



# RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

MARCH 2022 — ISSUE 64

## **THIS MONTH WE HAVE OUR AGM AND A SPEAKER, DON'T MISS IT**

**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**

From a Vice Chair,

It seems a long time since I did this kind of report but that says more about the Covid backdrop to our lives than anything else. It falls to me as a Vice Chair, immediate past Chair, to be the Committee's nominee to run The AGM in the current absence of a new Chair.

I look forward to welcoming you to The Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** where I hope we can start to celebrate our Tenth Anniversary year.

It is fair to say we have a successful u3a. We have our ups and downs, of course, but the trajectory of our Membership, Groups, and Trips, together with our fine Newsletter and Website tell us so. Latterly I have felt proud that we have found an inexpensive electronic to postal solution to getting mail to the 9% of members who do not use e-mail.

It is good to still have, working with us, founding committee members, Dave Barton, our President, and Steve Harris, our Business Secretary.

However, nothing stands still and it is good to have welcomed new and younger committee members in recent times.

I am not sure what the u3a definition of "youth" is but that will remain our focus next year, hopefully attracting younger additions to our community - "Learn, Laugh, Live" indeed.

Finally I am sure I write for everyone in wishing our former Treasurer all the best for recovery after his recent accident. I believe you are out and about, Jim.

*Malcolm McDowell*

**FOR THE AGM, COPIES OF THE TREASURERS REPORT AND THE COMMITTEE REPORTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN PAPER FORM ON A TABLE AT THE REAR OF THE HALL**

## Notices to the Editors

U3A Member and local author Glenis Wilson sent us this (slightly abridged; Ed) note about her new book.....

*" Don't knock the lockdown, it has compensations.*

*To be fair, I didn't really feel the downside. As a writer, being on my own is the first requirement, the second being the discipline to sit down and work...so I did!*

*The result – two new novels produced (plus a third one half-way through) and in February the first novel comes out – 'Dead Lucky', actually number five in my 'Harry Radcliffe Mystery Series'.*

*However, what people in Radcliffe may find particularly interesting is my book 'Feral'. (Check out the Radcliffe Library in June/July.)*

*The book is very dear to my heart – it is set in Radcliffe and while walking the wildlife reserve, formerly the old golf course, plot, dialogue and suspenseful episodes forced themselves into my mind and demanded I write this story.*

*I tried very hard to resist, but it was no use. The power was spookily forceful. I stopped writing the novel I was supposed to be working on, gave in and wrote ....."FERAL"*

### RARE OPPORTUNITY

*Ann Littlewood* has details of an opportunity for walkers and/or budding archeologists to join in a project of the Sherwood Forest Trust which aims to explore the area around the Roman Villa discovered by the 18th Century antiquarian Hayward Rooke.

Dates not yet known and further details can be obtained by contacting Ann on

[annlittlewood@icloud.com](mailto:annlittlewood@icloud.com) or

Phone at 9333011

### Aviation and Aerospace Group

A reminder of our next meeting which will be on Tuesday 1st March in the Trent Room at the Grange Hall starting at 2.00pm.

Our speaker will be Steve Blee who will give us a talk on 'The History of Brough (Formerly BAE Systems)'

Please wear your name tags. New and returning members will be given new ones.

*Mike Seymour* Group Leader

## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER



*Dr. Anne Featherstone* will talk about.....

### *A Storm in a Teashop: the Waitresses' Strike of 1908*

At lunch time on 4th April 1908, the waitresses at the Cabin Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, came out on strike and made the headlines in national and provincial newspapers around the country.

The Cabinettes, as they were known, were working women who chose take on a major company, set up their own restaurant and, against the odds, succeed.

Their example is still inspirational - and a great story.

*Carol White.* Speaker-finder

## NOTICE

### **FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

**Have you renewed your membership? it is due by end of February.**

**But it's not too late— see me at the AGM .**

### NEW MEMBERS we are delighted to welcome

*Peta Braddock, Christine Clark, Mandy Draper,  
Julien Houlton, Colin Knowles, Eileen Knowles,  
Margaret Pepper, Fiona Spiers, Kate Thornburrow  
Pamela Wakefield, David Witty and Sheila Witty*

**We hope you will enjoy your activities with our U3A**

*Melanie Gregg* - Membership secy.

E-m [radcliffeu3a.membership@gmail.com](mailto:radcliffeu3a.membership@gmail.com)

## U3A Strictly Jive Group

After two turbulent years of stopping and starting, the U3A Jive group is finally ready to relaunch its weekly sessions!!!

With Spring around the corner, it seems that now is the time to put a spring into our steps and start dancing!

After taking into account the views of our group members, most feel ready to start jiving again.

We will be restarting on 9th March at 3pm in the Legion Hall.

*Chris Worthington*—Gp leader

Em: [worthington690@btinternet.com](mailto:worthington690@btinternet.com)

## PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The Photo Group had a successful meeting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb We discussed the future programme and decided,

- 1) to continue to meet in in the Tent Room every second Wednesday from 1.30 -3.30.
- 2) Next month we will each bring along a flower and vase for photographing
- 3). We will also meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday this month to take photos of a selection of Radcliffe buildings
- 4). Future photo meets to include a trip to Bingham ponds and Tulips in Holme Pierrepont Hall Grounds

We also viewed members' photos of trees. Trees in winter show their structure more clearly than at any other time. The attached images are examples taken during January.

