

From the Chairman - Strawberries and Cream
August; a month with a difference.

I used to think that once children had grown up life would be largely unaffected by school holidays unless one or one's partner worked in a school. However, they say that 'what goes around comes around' and with the advent of grandchildren August once again becomes a month with a difference as grandparents including many of our members are once again on child-minding duties. This is reflected in apologies for not being able to attend U3A activities.

I have been mildly surprised also at the number of members who go on holiday during August. This is in part due to being away with the extended family which brings a moral dilemma. I used to think we should support parents campaigning against inflated holiday prices during school holidays. However, this could see a rise in prices at other times of the year when many of us choose to take our breaks.

We have two events during August. The Norfolk Broads trip on the 23rd and the Cotswolds holiday at the end of the month. We used to live on the fringe of the Cotswolds and are very familiar with the places on the itinerary. Hopefully the weather will be good and it should prove a very enjoyable experience. One interesting fact: of 13 'doubly thankful villages' which lost no-one in the two great wars one is the interestingly named Upper Slaughter, close to Bourton-on -the-Water which is on the itinerary.

It is also very much the wedding season. On Saturday we attended a wedding in Warwickshire of a young lady one of Sue's Goddaughters. To be honest the invitation came out of the blue not having seen the parents for a number of years. This all flows from our Young Farmers days and we enjoyed meeting people some of whom we had not seen for 40+ years. It is one of the best experiences that one has from membership of a wide range of organisations, no less so than U3As. As I come nearer to the end of my term as chair, I reflect on the satisfaction I have from being part of an organisation that gives so much to so many people, enjoying a wide range of activities and forming lifelong friendships.

May you continue to enjoy a very pleasant summer.

PS. Many of these occasions included strawberries and cream

John Hooper



a train ride for members on the Paignton holiday



the U3A stand at the Destination Wymondham event

Destination Wymondham

On Sat 27 July many of the town's groups and societies came together to showcase their activities. Central Hall was packed with stallholders, and U3A Wymondham was well represented. We had a lot of visitors to our stall and received many enquiries. Those new to us expressed their amazement at the sheer volume of activity - groups, coffee mornings, speakers, social events and holidays - which lies at the heart of what we do. A great many U3A members contributed to this event, including Elizabeth Cannon, Lorna and Keith Tomlinson and Barry and Frances Sullivan. Special thanks go to Gilly Spencer, Wendy Bowles and Pat from Stitchcraft for their contributions and to Julian Gillett for the photos and the production of the leaflet.

Tom Waterworth

Wymondham U3A Vineyard Trip 2

Thirty-one members of Wymondham U3A.
Went on a wine tasting holiday,
They went by coach to Sussex by the sea
Staying in Eastbourne, a jolly place to be!

The first place was interesting, run as biodynamic
Using ground sourced heating, all very organic.
They cherished their vines using phases of the moon,
Nothing done too late and nothing done too soon.

They fertilised with cow dung buried in cow horns,
All over winter until next spring -it dawns.
They mix this in lots of water and spray it on their vines,
These are the secrets of their particular wines.

We went to other vineyards, a total of three more
And saw huge shiny vats not wooden ones of yore.
We sipped and talked of flavours of hedgerows and of fruits,
And marvelled that a vine plant can make such deep long roots.

All the folk we met were great and really full of go,
Very determined to make their business grow.
Their enthusiasm inspired us and so we bought their wine,

And all agreed this outing had been just 'so divine'.
So raise a glass to Bill and Paul, who'd really worked so hard
To make things run so smoothly, we rate them as 'Five Starred'!

Gilly Spencer

(To see a photograph of the party go to the Events page of the U3A Wymondham website and follow the link.)

Social News - Quiz news

Congratulations to the winning team, Los Jubilados, at the Quiz on 19th July! We ended up with 10 teams who all seemed to enjoy themselves. Hopefully there will be another quiz in about a year's time. *Lorna*

Norwegian Cruise April 2021

Any members who are interested in joining this cruise should try and attend a presentation in the Tiffy Room on Thursday 8th August at 10.15am. Present will be representatives of Fred Olsen, Premier Travel and Priory Insurance. For those of you that know you want to come, you will be able to choose your cabin and book.

If we have a minimum of 30 people going, we shall have free coach travel to and from Dover. To ensure that we get a good group together, non-member friends will be able to book to come with us. There is no upper limit. The prices quoted are frozen until the end of September. You can pay monthly instalments if you wish. All other questions answered on Thursday 8th August.

Coach Trip Duxford 27 Sept - bookings are light. If you are interested in this trip please book asap. There have been many changes at Duxford in recent years.

Groups

If you are interested in any of our groups please let me know. I am at most coffee mornings or email me at lorna.gplead@yahoo.co.uk.

Lorna

The U3A Travel Adventures Group - meets once a month on a Monday afternoon.

Each month a member of the group talks to us about one of the places they have travelled to, showing us photos and telling us about the culture and history of that country.

This year we have learnt about The Azores where the weather was not good for the visit to four of the nine islands, and we discovered that their volcanic origin is caused by the islands being the meeting point of several tectonic plates.

In February we were in Abu Dhabi where oil was discovered in 1958, which then transformed the economy. The following month we went to Cuba where the average monthly wage is £30 but there is no unemployment! April was a trip to Iceland and during the visit the volcano Grimsvoten erupted when they were unable to continue with their planned route. In May we heard about Burma, a country much in the news due to the repression of the Rohingya Muslims. In June we saw a PowerPoint presentation of a cruise down the River Danube to the Black Sea travelling through Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Bulgaria. Last month we had a Hurtigruten Cruise up the coast of Norway and as the visit was in March there was lots of snow but the Northern Lights were not seen.

Kathy Fleckney

The talk at the September Open Meeting

September's speaker will be Linda Burkett. Her talk will be titled 'Arthur's story, a POW and the Lamsdorf Death March'.

Members who have recently joined:

Carol McKay, Ann Moss, Peter Moss, Patricia Norman and Christopher Springall

Officers of U3A Wymondham (2019/20)

Chair - John Hooper - johnhooper66@btinternet.com
Vice-Chair - Gilly Spencer - gillyflour4@gmail.com
Secretary - Georgette Vale - georgette@ValeMail.eu
Treasurer - Stuart Crowther - stuartgcrowther@aol.com
Membership Sec. - John Spencer - wymu3amem@outlook.com
Groups Co-ordinator - Lorna Tomlinson - lorna.gplead16@yahoo.co.uk