

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 114234**

Woodhall Spa

**u3a** learn,  
laugh,  
live



### **CHAIRMAN'S CHAT**

What glorious weather, unless of course, you don't like the heat, watering the tomatoes or swimming in the sea. I hope you are all managing to have a holiday somewhere. Woodhall Spa seems a popular place.

The Committee have been working hard to provide activities for the u3a members. The Outings' Group have organised a coach trip to Sledmere which has been well supported and there is talk of a return to Hemingford Abbots, always a delightful day.

The new website has been launched and is being populated by the group leaders. It also has the email addresses for members of the Committee. Please use them to contact individuals. Stef Lorenz has volunteered to be a member of the Committee and to arrange the speakers for the monthly meetings.

The National Office has published advice to local u3as on running meetings and outings during the present pandemic and we shall of course be following the advice published by the government as well as consulting Coronation Hall.

The Committee will complete a risk assessment and consider additional measures. We shall let you know how this will affect individual members and the advice will be circulated after our Committee meeting in mid August.

Malcolm Capps

## IN THE LOOP

### NATIONAL NEWS

A Reminder to Be Alert About Phishing and Other Scams similar to those experienced by two of our members, who have given permission to alert others by sharing.

- A u3a member got in touch with us to tell us she had received a phishing email supposedly from Norton, an anti virus software company, about payment to renew an account she does not have. It says that they will deduct over £220 unless she cancels within 48 hours. If you receive an email like this, from anyone, please don't click on the links and please take independent advice before paying any unexpected requests for money.

- Another u3a member got in touch re a company who had taken extra money out of her bank account without her knowledge. The company involved specialises in products aimed at older adults. She contacted the bank who stopped any further charges on the card from the company and gave advice on what to do next. Eventually the company paid back the money.

For support, tips and advice please go to Barclays Digital Wings initiative. You do not have to bank with Barclays – they have information on scams. Follow the link below – sign up and when asked, your code is U3A (in capitals).

<https://digital.wings.uk.barclays/register>

### ON A LIGHTER NOTE

#### WORD PLAY

- Students who study medieval history are living in the dark ages
- I've lived a dream life or did I imagine it?
- He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
- The invention of the wheel was followed by a revolution.
- Housework can't kill you, but why take a chance?
- Optimistic gardeners always look to the fuchsia
- I have a split personality said Tom, being Frank.
- I've been selling canoes just to keep afloat.
- Kids eat their homework. Their teacher told them it was a piece of cake.
- I changed my password to '14days' but it was too weak.
- I bought some Harry Potter games. They were a quid each.
- Pluto missed the solar system party because he didn't planet right.



#### THE WAY I TELL 'EM!

A funeral service is being held for a woman who has just passed away.

At the end of the service, the pallbearers are carrying the casket out of church when they accidentally bump into the wall jarring the coffin.

From within there is heard a distinctive moan. Putting the casket down, they remove the lid and find the woman is still alive... she lives for another ten years and then dies again.

Once again there is a church service and at the end as the casket is being taken out by the pallbearers the husband cries out "Watch that wall"....

When I went to lunch today, I noticed an old lady sitting on the park bench, sobbing her eyes out.

I stopped and asked her what was wrong; she said "I have a 22 year old husband at home, he makes love to me every morning and then gets up and makes me breakfast"

I said to her "Well, why are you crying with such a caring man"

She went on "He makes me homemade soup for lunch and is a wonderful cook, then in the afternoon he makes love to me for several hours"

I said to her "I cannot see what you have to cry about"

She said "For dinner each evening he makes me a gourmet meal with wine and wonderful desserts then takes me to bed and makes love to me until we fall asleep"

Getting quite exasperated I said "Surely you have nothing to cry for most women would love to be in your place"

Then she blurted out " I can't remember where I live" .....

### **And finally:**

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately their activities had been limited to meeting a few time a week to play cards.

One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time.... but I just can't think of your name!.... I have racked my brains, but cannot remember it. Please tell me your name"

For a few minutes her friend just sat there and stared back at her. Finally she said "How soon do you need to know?"

That's all folks .... Andrew Zawada

### **A MESSAGE FROM GROUPS' CO-ORDINATOR**

It has been a long time since groups have been able to meet in person, and although some groups have been able to resume their meetings/activities already, others have felt unable or hesitant to do so and of course we must leave it to the group members to decide when they feel safe enough to restart.

I hope those groups who are still in lockdown will soon feel comfortable enough to resume their meetings, and I would urge Group Leaders to contact those in your group to assess their opinions, and perhaps group members could contact their leader to enquire if/when you can restart. If it's a

group which can hold a meeting outside then perhaps you could share the sessions between you in your gardens.

