



u3a
Wadhurst
NEWS

September 2022

WADHURST u3a

Registered Charity No: 1160124

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*To contact a member of the Committee, please use the dedicated number
01892 710678 or the email addresses listed above.*

TO JOIN WADHURST u3a

Download a membership application form and a Gift Aid form
from the 'About Us' page on: www.wadhurstu3a.org.uk

You can either

print, complete the forms and return them with a cheque for the
annual fee of £25 to our membership secretary by post,

or

fill in the forms electronically, email them to our membership
secretary, and pay the annual fee of £25 online to Wadhurst u3a.

Further details are given on the application form.

Ring Sheila Jemmett at **01892 710678** if you have any questions.

ONLINE PAYMENTS TO WADHURST u3a

Lloyds Bank, sort code: 30-98-77, account number: 48499968,
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NEWS Magazine Editor: Philip Cheung

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Please email copy to the editor at: newsmag@wadhurstu3a.org.uk

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Member,

This issue is dominated by the death of Allan Newton, an exceptional member of Wadhurst u3a. I asked you to share your memories of him in the monthly mailshot and as you can read in the pages that follow, the response is quite overwhelming.

Having held the previous two birthday parties at the restaurants in Bewl and the Dale Hill Golf Club, we are celebrating our Ninth Birthday this month doing everything ourselves (well, as much as we can). You have been invited to help by bringing cakes, tray bakes, sandwiches ...etc. Thank you for the many offers. The idea is that by doing something for the party you will be more involved. Perhaps it also gives you pleasure to share your culinary skills with others. But let there be no misunderstanding: **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BRING ANYTHING. JUST COME AND ENJOY YOURSELVES!**

I may add that our policy has always been that members should enjoy a free cup of tea at meetings, and the Birthday and Christmas parties should be free to members. Thanks to our treasurers present and past, u3a Wadhurst have been able to do this while maintaining a healthy balance sheet in good and 'less good' times. The parties are some of the occasions when we meet to socialise. They are an important aspect of our u3a, as are the monthly meetings and the interest groups.

There will be an excellent talk by Mary Smith on 'A Schoolgirl's War' the week after the birthday party. Do not miss it. Mary Smith was the headmistress of Maidstone Grammar School for Girls. She has a wonderful story to tell. I heard her talk before.

Last month, Brian Freeland gave an excellent talk, delivered in his inimitable style, on the "Women of the Raj". He mentioned that he wrote a play, *Letters From the Hen House*, which shares the same historical background as "Women of the Raj". The Play Reading Group will be giving it a go this autumn. My guess is that reading

the play will bring the reader even closer to the feel of the place and the time.

September normally brings a fresh start even though we are no longer in school. I hope you will all enjoy the new term despite the current economic gloom.

With best wishes,

Philip Cheung

BIRTHDAY PARTY

***Friday 16th September
2.30 - 4.30 pm Commemoration Hall***

If you have not replied to the invitation by the deadline of 31st August, and would like to come, send me an email.

There may be spaces available.

AGM

***Thursday 20th October
2.30 Commemoration Hall***

To be followed by our October monthly meeting.

Pam Coyne, our membership secretary during the past three years, will be stepping down at the AGM. We thank Pam for her devotion to Wadhurst u3a and the welcome she gave to new members.

Allan Newton

2nd February 1939 - 13th August, 2022



When Allan Newton died earlier this month, Wadhurst u3a lost an inspirational member, and many of us lost a good friend.

Allan was born in Southampton where his father was a member of the four-man team who designed the Supermarine Spitfire. Almost certainly inspired by his father, Allan started his working life with British Aircraft Cooperation (BAC) at Filton after graduating from the University of Manchester with a BSc degree in Physics in 1960. In the twenty years that he spent with BAC, he became an expert in

the military applications of optics, especially lasers. His work at BAC Filton led to an MSc degree at the University of Bath in 1970. On leaving BAC in 1980, he had spells at various companies, before becoming an independent optical designer in 1988.

As one of the founding parents of Wadhurst u3a Allan became its first treasurer in August 2013. He served as database manager for many years and remained a trustee until 2020. He supported many interest groups with great enthusiasm and founded the Friendly Computers Group to help members improve their skills on computers, tablets and smart phones. The memories of him by u3a members in the pages that follow will testify that Allan truly *LEARNED, LAUGHED* and *LIVED* with his friends.

