



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 115245 April 2024 — ISSUE 88

MEMBERS' NEXT MONTHLY MEETING - THURSDAY 4th APRIL

Doors for the Members Monthly meetings at the Grange Hall will not open before 2pm with the meeting starting between about 2.15pm-2:30pm or as soon as everyone is seated and has obtained refreshments.

S.O. S.

FROM OUR TREASURER

Very unusually I have been given this front page. It could be flattering but I (well we – the committee) need your help.

Proper governance means I have to stand down as Treasurer at the next AGM, March 2025 and we need a successor because our U3a cannot legally function without a Treasurer.

The job these days is much easier because we are blessed with a simple accounting system, provided by u3a Head Office, who are also contactable for advice and support if needed. Also we are fortunate to have an in-house I.T. expert within the Committee, on hand to help.

So what is involved ? Essentially paying the bills for the hiring of the various venues we use; collecting and banking the cash contributions from the Groups and keeping track by using the accounting system mentioned.

This provides much enjoyment and satisfaction through contact with so many of the Group Leaders and members.

The committee is friendly and hard working. (It is even a great pleasure talking to Mick in the bank although we wish Forest would give us more to talk about.)

The perfect solution would be for someone with an appropriate background to volunteer soon. There can then be a period of handover and to get to understand how things work. If regarded as a bonus I will be around to help show the ropes. Being an accountant is not necessary.

Just to repeat **WITHOUT A TREASURER WE CANNOT OPERATE.**

There is no magic solution. So please speak to me or any Committee member if you could volunteer or wish to know more .

Please.

Malcolm McDowell
fin@rot-u3a.org.uk



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It is with the greatest pleasure that we welcome the following new members to our U3a,

Angie Albery, Peter Becket, Anthony Earp, Jacquie Earp, Paul Goodwin, Ian Graham,
Terri Graco, Julie Grange, Angela Grokauskas, Dave Hood, Sandra Keithlow
Diane McEvoy-Robinson, Patrick McEvoy-Robinson, Rance Noon, Jonnie Pennie
Sally Robins-Cherry, John Rycroft, Yvonne Spence, Celia Sweeney, Sarah Taylor,
Laurie Ward, Nigel Wragg, Pam Richmond, Margaret Litchfield, Joan Brown, Max Teare
Jess Parkinson, John Parkinson, Richard Hepple, Clare Bonnello, Martin Bonnello
Sean Moran, Joy Moran and Brian Eastwood.

We sincerely hope you find much of interest in our varied Groups. Our website has details of how to contact the Leaders of the Groups or you can always contact me.

Melanie Gregg - Membership Secretary

Contact — radcliffeu3a.members@gmail.com

FROM THE CHAIR

I am pleased to once again be your Chair for 2024/25. I enjoyed the past 12 months & and was delighted to meet so many Groups & Members. I was particularly pleased that we brought our numbers back up to those of pre Covid, this was mainly due to the hard work by your committee.

When you are part of a committee you really appreciate what other members bring to it. In our case we have had the benefit of a dedicated member who for many years has been an integral part of the committee of Radcliffe u3a and who has carried out various roles, including being Chair. Anne McLeod's commitment for getting things done is unchallenged and to me as current Chair her support has been exceptional. After so many years service, for which we are so grateful, she has decided it is time to stand down and we will miss her wise counsel. Thank you Anne.

As we have gained so many new members during the last few months, (see page 2, Ed.) I feel it appropriate to repeat my original thoughts, from last year, when I became Chair.

I believe the most important quality required to carry out the role is IMPARTIALITY, to see all points of view and reconcile any disagreements, to the benefit of all. I believe that the Chair's role is to be a CONDUIT between all the Groups, Members and the Committee, to ensure every member who has a concern or point to make is able to do so and most importantly, if needed, to get an answer, even if it is not the one they wanted. I also believe that as Chair I should be available at any reasonable time for members to contact, either by mobile, phone or e-mail I will also try to visit as many groups as I can during the year.

To our new members, please once you have settled in consider joining our committee and bring new ideas and energy with you. I have only been in Radcliffe for 3 years and have made many friends as a result of getting involved, and can recommend it. Also please introduce yourself to me if you have the opportunity. Also, please read the item about the Committee on page 3.

