



NEWS

Registered Charity No. 1026617

www.peterboroughu3a.org.uk



Foto Friends

**U3A Address: Peterborough U3A, P O Box 1341
Peterborough, PE2 2QD**

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Speakers Secretary	Jan Bearman-Brown	01733 572201
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OTHER TELEPHONE NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED

Day Visits Organisers	Paul Parker	01780 782976
	Gina Bates	01733 579317
	Sandi Osborne	01733 233840
	Doreen Dare	01733 260994
Theatre Group Organiser	Graham Woods	01733 234892
Travel Club Organisers	Arthur Hunt	01733 756883
	Ann Pollack	01733 269108

HOW TO ACCESS THE PETERBOROUGH U3A WEBSITE **www.peterboroughu3a.org.uk**

- Direct access to the site is via the address given above. To save re-typing in future, save the page to your Favourites/Bookmarks.
- Most of the site is open access (without logging in) and can be navigated using the menu tabs. Login is only required for access to My Details, My Activities and Minutes. Use your **membership number** and **password** – you should have received this when you first joined the U3A. If you have forgotten your password there is a link at the login page to have a reminder sent.

- Please check your personal details under the **My Details** tab and make any changes there e.g. to your email address (if you have changed it since the start of your membership) or phone number etc. If you record changes here you do not need to contact the Membership Secretary, remember to click **Save My Details** at the bottom before you leave the page.
- For help contact Alan Locke at pu3awebsite@gmail.com.

NEW MEMBERS' MEETING

Saturday 1 April 2016

St Andrews Church Hall

Coffee Served from 9.30am

Meeting Starts 10.00am

Prospective members and any members who have missed
previous

New Members' Meetings are welcome to attend

Remember it is

U3A QUIZ NIGHT

on

Friday 12 May 2017

St Andrew's Hall starting at 7.00pm

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

There was an announcement from the U3A Trust at the end of February that the U3A Trust England had reached 1004 Groups - I calculate there are over 370,000 U3A members in England.

Peterborough's Total is 2683 - with approximately 45 activity subjects and 146 groups.

Last year the U3A Trust did supply all U3A Committee Trustees with a Reference Compliance Manual, very useful and comprehensive.

Members Insurance Cover whilst on U3A organised activities - I hasten to add does NOT include Travel Club Holiday Cover

There are several Group Leaders who after many years service for the PU3A have decided to retire. It is because of our Group Leaders commitment and dedication over the years that Peterborough U3A has endured and become so successful. We thank them all - past and present.

Something new - I have had an enquiry from Nene Valley Railway Museum at Wansford for volunteers. This is a project that Cambridgeshire County Council are proposing. Did check my Committee Reference File and under Objects and Principles, Section 6 allows us to offer assistance - examples given are for art galleries museums and libraries.

I will update you in the next News Letter.

*We will be celebrating our 25 years anniversary on
Saturday 17 June 2017 at Jack Hunt School Hall
Bring your own picnic and some for sharing
(similar to the Travel Club's December Meeting)*

We will be setting up from 11.00am if anyone would like to come and help it would be much appreciated.

Jacqueline Casson

EMAIL GUIDELINES

Members may find it useful to look at the Email Guidelines document that has recently been made available on the Peterborough U3A website. It should be of particular value to Group Leaders, but all members may benefit. It explains the purpose of the different types of address box and offers guidance on maintaining the security of members' data. Please read! The document has also been added as an appendix to the digital version of the Group Leaders' handbook and will be incorporated into it at the next review.

Hilary Lewis
PU3A Data Protection Officer

GROUP LEADERS TRAINING EVENT

Saturday 10 JUNE 2017

St Andrews Church Hall, Ledbury Road

Coffee Served from 9.30am

Meeting Starts 10.00am and
finishes with a sandwich lunch

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

No separate reminder or renewal forms will be sent this year. Please remember to renew your membership by **1 September 2017**. This can be done any time after the middle of June; it would be helpful if members did not wait until the end of August so that administration of renewals can be spread over a few months.

Enclosed with this News is a 'Change of Details' form. If there have been changes in your details since 1 September 2016 please

complete the form and send to the Membership Secretary (unless you have already informed us of the change) by 15 June at the latest. In any case, as you know, any amendments should be notified to the Membership Secretary as soon as possible, or made on the website in the 'My Details' area.

There are four ways of renewing membership:

- Direct Debit – the subscription is taken automatically, membership cards will be sent out when payment is received. If you have not paid by direct debit in the past but wish to use this method please let the Membership Secretary know as soon as possible.
- Standing Order – the subscription is sent by your bank, membership cards will be sent out automatically when notification of payment is received. **N.B. IF THIS METHOD IS USED PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR BANK THAT THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS SENT THIS CAN ONLY BE DONE BY YOU.**
- Payment at Activities Day – cash/cheque taken and cards issued on the day, 18 August 2017.
- Payment by cheque in the post – cards sent when cheques received, please enclose a slip giving your name and membership number (or address if number not available) and send to the address below. Make cheques payable to Peterborough U3A.

Subscription rates remain the same this year i.e. £12.00 or £21.50 for single or joint membership; £8.50 or £14.50 for single or joint associate membership.

All correspondence to be sent to: Membership Secretary, Peterborough U3A, P O Box 1341, Peterborough, PE2 2QD

Mary McCarthy
Membership Secretary

MONTHLY MEETINGS

AT THE JOHN CLARE THEATRE

27 April 2017

Brian Pearce - Railworld Wildlife Haven

This lovely Nature Reserve has been put together by dedicated volunteers here in Peterborough, a transformation led by Brian.

THEN WE ARE BACK AT THE TOWN HALL

On the last Thursday of each month. Coffee and tea are available from 10.00am as always. Notices and updates are followed by a speaker at approximately 10.30am.

The attendance of a group leader or group representative keeps your group current.

Please remember this is one of many meetings when committee members are available to assist with and/or register any queries to be raised where possible. If necessary at the following Committee Meeting.

Many thanks to members who share their interests/experiences and offer to speak at these meetings.

25 May 2017

Ernie Rusdale - Peterborough in WWI

Ernie spoke at one of our Monthly Meetings a few years ago, leaving not a dry eye as he followed the life and ultimate death of a WW1 conscript. He is back with more information of local involvement in the 1914-18 war.

29 June 2017

Anji Scofield - My Life in Uniform

Anji (Angela) is a retired Wing Commander and was Matron of an RAF War Hospital. The Sheikha of Bahrain invited all of the Lady Soldiers on the island to a reception at her palace as a thank you presenting each with a solid gold commemorative coin in a leather box. Later back home, on the 21 June 1991 the City of London hosted a Gulf War welcome home parade and she was selected to lead the Female RAF Flight and to attend the ensuing reception with the guests of honour being HRH the Prince and Princess of Wales. She has many wonderful and amusing recollections to share.

27 July 2017

Jason Middleton - An Introduction to the World of Gem Stones

Jason has had a career in the jewellery industry working as an international gem stone buyer who has and continues to, travel

extensively to source these items. His talk focuses on the fascinating world of Gemstones, how they are mined, cut and fashioned.

August

No Monthly meeting. Activities Day on 18 August

Jan Bearman-Brown

GROUPS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that several new groups have started since the last copy of the NEWS. My thanks go to the group leaders who have either put the idea for a group forward or who have volunteered to be leader when I have held an exploratory meeting.

New groups started

(detailed in the accompanying meeting of groups booklet)

Calligraphy, Focus on Fact Discussion Group, a second Guitar Group (intermediate/improvers), Transport Infrastructure of the Fens, Ukulele for beginners.

I am also delighted to report that Stuart Ball, has come forward to run a new Birdwatching group. The previous group had been running under the leadership of Bernard Dawes for 20 years and it seemed impossible to find a replacement for him, but Stuart has now taken on the role and is keen to get a new group thriving so if there are any potential birdwatchers out there please get in touch with Stuart on 01733 567996. The group will meet on the first Wednesday morning.

There are now several proposed groups with leaders already identified.

Ukulele (intermediate/improvers),

Storytelling,

Folk/Country (banjo, guitar, fiddle, violin, bass players required)

Covers Band (guitarist, bass, keyboard, singers required)

London Remembered

Croquet

If anyone wishes to consider any of these please contact me on 01733 265769

Existing groups looking for more members

Concert Party, 2nd Sunday Lunch Group (single people), Keep Fit, Sing Something Simple, Whist/Canasta, Beginners Line Dancing, Table Tennis (2), Indoor Bowls, Roses and Castles.

Help Wanted

Spanish (extra group badly needed to address the waiting list difficulty)

Italian (big demand for this to be offered)

Painting (all the current groups are full)

Rhythmaires leader to take over from Audrey Creed who is finishing leading the Rhythmaires group after 23 years. Audrey is very sad to be relinquishing her role but feels her ever increasing years and too frequent hospital appointments etc means she can no longer undertake the role. Audrey has made a wonderful contribution over the years to our organisation. Thank you Audrey.

If anybody is willing to at least consider leading one of the above, then do please get in touch with me.

Peterborough U3A is one of the biggest branches in the country and consequently has a large number of groups but there is no limit to the number of groups being offered and, unlike some of the other U3As, our membership is always open, we will never run a membership waiting list. If anyone feels their interest is not being catered for then please contact me and we can talk about how this could be achieved. The success of our U3A depends on the willingness of the members to take a full part in the organisation.

A reminder that any member wishing to join a group must contact the Group Leader beforehand to gain details of the activity and whether it is OK to attend. Please, please do not just turn up. Also, remember to take your current membership card with you (cream for the this year) when attending a first meeting.

