

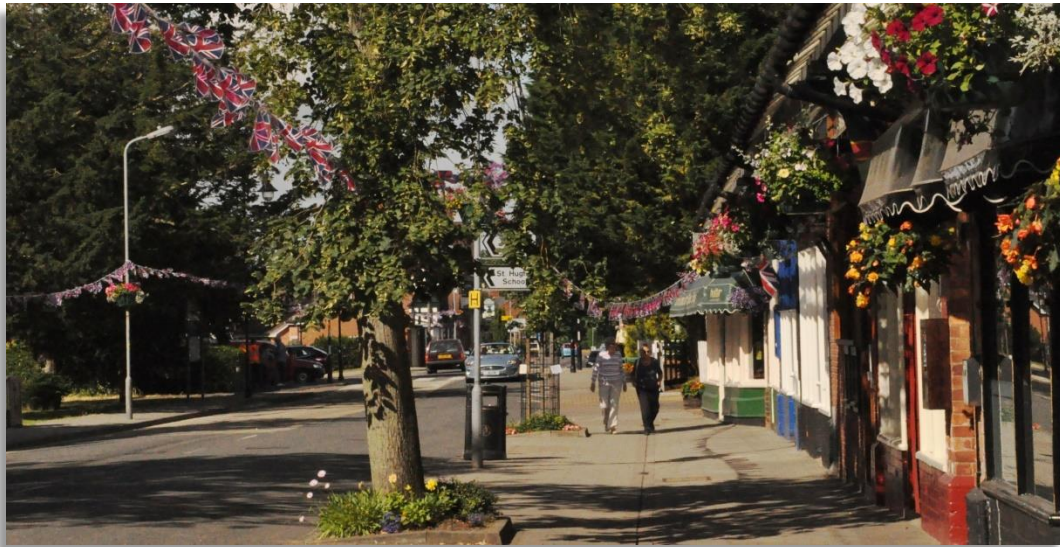


u3a
40th Anniversary



WSPU3A Newsletter

September/October
2022



The Broadway

Photo by Ced Shurben

The Committee's Briefs

Contact the Committee

You can use this link to send a message to any of our Committee:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/contact>

Chairman's Chat

Summer is ended, and those of us who remember our schooldays will recall that feeling of a new year: new teachers, new books, new subjects, which lasted at least until the first break.

Those who attended university will remember that glorious riot of Fresher's Week. Sadly, it seems to have become taken over by the authorities and lost its former delightful anarchy.

Malcolm Capps – Chairman

So what of the u3a? Perhaps now is the time to make a fresh start, to join an existing group or set up a new group? When I talk to members I am always fascinated by their interests and expertise. Perhaps you would like to share it with others? The new TAM magazine mentions sailing, archaeology, and a group known as Pubs and Churches, and Oxford u3a has twelve Latin groups!

"Si non nunc, tunc quando?"

Groups News

There are still spaces for more members in lots of our groups and remember if there is a waiting list, then please add your name; when we have enough people showing an interest we can start a new group.

There are always blank sheets on the Groups' table, so if you have a hobby or interest but there is no group then please take a sheet, add the subject in the box with your details and we can see if there are other like-minded members who would like to join you. This is, after all, how all the

groups started. Alternatively contact me (details on our website) or speak to me at the monthly meeting.

I am afraid that once again I have to ask that you PLEASE let your group leader know if you are unable to attend the group's meeting. They go to a lot of trouble on your behalf, so please be kind to them.

It is also worth noting that if you don't contact them for three consecutive months you are automatically taken out of the group.

Val Shurben – Groups' Coordinator

Groups List

You can use this link to find a current list of the groups we support, and how to join up:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/groups>

National u3a

The u3a National Archive

After a pause brought about by the pandemic and the 40th anniversary, I'll be resuming my activities on creating the u3a Archive and would welcome any input from Woodhall Spa members, particularly from those with experience of archives and information management.

Michaela Moody

Online u3a

Find out more:

You can use these links to search for ways of furthering your interest in specific subjects, or even take part in some competitions:

Our own WSPU3A website

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/welcome>

u3a Radio Podcast

The monthly podcast showcases the amazing things happening across the movement. Have a listen here.

<https://youtu.be/Qn6orpWnFqQ>



Coming Soon

Upcoming Events list

You can use this link to find more details on all the events in our diary:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/events>

October 6th

2:30pm to 4pm
Coronation Hall

'Masters of Mirth' An affectionate look at some favourite Music Hall laughter makers with examples of their acts and famous monologues. Our speaker, Mike Storr, is a Freeman of the City of Lincoln and has a long fascination with the Victorian and Edwardian music hall .

