



- JUNE -

CHAT from the CHAIR -

Linda Porter

I do hope you've all been enjoying this beautiful weather at long last. The garden is waking up. Flowers are blooming and the most magnificent sunsets can be seen. We have a wonderful world.

So, my first month as Chairperson has been rather busy. Plenty of reading, I attended two courses during this month, one was more interesting than the other, along with mini meetings with other committee members to prepare for the Special General Meeting on 8th June.

I look forward to meeting you all again and to hearing from you. Either during the meeting, owning a suggestion placed in the box, or owning a comment in the feedback book, (I suggest one comment per page). We want you to have a voice and to hear you.

Do listen out for the classical music being played as we all gather together.

Your new committee are quite dynamic so you are in good hands.

You would be made very welcome to join this committee. I am sure we would find the right job just for you.

EGM 8th June 2023

An Extraordinary General Meeting to change the constitution will be held at our monthly meeting at Thornton Little Theatre and your vote will be counted.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY -

Susan Cox

Thank you to all members who have paid their renewal fee.

Your cards will be available for collection from Carleton Memorial Hall on Friday, 2nd June 1.00-3.00 p.m.

Please be advised there will be limited parking.

Cards will need to be produced at meetings from that date.

If you are not receiving your electronic newsletter, please contact me so your email address can be checked.

GROUPS' CO-ORDINATORS -

Diane M. Whitworth and Jennifer Machell

Grateful thanks as always to all our Group Leaders for their continual hard work and dedication with their respective group. We are pleased to announce that Jim Swain has kindly agreed to become the Group Leader for The Amblers Group. We are certain that he will do an excellent job.

The Facebook Page is a Private Group for Wyre u3a members only. It provides a forum, where our members are invited to express their views, share information, photographs and funny stories. We can be contacted at:

groups.wyreu3a@gmail.com

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monthly Meetings are held at 2.00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Thornton Little Theatre.

Thursday, 8th June

Extraordinary General Meeting to Change the Constitution

Followed by:

Speaker: Janet Dearden.

Subject: Go and Work a Miracle - Being an Honorary "Man" in the capital of Sudan. A wonderful insight into the challenges which stemmed from being a Woman, a Manager and a Foreigner in Sudan some years ago.

Thursday, 13th July

Speaker: Phil Cawley.

Subject: Restorative Justice.

An interesting delve into the process undertaken to "repair" harm caused by crime and conflict.

SOCIAL EVENTS ORGANISERS -

Diane M. Whitworth, Helen Kehoe and Norma Culshaw

Thursday, 15th June 2023

Coach Trip to Harrogate

Harrogate is the definitive, spa town in the heart of Yorkshire. It's fashionable heritage as a thriving spa resort continues in the Montpellier Quarter with The Royal Pump Museum, documenting its importance of local mineral springs.

It's thriving streets buzz with busy shops and eateries, including the famous Betty's Tearooms. Harrogate is known for its floral excellence evident in the wonderful displays

across the town in its well-kept parks and gardens, the largest of these being the Grade 1 listed Valley Gardens.

Southwest of the city centre is the stunning Royal Horticulture Society Harlow Carr Garden.

Names and a non-refundable payment of £18.00 p.p. can be made at the June Monthly Meeting at The Thornton Little Theatre.

On 15th June, we will leave the bus stop on Fleetwood Road South, Thornton at 8.30 a.m.

Thursday, 27th July

Coach trip to Ness Botanic Gardens and the City of Chester.

Ness Gardens are home to sixty-four acres of diverse landscape and vast horticulture collections with show gardens, Victorian style Potager, Alpine House and a Cafe.



The ancient city of Chester is truly a breathtaking experience with each chapter of Chester's history etched into the very fabric of the city. It is known for its extensive Roman walls,



the largest Amphitheatre in Britain plus a 1000-year-old Cathedral with Europe's finest example of Medieval carvings. The Rows is a shopping district distinguished by its two-level arcades and Tudor style black and white timber buildings.



The Grosvenor Shopping Centre provides undercover shopping where you are able to browse a wonderful range of store.