Allan married Rosemary, a registered nurse and midwife, in 1964. They lived in Bristol and St Neots before settling in Wadhurst in 1991. Rosemary predeceased Allan in 2014. Their son Tim lives in Wadhurst.

Memories of Allan Newton

Ken Turner writes: “One of the many recollections of Allan was his willingness to help in any way he could and as leader of the gardening group and later as Chairman I could always rely on him to help with slide projection and sound for the speakers etc. Allan was a good supporter of the garden group and always came to the meetings and on the various visits including my last trip to Devon last year to the garden at Stourhead when along with John O’Dwyer they insisted on pushing me in my wheelchair round the lake, a mammoth walk, much to the detriment of their own health I think. I shall miss him dreadfully - he was always on the end of the telephone if I needed advice or for a discussion.”

Jacqui Harman writes: “Allan and I first met nine years ago when, along with others, we volunteered to help form Wadhurst U3A. Allan became Treasurer and I became Webmaster. It soon became clear that due to the popularity of our U3A we would need to consider a more efficient and secure way of storing and handling the membership data and Allan and I decided a database was needed.

Although I was involved in the initial design it was Allan, in typical Allan fashion, who threw himself wholeheartedly into the creation of the database. This even included learning a new computer language and the writing of new software! Today 'Allan's database' helps to ensure the smooth running of our organisation including the easy access to membership information for communication.

Allan was also a member of my Family History group and we spent many an enjoyable afternoon discussing our findings, sharing information about our families and, in addition, cake and biscuits. Allan was very partial to a slice of cake with his cup of coffee; especially lemon drizzle cake!

Allan will be sorely missed by all and I feel privileged to have known and worked with him. Allan was a true gentleman.”

Sheila Jemmett writes: “Allan was always cheerful, with a can-do attitude which enabled him to change problems into opportunities.

When he persuaded me to take on the role of database administrator I had no idea what I was letting myself in for. I needn't have worried. Allan had written a detailed guide on 'what' and 'how-to'. He patiently explained the principles of the database (several times) and was always ready to help after a frantic 'phone call.

When Ken Turner stood down as convenor for the Gardening group and I took on the role it was Allan who had the 'techie' skills that enabled me to produce slide shows on a big screen for our members.”

Jean Turner writes: “My first real contact with Allan was when I became Membership Secretary and they introduced the new all singing and dancing database - fine for computer whizz kids but not for me but Allan was so kind and spent a lot of time with me and devised lots of ways to make it easy for me to operate the system with just a press of a button - magic. I did discover that Allan would do anything for Lemon Drizzle cake during our sessions. I will have fond memories of a kind generous-natured man.”

John Petrie writes: “Allan spent many hours with me when I was Treasurer of Mayfield u3a, installing the Membership system which Allan had designed for Wadhurst u3a. He was very generous with

his time and incredibly patient as I was a real beginner. Clearly his technical knowledge was extensive but this was never obvious thanks to his gentlemanly manner and ability to explain complicated procedures in a simple way.

A truly wonderful person.”

John O’Dwyer writes: “When I joined u3a nearly 6 years ago, soon after we moved to Wadhurst, I met Allan and we soon got chatting. We discovered several common interests.

My wife, Valerie, and Allan went to sister schools in Winchester and we were planning a visit to bring back those teen years.

Allan’s Grandfather and my Grandfather were both in the Indian Medical Service at the turn of the 20C serving mostly in the Northern States near to the Afghan border with outbreaks of cholera and typhoid a regular occurrence. Allan did a lot of research on this in the British Museum on behalf of both of us. We had decided that they probably met at that time.

We also had a common interest in gardens and went on all the gardening visits and holidays with u3a. We shared presentations to the Wine Group on Wines of the World from unusual countries and grape varieties. Ukraine and Canada spring to mind. Allan enjoyed seeking out an unusual and surprise bottle particularly on our trips with u3a. Some of the surprises I recall were a bottle of Mead from the Tower of London and special gin from Chapel Down.

