

u3a learn,
laugh,
live
ON-LINE EDITION



"Christmas Decorations in Radcliffe on Trent" Photo Supplied by The Radcliffe u3a Photographic Group

RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

DECEMBER 2021 — ISSUE 61

To all Radcliffe on Trent U3A members.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year,
from your Chair, Committee and News Editors

Doors for the Members Monthly meetings at the Grange Hall will not open before 2pm with the meeting promptly starting at about 2.15pm or as soon as everyone is seated.. Seating will be spaced to conform with current regulations for Covid Safety



Welcome to December; this has been another eventful month since I last wrote to you all. What had felt inevitable for some time finally came to me, one week into November, when I tested positive for COVID-19. I hadn't been out there looking for it and don't really know where I contacted it, but fortunately it felt like, and has played out like, a moderately bad cold. Needless to say my husband John tested positive 3 days later, but as he had been avoiding mixing with people after I had tested positive, we don't think he has passed it on and I hope I only passed it to John.

So what have I learned from this that is relevant to our u3a? The most important thing for me is that we keep registers of attendance at u3a activities (I believe all our group leaders are great at this), but more importantly we tell our group leader if we test positive in the days following a u3a activity. Our group leaders can with your permission let other group members know that 'someone' (no need for names) has tested positive and we can also do this for our monthly meetings. The one thing 'Track & Trace' will not do, despite the money spent on it, is inform the people you were with after you test positive. They will tell your close contacts only if you tell 'Track & Trace' the names and contact details of all your close contacts; which quite honestly if you know them that well, you would probably do that yourself! The best you can hope for from 'Track & Trace' is the 'ping' on your phone (assuming people are still using it) which, might be too little too late, if my experience of it back in October is anything to go by.

I hope that you enjoy this month's newsletter and that you are also able to enjoy the festive season in whichever way you choose. It has undoubtedly been another difficult year, but at least we are ending it with a more active u3a than this time last year. So I am going to raise a glass to that.

Beverley (radcliffeu3a.chair@gmail.com)

U3A GROUPS NEWS

Pat Testing :

We have recently been able to have several items of electrical equipment tested in order to comply with regulations when using the Grange and Grange Hall. However, should any of our groups use electrical equipment in other venues around the village and would also like to have this PAT tested, then please let us know so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Canasta :

"Having organised the Canasta group so successfully hitherto, Annette is now passing the reins to Margaret Walker. We thank Annette for her contribution in the past and wish Margaret best wishes for the future. The group met recently for the first time since Covid restrictions on 15th October in The Dowson room at the Grange."

French :

Audrey has started a **French Improvers** Group. It is intended to improve on basic knowledge, with no written element or preparation in advance. Meetings are held weekly in the Trent Room of the Grange at 3pm on Monday afternoons. (No meetings during school holidays). The cost is £5 and new recruits will be welcome.

Tied in with the above, we are aware that the **French Beginners** group is hoping for someone to start this group again. If you are/were in this group please do consider that the French Improvers Group (above) may be another way to continue, going forward. Alternatively, perhaps you could consider inviting previous members of the group to join you in starting up again. We need you to let us know if this is feasible and look forward to hearing from any members of the group.

As always, we are happy to help/promote anything which would help our groups to thrive. If you need help, or more information, please **do** get in touch:

Jan Tel : 01158 457398 or Carol Tel: 07742434437

BOULES GROUP



Boules Group photo - Jon Jones, Ian Gray, Chris Tantum, Jim Parkhouse, Al Reed, Steve & Di Matthews & Jane Parkhouse

Who would have believed that the Radcliffe-on-Trent u3a Boules Group would be playing boules on the first of November! Our intrepid leader, Al Reed suggested that if the weather looked good we'd meet up and play and if not we'd meet for a party.

In the event the weather didn't look too bad so all 8 members braved it and headed up to the boules piste at Radcliffe-on-Trent Golf Course. To be honest, it wasn't your ideal boules weather, it was bloomin' cold with a strong wind blowing leaves in our faces but we soldiered on and enjoyed two games before snow stopped play (rain actually). After one game all we retired into the warmth of the club house and enjoyed some hot food and cold beer. That's it now until spring next year when hopefully we'll be able to play without wearing a sou'wester!