Names and a payment of £25.00 p.p. can be made at the Monthly Meetings at Thornton Little Theatre in June and July.

Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August **Annual Coach Trip to Cartmel Races**

Names will be taken at the Monthly Meeting at Thornton Little Theatre in June and subsequent months with more detailed information to follow.

For more information about any of the above events contact: social.wyreu3a@gmail.com

Wyre u3a Coronation Dinner

On Friday, 12th May a merry band of loyal u3a subjects met at the Park Club in Cleveleys to celebrate the Coronation and raise a glass to toast the Royal Couple.

Many guests went along enthusiastically with the informal dress code of 'something old, something new, something red, white and blue'.

After dinner a very liquid raffle raised funds for our local Children's Hospice with members kindly donating prizes.

Graham Topping entertained us with a quiz, testing our knowledge of the Monarchy and the King and Queen.

Before leaving, guests were presented with a commemorative tin of M & S shortbread.

On behalf of the guests, Chair Linda Porter thanked Diane and Helen who had worked so hard to organise the celebration.

As ever the key ingredient of the evening was spending time together with friends.

- Tony Ward

A reminder from the Committee
Please note that, unfortunately, dogs are not allowed on any walks.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

The Amblers - Jim Swain

(Report by Alex Herschell)

Thirteen members enjoyed the May Amble, again lead by Sue Wolstenholme, on a clear and warm sunny day.



The route took us clockwise round Nicky Nook, starting at the car park in Wyresdale Park, at the end of Snowhill Lane in Scorton. Heading towards Fell End, we were rewarded with delightful views of the Bleasedale Fells. The return route took us down Grizedale to the south of Nicky Nook, returning to the start through beautiful woodlands.

Keep up to date by joining the Amblers WhatsApp group.

Crown Green Bowling - Kenneth Speakman



Even though one of the Mondays was more than a little damp first thing, five of us did in fact turn out. As luck would have it, it did stop raining at just before 10.00 so the five of us played as one group. As you can imagine the scoring was a little slow to

say the least, but I think we all enjoyed a breath of fresh air and a bit of a chat at 11.00. By comparison, on the 22nd there were seventeen on the green and whilst this made for a more difficult time finding space for the ends, there was very little shouting at each other for getting in the way. A fun morning was had by all.

Why not come along and give it a go.

Creative Writing - Ann Fewson

'Long Time, No See' was a sufficiently general title to allow for a wide range of responses and all the group found their different ways of interpreting the subject.

One was rather more like a thriller with a murder being the surprising denouement of the story. Another featured two old friends with lots of reasons not to enjoy reconnecting with one and another.

There were stories with disappointment, transformation and an inability to erase the past; just one reconnection had a happy outcome!

Next meeting: Monday, 12th June

Subject: Number 47

Dining Group - Irene Evans

Our next meal with the dining group will be on Tuesday, 13th June at the Strawberry Gardens, Poulton Rd., Fleetwood. 6.00 p.m. for 6.30 p.m. as usual .

Half price on main courses .

Please text me if you want to join us.

French Conversation - Clive Jones

(Report by Paul Leather)

With two public holidays in May, we were limited to only one Monday meeting that month, on the 15th, and our next meeting will be on 12th June. The membership number is as strong as ever and new members are always most welcome.

We continue to focus on spontaneous French Conversation rather than by individual work or presentations, by encouraging free-flowing discussion and subsequent questions without the fear of making mistakes or drying up in the conversation.

Our last meeting gave rise to some excellent conversations on a range of topics, including a podcast article about Victor Hugo, the man, his books and the enormously

successful comédie musicale, 'Les Misérables'; the history of France in the nineteenth century; a comparison of British and French train travel; hiking in Lancashire and a look at the French entry in the Eurovision song contest.

The audio input theme will continue at the next meeting.

French Improvers - Christine Holt

During our first meeting of the month, we looked at six articles on current issues in France.

These included an article about the first French woman to become an astronaut, the over use of antibiotics in France, a new urban forest, a restaurant where all the employees have a disability and another about the differences in pay between men and women, in the field of technology.

We listened to an audio recording of these reports which helps to improve our listening skills.

