

May 2019

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Radcliffe on Trent NEWS SHEET

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



U3A member's meetings are held in the Grange hall on the first Thursday in the month (except August).
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

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Hello Again All,

Welcome to our May Meeting where we are looking forward to a speaker not as originally billed but the very eagerly anticipated Philip Caine who will be talking about his " Jack Castle " adventure/thriller novels and his career which inspired them. I do love a good thriller !

There are a couple of committee changes. After a good and very successful stint as Group Coordinator Geraldine Sleight is standing down. I am sure Geraldine has all our thanks for a very hard working shift in one of our most demanding roles. Geraldine will remain a committee member.

Also many thanks to Carol White and Jan Addiscott who now assume responsibility for Groups. It is so appreciated. Carol vacates Speaker Finding , another demanding role, but thank you Carol for all our super speakers!

Beverley Lawes takes over as Speaker Finder. Thanks Beverley.

Whilst all this was happening I had sneaked off to Australia to holiday and visit relatives and friends. Whilst in Cairns I came across their thriving U3A. Check out what appears to be their very own impressive building on their website, at - <https://cairnsu3ainc.u3anet.org.au>

Speaking of websites I think we are nearly there with our new site. Watch this space and I hope next time to fully thank Phil Gregg for his fabulous work getting us this far, not forgetting Ian Jones our IT catalyst and Mike Holding our WebMaster.

All the best, **Malcolm.**

MAY'S GUEST SPEAKER



PHILIP CAINE

"BARROW TO BAGHDAD AND BACK "

Philip's work has taken him to many countries around the world, the last 10 years of which were spent in the Middle East.

Since retiring in 2015, he has become an author (the Jack Castle thriller/adventure novels) and speaker and will reveal how a career that began in Barrow in Furness, ended in Baghdad.

Penny Tytler

To ALL GROUP LEADERS

A message from **Diane Kidger** our Membership Secretary:-

.....Just for information when you check your member's cards it will be helpful for you to realise that their new current membership card number for 2019-2020 will start with the number **3**

PLAYREADING GROUP**Exit stage left – with enormous thanks for the inspiration and hard work!**

Before she moves to pastures new near Brighton, the U3A Playreading group members would like to say a huge thank you to Pam Thompson for leading their group.

With a great love and knowledge of theatre and excellent organisation, Pam has led the group with boundless energy and enthusiasm. She has treated the group to a wide repertoire of plays, selecting playwrights carefully from the Nottinghamshire list and procuring the sets of scripts themselves from libraries.

She has made us giggle at comedies, puzzle at whodunnits, laugh uproariously at farces and sometimes empathise sadly with the new characters we meet in the plays we read each month.

Pam welcomes new members warmly and has created a lovely inclusive atmosphere amongst the gang where all contributions are valued. We're not convinced on this occasion that "parting is such sweet sorrow", but we are quite certain our loss will undoubtedly be Brighton U3A's gain! We wish Pam fun, fulfilment and happiness for the future.

If you would like to hear more about the group or come to one of our sessions, the next session will be at St Mary's Church Hall, the upstairs Rainbow room, on Thursday 23rd. May at 145pm for a 2pm. start. No previous experience needed and new members are always welcome.

Contact:

Jan Powis email: jan_powis@yahoo.co.uk
or tel 01159 336048

CROQUET GROUP

The Croquet Season is nearly upon us!



Would anyone like to join the regular players behind the British Legion each Monday afternoon from 2.00pm to 4.00 pm approx.

Always weather permitting of course !

For further details please contact
Joan Spooner 0115 9332696 .

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.

AVIATION & AEROSPACE GROUP

Mike, our group Leader is a bit of a dark horse! Turns out he's an author as well! At our April meeting he gave a fascinating summary of his book about his father's life.

Seymour senior at the outset of WW2, joined the RAF and became a rear gunner in Lancasters. Life in the rear turret was no picnic as it was the prime target for the attacking fighter planes..

