



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 1152459

MAY 2023 — ISSUE 77

MEMBER'S NEXT MONTHLY MEETING THURSDAY 1st JUNE

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.

***Radcliffe u3a sends its best wishes to King Charles III
on the occasion of His Coronation.
Long may He Reign.***

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN.....I have enjoyed my first month as your Chairman and I am just getting used to all the e-mails from area and Head Office that now come my way. However, I also have to add that I am really happy to have been kept so busy. It got me thinking that with such a selection of Interest Groups how many of our members are only in one or two groups, and therefore missing out on being involved in learning new interests and meeting new friends. I would urge you all to look at our list of groups, to see if there are any they you could consider joining, that may open new opportunities for you. Alternatively if you feel there is something that our groups do not cover, why not consider starting up a new one, your committee will give you all the support you will need.

To our Group Leaders who we all owe a debt of gratitude to, who pass on their knowledge freely and in doing so increase our appreciation of life. This meets my intention as Chairman that we all enjoy our time in the u3a increasing our knowledge whilst having fun and making new friendships along the way.

Having just returned home from the monthly meeting I would like to congratulate our Jive Group for their efforts to gain new members and their excellent dancing demonstration. It is important that all groups look for ways to increase numbers to ensure their continuance.

George Roberts

Tel : 0115 9175141 or 0797 159 3802 or Email : gjandmroberts@gmail.com

THE CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The committee have decided to hold a Members Open Meeting in the Trent Room

Monday 22nd May from 2 to 4pm. ALL members are welcome to attend.

We need to get away from the concept that Radcliffe u3a is a club solely for old folk and attract younger members to ensure it continues to exist and thrive into the future. We are looking for ways to achieve this and need your help and ideas. We would also welcome any ideas for new Interest Groups particularly those aimed at younger members.

(Tea, coffee & tea; biscuits will be provided)

This is your opportunity to have a say and make a difference.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The recent increase in members, some new, plus some who have returned to the group, has provided more scope for sharing knowledge and tips.

Each month we set ourselves a topic, which recently has included: Autumn Colour, Weather and Night Skies, Birds, Spring and Blossom. All our members agree that having a target does make us take our cameras/phones with us and look more closely at our surroundings.

Our topic for the forthcoming month is: 'Coronation and anything red, white and blue'.

At the May meeting, in addition to viewing our photographs of the topic, we will also be having a short workshop on 'Tagging Photographs'.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: We normally meet at 2pm in the Radcliffe Room at the Grange on the second Wednesday of the month. **BUT in May** only, to fit around holidays, our meeting has been moved to the **17th May, which is the third Wednesday.**

If you need any further details, do contact me on 07743 543 577. **Janet Groves** Group Leader

TRIPS AND OUTINGS GROUP

To update our current situation, we have Sold Out for the trip to Liverpool on Thursday 25th May, but can take names to replace anybody booked, who is unable to go, in this case those on the list will get first refusal to join us.

We have also started taking booking for our visit to Doddington Hall & Bomber Command Museum, on Tuesday 19th September. We will leave Radcliffe at 9am and arrive at Doddington about 10am, when we will have a conducted tour of the hall. This also will leave free time to explore the Gardens, Farm Shop, Shops and Café for lunch (not included). We will leave at 2-15pm for the short journey to the Bomber Command Museum, this will be a Free Style visit to explore their fascinating history. Our return to Radcliffe will start at 4-30 and should arrive back at the Grange about 5-30pm. The cost will be £30-00 pp

Following many requests by people who attended last year's Christmas Lunch at Morley Hayes Golf Club, we have rebooked the venue again on Tuesday 12th December, more information to follow in due course.

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

We meet every 3rd Thursday in the month 10.30 - 12.30 in the Dowson Room, The Grange.

All welcome. No previous knowledge needed. Refreshments provided in the interval.

Listen and Relax at our Next Meeting on Thursday 18th May, 2023.

