



RADCLIFFE NEWS SHEET

Registered Charity No. 115245 JANUARY 2025—ISSUE 97

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

Next Meeting Thursday 2nd January 2025 Grange Hall, Radcliffe on Trent
Doors Open at 2pm - Meeting starts at 2-30pm Non Members welcome.
£2 incl. Coffee & Biscuits

OUR JANUARY 2nd SPEAKER IS MIKE BURTON A FORMER JOURNALIST AND TEACHER



AND HIS TALK IS ENTITLED “ABRAHAM LINCOLN’S AMERICA”

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.

Are you new to the area or have spare time on your hands? Then why not use it in a fulfilling way, whilst making new friends Then why not consider joining the u3a (University of the Third Age) in Radcliffe on Trent

Membership is open to all not in full-time employment and offers many very different possibilities to enhance your time.

With over 600 members and 50 Group's as differing as Geology, Gardening, Knit & Natter, Wine Appreciation, Bridge, Trips & Outings, Scrabble and Friendship Groups & many more to ensure you can find something that interests you.

To join come along to any of our monthly u3a Members Meetings on the first Thursday each month.

A WARM WELCOME TO THIS MONTHS NEW u3a MEMBER

Brian Oliver

Melanie Gregg - Membership Secretary

FROM THE CHAIR

2024 has been a good year for our u3a, we have started new Walking, Art & Table Tennis groups, ensuring we stay a vibrant organisation. We have also been fortunate to enrol two new committee members in Christine Hopton, who has taken on the role of Speaker Finder. Brian Wildman also joined the committee as Assistant Treasurer and has been shadowing Malcolm McDowell for the past few months, in preparation to take over as Treasurer, as at the AGM Malcolm will complete his 3 year stint. This will be subject to ratification by our members at the AGM.

As Chair I have been delighted that Christine and Brian have put themselves forward to join the committee, as I have heard someone else say they were told 'never to join a committee'. Of course if no one put themselves forward there would be no organisations such as ours and the many others who all rely on volunteers to survive. This is very relevant now as we are only 2 months from our AGM on Thursday 6th March, so I urge all members to consider whether they can bring their experience and expertise to the committee.

I have on many occasions complimented our Group Leaders for organising interesting meetings where they share their time, knowledge and joy for their subjects with our members. We also have our Tea Ladies, led by Mary Smith, Marion Caunt, Heather Flynn & Dawn Houlton, at our Monthly Meetings. They turn up early to prepare the Tea and Coffee, not forgetting the biscuits and then have to clean the crockery, before joining the meeting. We are also indebted to Clive and Lynn Holland along with Richard Caunt who prepare the Sound and Visual equipment for our speakers. Malcolm & Lesley Sorrel put together a most interesting Quiz at the Christmas Party and your committee appreciated their support. As Chair I thank all these members who support your committee without whom our u3a would be the poorer.

This leaves me on behalf of your committee, to wish all our members a Happy & Healthy 2025 and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the year.



George Roberts Tel : 07971593802 gjandm.roberts@gmail.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

We meet usually on 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 £2.50 including tea, coffee and biscuits. Listen and relax at our next meeting on 16th January.

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

FILM APPRECIATION GROUP

Our October meeting unpacked 'Small Things Like These'; a chilling drama of abuse in the Catholic Magdalene Laundries in Ireland and public complicity, starring Cillian Murphy. The plot? Well, there's this Irish coalman in a depressed town who doesn't speak much but has a lot of kids and spends a long time washing his hands and one day he finds a young woman asleep locked in a convent coal shed and the dodgy Mother Superior says there there pet to the lass, go and have some warm snap, while giving the coalman the bad eye but also some money in an envelope for his wife who says you're too soft; Bill, who then finds the young woman in the coal shed again and this time brings her home leaving her in the hall while he washes his hands as the film finishes. Simple?

Apparently not some of us didn't understand what was going on.... but seriously the majority thought it was one of the most moving films we've seen in a long time with Cillian Murphy and Emily Watson possible contenders for Oscars. Don't miss it when it comes round again. We wish all of you a happy and healthy New Year.'

Group Leader. *David Richards* Contact dprbrill10@gmail.com

TRIPS & OUTINGS – PLANS FOR 2025

We will be selling tickets at the Monthly Meeting on the 2 nd January

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.

(RECENT AMMENDMENTS AND MORE DETAILS & PHOTO'S ON -LINE PAGES 6 , 7 and 8 –Ed.)

