



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

FEBRUARY 2023 — ISSUE 74

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.

From the Joint Vice Chairs

A reminder that the March meeting will also be our AGM for which preparations are in hand. It will start at 2pm and will be followed by our speaker - John Whitfield.

The Agenda, Minutes, Reports and committee nominations will be published on our Website (**ACCESSIBLE TO MEMBERS ONLY**) no later than 9th February in accordance with our Constitution. Nominations to the committee will remain open until 16th February. A number of paper copies will be available on the day.

We are delighted to report that George Roberts, who will be known to many of you, has indicated a willingness to stand as Chair for 2023/24 and hopefully beyond. George and his wife Mary moved to Radcliffe in recent times. As existing U3a members in Bedford and in spite of Covid they threw themselves into our activities immediately. During 2022 they were co-opted to the committee and George took over running the Trips and Outings Group. They have both been active, efficient and enthusiastic. The Committee support this nomination.

In case you've missed him,

This is George Roberts.....



Carol White; John Addiscott; Anne McLeod;
Malcolm McDowell. (Joint Vice-chairs)

SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY

Kevin Powell, an historian will talk about

The 'Dreadful Catastrophe'!
Remembering the Nottingham Canal
Explosion of 1818

The Nottingham Canal was built in the 1790's and extended from Nottingham up to Langley Mill.

The canal would bring a new prosperity to Nottingham, transporting coal from the south Derbyshire coalfields down into the heart of the town, making the distribution of the coal easier to the surrounding regions.

The canal would be used to carry a variety other bulkier items and in some instances, more dangerous items were carried.

And so it was on that fateful day in September 1818 when 21 barrels of gunpowder, each weighing 100 lbs exploded in the Nottingham Canal Company warehouse bringing death and devastation to the town.

Anne McLeod

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

Dave Breese; Linda and Alan Johnson; Annette Waterfield and Pam Ferguson

Melanie Gregg—Membership secretary

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Our small but enthusiastic group met in early December to view members' photographs of our chosen topics 'Weather' and 'Night Sky'. Luckily the recent clear full moon had provided the opportunity for some stunning shots. Not to mention the foggy weather producing moody and atmospheric photographs.

After enjoying seasonal mince pies, we discussed the possible cause of zoom malfunction on some of our cameras.

In preparation for our January meeting, we agreed to take some imaginative shots of Christmas.

If any U3A members receive a new camera for Christmas, why not join us in the New Year to learn how do make the best use of it.

For further details please contact **Janet Groves** Group Leader on 07743 543 577

Here are a few examples of members' pictures



FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

"MATILDA"

The average Group score of 5/10, varying between 2 and 8 says it all regarding our December film; 'Matilda The Musical'

We liked the music and the dance choreography but thought the film a bit slow to start, was lacking in humour and probably better suited to the stage. Brilliant though it was, Emma Thompson's portrayal of Miss Trunchbull was positively frightening, aided by prosthetics and the film medium with its computer generated violence. The juvenile anger in response, somewhat uncomfortable and unusual in children's books, was so powerful you expected Matilda to turn green and burst her liberty bodice at any moment.

A great piece for discussion? Certainly. Should you take your grandchildren? Hmm....

Our next Film is 'Till', a Civil Rights offering about a mother's fight for justice for the lynching of her son. It's on at The Broadway for at least another week and mainstream cinemas, as I write.(14th Jan)

Dave Richards Group leader d.richards68@ntlworld.com

REAL ALE GROUP

We always travel on the local bus/tram routes. Each month the group decides its real ale venue for the following month. We always visit at lunch time on the last Wednesday each month, somewhere where good pub food is available as well as guest ales.

Join us — contact **Rod Fogg** email: rodneymogg@gmail.com

What does the Membership Secretary do?

My name is Melanie Gregg and I have lived in the village since 1983, my daughters went to school here. I joined the u3a in 2019 having taken early retirement. I joined the Committee in 2020.

As the Membership Secretary I am responsible for maintaining an accurate database of our members on a u3a system called Beacon. My role typically includes answering questions and promoting the organisation to prospective members, recording new member details on Beacon and issuing their membership number. It also involves maintaining the accuracy of existing members' details. A major task I undertake in the early months of the year is renewing over 600 members whilst liaising with the Treasurer with regard to payments received.

My role also entails sending emails and post on behalf of the Committee to the membership, as well as sending out the monthly News Sheets and managing the recipients of the Third Age Matters magazine.

I attend Committee meetings and have a desk at the monthly speaker meetings as well as being a member of the Trips and Outings Committee.

My husband (Phil) and I are joint leaders of the Pub Trail group!

**Melanie
Gregg**



The STRICTLY JIVE GROUP

The “Strictly Jive” group is, thankfully, now getting back, on Wednesday afternoons, to the pre-Covid attendance levels. There were 26 of us altogether in the British Legion Hall on our latest meet-up with a good mix of beginners and improvers.

We have introduced a new format whereby one week we have our professional instructors, Terry and Lynn, leading us and then, on the following Wednesdays, we run our “do-it-yourself” Jive Socials, providing our own music and with our more experienced jivers helping the newer learners. There is jiving, strolling and even the occasional rock'n'roll waltz to be enjoyed – as well as tea, biscuits and gossip.