If I can help in any way then please contact me at [groups@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk)

Val Shurben  
Groups' Coordinator



### **JULY GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ ( answers on back page)**

1. Actor Peter Capaldi played Malcolm Tucker in which TV Political Sitcom between 2005 -2012?
2. Green Eggs & Ham, The Lorax and The Cat in the Hat, are all children's books written by which author?
3. In the May 2021 by-election, Gill Mortimer became the first Conservative and the first woman to take which traditionally Labour seat in the North East?
4. Which player won the 2021 World Snooker Championship, beating Shaun Murphy in the final?
5. What name is given to the coil of earth left by an earthworm?
6. What is the name of the Capital City and chief port of Puerto Rico?
7. The films: Reservoir Dogs, Pulp Fiction and Django Unchained are all movies made by which US Film Director?
8. What name is given to the re-establishment of the British Monarchy in 1660?
9. What is the standard monetary unit of South Africa?
10. What is the first name of the sister of The Duchess of Cambridge who was the chief bridesmaid at the Royal Wedding?
11. Domingo is the Spanish word for which day of the week?
12. What name is given to the scientific study of fossils?
13. Which aristocrat gave his name to the code of rules followed in boxing?
14. Sisters, Regan, Goneril and Cordelia appear in which play by William Shakespeare?
15. Gin is traditionally flavoured with the berries of which tree?
16. Which is the only venomous snake native to the UK?
17. The Stadium of Light is the home ground of which Football Club?
18. The Giant's Causeway in County Antrim, Northern Ireland is made up of 40000 interlocking columns formed from which volcanic rock?
19. In the Bible what was brought back to Noah by the dove released after the flood in order to find dry land?
20. A branch of the Victoria & Albert Museum opened in 2018 in which Scottish Town?

# News from Groups

## FIVE MILE WALKERS GROUP

There was a change of landscape for the Five Mile Walkers this month. Carmel Sefton our walk leader began the walk from Bracebridge Heath car park but soon a view over the Witham and Trent Valley was revealed. From the Lincoln Edge you can see Lincoln spread below, the cooling towers on the Trent and spires of the local villages.



The weather was sunny without the usual heat haze. Down the hill we crossed the old Lincoln to Grantham railway and reached Bracebridge Church which has been identified as being mentioned in Domesday and has a squint said to be used in medieval times by lepers to view the host during the mass. The thrifty people of Bracebridge used old coffin lids to repair the walls of their church.



Reaching the bridge by the Plough we then walked south on the river banks. Habitat is gradually improving. At one time the river was a green canal with mechanically sculpted grass banks and little other vegetation. Now it is beginning to recover with rushes, yellow water lilies and the odd willow bush. The River Witham is a green tongue which reaches into the heart of Lincoln. Otters have been seen near the city centre and we saw three herons and two swans with five cygnets.

After a short rest, we crossed the Brant Road and started to climb back to the top of the Edge. Some of the fields on the Edge are so steep that they are still left for hay and grazing, but even this requires careful manoeuvring with a tractor. We then followed the Viking Way back along the Edge to Bracebridge Heath.



Malcolm Capps.  
Photos: Les Wylde



## BIRD WATCHING GROUP



The group has met twice since the last newsletter was published. On the 25th June, five of us met at Gibraltar Point and were wowed by the variety of birds we saw which included geese, swans, heron, oystercatcher, spoonbills and surprisingly a fox. The fox was enjoying a few moments sunbathing by the waters edge not far from a group of geese. They seemed to be ignoring one another. Afterwards, we enjoyed coffee and a bite to eat in the visitor centre.

On the 23rd July five of us met at the RSPB reserve at Frampton Marsh. Among the birds we saw were grebe, oystercatcher, spoonbills, reed warbler, cormorants and black tailed godwit.

The wardens at the reserve were very excited as a Pacific golden plover had been spotted on the reserve.



This is their report "We have an unusual visitor to the reserve at the moment. In the winter we get thousands of golden plovers sat on the fields at the reserve. But this is not an ordinary golden plover. This is a Pacific golden plover. A related species, which nests in North Siberia and West Alaska. They migrate to South Asia and Australasia, but this one has got a bit lost and wound up with us."



We very much enjoyed seeing the two buoys which have been painted by artists facilitated by Transported Art Group and are part of the Boston Buoys trail launched to celebrate the town's heritage and maritime connections. If you want to see the other six that are part of the trail, google "[transportedart.com](https://transportedart.com)" and click on the link for the Trail Map.



We left the RSPB site in search of coffee and cake at The Sack Store.

This group is all about looking for birds in lovely surroundings, enjoying the fresh air and wildlife, making friends and enjoying coffee and cake! You don't have to be an expert, I'm certainly not, but if you enjoy any of the above, why not join us at our next meet up?

Ann Fletcher

## **WOODHALL SPA u3a 6 DAY SCOTTISH HOLIDAY WTH LOCHS AND GLENS IN JUNE 2021.**

( photos on email)

Several U3A members stayed at the Highland Hotel in Fort William. The weather and hospitality were excellent and the holiday included an iconic ride on the Jacobite Steam train from Fort William to Mallaig on the West Highland line.



It also included a sail on Loch Ness and visits to Oban, Glen Nevis, Isle of Skye and Eilean Donan Castle.

A good time was had by all.

Irene Derwent  
Group Leader

## CAN YOU HELP A FELLOW u3a MEMBER

Hi I am a member of Hykeham U3A as I live just outside Lincoln.

I am asking for your help please.