Sandra Straw Tel : 0115 9123141

Group of the Month – ART GROUP

Our group meets fortnightly on Wednesdays between 10 & 12 noon, in the Dowson Room, in the Grange. The group is open to all abilities and genre and our members share their experience with each other and offer help and advice if needed. Normally a theme is chosen for the group to attempt making an interesting comparison between the various styles. Being a friendly group we enjoy chatting as we work, giving members an opportunity to discuss art and life in general.

Contact; *Rosie Dennett* Email: rosie.dennett@hotmail.co.uk

KNIT & NATTER GROUP

Circumstances have prevented us from meeting up in recent weeks, but please keep knitting ladies! Hats, scarves and gloves will be needed by the Friary for the Winter storms. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th January at 2pm.

Con tact *Jan Addiscott* Email : jan@addiscott.net

The u3a Table Flower Decorators for the u3a Christmas Party want to thank Kevin at Fruticious in the village for his generous help in supplying the cut flowers used in the table decorations.

GROUPS NEWS

TABLE TENNIS GROUP : this group will recommence in February. Details to be advised nearer the time.

WALKING GROUP : this is now established, courtesy of **Arnold Cade**. It is proposed that walks will be held on the 1st Wednesday +/- 3rd Tuesday of each month. As far as possible we will utilise public transport. I will lead the first few walks: after that I will be looking to group members to contribute their own choice of routes. The group size will be limited to 16.

The eagle eyed amongst us will spy that New Years Day falls on the first Wednesday of January, in which case the walk will be on Wednesday 8th January 2025. The group size will be limited to 16.

Contact *Arnold Cade* Telephone **0115 8376803** if you wish to join the walk.

Please note that my landline does not accept text/SMS messages.

ART GROUP 2 : The group is to be run as a painting and mutual interest group Meetings are held, courtesy of the management at the Royal Oak, on Tuesday mornings from 10 - 12 noon. The only stipulated cost is that you purchase a tea, coffee or soft drink whilst using the facilities offered. if the members are prepared to share the cost, I would like to invite an occasional speaker or artist and perhaps organise occasional trips out to galleries.

For more information, please contact *John Parkinson* Telephone **07752 492952**.

TO ALL READERS OF THIS U3A NEWSHEET

IN APRIL THIS YEAR WE WILL BE PUBLISHING OUR

100th EDITION

OF THIS U3A NEWSHEET.

TO MARK THIS SPECIAL OCCASION U3A MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT ARTICLES OR/AND PHOTOGRAPHS RECALLING MEMORABLE EVENTS AND OCCASIONS THAT HAVE HAPPENED OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS IN OUR ORGANISATION.

SEND YOUR ARTICLES TO **radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com**

MANY THANKS

u3a COFFEE MORNINGS

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 !**

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 FEBRUARY 2025 Issue No 98

The deadline for articles please is 20th JANUARY, 2025

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

JIVING FOR FUN GROUP



Our usual Wednesday afternoon sessions at the British Legion Club

We closed 2024 with 30 of us meeting up for a lovely meal at Radcliffe Golf Club . After our meal we enjoyed dancing into the afternoon and working off some of the christmas pudding!
The final Wednesday session of the year was our own Christmas social event – a shared table and some freestyle jiving. We have had a busy year with group members going to different music events including some going to the Tower Ballroom in Blackpool! We look forward to 2025 where we are hoping to extend our repertoire of moves and put them into practice on the dance floor. We are planning some exciting visits to see more live bands and are lucky in the fact that several of them feature on our doorstep at the Royal British Legion Club.

Here is to another year of great jive dancing and great music.

We restart our Wednesday afternoon sessions on Wednesday 8th January at 3pm in the British Legion Club. If you are interested in joining our group (no partner or previous experience necessary) and would like to find out more then please contact:-

Margaret

Mob **07773426253** Email **kimpson1@virginmedia.com**

Sue

Mob **07954586735** Email **suemford@hotmail.co.uk**

SOUP LUNCH

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 which I know a few u3a members use.

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.

Diane Williams

Trips & Outings 2025

We will be selling tickets at the Monthly Meeting on the 2nd January

Bletchley Park – Tuesday 15th April 2025 - £38 pp including coach and entrance

Our first trip for 2025 will be to Bletchley Park, the home of England's Codebreakers and probably the best kept secret of the World War 2. Without doubt some of their most important findings saved many lives and shortened the length of the war. Within Bletchley Park there was brought together some of the most intelligent and original minds in England, who were able to decipher the most complex German codes. This ensured we were in many cases able to anticipate the German plans. The most well known action was to break the Enigma machine codes that the Germans thought was impossible, and you will be able to see a captured Enigma. There are Interactive displays, Immersive films, Museum collections and Colossus the world's first large-scale electronic digital computer, so plenty for you to fill your time during the visit.

There is a selection of Hot & Cold eating opportunities or you can bring a picnic with you.