If I have one wish it is that we all enjoy being involved in the u3a in Radcliffe, have fun and make many new friends along the way.

George Roberts



Contact - E-Mail : gjandm.roberts@gmail.com Mob : 07971 593 802 Home : 0115 917 5141

Trips & Outings Group

The **Black Country Open Air Museum trip on 21st May (£30 includes entrance)** features many items from our past, brought together to enable an experience to take us back in time. This will invoke memories to many, the old corner Shop, the Pub, the Butchers and many more, all brought from their original places and faithfully rebuilt. Vehicles of all sorts, from Trams, Buses, Vans & Boats, some of which you can ride on.



Experience the sights and sounds, smells and taste of the Black Country as you explore shops, houses and industrial workshops rebuilt in the Canal side village. There are many shops and cafes to choose from should you need to have a drink in the Pub or have a bite to eat. The Fish & Chip Shop gets excellent reviews.

Sandringham Country & Flower Show – 31 st July

We make a return visit after a few years to the Sandringham Show, on 31st July. The show is typical of Country Shows with many Attractions and Demonstrations to enjoy including it's well known Flower Show. King Charles often drops in and does a walk about.

£35 includes Show Entrance & Coach Travel

Both Black Country Museum & Sandringham tickets have gone well but some are still available

Our visits to Chester & Kilworth Outdoor Theatre have sold out, however we can take names to replace anyone who has to pull out

CONTACT George Roberts on 01159175141

APPEAL FOR HELP FROM OUR 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 interested and feel you would like to help, in any way, to maintain or develop the Radcliffe on Trent u3a please speak to any u3a helper or committee member at our monthly meetings.

We particularly need someone to continue our speaker programme. This is largely already set up for the rest of 2024 year so there would be plenty of time for the new Speaker-finder to continue to develop the programme with the Committee's help, there are lists available of potential speakers!

Please have a word with me if you can possibly help.

George Roberts CHAIR - 07971593802

FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP

This social group aims to offer those living on their own or who are carers an opportunity for making friendships and supporting each other. We meet regularly on the first Monday in the month at 2pm till 3pm in the Royal Oak in the village for a hot drink and a chat. We always plan then what we would like to do in smaller groups during the month, around the village, meeting for coffees or a meal or other events nearby that are taking place be it a restaurant, a charity, or a fund raising event, a cinema or a theatre. In May we plan and hope to hire the village Community minibus to visit a garden centre and shopping outlet, taking in coffee and later a meal before returning home to Radcliffe.

For further information contact **Rod** on tel: **0797 1537 119** or email: rodnevfogg@gmail.com

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Nothing like a Post Apocalyptic Drama to set the pulses racing... no, not Mahalia Belo's flood disaster film, 'The End We Start From'. I'm talking about our January meeting when we discussed it.

Despite admitted brilliant cinematography, members were vociferous in their criticism of the film, drowning out (pun intended) the few souls that gave it high marks. Suggestions that the tension in the disaster story was engendered more by suggestion than visual reality, were met by claims there were more floods here on Wharf Lane than shown in central London that was slightly awash in the film. Playing the lead fighting for survival, Jodie Comer (her of the sociopathic assassin; Villanelle, in 'Killing Eve') had her face in dramatic close ups dismissed as rictus like. So who chooses these films?, I hear you ask. Usually it's the Group but not this time. Now I'll give you there was also a fair amount of imagination stretching in the storyline but I'm betting at the time of writing that this film will feature in the Oscars.... but until then I'm pleading the Fifth!

David Richards, Film Appreciation Group Leader - Contact at drichards68@ntlworld.com

LETS GO BOWLING GROUP

For those who are not aware of a special arrangement we have with the Radcliffe Bowling Club, here is the relevant information that can give you an ideal opportunity to try it out. The Club will again be with us on a stall at the next Monthly meeting in the Grange on Thursday 4th April.

Venue : The Bowling Club, Glebe Lane, off Cropwell Road.

