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NEWS

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www.peterboroughu3a.org.uk



Rhythmaires Concert at Longthorpe Church

**U3A Address: Peterborough U3A, P O Box 946
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Treasurer	Derek Lea	01733 572245
Accommodation Manager	Michael Spencer	01733 570663
Day Visit Organiser	Paul Parker	01780 782976
Groups' Coordinator	Terry McCarthy	01733 232518
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Other Committee Members	Hilary Keegan	01733 265769
	Gill Parsons	01733 263211
	Chris Wareham	01733 263006
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SOME TELEPHONE NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED

Day Visits Organisers	Paul Parker	01780 782976
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	Doreen Dare	01733 260994
Theatre Group Organiser	Graham Woods	01733 234892
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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 visible and can be navigated using the menu tabs. Login is only required for full access to My Details and a part of the Activities. Use your **membership number** and **password** – initially the PIN you used on the old site or, for newer members, the one with which you were issued on joining.
- Please check your personal details under the **My Details** tab and make any necessary changes there – especially to your email address particulars if you have changed your email address since the start of your current membership period. If you record changes here you do not need to contact the Membership Secretary, but please remember to click the **Save My Details** button at the bottom before you leave the page.

NEW MEMBERS' MEETING

**SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2014
AT JACK HUNT SCHOOL**

Coffee Served from 9.30am
Meeting Starts 10.00am

Prospective Members and
any member who has missed previous
New Members' Meetings are welcome to attend

**U3A ANNUAL PARTY
FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2015**

7.30 to 11.00 pm

**Barn Dance with Dennis Cuddles Starlight Band
Jack Hunt School Hall**

**"BRING YOUR OWN BUFFET, DRINK AND GLASSES TO
SHARE WITH FRIENDS ON YOUR TABLE"**

TICKETS £8.00 (Inc. Raffle Ticket)
available from Ray and Carol Abell
Telephone 01733 577428

e-mail cabaret@talk21.com

Cheques payable to Peterborough U3A

U3A PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

QUILT SHOW

to be held on

Saturday 27 September 2014

From 10.00am to 4.30pm

at

All Saints Church, Park Road, Peterborough

Tickets: £2.00

**The 22nd Annual General Meeting of
Peterborough U3A
will take place at
The Town Hall on
Thursday 30th October 2014 at 10:00am.**

Tea/coffee will be served from 9:30am.

The business section of the meeting will be followed by a talk by Gail Stuart - daughter of Eric Morecambe - 'Morecambe Memories'

A creative Artist in her own right, Gail started her company "Morecambe Moments" some years after her father's death (Eric Morecambe).Her cards Posters and sundries, with the Morecambe/Morecambe and Wise theme running through them are proving increasingly popular.

Chairman's Report

U3A Annual Party

Ray and Carol Abell have for a number of years run a successful barn dance party for us. They have given us 12 months' notice that they wish to stop running this event and next January will be their last party. If we wish to have this well supported party in the future we will have to find someone else to take over. Carol and Ray are willing to show any volunteers the ropes. If you are keen to see the Party continue and are willing to be the group organiser, please get in touch with me.

Meetings at the Fleet will continue until at least next March

The committee is reviewing the costeffectiveness of The Fleet meetings. Each meeting costs approx. £130 to stage and last year the attendance was typically 40-50 people. The purpose of this meeting, as with the Town Hall meetings, is to give members an opportunity to find out about new activities, to socialize, to enjoy the variety of speakers and to meet the committee.

There are various options:

1. We could turn the meeting into a group activity with a group leader and charges to cover the cost.
2. We could simply carry on as now with a charge for each meeting at approx. £3.00 per head.
3. Or if members feel that the meetings at The Fleet are not needed any more we could discontinue them.

Please let me have your views on which of these options you would support.

Good news about The Fleet, though, is that Jan, our Speakers Secretary, has lined up an excellent list of speakers for the meetings that have been booked through to next March. On Wednesday 20 September, Don Chiswell will be talking about *The New World*. At our Fleet Christmas Party on Wednesday 10 December we shall be entertained to a short Pantomime by Stamford U3A's drama group. Any thespians among you who would like to take part should contact Rita King on 01780 757155.

Peterborough Engineering Society collaboration

We have been approached by Peterborough Engineering Society and agreed to run a collaborative programme of joint events with them. This involves us starting an Engineering Group. Hence we are looking for someone who is willing to be group leader. If you are interested, please contact Terry McCarthy or myself.

Committee membership

Our AGM is on Thursday 30 October and we are always looking for people willing to be on the committee. It is not too onerous a task and of course someone has to do it! In particular, Michael Spencer wants to pass on the role of accommodation officer. If you are willing to do just a little bit extra to help the running of your U3A, why not volunteer for this post. Full training will be given by Michael, give him a ring on 01733 570663 and see what it involves.

Not all work being Chairman!

On Saturday 21 June I spent a delightful hour or so at the rowing course to witness the naming of a number of new boats purchased by Peterborough Rowing Club. There were a number of different types of boats. Some 'unsinkable' boats for learners to help our rowers, a boat for disabled people and a couple of fast racing sculls. It was most enjoyable chatting to Colin Yarwood, our group leader, about the progress our members have made with their rowing and sculling. I also learnt the difference between sculling and rowing. Scullers use two oars and rowers one, not to mention that scull is spelt scull and not skull! Yes, we are learning all the time.

Our thanks to John O'Halloran for getting the rowing group, as well as many others, started.

Hope you all enjoyed the summer and are looking forward to trying some new activities in the autumn.

Brian Keegan

THE MONTHLY MEETINGS

AT THE TOWN HALL

The meeting at the Town Hall is held on the last Thursday of each month at 10.25am. Coffee and tea are available from 10.00am so that you can meet and talk to other U3A members and members of the committee. It is also a time to learn of any new courses and trips between issues of the newsletter. The speaker will start at 10.25.

25 September

Steve Osborn shares his passion and enthusiasm for the City of Peterborough Symphony Orchestra (CPSO). Formed in 1989 it has earned a reputation for high standard performances that both members and the City can be proud of.

30 October AGM

Plus Speaker: Gail Stuart "Morecambe Moments"

A creative artist in her own right, Gail started her company "Morecambe Moments" some years after her father's (Eric Morecambe) death. Her cards, posters and sundries, with the Morecambe *and* Morecambe and Wise theme running through them are proving increasingly popular.

27 November

Tessa West: "My passion for writing"

Tessa is a writer of fiction non-fiction and poetry, trained as a teacher and had the opportunity to teach in a prison, eventually winning a Winston Churchill Travel Fellowship to visit Scandinavian Prisons. She headed a Prison Education Department, became Assistant Governor to the first contracted out Prison, then a consultant with the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Department in Vienna. Tessa is working on a fourth novel, which includes mention of Norman Cross.

AT THE FLEET

The meeting at The Fleet is held on the second Wednesday of each month, from September to March inclusive, from 2.00 until 4.00pm. Coffee and tea are served at 2.00pm with a visiting speaker 2.30pm.

10 September

Don Chiswell: "The New World"

The colonisation of North America by the English during the 16th and 17th century would change the course of history. English colonists from the time of Sir Walter Raleigh strove to create a 'New England' in the New World.

8 October

Brian White: "History of the Travelling Post Office"

Brian worked on the system and is now actively involved in its preservation/conservation. Brought to the fore with the 1963 Great Train Robbery, the only surviving vehicle from that infamous event is now being conserved locally by Brian and his colleagues.

12 November

David Dykes: "The Northamptonshire Peasant Poet"

The life and works of John Clare. He was born in Helpston, which was then in The Soke of Peterborough, and schooled in Glington, Clare is truly a local Poet. One of Peterborough's theatres proudly bears his name.

10 December'

Our Christmas gathering on Wednesday afternoon 2.00pm-4.00pm. We shall be entertained to a short Pantomime by Stamford U3A's drama group. Further details will be announced at forthcoming monthly meetings.

Jan Bearman-Brown

Speaker List

A list is being compiled of people who are willing to be speakers for groups, which group organisers can draw on when compiling their programmes.

If you are able to offer a session on any topic please contact **Hilary Keegan**

GROUPS' CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Please note, as a matter of courtesy and good practice, members wishing to join or attend a group meeting of which they are not already a member should first contact the Group Leader before going to any meeting. Membership of Peterborough U3A does not grant automatic entry to any group. Note that some groups might be 'full' and operate a 'Waiting List', even if this is not listed in the 'Meetings of Groups' supplement, thus prior contact would obviate any party embarrassment should numbers be too great for any additional members.

2013-2014 has seen a number of new activities start, most of which are continuing to function and expand. Prospects for 2014-2015 look promising with a number of members expressing their willingness to start new groups. The greater the variety of groups, the healthier Peterborough U3A and its members will be, consequently they are at the centre of our activities.

This year one group has closed through declining support and one of those proposed did not develop as anticipated. Another issue has arisen this year i.e. Groups provided by external agencies, not members of U3A. After discussion in committee it was felt that such activities could not be considered a U3A group, but as they offer preferential rates for U3A members they are included in our website information.

Group Issues since the last edition of the 'News':

- Railways Studies & Plane Daft (Aviation) Groups – venue changed. Now meet at the Peterborough & District Indoor Bowling Centre in Burton Street.
- Walking Group – Amiable Amblers – change of Group Leader – Leader now Geoff Brown.

- iPads – group wound-up after June meeting - Colin Kostyrka has not found a replacement leader.
- English Country Dancing – has moved to the Innova Hall, John Mansfield Centre, Western Avenue, Peterborough, PE1 4HG.
- Crime Book Club, Bretton Library – meeting time changed to 3.00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.
- Indoor Bowls - Mike Smith will not be running 'An Introduction To Indoor Bowls' course next year.
- Pitch & Putt Group - Meets fortnightly at Thorpe Meadows and numbers have led to the formation of Pitch & Putt Group 2 led by Jeanne Butler. Meets fortnightly (alternate Mondays to Group 1) at Orton Meadows.
- Churches & Cream Teas 1 & 2 – Geoff Castle has taken over leadership of these groups from Stuart Osborne.
- Wine Tasting – Lynda Brimmell has replaced Ann & Malcolm Pollack as group leader.
- Tai Chi – Monika & Bruce Gwynne think there is scope for another Tai Chai group – details later.
- Family History – Maureen Hudson and Jo Smith head a committee of five who have taken over from Carol Able as leaders.
- Geological Matters – Stuart Osborne has changed its name and its venue – the group is now called Earth Science and as from April 2014 has moved to Orton Waterville Village Hall.