In our second meeting we read and heard about the French chateaux. Some we had heard of Chambord, Cheverny, Blois but others were new to us.

Our meeting continued with a description of a forest and all the many activities that were available there.

French Refreshers - Ann Burley

Following our usual practice, our group met twice in May. As usual, we planned the subject of our conversations which, it is hoped, gives everyone the opportunity to plan what they are going to talk about, refresh their memory and investigate the vocabulary they are going to use .

At our first meeting, we were invited to talk about our first job when we had entered the job market. With our group, we have come to expect that the jobs would vary widely. But this did not turn out to be the case. We all seem to have started working while we were still at school, during the school holidays and at weekends, and the jobs were, for the most part, in shops and cafés.

The second meeting was very different in that we discovered that most of us had watched the coronation of HM Charles III on TV, and this led to discussions about him, his health

at his age, and reminiscences of Queen Elizabeth II.

One of our members had been living in London in 1953 at the time of the Queen's coronation and had been in Park Lane to watch the procession as it wound its way from Westminster Abbey around London after the ceremony. Nothing very much had changed over all those years - it rained for most of the day, as usual!

Gardening - Kathleen Smith

We had a great meeting in May, the sun shone whilst we had a wander around Marguerite's garden.

The greenhouse was full of tomato plants which meant members ended up taking some home. There were other plants to take home as well but, most were smaller than the one I ended up with.

There was a pear tree that had been kept a prisoner in a pot for a long time. We struggled a bit to get it out of the pot and get the roots into a plastic bag. At least now, it has found a home in nice deep soil.

Whilst garden chatting we decided to work out the size of everyone's gardens and how they were used.

Sizes ranged from huge to tiny. Most of the gardens have lawns and borders. The smallest garden was only 9 square metres, but is full of plants and no lawn. It just shows that gardeners, whilst all having a love of the outdoors, have different ways of enjoying their garden.

Because some of us are booked on the u3a trip to Harrogate, which is taking place on the day after our usual Garden Group meeting, the Wednesday meeting is not taking place. Obviously, those gardeners not going to Harrogate, can always get together if they want.

Gentle Movement to Music - Linda Porter

You would always be welcome to Gentle Movement- body/mind.

For the next six weeks, we are concentrating on the strength in our legs, working on our quadriceps and calf muscles.

Also, for the next six weeks, we are working on balance, coordination and stretching, raising our heart rate a little.

Most importantly, for the next six weeks we are having fun and laughter every week with an amazing group of people both men and women.

You would be surprised what we get up to every Monday at 1.00 p.m. at St Hilda's Hall.

History - Susan Cox

At the next meeting on Monday, 8th June, Lynda Wright of Poulton Civic and Historical Society will be presenting the 1851 Great Exhibition and Crystal Palace.

All welcome.

History of Art - Martin Johnson

The second part of the history of the Royal Collection was largely devoted to George IV, for whom we have to thank for filling Buckingham Palace with furniture and paintings of the highest quality, especially the best of Dutch genre scenes. However, the Brighton Pavilion showed his artistic taste was variable.

Victoria's liking for the cosy and sentimental was catered for by Winterhalter and Landseer, with family and pets painted in idealised settings. Twentieth Century monarchs showed little interest in the Arts, perhaps photography replacing the posed portraits.

We finished with the wish that the King will give much greater access to the world's greatest art collection.

This month we will look at the ways Greek and Roman Arts greatly influenced British culture-sculpture, architecture, design, pottery, and even fashion.

Please note that we will start earlier on the 13th at 10 o'clock.

Italian Group - Clive Jones

(Report by Marjery Hart)

We have had two well attended meetings already this month, with another meeting to go at the end of May.

Italian grammar will always be a 'feature' of learning the language, and so we are continuing with the prepositions and all their different meanings.

The Short Stories book has now been completed, and we are moving on to another book at intermediate level which will increase our vocabulary.

One member presented the group with an article about famous Italian songs, one of which was 'Non ho l'eta` (I'm not old enough) sung by the teenager Gigliola Cinquetti, who won the Eurovision Song Contest for Italy in 1964. She also sang it in English under the title 'This is my prayer'. The presenter of the article sang it to us! Very well too.

