



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

MAY 2022 — ISSUE 66

MEMBER'S MONTHLY MEETING

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 and had refreshments.

Your Committee for 2022

The Editors thought that with the membership approaching 600 it would be good to show the faces of the committee so recognition at monthly meetings is easier. In the absence of a single elected Chair it has been agreed to share that duty between the four Vice-Chairs.

With their permission, here they are.....

Carol White, Joint Vice Chair John Addiscott, Joint Vice Chair. Anne McLeod Joint Vice Chair Malcolm McDowell Joint Vice Chair



Steve Harris—Business secy

Mary Smith- Teas manager

Patrick Mountford— Newsheet .

Penny Tytler - Meet'nGreet



Jan Addiscott -Groups Coordinator

Anne Littlewood—Minutes secy

Phil Gregg— I.T.

Melanie Gregg—Membership



If any member would like to consider volunteering for the committee new members are much needed so please speak to any one of the committee pictured above to find out more.

Speaker for our May Meeting

Paul Newsham, a retired Principal Scientific Officer and Designated Expert Witness will give a talk entitled "A brief introduction to the Human Genome". This will explain how we have begun to uncover facts behind our DNA and how this has changed our understanding of how our bodies work.

REAL ALE GROUP 2

Phil Gregg kindly reported that on Wednesday 6th April 2022, five members of the new Real Ale Group 2 ~(informally becoming known as the Public House Adventure/ Pub Crawl Group!) met up and headed for the Poppy and Pint. Unfortunately, caretaker leader Rod was unable to go this time owing to Covid.

Our destination the 'Poppy', a popular Castle Rock pub, was busy and living up to its reputation as a relaxed community pub, serving a good choice of real ale and food.

Everybody seemed up for a bit of a 'tour' of some nearby hostelries, so fully refreshed after a chat over a pint and a meal, we moved on to the Lady Bay, a Greene King pub, a mere 8 minutes walk away. Like the Poppy, the pub was busy and had a relaxed and welcoming feel to it. CAMRA members enjoyed a 10% discount off the beer.

We next headed for the Larwood and Voce Tavern, a Moleface pub, behind Trent Bridge cricket ground. It was a little quieter there but it was mid-afternoon and although quiet at that time, the staff were gearing up to welcome Forest supporters that evening.

After a nice sociable afternoon we left about 4.30pm to catch our respective buses home.

Everyone in the group seemed to like the idea of visiting a few different pubs and next time we are proposing to go into Nottingham and start at the Trip To Jerusalem to view the famous cursed ship, which is unfamiliar to those in the group who don't hail from this area. We intend to move on from there, having plenty of choices of good drinking venues to pick from.

We hope to get more members to make this second group viable, so if you are interested in joining this group please contact **Rod** on email rodnevfogg@gmail.com

BOWLING IS BACK AGAIN!!!

After two, somewhat dramatic years, your 'Let's Go Bowling', is back again. For those of you with longer memories, it will follow the usual format of being a six week course beginning on Tuesday 3rd May from 2 to 4pm and for the following five Tuesdays. Don't worry if you are unable to commit to every Tuesday, you will be welcome on May 3rd or on any subsequent Tuesday. Should you decide that bowling is not for you, there is no commitment to complete the course. You are of course free to drop out at anytime.

This interest group is for members of the U3A only and is designed to introduce you to the fascinating game of lawn green bowling. It is your opportunity to meet new friends, enjoy a little light exercise on one of the finest bowling greens in the County, and to get to grips with the skill of getting a bowl as close to the jack as you can.

We are fortunate in being able to use the facilities provided by The Radcliffe on Trent Bowling Club, which is situated on the corner of Glebe Lane and the Cropwell Road. Not only we will be able to use their green but their recently refurbished club house is available for our use.

Suitable bowls will be provided and all we ask is that you wear some form of flat shoe. Trainers are OK providing they do not have a heel. Don't forget to bring your U3A membership card with you. The cost for each session will be just £2 which will include tea/coffee and biscuits. So make sure you come along and have a go. You could have a lot to gain and nothing to lose

If you have not already signed up for the 'Let's Go Bowling', or would like further details, please contact Phillip Adams, the U3A coordinator for this course on 07742 146657 or email him on philip@radcliffeot.co.uk.

BOULES GROUP

We are a group of six players and are looking for a couple of players to replace a pair that moved away at the end of last season.

We are a relaxed group that enjoys the banter as much as the game itself. This is probably because our standard of play is variable!

We play at the Golf Club on Monday mornings from 10.30 until 12.00 when we move to the Club House for a drink and snack.

If you are interested in joining us please email me at alnmo9@btinternet.com The first two to respond will be invited to join us.

A set of Boules is available for first-timers to try their hand at the game.

Al Reed - - Group Leader

Speaker for our June Meeting

The 60's were iconic with massive changes to society taking place over a very short period of time.

This talk is about the architecture, transport, governments, huge changes in society, education and music.

John Whitfield will take us through some of those changes and bring them alive.



WALKING GROUP

Picture of our lunch stop at Lowdham church. 6+miles round Epperstone, Woodborough and Lowdham. An enjoyable walk in mixed sunshine and rain.

George Smith - group leader

Georgeasmith35@gmail.com

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Our last meeting was unique. EVERYBODY AGREED!!

We decided 'The Duke' was brilliant and the marks awarded reflected this with at least two tens. The only dissenter WhatsApped it a 6 and didn't attend. Frit.

National treasures Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren pull out all the stops and steal the show in this amazing and hilarious production.

It's a true story of an unlikely Robin Hood who, even more unlikely, liberates a priceless work of art from the National Gallery to ransom it for free TV licences for the hard up 60's pensioners. Sound familiar?

