collaborates with singer-songwriter Bernie Taupin to become one of the most iconic figures in pop history. Set to his most beloved songs, it's the epic musical story of Elton John, his breakthrough years in the 1970s and his fantastical transformation from shy piano prodigy to international superstar.



25 March: We will be looking to show 'We Bought a Zoo' starring Matt Damon and Scarlett Johansson. After his wife's death, Los Angeles journalist Benjamin Mee (Matt Damon) decides to make a fresh start for himself and his two children and buys a house with a zoo attached to it. He then takes on the responsibility of renovating the zoo so that it can be opened for the public again.

Jennifer Filby

U3A Ten Pin Bowling - Strikes again!



Want a new social activity? Ever considered ten pin bowling? Even if you have little experience there is always friendly encouragement from others and you will meet and play with a different group of members on each occasion.

We meet regularly usually on the first and third Friday each month at Namco Leisure Centre, Freeport, Braintree. **Start time:** 10:30am.

Games are unlimited and play is for three hours, if desired, but we normally play for two hours (four games). Price for each session is £7 including ball, shoe hire and tea/coffee.

Next meetings: 4 and 25 February (18 February is school holidays) **then 11 and 25 March.** But please register to assist administration.

For more details contact Keith Nuttall (Group Leader).
Tel: 01787 464972 or email: keith.nuttall@live.co.uk

Table Tennis



Monday afternoon table tennis is changing to a Thursday Morning at 10.00am at the Stephenson Centre in Great Cornard from 6 January. I lead this group. The Monday morning group, led by Conrad, will still meet at 10.30am on Mondays. Both groups are filling up but if you are interested just pop in and see us or contact the Leader.

Lyn Gray

Tuesday Amblers

Meet at 10.15 for 10.30 start for all walks.



1 February 2022 – Hartest and Boxted: Parking behind the village hall or The Crown Pub (The Green, Hartest IP49 4DH) . The walk starts between the church and The Crown Pub. It is 3.4 miles across footpaths and fields with no stiles where views over the rolling hills open up. The pub should be open for those who would like some refreshment.
Leader Colette Bentley 01787 374249



1 March 2022 – Cavendish: Meet by the Church (The Green, Cavendish CO10 8BA) for a 3.4 mile walk around the village of Cavendish. The walk is across meadows and field paths with some short sections on quiet roads, passing both Cavendish and Pentlow Mills. There are no stiles.
Leader Amicie Thompson 01787 379291.

Thursday Amblers

Group Leader Roger Floodgate: 01787 312904

Thursday 24 February walk:

Our February walk will be at Lamarsh. This will be a 3.8 mile route with a mixture of road and field walking, offering some good views. There are no hazards. Will everyone meet and park at Lamarsh Community Village Hall please at 10.15am ready to set off at 10.30am. Postcode for the Village Hall is CO8 5EU. Walk leader is Colette Bentley.

Thursday 24 March walk:

Our March amble will be just over 3miles around the village of Bildeston. Leader will be Kim Smith who will be our guide for another informative, entertaining walk. Will everyone please meet in the Market Square (IP7 7EN) ready to leave at 10.30am.

If you have any queries contact me, Roger, on the above number.

Walking

Leaders:- Brian & Moira Orton. Mobile: 07508 093631 or 07928 092402. Landline: 01787 269432

Monday 14 February: Wickham St Paul

Meet: 9.45 for 10.00 start at Wickham St Paul Village Green. Parking round the green (not on it please) or limited parking at the village hall. Walk is 4.5 – 5 miles via Great Maplestead. Moderately hilly in parts. Good tracks and paths, a little road walking.

Leader: Paul Tetley 01787 269466

Monday 14 March:

To be advised keep your eye on the website!

u3a Sudbury Photography Group

Three members of the Photography group braved the elements on the afternoon of Tuesday 11 January to photograph the beautiful church (and one or two other buildings) in Stoke-by-Nayland. The rain temporarily relented so Bruce, Pamela and Martin were able to stroll down School Street admiring the timber framed houses until they reached the church. Photographs were taken in the gloom and after about 45 minutes we called it a day before the local mums came to collect their urchins from the primary school.

Bruce Clegg



Sudbury on Show Saturday 5 March 2022



Sudbury on Show is a biennial celebration of Sudbury's Community Organisations which helps to make our town such a good place to live. We have taken space at the event and it gives us an opportunity to showcase our u3a. The show will be at the Town Hall on 5 March and will run from 10.00 -15.00 . If you would be willing to help with our display please let me know. This is a free event and I hope as many members as possible will take the opportunity to visit. If you would like any further information please contact Brian Orton or any committee member.

Wearing of face masks

In view of the very rapid spread of the Omicron virus, from 10 December 2021 it has been a Government requirement that face masks should be worn in most indoor settings.

Therefore with immediate effect members attending monthly speaker meetings at the Rugby Club and Coffee Mornings at the Friends Meeting House are required to wear masks unless they have an exemption on health grounds.

When taking refreshments at meetings face masks may be removed.

Brian Orton

Holiday Group trip to Bletchley, Oxford and Blenheim November 2021



Holiday Group trip to Bletchley -Oxford - Blenheim. November 2021
This trip was organised by Jane Crumpton-Taylor and Eileen Jenkin and thanks to their preparation and research we were offered a diverse range of options to choose from for the three Oxford days. College tours, museums, art galleries, guided walks, suggestions for shopping, eating drinks or just exploring!

After making our individual choices we received a personalised itinerary with bookings and times arranged.

We met our coach and driver in Sudbury and were smoothly driven to Bletchley Park for a superb guided tour and talk and then onto our hotel, DoubleTree by Hilton near Thame which had good facilities, comfortable rooms and friendly staff.

The suggestion that we dined with different people every night gave us the opportunity to meet new people and get to know others better.

The coach took us into Oxford every morning, I opted for some college tours, the Ashmolean Tokyo exhibition, Sheldonian Theatre, Pitt Rivers and a few more!

Another day we had a 50 minute walk along the canal to the Perch pub (a welcome sight) for a lovely lunch then walked it off into the interesting area of Jericho and the Pitt Rivers museum.

We were so lucky with the weather, it was a pleasure just to wander and explore in our own time, the Ashmolean becoming a natural meeting point after a long day.

On our last day we visited Blenheim Castle. It was the first day of their Christmas market, lights and Nutcracker bonanza. The grounds were spectacular.

I am left with happy memories and the need to revisit Oxford.

Thank you Jane, Eileen and Richard for your care. Look forward to our next trip.

Pat Duke



Alan Turing