



U3a JIVE GROUP AT VILLAGE SHOW

RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

NOVEMBER 2022 — ISSUE 71

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.

u3a MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thursday 1st December at 2pm

Tickets on sale £3 at monthly meetings and afterwards from PEN 2 Paper

Music from The Bridge Singers

Entertainment by Kurly Kale

Quiz, Food, & Raffle

Please bring raffle prizes to the November monthly meeting

THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER—u3a MEMBERS MONTHLY MEETING - from 2pm - THE GRANGE HALL

OUR SPEAKER IS BOB MASSEY. HIS TALK "DEATH IN A BARREL".

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hi, the year is almost over, the lockdowns of last year are in the past although Covid still keeps popping up and reminding us it is still around. At Radcliffe on Trent u3a most of our groups are now meeting again with similar numbers to pre-covid. Our membership has recently topped 600 people and is growing so we need to think about increasing the number of interest groups. If anyone wants to try something new, why not see if anyone else has the same interests as you and learn together – and Bingo!- a new group is born. Our group coordinator – Jan, can support you to get it off the ground and help with initial costs if necessary. You don't have to be an expert, we all learn together. Astronomy, backgammon, history, antiques and card making are all group ideas that other Notts u3a's have. Our free welcome coffee mornings at The Royal Oak, which take place at 11.30am on the last Wednesday of each month, are proving popular and it is a good opportunity to find out about groups you may wish to join or start up yourself as well as having a tea or coffee and a cake and getting to know more people, essential if you have just moved to the village or are newly retired.

Anne McLeod, Vice Chair on behalf of the Committee

NEW u3a MEMBERS - We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Harry Curtis Cherry Armishaw David Parker Tanya Parker Annie Mackenzie

APPEAL FOR MEMBERS TO JOIN THE u3a COMMITTEE

We are always encouraging our U3a members to join our Committee. The idea is to give an opportunity to members to take an interest in how our organisation is run. It is not essential but you might have had past experience or the skills needed to support, plan or organise. If you are feel you would like to help, in any way, to maintain or develop the Radcliffe on Trent u3a please speak to any u3a or committee member at our monthly meetings.

We would love to hear from you.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING GROUP

The group has resumed meeting after the Summer break. New members would be welcome to join us at 2pm on a Wednesday afternoon in the Scout Hall on Walkers Yard. No prior experience is needed. If you enjoy dancing of any sort and are reasonably fit, why not have a go? This is country dancing (usually in sets of 3 or 4 couples), not Highland dancing, which is an individual form of dance. Please note we do not meet on the last Wednesday of the month.

Contact **Jean Hudson** Email : jeanHUDSON.home@gmail.com or just turn up and see what we get up to.

WHAT DO THE u3a COMMITTEE MEMBERS DO?



We moved to Radcliffe in January 2021 having been members of Bedford u3a, we joined in Radcliffe at the earliest opportunity. Our move has been everything we hoped for, and we have been made very welcome by locals and now feel very much part of the village. Due to Covid it was some time before we were able to get involved, which we did with The Real Ale Group to which we were warmly welcomed. We then joined the Wine Appreciation, Local Trips, Trips and Outings, Walking and occasionally the Jive group and were founder members of the Pub Trail group.



We have tried to support the groups and were recently asked about joining the main committee and were co-opted as members in August until the next AGM, when we will stand for election. I am currently taking over, as chairman of the Trips and Outings group from Steve Harris, who is stepping down after 11 years of sterling service. Mary is taking on the role of Minutes Secretary for the committee.

George and Mary Roberts

TRIPS & OUTINGS GROUP - CHRISTMAS DINNER AT MORLEY HAYES GOLF CLUB Tuesday 6th December 2022

Our annual Christmas Dinner is upon us and we are now taking bookings, as we have limited numbers, booking early is advised. The cost involved is £45-00 pp which includes a Coach and visit en-route to Bardills Garden Centre to enjoy their Christmas Displays. We will then drive to Morley Hayes Golf Club to enjoy a delicious Three Course Christmas Dinner before returning home. We will be taking bookings at the November meeting at the Grange and our table will be located near the stage on the left hand side

or contact **George Roberts** on 07971 593802 at any time.

STRICTLY JIVE GROUP

The "Strictly Jive" group continues to recover after emerging from the Covid dark times. WEEKLY Wednesday afternoon meetings have started up again from 3 p.m 'til 5 p.m. at the Legion's Radcliffe Hall. Our professional instructors, Terry and Lynn, are now with us fortnightly, alternating with our do-it-yourself, freestyle "Jive Social" session where we jive or stroll as we please or just listen to great rock'n'roll music and chat over tea and biscuits. We have also been venturing out a bit! We plucked up courage to prance around at the Village Show doing a few jives (with partners) and strolls (without partners) - see picture(s) attached.



