



## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

**Hello Everyone,**

The last Monday meeting turned out to be excellent after the formal business of the AGM had been signed off.

We did learn that our membership has now topped the 600 mark and our finances are in good shape thanks to our group leaders and treasurer who have everything under control. **However there are quite a few**, over a hundred, who have not yet renewed their subscriptions for various reasons.

**I would ask everyone to check** that they have done so please, as this is essential for our insurance rules. Our annual fee of £8 is great value. You can settle up at the first Monday meetings or send them to our new membership secretary, Beverley. Thank you.

**Most people associate an AGM** as being something to be avoided as boring, but we do not do that. As it only takes ten minutes, the following entertainment in house was something special with our Drama and Singing for pleasure people making it a fun morning.

**The sketch by the drama people** showed what might happen if a Wine Tasting group imbibed to excess. Then the Singing was a selection of popular songs. Thank you to both groups for putting on such a great show. A report is inside.

**We re-instated the Art display** at this meeting with some lovely paintings on show in the top room next to the coffee lounge.

This was a revelation of talent, and thanks to all who brought along their work. We hope to retain this as a feature of the May meeting.

**Please remember to view the display** at the AGM next year as it is a must.

**You will notice some changes to the structure of the committee now**, and we thank those who have volunteered to take on these posts and would like to express our gratitude to those who have stepped down for all their hard work over very many years.

**We still need help with the secretarial work** if anyone feels that they would like to offer their services. Roland would be most grateful.

**The revamped newsletter in colour** has been a huge improvement and David Woodman continues to do a great job month by month. Group Leaders can now submit colour photos of their groups' activities, with the permission of the people involved, which adds greatly to the appearance of the newsletter and is incorporated by our fellow U3A associates in South Lincs. We print extras now, so do take more copies than one if you wish.

**Copies are on display each month at the Arts Centre** and the Library, which is helping to spread the word of our existence.

**We are nearly half way through the year** and hope that everyone has enjoyed what we have been doing so far. We still need volunteers to help with the various jobs, so if anyone would like to do so, please just come to any of our meetings to tell us.

**Suggestions for any new group or in fact anything would be welcome.**

Thank you all for your support for all that we do.

**Michael Crowe**

[e:chairman2017@StamfordU3A.co.uk](mailto:chairman2017@StamfordU3A.co.uk)

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>MICHAEL CROWE</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b>
<b>ROLAND HIGGINS</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIRMAN &amp; SECRETARY</b>
<b>BILL NIEHORSTER</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>
<b>BEVERLEY MEADER</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>
<b>DAVID WOODMAN</b>	<b>WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER</b>
<b>PATRICIA HALLAM</b>	<b>SPEAKER FINDER</b>
<b>JIM DUNCAN</b>	<b>FIRE OFFICER</b>

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1077090**

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

- JUN 3 THE LAST LAUGH – A HUMOROUS LOOK AT  
EPITAPHS BY JEAN TOWNSEND**
- JUL 1 GEORGIAN JEWELLERY TO THE PRESENT DAY  
BY JUNE BULL**

Monthly meetings are held at Barn Hill Methodist Church on the first Monday of each month, unless it falls on a Bank Holiday when it is then moved to the second Monday.

**COFFEE AT 10 AM - MEETING STARTS 10:30 AM**

<b>WALKING GROUP 1</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>LEADERS</b>
<b>JUN 7</b>	<b>STAMFORD WELLAND CANAL</b> – Meet in Stamford Morrisons car park PE9 2EX	<b>Lynn/Denise</b>
<b>JUN 21</b>	<b>HELPSTON</b> - Meet at Blue Bell pub in the village PE6 7ED	<b>Sue and Chris</b>
<b>WALKING GROUP 2</b>		
<b>JUN 28</b>	<b>RUTLAND WATER</b> - Meet at Sykes Lane car park LE15 8QL Charge £3.70 for 3 hours. Walk to Whitwell Harbour café for coffee then walk back to Sykes Lane.. <b>A shorter walk (about an hour) each month over a more gentle terrain</b>	<b>Wendy and Rosemary</b>
<b>All our walks start at 10:00 am. New members always welcome.</b> <b>ROSEMARY PECK 01572 822205 WENDY SANCHEZ 01572 747037</b>		

### **BIRD WATCHING GROUP**

A warm and sunny, dry morning, greeted the group, on Monday morning, 20th May 2019. Eight members assembled in the car park, at Yew Tree Avenue, Clipsham. They moved off down the avenue, listening to the fabulous bird-song. Although the resident birds were busy feeding young, the summer migrants were in good voice; including the warblers: Chiff Chaff, Blackcap, and Garden Warbler. Time was taken to explain the various song patterns and to add one resident singer, the Chaffinch.