Proposed Croquet Group

One of our members, Adrian Kirby, is proposing to run a group for both beginners and experienced croquet players in conjunction with Peterborough Croquet Club. The group, day yet to be decided, will take place in Peterborough Central Park and will run from May to September. Only equipment required a pair of flat soled shoes.

Please contact Adrian Tel 01733 260636 for further details and to register your interest.

Quiz

Following the success of the Quiz in November it has been decided to run another in St Andrews Church Hall, Ledbury Road, on Friday 12 May at 7.00pm.

25th Anniversary Get Together

At Jack Hunt School Saturday 17 June 12.00 to 2.30pm. Several of our groups will be performing and if any individual members want to have a slot then please contact me for a time. Bring your own lunch either as an individual or as a group if you want a group table.

A reminder that the committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and if any member wishes a point to be raised then please feel free to contact any committee member. All telephone numbers are inside the front cover of this magazine. We are also available at the Town Hall meetings held on the last Thursday of the month.

Hilary Keegan

London Remembered

In the 1970s and '80s a lot of families moved to Peterborough from Greater London, and LONDON REMEMBERED is a purely social group for London ex-pats to share their recollections from a world fondly remembered but often no longer recognisable. The meetings would involve no more than taking a trip down memory lane in the company of people who may have walked the same streets, went to nearby schools, or worked in the same area. Members would be encouraged to bring along photos or other mementoes to add another dimension to their recollections.

Frequency: Last Monday in every month at 2.00pm.

Location: Initially at Apartment 9, Jubilee Mansions, 119 Thorpe Road, Peterborough, PE3 6JH, which has free off-road parking and is close to a bus stop on several routes.

Refreshments provided.

I am assuming it's acceptable to run an anodyne social group, but my underlying idea is to build a friendship network among members who may not otherwise have interests in common.

If you are interested please ring me on 01733 687895 or email me at graham.whyte@virgin.net

Graham Whyte

Have You Got The X Factor?

This Group has been set up to form a Covers Band playing all kinds of Rock and Pop music.

It will be really good if we can find some guitarists, a bass player and a keyboard player – and if we can combine this with either male or female vocalists (or better still both) that will be excellent.

So are you a budding Rick Wakeman, or a thwarted Robbie Williams (or maybe Peterborough's answer to Cher). Who wants to put yourselves forward to entertain the masses?

If so then please get in contact with me on 07941 235297 or email on frackbradbury@gmail.com

Frank Bradbury

Wanted

Intermediate fiddle/violin - banjo- percussion - bass players (one of each) to form an acoustic American Roots/Folk music group.

I think that finding a fiddle and banjo player might be hard to come by but worth a try. (When I say Intermediate, as long as the player can work out their own part to a song, and keep up with everyone else). For further details contact me on 07801668055.

Derek Hanson

FROM THE GROUPS

All Matters Welsh celebrate St David's Day with a dinner at the Admiral Wells in Holme

From the flag above us, on his field of green and white the red dragon stood proud, beaming, watching over the assembly of the All Matters Welsh and Welsh Language groups, wearing their daffodils and their very best of sincere smiles of joy. The occasion was to honour Dewi Sant - Saint David. The venue was the admirable Admiral Wells Inn in Holme, Huntingdonshire. And how the hosts looked after us all!

Fine food, beautifully served and in more than adequate quantities!

This annual gathering dined well, listened to fine Welsh harp music and were entertained by individual members: poetry, anecdotes and, of course, singing. Our voices may weaken a little more with each passing year but none of us lose the ability to feel a tremble of tone in our renditions and to release the occasional tear from our eyes when raising our voices in song.

With the warmest appreciation, richly deserved and freely given to the Admiral Wells Inn and to Meirion and Barbara Griffiths - and to all those who had contributed to the most pleasant occasion - diners left, happy with memories, to emerge into sunshine and nodding daffodils.

Geoff Johnson

Basic Science

Learn about Science in pleasant company at a reasonably gentle rate. Physics, Chemistry Technology and a bit of Earth Science too. We would cover biology but at present we don't have a tutor. Anyone out there interested in helping a thriving Science class?

Any questions contact me on 01733 233840 or on s.osborne7@ntlworld.com.

Stuart Osborne

Belly Dancing

We are a fun-loving and friendly groups who meet every Friday at 1.15pm (Beginners) and at 2.30pm (Improvers) at St Jude's Hall, Netherton. As a low impact activity belly dance is suitable for ladies of all ages and even those with disability or chronic illness, under the guidance of a qualified instructor like myself. Ladies can dance to their own level and do not need a partner. All movements are attuned to the female body so often come naturally. We work on technique and learn dances choreographed by me, to lively traditional or modern music.

You really do not need much to start, comfortable clothing like you would wear for yoga or the gym. Ladies usually dance barefoot or wear jazz shoes or ballet pumps. It is more fun to buy a jingly coin belt (easily available on the internet) but not essential. Sometimes we dance with sticks or veils and even fans. A garden cane will do for practice and any chiffon or silk material will make a veil but these can both be bought on the internet or at one of our bring and buy sales, held each term.

There are benefits both physical and mental. Belly dance is a low impact activity which exercises, tones and increases flexibility in all parts of the body. I have seen it improve balance, strength and stamina in my ladies. It can be practised without undue stress to the body, under the guidance of a good teacher. As research and recent press coverage has shown dancing also increases mental capacity by exercising the cognitive processes i.e. in learning choreographies, which not only involves learning and remembering a sequence of moves, but improves spatial awareness. Belly Dancing also reduces stress and depression. Many of my ladies say that they can forget their troubles during an hour of belly dance and even minor injury or aches and pains. Exercise is a great pain killer and a fun activity like belly dance doubly so.

Once you have learned the movements you can put them together and make up your own choreography, if you like. You can dress up in costumes and jewellery and feel gorgeous.

Come and join the fun and get fit at the same time. We have spaces for beginners, who will receive a warm welcome.

Jackie Marjoram

Bowls at Bushfield Group

Once again U3A members are invited to join the U3A Bushfield Bowls Group at Bushfield Bowls Club to play outdoor lawn bowls during the 2017 summer season. This season we will be meeting at the Club on Tuesday mornings to play between 10.00am to 12.00pm each week starting from 2 May until 12 September 2017. You will need to arrive at 09.45am in order to prepare.

If you are a new bowler, we will provide instruction and woods while you decide on the right size, which suits you and whether or not the game is for you. You need only to supply smooth flat-bottomed shoes for yourself.

U3A season tickets are £20 (equivalent of £1 per session) or alternatively you can pay a casual day fee of £3.

Should you wish to play more often, the Bushfield Bowls Club is open seven days a week from 1.45pm until 4.00pm during the season for roll-ups. Members of Bushfield U3A Bowls Group are invited to join in with the Club Members for these roll-ups for a fee of £3 per session.

To register your interest for the 2017 season or for further details, please contact me by e-mail mikecourtis@btinternet.com or by telephone 01733 232763.

The Club is located at the rear of the Wilkinson's Store at Ortongate.

Mike Courtis

Bretton Crime Readers Book Club

The Bretton group meets at Bretton Library on the first Wednesday of the month at 3.00pm. We choose our own books, which are provided by the helpful librarians. Our search is for enjoyment and thrills, not great intellectual experiences! We look at crime novels from around the world, past and present.

Please phone me for more information on 01733 269108.

Ann Pollack

Calligraphy

The new calligraphy group has made an excellent start, already producing some very good samples. We meet fortnightly at Bretton Library for two hours with a short but welcome coffee break half way through, although everyone is so engrossed that the break is just an opportunity go round and admire each other's handiwork.

John has made everyone feel very comfortable and learning is a pleasure with his patient guidance. The first week he gave a short talk on the types of equipment available to purchase, including the benefits and pitfalls of the quality of some items, along with some ideas for homemade alternatives to some of the more expensive items. Knowing how keen we all were to get started he put us straight to work with some exercises of simple shapes and letters and advised us to make use of the weeks between meetings to practice pen strokes and consistency of lettering and spacing.

Some members already had some knowledge of the art, while others are complete beginners. John stressed that there is not necessarily any right or wrong way, only that you work in the way that you are most comfortable with.

The group presently has a full compliment of sixteen members so I will start a waiting list for anyone wanting to join a future class.

I can be contacted on 01733 742977 or by email at ywhite47@live.co.uk.

Yvonne White

Cinema Club

2017 started with the 1964 film **Zorba The Greek** with Anthony Quinn in the title role. The film won 3 Oscars and was second to 'My Fair Lady' as film of the year.

The February film was **Vertigo** the 1958 masterpiece directed by Alfred Hitchcock and starring James Stewart, with Kim Novak as his co-star in two roles.

In March, we enjoyed the 1973 British romantic comedy **A Touch of Class** with a young Oscar-winning Glenda Jackson having an affair with George Segal.

The remaining films for this season are the 1968 **The Odd Couple** on 13 April and the 1971 multi-award winning, and very aptly named, **The Final Picture Show** on 11 May.

The group meets at 2.00pm on the second Thursday of each month from October to May at Copeland Community Centre, Bretton. As last year, members will get the opportunity on Activities Day to vote on the films for the coming season starting on 12 October.

John Douglas

Classic and Kit Car Group

Members of this newly formed group met in January in Werrington and again in February in Elton. Many ideas were exchanged and discussed.

We are aiming to get together, on a regular basis (currently monthly on the last Wednesday), and to fly the flag for U3A, at various venues and events, to socialise and have an informal chat about everything and anything to do with classic vehicles.

