



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 115245 DECEMBER 2024 — ISSUE 96

OUR u3a MEMBERS ONLY CHRISTMAS PARTY IS ON THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 2pm.

We have food, fizz, a quiz plus the ABBA tribute act “One of Us” and The Bridge Singers
Tickets £3 are still on sale from Pen2Paper. Please keep your tickets as they will qualify for a raffle at the end of the party.

Please note, DOORS WILL NOT OPEN BEFORE 2PM



FROM THE CHAIR



I was very proud to represent our u3a in the recent Remembrance Parade, and to lay our Wreath. It was good to see so many people in the village paying their own tribute, to the many that fought and died protecting our way of life.

I am also pleased to report that we have started a second Art Group that is being led by one of our newer members. John Parkinson had enquired about joining our original art group, but this was at its optimum number. This left John with the option of waiting until a space became available, or taking the route of starting an additional Art Group, which he has done. Mel Gregg our membership secretary sent out an Email to the membership and sufficient members expressed an interest to justify starting the second group. If you have any interest in joining this group please contact any member of the committee. This is what u3a is all about, sharing our knowledge freely with likeminded members, whilst making friendships along the way.

Your committee have been working very hard in arranging our Christmas Party in the Grange Hall on 5th December. We are hoping to improve on last year, which will be very difficult, as a great time was had by all, but a big effort has been made to do so.

On behalf of the committee, the editors and myself I take this opportunity of wishing all our members a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year and we look forward to enjoying the many opportunities that our u3a offers in 2025.

George Roberts

Mob : 07971 593 802 gjandm.roberts@gmail.com

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW u3a MEMBERS



Iris Wilmot, Bob Wilmot, Barbara White, Pat Graham, Jo Oliver, Hilary Mitchell,
Sarah Armstrong, Vincent Armstrong

Melanie Gregg - Membership Secretary

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

We meet usually on every 3rd Thursday in the month 10.30 - 12.30 at the Dowson Room The Grange. HOWEVER our December meeting will be on the SECOND Thursday ie. on the 12th. 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 .

Group leader **Michael Riggall**. Contact at michael.riggall@ntlworld.com

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Our meeting to discuss our October film; The Teacher, had the potential to rapidly descend into a very heated discussion on the horrific events in the Middle East. Fortunately the film set in the West Bank was written and nearly all in the can before the carnage by both sides unfolded in Gaza but opinions on the issues were still divided.

The powerful storyline followed the life of a teacher compromising his political principles to turn his Palestinian pupils away from confrontation and violence when confronted by injustice and aggression by the Israeli settlers. It was awarded top marks by the Group, as was the performance of Salah Nahri who played BESAM the teacher, but we were less impressed with the romantic angle provided by Imogen Poots, as the UN volunteer, Lisa. Her acting also suggested she herself wasn't overly comfortable with her presence in an otherwise excellent but stressful film.

In November we are hopefully in for another film appreciation treat. Cillian Murphy stars as a coalman who discovers disturbing goings on at one of the infamous Magdalene Laundries in 'Small Things Like These' based on a true Irish story.

David Richards. Group Leader. Contact at drichards68@ntlworld.com

AVIATION GROUP

We do not have a group meeting in December as we will be going out for our group Christmas Dinner on Tue 3 Dec to the Nottinghamshire Golf Club.

Our next speaker meeting will be on **Tuesday 7 Jan** at 2pm in the Trent Room at Grange Hall, when Robin Macey will talk to us about **Hot Air Ballooning**.

We have had 2 recent group events, with an excellent talk from one of our Group members, Dr Stan Darling, who talked about his interest over many years of British Military Squadron Markings.



The Group also had a super day out last month with a visit to the Midland Air Museum at Coventry Airport, preceded by a guided tour in the morning of the restoration of a WW2 C47 Dakota.

The aircraft christened "Night Fright" took part in all the Airborne missions in Europe during the war, dropping paratroopers, towing gliders, evacuating wounded and flying tons of much needed supplies to the front line.

