



ON – LINE EDITION



# RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

FEBRUARY 2022 — ISSUE 63

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

## U3a MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022-2023

After last year's free membership year due to Covid, we are returning to normal for the March 2022 - February 2023 membership year. By the time you read this, those on email will already have been made aware of our renewal session on Wednesday 26th January 9.30am-12.30pm at The Grange. For members who don't use email, we enclose a Renewal Form together with this News Sheet, for you to either complete and return by post, or bring along to the next monthly meeting. All instructions are on the form. By the way, if you do have an email address, please add it to the form under 'Checking your data', as this is the most cost-effective and quickest way of contacting you

**It is that time of year again when we elect up to 15 members to serve on our u3a committee.**

**Join the Radcliffe on Trent u3a committee**

**If you are a good team player and are interested in joining the committee for the roles explained on page 6 then please complete and return the nomination form on page 5**

**OUR SPEAKER ON THURSDAY 3rd FEBRUARY, 2022 IN THE GRANGE HALL  
IS  
DAVID BELL IS THE PLAGUE DOCTOR**



*Photo courtesy Carol White*

Forget 2022 and Covid. We are talking here about the plague 350 years ago. In the 1600's the odds were stacked against most people surviving a pandemic. How did a 17<sup>th</sup> Century doctor cope?

David is an entertaining and a refreshingly different guest speaker who makes you laugh but also makes you think.

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR u3a GROUP CO-ORDINATORS**

We understand that some (but not all) groups activities were scaled back in recent weeks because of the threat of the Omicron variant. [This is also why the general meeting in January was held via Zoom and not at Grange Hall.] However, Spring is now on the way and the overall threat appears to be receding, so we hope that most, if not all, of our groups will soon be able to return to their familiar routines.

It is reassuring to know that in very difficult circumstances during the past couple of years, most of our groups (and we have over 40 of them!) have managed to keep in touch, albeit in some cases in a modified form. We have even been able to welcome the start of two new groups (French Improvers and German Beginners) under the leadership of Audrey Squires. Many thanks to her and to all group leaders who have diligently kept our u3a going strong. We very much hope that we will be able to support other new groups in the months to come and look forward to meeting everyone back at Grange Hall once more in February.

**Jan & Carol**

**CANASTA GROUP**

Our next session for the canasta group is on Friday 21st January. We meet every other Friday. The session after the 21st will be on the 4th February. All new members very welcome. We are a very friendly group and have a very pleasant afternoon with a break for coffee tea and biscuits. The charge for the afternoon is £2. If you enjoy card games but have never played canasta do come along. It isn't difficult and you will soon learn. If interested or have any questions ring **Margaret Walker** on **0115 9333094** or email me on : [mwalker61@btinternet.com](mailto:mwalker61@btinternet.com)

## PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

On 12<sup>th</sup> January a number of members took a walk around the village to photograph existing and previous public houses in Radcliffe buildings. The weather was kind to us and we all enjoyed the stroll and mixing social interaction with taking photos. Having a focus for the images, together with some snippets of information made to outing both an enjoyable and interesting one.

Our next meeting is in the Tent Room on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb starting at 1.30pm.

We will be projecting images from our walk about plus some from our current challenge of 'Trees'. There will also be a presentation on basic photoshop, as requested by members. We will finish by discussing the programme including subjects and future outings.

We do have vacancies and anyone interested in taking photographs will be welcome. Experience not necessary and any equipment including mobile phones is fine.

**David Henderson.** Group Leader. Email; [davikath@virginmedia.com](mailto:davikath@virginmedia.com)



*Photographs supplied by courtesy of Photography Group members - names not supplied*

## Outing to Stamford and Burghley House, Lincolnshire

**Wednesday 18th May 2022**

**Cost : £40**

Payable by **cash** or **cheque** (made payable to RoT U3A Social)

**Tickets will be on sale from the March monthly meeting**

Depart Radcliffe

9.30 a.m. Return Radcliffe by

18.30 approx.

We will travel by coach to the pretty Roman town of Stamford where we will have free time to visit the quaint shops, cafes and restaurants. Afterwards we will be taken the short distance to Burghley House, Lincolnshire, one of England's greatest Elizabethan Houses for a tour of the state rooms followed by an afternoon cream tea in the Orangery Restaurant, overlooking the beautiful rose gardens with views of the south lawns. Burghley House is a grand sixteenth-century English country house near Stamford, Lincolnshire. It is a leading example of the Elizabethan prodigy house, built and still lived in by the Cecil family. The price includes Coach, Tour of the House and Afternoon Cream Tea.