Meetings are planned for Wednesday 26 April and 31 May.

Spouses/partners (U3A members) also very welcome.

If you are interested in joining the group or would like further information about the forthcoming meetings please contact John Burton by email johnburton1942@gmail.com

John Burton

Concert Party

The Concert Party has been performing locally, as usual. Our next performance is at the Day Care Centre at Bretton. We will be playing songs from the 50s and 60s, twisting and rocking, so we should sleep

well after that. We then change to our St Georges Day/D-Day show, and will mix Last Night of the Proms with songs from the shows.

We are a bit short of numbers, and could do with a few more members. Don't be shy, one of our Ladies, who is 87, made her debut last year, her first song in public.

The Ukelele Group started with just four of us in January. Now we are 13. The group caters for absolute beginners, most have never played a musical instrument before. So far everyone has picked it up, and we are merrily plucking and strumming away. If you do not own one, you can borrow mine for your first (taster) meeting with us. Let me know you are coming, brianhaswell@gmail.com or 01733 700896, so I can be prepared.

Brian Haswell

Creative Writing Groups

The Writing Creatively group are concentrating their efforts on exploring a range of genres this season. The Creative Writing group and Writers Forum group are both exploring the diversity of relationships for the whole academic year.

Writers Forum decided they want to work on more specific aspects of classic duos in short story format. Twins, siblings, teacher/pupil, vicar/parishioner, etc while Creative Writing are using genres to stimulate their work. Historical, Romance, Adventure, etc.

It is also exciting that several members are concentrating on extended writing following a set of characters through events and situations over a period of time and various settings.

At the end of January the three groups joined with the Poetry Writing Group for their annual Literary Lunch, this time at the Cote Brasserie.

Pam Kounougakis

Earth Science

So far this year we've built the earth, placed oceans and continents upon it and moved those continents around a bit. We've talked in detail about the current Ice Age and handled loads of rocks and fossils. We've visited the Natural History Museum and spent a splendid morning in the Sedgwick Museum at Cambridge University. We've all had the most enjoyable time learning about our earth.

Any questions contact me on 01733 233840 or on

Engineering Group

We meet as part of the Peterborough Engineering Society at 7.30 pm on first Thursday of each month between October and May, our May meeting will be about the Stamford Canal. These meetings are held at Perkins Engines

Last year I organised a visit to Perkins Engines and Wing Water Treatment and am planning a couple of visits for this summer.

Brian Keegan

English Country Dancing

Do you enjoy barn dances and Ceilidhs? If so, come along to English Country Dancing and master all the moves. We learn new dances every week as well as revisiting those we know. Ours is a very sociable and friendly group.

You can come on your own or with a partner. Absolute beginners are welcome as well as those who last did it at school! All you need is a comfortable pair of shoes.

We meet on Tuesdays at 2.00pm in Marholm Village Hall. Please phone me for more information on 01733 269108.

Ann Pollack

Foto Friends

We are a large group of people with a keen interest in photography. We meet on the second Thursday of every month at St Andrews Church Hall Netherton at 10.00am. We are led by the enthusiastic photographer Malcolm Turner. The members have all variety of cameras; from point and shoot to top of the range SLRs. The one thing we have in common is we all want to take the best pictures we can. With this in mind we have talks from people who are expert photographers and also those from within the group who are willing to share their knowledge.

Every month we have a talk about a subject e.g. portrait, landscape, then at the next month we provide a photo of that subject. At the end of the meeting we have an informal critique on the photos members have provided; this is very lighthearted.

A cup of tea or coffee with biscuits is provided at half time. Sometimes we have a little trip out to take photos in the better weather.

These meetings are a good chance to improve your photography and meet like minded people who are friendly and non judgmental. If you enjoy photography and want to get the best from your camera, come and join us. You don't know what you can do until you try!

Jean Brudenell

Holistic Health

So far this term we have studied colour and how it affects every part of our lives. Our tutor has also demonstrated reflexology and we have practised on each other. The group have found the class very interesting and are learning things they did not know before. Our tutor puts the information over really well and also makes us laugh.

In reply our tutor says that she enjoys taking the class and in turn has learnt so much from them.

Barbara Perry, Class Secretary

Homenene Rummikubs

The group has seen a few changes over the last few months, we now meet on the second Friday in every month only.

The group is 34 strong and we now have a waiting list. A lot of the members would like to play more times in the month and badly need another group leader to take this forward.

If anyone is interested in leading a new group, please let me know and I will be glad to help where I can.

I understand that Copeland Bretton have space on Fridays, although other days may be available.

Anyone interested in taking a group can get in touch with me on 01733 718742 or lesrosemary22@gmail.com. In the meantime the Homenene group continue to enjoy their meetings in a relaxed friendly atmosphere.

Rosemary Dethridge

Jazz 4 You

The Group continues to thrive and new members are being welcomed on a regular basis. A huge variety of DVDs and CDs plus some old vinyl are enjoyed at our monthly meeting.

The meetings are held in Orton Waterville Village Hall on the second Friday of the month between September and June. We are a very happy and light-hearted group so, if Jazz is your thing, do come

along. For further information contact me on 01733 897144 or you can email me at maryboyall@googlemail.com

Mary Boyall

Mah Jong

We have over 60 active members so there must be something good about Mah Jong. Come and find out on Thursday morning and you could play by lunchtime.

Any questions contact me on 01733 233840 or on s.osborne7@ntlworld.com.

Stuart Osborne

Moto Bikers

Although the official twice-monthly rota finished at the end of October, the Moto Bikers have had three rideouts during the winter months.

In November we went to Duxford Aerodrome (and Imperial War Museum) for the Remembrance Sunday Service. For personal reasons two separate routes were used and by some magic both groups arrived at the roundabout close to the museum entrance at exactly the same time so that we all entered the car park together without missing a beat.

As several of our members are ex-military some impromptu personal guided tours occurred. I was particularly fortunate being guided around the Land Warfare hangar by a Moto Biker who had served in the Falklands and who had personal associations with the Personnel Carrier which is now displayed at the entrance to the hangar. At the end of November, as the weather was so mild, a trip to the National Motorcycle Museum was arranged. The out and back routes were each about 75 miles. Members who took part thoroughly enjoyed the day and it brought back many enjoyable memories of their youth.

In January the weather was still mild and a ride to the Chalet Café near Melton Mowbray was organised. Unfortunately, on the day it turned out to be quite windy (although not as bad as Storm Doris). On arrival at the café, a huge wood burning stove was spotted blazing away with 3 unoccupied settees around it. These were quickly grabbed and we all enjoyed pots of tea or coffee accompanied by warm scones.

The 2017 season kicks off in April with the first planned ride being to Coventry Transport museum. Rides will continue every 2nd and 4th week of each month until October. Already in the rota is a ride in June to the Lincoln Road Transport Museum. In addition to the twicemonthly

rides, any member of the group can organise rides at any time they feel their throttle hand starting to twitch.

Following the success of last year's Offa's Dyke and Circuit of Snowdonia holiday trip, plans for a new holiday entitled The Great Yorkshire Ride, are well underway. Day 1 will take us up through Lincolnshire, over the Humber Bridge and on to Whitby. Day 2 will take in the North Yorkshire Moors and the Yorkshire Dales finishing over the border in Cumbria for two nights in Keswick. Day 3 sees a circuit of Cumbria with an extended stop at the Lakeland Motor Museum, which is home to many of Donald Campbell's Bluebird Record Breaking vehicles. Day 4 takes us quickly back into the Yorkshire Dales and eventually returning to Peterborough via Derbyshire.

The Motor Bikers group welcomes any members with an interest in Motorcycling.

Roy Turner

Plane Daft (Aviation)

Attendances for the 2016-17 session programme have maintained gratifyingly high levels, with 37, 47, 36 and 34 present, including several who are new to both the Group and Peterborough U3A.

November's meeting saw a welcome return for Michael Kennedy to speak about his adventures with the RAF's team supervising the international Open Skies policy. This involved many flights in his allocated Andover aircraft over Europe, including parts of the former Soviet Bloc, notably Ukraine, when he and his crew were able to photograph airfield installations. With his customary humour he related many tales, including the very poignant story when in Ukraine;

his crew, wishing to commemorate Remembrance Day, sought approval from the airbase commander, and were then joined on their parade by the entire airbase, which completely closed down for 10 minutes.

The December meeting started with John Hyde telling us about the planning, preparations and execution of the bombing of the runway at Port Stanley, Falkland Islands in 1982. It proved a most illuminating account, complimenting David Howlett's earlier talk about the logistics of the raid. There followed a couple of films; one of the flight of the Vickers Vimy replica across Africa and the second some nostalgic scenes at London Heathrow airport in the 1950s and 60s. In between

the films we were treated to a generous buffet, provided by the Bowling Centre, which set us up for Christmas.

January's meeting brought a disappointment, a hospital appointment prevented our expected speaker attending. Instead, a friend of his and new group member, Barry Tempest, told us some of Henry Labouchere's (the intended speaker) flying adventures, as well as his own, keeping many of the audience spell-bound until more DVDs were served up!

David Skillen came to speak to us in February, to share his studies of the history and service of World War I Zeppelin airships. He related his story to the ways the Zeppelin's influenced many developments in flying over the years, and, to some extent still do, even though the last Zeppelin was scrapped early in World War II.

Three more meetings are planned for the rest of the session, which it is hoped will be of interest. The Group Annual (Day) trip, Tuesday 13 June, comprises a visit to the De Havilland Aircraft and Royal Gunpowder Museums in June – *details under the heading Day Visits*.