We will miss him.“

Paul Brown writes: “Allan did not know the word No. Whatever the question thrown at him, and he had many, he would reflect, and if he did not know the answer, he would say he would investigate. He always loved to try and find answers to apparently insoluble questions. He had of course a very inquisitive mind.”

Pam Francis writes: “I remember Allan at the Gardeners Christmas Meal last year, sitting on a table with seven ladies. He was completely at ease, and a great host, always kind and considerate with lots of tales to tell.”

Norrie Hazell writes: "Richard and I remember Allan as a kind caring man, full of concerns for others. We will miss seeing Allan around, a pillar of the u3a."

Val Thompson writes: "I was extremely sad to learn that Allan had died. I was originally given Allan's name and details as someone who might be able to help with problems I was having with my laptop. I contacted Allan and found him to be an extremely pleasant man, who listened patiently to my problem. Although Allan could not help with that particular problem he recommended me to a small company in Crowborough who have been amazingly helpful with problems that I have had. I found that Allan was always ready to listen to problems and always gave very helpful advice on the telephone. If he wasn't able to help he always knew where to go for help.

I had put my name on a list requesting a "Computer Group" for some time. When we did eventually get one, thanks to Allan, it was on a day when I found it difficult to attend. When occasionally the day was changed, and I was able to attend, I found a friendly, helpful Group led by Allan and I really appreciated the few sessions that I was able to benefit from. Allan will be sorely missed by many people including myself."

Philip Cheung writes: "Allan brought to the Science & Technology Group meetings many of his inventions. At the most recent occasion, he showed us an infra-red camera that sees in the dark or through smoke, and tells if a house is well insulated or not. We were fortunate to have the inventor explain how his inventions worked, and to hear the humorous side of the almost inevitable but unexpected events that accompanied the testing of new equipment. Apart from the few months following the death of his wife Rosemary, Allan never missed a meeting of the group.

Apart from technical matters Allan and I had many conversations on our school days and how we chose our careers in different areas of physics. We talked about our experiences working with people of different nationalities, and the people we have both met. On every subject, Allan always had a funny story to tell.

We went on trips with *Gardening* and *Historic Building Visits*. We sat round the same table at *Wine Appreciation*, *Friendly Computers*, and meetings of the trustees, We set up the audiovisual equipment at monthly meetings and other functions. I witnessed Allan's real-time score board for *Pop the Question* come alive. He wrote frequently for NEWS magazine... I shall miss him."

A True Story Recounted by Allen Newton *at a Science & Technology Group Lunch*

reprinted from NEWS March 2020

When jetliners first entered commercial service in the late 50's, the danger of 'bird strikes', birds sucked into jet engines causing serious damage, became apparent. Manufacturers of jet engines met to address the issue and agreed that all engines should be submitted to a standard test - surviving a dead chicken tossed into the engine running at full tilt. After appropriate modifications, all the European engines soon passed the test. The Americans, however, encountered some difficulty in making their engines meet the requirement.

An expert was sent from Europe to see what the matter could be on the other side of the pond. At a test facility, the expert was shown the test plans, and having checked that there was nothing out-of-the-ordinary, was led to witness a live-test. A jet engine was powered up and an engineer was about to toss a dead chicken into its intake when the expert shouted:

"STOP ! WE NORMALLY UNFREEZE THE CHICKEN FIRST !"

SELECTED GROUP NEWS

Wadhurst u3a has 25 Interest Groups to offer. Here are news items from some of them. Do not hesitate to contact the convenor if you are interested in an interest group. Contact information can be found on the centrefold. You can also email the convenor using the 'Blue Bird' on the relevant group page in Wadhurst u3a's website:

www.wadhurstu3a.org.uk

ART AT TICEHURST

Kris Armstrong

We have been painting *en plein air* which has been very enjoyable. We have recently visited Walland Manor, Bodiam, a local farm and plan to go to Scotney Castle at the end of August. Tim Burnham is our tutor .





We meet once a month. Anyone wishing to join us when we paint outside is very welcome.

Contact:

Kris Armstrong

01580 200625



Liz Chap



GARDENING

Sheila Jemmett

Towards the end of June 35 of us headed north to Yorkshire for five days to take in the Royal Horticultural Society's newest garden, RHS Bridgewater and its older cousin RHS Harlow Carr. We were also able to visit Harewood House and Wakefield Cathedral and had an afternoon at leisure in Leeds. Our return journey included a lunch stop at the lovely town of Stamford. We were blessed with 'Goldilocks' weather throughout - neither too hot, nor too cold!