Grateful thanks are expressed to all those Group Leaders who have 'retired' from active Group Leadership this year for all the work, effort and time they have put in over the years.

Newly Proposed Groups:

- Karaoke and Sing Along Group – David Bradford (re-joining member) would like to set-up such a group. He has his own equipment and has a venue in mind. Further details when provided.
- Zumba Dancing - Jenny Lee, a qualified Zumba 'Golds' Dancing instructor, is considering setting up a U3A Zumba Dancing Group as from September 2014. Contact: 07854 662267 or jennylee328@yahoo.co.uk

- Fine Dining – Ann Pollack asks if anyone would be interested in joining such a group. Contact: Ann Pollack at 01733 269108 or anncpollack@gmail.com
- Motorcycling – Roy Turner proposes this group with the aim of organising rides to “places of interest” within a reasonable distance of Peterborough. The frequency of rides would be one or two a month, mainly during the summer period. Ideally they would be “All Day Rides” leaving at a sensible time and returning at an equally sensible time. Contact: Roy Turner 01733 267635 or roy.turner2007@btinternet.com
- Ceramics – Mandy Sterling, reports that U3A members have suggested to her that she offers her classes in ceramics to U3A members. Anyone interested contact: Mandy Sterling at 01733 702737 or mandy@elementalceramics.net
- Drama - It has been suggested, following a contact with Stamford U3A Drama Group, that a similar group be established in Peterborough. By all accounts the skills are already in place for such a group. The ‘Poetry’ and ‘Singing for Pleasure’ Groups have combined at Werrington library twice to put on a show. A format of alternating acts songs, dancing, comedy and poetry was performed by the U3A at Eye Community Centre last year, and was very successful. Earlier this year discussions took place with Brian Keegan, Pam Kounougakis and Brian Haswell about an ‘Old Time Music Hall’ Group. Since then Brian Haswell has had a lot of work on his plate, including ‘River Lane’, ‘Twelfth Night’ and ‘Follies’, besides working for the Arts Council with ‘Three Acres and a Cow’. Although his free time is limited, he might be able to fit in a weekly meeting at Copeland, if enough people are interested. It is do-able if enough people have the right attitude, so if you are interested contact Brian Haswell brianhaswell@ymail.com
- Engineering - Recently a request was received from Gregg Earl, Peterborough Engineering Society, who currently run about seven meetings a year at Perkins and arrange visits to engineering sites/manufacturing units. They are keen to increase the number of meetings they hold and, therefore, seek collaboration with Peterborough U3A in establishing an Engineering Group. We would gain, an Engineering Group and access to possible future members, while they would get access to our members. Anyone interested

New Groups now Active:

- Watercolours for enjoyment – Trevor Cross has set-up this group, which follows on from Mike Henton's 'absolute beginners course'. Venue from September to be finalised. Expected cost will be about £3.00 per week. Enquiries to Trevor Cross, 01733 208727 or trevorcross66@yahoo.com

FROM THE GROUPS

Alphabet of Art

On 26 March, 14 members of the Alphabet of Art groups met up at Peterborough station for the 07.00 train to Kings Cross, a quick walk through to St Pancras and then the 08.58 Eurostar direct to Brussels. This wasn't the start of a leisurely week's travel in Europe, but an ambitious day trip to the capital of Belgium and the home of the European Parliament, aiming to be back home in our own beds before midnight!

The actual objective of our trip was to take a guided tour around the Musée Royaux des Beaux Arts and appreciate at first hand some of the works of art by Flemish Old Masters, such as Rubens, Van Dyck, Breughel, and Memling. After a seamless set of train journeys we arrived in the centre of Brussels at 12 noon, and wondered why there was such a strong police presence and a number of streets cordoned off. It turned out that Barack Obama (Mr President) was due to give an address to an EU meeting within the Musée later that afternoon, and when we checked in for our tour, we were informed that the Musée would close early, at 16.00, giving us very little time after the tour to look at the displays in more depth or take in any of the other museums, such as Magritte.

Still, nothing stops us Brits. We enjoyed a first-class tour with a very impressive Belgian guide who gave us highly informed insights into selected masterpieces, including the outstanding "Death of Marat" by Jacques-Louis David (1793). After that, a little earlier than planned, we were free to see what else Brussels had to offer, without, of course, getting in the way of the Obama circus. The main attractions were the Cathedral and the Grand Place or Grote Markt – the large main square with a striking mix of buildings of various styles over the centuries. As

you might expect, we were spoilt for choice of places to try out the top Belgian specialties – beer, chocolate, mussels and frites.

At 18.30 we all met up again to repeat our train journeys in the opposite direction, and landed back, without a hitch, in Peterborough at 22.30. If all travel plans went as smoothly as this, there wouldn't be much to talk about!

Our sincere thanks to Alison Langford for her impeccable organisation of an intrepid and very enjoyable day out.

Richard Noble

Film Club

In April we enjoyed the 1961 British film 'A Taste of Honey' which was the film debut of Rita Tushingham as Jo, a teenager who becomes pregnant by a merchant sailor. Dora Bryan played her domineering, forty-year-old alcoholic mother who is torn between her maternal responsibilities and life with her new husband.

To close the session, in May we saw 'The Go-Between' from 1971 with Julie Christie and Alan Bates in the leading roles. The film is very relevant to Peterborough as its screenplay, by Harold Pinter, is an adaptation of the 1953 novel of the same name by L P Hartley, who was born in Whittlesey and his family later moved to Fletton Tower. The entire film was made on location in Norfolk.

The group meets on the second Thursday of the month at Copeland, starting in October, and after each showing, we enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and have a brief discussion on the film. The programme for the autumn will not be finalised until after Activities day when members will have the chance to vote on the films available.

All films shown are normally at least 40 years old and they are guaranteed to bring back the memories. Do join us (but sorry, popcorn not allowed)!

John Douglas

Mini Art Exhibition

The Friday Watercolour Group supported Shannon Corr's fundraising event, which was held at Ferry Meadows recently. We had 84 paintings on display with 10 sold. With the art on display people hung around for longer and often went back to buy more cakes and chocolates thus raising more money. There were lots of nice comments about the high standard of the work on display; I wish I had had a tape recorder!

Shannon is very keen to raise funds for this charity as she was diagnosed with bone cancer when she was 14 and four years later is still undergoing intensive treatment. The day raised £1,551.14 for the Bone Cancer Research Trust and My Blue Heart. This does include a very generous £500 donation on the day but it truly is a magnificent sum of money. Shannon worked so hard organising this event, often when feeling not very well. We are so pleased it was such a great success and we are proud to have been involved.

Valerie McNeill

Monday Cycling 2014 Group

Once again we have had a very successful year with several new members. 30 different riders have taken part in our weekly rides, which start from the Lido every Monday at 10.00am.

On average we had 12 riders each week, with a maximum of 22 and a minimum of 6 when the weather was inclement. Fortunately only a few Mondays have been wet. 12 different members have led rides to Sawtry, Whittlesey, Helpston, Thorney, Market Deeping, Tallington, Oundle, Stamford and Fineshades Wood, all with a mandatory coffee stop!

Rides are between 20 and 30 miles long. We have also taken our cycles to Rutland Water, riding around the lake including the Peninsula, with a welcome lunch stop at the Horse & Jockey at Manton. We continue to look for new routes and coffee stops.

David Catling

Friday Watercolours Annual Art Exhibition 2014

On Saturday 5 April 2014 we held our 7th Open Art Exhibition at St Andrew's Church in Netherton. A decision was made to hold the exhibition in April rather than November to see if this would be advantageous and it was concluded that April is a preferable time of year.

We had 280 paintings on display submitted by both the group and local artists living in and around Peterborough. The exhibits, in several media, were displayed in both the Church and the hall as in previous years. Standards of the exhibits were as high as ever and 29 paintings were sold to discerning visitors.

After spending an enjoyable time perusing the paintings our visitors then spent some time chatting and relaxing over a cup of tea or

coffee together with a slice of homemade cake baked and served by group members. A lot of behind the scenes helpers also washed up a large amount of dirty cups and saucers!

We were very pleased to raise £1,000 from the event, which is divided equally between Alzheimer's Peterborough, and St Andrew's Church, which is our group's home.

Valerie McNeill

Golf for Fun

32 members of the Wednesday morning Thorney "Golf for Fun" group went on the annual summer golf break in early June. This time we went to Heacham Manor in Norfolk, a delightful small hotel with an 18 hole golf course attached and close to the coast, which was also good for the three non-golfers amongst us who were easily able to walk and bird watching in the area during the time while their partners were on the course.

In comparison to last year's trip, when we played in the hottest three days of the year, the weather was not as kind to us. However, we once again realised it is much better not to go by the forecast. One of the days had been predicted to be dire but turned out to consist of just a couple of showers, which was easily managed with a quick donning of the wet weather clothes and upping of the umbrellas.

The hotel staff were great, the food was good and the rooms spacious and comfortable but, as usual, the golf was exciting for some and for some a bit of a disaster. However, our group is entitled "Golf for Fun" and generally fun was what we all had.

Particularly enjoyable seemed to be the day of the Texas Scramble, an exciting competition played in teams of four which gives an overall score that anyone other than scratch players can only dream of!! Even those with beyond the maximum handicaps stand a chance of winning. The prizes were very valuable with a maximum cost of £4-£5 each!!

I hope that all came away with positive memories of their few days at Heacham Manor and will look forward to participating next year.

Hilary Keegan

Opinion Time

Launched in January 2014 and meeting on the last Friday of each month, Opinion Time has quickly grown into a lively, friendly meeting where members discuss current affairs and controversial issues with few inhibitions. We have handled hot topics like immigration, the European Union and climate change (or the lack of it) and have succeeded in creating a climate where members are comfortable expressing their unvarnished opinions but also accept challenges with good grace and humour.

We review our format and approach as we move forward. There are currently ten of us but with changing circumstances we remain open to enquiries. Most meetings have been held at Bernard's house but other members have also hosted discussions by prior arrangement. If you are interested in joining the group please contact me via rekrab3@gmail.com.

Bernard Barker

Pilates: A discounted activity by Performance Lifestyle

The Pilates classes offered to U3A members have been a huge success and there are still two classes running. The ladies and gentlemen attending all receive a discount off our services (Pilates and Physiotherapy). We have helped people to build strength, reduce back pain and increase their balance and flexibility, which has been really rewarding. We will be at U3A Activities Day again this year to see if we can help any more people with their Pilates classes (*It is my hope that they can – TM*).