We also went over two interesting articles by Clive sent from Australia, about the Outback and about his visiting an area of Sydney called 'Little Italy'.

The next meetings are at 11.00 a.m. on 30th May, 13th and 27th June in Poulton library.

Line Dancing - Kathleen Smith

The number of dances learned is growing. It is strange, sometimes, when a piece of music is played but, because it has been a while since it was heard, we have to be reminded about the steps. It is funny when the music goes on and the number of baffled looks we see around the room. It is a good job that there are members who can remember how to do it and can jog the memory of the rest of us.

Live Music - Pauline Powell



'Music Is Our First Love'

We are happily settled in our new home, which is at Tee Time Golf Centre, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 1RN.

We welcome all music lovers whether you play an instrument or not. Enjoyment is guaranteed among a friendly group who meet every 1st & 3rd Thursday each month at 2.00 p.m.

An added bonus, bar prices are lower than pub prices. Come and Join Us!

Play Reading - Graham Bannister

The Group completed the reading of "When We Are Married" by J.B.Priestley, and then started to read "Way Upstream" by Alan Ayckbourn.

Please send contributions to u3aNewsletterWyre@gmail.com
When finished with this issue, please forward it to a friend.

The play was first produced at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough in October 1981 and then subsequently at the National Theatre in London in October 1982. During that production real water, rain and a moving boat were used.

The play is centred on the relationship between two couples on a holiday on a river boat and the intervention of a stranger who hitches a lift and has a significant impact on the harmony of the group.

Quiz and Games - Cindy Potter and Jean and Alan Steele

This month was Quiz Time and twenty-three members attended making up six teams.

The quiz included a Royal round, a Science, an "ology" and several General Knowledge rounds. The scoring was very close. Two teams tied in first place leading to a tie breaker.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the challenge and we are now looking forward to our next meeting which will be Table Games on Monday, 26th June at 2.00 p.m. at Carleton Memorial Hall. All welcome.

Please remember to bring membership cards.

Recycling - Kathleen Smith

The weather has improved so we don't have to stay inside the garage workspace. Now is the time to get your thinking caps on about what you would like to construct from recycled pallet wood.

Have a look on the website of Pinterest, there are loads of things you could build: tables, seats, workbenches, planters, and many other things. If you have an idea, just let us know and you can book a time to come along.

Science and Technology - Graham Topping

Our last meeting before the summer recess was a presentation by Graham Topping on "River and Marine Pollution".

He began with the background to river pollution which began during the Industrial Revolution and the growth of people using the newly installed water carriage system which effectively transferred their waste from

Deadline for the next issue is Thursday, 29th June 2023

the streets to rivers. He then described the various legislation introduced by the government over the next few decades, which in theory should have improved the health of rivers but which in practice had little effect on water quality. It took the setting up of river authorities after WWII with powers to influence existing discharges of wastes to eventually improve the situation.

The second part of his talk systematically led us through the results of the various investigations by his former laboratory into measurements of mercury, cadmium, lead and arsenic in marine fish and shellfish. In most cases, the concentrations of these elements were well below any health concern. Where levels approached or exceeded those set by the EEC they were shown to be a consequence of the feeding behaviour of these species and not as a result of contamination by man-made discharges of wastes.

Since the group will now take a well-deserved summer break in June and July we won't be reconvening until 21st August.

Details of the talks to be given in the Autumn period will be given in later newsletters.

Singing for Fun - Arthur Jones

Our theme for the May meeting was Questions and, despite being even fewer in number than last month, we sang with great gusto about a variety of questions. We wanted to know who, what, when, where, why and how about all sorts of subjects.

With a nod to the Coronation, we even had a topical question about the succession of kings and queens from William the Conqueror to date.

Our final question concerned the date of our next meeting.

Because of other commitments, we won't be holding a June meeting then, as usual, we go into recess in July and August and we would normally start again in September. However, because Sue and I have lots to do, as a result of our recent move into a new home, there is a little uncertainty about that date.

I'll keep all our email subscribers informed a little nearer the date.