Around the Groups in 30 days

Aviation and Military History

Malcolm Perks has 'volunteered' to return as the Group Leader, to be assisted by Mac McKendrick and Peter Wilkinson. Thanks are due to Mac, Peter and Andy Lister, for their efforts in keeping the Military History Group alive when it was leader-less, by combining it with the Aviation Group.

Malcolm marked his return with a well-received presentation on unusual historic aircraft for our September meeting.

We continue to meet at 2pm on the first Wednesday of every month at St Peter's Hall. The new programme is evolving and features "The Life of Horatio Nelson" on 5th October, which builds on a recent presentation on the Royal Navy of the 18th Century, including HMS Victory.

The group is well-supported by members with diverse interests but new members are also welcome.

Andy Lister



The Destruction of "L'Orient" at the Battle of the Nile, 1 August 1798 By George Arnald

1. National Maritime Museum

2. Royal Museums Greenwich, Public Domain,

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2696347>

Sew and Sew

6 months ago it was decided to hire Roughton Village Hall as a venue for the Sew and Sew Group. This has proved to be very successful and we are now looking forward to the Autumn and Winter months. The group meets on the second Monday of every month from 10 – 12pm. Members are working on a wide variety of projects including quilts, cushions, bags, storage items, embroidery and soft toys.



Quilt by Judy Binks



Quilt by Barbara Haines



Quilt by Judy Binks

We do have a couple of vacancies so, if you enjoy sewing, chatting and sharing ideas, please come and join us.

Joan Willard – Group Leader



Iron Caddy and Pouches by Carmel Sefton

Outings

Southwell

This month the Outings Group enjoyed a very interesting visit to Southwell Workhouse and Infirmary in Nottinghamshire. This is the most complete workhouse in existence.

The weather forecast had been for rain, but instead it turned out to be a beautiful warm, sunny day.

From the Workhouse we went in to the town for lunch and a wander around the shops.

Some members spent time in the magnificent Minster, which has welcomed visitors, pilgrims and worshippers for more than 900 years.

Another successful day out. Please remember, all members are welcome to join us on our trips.



Jackie Stevens – Group Co-Leader

Art

Woodhall Spa u3a Calendar

The Art Group are hoping to produce a calendar for 2023 using photos of u3a members taking part in group activities. If any Group Leaders or members have got any suitable photos could they send them in digital form to Stef Lorenz <steflorenz98@gmail.com>.

Please check with those in your photo that they are happy to be included.

Stef Lorenz – Group Leader

Home Computing for Fun

Types Of Home Computer

(Excluding Smartphones, Tablets and iPads)

If you are wanting to buy a new PC there is so much to consider and so much choice.

Let's look at what's available - firstly what type of Operating System do you want?

- MS Windows – Microsoft Windows PCs (Personal Computers) are the most common type of computer used due to their functionality and reasonable cost. Microsoft Office software has become the standard for home and business.
- MacOS – Apple Mac PCs have traditionally been used more for creative applications in Art and Design. They can be expensive compared to a comparable Windows model, but Apple fans love them.
- ChromeOS – Chromebooks are a fairly new addition and are only available as Laptops. They feature all of Google's functionality and don't have much internal storage, using Cloud storage instead. They have very good security built in, but are not always compatible with software from other manufacturers (eg Microsoft).

Types of Hardware

Desktop

As the name suggests this PC sits on or under your desk. In other words, this type is normally in a fixed location in your home, and is made up of separate hardware components. The actual PC is housed in a unit normally referred to as a Tower, due to its shape. These can be quite bulky and heavy and because of this need a permanent location with close connection to a power supply and the other components.



The other required components consist of a Monitor, a Keyboard and a Mouse. The Monitor would have a wired connection and the Keyboard and Mouse can be wired or wireless. These items are commonly referred to as Peripherals. These three are the basic ones you need but some others are:

- Microphone
- Webcam (If your monitor doesn't have one installed)
- Printer
- External speakers
- Headphones
- Storage devices

Generally, when you purchase a Desktop computer it comes as a package with the Monitor, Keyboard and Mouse.

[Continued](#)

Types of Hardware - Desktop – Continued

There are several different types of Desktop PC. As well as the normal tower model, there are mini towers, All-in-Ones, and ones with Touchscreen Monitors. The Tower is the most widely available and therefore generally the cheapest and suitable for most home users. The Mini is just a smaller version designed to save space, the All-In-One has the computer and Monitor in one unit and separate keyboard, and these often come with a Touchscreen. You can even now purchase a stand alone Touchscreen monitor, at a price!