Among his many sorties over Germany he made two against the German battlecruisers Prince Eugen and the Gneisenau when they put in to Brest for boiler repairs.

Subsequently posted to the middle East and despite odds against it, he survived to become a gunnery instructor.

After our refuelling, we were entertained to videos of several "landing" incidents involving small aircraft which, as we were not involved, seemed hilarious!

Next meetings are May 7th (Talk on Royal Observer Corps) and June 4th in the Radcliffe Room at 1400 hrs

If you would like to join our lively group please contact our Flight Controllers -

Mike on email : seymourmd@aol.com or **Roger** on email : rogerallton@hotmail.co.uk

JIVE GROUP

This is John our oldest and most enthusiastic jiver at 86. He is seen here jiving with four ladies. (lucky man! - Ed.)



And that is the problem each Wednesday ...there aren't enough fellers to keep everyone dancing.

Guys we need you to step out of the shadows, to shake off those reservations and come and have a go. Tuition for beginners every week helps keep us all on our toes and its easy to pick up and great fun, not to say a laugh a minute, we do enjoy ourselves and the music (mostly 60's rock) is a great nostalgia trip.

The group is also now focusing on a bold venture to run its own dance to raise money for charity – on this occasion for Multiple Sclerosis Research.

It's a Friday evening "Rock'n'Roll for Charity" event from 7pm. on 10th. May at Radcliffe's Royal British Legion Club. It features our local live band "Boppin' The Blues" and includes a free optional jive lesson. It is on from 7.30p.m. to 8-30p.m. and is given by Nottingham's Revival Dance Studio.

Tickets for this worthy cause are just £5 from the Pen2Paper shop on Main Street or from any group member.

Do come along and join us. Contact

Chris Worthington— worthington690@btinternet.com

U3A GARDEN GROUP

23 of us were at the talk and demo given by Margaret van Oudheusden on Flower Arranging for our April event.

We were impressed by how well prepared Margaret was, having brought along a wide variety of flowers and foliage to our talk. She effortlessly seemed to build up four flower arrangements of different sizes and shapes and gave our group lots of ideas and advice. She also brought along one of her gold medals from Chelsea to pass around.

4 lucky members also went away with her flower arrangements, these having been raffled off at the end.

We were pleased with how well the talk was received as we had wondered if there would be enough interest to make it worth while - it certainly was. It was also something different.

In May, we are planning a visit to Birmingham Botanic Garden followed by a visit to Winterbourne House and Garden in the afternoon. Report will follow in the June News Sheet.

Roger Burston — roger.burston@hotmail.co.uk

REAL ALE GROUP

Our chosen venue for our next meeting on Wednesday 29th May is the Lincolnshire Poacher PH, on Mansfield Rd, in town.

Food is served from 12noon and there are a dozen cask beers on draught.

Any U3A member is welcomed to join us, we are a friendly group.

We meet to catch the 11:22am bus in to town from the bus stop outside The Grange on the 29th.

Do join us.

Details from

Rod Fogg Tel **07971537119**.

Knit'n Natter Group

We are a convivial group: we knit for charitable causes and meet in the afternoon of the second Tuesday each month.

We have a good supply of needles, wool and patterns.



Our meeting in April was held at Brielen Court, where we were joined by some of the residents - one of whom serenaded us with her accordion.

It was a lively afternoon with plenty of chat and knitting to go with the music

Contact me for details.

Jan Addiscott Tel: **01158 457398**

TRIPS & OUTINGS GROUP

We are arranging a visit To the **Brewery Centre at Burton on Trent** where we take the "Full Flagon" guided tour with a visit to their museum.

The tour culminates in a beer tasting session (soft drinks are available as an alternative) followed by a two-course lunch (included in the ticket cost)

We then whisk you off to the **National Memorial Arboretum** to take a leisurely ride on their Land Train. This will provide you with lovely views across the landscape & some of the 300 plus memorials.

After the tour there will be time to visit the shop & café before boarding the coach home.

Wednesday 12th June Cost £34 per person.