Frances Ellis - Senior Physiotherapist

Pitch n Putt One

The P&P Group has had a very successful year with members' numbers high through all the seasons! In fact I was beginning to think I would need to start a waiting list but fortunately one of our members has kindly started a second group, which now runs on alternate Monday mornings to my own (P&P Two). Members of each group are free to come along to either or both! Sessions are currently £3.50 per round.

A draw before each session is held to determine playing partners; this has gone down very well and ensures that there is a good mix and match. We meet up in time for the draw and to begin at 10.00am, the

round of 12 holes usually lasts just over one hour and we most of us "retire" to a nearby cafe for a good old "natter!" The emphasis is on the social aspect of getting together rather than the competitive side of the game and much laughter is to be heard!

If you may be interested in some gentle exercise and good company I suggest you contact Jeanne who runs P&P Two in the first instance as her list is much smaller than my own presently. Of course, you are welcome to either session, once registered.

Tony Wright

Plane Daft Group Summer 2014

Despite the necessity of yet another change of location such is the Group loyalty that attendances still average around 25.

As promised, nonagenarian Norman Wilson returned in March to relate the poignant story of his quest for his brother's burial place and the crash site of the Wellington bomber in which he was lost over Germany in 1940. Helped by a large number of people, including members of the crews' families in UK and Canada and local historians in Germany, the search was successful. It demonstrates how people on opposite sides during the war can now collaborate in seeking answers to questions and join together to celebrate the brief life of the young airman.

Our April meeting, in our new venue, Peterborough & District Indoor Bowling Centre, saw local aeronautical historian and author Alastair Goodrum share his researches on ballooning and early flying adventures in the Peterborough area. Thereafter he considered the impact of visits by aviators, such as Sir Alan Cobham, in popularising flying during the interwar period. Overall, a most informative and interesting presentation, one in which many members were able to share the benefits of their knowledge and experiences.

Ray Hankin visited in April and gave a talk entitled '*I remember when...*'; comprising personal reminiscences of the '50s and '60s and flying experiences when on the editorial staffs of both *The Aeroplane* (the original weekly title) and *Flying Review International*, prefaced by a bit of Debden and flights in a wide range of aircraft when a member of the Royal Observer Corps.

Our final event of the season was a visit to the Imperial War Museum centre at Duxford. Seventeen of us met in the car park,

whereupon we made our own ways around the extensive site, but there were many encounters en route! Most started their visit by touring 'Airspace' to admire the array of restored aircraft located there, before proceeding to the next display hangar. Many of us enjoyed a brief display by a 'Buchon' (Spanish version of an Me 109, with a Rolls Royce Merlin engine). In the other display hangars were many of Duxford's airworthy restored aircraft, plus a few being worked on. Most of us reached the end of the site, visiting the Museum of Land Warfare, before retracing our steps, slowly and, via a café or two, to the car park. Helped by very pleasant weather a good day seems to have been had by all.

Terry McCarthy

Railways Studies Group

Our final meeting in Copeland, prior to our (enforced) move to the Indoor Bowling Centre, saw David Leggett from The Deepings sharing his experiences, of planning and constructing HS1 from St. Pancras to Folkestone, including its royal opening in 2007 accompanied by a wealth of photographs.

Following a breakdown in communications with the scheduled speaker, Terry covered the April meeting, speaking about the development of the Canadian Pacific Railway and its pivotal role in the creation of the Dominion of Canada, accompanied by photographs of two journeys he made in 2005/06. The first, from Toronto to Jasper was on 'The Canadian', thence from Banff to Vancouver on the 'Rocky Mountaineer'. The second, a year later, was on the 'Canadian Empress', a steam hauled special train from Vancouver to Calgary via Crows Nest Pass.

Our last indoor meeting was a presentation by Roger Black, entitled 'Around the World in 80 Trains' – we actually lost count! He showed a wide range of photographs taken on his travels over the past 50 years, including the Welsh Borderlands (for Terry!), plus a wide range of overseas steam and general railway photographs, which sent the membership off in good heart for the summer break.

Thanks to Paul Parker, the Group's annual trip was marketed as a 'Day Trip', when a good representation from the Group travelled to Holt, where we boarded a North Norfolk Railway steam train for Sheringham. There, the party dispersed, though many of the ferroequinologists did not stray far from the station before travelling

back to Weybourne, where 16 of us were treated to a conducted tour of the NNR engineering works. There we saw locomotive boilers being worked on, besides other repairs to their locomotive fleet and the restoration of carriages, including a 'picnic saloon', from the 1880s. After taking refreshments and more photographs we continued back to Holt to visit the museum, before reboarding the coach and joining other participants for the journey home, happy that a good day was enjoyed by all.

Terry McCarthy

Roses & Castles

Next year will mark our 20th Anniversary as a group, which I reckon must make us one of the longest established. With around 15 current PU3A members, plus half a dozen from Bishopsfield where we meet, I hope that this means that we are doing something right. But as we meet every Friday afternoon, we seldom have a full group on every occasion.

This means that there is room for a few new members, or past members who would like to drop in for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. You will be amazed at the range of talent - from beginners to very practised members - all of whom are very willing to demonstrate their work. Just give me a ring on 568896 or email at donnebuck@hotmail.co.uk before coming.

Donne Buck

Rhythmaires

Our music group have recently entertained at Longthorpe church and Cathedral Green Apartments and with previous performances are pleased to announce that contributions to the Clic Sargeant Fund for Children have well exceeded £500.00. Several further concerts are being arranged.

The group itself will shortly be celebrating its 20th birthday having been formed by myself in 1994. Last year we decided to collect donations for Clic who are very appreciative of our efforts.

If there are any members who wish to join us and play for pleasure they would be made most welcome. Any further enquiries to Audrey Creed on 01733 571955.

Fred Mutton

Social History

Once again we were lucky to have good weather for our day trip to John Taylor Bell Foundry in Loughborough, built in the 1850s and still in production. We were taken through the process from start to finish; this is done by 20 highly skilled men and not a computer in sight. A very large bell was being tuned; all the filings taken out are reused. A lone man in a long narrow room spun the yarns into ropes for the bell pulls with bright colours. He had just taken delivery of a modern aid to help with the spinning of the threads into cord. We all had a chance to make a bell talk. We then visited Charnwood Museum in the park, which has good exhibits of local geology and archaeology. Here we sat on the patio in glorious sunshine, enjoying a buffet lunch.

To end the day, we visited the Carillon Tower, a war memorial museum. Some climbed the 138 stairs to the bell chamber and enjoyed a wonderful view. Where to next year?

Doreen Dare and Cherry Truluck

Spanish Groups

The three Spanish groups continue to meet at the Copeland Centre. 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.

The Improving Spanish group had a special meeting at the end of June when we heard from Antonio Gil about his family before, during and after the Spanish civil war.

The groups are now enjoying a summer break and many are practising their new language skills in the bars and restaurants of Spain. The remainder are taking extended siestas.

We look forward to welcoming new members at Activities Day in time to join for the autumn sessions starting in September.

Hasta pronto!

John Douglas

Thursday Walkers say au revoir to Richmal

After our walk, on Thursday 5 June, we held a BBQ to bid au revoir to Richmal Daynes, who is leaving us for Ilkley, Yorkshire. There were 40 of us at the event and amongst her farewell gifts she received a year-by-year photographic record of her 10 years of walking with the group prepared by Cherry Truluck, whose husband John was credited with organising the good weather and a spectacular sonic boom to mark the

occasion. Richmal will be very sorely missed, but we wish her and Walter every happiness in their new home. We were pleased to hear that she has sussed out her nearest U3A and believe that she is already in training for the more hilly terrain to come.

John & Pat Sheehan

Walking Football

Last autumn we were all invited to let Ron Seddon know if we wanted to play football as a PU3A activity. I e-mailed him that I thought he was being a bit optimistic but if anything developed would he please let me know. And he did!

I am 70 years old and just over 30 years ago was told by a knee specialist at the Athletes Clinic in Central London that “if I had a knee like that (we were looking at an X-ray of it) I wouldn’t play football anymore”. It was advice I took. Eventually, after a few arthroscopies, I had a full left knee replacement operation in December 2009.

Regardless of all that I turned up one Wednesday morning to an hour of “walking football” on an artificial pitch at Netherton United’s ground, The Grange, in Thorpe Park Road. We usually have four-a-side games, but can cater for any numbers, as the goals are movable. No goalkeepers are required. We swap teams and ends on a regular basis. And I love it. The only additional rule we play to is that you are not allowed to run (which suits us all). It’s wonderful, I haven’t had so much fun since... perhaps 31 years ago! Just to be cautious and not put too much strain on the artificial knee I have become two-footed (for the first time in my career). At the end of the hour I am breathing heavily and in need of a shower. A cup of tea or coffee is available afterwards. I suffer no physical ill effects and by Friday each week am looking forward to the sun shining (again) next Wednesday.

I’m sure that there are a lot of men in PU3A who used to enjoy playing but think now that they couldn’t manage to play again. Well, think again! Currently our ages range from 55 to 77. Put on a pair of trainers and a tracksuit and come along. You could come to watch first to see what it’s like, but why not experience it for yourself? You’ll be amazed. Ron would never forgive me if I didn’t mention they we pay £3.00 each week for the facilities. If you need any more information contact ron.seddon@ntlworld.com

Roger Engledow

Watercolours just for enjoyment

In Spring of this year I finally managed to join Mike Henton's 'Watercolours for absolute beginners' course and was quickly captivated by this new hobby. However after the nine weeks or so of the course I could not find another group with spaces for me to join.

I didn't want to let it all drop now and when I mentioned it to others on the course, they all had the same thought, so we decided to form our own new group and continue to get together on a Tuesday afternoons. We all agreed this gave us an opportunity to continue with our art amongst a group of friendly, like-minded individuals in a regular semi structured but relaxed environment and not to just let the impetus waiver or even fade.

We continued to meet at the Alwalton Memorial Hall but from September we will be meeting on Monday afternoons from 1.00pm till 4.00 pm, venue to be finalized.

The group now has 10 members but we would love for others to join us. No one is considered better or worse than anyone else – we all relish the opportunity to be with others and to pursue our hobby together.

We are hoping that in some weeks we will be joined by more experienced artists who can offer tips and advice to us all. If you want to join us then do please contact me – I promise a warm welcome. Contact me via email at trevorcross66@yahoo.com or on 01733 208727.

Trevor Cross

Wonders of the Human Story

As the current season reaches its final months members of the Archaeology and the Human Journey Group can look back on another fascinating and informative year.

Starting with "A Shropshire Miscellany" in September we looked at the development of language and writing in October followed by a moving and memorable slide presentation on Jerusalem and Jericho in November and our fun quizzes, prepared by Joe, with festive refreshments at our December meeting.