Laptops/Notebooks

Basically, a Laptop is a portable PC with the same functionality as a Desktop, including a touchscreen if you want one. It has the computer, keyboard and mouse in one neat package. They are light enough to transport and as the name suggests can be used on your lap. A Notebook is a small version of a Laptop that normally has less storage and functionality.

It is worth remembering, most Desktops will allow either a wired (ethernet) or wireless connection to the internet, but Laptops generally only connect via wireless.



Included Software

These days, apart from the Operating System PCs have very little software included and installed. You will generally find short trial versions of Antivirus, or Office software installed that you are encouraged to subscribe to when the free trial expires. This is often an expensive way to obtain what can often be purchased for less online. There are, however, sometimes software deals to be done when you purchase your PC.

Things to Consider before Purchase

How much do you want to spend?

Computers cost anything from a few hundred pounds to several thousands.

Have a budget in mind before you start looking. It is easy to spend more than you need to.

Where to purchase from?

As with anything you purchase, especially on the internet, check that the seller is reputable and has good genuine reviews. Look for sellers that offer Technical support or a longer warranty included in the price or for a small extra charge.

Look out for sales and discounted older models.

What do I want to use it for?

This is the critical question. If you just need to surf the internet, read your emails, access your accounts, stream a bit of TV catch up, store a few photos and produce a few documents, then you can expect to spend anything from £250 to £500 depending on specification.

If you are into gaming and require more power you can spend a few thousand!

[Continued](#)

Things to Consider Before Purchase – Continued**What other devices do I have?**

If you have an iPad or iPhone you may like the Apple format and prefer to go for a Mac PC. Equally if you are used to an Android device and are comfortable with Google apps you may prefer a Chromebook.

Do I need it to be portable?

A Laptop is an obvious choice if you do. However, some people struggle to use a Laptop keyboard and Touchpad as they can 'feel' quite different and not require the same sort of touch.

If it is just the Touchpad that is an issue you can use a USB or Wireless mouse instead.

Do I need it to be compatible with my existing peripherals?

If you purchase a new PC and you have existing hardware that you have had for a while it may not be compatible, particularly if your new PC has a different Operating System to your old PC.

You may find things like your printer may not work with your new PC.

Please note

The information provided here is to the best of my knowledge accurate and up to date.

**Your monthly guide to what it means....****Cloud Storage**

Cloud storage is a method of off-site data storage that is maintained by a third party. The main providers being Microsoft, Apple and Google, but there are many others. The data is actually stored on servers belonging to these companies.

This means that you can store any of your data on their cloud. Generally, you will be allowed a small amount of free storage, which is normally enough for most people, but if you need more you have to pay for it. You can choose what (if anything) is stored on the cloud. It is normally used for large file size items like photos as they can soon fill up the internal storage on your PC.

Cloud storage is used a lot by business and is generally considered to be safe and secure.

However, some people are nervous of this method of storing data and prefer alternatives.

If you are running out of space on your PC you can store your data on USB flash memory sticks or external hard drives.

Scroll

The process of moving a page up and down or left and right using the wheel in your mouse, the Scroll bar or your finger or stylus on a touchscreen.

Scroll bar

A narrow, rectangular bar on the right edge and bottom edge of a page that lets you move the page to see more of the information it contains. The scroll bar on the right moves the page up and down, and the scroll bar on the bottom moves the page right and left.

Heather Maslen – Group Leader

Find out more

If you have any questions about these articles, follow this link and click on the bird on the Home Computing for Fun page on the Woodhall Spa U3A website:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/page/115109>

Five Mile Walking

Stainfield to Kingthorpe

The Five Mile walking group started their walk from Stainfield church. Like many small Lincolnshire villages, it belies a much deeper history involving monastic origins, the Wild Man of Stainfield, the Hardy Gang and a gem of an 18th century church set in parkland and unusually in a north south orientation.

We set off through the Lincolnshire Limewoods along the Viking Way before turning towards New Apley.



Here the landscape opens up to large arable fields with woods on the higher ground. By only climbing a few feet it was possible to see Lincoln Cathedral. It is obviously a kept estate with coveys of French partridges and large expanses of game cover.

Farmers are very quick to turn round their fields at this time of year and what was once a field of hard stubble had been turned over into "carrying" mud. By the time we reached our cars and Stainfield Church our boots were relatively clean.

Local walks can produce a wealth of history and a variety of landscapes.

Malcolm Capps – Group Leader



Throughout the walk it was obvious what an excellent year it has been for fruit. The hedges are laden with sloes and garden trees with apples and plums. We were fortunate that these back lanes are very quiet, and it was possible to stroll down to Kingthorpe without meeting any traffic.