So the good year continues, Thanks is due to all who attend meetings so loyally and to the catering team; John Truluck and Peter Gilbert and all others who help out.

Terry McCarthy

Railways Studies

Attendances for 2016-17 meetings continue to achieve gratifyingly high levels. Since October: 37, 31, 39 and 36 have been present, including several new to both the Group and Peterborough U3A.

The November meeting featured Peter Wright and Brian Hall of the B17 Steam Locomotive Trust, and started with a potted history of the LNER B17 class. Thereafter, they considered why re-creation of this not-particularly-successful locomotive type was justified, citing, in particular, its links with East Anglia. There followed a detailed report of progress made, including video of the frames being cut and details of work achieved and acquisitions made to date. In short, an interesting exposé of redeveloping old technologies, with some new, to create something resembling, but a slightly improved upon prototype which disappeared in the early 1960s.

For the Christmas meeting Graham Stevenson presented another miscellany of railway orientated music. Just before the tea break a quiz

tested our knowledge, before settling-back in the second part, to a showing of the classic pre-war railway film *Night Mail*. However, the tea/coffee break was accompanied by a sumptuous buffet catering for all tastes!

Geoff Catlin returned (possibly for the last time – he and his wife are re-locating to Germany in February) to give the second part of his Fifteen Inches (i.e. track gauge) presentation. It was his usual encyclopaedic production, which covered the 15” gauge railway scene up to the present time, showing exemplars of the exhibition, garden festival, coastal, funfair and many other small railways. Thanks Geoff, for all you have given to the Group over the past five years and we are sure you will enjoy re-acquainting yourself with steam railways in Germany.

Intended to be a double-header February’s meeting saw ‘Tommy’ Tomalin presenting a large number of, mostly colour photographs illustrating the Blisworth – Peterborough line. This was accompanied by an outline history of the line and those it linked with, from its opening by the London & Birmingham Railway in 1845 (one of the first railways into Peterborough) and some very useful maps. Most of his photographs, all beautifully scanned by Brian Sullivan, dated from the 1960s, interspersed by some older views and some post closure scenes, notably on the Nene Valley Railway, presently occupying the section from Wansford to Peterborough. All in all, a most interesting afternoon featuring a local railway route.

Four more presentations await us this session, plus the annual trip (see page31). Thanks to all who so loyally attend meetings and make their organisation so worthwhile. Particular thanks are due to

(cont’d on page 31)

Celebrating 25 years of U3A

In April 1992 a meeting was organised at Bretton Woods School by John Knight, a Community Tutor at the school. This resulted in a steering committee being formed followed by an inaugural meeting on 4 June in the Town Hall, attended by 80 people, to launch our organisation.

Our early history has been recorded in previous magazines and copies of these and relevant articles are on the website for reference under a new section called '*Our History*'. So if you wish to read more, please look up the following:

- News No 1 Summer 1992
- News No 2 October 1992
- Listing the first few Courses as Groups were then called
- News No 7 December 1993
- The first in the current A5 format listing 26 Groups
- News No 39 May 2002
- 10th Anniversary - John Knight wrote about the first 10 years
- News No 70 May 2012 20th Anniversary
- John Douglas - The first 20 years from the January 2012 News
- Bill Collin's tribute to Wallace Giddings from the April 2016 News
- Bill Collin's tribute to John Knight from the August 2016 News

In this April 2017 News the early years up until 2000 are reflected. So many people have been involved in helping shape and grow our organisation that it is impossible to do justice to them all. Hence a small number of past and present members have been selected. By recording their memories, we can record and pay tribute to all who worked very hard and dedicatedly to make Peterborough U3A the success it is today. For this News, Helen Henton interviewed Paul Parker and Jean Bodily. Sheila Martin interviewed Pippa Yates.

- Paul Parker, our first Chairman, has served continuously on the committee since its formation. Paul also started his Musical Alphabet Group in January 1993, which continues today.
- Jean Bodily was Chairman from 1995 until 1999 and currently runs a Lunch Club and the Knit and Natter Group.
- Pippa Yates was heavily involved as Groups Coordinator in those early years and helped the number of groups grow from 29 in 1994 to 55 by the year 2000.

The Chairmen during these formative years were: Paul Parker 1992-1995, Jean Bodily 1995-1999, Jill Wright 1999 and Ken Winfield 2000. You will find their photographs in the centre pages.

Between the formation in 1992 and 2000 membership grew from 122 to 663 and the number of groups from 7 to 55.

Brian

Keegan

Paul Parker - Years of Loyalty

When I noted Paul Parker's name on my list of those to be interviewed as being a significant person at the birth of the U3A in Peterborough, I could not recollect meeting him before, but when Paul opened his front door to welcome me in for our session together, I recognised him immediately. An atmosphere of warmth grew from there on in!

Some of the history of our U3A you may have read before in the August 2016 magazine, but I wanted to take note of Paul's

personal involvement and recollections of those early days in the 1990s.

Paul, a Mathematics teacher, from Bretton Woods Community School, spoke to me of how John Knight, also at the school, became enthused by the concept of the U3A. This energy and enthusiasm led to a steering committee forming, and holding an initial meeting, which Paul attended. An inaugural meeting followed at the Town Hall in June 1992. Those invited and subsequently attending the inaugural meeting, included representatives of the National U3A organisation, the Mayor and Mayoress of Peterborough accompanied by the Headmaster of Bretton Woods Community School, John Gribble, members of the steering committee, and the numbers registered as present, included 80 interested members of the public.

Whilst extremely keen to start the U3A group locally, John Knight was in employment, so was not able to become an official member. This allowed Paul, as a U3A member already retired, to be elected to the Chair at the first Official U3A Meeting held in July 1992, a position Paul held until 1995.

Paul chaired monthly Committee/Progress meetings at the City Library; he personally believed the membership should be kept briefed about the local U3A activities, so initiated a newsletter bearing a logo of

Paul's design. The local newspapers kept an interested eye on proceedings, assisting with publicity, so within a few weeks the eligible public had requested 122 membership forms and further growth was predicted.

By September 1992 walking groups emerged, individuals feeling the strength and security of walking within a group. Likewise the Travel and Theatre Clubs commenced for similar reasons.

Paul felt that if a group met weekly, such a commitment could prohibit an individual joining a wider variety of activities. Paul suggested that some groups should meet fortnightly or even monthly, this idea was welcomed by many of the members wanting to experiment with their time and ambitious intentions.

Paul continued to edit the Newsletter for eighteen years, retiring from the task quite recently, this well presented newsletter, (copies of which are carefully archived) containing vital information, is now posted to members' home addresses, but historically was once collected by each member, postage funds then being somewhat tight.

As a Leader involved since 1997 Paul thoroughly deserves the title of *Day Visit Organiser Extraordinaire* having arranged travel and outings to a variety of fabulous places of interest: museums, exhibitions, forts, piers, concerts, gardens and magnificent houses of greater or lesser stature. Amazing outings, when you consider the organisation of the number of visits taking place annually and varying requests of the participants involved. Paul appears to bear the responsibility incurred easily, and I believe members acknowledge this fact, particularly as we would not attempt such a visit on our own.

After 25 years Paul is still involved with the Musical Alphabet Group, whose members have gathered in his home; many of them have attended for years, adding much to the joy that Paul feels about leading such a group. For Paul personally, he notes that the U3A provides contact with others who have similar interests, who find enjoyment in visiting our glorious heritage sites, and of course in

joining him in quietly understanding and absorbing
 musical compositions.
 Thank you so much Paul for allowing me
 a session with you and for your years of
 loyalty to the Peterborough U3A.

Helen

Henton



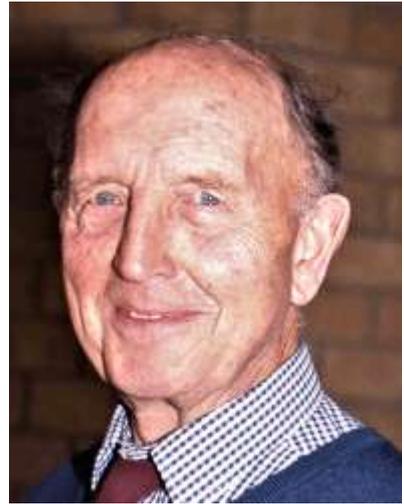
Paul
 Activities
 Jean



Parker –
 Day 1997
 Bodily



Jill
Ken
Activities



Wright
Winfield -
Day '99



John
Activities
Yates
Day



Knight -
Day1999 Pippa
- Activities



Early
Group
Swimming

Bretton



Tuesday Walkers
Early Group at
Woods Pool

Jean Bodily - Comfortable

I have known Jean Bodily for many years mainly as a Lecturer Colleague at Peterborough Regional College, and latterly as a member of the first local U3A Writing Life's Stories Group. So I was delighted to be asked to interview Jean as one of the initial members of the Peterborough U3A, giving me the opportunity to meet up with her and renew our friendship. Jean welcomed me into her home on 30 November, the atmosphere, as always, in this lady's presence, was comfortable and easy going. Jean responded to my questions about her U3A involvement by declaring that she became a member due to the enthusiastic feedback about the organisation made by her great friend, Kathleen Chambers. Kathleen was already

involved with Self Development / Self Awareness groups.

to Jean, having been recently widowed, found that belonging to U3A filled a hole in her life. She believed that U3A gave her not only new friends, but also an incentive to take part in new activities, to think more widely, to continue learning, while recognising that meeting under the auspices of the U3A, she associated with people of like minds, at a similar life stage and age. Jean suggested that the title University refers to no ordinary University, where subjects are studied, but to a University of Life, of the Third Age!