In the New Year we learned about an archaeology study on Rutland stone in the area, members' accounts of their chosen heroes and villains in February and in March were treated to a detailed history

by Vivacity's Stuart Orme on Richard III - Hero or Villain with an update on the excavations of his skeletal remains.

April saw us in Italy with splendid accounts by two members of their journey to the Etruscan Tomb and antiquities of the civilisation at the time, together with another member's equally interesting comparison of life in ancient and modern Rome from her previous residence in the eternal city.

In May we enjoyed a conducted tour of Flag Fen followed by a talk and walk presentation at the site of the Roman Villa discovered at Itter Crescent learning how local Romans lived and worked locally.

At the time of writing we await a talk on The Great Wall of China, thus ending a year of fascinating travel mostly from the comfort of our venue at Cumberland House.

With a packed programme ready for next season our members can look forward to continuing their human journey as we explore more of our history and the remains our ancestors have left us. It is a thrill to find how much we can learn from our past and to enjoy the fun of finding out.

The Group meets at Cumberland House, St Mary's Court in City Road on the last Tuesday of each month except August, and as well as meetings we organise visits to places of historical and archaeological interest.

David Favell

Writing Life's Stories year's activities

Each of our 4 groups meet once a month for 2 hours usually at Helen's Alwalton home, sometimes it is helpful for a group member to host the regular meeting if Helen is unable to lead.

Each group consists of 8 members, the number being determined by the length of time required to listen to the members' stories about the chosen topic title for the month. Each article is around 800 words long, and despite the agreed title, the material recorded is so amazingly diverse that we all remain stimulated and look forward to each month's meeting. The sessions usually run from September, beginning with a workshop to discuss the year's topic coverage, we have Christmas Lunch together at Parcs Restaurant in December, and this year in June, our final meeting for all four groups together took

place at the Red Lion, Warmington, where we enjoyed lunch and were entertained by the Proprietor, Tim Stubbs, speaking about his 'Lincolnshire Boyhood'.

Some of the topic titles covered this year: A View from the Window, A Day at School, A Significant Person in My Life, Starting Work, 5 Minutes with an Ancestor, A Theatre Trip, My Passion, Moving House, Keepsakes, If Only, Grandchildren, Pre-School, My Everyday Journey to School/ Work', My Father.

I woke up this morning..... was a sentence given by Helen to be used as the beginning sentence to a record of significance.

As the Leader of the Writing Life's Stories groups I am honoured to listen to the verbal presentation of an author's high standard of written work.

Helen Henton

Llais y Dderwentydd

What language is that? What does it mean? I hear you say. Well this is the title of the new all England Welsh language newspaper. Strictly speaking it is not new, as it is the local paper of the Derby Welsh Society. This year they decided to invite Welsh societies and groups throughout England to contribute and to issue the paper England-wide via the Internet. They were looking for stories, activities and events relating to Welsh groups and how they are developing their Welsh interests in England. The only English language I have seen in the paper is in adverts, inviting readers to learn Welsh either locally or via the Internet. The title means The Voice of the Derwent Lands, which is self-explanatory.

Peterborough U3A All Matters Welsh were invited to contribute, which we did by giving a brief history of why there was a need for a group such as ours in Peterborough. The newspaper was distributed at the Urdd National Eisteddfod, which this year was held near Bala in Merioneth. The Eisteddfod is held annually in June on alternate years in North or South Wales. It gives young people the opportunity to demonstrate their Welsh culture. It is a competition of music, acting, folk dancing, reciting and craftwork. The Urdd is known as the Welsh League of Youth in English and is a nationwide youth group supported by Welsh language schools throughout Wales. The activities range from local clubs to national events such as sailing, mountaineering and

summer camps. The football competition is a very popular activity for both girls and boys.

The task of All Matters Welsh in Peterborough is to help put the city on the map. Everybody who reads the Welsh language newspaper will now be aware that Peterborough U3A and All Matters Welsh exist. We are listed in the newspaper as one of the many centres of Welsh language learning in England. This will become a quarterly newspaper and we, as a group, intend to contribute on a regular basis.

Welsh speaking members of U3A can access the newspaper via wikifoundryattachments.com/vVX6em2HDLPk_MEJP-k8Zw1836684

Meirion Griffiths

U3A Holiday to OBAN and the ISLES

On Monday 12 May we all met early at the Peterborough railway station to catch the 10:16 to Edinburgh. There was excitement in the air as we do not normally travel by train on U3A holidays. We all left our suitcases to the rear of where the train would stop so that our suitcases could be loaded into the Guard's van. The journey was interesting as we sat near members that we had not previously met and had a very interesting chat discussing the passing views and our various experiences.

We arrived at Waverley station Edinburgh at 14:15 where a coach was waiting to take us to Oban. The journey took us through the Central Lowlands and on to wild Scotland where the scenery was simply stunning. We arrived at The Royal Hotel, Oban where we settled into our rooms and had time to take a short walk along the promenade before the evening meal.

The next day we had a late start to visit Inverary with a guided tour of the castle. Those interested in history and old buildings found the tour very interesting. The town was quaint and there was evidence of its wealthy past. On our return to our hotel we had our evening meal and then squeezed in a walk around the town before the evening's entertainment laid on by the hotel. This consisted of a small musical group supported by a piper and a Scottish dancer. This proved to be more entertaining than we might have expected. The standard was high and one of the musicians was a writer of music scores for well-known films. The Scottish dancer was a young girl who had won many prizes for her skills.

On Wednesday, we left on the ferry from Oban to the Isle of Mull and travelled through the island before catching another ferry for a short trip to Iona. Although we had always wanted to visit the island its remoteness made it unlikely that we would visit on our own. The afternoon rain did not dampen our enthusiasm and we found the entire experience informative and interesting.

The return journey was equally enjoyable. In the evening, we again squeezed in a walk before returning to the hotel. For the evening's entertainment we listened to a singer of British pop songs.

On Thursday we travelled to Fort William and took a trip on the Nevis Range Cable Car, the views were again stunning. We could also see cyclists going down variously graded slopes on the mountain. In the afternoon most members visited the local distillery whilst some explored the town. One railway enthusiast spent the afternoon enjoying the visit of the 'Jacobite Steam Train' hauled by a K1 class engine that arrived that afternoon. We all joined the bus on time for the journey back to Oban.

Friday morning was one of sadness as we were to start our journey home. We travelled back to Edinburgh where we had a free afternoon and spent the time doing our own thing, exploring the city. We were picked up late afternoon and taken by bus to the Cairn Hotel, Bathgate near Edinburgh.

On the last day we spent the morning visiting the Royal Yacht Britannia. We could have spent the day there but the time was sufficient to complete the full tour and spend a short time in the shop to purchase gifts and mementos. We then went, again by coach, to Waverley station, where we boarded the train back to Peterborough and we chatted with our newfound friends all the way home.

We had an enjoyable six days and our only complaint was that the holiday was too short. The daily trips were well chosen and within easy travel of our hotel. Each day was different, making the entire experience relaxing, enjoyable and rewarding. The food was excellent with plenty of choice.

Finally, we would like to thank Ann and Malcolm Pollack for their hard work in planning and making the holiday a total success. There were the usual small problems with the hotel and travel arrangements but these were always sorted, mostly before we realised that there was a problem.

Barbara and Meirion Griffiths

GROUPS ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

Afternoon Tea Dance

Gwen Roffe 01733 554537

Come and join in with this friendly group of dancers on the first and third Monday afternoon from 1.45pm at Stanground Community Centre. We include a variety of Sequence, Ballroom and Old-Time dances and try to learn a new one each time. It doesn't matter if you have never danced, not danced for years or dance regularly, we are sure you will enjoy it. Dancing is good for mental and physical health and the chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit is not bad either.

Astronomy

Brenda Kilby 01733 394785

Will be meeting monthly in Orton at Brenda's home at 2.00pm.

Camcorder

Brian Pears 01733 391945

This group is for anyone who has a camcorder or who would like to know about camcording. Fortnightly, in members' homes, 2.00 to 4.00pm. Phone Brian for details.

Chess

Norman Harris 01733 266296

I have been running this section of U3A for 10 years, so why not join us and have a friendly game on Monday afternoon from 1.30 to 3.30pm at Copeland Leisure Centre, South Bretton. There is just a small charge per term. We are a happy band of about 16 ladies and gents from beginners to more experienced, rotating from player to player, no set pattern. Chess sets not required, just bring yourselves and have a cup of tea and a biscuit while you play.

Computer Groups 1+ 2

Mary McCarthy pu3awebsite@gmail.com

01733 232518

This small, informal group meets weekly at 9.30am at a member's home. Using our own laptops we discuss techniques and tips to help make better use of the technology. Topics covered are decided by the group. Our venue limits membership and there is a waiting list but enquiries are welcome.

Cycling

Dave Catling 01733 260626 and Dave Moakes 01733 555020

Meet at Thorpe Meadows or the Lido at 10.00am. For cyclists of all abilities. Rides should normally take around two hours.

Earth Science

Stuart Osborne 01733 233840
s.osborne7@ntlworld.com

The British Isles has spent most of its past in two very separate locations on the Earth. Scotland attached to North America and England, Wales and Ireland joined with Europe. That's distinctly odd to start with. There is lots of oil off the Scottish coast but mainly Gas off the English coast. Odder still. Why are there mountains in Wales and Scotland but only rounded hills in England? Rather odd. There is granite everywhere in the West Country and Scotland but hardly any anywhere else. Why? Hadrian's Wall is built on top of a huge outcrop of volcanic lava and we all know Arthur's Seat (Edinburgh) is ancient volcano stuff, but where are the UK's Vesuvius and Etna? Geological Matters meets weekly on Monday 10.00 – 12.00 Orton Waterville Village Hall. It is an Earth Science extravaganza, and very interesting too!

Fly Making for Trout Fishing

Ken Gregory 01733 741139

We meet at Stanground at 2.00pm. Contact Ken for details.

French Conversation - Improvers [1] Gigi Stephens 01733 573457

Weekly, Hodgson Community Centre, Werrington, 2.00pm. Phone Gigi for further details.

Golf

Jack Alderdice 01733 231710

Tee off time at Orton Meadows 09.00 – 09.40am. Cost for 9 holes is £5.10

Greetings Cards Making

Elaine Bridger 01733 572087 and Ann Harris 01733 649448

Meets weekly in the Bowls Centre, Burton Street, from 10.00am to noon. New members welcome.

Knit & Twitter

Kathleen Daniels 01733 326825

Weekly at Bishopsfield from 1.00 to 3.00pm. Contact Kathleen for details.