Spain Beyond the Costas - Sue Clark

We started the May meeting with a challenge: to identify and label the countries and capital cities of South America. It is generally a continent which is little known in Europe and we hear little news from there.

The main topic of the meeting was our recent visit to Ecuador and the Galápagos, a beautiful Spanish-speaking country with extremely varied scenery and wildlife, from Amazon rainforest, the Pacific coast and of course the Galápagos Islands, about 800 km away.



Volcanic Crater Lake



Blue Footed Boobies

There are many active volcanoes. Because of its position on the equator (hence its name) there are no seasons, just varying amounts of rainfall.

The main attraction in the Galápagos, as well as the white sandy beaches and turquoise sea, is the wildlife: giant tortoises, blue footed boobies and other seabirds, iguanas, turtles and penguins.

It is a truly wonderful place to visit.



Iguanas

There will no meeting in June so the next meeting will be on Wednesday, 5th July.

Travel - Mick Carey

In May, Dorte Ravenscroft spoke about her pre-lockdown visit to Bangkok. Because she was staying with family members, who live in the city, Dorte got to places and experiences that the average holiday maker might miss. We still got to visit the temples and museums but also got insights into local life.

Thanks Dorte for a very interesting and enjoyable presentation.

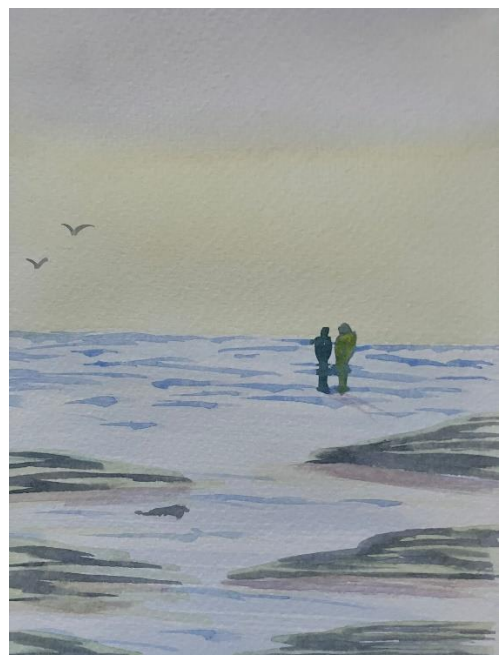
On 21st June, Claire and Bryan Fretwell-Parker will be talking about Kefalonia and the Scottish Highlands.

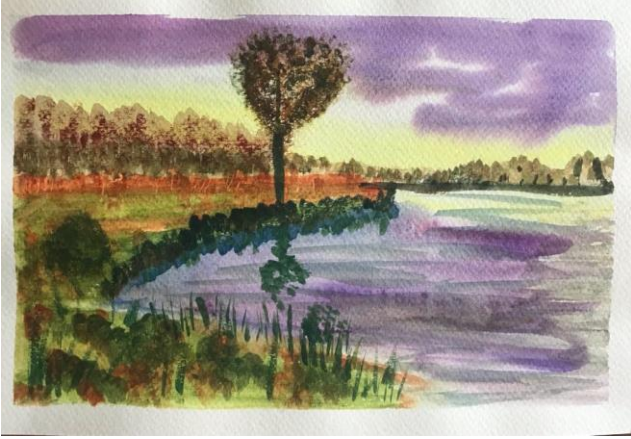
In July Clive Jones will talk about his current visit to Sydney.

Watercolours - Christine Cutts

Our challenge this month was to produce a landscape painting using only three colours and mixes of those three colours.

I think you'll be surprised at the quality of the work with, what appears to be, a limited palette.





Risk Assessment Advice

Members are reminded that, when participating in Wyre u3a activities, they do so at their own risk. This is particularly relevant when undertaking any physical activity.



Carleton Memorial Hall

Bookings should be addressed to Peter Farrell.

Peter must be notified, in advance if the hall is not going to be used otherwise a charge will be made for the room.



Wyre u3a Newsletter

This newsletter is published for members of Wyre u3a. Any opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the newsletter team, or of the Wyre u3a committee, or of the u3a Trust.