4 of us wish to come to Woodhall Spa for the 40s weekend next year. We are trying to find accommodation either B and B, Airbnb, hotel anything really but everywhere seems to be booked which I know is not surprising given that last year and this year have been cancelled.

If you know of anyone who could help with accommodation either for 1 night or 2 for next year I would be very grateful if you would let me know on the email address below.

We are all adult non smokers.

Many thanks,  
Pauline Flower

[glynflower@icloud.com](mailto:glynflower@icloud.com)

## AUGUST SPEAKER – SIMON GILBERT

Simon studied singing with the first singing teachers of world famous soprano Joan Sutherland, who he had the privilege of singing with in August 1972 and with the legendary tenor, Luciano Pavarotti the following year at The Edinburgh Festival.



He later played a leading role in Showboat with Cleo Lane at The Adelphi Theatre, London, and the following year became leading man to Ginger Rogers in the musical Mame at The Drury Lane Theatre. This led to being picked by United Artistes as the singing voice for Peter O'Toole in the film Man of La Mancha, specifically for the great song 'The Impossible Dream'.

From the early 1980s till 2010 he ran a highly successful musical touring company, Spun Gold Productions, putting on more than a dozen highly successful shows across the spectrum of popular and classical music at leading theatres across the UK.

After a successful recording contract with Pegasus Records, he started a new career in 2008 giving musical talks to the public and private sector which include songs from his career, and have proved very successful across all the home counties.

His latest exciting adventure is "Let the People Sing!" which involves The Community Singers, a choir group based in Enfield and performances of choral renditions of great musical and show tunes.

Zoom link will be sent out at the beginning of the week of the 2 nd.



**FUTURE EVENTS**

DATE	TOPIC/MEDIUM	SPEAKER
5th August	<p>‘Another Opening, Another Show’</p> <p>This is a unique, anecdotal account of Simon’s exciting career singing opposite Joan Sutherland and Luciano Pavarotti at The Edinburgh Festival. Cleo Lane in ‘Showboat’ at London’s The Adelphi Theatre and Ginger Rodgers in ‘Mame’ at the Drury Lane Theatre.</p> <p>Songs are included in this programme.</p>	Simon Gilbert
2nd September	<p>‘Sing it Loud’</p> <p>Liz leads acapella community choirs around Lincolnshire, including the fun and lively group in Woodhall Spa. With the strong belief that singing is for everyone, and that anyone can sing, she will help us blow away our lockdown cobwebs with an interactive session of songs and laughter.</p>	Liz McIntosh
21st Sept	<p>Coach trip to Sledmere House &amp; Gardens, Driffield.</p> <p>£35 cost includes coach fare, driver's tip, entrance fee and a guided tour.</p> <p>Coach departs 8am and returns from venue at 4pm</p> <p>Payment must be made by cheque by 16th July.</p> <p><b>**FULLY BOOKED**</b> Reserve List Held</p>	Outings and Theatre Group
7th October	<p>‘Hedgehog Street’</p> <p>Jane runs the Timberland Hogspital and will help us understand more about hedgehog ecology, behaviour and conservation. As a species under threat, it is vital that we all do our bit to help preserve these lovely animals.</p>	Jane Marriott
4th November	<p>‘A History of Jive’</p> <p>Join Claire and Neil of Boston Jive for a history of dance through the years. Enjoy a demonstration of dances from the 40s and 50s and take a chance to relive your youth by taking to the floor.</p>	Claire and Neil Seabrook

## FINALLY A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR.....

There are more entries from other groups this month as we move with some amazing photos.

If you are reopening your groups, please let the other members know, tell us and show us what you are doing.

The Committee are looking at new ways to get information on Woodhall Spa u3a out there, including Facebook. We would like your opinion on whether you think it would be of benefit to WSPu3a. In the next week or so you will receive a short survey. Please complete and submit. It will show as coming from the new corporate Woodhall Spa u3a email address for the Communication Officer [infotech@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk](mailto:infotech@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk).



So I look forward to hearing what you and your group have been up to, any suggestions for things you want see in the Newsletter, and also see your photos, poems , jokes ,quizzes, etc.

Closing deadline for contributions (which should be no more than 500 words or shorter and photos JPG format sent as a separate file not embedded in a word document please). Please remember to send the names of those in the photos after obtaining their permission to do so.

Contributions must be received by 5.00 pm Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to the Editor's new Woodhall Spa u3a email address:  
[newsletter@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@woodhallspa-u3a.org.uk)

Thank you.

Your Editor Helen

## JULY 21 QUIZ ANSWERS

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The Thick of it   | 10. Pippa                  |
| 2. Dr. Seuss         | 11. Sunday                 |
| 3. Hartlepool        | 12. Palaeontology          |
| 4. Mark Selby        | 13. Marquess of Queensbury |
| 5. Cast              | 14. King Lear              |
| 6. San Juan          | 15. Juniper                |
| 7. Quentin Tarantino | 16. Adder                  |
| 8. Restoration       | 17. Sunderland             |
| 9. Rand              | 18. Basalt                 |
|                      | 19. Olive leaf/ branch     |
|                      | 20. Dundee                 |