Painting for Pleasure

Windsor Morgan 01733 574204

We meet at Brookside Methodist Church, Gunthorpe Road at 2.00pm every Monday. The existing group is friendly and welcomes all newcomers. Membership numbers ideally 20/25 as it allows the tutor the opportunity to give attention to each member by explanation or demonstration to resolve any problems that arise; as a group we have to pay an accommodation charge for the hall. Therefore membership

numbers determine the fee, as a guidance it is expected to be approximately £2.00 for the two hour session.

Patchwork and Quilting [2] Winnie Wakefield 01733 577629
All Saints' Church Hall, weekly, 10.00am to noon. Join friends and enjoy sharing your skills. You will be made very welcome.

Pitch and Putt 1 Tony Wright 01733 701628
The Pitch and Putt Group meets every fortnight at Orton Meadows course at 10.00am for a fun and friendly 12 holes followed by coffee and a natter in a nearby café. We are a mixed bunch, ex golfers to first timers who enjoy the gentle exercise and fresh air. Why not come and join us?

Pitch and Putt 2 Jeanne Butler 01733 702912
We are pleased to offer a second group on the alternative Monday morning. It is gentle exercise with friendly people who enjoy fresh air and fun. Clubs and golf balls are free with your ticket for the 12 hole Pitch and Putt course at Orton Meadows Europa Golf Centre. We start at 10.00am except on a Bank Holiday when we start at 9.30.

Rhythmaires + Jazz Audrey Creed 01733 571955
Weekly at Bishopsfield, Walton at 10.00am. If you can play a musical instrument why not come and join us.

Rowing colin.yarwood@gmail.com
The new Wintech boats have arrived and we have been using them for several weeks now and most of us have moved up from single sculls to at least trying the Double Sculls... they are so popular that both have been out in usually different hands each week - there is even a slight but evident competitive air about! We continue to meet weekly at Peterborough Rowing Club on Monday at 10.15am for 10-week session for £55.00. Contact Colin for details.

Snooker Ted Smith 01733 574580
Meet at Conservative Club at 2.00pm. Open to men and women. Beginners welcome.

Spanish (Intermediate) (WL) Caroline Davis 01733 244140
Weekly on Monday morning at 10.00am at Copeland.

Ten Pin Bowling [1] Margaret Lea 01733 572245
Meet weekly at the AMF Bretton at 10.00am.

Werrington Crime Readers Mary Purdon 01733 313922
Meet on third Monday of the month at Werrington Library at 2.00pm.

TUESDAY

Archaeology and the Human Journey

David Favell 01733 574103, Chris Wareham 01733 263006
Monthly on the fourth Tuesday from 10.15am to 12.15pm at St Mary Court, City Road in the City Centre opposite the Passport Office. An informal group learning about what happened in historic and prehistoric times and how it has shaped the modern world.

Art Studio

Pam Miller 01733 237625

Weekly at 10.00am in Orton Brimbles. There is a charge for refreshments and materials used. Individual tuition is given. Phone Pam for details.

Basic science

Stuart Osborne 01733 233840
s.osborne7@ntlworld.com

We wander/wonder gently through the Sciences in an easy and non-scary way. We will take you back to your school days, and possibly allow you to help the grandchildren with their homework!! Among the range of subjects covered we do the Periodic Table. *Very elemental:* Long chain Carbon molecules. *Life as we know it:* The blood circulation system. *Not for the faint hearted!* : Plate tectonics. *A moving story:* Electricity and Magnetism. *Nothing to shock you here.* If you've ever wondered why something is the way it is then perhaps we can answer your questions. Basic Science meets weekly, but not weakly, Tuesday 10.00-12.00 at Copeland Community Centre, South Bretton

Brain training

Brian Parsons 01733 263211

Meet at Bishopsfield, Walton at 2.00pm. We will look at various ways of stimulating different aspects of using our brains such as memory and creativity. We will examine some of the many puzzles that are around today. If this sounds very serious, it is not, it is fun.

English Country Dancing

Ann Pollack 01733 269108

We meet at Marholm Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2.00pm for a bit of exercise. We learn to put one foot in front of the other in time to the music, to dance stars and turns and balances and swings and more pretty patterns. A by-product is that we get to distinguish between right and left and clockwise and anti-clockwise. We have a lot of laughs when we get things wrong but do dance beautifully without realising it. If you have enjoyed Ceilidhs and Barn Dances come and

join us for more of the same and lots of differences. We start the new season on September 16th.

Creative Writing Pam Kounougakis 01733 252018

Weekly, meeting venues vary, 10.00am-noon. Ring Pam for details.

Creative Writing - Writers Forum Janet Armstrong 01733 234036

Pam Kounougakis 01733 252018

Meets fortnightly, usually at Glington at 10.00am. A fairly new creative writing group.

Creative Writing - Writing Creatively Peter Best 01733 263884

Meets fortnightly in Longthorpe at 10.00am.

Do you have a story in you? Have you this urge to show your creative side? You are not alone! Many of us feel the same. The difference is that some of us have done something about it. We meet regularly, we read our works, discuss them, and find out how to improve our techniques, so that our creative side can be expressed with feeling, in the secure knowledge that our writing will be received positively. Our three groups each progress along the same road, but have unique identities. Come and join us – we can help you channel your creativity; give you the techniques to express yourself interestingly and confidently.

Family History

Maureen Hudson 01778 349413 & Jo Smith 01832 280740

We start the year at our new venue at The John Mansfield Centre, Western Road, Dogsthorpe, meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at 10.00am, and have arranged a variety of speakers and topics over the year's programme, including talks on Irish ancestry and 'Diseases that killed your ancestors'. We also have outings to local venues, giving an insight into the past. Many members of the group are able to give advice on family history, so join us to increase and share your knowledge of family history

Gardening Ernie Warman 01733 569279

Fortnightly, at Millfield Community Centre from 10.00am to noon. To exchange ideas, swap plants and cuttings and perhaps make a visit or two.

German Margot Perry 01733 311149

Weekly in Park Road at 2.00pm. Contact Margot for details.

Greeting Cards Making

Fiona Richardson 01733 346371 and Sue Garner 01733 560156

At the Bowls Centre, 10.00am to noon. Contact Fiona or Sue for list of equipment required for parchment craft and to enroll. New members welcome.

Holistic Health

Rosemary Steel 01733 563971

Holistic health attempts to help people recognize how daily happenings affect their bodies, mental, emotional, physical and spiritual. An overload in one part of our being affects the others. Equally an undernourished body affects the others.

Introducing various approaches and therapies to enable our understanding of our functions and of just how we respond, we can choose that which makes sense and facilitates our moving forward with greater understanding of the human condition. Over the last years course, a very popular subject was Autogenics, a self relaxation technique which enabled several of the class to not only sleep better, but relax a bit more whilst beginning to recognize their triggers to tension. We also looked at the circadian cycle, acupuncture, aromatherapy and reflexology - touched on hypnotherapy and body logic (using the Kirlian image). Our group is small, eight to max of ten to enable the space to share and question in comfort. We will be meeting in one of the members' homes for the next session starting in September. I am quite prepared to run two groups if the numbers require.

Plane Daft (Aviation)

Terry McCarthy 01733 232518

terry.macu3a@gmail.com

The 2014-2015 programme encompasses a number of different aspects of aviation interest to suit a wide range of tastes, including local aviation developments, famous World War II fighters, aviation DVDs and a Christmas Social. An integral part of the group's activities is the annual day trip, which in 2015 is provisionally the RAF Museum at Hendon. Members of U3A enjoying similar interests are welcome to join this vibrant group of about 40 members who meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from September – May inclusive at the Peterborough & District Indoor Bowling Centre. For further details, look at the website or contact Terry. We look forward to hearing from you.

Railways Studies

Terry McCarthy 01733 232518
terry.macu3a@gmail.com

The 2014-2015 programme encompasses a number of different aspects of railways interest to suit a wide range of tastes, including local railways, developments in North America during the art deco era, work of HM Railways Inspectorate and a Christmas Social. An integral part of the group's activities is the annual day trip, which in 2015 we hope will be the Severn Valley Railway. The group meets, usually on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from September to May inclusive, at the Peterborough & District Indoor Bowls Centre, starting at 14.00. Approximately 30-40 members regularly attend meetings to enjoy the presentations, the mid-afternoon cuppa, pleasant company and the chance of a railway chat! For further details, look at the website or contact Terry. We look forward to hearing from you.

Snooker / Pool

Ted Smith 01733 574580

We play weekly at Courts at 10.00am. Phone Ted in the first instance.

Spanish (Basic)

John Douglas 01733 394485

Weekly, at the Copeland Centre, South Bretton from 10.00am until noon. For Spanish beginners, those who have a little knowledge or those who may have forgotten. For those who wish to improve their Spanish see Monday and Thursday.

Tai Chi

Monika & Bruce Gwynne 01733 234922

Tai Chi is based on the healing, meditative and martial traditions of China. Classes are held at All Saints Church Hall, Park Road.

Tai Chi [Beginners] from 2.00 to 3.00pm

Tai Chi [Intermediate] from 12.00 to 1.00pm

Tai Chi [Advanced] from 1.00 to 2.00pm

Tai Chi [Improvers] from 2.00 to 3.00pm

The Tai Chi group is growing in popularity. It seems that once you have been bitten by the Tai Chi "bug", most people remain hooked and want to continue and complete the full course. Whilst new members continue to join and a few drop out, an additional hour is being added to the Tuesday sessions as a trial, and if successful, will be continued on a permanent basis.

For those unfamiliar with the concept of Tai Chi, it is based on the healing, meditative and ancient martial arts of China. Each of the seemingly gentle movements has a practical application. We practice the Yang family style of Tai Chi in which the emphasis is on slow, soft,

controlled movements. Tai Chi may be practiced by people of all ages and abilities, and is said to bring health benefits, including posture, balance and circulation. It also brings a sense of relaxation and inner peace. Because of the progressive nature of learning the Tai Chi forms it is difficult, but not necessarily impossible, to include new beginners after the Christmas break. However, if you have any previous experience of Tai Chi, our ever patient teacher, Lesley, would be pleased to see you and advise which group would best suit your abilities. We look forward to seeing you

Ten Pin Bowling [2]

Hilary Lewis 01733 265877

This is a sociable group of 30+ members who meet weekly at 10.00 am at AMF Bretton, for a couple of hours bowling and refreshment. Previous experience is entirely unnecessary, but those who have bowled before (even many years ago!) are equally welcome.