Due to her background and involvement with other groups in the community, Jean took on an early committee role, being quickly elevated to Chairperson, a position she held for 4 years. During this period Jean received support from John Knight, who was completing a Master's Degree in Working with Adults. John was still employed at Bretton Woods School where John Gribble was the Headmaster; the latter became a significant supporter of the U3A idea. From this influential group, aided by Paul Parker and others, the U3A expanded, Jean, as the Chairperson, and the Committee, liaised with John Gribble who continued to allow the school premises to accommodate meetings and publicity events, initially free of charge, later a rent was required.

It was at this stage that Jean, with John Knight's assistance, instigated and organised a publicity event named Activities Day in 1994, the face for the local U3A then as now. Fliers were printed and sent out to Peterborough homes, and the city's public venues, informing a wide audience of the existence of this new

Organisation. I remember the fliers, for
it was one such flier that enticed me
personally to join.

The National Executive were invited to the
initial Activities Day, and attended, they were
undoubtedly impressed.

As a result of the Activities Day
membership increased dramatically. New groups
evolved, new venues sought, home-based groups
began, all with volunteer leaders registering their group
membership.

Jean started the groups she still leads to this
day, i.e. The Sunday Lunch Group and The Knit
and Natter Group. Both groups provide endless
companionship for the members, but the
latter group goes further in its mission, by
providing knitted items for the Homeless, plus
items for sale at the City Hospital Shop.
The collected funds are then distributed
either to the Hospital or Age Concern.

In June 2016 I retired from leading 'A' group
- Writing Life's Stories, but felt confident
in the continued success of the group, when
Kathleen Chambers and Jean agreed to take on
leadership.

Jean believes U3A to be a great
organisation, a place where long term friendships
are triggered, where an individual finds new
inner depths, develops creative skills, and with
members encouraging one another to stretch
themselves, as well as supporting one
another through life's hiccups, they become
comfortable about ageing.

Jean spoke of her enjoyment in belonging
to such an organisation that offered so many
benefits to an individual, where doors were
opened and phone calls were answered.

I left Jean's home at ease with life.
Thank you Jean, for our time together, both now
and years ago.

Helen

Henton

Pippa Yates - Memories

Pippa has been a member of our U3A since its early years and with her husband Peter served on the committee from September 1995 in various roles. In June 1996 they were responsible for Accommodation and between June 1997 and September 2002 held the post of Groups Coordinators. They were responsible for running Activities Day, held in those days at Bretton Woods School, as well as supporting group leaders and encouraging the formation of new groups. In 1994 our membership was 205 and we had just 29 groups, by 2000 the number of members had more than doubled to 663 and we had 60 groups as well as countryside walks organised by Mary Crunkhorn and Day Visits organised by Pat Low. In September 1997 Pippa and Peter together with Renee Dighton and Charles Bonsor organised a three-day recruitment fair in Queensgate resulting in an additional 43 members being directly recruited. Bill Wilson designed and produced some 60 posters advertising all our then groups for the event. Pippa started a monthly Friendship Group in December 1995 inviting members to 'Come and make friends and enjoy talks,

games, quizzes and occasional coffee mornings at a members houses'. Back in 1997 the demand for scrabble was high, despite there being a group in the Orton's run by Bill and Elsie Wilson and *Scrabble at Werrington* run by Dorothea Talbot, Pippa was able to start another group *Duplicate Scrabble*, which met every three weeks.

In June 1997 The Tea Dance group was another Pippa initiative. This included ballroom, sequence, line and fun dancing, beginners were welcomed and partners were not essential.

When Peter joined the committee in June 1996 he was the Chairman of Peterborough and District Table Tennis Association. Pippa not only assisted him in this role but was herself a qualified coach. This interest resulted in Pippa starting our first Table Tennis Group in the spring of 1997, which met at Peterborough's Table Tennis Centre in Rock Road.

During her time on the committee Pippa was involved with helping to run many other events including quizzes, the annual dance, canasta and Activities Day. She has fond memories of working with and the friendship of Pat Lowe, Ronnie Belton, Ken Winfield, John Knights and Michael Bryan who were all very active in our early years.

Sheila

Martin

Interviewers Helen Henton and Sheila Martin with the article
and additional research from our archive of magazines
written by Brian Keegan.

(Cont'd from page 22)

Peter Gilbert, Alan Compton and their helpers for serving the midway tea and coffee.

This year it is an ambitious excursion to Didcot Railway Centre. While there is a steady uptake by members of the Group, if any other member of Peterborough U3A would like to join us, details of the day out are shown below along with application details:

DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST 2017

Provisional Times: Depart Werrington at 7.55am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 8.05am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.15am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 8.00pm.

Didcot Railway Centre, home of the Great Western Society, is centred on a 1930s steam locomotive depot. This and adjoining works are home to approximately 21 steam locomotives, most of which are restored and of which at least two are likely to be in steam the day we visit. In addition there is the unique Steam Railmotor, several diesel locomotives, a gas turbine locomotive and a GWR diesel railcar. Mainly in the carriage shed are up to 36 carriages, many restored, dating from 1894 to the 1950s, when the last GWR design coaches were constructed. There is also a representative range of goods rolling stock on display around the depot.

There are two operational demonstration lines – trains should be working on both, when we visit. A unique feature is the recreated section of Broad Gauge track, though, sadly, neither replica locomotive is operative at present, their boiler certificates having expired.

The GWS Museum is worth a visit and the newly constructed research centre should be open for viewing. Dotted around the site are other relics, mostly of GWR origins, including a GWR halt, two working signal boxes, the Broad Gauge transfer shed, a World War II air raid shelter etc.

The inner man/woman is catered for café and the shop offers a wide range of railway books etc.

Cost including travel and entry to the site:

U3A members £30.00 (non-members £33.00)

Deadline for booking 2 June 2017

(costs based on a minimum of 30 participating)

Book your place by contacting **Terry McCarthy on 01733 232518 or e-mail terrymacu3a@gmail.com**, initially, who will provide a booking form, for return within seven days, to:

**PETERBOROUGH U3A, RAILWAYS STUDIES GROUP
PETERBOROUGH U3APO Box 1341,
PETERBOROUGH, PE2 2QD**

Cheques should be made payable to PETERBOROUGH U3A. Receipts will only be given if you enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Terry McCarthy

Rowing News

I wonder how you have spent the winter months. On a Caribbean cruise maybe or enjoying an escape to the warmth of the Canary Islands or perhaps curled upon a sofa in front of the fire reading another Agatha Christie and hoping for Spring to come early?

Not so the feisty members of the Rowing Club who have braved all weathers in pursuit of their sport: rainstorms, a frozen lake, winds which turned the rowing course into an imitation of the North Sea. Indeed, if you had passed by the Peterborough City Rowing Club on a cold Monday morning, you may have caught a glimpse of the rowers very fashionably kitted out in bobble hats, padded jackets and thermal leggings, ready to take to the water. When it hasn't been possible to row or scull they have used the facilities of the gym or been put through their paces on the ergos (rowing machines) by enthusiastic coaches eager to develop race-ready fitness amongst the group, already looking forward to entering their next Head Race Challenge on the Nene.

It's not all numb fingers and pain though. An outing for dinner at the Red Lion Inn at Warmington in March was a warm and cheerful occasion and we continue to enjoy hot drinks and a lot of cake after each rowing session, particularly when it's a birthday celebration. Other social events, including a rowing trip to France, are planned for 2017.

With thanks to our patient and hard working coaches and coxes who make rowing fun and, some would say, addictive.

More members are always welcome, whether they are experienced rowers or complete beginners. If you are interested in joining us on the water on a Monday morning or Thursday afternoon

please contact Barry Clarkson at 07570 473153 or
rbarryc@hotmail.com.

Elizabeth Jackson

Rhythmaires

After 23 years of pleasure leading the Rhythmaires Music group I have decided to pass the honour on to another leader. We have progressed from a group of some six recorder players to a 15-piece band consisting of various instruments and during the past three years we have collected £1,400 for CLIC Sergeant (cancer fund for children).

It has been a pleasure to perform with the group and I do hope that a member from our huge Peterborough U3A will come forward to take over the leader role for this enthusiastic group as it would have been such a pity to see the Rhythmaires fold after such a long and successful run.

Audrey Creed

Table Tennis

We are 25 strong and meet every Friday at 4.30pm in Longthorpe Village Hall for an hour of energetic play. We play rotating doubles so we try to ensure we have a different partner each time. Our Quiz team triumphed in the U3A Quiz demonstrating the cerebral advantages of developing one's dexterity and brain through playing this game!

Unfortunately our group is full but thanks to Adrian Stone another group has been formed which meets between 3.00 and 4.00pm in the same hall also on Fridays.

Brian Keegan

Singing for Pleasure and Harmony for Pleasure

In December the Harmony group participated joyfully for the second time in the Nine Lessons and Carols Service at Newborough church. Unfortunately Marjorie our pianist was unable to join us, but Pauline ably filled the bill. Members of the group also sang a selection of carols and festive songs at the U3A Christmas party at The Fleet. In February many of us enjoyed our yearly lunch at our favourite Italian restaurant in Crowland.