We have also recently restarted our jive group coffee mornings on the first Friday of each month.

An extra novelty for us is our entering some jive group teams into the quiz night at the Legion on 27th January.

There are visits to outside venues whenever there is a dancing opportunity. In February we hope to visit the British Legion Club for gigs from live bands – The Daniel Smith Blues Band on Sunday Feb. 19th. and The Moonshiners on Friday Feb.24th.

Newcomers to the group are always welcome and it's free for the first two “taster” sessions on Wednesday afternoons. Just turn up or contact

Chris – worthington690@btinternet.com
or Margaret - kimpson1@virginmedia.com

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.

SECOND FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP

Our second friendship group has appointed their new Group Leader **Diane Williams**.

The group is for u3a members who live on their own or with carers and want to make friends, plan activities and meet socially, be it just to meet for a coffee and a chat, visit a restaurant for a meal, or attend a local event. The group are planning similar trips out next year like their visits in 2022 to Bakewell and Matlock and more recently to the Downtown Outlet near Grantham.

The group has places for new members. Contact **Diane Williams** on 0115 9331905 or 07747710425.

Trips & Outings Group

We are taking Bookings at the February Monthly Meeting in the Grange on Thursday 2nd February

Hull & Visit to the Deep Aquarium – Tuesday 21st March

We have 4 places left for this trip, available on first come first served basis

To book. contact Sandra Straw :- p.straw@ntlworld.com or 0115 912 3141

In the event all tickets are sold we can place you on a reserve list, in case of any drop out.

Kilworth House Theatre - Hairspray West End Musical

Wednesday 12th July 2023

Tickets have gone well for this trip with only a few left, as we have to confirm numbers to the theatre by February 14th, if you have not confirmed a booking you need to do so soon.

Liverpool Trip Thursday 25th May

We are opening the bookings for this visit at the Monthly Grange Hall meeting on Thursday 2nd February. We do know already from people asking about it that it will sell out quickly, so if you are keen to visit this great city, get your name down early, first come first served.

The price for this trip is... **£18-00 pp** yes that's correct **£18-00 pp** Payment due Feb/March

Contact : George Roberts 07971 593802 or Sandra Straw 0115 912 3141

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PS Advance Notice

We are looking to arrange a visit to Doddington Hall & Gardens followed later in the day by a visit to Bomber Command Lincoln in September.

WATCH THIS SPACE!

### COMMUNITY MINI-BUS

Following on from the recent 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](mailto: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](mailto:grahamward1845@icloud.com)

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

[rodneymogg@gmail.com](mailto:rodneymogg@gmail.com)

### NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We send our thanks to Group Leaders for their articles and contributions especially with photos.

Please send your items, articles, photos or sketches to:

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

**Our next issue is MARCH 2023**

**So the deadline for articles will be**

**February 18th 2023**

**Rod & Patrick** Co-Editors



**Free Tea & Coffee**

**Be warm**

**Be safe**

**Meet friends**

**Read or Play Games**

**Charge Phones**

**Get advice about cost of living issues**

All are welcome. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian

Tea/coffee provided

|                   |                         |                      |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Mondays</b>    | <b>Craig Moray</b>      | <b>10.00 - 12.00</b> |
| <b>Tuesdays</b>   | <b>Royal Oak</b>        | <b>12.00 - 4.00</b>  |
| <b>Wednesdays</b> | <b>Royal Oak</b>        | <b>12.00 - 4.00</b>  |
| <b>Thursdays</b>  | <b>St Anne's Church</b> | <b>2.00 - 4.30</b>   |
| <b>Fridays</b>    | <b>Craig Moray</b>      | <b>10.00 - 12.00</b> |
|                   | <b>Methodist Hall</b>   | <b>12.00—2pm</b>     |

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2023/24**

Dear Members.

Membership renewal time is fast approaching, our membership year ends on the last day of February. The good news is that the membership fee remains the same at £20.00 per member or £16.00 if you are an affiliated member.

This year to simplify the renewals process we will not require a renewal form, your payment will confirm your renewal for 2023-2024.

We have also introduced the option to pay directly into our bank account.

This year there will be 4 methods of payment:

### **Method 1**

Direct payment by BACS into our u3a bank account:

**Sort Code 60 02 41 A/c No 69158886 Account Radcliffe on Trent U3A**

Please include your Surname, Initial(s) and postcode in the reference box in your banking screen or app, so that we can identify your payment.

Eg 1. Single person renewing — A Smith NG12 9ZZ

Eg 2. Couple renewing — A Smith and B Smith NG12 9ZZ

### **Method 2**

We will be holding a renewal session on Wednesday 8th February between 11am and 2pm for those of you who want to pay in person by cash or cheque. This will be in the Trent room at the Grange.

### **Method 3**

You can also post your renewal to me. Please write your name and address on the back of your cheque, or if paying by cash please include details to identify yourself. We don't recommend sending cash through the post but please feel free to hand deliver.

Address to .....u3a Membership Secretary

6 Morton Close

Radcliffe on Trent

Notts NG12 2JE

### **Method 4**

Bring your payment to the next monthly speaker meeting. You will receive confirmation of your payment after the 1st of March when the membership year rolls over.

Best Wishes.

***Melanie Gregg***.—Membership Secretary