Richmond Walking Holiday



Moor and mountain, field and fountain –

– The Five Mile Walkers managed to see all of these. The yearly holiday was centred on Richmond with walking along Wensleydale and Swaledale. The weather was ideal, we walked in the sunshine but at night it rained, which meant the Asygarth and West Burton waterfalls were very impressive.



Continued

Richmond Holiday – Continued

Besides the wonderful walks led by members of the group from Reeth, Gilling West, Asygarth, Marske, Richmond, and Keld, there were also visits to the Georgian Theatre, a French restaurant, a wine tasting of Brazilian and Hungarian wines, Wetherspoons for breakfast and obviously tearooms. Walking makes you hungry and thirsty.



A wonderful week. Why not join us next year?

Malcolm Capps – Group Leader

Photos by Les Wylde

Croquet

Season Roundup

The Croquet season for our group came to a close on 27th September and there were seven members at the last session. I would like to thank all the group members who have joined us this season. Although there are 18 members on the register the weekly attendance has only been an average of 6/7 attending each week, though as group leader I would certainly like to see more attending our Tuesday morning sessions. The Woodhall Spa Croquet Club have done rather well from WSPU3A as every regular member of my group have now joined the croquet club, who have been very supportive of our u3a members.



Our next season 2023 will be starting up again in April at which time I sincerely hope you will join up again with possibly one or two new faces.

Continued

Croquet – Continued

If any member considers there is room for some improvement on how the Croquet Group is being organised, please let me know; you may consider that a little more coaching would be welcome away from coaching during play in friendly matches, I do not recommend match coaching as it tends to slow matches down. Please let me know.

It was unfortunate that our Bouquet day did not take place – there were other events which overtook our arrangements, but I'm hoping that once the new season gets underway new arrangements can be made.

So to close, many thanks once again for your continued support and I look forward to greeting you all again in 2023.

Bob Potter – Group Leader

**u3a 40th Anniversary Croquet Championship
Held by Woodhall Spa u3a for the East Lincolnshire Neighbourhood u3as**

The Tournament Manager and game planner was Bob Potter, the Group Leader for the Woodhall Spa and Horncastle u3a's Croquet Group. This Group is very successful and is the main recruiting organ for Woodhall Spa Croquet Club (WSCC).



The much sought after wooden spoons are also hand crafted by Bob Potter and it is rumoured that they are the real prize that most players strive to win!



Winners were L-R Tony Duggins, John Johnson and Barrie Darling,



Wooden spoons for Kat Gadsden, Ray Gadsden and Anne Potter.

Woodhall Wanderers

September Stride

With fair weather, good company and lovely countryside views ahead the Woodhall Wanderers set out from the village of Stainfield happy and hearty. Our September walk took us through the village, along country roads, over ploughed fields and into the Hardy Gang Woods.



On our way we passed the remains of Barlings Abbey dated from the 12th century, with Lincoln Cathedral appearing on the horizon from time to time.

We had an early stop for a bit of 'scrumping', which some of us remembered fondly from our childhood days! The apples were eaters, not sure which variety though!



Onwards through the Hardy Gang Wood, one of the Limewoods which form the Bardney Limewoods National Nature Reserve. Here we heard about the local legend of the 'Wild Man' of Stainfield.



It is said he sadly lost his lands hundreds of years ago only to survive in the woods, but that the Hardy gang got rid of him for stealing their cattle and sheep! Hence the Hardy Gang Woods today.

Then after another mile or so and a few unwelcomed dark clouds we soon found our way back at the village hall in the bright autumn sunshine ending a really enjoyable walk.

Jan Smith – Walk Leader

The Final Word

Feedback

You can use this link to view past issues of the Newsletter, or to send a note to the Editor:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodhall-spa/page/113917>

All things must pass...

I sat and watched my own niece, Heather, as she appeared on my TV, bow her head and drop a small curtsy at the side of the coffin of Her Majesty, lying in state at Westminster Hall.

Not only did I feel proud to see her, a grown woman and a detective for the CID now, it struck me how much she had changed through the course of her life, remembering her then as a small child without a care in the world.

She had queued through the night to pay her respects and I had just received a message from my sister that she was about to enter the Hall. I scanned the scene for her face, but the camera did the work for me and zoomed in on her at just the right time. I recorded the moment and sent it to my sister – a small piece of family history wrapped in a monumental occasion that was being shared around the world.



I am indebted to those who have taken time to contribute to this edition of the Newsletter. Many thanks.

If not now, then when?

Tom Sefton – Editor