At our hotel just outside Bingley, originally the home of William Murgatroyd, Lord Mayor of Bradford. (Photo by Jan Whiteley)

Our July meeting in the Orchard Room of the Commemoration Hall was cancelled due to the excessive heat, but the subject of propagation was covered at our recent August meeting. This meeting was also used to start planning topics for the rest of this year. These will include planting for dry conditions and looking after house plants. We also discussed what gardens we would like to visit next year – watch this space, or the website for details!

Also in August we visited the 'Superbloom' meadow in the moat at the Tower of London. This new 'installation' around three sides of

Wadhurst u3a Interest Groups

Interest Group	Convenor	Day of Month	Time	Venue
Art at Ticehurst	Peter Sewell	last Friday	14.00	<i>check with convenor</i>
Art at Wadhurst	Sheila King	2nd Tuesday	10.00	Orchard Room
Art Appreciation	Margot Yeo		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Book Group One	Georgina Cheung		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Book Group Two	Janet Pelham		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Bridge	Lesley Thompson	Thursdays	10.00	Sparrows Green Pavillion
French Conversation	Paul Brown	2nd Monday	14.00	<i>check with convenor</i>
Friendly Computers	Philip Cheung		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Gardening	Sheila Jemmett	3rd Tuesday	10.00	Commem Hall
Historic Buildings	Paul Brown	<i>See website for latest news</i>		
Knit & Natter	Kate Metcalfe	1st Tuesday	14.30	<i>check with convenor</i>
Life Writing	Jessica Brown	alternate Tue	10.00	<i>check with convenor</i>
Mahjong	Norwill Hazell	2nd & 4th Thu	14.30	Sparrows Green Pavillion

Mindfulness & Relaxation	Sue Swift	4th Friday	10.30	<i>check with convenor</i>
Modern Architecture	Jane Austin	every 6-8 weeks		<i>check with convenor</i>
Play Reading	Philip Cheung		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Science & Technology	Philip Cheung	2nd Tuesday	14.00	Sparrows Green Pavilion
Scrabble	Juliet Conrad	2nd & 4th Tue	11.00	The Greyhound Inn
Table Tennis	Philippa Standley	Tuesdays	12.30	Uplands Sports Centre
Ten Pin Bowling	Lynda Emberson		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Theatre Visits	Lynda Emberson		<i>check with convenor</i>	
Ukulele	Iris Glover	Mondays	10.00	<i>check with convenor</i>
Walking	Sarah Parry	2nd Thursday	10.00	<i>check with convenor</i>
Wine Appreciation	David Austin	4th Wednesday	17.00	Carillon Cottage
Yoga	Sara Irwin	Mondays	9.30 / 11.00	Zoom
Uplands Sport Centre - contact Jane Austin for activities offered				

To email convenor: On the u3a Wadhurst website (see below) select the Group concerned. Click on the **Bluebird** icon (top right corner) to send an email.

To leave a message: ring **01892 710678**. State your name, tel number and the group(s) of

*** Consult u3a Wadhurst's website: www.u3asites.org.uk/wadhurst for up-to-date information.



At RHS Harlow Carr: A realisation with real crops and vegetables of the painting 'Summer' by Giuseppe Arcimboldo in 1563. (Photo by Jan Whiteley)

the Tower was obviously transitioning from early summer flowers to late summer flowers but although it still put on a good display, (I think) it probably dissuaded people from trying it at home. Some of us also hot-footed it to Fenchurch Street to take in the wonder of 'The Garden at 120'. This is an amazing garden at the top of an office block in Fenchurch Street. Free and open to all it is a surprisingly tranquil garden with stunning 360-degree views across London.

RHS Gardens Harlow Carr

Philip Cheung

During the Gardener's trip to Yorkshire in June, we visited RHS Harlow Carr just outside Harrogate. From our hotel, it was a 40 minutes drive through delightful minor roads in the North Yorkshire countryside.

We were divided into two groups for a guided tour of the gardens. I was lucky to be in the group where Chris Beard was the guide. Mr Beard happens to be the last chairman of the Northern Horticultural Society, who owned Harlow Carr from 1949 until 2001, when the NHS merged with the RHS. He knows the garden like the back of his hand.