Kind regards, **Jon**

2022 - MONTHLY PROGRAMME FOR THE AVIATION & AEROSPACE GROUP

All of the following meetings are to be held in the Trent room, Grange Hall, starting at 2.00pm and finishing at 4.30pm. Group members are reminded that they can bring along a friend for the £2.00 admission fee for up to two of these meetings.

Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Talk by Steve Blee - 'BRITISH AEROSPACE, BROUGH'

Tuesday 1st February 2022 – Talk by Jim Benn - 'METAL FATIGUE IN AIRCRAFT'

Tuesday 1st March – Talk by Brian Cleary - 'JOHN FORD – FIGHTER & TEST PILOT AND CO-PILOT OF THE AVRO VULCAN THAT CRASHED AT RAF SYERSTON IN SEPTEMBER 1958'

Tuesday 5th April 2022 – Talk by Prof. Joe Colls - 'ADVANCES IN THE NEW SPACE RACE'

Tuesday 3rd May 2022 – Talk by Kev Rumens - 'VULCAN XH 558'

Tuesday 7th June - Talk by Mike Chatterton - 'LANCASTER WITH THE BBMF AND EAST KIRKBY.'

Tuesday 5th July – Talk to be arranged. No meeting in August. Any members of the Radcliffe on Trent U3A are cordially invited to attend any of the talks at £2.00/head.

Mike Seymour – Group Leader - email: seymourmd@aol.com

BOOK GROUP

Are you a book lover? If so come and join us! We choose a book a month and meet usually on the last Friday of the month to discuss it. Our meetings are very informal and friendly, not at all intellectual. When we have discussed our book, we tend to put the world to rights: in any case have a good natter. If you are interested, please give me a call:

Sue Terry on **07863128492** or **0115 9120129**.

RADCOOKS COMMUNITY KITCHEN

CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY

Radcooks is a local group of volunteers. Every Sunday we prepare, cook and deliver a hot dinner to over 50 residents around Radcliffe. With support from local businesses and organisations, including the Parish Council, we are planning a party at the Grange Hall on Christmas Eve.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be involved either as a guest or as a helper, please phone **07375 910561** or email radcookscommunitykitchen@gmail.com.



Knit & Natter Group: Another pretty blanket using knitted squares and hearts, beautifully crafted by Dawn.



LAST MONTH'S MONTHLY MEETING TALK

Paul Stafford's amusing and informative talk on North Korea made us all glad we live in the UK.



LUNCHEON GROUP

The Belton Lunch Club met at The Radcliffe Pub for lunch on Thursday 18th November 2021.

Sheena Fawcett has run the club since its inception 10 years ago and has decided that now is the time... she has handed over the reins to Gerry Mills who will now oversee our lunch outings. Members take it in turn to make a booking at a venue of their choice and collect the names of those wishing to join them. All very straightforward as long as they don't cancel at the last minute or forget to come.

We welcome new members, especially those with a car who can offer transport to other members.

Thank you to Sheena for running the group so efficiently for all these years. Our next meeting is at Ashmores 14th December.



GEOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GROUP.

On the 17th November 22 members of this Group met together for the first time since early 2021. Various themes related to the geology of Nottinghamshire were presented for discussion two of which were the following: a) the extent of coal mining, when over 40 collieries had been active of which none remain so; b) The fact that Britain's first productive oil field was discovered at Eakring central Notts in 1939 and with help of equipment and rough necks shipped secretly from the USA, extracted millions of barrels of crude oil which probably helped swing the air war in our favour. Other subjects covered included production of Gypsum, Iron Ore, Brick Clay and quarrying for aggregate and building stone. We will shortly preview our next meeting via this email address:

sumatraman947@gmail.com

CESSATION OF POSTAL EDITON OF MONTHLY NEWSHEET

Following the Chair's Letter in October's Newsheet, about fifty-five of our six hundred members are unable to receive their Monthly Newsheet because they don't have a computer and will now have to collect their copy from outlets in the village. This for some of them for various reasons e.g., physical health, may be difficult. If so please notify me on tel: **0797 1537 119** and I will see what alternative arrangements can be made to get our Newsheet to you to keep you informed of u3a news and activities.
Rodney Fogg, Editor.

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We send our Christmas Wishes and thanks to Group Leaders for their articles and contributions throughout the year.

Please send your items, articles, photos or sketches to: radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com

Our next issue is JANUARY 2022 So the deadline for articles is 14th DECEMBER 2021