Mondays : May 6, 13, 20 & 27 & June 3rd £3.00 per session. All Sessions commence at 2pm till 4pm

These informal sessions will allow you to have a go at this fascinating game. The bowling club will supply bowls and tuition. Outdoor bowling can help to improve your general health, give your muscles and joints some good exercise and loosen up ligaments and tendons. It will exercise your mind, as you try & outwit your opponent. Bowling is a Sport for Life. Just try it! For some light exercise, lots of fresh air and loads of fun

Contact: **Maureen Harper** : 07881 740840 Email bowlsradcliffe@gmail.com

JIVE FOR FUN Group

On Wednesday 13th March we hired a live Rock and Roll band - The Capguns - to play for our session at the British Legion club. What a great band. We were delighted to welcome a group of jivers from Coventry. They were amazing to watch, with one man dancing with 3 women at once!! Our leaders have something to aspire to!! We had an introductory jive lesson at the start of the session where everyone joined in to learn the basic steps.



Some of our group have visited Oakleigh Lodge on Saturday afternoons and some are braving more adventurous venues such as Skegness! We look forward to hearing how that goes.

All are welcome to join our group. No partner needed. If you are interested please contact:

Chris 07880797593 Email: worthington690@btinternet.com
Margaret 07773426253 Email: kimpson1@virginmedia.com

News of the PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

This group is now so popular that they find they are running out of time each month to assess the photos which are produced by its members. Therefore, for the time being, anyone else who is interested in joining the group will be advised that there is currently a waiting list. If there is sufficient interest, then it may be possible to set up a second group, provided we have a volunteer to make the arrangements necessary to organise it. If any interested photographers would like to create a second group please have a word with me - **Jan Addiscott** Groups Co-ordinator at groups@rot.u3a.org.uk

AVIATION GROUP

The next meeting of the Aviation Group will be on Tuesday 2 April at 2pm in the Grange Hall. There is a £4 entrance charge – cash only please.

Our speaker will be Tim O'Brian, who will talk about:

The many ways of remembering RAF Newton.



Tim O'Brian is a renowned local artist, specialising in aviation paintings, and is also the author of books about RAF Newton and also RAF Syerston. Tim will talk about project which led to the unveiling the memorial statue and then rollback to talk about the history from 1940 to 2001

Once again, this promises to be a most interesting talk from Tim about our local airfield.

Adrian Cresswell. Group Leader.

Email : crela7@gmail.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

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

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

The price is £2.- including tea, coffee and biscuits

Listen and relax at our next meeting on Thursday 18th April

Group leader Michael Riggall

Contact at michael.riggall@ntlworld.com

Our Speaker for April

Dinah Wilcox and The Workhouse Storytellers will be telling tales of the workhouse and its inmates. They dress in authentic workhouse clothing and all the tales are based on authentic characters. Their aim is to give us a glimpse of life inside the workhouse and how it felt to have to go there. Many arrived as a last resort, starving, penniless cold and separated from their families.

Many of you will have visited Upton to view Southwell Workhouse, the first purpose built workhouse to a design by Rev R T Becher in 1824 and Dinah and her colleagues will bring it to life for us.



GEOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GROUP

Our next meeting, presented by Bob Addison at 2pm on Tuesday 9th April in the Trent Room, is entitled: **VOLCANIC ACTIVITY IN ICELAND, CAUSES AND EFFECTS**

Bob will be reviewing both the current and historic volcanic eruptions in Iceland and their relationship to the Mid Atlantic Ridge. The latter marks the separation of the American "Plate" from the Europe and Africa "Plate" to give rise to the Atlantic Ocean. The separation mechanism or Rifting process, as geologists call it, is seen in action currently in SW Iceland where linear cracks in the earth's crust are releasing molten rock as seen this month in TV videos.

Related volcanic activity some 60 million years ago gave rise to the Giant's causeway and Fingal's cave basalt columns.

Martin Clarke, Group leader, contact at - sumatraman947@gmail.com

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

To all our Group Leaders thank you for articles and contributions especially photos to keep members informed of what you do.

Please continue to send us your items, articles, photos or sketches to: radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com

Our next issue is our MAY Issue No 89

The deadline for articles please is

21st April, 2024

The editors assume we have your permission to quote e-mail addresses and telephone numbers unless you advise us not to. Please also let us know who took the photos you submit. Thanks

Rod & Patrick Co-Editors