We then moved on to the woodland trail area, where the Garden Warblers were singing their wonderful deep, throaty song from the thick scrub cover. Suddenly, the listeners were delighted to hear 2 Cuckoos (at either end of the trail), singing constantly. A precious moment: the Cuckoo is a declining species, and not heard very much in recent years. After admiring the seasonal wild flowers, and the mass of Hawthorn blossom; they made their way back towards the car park. The silvery wisps of songs from Willow Warblers floated through the trees and then the songs of the resident Dunnocks - good news for the Cuckoo; the Dunnock being the main host for the female Cuckoo to lay eggs in the nest in woodland and farm hedgerows. We then visited the Stamford Garden Centre Restaurant, in Casterton Road: for lunch and a convivial chat on the morning's proceedings. - **PHIL RUDKIN**



### **CHESS GROUP**

**We try to keep our brains active** by playing chess, coaching beginners and mentoring new members. Do come along and join a friendly group. We meet at 23 Priory Gardens, Stamford, PE9 2EG (plenty of parking). We start at 13:45 and finish when you've had enough. Dates for the forthcoming summer fixed as below. all dates are Mondays.

**JUNE 3 & 24, JULY 8 & 22, AUGUST 5 & 19**

**STAN DANIELS 752706**

### **JAZZ - RYHALL RHYTHM**

Our next meeting is Monday June 24th at 2:00pm and we have chosen to continue the theme by having other instruments, for future sessions. Next theme will be

**TRUMPET OR CORNET - SATCHMO, MILES, RUBY BRAFF**

Looking forward to seeing you all.

**TERRY AND JUNE WATKINS 751067**

### **COMMENTS & CONTRIBUTIONS**

#### **THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER**

Send any items about activities or local events to

**DAVID WOODMAN**  
**NEWS@STAMFORDU3A.CO.UK**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE - JUNE 23TH**

### **CHURCH VISITING**

Our next visit is on Friday, June 28th to St Thomas a Becket church, Greatford at our usual time of 11 am.

**We will hear the story of Dr Willis** who treated King George III for his mental illness. The approach is over a narrow bridge with houses, so parking is limited to disabled or limited mobility. Parking is on the road before the pub with a possibility of the adjacent field being open if it is dry. This will be signed if so.

**We propose returning to the Bertie Arms** at Uffington as we did in March for a snack lunch. There is then an option of walking down to church for the three-day flower festival starting that day. Menus and any late information will be sent at the weekend before.

**MICHAEL CROWE 762490**

### **MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES**

**CONTACT OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

**BEVERLEY MEADER 593212**

**EMAIL: MEMBERSHIP@STAMFORDU3A.CO.UK**

### **LIFT NEEDED**

One of members from Morcott, who no longer has transport, would like a lift on the first Monday of the month. If you can help, please contact me -

**MICHAEL CROWE 762490**

## DRAMA AND SONG

### THE MONTH OF MAY MEETING WAS CERTAINLY MERRY

Following our AGM, the U3A Drama Group entertained us with a recitation of The Highwayman, followed by a short one act play The Wine Tasters. Needless to say, by the second scene the Ribena had certainly done the trick!

Dudley (Graham Creedy) was masterful as both Chairman of the Wine Tasters Appreciation Society and a surprisingly convincing drunk! Delia (Mary Mount) had to leave the stage so many times at just the thought of taking one sip, while Glad (Dianne Smith) attempted to do a Shirley Bassey tribute, singing Big Spender!

**It could only get worse;** Fred (Peter Kennedy) became more loud and unruly, and 'posh' Penelope (Ann Linton) started stripping! Curtain down please!

**The Singing for Pleasure Group** then took us through many old charming and rousing sing-along favourites which included; Memories, Bridge over Troubled Water, Keep the Home Fires Burning, You'll Never Walk Alone.

Other notable pieces from Silent Worship to Cavatina were enchanting, the highlight being a competent and delightful two part arrangement of R. Vaughan Williams' Linden Lea.