Harlow Carr was developed as a spa by a 19th century owner, who built a hotel, a bath house, and gardens grew around all these. The bathhouse is now the library and exhibition centre, and the hotel is in the process of being transformed into 'something else'. Mr Beard

remembers bringing his teenage son to dances at the hotel.

‘Streamside’ is the feature that I enjoyed the most at Harlow Carr. Meandering through the garden, the stream is crossed by many bridges whose purpose is not ‘to take you to the other side’ but to lead you through the profusion of flowers that populate the banks of the stream.



Blue Meconopsis (Himalayan poppy) among Candelabra Primulas of all colours on the Streamside at RHS Harlow Carr.



Four municipal stone columns sit in a shady wood at RHS Harlow Carr.

There are thick woods on one side of the stream. In a clearing four tall stone columns stand in the shade of even taller trees. Mr Beard told us that they came from a municipal building in Harrogate that was demolished many years ago. The previous owners have wanted them back since but the columns refused to leave their new home.

Mr Beard had a surprise for us as he wished us a good journey back to ‘Wadhurst’. Someone asked: “Have you been there?” He answered: “Yes. My daughter lives in Tidebrook.”

We had lunch on the lawn under

the shade of trees. There were many visitors on that hot day in June but the garden gathered them all into its cool and calm embrace- quite a contrast from the hustle and bustle of the brand new Visitors Centre at RHS Bridgewater that we visited two days earlier.

A big thank you to Sheila Jemmett for organising a wonderful trip.

Superbloom

Lynda Emberson



Graham our driver for the day from Ham's Travel was able to successfully drop us all off just outside the Tower at about 10.30. Our tickets were for 11.00am which gave us time to find refreshments before heading for the entrance. Amazingly Graham managed to collect us all on the opposite side at 3.30pm with a 5 minute window as well.

The display seemed a little disappointing at first. We thought there would be an array of blooms, but of course with the very dry weather conditions we have been experiencing over the past two to three months it's a wonder the gardeners have been able to keep it going at all.

We soon realised as the group of 20 dispersed in



different areas that there was more to this than first met the eye. The gardener explained to me that it is all very much an experimental year. Not knowing what might take and what might not. They already know not to plant certain plants on the east side of the tower – next year it will be the west. The amount of sun these plants need varies. Some don't mind the dry conditions, but these wild flowers are doing such a good job for the pollenating insects.

We had time to wander 10 mins away to St. Dunstan's Hill where in the middle of all these modern office blocks stands the remains of an old church where a garden has emerged. Office workers come and sit in the peace and tranquility of the place at lunchtime.



St Dunstan's. A church was first built on the site of the garden in Saxon times, restored by St Dunstan in 960 AD and rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the Great Fire in 1697. Only the tower of the Wren church survived the Blitz.

After about an hour, we found some lunch and sat by the river enjoying the comings and goings of the boat traffic, and of course we had to have an ice-cream. A great day.

Many thanks once again to Sheila Jemmett for arranging our coach and tickets to Superbloom.

The Tower of London

John O'Dwyer

My visit with the Gardening Group to see Superbloom in the moat of The Tower of London brought back many memories. In 1958 I was stationed at the Tower for just one month as part of my National Service with The Royal Irish Fusiliers.

As by this time I was 'an officer and a gentleman!' i.e. I had qualified as a Second Lieutenant, I had to wear full uniform while on duty but if at any time I left the building I was expected to wear a dark suit, collar and tie, bowler hat and carry a rolled umbrella. Those were the regulations for officers posted to the Tower.

This was an interesting and privileged month particularly for a 19 year old. I attended the Ceremony of the Keys twice, which was the locking up of the Tower every evening, ate and drank well and generally enjoyed the experience. This was the luxury before the rest of my National Service which was spent in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

FRIENDLY COMPUTERS

Philip Cheung

I am taking over from Allan on a temporary basis. The group will meet again in September at a date to be fixed. Current members will receive an email from me to say when the meeting will be. New members should send me a message using the Blue Bird on our website.