The Singing for Pleasure group continues to thrive with attendances in excess of fifty members, sometimes even exceeding

sixty. During November and December our weekly programmes mainly featured Christmas carols and festive songs, but from the New Year we have reverted to our usual format of songs from the shows, and traditional airs and rounds. In February many of the members attended our annual lunch, this time at The Woodman in Longthorpe, organised effectively as usual by Shirley.

Margaret Smith

Spanish Groups

The three Spanish groups continue at the Copeland Community Centre with almost 80 members at the three different levels. A Spanish dinner was organised at the Parcs restaurant in March where 60 members and partners had an enjoyable evening.

The groups are Basic Spanish on Tuesday morning led by John Douglas, Intermediate Spanish on Monday morning led by Caroline Davis and Improving Spanish on Thursday afternoon led by Claire Bysshe.

John Douglas

Terry's Story

I was born and raised in a small village up the Swansea valley, called Pontardawe. At that time, much of the population of the village was Welsh speaking, as was the school I attended. Unfortunately, I could not speak Welsh myself. At the time, I didn't think too much about it, but as the years went by, I began to understand how important the Welsh language was to the Welsh people, both historically and for the future of Welsh culture. Having lived in England since the age of eighteen, I was afraid the likelihood of my being able to speak Welsh had passed me by, hence it was a wonderful opportunity for me when I heard about the University of the Third Age Welsh language class in Peterborough.

I attended my first class in September, along with some other new students, as well as some old hands. The group is split into two halves, beginners and intermediates. I am in the beginners group. We meet once a week for about 2 hours at a time, with a tea break in the middle. We learn Welsh grammar, vocabulary and Welsh speaking. It is very informal, relaxed and helpful. Between lessons, our tutors send us notes and exercises to read at home, then follows it up at the next lesson. There is no pressure to pass any tests or examinations,

and we all chip in and help each other, especially with the speaking parts.

I have an added difficulty, because I am totally blind following a sky-diving accident 10 years ago, so I am unable to read any written text. I am able to overcome this to some extent with the use of my laptop and speech reader software. My tutor sends me lessons via email, along with audio recordings in Welsh. He helps me with spellings and pronunciation, for which I am very grateful. Also, the other people at the class all help me as much as possible, and help me make good progress. The University of the Third Age offers a very wide range of classes and opportunities, so there is almost certainly something for everyone to enjoy. The important thing is that you have an open mind and enjoy the experience, without being under any pressure to pass any examinations or test. These classes are there for you to enjoy yourself. Take advantage of the opportunity that the University of the Third Age offers you.

Terry Jones

Theatre Group

Our first trip of 2017 was to London to see the not to be forgotten musical **The Book of Mormon**, but we won't go into too much detail. This was followed by a return to London for the 5star musical **Dreamgirls**. To ring the changes, it was then to Matthew Bourne's ballet **The Red Shoes** at The Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

This year sees the opening of quite a few new shows in London including Andrew Lloyd Webber's **The School of Rock**, **42nd Street**, **An American in Paris** and **Girls**, all of which we will be attending.

With other trips to Milton Keynes Theatre and The Curve Theatre in Leicester to include an Agatha Christie **Who Done It**, and, of course, our annual visit to the outdoor theatre at Kilworth.

This promises to be a busy year. As always, the success of the Group relies on the support of the members.

Dorothy & Graham Woods

Thursday Walkers

Didn't we have a lovely time the day we went to – Cardea! Then we went on a bus! Thursday walks usually start in a village, perhaps

Ferry Meadows or Burghley Park but this was a day with a difference. Organised by Joan with encouragement from group leader Brian it was quite a new venture. Often we only know our own area of the city and this gave us the opportunity to find out about an area perhaps some of us had not been to before.

Starting at Cardea we found that Stagecoach had laid on a double-decker for us. Pam took some photos and the friendly driver took one on his phone to show his mates at the depot.

We got off the bus at Fletton and went through Fletton cemetery. This cemetery has Italian and Polish graves and memorials different from the ones we are used to seeing so was found interesting. Carrying on to Stanground we went to Joan's home where we were welcomed into the garage and kindly supplied with mulled wine and biscuits.

Suitably refreshed we continued through the old part of Stanground, seeing evidence of earlier occupations, boatyards with properties going down to the river. A walk along the river followed before we made our way back to Cardea in time for lunch. A day with a difference and a lot of fun!

Pam Chapman & Dorothy Harbron

Tuesday Ten Pin Bowling

In December the Tuesday Ten Pin Bowling group had a Christmas bowl; this included two games of bowling with prizes for strikes when the front (king pin) was red, plus Christmas lunch, followed by mince pies and coffee and mints. Thirty of our regular members attended and had a really nice morning we also had a surprise visit from father Christmas himself. Many thanks to Bretton Bowl for all there help in organizing this event.

Alan Lane

Tuesday Watercolours

After nearly two years the Tuesday Watercolour Group has had to leave our home at St John's Community Hall in Mayor's Walk due to its imminent closure. Although it wasn't a particularly salubrious room it suited us fine and we are very sad to leave as we have been very happy there. However, we have found new premises in The South

Grove Community Centre in Woodston, which has lots of advantages and hopefully we will soon settle in. Unfortunately there is still a waiting list for this group as no-one wants to leave!!

Valerie McNeill

Walkie-Talkies

Since the last newsletter the Walkie-Talkies Walking Group has continued its weekly rota of walks with just a two week break over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

Our Christmas walk was at Warmington where we were booked into the Red Lion for our meal accompanied by one or two additional partners and spouses. We enjoyed the meal so much that we immediately book ourselves in for our 2017 Christmas lunch.

The group walks within a thirty mile radius of Peterborough and several recent walks have been at the extremities of this area. In the South, our first walk of 2017 was at Paxton Pits. In the North we have recently walked at Colsterworth, passing the entrance to Woolsthorpe Manor, the home of Isaac Newton.

The Walkie-Talkies pride themselves on walking in all weathers and our resolve was recently put to the test. A planned walk from Godmanchester to Houghton Mill and back coincided with Storm Doris and despite the forecast, sixteen members of the group assembled at the start. For the first half of the walk the wind was behind us and although strong and blustery it did not present too much of a problem. Approaching the mill, across the meadow, we felt the full force of the storm and took shelter behind the mill for our drink stop. The repeated cracking sound of branches breaking of a nearby tree in the 64 mph winds encouraged us to get on our way.

Back out on the meadow and heading directly into the full force of the storm the walk leader decided it might be dangerous to continue, as walkers could be blown over into the river. Reluctantly the group agreed to reverse our outbound route but to divert through the Nature Reserve. Here we encountered horizontal rain as the wind picked up the tops of the waves on the lake and threw them at us. We arrived back in Godmanchester unbowed with our reputation intact.

Our annual walking holiday this year will be to the South Downs in September. Several members have been able to supply the group with

walking routes in the Downs either from personal experience or from researching in various guides and websites. However, finding accommodation proved to be more difficult but three members of the group attended the Group Travel Show at the Birmingham NEC and a number of useful leads eventually resulted in us finding a suitable hotel.

The show also provided lots of other ideas for other walking holidays and a tentative plan is forming for a trip to Switzerland in 2018. Research is underway and contacts have been made with the Group Travel Departments of the Switzerland Travel Centre and Thompson.

In the meantime our weekly rota of half day and occasional full day walks continues.

Lynn and Roy Turner

U3A Caribbean Cruise 2017 or Senior Citizens in Paradise

Fortyfour U3A members set off under the superb guidance of Laurence and Chris Brettell. Once again John from Fowlers coaches drove us to Heathrow, where we stayed the night in a hotel ready for our flight the next morning.

It was my second cruise with U3A and I was sharing with Alison Berry. I have known Alison for a long time and we got on well together. Our trip started with a couple of hitches, someone forgot their ESTA form, we went back for that and I lost my Passport and Boarding card for a few minutes at the airport, not a good start!! We had a slight delay at take off, but got under way flying to Miami in the end. We stayed in a very nice hotel the first night in Heathrow and a second night in Fort Lauderdale, before boarding the *ship Serenade of the Sea*. The ship had a capacity of just over 2,000 passengers, most of them American.

Another slight hiccup, a suitcase went missing when we got off the coach at the Port. Luckily it was only shoes and not clothes!

We cruised for two days, spending time finding our way round the ship, and getting to know others in our group. On Saturday we had a formal evening, and it was lovely to see all of our group dressed for the occasion. Laurence said it was very nice to see as some male passengers, not in our group did not have jackets or ties! Thanks to David Hunt for taking the photographs. We had a mixture of weather, some cloudy days and quite windy but warm, but we were all able to enjoy ourselves; we also had lots of sun.

We visited Tortola, St Kitts, Dominica Island, Antigua, St. Maarten before cruising for two days back to Fort Lauderdale. When we arrived at Fort Lauderdale the coach that was taking us to Miami Airport had the lost suitcase of shoes on board. Where they had been was not really known!!

We celebrated five birthdays while we were away: Michael Meddings, Jo Davis and Mary McCarthy on the same day and Roger Dangerfield.

People did their own thing. Some went on trips organised by the ship, some took taxis always readily available at the ports and went on various excursions around the Islands. The islands were very different, some very poor, some with lovely expensive houses and gardens. The local people were so friendly, especially the taxi drivers, who were keen to tell us as much about the Island as they could.

Alison and I and a few others swam in the Caribbean a couple of times, it was amazing, lovely and warm and very buoyant.

During the day there were lectures for anyone who was interested. Films were also shown on the ship, I went to see two, sat and watched Sully under the stars one night and The Girl on the Train another night.