Walking:

- 1. The Four Plus Milers** Jeanette Taylor 01733 701831
The distance is in their title, approximately!
- 2. Tuesday Walkers** John Hucklesby 01733 231894
Walk between four and five miles
- 3. Red Kites** Gill Coffey, 01832 280491
Meet at 9.45am. A rota is drawn up for all to share leadership of walks during the year. Meeting at pub of choice. Walk between five and seven miles but it may be a bit more.
- 4. Tuesday Trekkers** Graham Parnwell 01733 572688
Walk between four and five miles.
- 5. Footpath Walkers** Robin Lambe, 01733 571695

All the above walking groups, except Red Kites meet at 10.00am for a 10.15 start. Normally circular walks starting at places within a 30-mile radius of Peterborough. A list of these and how to get to the meeting points may be obtained from the coordinators. Walks offer good exercise, good companionship and, for those who choose, a pub lunch at the end. There are also countryside walks on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and shorter "strolls" on Fridays

Watercolours Absolute Beginners

Mike Henton 01733 233242

8 Weekly Sessions for £20.00 from 13.00 to 15.30 for 12 students in the Colonel Dane Memorial Hall, Church Street, Alwalton, PE7 3UZ. Covering the minimum materials and tools: Drawing and perspective, choice of basic colours and mixing, composition, atmospheric recession and light, tricks of the trade

Bring any watercolours and brushes that you may already have. Please obtain a Watercolour Block, a pad of paper glued around the edges so that when water is used it won't cockle. Art shops like Coleman's can supply. mikehenton@talktalk.net

Watercolours for Enjoyment

Trevor Cross 01733 208727

trevorcross66@yahoo.com

Since the beginning of May we have met at the Alwalton Memorial Hall, and the new venue will be announced for September. This new group has 10 members so far, but we would love for others to join us. We all relish the opportunity to be with others and to pursue our hobby

Writing Life Stories

Helen Henton 01733 233242

Email: helenhenton@talktalk.net

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Group A | 1 st Tuesday of the month | at 10.00am to 12.00 am |
| Group B | 1 st Tuesday of the month | at 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm |
| Group C | 2 nd Tuesday of the month | at 10.00am to 12.00pm |
| Group D | 2 nd Tuesday of the month | at 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm |

Each of the four groups of 8 meet once a month for 2 hours, usually at Helen's Alwalton home, although sometimes it is helpful for a group member to host the regular meeting if Helen is unable to lead. Sessions usually run from September, beginning with a workshop to discuss the year's topic coverage.

Remember the meeting on 2 September is a single date for all four groups at the Col. Dane Memorial Hall, Alwalton, PE7 3UU at 12.45pm until 3.30pm. Bring your personal lunch and Helen will, as usual, provide the juices, coffee and tea. Wendy Ritchie will speak briefly on the topic of being able to 'personally relax prior to writing'. The main aim for this meeting is to provide time for a workshop to share ideas, gain support from one another, and plan topic titles for the following year.

WEDNESDAY

Birdwatching

Bernard Dawes 01733 235417

First Wednesday of each month. We meet at 10.00am at venue. Approximately 2½ hours duration. We have a 12-month rolling programme.

Bridge

Mary Claxton 01733 261210

We play weekly on Wednesday at Copeland Community Centre at 1.00pm. Ring Mary for more details

Crime Book Reading Club [2]

Ann Pollack 01733 269108

We grew so big we had to split into two groups! Group [2] meets at Bretton Library on the first Wednesday of the month at 3.00pm. Our books are provided by the helpful librarians. Our search is for enjoyment and thrills, not great intellectual experiences! Come and join us. (For the Werrington Crime Readers information see Monday)

Cross Stitch

Sue Oliver 01733 262194

We are a friendly bunch, who enjoy cross-stitch, a good natter and a cup of tea. If you have never cross-stitched before, we can help and show you what to do. We meet in my house on Wednesday at 2.00pm and can only accommodate about half a dozen ladies (or gents!) so get in touch to see if there is room or go on a waiting list.

Cycling – Short Rides

Jean Stamford 01733 390970

Short rides for enjoyment. Meet weekly at the Lido at 10.00am. For cyclists of all abilities.

French Conversation Improvers [2]

Gigi Stephens 01733 573457

We meet weekly at 3.35pm at Hodgson Community Centre. Please ring Gigi for further information.

German for Improvers

Margot Perry 01733 311149

Meet weekly in Park Road at 1.30pm.

Golf – 18 Holes

Ken Gregory 01733 741139

We meet 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9.00am at Nene Park Golf Centre, Thorpe Wood Golf course. Contact Ken for further details.

Golf for Fun

Jill Buxton 01733 263854

We will meet from 9.10 to 9.50am in the Thorney Golf Centre car park. Balls will be placed in the bag for the draw from 9.25am and continuously until 9.50am. The first selection will be made at 9.25am ready for a 9.30am tee-off time and the last at 9.50am as we must all be away by 10.00am.

Greeting Cards Making

Anita Bothamley anita.both@btinternet.com
We meet weekly at Bishopsfield from 10.0am to noon.

Line Dancing for Beginners [1]

Lesley Bennetto 01733 688939

Meet weekly at Matley Community Centre at 1.45pm.

Lunch Club [Weekday 1]

Jackie Salmon, 01733 210018

Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at noon. Phone Jackie for details, booking and the venue.

Lunch Club [Weekday 2]

Janet Day 01733 896685

Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at noon. Phone Janet for details, booking and the venue.

Patchwork and Quilting [1]

Winnie Wakefield 01733 577629

All Saints' Church Hall, Park Road, 10.00am to noon. Join friends and enjoy sharing your skills. You will be made very welcome

Readers – Wednesday

Mike Street 01733 229131

Meet on third Wednesday of each month at 10.00am at Orton Waterville. Please contact Mike for more information

Singing for Pleasure

Margaret Smith 01733 210480

Weekly on Wednesdays at St Andrews Church Hall, Netherpton from 2.00 to 4.00pm. If you like to sing but don't feel you can sing alone, this may be for you. No auditions required, no need to be able to read music, just a happy time of sing-along songs with a friendly crowd of folk (including quite a lot of men!). We often go out in small groups to sing to and with folk in day centres and residential complexes to show that singing is good therapy and can be enjoyed by all.

Social History

Doreen Dare 01733 260994

Monthly speaker meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at Christ Church, Orton Goldhay; except July and August. Our group is open to all. Please ring Doreen for further details.

Ten Pin Bowling League

Hilary Lewis 01733 265877

We meet on Wednesdays at 10.00, AMF Bretton, to pit our skills against each other in a friendly but competitive manner. The league is made up of team pairs, but reserve members are also welcome. All receive the schedule for the year, so matches can be re-arranged to suit if necessary

Wednesday Walkers

Duncan Hallam 01733 554359

Meet at 10.00am. For programme and meeting places contact Duncan. *See also Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for countryside walks*

Woodturning [1] + [2]

Tony Plumpstead 01733 236073

Two groups meet weekly on Wednesday at Rail World; Group [1] at 10.00am and Group [2] at 1.00pm.

Yoga

Kathryn Chiswell 01733 569951

We meet weekly at 10.00am at East Community Centre.

THURSDAY

All Matters Welsh

Meirion Griffiths 01733 266483

Monthly, on the First Thursday at 2.00pm at Peterborough Sports & Social Club.

An 'Alphabet of Art'

John Shearman 01733 761759

At St Luke's Church Hall. There are two classes both on second Thursday: Class [1] at 10.30am and Class [2] at 2.00pm

The group is working through the alphabet looking at and discussing an eclectic mix of aspects of art including artists, paintings, genres, terms used in art, periods and schools. You could say everything from A-Z! The sessions are very visual and we use music, poetry, historical writings and fiction to enhance our understanding of the paintings. Members of the two groups contribute to the lively discussions and everyone's views are listened to and respected. Previous experience of groups like ours is not necessary, but a love of art most certainly is!

Contemporary Novels

Peter Gregory 01733 265952

Meet fortnightly at members' homes at 2.00pm on Thursdays. Please ring Peter in the first instance.

Country Churches & Afternoon Tea [1] + [2]

Geoff Castle 01733 569201

We do what it says on the tin. Monthly we visit one of our delightful English village churches with a tour around. Group [1] on the first Thursday, Group [2] on the second Thursday. Afterwards we have a pot of tea, a scone and jam and maybe some homemade cake. What could be finer?

Country Churches & Afternoon Teas [3]

Pauline Marriott 01406 330429 and Les Swinburne 01733 212687

We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 2.00pm with the same format as the groups above. Venues vary.

Films - pre 1970

John Douglas 01733 394485

The group meets on the second Thursday of the month at Copeland, starting in October. After each showing, we enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and have a brief discussion on the film. The programme for the autumn will not be finalized until after Activities day

when members will have the chance to vote on the films available. All films shown are normally at least 40 years old and they are guaranteed to bring back the memories. Do join us

French [advanced] Maga Bruce-Rahmany 01733 333408
In the morning at Maga's home in Ravensthorpe. Phone for details.

Listening to Music Paul Parker 01780 782976
Meets most months on the penultimate Thursday of the month in Nassington at 2.15 pm. This is a small group with varying degree of knowledge of music from very little to much more. Do phone first as accommodation is limited. See also musical Alphabet below.

Mah Jong Stuart Osborne 01733 233840
s.osborne7@ntlworld.com

We meet weekly at Copeland, South Bretton from 10.00 to noon. Mah Jong is a mild gentle game, the basics of which can be picked up in a morning. You can ask everyone in the class, however the more you play the more enjoyable it becomes with special hands like "Wriggling Snake" or "Thirteen Unique Wonders". It's a bit like rummy, collecting runs and sets but the sets are Winds and Dragons and Bamboos and Circles. It sounds a bit mysterious but you'll be playing with others to whom it was a mystery not so long ago; you never feel out of your depth. And it's played by such lovely people, just like you.

Musical Alphabet (A stroll through) Paul Parker 01780 782976
Meets in Nassington at 2.15pm on the last Thursday of each month, except August & December. We are strolling through the alphabet for the second time and are nearly at the end of S. The group listens to the music with the aid of notes. The musical knowledge of members of the group varies considerably. Sessions last for about two hours including a short break for tea/coffee. A charge of 50p covers the notes and the refreshments. Any member is welcome, but phone first as accommodation is limited.

Philosophy Larry Curley 01487 830803
The Philosophy group is now fairly well established. We meet once a month at in the Inspire Room, John Mansfield Centre at 1.45pm. We have agreed that we would not fix on any particular Thursday, and that our term would be three months long.

Photography - Foto Friends Malcolm Turner 01733 705265
We meet monthly on second Thursday at 10.00am at St Andrew' Church Hall, North Bretton. Ring Malcolm for further details.