There are a few tickets left & these will be on sale at the May monthly meeting

FUTURE TRIPS for your diary

Weds 15 May Cotswold Steam Train & Cream Tea at Broadway- **SOLD OUT**

Weds 26 June Kilworth Open Air Theatre-Joseph & Amazing Dreamcoat- **SOLD OUT**

Tues 17 Sept Boughton House & Gardens with Lunch- **Tickets on sale at June 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**

WHIST GROUP

We have started a Whist Drive in the Dowson Room at the Grange. We have a very relaxed enjoyable morning. It would be lovely if we had more members. Whether you play whist or would like to come along for the company and coffee and biscuits all are welcome. If you want to play but have no experience don't worry you will soon learn. The sessions are every other Friday at 10 am until 12 noon.

The next one is 10th May.

Please get in touch by email mwalker61@btinternet.com or telephone **01159 333094** .

BOWLS U3A's annual course called "Let's Go Bowling"

Your opportunity to have a go at this fascinating game. A five week course, aimed at absolute beginners, on Tuesday afternoons and each session lasts two hours from 2.00 to 4pm at the Radcliffe on Trent Bowling Club Glebe Lane. The bowling club will supply the bowls and all we ask is that you wear flat soled shoes. The cost will be just £2 per session and this will include tea or coffee.

The sessions will take place on :- May 7th, May 14th, and May 21st
if you would like further details contact :-

Bill Edwards at billedwards123@btinternet.com or ring **0115 9336306**
Dorothy McPetrie at d.mcpetrie@live.co.uk or ring **07709 516544**

THE BRIDGE GROUP HAS MOVED

The Bridge group has proved so popular that we have now moved to the larger Trent room in the Grange Hall.



We still meet every Monday afternoon, starting at 2 pm for two hours, playing duplicate bridge with a short tuition session at the start most weeks.

With the increase in numbers we are planning to split into two groups on the afternoon. One is for those who are more advanced and want to improve their play, the other for those who have played before but would like to join a group with a basic knowledge, with the aim of joining the more advanced group at a later date.

If you would like to play Bridge and feel you can fit into either of these two groups (you do not need a partner) then please come along and join us on the day, or contact

Greg Bungay on gjbungay@yahoo.co.uk or phone [01159334942](tel:01159334942).

GEOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GROUP.

Update re the ongoing "Mini Course"

The next meeting, at 2 - 4 pm on **Tuesday 14th May** features the last two sessions of the course.

Session 5 - Fossils and Evolution, by Bob Addison.

Session 6 - Minerals, introduction to their characters and uses, by Greg Chapman.

It is planned that both these presentations will include viewing a selection of specimens.

Thanks to the 39 members who attended the last meeting - this was in fact a record number! .

It is planned to produce an electronic booklet summarising the course content.

If you have any queries, suggestions or comments please contact the Group Leader:

martinclarke@live.co.uk

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

The following local businesses have very kindly offered discounts on production of your U3A membership card.

Café Piano..10% off lunches and dinners.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR JUNE

William J French will be talking about his experiences as a butler to the Royal Family.

"Welcome to my World"

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP.

'Border'. An everyday story of country folk? Hardly. A fairytale or a nightmare containing horror, romance, fantasy and unspeakable crime? Was it thrilling, compulsive, unpredictable, eerie, wonderful, shocking, profoundly preposterous, tender, disturbing.....and possibly a masterclass in acting and story telling? Yes.

Babes in a very different Wood? Definitely.

Our Group gave this tale, grounded in Scandinavian folk law, relatively high marks and there I'll leave it. Go experience it. Immerse yourself, forget reality and get in touch with the human issues it raises.

Back to earth, our next offering is **Red Joan**, the life story of a British KBG agent active during the Cold War with Judi Dench starring. Report to follow!

David. drichards68@ntlworld.com Group Leader Film Appreciation

JUNE'S NEWS SHEET

For the next issue of our U3A monthly News Sheet please send your news, articles and photos to news@rot-u3a.org.uk

by **25TH MAY** Thank you **Editorial Team**