In the evenings we all met for dinner and it was agreed we moved around each night to sit with different people, which worked well. After dinner most people went to the theatre to see the evening show. They were all good apart from an American comedian, who none of us liked. We all said a big thank you to Laurence and Chris for organising such a super holiday, they did a wonderful job and lost no one!

I can recommend U3A holidays, especially if you are on your own, you never feel you are alone as everyone is so friendly. I appreciate that.

Pam Blades

U3A Festive Break

On 21 November two coaches set off for a Festive Break to Warner's Alveston Hall Hotel. Following a very wet journey, we arrived to a warm welcome with a drink and mince pie.

On 'Christmas Day' we visited the World of Wedgwood. We toured the Wedgwood Factory where we looked down from the balcony on the potters and artists at work and then came down to ground level where we able to talk to some of them. The Wedgwood Museum was amazing, with the galleries telling the story of Josiah

Wedgwood, his family and the company he founded 250 years ago. The display of ceramics and items made by Wedgwood over the years was truly amazing. On site there was also a wonderful Christmas display, a tea tasting lounge, a dining hall and a Factory Outlet shop – a very interesting day.

Port Sunlight was the first destination for 'Boxing Day', where we were met by our very knowledgeable guides who gave us an hour long tour of one of the finest surviving examples of an industrial garden village in the UK, comprising 900 Grade II listed houses and 8 public buildings, set in 130 acres of well maintained parkland and gardens. It was founded by William Hesketh Lever in 1888 who wanted to create decent and affordable housing for the employees of his new Lever Brothers Soap Works. Certainly a place worth revisiting. Sadly we were unable to continue our journey on the Mersey Ferry to Liverpool due to technical problems but arrived by coach and had an enjoyable afternoon in this famous City.

'New Year's Eve' was a free day with some people travelling to Chester by bus, some to Nantwich by footbus or taxi and others just chilling out in the excellent hotel which provided us with delicious food and excellent entertainment.

Alas 'New Year's Day' brought us home after a very enjoyable Festive Break. Many thanks to Ann and Malcolm.

Julie Taylor

TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

You will be pleased to learn that Arthur is making a good recovery and intends to lead several holidays this coming year.

The last holiday of 2016 was a festive break at Warner's in Alvaston, Cheshire. We filled two coaches for this popular preChristmas holiday.

The first holiday of this year was an enjoyable Caribbean cruise, led by Laurence and Chris Brettell in the absence of Arthur and Pat.

Projected holidays for 2017 with Arthur

3 May & 10 May 2 groups to the Dolomites

4 Oct & 5 Oct 2 groups to Portugal

Projected holidays for 2017 with Ann

16 June	Portsmouth and the New Forest
30 July	A cruise to the Norwegian Fjords
14 September	A holiday in Cornwall
13 November	Warner's Festive Break at Littlecote
8 December	Christmas markets in Brussels and Bruges

2018 and Beyond

Arthur and Ann are making enquiries about possible future trips. Watch this space for further information. We think you might like to visit Bulgaria, Shetland & Orkneys, St Annes-on-Sea, Pitlochry and the Edinburgh Tattoo and Crete and ending the year with the ever popular Warner's Festive Break.

2017 Travel Club Meetings at Jack Hunt school

Saturday	22 April	10.00
Saturday	3 June	10.00
Saturday	8 July	10.00
Thursday	18 August	11.00 to 4.00pm on Activities Day at The Fleet
Saturday	21 October	10.00
Saturday	16 December	10.00

Please remember to bring your chequebook to all meetings. We don't take bookings without a deposit and we don't want you to be disappointed if there is no space left.

You can find all the above information and very much more (itineraries, booking forms, etc.) on the Peterborough U3A web site.

If you have any queries, please phone Arthur on 01733 756883 or Ann on 01733 269108.

VISIT TRAVEL CLUB ON THE WEB

We meet 7 times a year to describe our trips, show you our itineraries, take payments, and hand out tickets and labels. Some of our meetings can get a bit crowded

Do you want to avoid the queues and complete the paperwork at home? You can do this and more as our meeting dates, travel dates, itineraries and booking forms are available on the internet and easily accessible from your computer or tablet.

You can view or print all of our documents or download them to your computer at any time. You do not have to log in to do this; anybody can read, print or download any of the documents.

You can access the Travel Club web pages from the main web site. Go to www.peterboroughu3a.org.uk and find the Travel Club web page on the **Activities** tab under **General Interest** or via the **A-Z** list. There you will see the general information that I provide about the Travel Club. For detailed information scroll down a little and click on **Click here**.

The word documents at the bottom of the screen list meeting dates and important dates for your diary, for paying deposits and balances, collecting luggage labels and travel details, etc.

Once you have chosen a trip, print out and complete the booking form. Bring the form and your completed cheque to the next Travel Club meeting and avoid queuing to complete a booking form on the day.

We also have interest lists online. You can click on one of these to open a form to express your interest. These are not a commitment nor do they confer any priority. Booking forms are always taken on a first come, first served basis at one of our meetings.

If you experience any problem then email me at pu3a.travel@libourne.co.uk.

Malcolm Pollack

DAY VISITS 2017

Welcome to Day Visits 2017

Please read this carefully if you intend to book for any day visit.

You do not need to belong to the Travel Club to book.

Non-U3A members are welcome as guests when they are prospective members, but have to pay a slightly higher charge. Please use the Booking Forms whenever possible. (Additional booking forms are usually available on visits, at monthly meetings and on the website.)

Photocopies are acceptable.

Please pay by cheque whenever possible. Cheques should be made payable to Peterborough U3A. Enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your form if you wish to have a receipt. Refunds cannot normally be made after the booking deadline. If you cancel we will try to re-sell your place, although you will have to pay the costs of this, which will be about £2.00 per person.

Sometimes a visit is arranged at the request of a particular group and they have an opportunity to book first. Otherwise we operate on a strictly first come first served basis, so it is wise to book as early as possible. It is best to book provisionally by phone, but confirmation with the full cost, must be received within seven days. A reserve list will be compiled once a visit becomes fully booked. While we hope to keep to the schedules detailed here, it is possible that changes may have to be made. When this happens we will try to let you know as early as possible. If we have to cancel any proposed visit you will of course be given a full refund. When a visit quickly becomes fully booked we may be able to put on a second coach but not necessarily for the same date.

Our pick-up points vary slightly from trip to trip. Our usual ones are: **Bretton Centre bus stop** (do not use Sainsbury's Car Park, you will probably end up with a £60 fine); **Thorpe Meadows** (please use the public car park **not** that of the Dragenfly Hotel or the public house); **Werrington (Crab & Winkle)** and **Bright Street Coach Station** (not the Bus Station).

Some people who live in the side road near the Crab & Winkle have complained about constant parking in their road. They know that the parking is not illegal but I can understand their problem, particularly when sometimes it is difficult to access or leave their drives. Can I suggest if you are going to use your car it is easier to park at Thorpe Meadows where it does not upset anyone. You would also get home earlier as Thorpe Meadows is usually the first drop off point

We ask the driver to reserve seats at the front of the coach for the organisers. This enables good and quick communication with the driver. Note the time of arrival back in Peterborough is the time we expect to be at Thorpe Meadows and can only be given approximately as it depends on, among other things, road conditions. Please note that wherever you are picked up, it is your responsibility to be there even if the coach is late. (In the last twenty years the coach has only

been late twice.) We cannot give refunds if you are not at the appropriate point when the coach leaves. We do not normally wait for latecomers.

Do not assume that every visit is fully booked immediately after the publication of this News. We do not hold Day Visit meetings so although some fill fairly quickly others take a longer time to fill.

Booking enquiries should be made to Mrs Gina Bates [01733 579317]. If you are booking for just one visit just cut off the bottom slip. It should be sent to **Peterborough U3A, c/o Mrs G Bates, 82 Temple Grange, Werrington, PETERBOROUGH, PE4 5DW.**

I am happy to deal with any queries, except those to do with booking, by phone on 01780 782976. If you cannot get hold of me, Sandi Osborne or Doreen Dare may be able to help (see inside front cover of this News). All the places we are visiting have their own websites. The easiest way to find out more about them is just Google the site name; there you will usually find much more information than I can put in the brief outlines that follow.

As with nearly all U3A activities none of the above people receive any remuneration, they are volunteers. We do occasionally make mistakes so we apologise in advance for those. Sometimes things happen beyond our control, which we try to make sure do not affect any particular visit, but of course that is not always possible.

I sometimes phone participants to give them information, please note my name so you do not just put the phone down on me because you think I am a stranger.

We only publish the above information once a year so it is a good idea to keep these pages for future reference. We look forward to seeing you on our visits.

Paul Parker [01780 782976]

PS We normally use Gretttons Coaches

KEW GARDENS Wednesday 12 April 2017

The coach leaves Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.55am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 8.05am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.15am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

Kew Gardens cover an area of about 300 acres. The vast number and variety of plants means the nature of Kew Gardens changes with the seasons. Out in the grounds, and inside the plant houses, thousand

of specimens progress through their annual cycles, flowering, fruiting, growing, and resting. All year long there are plants to be seen at their glorious best. Should it turn out to be a poor day outside there are an enormous number of inside places to see, including the Palm House, the Temperate House, the Alpine House, the Waterlily House, and much more besides. There are many places to eat and drink, shops, etc.