Sheila Jemmett and I will continue help with smart phones, tablets and laptops. Please send me a message via the website on the things you would like you do, or learn to do better. I suggest spreadsheets as something worth looking at.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Philip Cheung

After the break in August, the group will meet again on Tuesday 13th September at Sparrows Green Pavilion. Please check the website for the programme for the coming months.

PLAY READING

Philip Cheung

In the coming months, we shall be reading:

<i>The Real Inspector Hound</i>	by	Tom Stoppard	
<i>A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian</i>		Tanika Gupta	adapted from a novel by Marina Lewycka about Ukrainians in the UK.
<i>Letters from the Hen House</i>		Brian Freeland	more about “The Women of the Raj”, Brian’s talk to Wadhurst u3a in August

If you would like to read one or more of these intriguing plays, contact me using the information on the centrefold or through Wadhurst u3a’s website. I shall then let you know the time and venue of the readings.

Join us for some gentle exercise, followed by free tea/coffee & biscuits and, as always, some friendly chat and lively conversation.....

Venue: Uplands Sports Centre (Studio)

Exercise Class: 20-20-20 (low impact aerobics/weights/ stretching)

Days: Tuesdays at 11am & Thursdays at 10am (one hour)

Contact: Jane Austin on 07837 958867



HISTORIC BUILDING VISITS

Paul Brown

It has certainly been a difficult year as many members were still very cautious about coming on trips in a bus. I did set out a plan for the year but several trips had to be cancelled for lack of numbers. The proposed visit to the Brighton Pavilion in February and the March visit to the Temple Church in London.

Our first trip, in April, was to the Weald and Downland Museum which was well subscribed. The weather was great and the bus driver was a guide to the sights on the way there as we passed some famous estates.

In May we took a boat trip down the Thames from Westminster Bridge to Greenwich. We were lucky as the bus driver managed to pick us all up in the centre of Greenwich. The alternative was two parking areas for buses some distance away on the edge of town.

In June we had to cancel the trip to Loseley House again due to a lack of numbers. However, in July, although only 15, we went ahead with an enjoyable trip to Ham House as the deficit was covered by the surplus on a previous trip.

The trip in August to Penshurst Place has also been cancelled as only two members wished to go.

The trip on public transport to Temple Church on 21 September will go ahead. For October the Houses of Parliament visit is still in doubt as currently there are only three names on the list.

So you might reasonably ask why do we not organise a mini bus when the numbers are low? The Wadhurst Community bus no longer operates (the feedback also was that it was very uncomfortable). When I obtained 3 quotes from minibus companies their charges were higher than Ham Travel.

My job as convenor for the group is nearly finished for the year. I have advised the Committee that I will not undertake this responsibility for next year.

Ham House

Jan Whiteley

An overcast day but pleasant after some very hot days. We managed to navigate our way to Richmond, although a bit slow as we neared our destination, probably due to the Rail Strike, which meant more traffic on the roads!

Ham House is situated very close to the Thames and is a Grade I listed building owned by the NT, in a quiet setting.

We arrived in time to join the Garden History Tour with a very informative guide who took us around all the main areas of the grounds and gardens, which because of the excessive heat in previous weeks (35-40), didn't look as lush as it would do normally unfortunately.

However the Formal Cherry Garden with diamond shaped parterre with lavender and clipped topiary was magnificent, with a splendid original statue in the centre which had been discovered in another part of the grounds! Other statues and wooden benches are very good replicas, but this is the only original statue found.

The walled garden was very colourful in comparison to other brown areas, and the newly planted orchard was beginning to take shape.

Flowers, fruit and vegetables looked fantastic and this is the only area to get watered, as the fruit and veg are used in the Orangery Café, where we ended up and where most of us had lunch on the terrace overlooking the Cardoons, Red Chard, Roses and Sunflowers.

Very relaxing and time for a good chat with everyone.

Ham House was built in 1610 in the Stuart style (James I) and is undergoing a massive Conservation Restoration of the interior.

It has an Icehouse and its own dairy herd and has featured in many films, including *Never Let Me Go* with Carey Mulligan, Andrew Garfield and Keira Knightly (2010) and *Anna Karenina* in 2012.

It was once very opulent and grandiose and the centre of power and fashion in the C17th.