A few of us did something similar in Bingham Market Place when we were asked to take part in Bingham U3A's event to celebrate 40 years since the U3A was founded in the U.K . in 1982. Both were also useful opportunities to hand out our U3A flyers to recruit new U3A joiners. There have also been visits to local gigs to jive to – "The Easy Thomas Blues Band" at the Legion and our own great favourites, "The Moonshiners", in West Bridgford. We look forward to our Christmas Lunch at Radcliffe Golf Club in December. Finally, we always welcome any new members – beginners or improvers – with or without a partner.

For more details contact Group Leader **Chris Worthington** Email : worthington690@btinternet.com

BRIDGE GROUP

The Bridge Group had its yearly weekend away from the 30th September to the 3rd October. This year we went to Lincoln and stayed in the Lincoln Hotel overlooking the Cathedral . Everyone had a wonderful time. During the day most people went out exploring the city and its surrounds and were surprised by the interesting things they discovered about the Castle, the Magna Carta, the Brayford Pool and of course the Cathedral. Every evening we played Bridge and we were very lucky to be joined by four members of the Lincoln Bridge Club (two on consecutive nights) to fill the gap left by two of our members who unfortunately contracted Covid just before departure. As usual the bridge matches were cut and thrust affairs with much discussion afterwards on where most of us had gone wrong, before many retired to the bar for well-earned drinks. As in the past our thanks go to Len and Di Jackson who did the onerous job of organising the weekend. It was a great success. The U3A bridge club continues to meet every Monday in the Grange at 2pm and welcomes anyone who can play bridge. You do not need a partner, we will always find you one.

Contact **Greg Bungay** on Tel ; 07437 411875 or on 0115 9334942.

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

The Classical Music group will meet on Thursday 17th November at 10.30 am in the Dowson Room.

All welcome.

Contact **Michael Riggall** on michael.riggall@ntlworld.com

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Much as it hurts me to recommend anything remotely associated with Leicester the morning after its team humiliated mine with a lucky 4 - 0 win, my choice for our first film of the 2022/3 season has got to be 'The Lost King'. Steve Coogan's comedy drama of the Philippa Langley role in unearthing Richard 111 from his resting place has been given a poor reception by the critics so it's bound to be brilliant. Come to think of it the chances of the digger tipping up Dick on his first pass in the Leicester car park were as remote as Forest's defeat, but I suppose all's fair in war and war. We meet to unpick the film in The Grange on Monday 31st October. at 2.00 pm. Future meeting will be 5/12, 9/1 and 6/2.

David Richards Group Leader. Email : d.richards68@ntlworld.com

PLAY READING GROUP

The Play Reading Group met in September and enjoyed reading "Suddenly at Home" – a classic Durbridge suspense-filled thriller: not so much a whodunnit, more a 'will-he-get-away-with-it' with added plot twists and surprises along the way. For the next few meetings we've ordered sets of Sue Townsend's "The Queen and I", Ray Cooney's "Move over Mrs Markham", which enjoyed a long West End run, and Alan Ayckbourn's "Seasons' Greetings", with a festive theme, for our December meeting. Some members went to Nottingham Playhouse to see Alan Bennet's "The Clothes they stood up in", which starred renowned actors Sophie Thompson and Adrian Scarborough. A super production with imaginatively created sets and a great plot where a night at the opera ends with a shock for mild-mannered couple Maurice and Rosemary Ransome. They open their front door to discover their flat completely empty. From light bulbs to carpets to toilet paper, even their chicken casserole has been stolen....



Jan Powis Email : jan_powis@yahoo.co.uk

BOOK GROUP

Our Book Group is a very friendly group always happy to welcome new members. We meet on the last Friday of the month at 2pm and we take it in turns to select a book for us all to read. We are not overly intellectual in our comments and at the end we usually find time to have a good natter and put the world to rights. If you would be interested in joining our group please don't hesitate to contact me for more information.

Sue Terry. Group Leader. Email : bobsue@hotmail.co.uk



COMMUNITY MINI-BUS

Following on from last months article about this facility being available to u3a Groups, here are contact details for you...

To check on the availability of this 14 seater minibus for use by your group contact **Mark** by email on...

mark@markgreenhalg.com

The current hire charges

are.....

£40 per full day plus petrol used
£20 per part day plus petrol used.

To check on the availability of a driver for your trip contact **Graham** on email...

grahamward1845@icloud.com

For access to the approved Section 19 document or for any further information contact **Rodney** on email :

rodneyfogg@gmail.com

COMMEMORATIVE ART EXHIBITION IN MEMORY OF JOE BURROWS

Joe who passed away recently was a member of Radcliffe on Trent u3a, a member of our Poetry Group and for a time group leader of our Art Group. A former Art Teacher at the Beckett School and an accomplished painter and sculptor. Many of his works will be on display at a special art exhibition to be held in the Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th November.

