

JULY 2019

ISSUE No 36

www.rot-u3a.org.uk

Radcliffe on Trent NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



Members' meetings are held in the Grange Hall on the first Thursday of each month (except August when there is no meeting). Doors open at 2pm and refreshments are available. Group stalls advertise activities and enrolment.

Announcements are made at 2.30pm followed by the Guest Speaker

NEW WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Chairman Malcolm presided over a planning meeting for this proposed new group. Together with Maureen McDowell, Ann and Jim Littlewood, he laid out the proposal for how it is hoped it will run.

The emphasis is very much on convivial sociability and as such all are welcome. So there is room for both the novice and the expert. All that is required is an open mind to try wines and maybe learn more too.

The working assumption is that this Group will meet monthly, early evening, in The Trent Room, in The Grange Hall, with the tasting from 7pm to 9pm. A selection of wines will be presented by a variety of speakers and with a different theme each month. Appropriate food will be provided.

There have been many requests for this additional wine group so get in early!

Please contact **Ann Littlewood** on annlittlewood@icloud.com

JIVE GROUP SUMMER TIMETABLE.

The U3A Strictly Jive Group will have a revised schedule for the summer period.

Our final Wednesday afternoon session with our professional instructors, Terry and Lynn, will be on Wednesday 26th JUNE.

Throughout JULY, we have decided to continue on each Wednesday as usual but without our instructors! Each of these "try-it-out", "go-it-alone" sessions will be **FREE OF CHARGE** as they are likely to be chaotic fun and just an opportunity to practise and consolidate the basic routines at which we are trying to get better!!

JULY finishes with a bang on Friday 26th July. Our live band "Boppin' the Blues" are at the "Rock'n'Roll Revival Night" in the Radcliffe Royal British Legion Club. Tickets from the Legion or Pen2Paper. (See pic on page 4 – Ed.)

There will be **NO** Wednesday sessions in **AUGUST** although the group will continue to organise trips to any gigs with the opportunity to jive to live bands.

Normal Wednesday afternoons with our instructors will begin again on Wed. SEPTEMBER 4th. at 3-15p.m. in our usual venue at Radcliffe Hall.

Chris Worthington

JULY'S GUEST SPEAKER



On July 4th, Graham Keal will give a talk entitled '50 Shades of Graham'

He will talk about his 30+ years as a showbiz reporter.

His talk is a comic miscellany of life's lessons learned along the way amid the battle of the sexes and those "men are from Mars, women are from Venus" moments, all broadly inspired by the phenomenal success of the controversial novels and films.

Penny Tytler

Scottish Country Dance Group

We will be taking a summer break from the end of May until September. Great fun and good exercise; you may like to think about joining us for the new season.

Watch this space for start date, or contact **Jean** at rotscd@gmail.com.

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

How can 129 international film critics give 'Ash is the Purest White' an almost unanimous ten out of ten when the informed, discerning experts of the Radcliffe U3A Film Appreciation Group awarded it (correctly) just two? Can we believe anything we read again? Why aren't the world's newspaper magnates beating a path to our erudite door?

The Film were rubbish.!

Moving on, we've ditched Palme d'Or foreign films for more homely stuff ... and they don't come more homely than Bill Nighy in 'Sometimes Almost Never' on at The Broadway from 21st, which gives members 10 days to view it before we unpick it at **our next and last meeting this term on Monday 1st July.**

David Group Leader Film Appreciation Group. Contact - d.richards68@ntlworld.com. 07817 660 659

TRIPS AND OUTINGS GROUP**Gone For a Burton**

A big thank you to our Trips and Outings Group who organised a great day out, as we 'went for a Burton'.

This was actually two trips in one starting at the Museum of Brewing with a fascinating tour and talk about the history of brewing in Burton-Upon-Trent, followed by a delicious lunch and of course we got to sample the beer that is brewed on the premises.



We learned about many phrases associated with brewing. For example, 'Gone for a Burton' referred to farm workers who use to move to Burton during the winter season to work in the breweries. 'Brewer's Droop' referred to drooping eyelids caused by the effect of the hop vapours on the workers but has become somewhat corrupted more recently to mean something else!

In the afternoon we visited the very impressive and poignant National Memorial Arboretum, where we had a tour by Land Train. This enabled us to view many of the hundreds of memorials to the 'fallen' of the armed services and other worthy organisations.

We had chance to browse the shop and have a coffee before our trip home. Although the weather was a little damp at times, we still had a great day!



Phil Gregg

Trip to the Cotswolds

On a sunny day in May a group of us set off for the Cotswolds.

We arrived at Cheltenham racecourse and boarded our steam train, destination Broadway, however we had to stop 3 miles short as "bits had fallen off the railway bridge onto the road below" a few days before. Better safe than sorry. We finished our journey by coach and then explored the beautiful village of Broadway. We finished the day with a cream tea before making the journey home.

A lovely day out where we felt that we had stepped back in time to an England of bygone days.

Anne McLeod

FUTURE TRIPS for your diary

This is the list of forthcoming trips and outings for 2019. Book soon because these are very popular and fill up quickly.

Tues **17 Sept** – Boughton House & Gardens with Lunch- Tickets on sale at July monthly meeting.

Weds **27 Nov** – Renishaw Hall & Gardens with Christmas Lunch – Tickets on sale at September monthly meeting.

Contact **Steve Harris** 0115 9333011 or **Sandra Straw** 0115 9123141

MOTORCYCLE GROUP**Motorcycle Group Roars Into Life**

The new Motorcycle Group has four riders already but we are looking for more like-minded souls who enjoy social riding. We are not racers! Please visit our website www.rot-u3a.org.uk to view our group page and get in touch.