Thanks are due to Rita (Wood) who works tirelessly as Group Leader and David (Lovell Brown) who is a true master of music and piano.

**IF YOU MISSED EITHER OF THESE EVENTS, YOU MISSED A TREAT.**

## THE ROOK BY APRILLE SHARP

Claire has a house which is perfect indeed,  
If houses were dogs, it would be best of breed,  
Everything perfect and everything clean,  
Sticky or dust would just never be seen,  
So imagine the panic, imagine the screams,  
When Claire's worst nightmare, jumped out of her dreams,  
It wasn't a builder, leaving dirt on the floor,  
and nothing Pete does, would cause civil war,  
It wasn't Johnny or Archie, giving Claire that glazed look,  
I'll just say one word and that word is ROOK,  
It slid down the chimney, in a nest full of crap,  
It slid down the chimney, straight into her lap!  
Time stood still, as they came face to face,  
Then both decided, to retreat in haste,  
Claire screamed, the kids screamed, upon their first look,  
And with all that Cuffuffle, so did the Rook!  
All flapping of wings, and pecking of beak,  
He didn't half cause that good family to squeak,  
While out in the kitchen with shaking of knees,  
Archie the dog, by terror was seized,  
What had happened? what could it be?  
Cause if someone's in trouble, it is bound to be me!!  
Under the table, with paws over ears,  
He shivered and cowered and aged twenty years!!  
Back in the lounge, in her flannelette nightie,  
And covered in feathers, Claire's looking quite flighty!  
A mate has arrived, to give her support,  
But she says she hates birds, and is feeling quite fraught,  
Claire, with a towel says, I'll catch it in this,  
I'll have just one go, and I'll die if I miss!!  
Down on her knees, with her bum in the air,  
She looks quite a sight, pity Pete isn't there,  
At last the two birds, have one bird in hand,  
And he's thrown out the door, somewhere else to land,  
One has to wonder, who was scared the most,  
Cause the poor old Rook, was white as a ghost!  
All he had wanted, was a cosy nest,  
And hadn't expected, to end up a guest!!

## HISTORY GROUP

### AN INTRODUCTION TO EVERYDAY HERALDRY BY CHLOE COCKERILL THURSDAY JUNE 20TH

**Heraldry is all around us**, not only when we visit country houses, cathedrals and castles, but in all our towns and cities and on village pub signs. The Royal Arms appear on our newspapers, passports and outfits of our sporting heroes.

Meetings are at 10:30 to 12:00 in downstairs room at Barn Hill (wheel chair accessible).

**New members always welcome,  
DAVID DAMANT 07770 938374**

## MEMORIES

**I retired in 1993.** A friend of mine, Hazel Nichols asked me to join the U3A. We did voluntary work in Gooches Caravan selling Christian books, latterly The Ark.

I then attended the third or maybe the fourth meeting of the new U3A in Stamford. The Chairman was Phillip Payne with his wife and Dorothy Piggot, Pat Dancer, Barbara Herrick, Hazel and two more. Hazel did not think that the U3A would get off the ground.

**Maybe she was wrong.**

**PAT GALLAGHER**

## NORDIC WALKING

Have a go at Nordic Walking, a great way to get fit and have fun in the process. Improves all over fitness, burns 20-40% more calories than just walking, tones up your whole body, reduces tensions, lessens impact on knees and joints, and improves posture and co-ordination.

**I'm running a 1-hour taster session on:**

Friday 7th June at Burghley House, 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
For details, please call me or see [NORDICWALKIT.CO.UK](http://NORDICWALKIT.CO.UK)

**JOANNA — 07949 392 018**

## NEW MEMBERS

**We welcome the following new members** from April, and hope that you will enjoy joining in all activities.

**MR D ANCLIFF, MR C BRILL, MR D CARLTON, MRS L CURTIS  
MR G & MRS M CHIRICO, MRS L FORD, MRS D HOWDLE  
MRS J JONES, MRS J KUZEMKO, MRS G LAY, MR J POOK  
MRS J PHEASANT, MR L & MRS M POTTER, MR J SCOTT  
MRS M SANDALL, LT COL T VEITCH, MRS J YOUNGMAN**

## NEXT MONTH'S TALK

### GEORGIAN JEWELLERY TO THE PRESENT DAY JUNE BULL

**Baubles, bangles and beads!** June has some fascinating facts about adornment starting from the Georgian times, when men wore just about as much of it as the ladies.

**Do come along and enjoy!**