There is a land train for those who prefer to ride,
or cannot walk far

**Cost including travel and entry to Kew Gardens: U3A
members £24.75 (non U3A members £27.25)**

NATIONAL ARBORETUM Tuesday 25 April 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.40am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.50am, Bretton Centre Bus Stop at 8.00am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.10am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

The arboretum has been developed as a memorial to those who fell in the two world wars. There are many memorials around the arboretum. The arboretum helps us to remember some of past, but because it is an arboretum it is also a very beautiful place. Most of us would say it is a very beautiful place of remembrance. It covers quite a wide area. You can choose to walk round or use the Land Train, or more likely, part walk and part ride. There is a good place to eat a snack or meal or bring your own. There are all the usual facilities, so come and have an interesting day.

Cost: U3A members £14.30 (non-U3A members £16.80)

Deadline for booking 11 April 2017

BIRMINGHAM & SYMPHONY HALL CONCERT [2]

Thursday 4 May 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.40am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.50am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 8.00am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.10am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm

The programme for this concert is Beethoven's Symphony No. 2, Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E flat major and Dvorák's Symphony No.8.

No composer makes a happier noise than Joseph Haydn, and when Alison Balsom is the soloist you've got a concert that's pretty much

guaranteed to lift the spirits. After all, symphonies simply don't get any more cheerful than Beethoven's Second, except may be Dvorák's Eighth! Village bands, singing birds and hummable tunes: instant sunshine delivered with wit and charm by the young British conductor Ben Gernon.

There will be time to look round some of Birmingham before the concert; we usually arrive before 11.00am. It is the UK's second city, with all the shops you would expect. There are also some superb museums and art galleries and the canals. You will be dropped off and picked up fairly near to the city centre just outside Symphony Hall. There are usually spaces for those who do not want to go to the concert (see below)

Further details from Paul Parker [01780 782976]

Cost: Travel & Concert: £35.10 (Non-U3A members £37.60)

Cost: Travel only £10.50 (Non-U3A members £13.00)

Deadline for booking for the concert **16 February 2017**

Deadline for booking for travel only **20 April 2017**

COLCHESTER

Friday 5 May 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.30am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.40am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 7.50am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.00am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

In Roman times Colchester was the capital of England. We will be taking a guided tour on the morning of our visit. This will take us through Castle Park, the Dutch Quarter and the high street where our tour will begin. There are many medieval remains in Colchester. In the afternoon you can visit Colchester Castle, which is near to where we end the morning tour but there is much to see in Colchester so it entirely up to you how you spend the afternoon. The present cost of entry to the Castle is £7.20

Cost of Travel & Morning Tour U3A members £18.60

(Non-U3A members £21.10)

Deadline for booking 18 April 2017

CONSTABLE COUNTRY

Thursday 11 May 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.30am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.40am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 7.50am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.00am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

This is a trip for the Alphabet of Art Groups but if there are spaces left after 1 January it will be opened to the rest of the U3A members. John Shearman says: "This year we will visit Constable Country. Our main focus for the day will be time spent at Flatford, which provided inspiration for some of Constable's iconic paintings. We will be led by a Blue Badge Guide, Simon Gallup, who plans to visit East Bergholt (for lunch) and Dedham during the day," **Cost of Travel, and the Blue Badge Guide:**

£13.30 U3A members (£15.80 non-U3A members)

NOTE: Alphabet of Art Members should have booked before **1 January** to be sure of a place.

Others can book should there be any places left

Deadline 27 April 2017

DE HAVILLAND AIRCRAFT MUSEUM & THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER WORKS Tuesday 13 June 2017

The coach leaves Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.55am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 8.05am and Thorpe Meadows at 8.15am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

These two museums are not far from each other, De Havilland being in London Colney and the Royal Gunpowder Works in Waltham Abbey near the M25 and A1 junction. The morning will be spent at the De Havilland Museum and the afternoon at the Royal Gunpowder Works.

The De Havilland Museum claims to be the oldest aviation museum in the UK dedicated to the preservation and display of the De Havilland Aircraft. The De Havilland played an important role in the history of aircraft development in 20th century Britain, creating and world beating aeronautical innovations including aircraft such as the Mosquito – the Wooden Wonder, the Comet (the world's first jet airliner), the Tiger Moth (the backbone of the RAF's training aircraft in WWII) and Airspeed Horsa Glider which was used extensively by our airborne troops in 1944 during D-Day, Arnhem and the Rhine crossing. It is a working museum where De Havilland Aircraft are being actively

restored, so you are likely to see volunteers at work, who are always willing to answer your questions.

Departing from De Havilland at about 1.30pm we will travel by coach to the Royal Gunpowder Works at Waltham Abbey. Both locations have cafés so lunch can be taken either location.

The site is on the European Route of English Heritage where you can see many original buildings and structures from the Mills past. There are many aspects of the Mills' 300 year history, e.g. the journey from muskets to satellite launchers, top-secret research into changing propulsion techniques, rockets, the Armoury, 1940s Exhibition, and Women at War. It is a large site (170 acres) and for the first time the visitor land train is available at £2.00 per person extra (contact Terry if interested) to tour the site. There is also a Film and Exhibition centre.

Both sites have the usual facilities, toilets, museum shops, etc and offer disabled access to most displays, apart from aircraft cockpits when open. We will depart from Waltham Abbey at about 5.00pm.

**Cost including travel and entry to the two sites:
U3A members £16.00 (non-U3A members £18.50)
Deadline for booking 2 June 2017**

YORK

Wednesday 12 July 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.30am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.40am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 7.50am, Thorpe Meadows at 8.00am. Expected time back in Peterborough about 7.30pm.

There is so much to do in York: climb the 275 steps of York Minster's tower or 104 steps up to Clifford's Tower (both give fine views over the city); visit Jorvik for a journey back into the Viking Age; take a boat on the river, at the Castle Museum wander down the reconstructed Victorian Street, walk the 2½ miles of city walls to see York from a different perspective, time; visit the world's largest railway museum. The National Railway Museum is free. Of course there are the many shops down many narrow streets including the famous Shambles. Very near to the York Minster is the Treasurer's House and its garden, well worth a visit and its free if you are member of the National Trust

and have your membership card with you. Newgate Market operates seven days a week.

There are many eateries in York, including at nearly all the places mentioned above.

Note: We will drop off and pick-up near York city centre and the Railway Museum.

**Cost Travel Only: U3A members £16.70;
(non-U3A members £19.20)**

Deadline for booking 23 June 2017

RHS WISLEY Tuesday 25 July 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.20am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.30am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 7.40am, Thorpe Meadows at 7.50am. Expected time back in Peterborough about 7.30pm.

RHS Wisley is the premiere garden of the Royal Horticulture Society. It is also their largest. The flowerbeds and vegetable beds are interesting throughout the year. The Rock Garden is amazing. Besides the many plant displays there are several places to eat, and excellent plants to buy. There will not be time to see everything and should it be wet there are several interesting glass houses to visit.

**Cost of travel and entry: £29.30 U3A members
(£31.80 non-U3A members)**

TILBURY FORT AND SOUTHEND

Wednesday 2 August 2017

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 7.30am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 7.40am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 7.50am, Thorpe Meadows at 8.00am, back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

This visit takes us to two places on or near the River Thames. Tilbury Fort is at the beginning of the Thames estuary as you go down the Thames Rainham Hall is towards London from Tilbury

Tilbury Fort has defended London's seaward approach since Tudor times to the second-world war. Henry VIII built the first permanent fort here and Queen Elizabeth I delivered her Armada speech at nearby Tilbury in 1588. Charles II ordered his chief engineer, Sir Bernard de Gomme, to build the great artillery fort we see today, with work beginning in 1670. It is the best example of a

17th century bastioned fortress in England with its complete circuit of moats and outworks still substantially surviving. Highland prisoners were held here after the Jacobite rising of 1745. Much later the fort's guns helped shoot down a raiding Zeppelin in 1916.

To enter the fort you will pass through the magnificent Watergate and you can also see the historic Landport Gate. Visit the east gunpowder magazine to take in an exhibition tracing the fort's role in the defence of London and providing information on advances in military engineering. The atmospheric Victorian magazine tunnels in the north east bastion give an insight into a life of a 19th century gunner.

For impressive views of the Thames and the historic town of Gravesend be sure to step onto the fort ramparts.

Southend is much further down the Thames than Tilbury. It has the longest pleasure pier in the World. It is so long (1 1/3 mile) you can take a train to near the end. At the end of the pier you will get a different view of the Thames to the one you got at Tilbury. If it is not misty you will just about see Kent again. The end of the pier houses a pavilion and a café plus a RNLI lifeboat station. You have three choices: 1. You can walk both ways, 2. Walk one way and catch the train one way or 3. Catch the train both ways. The ticket price is not included in the charge below.

Last year Choice 1 was £2.00 - Concessions £1.00, and the most expensive i.e. both ways on the train was £4.30 and Concessions £2.20.

Cost of travel, entry to Tilbury Fort and guided tour of the fort:

£20.80 U3A members over 60

£21.30 U3A members under 60.

English heritage members pay £16.30

Non-U3A members pay £2.50 in addition the above prices

Deadline for booking 17 July 2017

U3A ACTIVITIES DAY

**Thursday 18 August 2017 At The Fleet at
Fletton**

From 11.00am to 4.00pm

**Reports and articles for next U3A News should reach the editor
not later than**

Friday 10 June 2017

Items can be given to Conny Yarwood or sent
by email to conny.yarwood@gmail.com
or by post clearly writing NEWS in the top left hand corner
of the envelope to the address below:

***PLEASE NOTE NEW PO BOX NUMBER
AND POSTCODE***

**Peterborough U3A News
PO Box 1341
Peterborough PE2 2QD**



Enjoying a Caribbean Cruise



St David's Day Dinner