Phil Gregg

KNIT'N NATTER GROUP

We have been given a pattern to knit teddy bears for children in Uganda.

Let me know if you would like a copy.



We have recently been pleased to hand over a large consignment of knitted goodies (including 16 blankets, assorted clothing and soft baby toys) to the Inner Wheel in support of their Baby Bundle Project (see photo).

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this - please keep up the good work!

Our next meeting will take place on 9th July.

Jan Addiscott

AVIATION AND AEROSPACE GROUP

Our June meeting was addressed by Roger Allton, a gliding enthusiast for 43 years and founder member of the Buckminster Gliding Club.

He gave us a fully illustrated history of gliding and the development of the structure of gliders from the earliest model developed by Sir George Cayley in 1853



to some of the most advanced machines in the air today.



This has undoubtedly whetted the Group's appetite for a Gliding Club visit—watch this space.

Unfortunately a strike by our ground crew left us without refreshment at the interval but for our next meeting on **Tuesday 2nd July** (1400 hrs in the Radcliffe Room at the Grange) the shop stewards have assured us all will be well.

Our speaker will be **Colin Ferguson**, who has a very varied military transport background flying Beverleys in Aden, Belfasts, an exchange tour with the USAF on C141 Starlifters and who ended up flying the VC10. On joining the civil world, Colin flew 737s with Orion and Britannia, finishing with the 757 and 767.

Meanwhile National celebrations were on for the Normandy Invasion. Group members Pat, Steve and Roger went to Duxford to see the 22 Dakotas, and the 220 parachutists emplaning who afterwards jumped over Normandy to complete the event.

A great day.



If you like what we are about come and join us!

Contact Leaders - **Mike Seymour** on email : seymourmd@aol.com

Roger Allton on rogerallton@hotmail.co.uk

Geology & Environmental studies Group.

Next Meeting - Building stones in the Vale of Belvoir:

On July 16th, Greg and Janet Chapman will lead an excursion to look at the use of local stone in churches and other buildings in the Vale of Belvoir, and to consider the extent to which the use of different types can be related to the local geology and topography.

We plan to meet at the British Legion for car sharing at 9pm that day.

Our 11th June meeting, a visit to the South Charnwood area, was postponed due to forecast monsoon conditions. It will be rescheduled for later in the year.

For more information and intentions to join us on 16th July, please contact

martinclarke@live.co.uk (Group Leader).

The Garden Group

18 of us visited Echium World last Thursday, run by Linda and Ray Heywood.

Their enterprise is located in part of a huge walled garden on part of the Thoresby Estate. They have started their business from scratch and have a growing reputation for success with plants that most of us find challenging, to say the least.

Some of us bought plants and some bought seeds to have a go for ourselves. Patience will be a virtue here.

Next month, on July 11th, we have our annual members garden trail from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Roger Burston

The Holiday Group's Ireland trip



Two members of the Holiday Group had an 8-day holiday in Ireland in June. Can you spot them in this jolly group taking a ride in a jaunty car through the beautiful Killarney National Park? The horse was called Paddy - of course!

Also enjoyed were A tour of Dublin, the Irish National Stud Farm at Kildare, a boat trip on Lough Leane, Ring of Kerry and Dingle Trips out from the Tralee base, a wonderful evening of Irish Dancing, Music & Singing, trips to Cork and Waterford with guided tours of both and the famous crystal works visited.

All of that plus a good amount of sunshine made for high spirits, and it wasn't the Guinness and Whisky honestly!

Glenda Pearce

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editorial Team ,

I noticed in the June edition of the News Sheet your request for more letters.

For what it's worth I thought I would let you know that I am a new member of Radcliffe on Trent U3A having been a member of Soar Valley U3A for about the past 20 years. I lived in Normanton-on-Soar for 35 years before moving to Radcliffe-on-Trent 6 months ago.

I play the clarinet and saxophone and for more than 50 years have played in and run traditional jazz bands. 10 years ago I played at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Soar Valley U3A and last Saturday June 8th played once again, this time for their 20th Anniversary.

To get to the point of this communication, I just wanted you to know that if any of your members ever requires a traditional jazz band I am now resident in Brielen Court, Radcliffe on Trent and can supply a band from 3 to 6 piece for any special occasion that might benefit from some live music.

My telephone number is 01159 335319.

My best wishes, Ken Godfrey.

Address your letters to the Editors at radcliffeu3a@gmail.com or by mail at The U3A editors, c/o 4 Lime Close, Radcliffe on Trent. NG122DF

WALKING GROUP

12 members of the Walking Group had a very interesting and good 6 days walking 46-49 miles on the North Norfolk Coast path.



This was expertly organised by Sue Megahy. Accommodation was in 3 separate units in Wells next the Sea - all very good and well appointed.



The weather was excellent, the food very good (varied and incorporated a number of local delicacies and the company thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

The Classical Music Group will be taking a summer break so there will not be another meeting until **Thursday 20th September** in the Dowson Room at the Grange from 10.30 to 12.30.

Contact **Joyce Bullimore** on email : joyce@bullimore.f9.co.uk.

Another Dakota! - see page 3

**JIVE GROUP'S POSTER**

George Smith

Note from the Editorial Team

Radcliffe U3A now has **45** active interest groups.

Of these, only about a quarter (ie 10) regularly tell us what they are doing.

We are sure members would like to hear from those who hide their light under the proverbial bushel.

**COME ON GROUPS,
LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!**

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

There will be no News Sheet in August

For the **SEPT** issue of our U3A monthly News Sheet please send your news, articles and photos by **21st August** to our new email address which is **radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com**

The old email address is no longer in use so please delete from your address books.

Thank you Editorial Team