**Sandra Straw 0115 9123141 Steve Harris 0115 9333011** [steveharriswork@hotmail.com](mailto:steveharriswork@hotmail.com)





*Photo courtesy of Melanie Gregg*

### DAVID TEMPLEMAN TALK ON SHEFFIELD CASTLE AND LODGE

Sixty-seven U3A members were treated to a highly entertaining talk on Sheffield Castle and Manor Lodge by author and historian David Templeman. We learned that the original wooden Castle was burnt down in 1266 during the Baron's Revolt and rebuilt in 1270. The Castle and Lodge were the main Prisons for Mary Queen of Scots who spent a third of her life there from age 28 to 42 she called it a "wretched prison".

Amongst other interesting facts, we were told that during the Civil War the Parliamentarians laid siege and only managed to take the castle when "Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol" was called in. At 36 feet it was the biggest canon in England and is now housed in Dover Castle. Cromwell ordered the castle to be demolished in 1646.

Sheffield has recently been awarded £15m "levelling up" money from the Government and there are plans to rebuild some of the castle.

David also talked about nearby Sheffield Manor Lodge which has one surviving building that has been rebuilt using Lottery funding, the rest of it is in ruins. The lodge had a Long Gallery the first outside Hampton Court. The two 70ft towers faced in red Tudor brick showed that it was essentially a palace for Mary who had to be kept in the manner of a Queen.

The castle no longer exists and Manor Lodge is privately owned and opens to visitors every Sunday from Easter to October.

Find out more here <https://sheffieldmanorlodge.org/> and <https://friendsofsheffieldcastle.org.uk/>

**Melanie Gregg**

### CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

The classical music appreciation group meets on the third Thursday of the month. February's meeting will be on Thursday 17th February in the Dowson Room at 10.30 am. All welcome.

**M.W.Riggall** Group Leader. Email : [riggall.848@virginmedia.com](mailto:riggall.848@virginmedia.com)

### ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

It has been drawn to our attention that we omitted to attribute the photos of the "flower ladies" in our January edition to Beverly Lawe who took them. We apologise for the omission.

### 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](mailto:radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com)

**Our next issue is MARCH 2022 So the deadline for articles is 14th FEBRUARY 2021**

## Join the Radcliffe on Trent u3a Committee

It is that time of year again when we elect up to 15 members to serve on our u3a committee.

We are all volunteers who work collaboratively to run our branch. Every year we enable 45+ groups to meet, host 11 monthly talks on a wide variety of topics, produce 11 news sheets, manage our interactive webpage, organise approximately 5 daytrips, as well as attending meetings / conferences and training sessions regionally and supporting any new local u3a's.

All committee members are expected to work as part of a team who can fill in for each other – sometimes at very short notice.(see page 6)

If you are a good team player and are interested in joining us, please complete the nomination form below, get two other people to nominate and second you and return the form to the u3a by 3<sup>rd</sup> February. There is an on-line version on our website if you prefer to print it out.

Should you need more information or want to talk to someone, don't hesitate, just email [an-nemcleod55@icloud.com](mailto:an-nemcleod55@icloud.com) or ring 07966478873.

If you have IT, media, advertising or organisational experience, we need you.

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### Radcliffe on Trent u3a. Nomination form for 2022-2023

Your Name .....

Role you are interested in.....

Nominated by .....Signed .....

Seconded by .....Signed .....

Your signature .....Date .....

Please place the completed form in the box at the February meeting or post to 129A Shelford Road, Radcliffe on Trent, NG12 1AZ.

## **RoT u3a Committee roles:**

**Chairperson** - elected by name at the annual General Meeting

**Treasurer** - elected by name at the Annual General Meeting

### **Other roles to be filled by committee members elected at the AGM:**

**Vice Chairperson [1 or 2]** – assists / deputises for the Chairperson

**Deputy Treasurer** – assists / deputises for the Treasurer

**Membership secretary** - maintains the register and details of our membership (over 650 people at present!)

**Speaker finder** - locates and arranges speakers for the monthly meetings

**IT and Social Media** – designs and maintains the website, provides IT advice, supports The Beacon membership system, email communication, Docmail mailings and social media platforms

**Minute secretary** - takes the minutes of monthly meetings, distributes them, and maintains records for the Charity Commissioners

**Meet & Greet** – co-ordinates the front of house at monthly meetings and oversees the refreshment volunteers

**Publicity** - ensures news and details of RoT u3a are distributed locally, liaises with local organisations, organises coffee mornings and new member events

**Groups co-ordinator** - co-ordinates the activities and administration of our interest groups (46 at the last count!), also encourages and facilitates the set-up of new groups

**Business secretary** - maintains contact with u3a national headquarters and ensures that Committee members and all our members are kept informed