Our challenge before next month's meeting is Spring Flowers and we look forward to viewing the results

*David Henderson* Group Leader



Photos courtesy of David Henderson

## KNIT'N NATTER GROUP

Our ladies have kept on knitting, in spite of the abrupt cancellation of planned meetings in recent times.



Our photo (courtesy of Jan) shows a selection of items produced which will now be distributed to needy causes.

Happily, we were able to meet each other in February (it actually felt "normal"!) and hope this will be the first of many good gatherings anticipated in 2022.

*Jan Addiscott* - Group Leader

## UKULELE GROUP

We would like to tell you what we are up to in our group as it may be of interest to other groups.

Thanks to Ian and his new beginners group, we have now welcomed four new members to our group. No doubt they feel that they have been dropped in at the deep end, but they are still coming

Now that our normal practise sessions have resumed, those who are unable to be with us in person, for whatever reason, can now join us via a Zoom link. Everyone is familiar with how this works as we used it all through lockdown. We even had one member join us this week from her holiday venue in Scotland, complete with ukulele and music!

We have also started a Whats App Chat Group which enables members to be in touch with one another more easily and this seems to work well and be much appreciated and useful.

Sadly, one of our very keen members now finds himself in a Care Home so we have taken videos of us playing/singing one or two of his favourite songs. His wife is then able to take them in when she visits for him to watch and listen to, in the hope it may cheer him up and brighten his day a little.

So thanks to U3a for enabling us all to meet and form this very friendly, caring and supportive group.

*Lyn Coxon* Group Organiser, - [lyncoxon@btinternet.com](mailto:lyncoxon@btinternet.com)



## FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP AND THE REAL ALE GROUP

### GOOD NEWS— - - WE CAN NOW WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The membership size of these two groups has over the last few months meant new members wanting to join couldn't. Both groups had nearly thirty members in each group which made organising and planning events and visiting venues at times prohibitive and disappointing to members meaning that the individual enjoyment and pleasure appreciated by members was lost.

However, good news! A solution has been found which means both groups can now take more members wishing to join. The Groups are rearranging themselves into smaller groups of no more than 15 members, which is much more practical and socially friendly.

The Friendship & Support Groups are for those members who live on their own or are carers and who want to make friends and arrange activities each month, be it visiting a cafe, restaurant, garden centre, the theatre, concerts or similar social activities. These groups meet monthly at 2pm on a Monday.

The Real Ale Groups are for any member, (we have male and female members), who enjoy a social drink usually with a meal at lunch time and in a different establishment chosen by the group each month. And there are very many decent and interesting public houses accessible from the village by bus. These groups meet monthly at 12 noon on a Wednesday.

If you are interested or want to know more about these groups contact

**Rodney Fogg** Tel 0797 1537 119 or email: [rodneyfogg@gmail.com](mailto:rodneyfogg@gmail.com)

## FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Is it all over? Eleven brave souls thought so, warily creeping out of our bunkers to come together to discuss our two films for January; 'Munich' and 'Belfast'. So good to see each other, even if we didn't know who each other was under our masks.

First up, 'Munich'. P. M. Chamberlain's well documented infamous hour of history, into which writer Robert Harris chucks novel evidence of Hitler's real intentions and charges two young Oxford alumni; a gauche Englishman; Hugh, and his intense German counterpart; Paul, to expose the dastardly plot and save us all from WW2. We didn't like Hitler's wig and opinions were divided as to whether the flick held enough tension so I won't tell you whether our heroes were successful...

Next, 'Belfast', which received very good reviews. It tells the story of a boy growing up in a mixed sectarian district during the Troubles with the Catholic houses being fire bombed in the opening scenes by the local Pro civil militia. Surprisingly, we found it a feel good picture, heart warming and euphoric even despite the violent backcloth, and gave it top marks. The acting also received high praise as did Catriona Balfe's legs [without being non woke of course, dear reader.] An excellent film.

'Memory Box' is our choice for February on at Broadway from the 18th to the 24th. A mothers 'tumultuous, passionate adolescence' during the Lebanese Civil War is secretly revealed to her daughter. We meet on Monday 28th to unpack it.

**David Richards.** Film Appreciation Group Leader.

## CHURCH-VISITING GROUP

Following the two successful Church Visits that we managed to make last year, I am hopefully planning a further six visits for this year between April and September.

Our first visit thanks to Marion Caunt will be to Radcliffe Church and Cemetery, starting at 10:30 am on Friday 22nd April. I also have provision trips planned for Car Colston and Screveton combined and Shelford. Thanks to Lynne for making some preliminary enquiries.

When necessary I will organise car sharing or public transport and when possible a follow up coffee or lunch for those interested after the morning visit.

Any new members are welcome please contact me on 01159128926.

**Maggy Holmes** Group Leader

## Treasurer retires from Office

Cliff Murray has been our valued treasurer for many years and in recognition of his sterling (sic) service the incoming treasurer presented him with something suitable with which to celebrate.

(in case of doubt Cliff is the smiling one in the picture, Ed)



## NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We send our 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 APRIL 2022 So the deadline for articles is 20th MARCH 2022