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live



Registered Charity Number: 1184776

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Committee Contact Details

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Speakers' Secretary:	Diane M. Whitworth
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Social Events Organisers	Diane M. Whitworth, Norma Culshaw and Helen Kehoe: social.wyreu3a@gmail.com
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Schedule of Group Meetings and Venues

If unsure about any aspect of a Group meeting, always check with the Co-ordinator

Activity	Regular Meeting	Co-ordinator Contact	Venue
Amblers Walking Group	Varies. Arranged monthly	Jim Swain	Various Check with Co-ordinator
Artists and Paintings in the 19 th and 20 th Centuries	3 rd Monday at 1.00 p.m.-2.30 p.m.	Barbra Cropper	Check with Co-ordinator
Badminton	Weekly on Wednesdays 10.00 a.m.-12 noon	Alison Hamer Pauline Ronson	All Hallows Church Hall Bispham.
Book Group (Monday)	1 st Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Helen Scarborough	Thornton Library
Book Group (Wednesday)	2 nd Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.	Brenda Ormrod	Poulton Library
Card Making	2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays at 2.00 p.m.	Carla Clark	Carleton Memorial Hall
Creative Writing	2 nd Monday at 10.00 a.m.	Ann Fewson	Lodge Cottage
Crown Green Bowling	Weekly on Mondays 9.50 a.m. for 10.00 a.m.	Ken Speakman	HASSRA Green
The Dining Group	See Newsletter	Irene Evans	See Newsletter
Eat and Heat Group	To be arranged	Tony Ward	Please contact Co-ordinator
Family History	1 st Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Shaun O'Hara	Carleton Memorial Hall
French Refreshers	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays at 3.00 p.m.	Ann Burley	Fleetwood Golf Club
French for Improvers	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays At 1.30 p.m.	Christine Holt	Fleetwood Golf Club
French Conversation	See report in "News from the Activity Groups"	Clive Jones	Thornton Library
Gardening	3 rd Wednesday at 1.30 p.m.	Kathleen Smith	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Gentle Movement to Music	Every Monday 1.00-2.00 p.m.	Linda Porter	St. Hilda's, Carleton
History	2 nd Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Susan Cox 883600	Carleton Memorial Hall
Italian Group	See report in "News from the Activity Groups"	Clive Jones	Poulton Library
History of Art	2 nd Tuesday at 10.30 a.m.	Martin Johnson	Check with Co-ordinator
Line Dancing	Every Friday from 1.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. 1 st hour beginners.	Kathleen Smith	Carleton Memorial Hall

Schedule of Group Meetings and Venues

If unsure about any aspect of a Group meeting, always check with the Co-ordinator

Live Music	1 st and 3 rd Thursdays 2.00 pm to 4.00 p.m.	Pauline Powell	Tee Time Golf Centre Fleetwood Rd Thornton FY5 1RN
Philosophy	4 th Tuesday at 2.00 p.m.	Linda Parkins	Carleton Memorial Hall
Play Reading	3 rd Tuesday at 2.00 p.m.	Graham Bannister	Carleton Memorial Hall
Poetry for Pleasure	1 st Thursday at 10.30 a.m.	Ann Fewson	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Quiz and Games	4 th Monday 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.	Cindy Potter Jean Steele	Carleton Memorial Hall
Recycling	2 nd Tuesday	Kathleen Smith	Contact Co-ordinator
Science and Technology	3 rd Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Graham Topping	Carleton Memorial Hall
Singing for Fun	2 nd Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.	Arthur Jones	Carleton Memorial Hall
Spain beyond the Costas	1 st Wednesday at 2.00 p.m.	Sue Clark	Carleton Memorial Hall
Spanish Conversation	Fortnightly on Monday at 2.00 p.m.	Enid Vindel	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Travel	3 rd Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.	Mick Carey	Carleton Memorial Hall
Walking	Last Wednesday of each month.	Graham and Susan Essex-Crosby	Various. Check with Co-ordinator
Watercolour Painting	1 st Tuesday at 1.30 p.m.	Christine Cutts	Carleton Memorial Hall