Adrian Cresswell Group leader. Contact at crela7@gmail.com

TRIPS & OUTINGS – PLANS FOR 2025

By the time you read this it is likely that our Christmas Lunch at Morley Hayes GC will have sold out but you can still put your name down in case of any cancellations.

At our recent committee meeting we started to lay down plans for next year. With full details to be made available in January 2025, here are some ideas of what we have decided at this time.

In April we plan to visit Bletchley Hall, on Tuesday 15th. Bletchley is world famous for De-Coding the Germans Codes, including the less well known but as important 'Fish' changed to 'Tunny' at Bletchley and the more famous Enigma machine. They also developed Colossus, the first large-scale electronic computer, which went into operation in 1944. The cost is anticipated to be £36 pp incl. Coach and Entry to Bletchley Hall.

On Wednesday 14th May we will visit Bradford, as it celebrates being the City of Culture in 2025. We plan to visit the Science and Media Museum followed by either the Industrial or the Peace museum. Plans will be confirmed when we know what date the Science and Media Museum reopens in 2025, following a massive refurbishment. Anticipated cost will be £26 this will include a £10 Food Voucher

On Tuesday June 10th we will visit Cambridge on a Coach only basis, giving our members a freestyle visit. We will send, prior to the visit, via email comprehensive information on the attractions. One suggestion highly recommended is the Botanical Gardens a 15 minute walk from the town centre. Anticipated cost £18 pp

In July, we will once again consider visiting the Kilworth Outdoor Theatre, but are waiting for confirmation of the production they will be putting on, before we commit.

In September we will arrange a visit to Salford Quays and the Lowry Museum. We will also visit the BBC Studios, costings to follow nearer the time.

Sandra Straw Tel : **0115 9123141**

BRIDGE GROUP

The bridge group had a very successful weekend away at the Makeney Hotel in Derbyshire from the 11th to the 14th October. We are so grateful to Len and Di Jackson who arrange these yearly events for us. Twenty seven people went although, Unfortunately the twenty eighth member had to drop out at the last moment with illness. However Len arranged for members of local bridge groups to make up the numbers and we are most grateful to them for this help.

We played bridge every evening, with some playing bridge during the day, whilst others explored the local towns, countryside and walks. As usual we gathered in the bar after the bridge for drinks, stories and a good laugh.

Anyone who can play bridge is welcome to join us on a Monday afternoon in the Grange at 1.45 finishing at 4pm. If you don't have a partner don't worry we will find one for you.

Greg Bungay Group Leader

Contact on gjbungay@yahoo.co.uk or 07437411875

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The group has been very active recently. Taking shots of our latest monthly topic 'weather' proved to be more than the usual challenge, as conditions were consistently dull and overcast.

Also, we have been asked by the U3A editors to produce photographs of the recently renovated 'Manvers'.

In addition, we were approached by the Radcliffe-on-Trent Drama Group to take photographs at their dress rehearsal, for them to use in their publicity. Something very different for most of us.



All of these challenges keep us in touch with other local groups and give us chance to try new things.

Janet Groves

Group Leader

Contact at clandjg@outlook.com

GEOLOGY and ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GROUP.

Our last meeting, on 12th November, attended by 28 members, was a talk by Greg Chapman on the early days of Dinosaur fossil recognition and classification, much of which was carried out by British academics in the early 19th century at localities in England such as Dorset, the Isle of Wight and the Weald.

In the second half of the century, in the American Wild West, very large numbers of complete Dinosaur skeletons were found which led to fierce competition between different groups and some very dubious practices.

Later in his talk Greg spoke of the sudden extinction of most Dinosaur species probably resulting from a massive asteroid impact south of the Gulf of Mexico.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th December, starting at 2pm again in the Grange Hall Trent Room when we plan a discussion of the past years program, coupled with a informal quiz based on rock and mineral specimens and illustrations, One of which is included here - **do you know what the near vertical rock features are?**

As this event will be accompanied by seasonal wine, mince pies and coffee, It would be helpful to know how many might attend so please act accordingly!