The bathrooms, delft tiles, library, kitchen, furniture and huge portrait paintings (unsigned by the artists at that time), were unique, even to the decorative metal window openings!

All in all a very enjoyable and laid back day out and somewhere a lot of members hadn't been to before, which is always a bonus

Paul Brown: Many thanks for additional help with Ham Travel and Financial Matters.

LIFE WRITING

Jessica Brown

Gwenda Morland was a member of the Life Writing group as well as a dedicated quilt maker. Before she died in February she asked us to finish off a long-term project, a quilted version of Henri Rousseau's painting, Tropical Forest with Monkeys.



Eileen Ramm and I finished off the border and the quilt is ready to give to Gwenda's daughter Heather when she comes over from New Zealand in October.

A Poem

Sally Warlow

I lie on my bed, looking out on the round green leaves of the catalpa tree outside my window.

There is a summer hush on the garden.

The birds are twittering gently but the air is still.

Nothing stirs in the herbaceous borders.

I know the round pink heads of the roses in the beds in front of the house glow in the sunshine

And I can see the large white heads of the roses growing on the garden wall.

I cannot see the splendid green trees growing beyond the yew hedges that surround the centre of the garden,

Or the swing and trampoline on the lawn between the trees,

But I know there is a copper beech, some green-leaved shrubs and two white petalled potentilla.

This was written one afternoon as I lay in my bed suffering with a sore throat and the general misery of Covid. I had been stricken while visiting my younger daughter who lives in a lovely old house with a beautiful garden in Oxfordshire, and I had felt the need to express the feelings of general contentment that the beauty of the house and garden always instil in me - even on my sick bed.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month, at 2.30 pm.

Sep 22	A SCHOOLGIRL'S WAR - Mary Smith
<p>The talk tells the story of wartime school life using some recently discovered paintings from an art teacher who documented the lives of school girls and their teachers as WW2 unfolded. The talk includes a selection of these paintings together with some anecdotes from wartime pupils.</p>	
Oct 20	THE JEWELLERY OF THE DUCHESS OF WINDSOR - Janie Ramsey
<p>Her magnificent jewellery, designed by the 20th century most iconic jewellers and sold for record prices, still fascinates today. And the list of who bought some of the pieces, and what they had to pay, is equally fascinating. Janie Ramsay speaks as a retired director of Sotheby's who has researched the history of the jewellery when they were auctioned after the Duchess's death.</p>	
Nov 17	THE HISTORY OF PANTOMIME - Pete Allen
<p>What is it about Pantomime that attracts us to this strange concoction of fairy tales, dance, jokes, songs and cross-dressing? And what is it really like to play the back end of a Pantomime Cow? All this, and the answer to whether something really is behind you will be answered in this festive Talk about what has become one of the great British Christmas traditions.</p>	
Dec 15	<p style="text-align: center;">❄ ❄ ❄ CHRISTMAS PARTY ❄ ❄ ❄</p>

Captions to photos by Jan Whiteley on the back cover.

Clockwise from top left:

RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Harrogate;

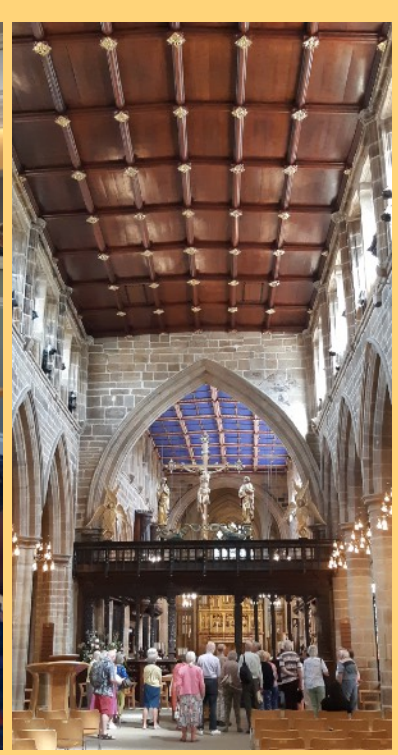
Sheila Jemmett receiving a present from the group;

Wakefield Cathedral;

Hill Close Gardens, Warwick;

inside the dome of Leeds Corn Exchange;

RHS Garden Bridgwater, Salford.



**North
Yorkshire

June
2022**