Photography for Pleasure [1]

Jennifer Day 01733 231819

Meets at Copeland, South Bretton at 10.00am. On the first Thursday we have a competition on a theme, e.g. birds, market scenes, still life. On the third Thursday we have a discussion on some aspects of photography led by different members of the Group. We also make occasional visits to places and events of photographic interest.

Poetry Appreciation [2]

John Hucklesby 01733 231894

The Poetry Appreciation Group meets on the third Thursday of each month at St Luke's Church at 2.00pm (also on Friday see below). In general we cover English poets from Elizabethan to modern poets. Whether you like restoration poets, modernists or romantics we find time to cover the vast spread of poetry throughout the centuries. We also find time to 'distract ourselves with distractions' such as ballads or haiku or American poets or even Beowulf and thus join Emily Dickinson's search for the 'kinsmen of the shelves'.

Scrapbooking - Memory Album

Trish Colebrook 01733 705105

Monthly in Werrington from 2.00 to 4.00pm, in Trish's home.

A memory album is record of events, family occasions and if like me you are into Family History you can build up an album to complement your records. It is not just photos you put in your album. Journaling is a very special part of scrapbooking and decorating the pages adds to the whole look of the album. Everything we use is acid and lignin free, papers, pens and adhesive as well as the album itself. Therefore when finished the album is archival and can become a precious item to be passed down in the family for many years to come.

Spanish (Improvers)

Claire Bysse 01733 253164

Held weekly in Copeland Centre, South Bretton at 2.00-4.00pm. For those who have some knowledge of the Spanish language and wish to extend their use of it.

Walking:

1. **Thursday Walkers** John & Pat Sheenam 01733 230258
Walk between four and five miles.
2. **Amiable Amblers** Geoff Brown 01733 262607
Walk between four and five miles.
3. **Thursday Tramps** Jane Hall 01733 231500
Walk between six and eight miles. All normally eat at a pub at lunchtime.
4. **Walkie Talkie** Lynn Turner 01733 267635

All the above countryside walking groups follow more or less the same format as the Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday walking groups. See Friday for shorter stroll.

Walking Group Wombles – Short Walks Philip Hare 01733 231570
Walking for pleasure and enjoyment once a fortnight on Thursday at Thorpe Meadow car park at 1.00pm.

Wine Tasting Club Lynda Brimmell 01733 394436
We meet at 7.45pm on the first Thursday of the month in members' houses to taste and discuss interesting wines. This is a very informal gathering and if you would like to join us please give Lynda a ring.

Writing Poetry Pam Kounougakis 01733 252018
We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10.00am at various locations. Please contact Pam for further information.

FRIDAY

Archaeology & Architecture Joyce Wickett 01733 238352
We meet at 1.00am at Matley Community Centre on the first Friday of the month. The intervening months are devoted to visits to places of architectural or archaeological interest (e.g. churches, castles, town walks, museums, cathedrals, manor houses etc.). The group is very popular and has a waiting list.

Belly Dancing Jackie Marjoram 01733 577369
Meets weekly at 2.30pm in St Jude's Church Hall Netherton.

Boules [1] (Petanque) Jo Davies 01733 240906
Weekly at 10.00am at The Windmill, Orton Waterville

Harmony for Pleasure Margaret Smith 01733 210480
Meet fortnightly on Friday mornings from 10.00am to 12 noon at Crowland Methodist Church. This group is for those who enjoy a structured form of singing in harmony. It is preferable for members to have the ability to read music and be able to sing songs of a more intricate nature. No auditions required, but anyone interested is advised to come and see if this works for them. Occasionally we perform to entertain other organizations and individual items are encouraged, but mainly we sing for the joy of learning and tackling music, which stretches our capacity to the full.

Jazz Appreciation ZoZiety

Mike Edgley 01480 433481

Our group was formed in 2007 and has never looked back. The secrets of our success are firstly the music, which has brought us together, and secondly the fact that we meet on the second Friday of the month at each other's homes at 10.00am, which leads to a cosy 'club' atmosphere. The downside is that we have had to limit the number of members, but luckily another group has been formed (see Jazz 4U below). Several of our members do presentations and we also have some speakers from outside U3A. Most of us prefer early jazz but we have made forays into the post-'bop' era. Above all we are enthusiasts, which is surely the main ingredient of any U3A group.

Jazz 4U

Colin Baxter 01733 231959

We are a group of Jazz enthusiasts, who meet on the second Friday of the month, 10a.m. - 12 noon, at Orton Waterville Village Hall. You do not need an in-depth knowledge of Jazz, you just need to enjoy it. The Term runs from September to June. Members bring their own CDs, tapes or vinyl, which are played and discussed. Occasionally, one of us will put together a themed programme; favourite artist, or type of Jazz, with a little history, and anecdotes. We are very eclectic, so whatever your taste you should hear it here. If not, bring it along and convert us!

Knit and Natter

Jean Bodily 01733 564181

This group has been going for many years now and during that time we have knitted garments for our family, Oxfam, International Aid, fisher men's bobble hats, Chernoble children, the charity shop in the hospital as well as the prem unit. Currently we are knitting knee blankets for patients in Thorpe Hall and jumpers for the children of Chernoble.

With all this activity we are always looking out for donations of wool so if any of you aspired to knit but never completed whatever it was. Please do not throw wool away as we can always use it, even small balls of wool can be used to make squares that are then made up into the blankets.

We are also able to undertake knitting for anyone, just ask. Our baby garments are really beautiful. Any profit we make goes to charity. We meet at 2.00pm at Paston. Unfortunately because our group is held in our homes we are limited for space at the moment.

Line Dancing [2]

Elaine Neale 01733 577468

This line dancing class is a very friendly group that meets every Friday from 2.00 to 4.00pm at Matley Community Centre, Orton Brimble for a

natter and some exercise to pleasant music. The class is aimed at line dancers of all abilities, with dances ranging from beginners to improvers with the odd intermediate one.

Nordic Waking

Elaine Plant 01733 332762

Meet weekly at 1.30pm usually at Ferry Meadow Visitor Centre. Nordic walking is good for your heart. The use of Nordic poles exercises the whole body and utilizes muscles that would not otherwise be use, you feel more energized and you therefore benefit from the 46 percent efficiency of the Nordic Walking activity. All those wishing to try Nordic walking, please contact Elaine.

Opinion Time

Bernard Baker 01733 236241

We meet on the last Friday of the month at 2.00pm at my house, please contact me if you would like to join us.

Poetry Appreciation [1]

John Hucklesby 01733 231894

Third Friday of the month, 2.00 to 4.00pm, St Luke's Church Hall, including half terms. See also Thursday's group but you may also phone for further details. *[1] & [2] are the same course repeated.*

Roses and Castles (Canal art)

Donne Buck 01733 568896 and Sidney Harbour, 01733 343761

Weekly, at 2.30pm, at Bishopsfield, Walton. Roses and Castles is the traditional title of the very colourful art of the English canals. It is suitable for decorating all kinds of household and garden items for personal use or for gifts. We are a friendly group with a long record of helping new members to gain the skills they need. To do this we have a small collection of basic materials ready for you to use. So, why not bring along something from home on any Friday afternoon, and have a go. There is no charge for this class. Refreshments are available. We still have vacancies for new members as there is plenty of room at Bishopsfield.

Any U3A members who have relatives at Bishopsfield might wish to remind them that they are welcome to join our group on Fridays as visitors or participants and to have tea or coffee with us, as several already do. Parking is free at the rear of Bishopsfield. Please give one of us a ring if you have any questions. Visitors always welcome.

Rummikub

Colin and Sheila Kostyrka 01733 232585

We are a friendly group who meet at 2pm on the third Friday of each month at Homenene House at the Orton Centre. Rummikub is a fast

track numbers game, and we always enjoy a social occasion and a cup of tea whilst playing several games, and having many a laugh! We are very fortunate to be able to use this comfortable venue free of charge, it is accessible for people with disabilities and is also on a bus route, with ample parking adjacent. If you would like to join us, we have a few available places! Please ring first, and we will be happy to tell you a little bit more about it! No experience is necessary! Please telephone us.

Scrabble

Sylvia Blackall 01733 765509 and Daphne Renshaw 01733 231199
We are a small friendly group who meet every Friday morning from 11.00am to 1.00pm at the Indoor Bowling Centre. The aim is to enjoy playing scrabble with like-minded people, the social side being an important part. Although we do like a challenge, we do not intend to take the game seriously enough to participate in tournaments. The use of dictionaries and 2/3 letter words is permitted. From beginners to advanced all levels are very welcome.

Walking Groups:

Village Walkers

David Hart 01733 231095

Takes place on the second and fourth Friday of each month.
If you enjoy gentle exercise and good company the above two strolling groups meet at 10.30am for a 10.45am start. Those who wish can finish with refreshments at the local pub. For locations phone David. The distances are approximately two to three miles and the strolls generally start within a 15-mile radius of Peterborough.

Friday Strollers

Colin Baker 01733 222324
colinb23@hotmail.co.uk

This walking group, reformed at the beginning of this year, continues its main objectives of gentle exercise with companionship and conviviality. We number some 20 active members with an average of 15 each walk, taking place on the second and fourth Friday of each month. We generally walk within a radius of 20 miles from Peterborough, meet at 10.30am usually starting at 10.45am from a pub and finishing with a lunch. We see an eventual group of around 30 members, so if you are looking for a healthy and social activity totally devoid of extreme sports, you may find our group to be worthy of consideration, give me a call on 01733 222324 or email me.

The Friday Stroll Nomads meet at 10.30 on the first and third Friday of each month at 10.30am at various locations.

Watercolours

Valerie McNeill 01733 321221

40 members meet every Friday at 1.45pm to share our love of painting and to meet like-minded people. This class is not suitable for complete newcomers to watercolour as no formal tuition is available. We are a self-help group with some occasional step-by-step workshops. This is a very popular group so there is a waiting list.

Watercolours for all

Ros Parker 01733 770641

We meet on first and third Friday of month at the Memorial Hall in Alwalton at 9.30am. Please phone Ros for further details.

SATURDAY

Badminton

Barry Clarkson 01733 311817

Weekly from 2.00 to 4.00pm at Bushfield Sports Centre; £2.00 for two hours. Racquets can be borrowed.