Martin Clarke Group leader.

Contact at sumatraman947@gmail.com



General Groups News

- 1) **Walking Group**—the interest in this group was very strong initially and there was a good turnout. More discussion is needed to identify how often we will walk. And when.
- 2) **Art Group**—a second group is being started at the Royal Oak on 26th Nov between 10am and noon.
- 3) **Table Tennis**—because of low numbers attending at present it has been decided to cancel December and January meetings and recommence in February.

Enquires to **Jan Addiscott**—Groups Co-ordinator.

Contact at jan@addiscott.net

COFFEE MORNING

We hold a regular Coffee Morning on the last Wednesday of every month at the Royal Oak from 11.30am until 12.30pm.

All members and any potential new members are welcome.

If you are free please come and join us for a coffee and a chat. The tea and coffee is included FREE !

ADVANCE NOTICE

Radcliffe on Trent U3A Monthly Meeting Talks

The January meeting will be on 2nd January at Grange Hall Radcliffe on Trent. . The speaker will commence about 2.30 pm. The talk is entitled Abraham Lincoln's America. The speaker Michael Burton has a wide range of popular talks.

This is a close-up study of one of the most remarkable men in history and the dynamic and explosive world into which he was born. His warm personality was the key to controlling and sustaining that change, while at the same time mastering formidable challenges, in order substantially to shape not just his own country, but also the modern world.

Our January selection will coincide with the Inauguration of Donald Trump as the 47 th President of the USA on January 20 th .

We hope that the talk will set the scene for 2025 monthly meetings to continue to be a source of interesting and stimulating afternoons for our Members.

Chris Hopton—Speaker-finder.

Contact at christine.hopton@outlook.com

Note from Diane Williams

I have recently been told that the Soup Kitchen, which is held at The Methodist Church on the 1st Thursday of each month, is in danger of closing if more people are not encouraged to use it.

I wondered if it was possible to include this in the U3A Newsletter as it would be an ideal pre U3A meeting lunch.

It is held 1st Thursday of each month at 12.15 in The Methodist Church and consists of soup, roll and butter, cake and tea or coffee for £5 and as I say, it would make an ideal pre U3A meeting lunch, which I know a few people use it as.



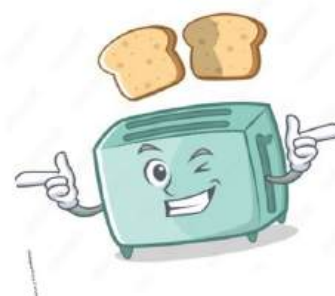
A small group of volunteers are planning to start a repair cafe in Radcliffe in 2025. We are now keen to find more volunteers to join our team including local people to do the repairs. If you think this is something you may be interested in and would like further information, please contact.



Carol White

07742434437

radclifferepair@gmail.com



PUB TRAIL GROUP

The pub trail group has had a very successful year with numbers steadily increasing to an average of 10 to 20 attending the monthly trails. These trails take place on the second Friday afternoon of the month and always include a meal in the first pub before moving on to sample more hostelrys.

Some highlights of 2024 include a brewery tour at Castle Rock brewery, visits to Beeston, Newark and Ruddington as well as a visit to the Green Dragon, Nottingham, to view their hidden Scalextric room!

We are a very sociable group and it is not a prerequisite that you are a beer drinker. The main aim is to socialise and have fun, with a little bit of learning about the history of the venues that we visit.

As I write we are looking forward to our Christmas meal at the Trent Navigation near Notts County's ground and we're already planning to visit some exciting venues next year.

To find out more on our website search Google for "Radcliffe-on-Trent u3a pub trail group".



Phil and Melanie Gregg, – Joint Group Leaders.

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 January '25 Issue No 97

The deadline for articles please is 15th DECEMBER, 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