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 DECEMBER 2022

So the deadline for articles will be

18th NOVEMBER 2022

Rod & Patrick Co-Editors

AVIATION & AEROSPACE GROUP

VISIT TO RAF CRANWELL AND THE INTERNATIONAL BOMBER COMMAND CENTRE



Twenty- eight members and guests of the 'Aviation and Aerospace Group' visited RAF Cranwell on 4th October, it is the centre for training the cream of the cream of young people to become national and international air force officers. The first part of the course is spent developing the cadets' leadership skills and the RAF style of management. The second part is devoted to the professional development of their individual roles such as aircrew, engineering, armaments, supply, air traffic control etc. We were privileged to be shown around the main College building, which was quite magnificent ending up in the library which is one of the finest aviation libraries in the world. It was a real privilege to have this opportunity to have a conducted tour of the College. The International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) in Lincoln was built in recognition, remembrance and reconciliation of the 57,891 men and women who gave their lives supporting Bomber Command. The chances of aircrew survival varied during a tour (30 Ops), depended on factors such as inexperience, fatigue, type of aircraft flown and target. The most dangerous were the first and last five trips. During the whole war, 51% of aircrew were killed on operations, 12% were killed or wounded in non-operational accidents and 13% became prisoners of war or evaders. Only 24% survived the war unscathed. At the heart of the IBCC are the memorial spire 102 ft high representing the wingspan of a Lancaster Bomber which is surrounded by a series of curved steel walls with the names of all who perished during WW11. The location commands a spectacular view across the city of Lincoln and the Cathedral that played an important part of the story of Bomber Command.

Mike Seymour Group Leader Email : seymourmd@aol.com

OCTOBER'S TALK WAS...

"A SOLO WALK ACROSS AFRICA"

Speaker **FRAN SANDHAM** told us, how 25 years ago, he walked, without support, some 3000 miles across Africa from the Skeleton Coast through the Namibian Dessert and Central Africa to Zanzibar on the Indian Ocean.

Over 100 members enjoyed a very entertaining talk from Fran Sandham whose adventure was serialised in the Sunday Times and is chronicled in the book *Traversa*. Twenty-five years ago, a New Years resolution saw Fran scrimping and saving to fund a 3000-mile trek across Africa from Namibia's Skeleton Coast to Zanzibar, a childhood dream. Over the duration of the walk, he lost 4 stones and had run-ins with a puff adder, lions, drunk drivers, blisters, a small stubborn donkey and a huge psychotic mule. He contracted Malaria the day after he finished. Fran found the African people very hospitable throughout his journey. During the journey he felt a great sense of freedom and at the end he felt a certain amount of sadness to be going back to 'normal life' but a great sense achievement.

Fran Sandham

TRIPS & OUTINGS GROUP - Exciting Plans for 2023

The Group's committee are working hard to bring the members some exiting and interesting visits in 2023. Our plans are well on their way, so here are some dates for your 2023 diary.....

Tuesday 21st March a Trip to Hull

This will include entrance to the Deep, one of the largest Aquariums in Europe within which has an excellent café serving a good choice, at very reasonable pricing. (food not included) You can of course eat elsewhere as within a 10/15 minute flat walk are The Museum of Street Life and the Hull & East Riding Museum and Hull Old Town. En-route we will travel over the Humber Bridge once the longest single span bridge in the world. We will start taking bookings for Hull as soon as costings are completed in November

Thursday 25th May a Trip to Liverpool

This visit will be freestyle, we will drop you off outside the Museum of Merseyside where we will start our visit. This is a modern museum that highlights the growth of Liverpool from a small village to a major city and takes in the full spectrum of events that made the city what it is today. You can think about taking the Ferry across the Mersey, or walk the short distance to the Albert Dock, once a Warehouse for Cotton and other goods imported to England. This now holds the Maritime Museum, highly recommended, the Tate Gallery of the North and many shops and eating places. Fans of the Beatles may be tempted to visit the Museum that traces their journey from the Cavern to worldwide domination, admittance charges apply. Just across the road is Liverpool 1 with a wide selection of shops to suit all needs.

Wednesday 12th July 2023 a trip to Kilworth House Theatre in the Park

We have booked to revisit Kilworth House Theatre in the Park on Wednesday 12th July for their production of 'Hairspray'. The coach will stop at Palmers Garden Centre en-route and there you can enjoy the centre which also has an excellent café where you can fill up, before setting off for Kilworth. The group have paid many visits to Kilworth over the years, and I have been told it is a magical experience and one I am looking forward to for the first time. Tickets are limited for this so early booking is recommended. Tickets will be on sale at the November meeting in the Grange @ £45-00pp

Other Ideas for Trips

We are also looking at possible visits to The Sandringham Flower Show, Bomber Command & Bletchley Hall and will appreciate any thoughts you may have.

George Roberts Email: gjandm.roberts@gmail.com

REAL ALE GROUP

Thanks to Steve Weatherby, U3A member and member of this group as well as being Chairman of the Nottingham Branch of CAMRA ten of our members were able to visit the annual Robin Hood Beer & Cider Festival that was held from 12th to 15th October in Trent Bridge Cricket Ground. There were some 1000 ales & cider racked in long bars under the cricket stands, Needless to say the ten of us that went were not able to sample every drink on offer.

Our Group meet regularly on a lunchtime on the last Wednesday in the month .Always at a different venue chosen by the group at a public house of interest and with character, that is on the regular bus or tram route.and that offers a good choice of real ales and food.

For more details contact **Rodney Fogg** Email : rodneyfogg@gmail.com