Boules II (Petanque)

Jo Davies 01733 240906

Weekly at 10.00am at The Windmill, Orton Waterville

Travel Club

Arthur Hunt, 01733 756883 & Ann Pollack 269108

Travel Club meetings are held at the Jack Hunt School at 10.00am on the following Saturdays: 4 October and 13 December

SUNDAY

Lunch club (1)

Jean Bodily 01733 564181

Lunch club (2)

Jennifer Day 01733 231819

Lunch club (3)

Doreen Waltham 01733 558978

Lunch club (4)

Trish Colebrook 01733 705105

Each group meets once a month and different venues are used. These are mainly within 15 miles of Peterborough so transport is needed, and there is a different organiser for each of the groups. Currently there are spaces in the first and third Sunday groups for people (both men and women) who are on their own. If you would like to join us you will be very welcome. Telephone either Doreen or Jean if you are interested, we will be happy to have you join us. Don't spend Sundays alone.

VARIABLE DAYS

Bowls

Bernard Dawes 01733 235417

Daily on Monday to Saturday at Bushfield Bowls Club at 1.45pm.
Please contact Bernard if you are interested.

Car Driving Assessment (Individual)

Hazel Brewin 01733 578400

This is a unique opportunity for a Full Car Driving Licence holder, to have an hour-long assessment and feedback of your car driving skill and knowledge in your own car. Hazel is a fully qualified Car Driving Instructor with over 25 years of teaching experience. We will meet in Peterborough, at a mutually agreed time and place. There will be no charge for U3A members. Please contact Hazel for further information.

Theatre Group

Graham and Dorothy Woods 01733 234892

timberwoods@ntlworld.com

Visits to London and provincial theatres as arranged.

Welsh language

Meirion Griffiths 01733 266483

The group meets weekly on various days in Longthorpe at various times. Please contact Meirion for details.

TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

Arthur's Holidays

CHINA:

9 March 2015 - 15 days - 13 nights - £2,130pp

Includes all meals, full sightseeing and coach to airport

THE SPLENDOUR OF SICILY:

15-22 April 2015 - 8 days - 7 nights - £849 pp.

Ann & Malcolm's Holidays:

GUERNSEY BY AIR:

13-17 September 2014 - £612 pp

Possibility of additional places. If interested, speak to Ann.

WARNERS TURKEY & TINSEL: Bodelwyddan Castle, North Wales.

17-21 November 2014 - £299 pp

Delicious food, good entertainment and trips to Anglesey, Betws-y-coed, Bangor and Conway.

MURDER MYSTERY & MAYHEM:

27-30 March 2015 - £375 pp

'Morse' guided walking tour of Oxford, guided coach tour of 'Midsomer' villages and a long-running murder mystery in the evenings at this 4-star hotel.

CHATEAUX AND WINES OF THE LOIRE:

13-18 May 2015 - £654 pp

Travel by coach to Angers; visit the chateaux of the region and taste the wines. Visit a troglodyte village and explore Tours.

HISTORIC CINQUE PORTS OF KENT:

21-25 September 2015 - £385 pp

Discover these charming old towns and delve into their smuggling past. Our trip includes a visit to Canterbury Cathedral and a ride on the Romney, Hythe and Dimchurch railway.

STRASBOURG AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:

8-13 October 2015 - £599 pp

Travel by coach to Strasbourg, visiting the European parliament (with a €200 rebate) with trips to Colmar, Heidelberg and Metz.

DAY VISITS 2014-15

Please read this carefully if you intend to book for any day visit. More 'Day Visits' for 2015 will be published in the January edition of the 'News'.

Any member of any U3A can book a Day Visit. Non-U3A members are welcome as guests, but have to pay a slightly higher charge. Please use the booking forms, the bottom form first! (Additional booking forms are usually available on day visits and at monthly meetings.) **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 will not 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 normally be about £2 per person. If there are spare seats we will often accept bookings after the deadline.

You can also book on Activities Day.

It is best to book as early as possible if you want to be sure of a seat for a particular visit. I am happy to deal with all queries, except booking queries, 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'). Booking enquiries only, should be made to **Gina Bates [01733 579317]**. Book with Gina by phone and then send the booking form and cheque to Gina at **Peterborough U3A c/o Mrs G Bates, 82 Temple Grange, Werrington, PETERBOROUGH, PE4 5DW** within seven days. If you are booking for just one visit just cut off the bottom slip.

If the visit is already fully booked it is a good idea to put your name on the waiting list. You may be able to replace someone who has to drop out. If the waiting list gets very long we may book a second coach or run the same visit but possibly on a different day.

Note: Full details of conditions, etc. are published annually in the April 'News'.

Paul Parker – Day Visit Organiser 01780 782976

WITLEY COURT and GARDENS AND WORCESTER

Thursday 11 September 2014

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.

Step back in time at Witley Court. Once one of England's great country houses, hosting many extravagant parties, it is now a spectacular ruin, the result of a fire in 1937.

Marvel at the stunning Perseus and Andromeda Fountain 'fires'. See the restored East Parterre Garden in full bloom complete with topiary and colourful planting. Discover some of Witley's wildlife with a stroll round the newly opened lakeside walk.

The visitors' centre serves teas, coffees etc

Not part of Witley Court, but right next to it is a church, which has a stunning interior and an organ that Handel played. The church has a tearoom.

In the afternoon we will visit Worcester where the Cathedral, Greyfriars' House and garden (National Trust), the shops, etc are all worth a visit.

Cost: U3A members travel and entry under 60 £19.50

U3A members travel and entry over 60 £18.80

U3A members who are members of English Heritage £12.40

Non-U3A members pay £2.00 in addition to the above prices.

Deadline for booking 18 August 2014

BADDESLEY CLINTON & PACKWOOD HOUSE

Tuesday 23 September 2014

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 7.00pm.

Baddesley Clinton is a moated manor house. The magic of Baddesley Clinton comes from its timeless setting deep in its own parkland. Yet its modest scale and homely feel can be deceptive. For a small manor house a surprising amount is known about its inhabitants and their often unexpected lives. This year the story of the Victorian Quartet continues; four writers and artists, who restored the house they used as a retreat from the world. The gardens include medieval fish pools, lakeside walk, walled garden and wildflower meadow. The Barn Restaurant serves hot meals, drinks and snacks. The Stables serves light refreshments. The shop sells seasonal gifts, local foods and plants and there is a second-hand bookshop.

Packwood House is surrounded by beautiful gardens and countryside. Lovingly restored at the beginning of the 20th century by Graham Baron Ash, the house contains wonderful collection of 16th century furniture and textiles. The gardens include brightly coloured, 'mingle style' herbaceous borders, famous sculptured yews and an 18th century gentleman's garden with herbs, flowers and vegetables. This year there is a new Garden Kitchen Café and playful sculpture in the park.

How could you miss visiting these two houses and gardens, one is Elizabethan, the other Tudor and in the coach they are only ten minutes apart.

Cost, travel and entry to both houses: U3A members £25.95
U3A members who are members of the National Trust £9.55
Non-U3A members pay £2.00 in addition to the above prices.
Deadline for booking **9 September 2014**

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, LONDON

Monday 27 October 2014

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 7.00pm.

The Imperial War Museum has just re-opened after some building work and the installation of new WW1 galleries, which reveal some surprising facts about the First World War. Like most of this amazing museum there is no charge for entry.

As it is very near to the centenary of the start of WW1 it seems appropriate to visit this museum. There is much to see besides these new galleries. It also has a café, which serves hot and cold food.

Cost: U3A members-£16.75

Non-U3A members £18.75

WADDESDON MANOR, Nr AYLESBURY

Wednesday 26 November 2014

Leaving Bright Street Coach Station at 8.30am, Crab & Winkle, Werrington at 8.40am, Bretton Centre bus stop at 8.50am and Thorpe Meadows at 9.00am, arriving back in Peterborough at about 7.30pm.

We thought we would go to Waddesdon for their special Christmas displays. The East Wing & Bachelors' Wing, the theme for the special lighting displays is *Lights and Legends*, an evocation of stories, myths and rituals from around the world, some traditional, some exotic and some contemporary light at this festival time of year. We have a timed entry to these wings.

Bruce Munro mesmerised visitors last year with his captivating lights in the Gardens and this season he will create six new pieces to explore, including a special version of his iconic *Filed of Light*.

A Christmas Fair starts on the 26 November and there will also be food market. There is also a new Christmas shop in the Coach House at the Stables. Their wine shop will also be open offering Rothschild's wines complemented by 'Guest Wines'.

There are the usual places to by food and drink

Ticket includes Gardens, Aviary, Shops, Restaurants, and Winter Light at Waddesdon.

Cost: U3A members £24.25

U3A members who are also members of the National Trust £13.00

Non-U3A members the above prices plus £2.00

BIRMINGHAM & CBSO CONCERT IN SYMPHONY HALL [1]

Wednesday 25 March 2015

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.

When Brahms went on holiday, all his troubles fell away – and that is exactly the effect of this lovely symphony, 45 minutes of glowing landscapes, jubilant trumpets and tunes that never seem to end. The very English serenity of Vaughan Williams is a gentle short prelude to Beethoven's most brilliant second piano concerto, played by Steve Osborne, one of Britain's brightest keyboard stars. The conductor is Andrew Manze.

There will be time to look round some of Birmingham before the concert; we usually arrive before 11.00am and the concert starts at 2.15pm. 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.

Further details from Paul Parker [01780 782976]

Cost: Travel & Concert: £34.25 (Non-U3A members £36.25)

Cost: Travel only £11.25 (Non-U3A members £13.25)

Deadline for booking for the concert **7 January 2015**

You can book for travel only after **8 January 2015**

Deadline for booking for travel only **11 February 2015**

**BIRMINGHAM & CBSO CONCERT
IN SYMPHONY HALL [2]
Wednesday 6 May 2015**

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.

Programme: Haydn – Symphony No. 103 (Drumroll); Mozart - Violin Concerto No. 4; Prokofiev -. Violin Concerto No. 2; Haydn – Symphony No.104 (London). No two great composers were ever closer than Mozart and Haydn, and there is a smile in every bar of this delightful entertaining concert. Two of the wittiest and warmest symphonies ever written frame lively concertos by Haydn's best friend, and his 20th century fan, Andris Nelson's school friend Baiba Skride is the soloist. This is going to be fun; this spring put a spring in your step!

There will be time to look round some of Birmingham before the concert; we usually arrive before 11.00am and the concert starts at 2.15 pm. 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.

Further details from Paul Parker 01780 782976

Cost: Travel & Concert: £34.25 (Non-U3A members £36.25)

Cost: Travel only £11.25 (Non-U3A members £13.25)

Deadline for booking for the concert 17 February 2015

You can book for travel only after 18 February 2015

Deadline for booking for travel only 22 April 2015

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

Monday 10 November 2014

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:

**Peterborough U3A News
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Rummikub Group at Play



Village Walkers and Friday Strollers at Burghley Park