Group Leader: **Michael Riggall**

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. Our May venue is the Poppy & Pint, Lady Bay. In June we go to The Willow Tree, West Bridgford. Join us.
For more details contact. **Rod Fogg** email: rodnevfogg@gmail.com

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Sue Jackson, Sara Hammond, Linda Lyn-Cook, Rosie Dennett, Peter Hollingworth, Arnold Cade, Dave Brown, Brian Smith, Margaret Alton and Valerie O'Brien.

PLAYREADING GROUP

The Playreading Group have enjoyed a variety of plays in 2023.

In January we kicked the year off with Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men". We soon engaged with the two main characters - an unlikely pair: George is "*small and quick*" and takes all the decisions; Lennie is a man of tremendous size and strength but with the mind of a young child. Labourers in California's dusty vegetable fields, they hustle work when they can, living a hand-to-mouth existence. We found ourselves avidly following their fortunes as they pursued their dream: to own an acre of land and a shack they can call their own.

For a contrast in February, we turned to one of Cooney's comedies "Funny Money", a farce which works its socks off to generate giggles. At the outset it made us ask ourselves the question - what do you do if you open your apparently empty briefcase and find close to a million pounds in used £50 notes? This is what happens to main character Henry Perkins. A string of funny mistaken identities ensues until eventually someone makes off with the loot.

In March, to ring the changes, we read "The Long, the Short and the Tall" by Willis Hall. In contrast to the settings of the earlier plays, we found ourselves in British Malaya 1942. The characters are a patrol of British army soldiers and the events take place in an abandoned hut in the middle of the jungle. Tension rises as the patrol's radio malfunctions and a Japanese soldier stumbles upon them, making the British realise the enemy are hot on their heels. We found the play generated a complexity of emotions: laughter at the men's witty banter; empathy with the soldiers including the Japanese soldier who begins to feel to the men more like a fellow soldier and less like the anonymous "enemy": and finally shock and sadness at the brutality of the ending.

In April we read Alan Ayckbourn's comedy "Neighbourhood Watch".

Jan Powis Group Leader **Email** : jan_powis@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Photo courtesy Sue Terry



BOOK GROUP

Radcliffe on Trent u3a Book Group meet regularly on the last Friday of the month in the Methodist Church Hall on Shelford Road at 2pm to discuss their chosen book for that month. Members take it in turns to choose a book for us all to read. We are a friendly group who enjoy our discussions and we are always pleased to welcome new members.

If you would like to join us please contact **Sue Terry** Group Leader on **bobnsue@hotmail.co.uk**

KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

We have reluctantly felt unable to support the annual Charity Knitting Challenge organised by local libraries this year. [Last year we were able to donate some very colourful Twiddlers, for dementia patients, to the Knitting Challenge.] The reason for not participating this year is that much of the wool we use is donated to us from a variety of sources and which does not fit the very demanding specifications of this year's Knitting Challenge. Nevertheless, any teddy bears which we *are* able to knit will be donated (as usual) to the local Tara's Angels charity, which looks after families needing to flee from domestic violence. We hope the teddy bears will bring some comfort to those children involved.

Our photo was taken at our latest Knit & Natter session when we collected more blankets, hats and teddy bears for distribution. Also shown (no, I don't mean the cat!) is a large bag of wool which we have gratefully received recently and which will doubtless be put to good use in the weeks to come.

Jan Addiscott



Knit and Natter Group.

Courtesy Jan Addiscott

JIVE GROUP

The group enjoyed two highlights in April. Firstly, we managed a bit of a jive and stroll demo at the Monthly Meeting without any of us falling off the stage (see header photo Page 1) Secondly, an experimental "live music" afternoon was held with "The Moonshiners" Rock'n'Roll band playing live at our usual Wednesday afternoon session. We hope to repeat the success of that event. In May, we are looking forward to visiting a Saturday evening gig at the British Legion on May 13th with another local band "Midnight Shift".

More details from:- **Chris: worthington690@btinternet.com** or
Margaret: kimpson1@virginmedia.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**

Our next issue is JUNE 2023

So the deadline for articles will be

MAY 19th 2023

Rod & Patrick Co-Editors