For April we chose 'The Outfit', an untrue story of a master tailor (Mark Rylands again) who makes beautiful handcrafted gear and opens a shop in Chicago that, unfortunately for him, attracts gangster clientele.

An everyday story of country folk? Not.

It's on at the Broadway from the 8th to the 14th April at least and we meet in Grange Hall to unravel its mysteries on Monday 25th.

David Richards. Film Appreciation Group Leader.

Photography Group

Our group met on a showery April afternoon to take photographs around Radcliffe of shop signs.

Luckily, we found a dry interlude and were able to be out and about as arranged.

Following our outdoor session, we moved into the Grange to view members' other photographs on a monitor.

We also had time to discuss how much we had all benefited from joining the group, giving some of us the confidence to experiment by taking the camera off 'auto'.

At our next meeting on 11th May, we plan to view the shop sign photographs and also photograph any decorations in the Village relating to the forthcoming Queen's Jubilee, which should make for some special shots.

Janet Groves - Group Organiser

WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBER

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to Diane Williams who joined last month.

Melanie Gregg—Membership secy.

KNIT'N NATTER GROUP

Whilst Covid and other activities prevented some of our group from meeting in April, there were - *nevertheless* - nine of us who did manage to meet for a lively afternoon's knitting whilst chatting and putting the world to rights.

The photo shows a few of us plus an assortment of knitted items collected, which will all be forwarded on to the various good causes which we support regularly. If you are interested in coming along to find out more, do please get in touch.

Jan Addiscott : Group leader - 0115 8457398"

Geology and Environmental Studies Group.

Our last meeting, on 20th April, attended by 21, was an illustrated talk entitled:-
"Homo sapiens - African origin, Global spread and recent development".

Dinosaurs became extinct 66 million years ago after roaming the earth for almost 200 million. Contrastingly, our species, Homo sapiens, first appeared less than half a million years ago having evolved from Primates similar to Chimpanzees, probably in Africa. Since then, they have spread globally and now can be considered the dominant species. Most of this dominance has developed only very recently, since the time of the last ice age, only 11,700 years ago, during what geologists call the Holocene.

One of the topics discussed was that the Archaeological "ages" Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron, subdivide the Holocene showing the huge acceleration of Homo sapiens development over a very short period of Geological time, from being peripatetic Hunter/gatherers to Nuclear Scientists. During this brief (geologically speaking) time our discovery of Farming, Metal working, Writing, Cities, Steam power....etc,etc, has allowed "Civilisation" to flourish ?? The last 2000 years has seen an ever increasing rate of such development and it is fascinating to speculate what this acceleration will lead to?

Our next event, on Wednesday 18th May, might be considered a follow up to the above talk as it is proposed to visit the British Museum touring exhibition ANCIENT IRAQ currently housed in the DJANOGLY GALLERY, Lakeside Arts, adjacent to Nottingham Uni Campus. This highlights the fact that some of the very earliest examples anywhere, of farming, writing and metal working, have been discovered in Iraq and some are illustrated or shown in this exhibition.

Comments/queries to **Martin Clarke** via email: sumatraman947@gmail.com

April's talk was "What Ruddy Cucumber" by Andy Smart

At last month's meeting over 100 members were treated to a highly entertaining talk by Andy Smart about his time as a Nottingham Post journalist.

Andy showed us many interesting and amusing photos throughout his talk including one of himself as a long - haired teenager in 1966 when he went to work for the Notts Free Press. He started out on "hatched, matched and dispatched" but was keen to do "proper" journalism. One Friday afternoon his boss on returning from the pub at lunchtime (this should have been a clue) sent him to see a man who had grown a penguin shaped cucumber. He rushed off to interview him and see the said vegetable. When he arrived at the house a very large miner, still dirty from the pit, opened the door and when Andy tried to interview him said "what ruddy cucumber", at which point he realised he had been sent for the journalist's equivalent of a "left handed screwdriver".

Andy wrote many articles for "Bygones" a monthly magazine published by the Nottingham Post, including articles about actress Jayne Mansfield attending a Press Ball in Mansfield and one of her entourage commenting that "fancy there being a town in England named after her." He also told stories of people who attended Southwell Minster School where he was also a pupil. Terence Longdon who appeared in the "Carry on" films and who went on to be Elsie Tanner's boyfriend in Coronation Street. Harold Cottam who was a sailor on the Carpathia in 1912 and picked up the Titanic mayday call. Bernard Drury who became Shane Fenton and then changed his name again and went on to be Alvin Stardust. Incidentally, Alvin Stardust collected autographs from famous artists on his guitar, was offered £1.2m for the guitar, which he turned down!

He had a "world exclusive" for the post when he interviewed the son of Charles Turner who had spent time with and photographed Adolf Hitler. He covered stories about Royal visits and a Royal affair. Winifred Birkin, part of the Lace making family, who lived in Radcliffe at the Grange Hall and then at Lamcote House, before her marriage had a 15-year affair with Edward VIII before he met Wallis Simpson.

Also mentioned were the 1941 Nottingham Blitz, the harsh 1947 winter and the following floods. As well as lost buildings of Nottingham including the Black Boy, Victoria Station, the Empire Theatre and Drury Hill.

Andy concluded a humorous and lively talk with some of his favourite ridiculous headlines such as "HOMICIDE VICTIMS VERY RARELY TALK TO THE POLICE"!

Andy has also written a book called "Their names will live on" a book of war stories with proceeds going to the British Legion.

Melanie

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

Our next issue is JUNE 2022 So the deadline for articles is 20th May 2022

Rod & Patrick