Bletchley Park



Enigma Code Machine Keyboard



Kilworth Outdoor Theatre Wednesday 13th August 2025 £58-00 pp



We will also be offering tickets for Kilworth Outdoor Theatre's production of Grease, a show that will take most of us back to our youth. The film of Grease was an enormous success, with great songs, music and dancing and it has transferred easily to the stage. Kilworth are renowned for the quality of their productions, which was confirmed after last year's visit for Singing in the Rain, so we highly recommend it and if you have not visited Kilworth. If you have not visited Kilworth it should be on your bucket list, as it is a magical experience from any other theatre in the UK. We will visit Palmers Garden Centre en-route for some shopping or a Coffee & Cake.

Bradford City of Culture 2025 - Wednesday 14th May

Other plans include a visit to Bradford our 'City of Culture 2025' on Wednesday 14th May, with a visit to the Science and Media Museum. This museum has been fully refurbished for Bradford's City of Culture in 2025 with many new exhibitions on offer.

The National Science and Media Museum, is in the heart of Bradford, it explores the science and culture of light and sound technologies and their impact on our lives. With the aim of inspiring the scientists and innovators of the future, it invites visitors to see more, hear more, think more and do more.

Its galleries and exhibition spaces help illuminate world-famous collections in photography, film and television. Explainers create learning activities that fuel the imagination and investigate the collections and exhibitions. Three cinema screens—including an IMAX theatre—showcase the magic of moving images from around the world in Bradford, the first UNESCO City of Film.

Don't Miss: The interactive gallery Wonderlab which explores the science of light, sound and perception through state-of-the-art, hands-on activities and breath-taking shows.



David Hockney Film & Photography



The Science & Media Building



TV & the Media

The visit will allow some time to explore central Bradford, a short walk from the museum. Bradford has many interesting and historic buildings to admire and many options to have lunch and a drink. More information will be available nearer the departure

Cambridge & it's Botanical Gardens

Tuesday 10th June

This will be a Freestyle Visit with the option of including a visit to the world famous Cambridge University Botanical Gardens. Cambridge is a city on the River Cam, in eastern England, home to the prestigious University of Cambridge, dating to 1209. University colleges include King's, famed for its choir and towering Gothic chapel, as well as Trinity, founded by Henry VIII, and St John's, with its 16th-century Great Gate. University museums have exhibits on archaeology and anthropology, polar exploration, the history of science and zoology. The Fitzwilliam Museum is home to an impressive collection of historic art. The Botanical Gardens is a short 10/15 minute walk from the town centre and the coach will drop us of there, on arrival in Cambridge..

Fitzwilliam Museum



Cambridge Botanical Gardens



Kings College



Anticipated cost £18 TBC

Additional cost for the Botanical Gardens £8-50

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To book tickets contact

George Roberts 07971 593 802 or Sandra Straw 0115 912 3141

Future plans include a visit to Salford Quays & Media City

**U3a TRIPS & OUTINGS GROUP VISIT DENBY POTTERY CENTRE & MORLEY HAYES GOLF CLUB IN DERBYSHIRE FOR AN EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS LUNCH ON TUESDAY 10th DECEMBER.**



## RADCLIFFE ON TRENT u3a MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings (usually first Thursday at 2pm ) held at the Grange Hall provide opportunity to meet other members, find out more about group activities and have a tea/coffee and biscuits before a talk from an invited speaker (usually just over an hour).

The speakers come with a positive track record from speaking to similar groups and topics cover a broad spectrum selected to be interesting, informative and where possible some relevance to Radcliffe, wider Nottinghamshire and issues impacting on our communities. Here's a 'heads up' of the year ahead so far.

**January 2nd** - Michael Burton-an historian and teacher- Abraham Lincoln's America. 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.  
(Food for thought as we await the inauguration of Donald Trump!)

**February 6th** Kevin Powell-local history specialist given talks before to us. Shakespeare St Nottingham. From Muddy Track to a Seat of Learning.

**March 6th** - the AGM and then Pat Hall to lighten the mood. Observational Comedy and poems and an ability to see the funny side of life.

**April 3rd** - Bharat Patel Radio and TV reporter. Indian Takeaway. One boy's take on three continents.

**May 8th** - Anna Herbert. Heritage Interpretation and Visitor Experience Manager St Mary Magdalene Church Newark - Re awakening St Mary Magdalene The National Lottery Heritage Funded restoration project.  
(not quite Notre Dame scale but important as the 12th Century Church is restored for future generations)

**Have a good year and support your U3A.**

*Christine Hopton.* Speakerfinder and Publicity Officer.

## FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP

Members of the group having lunch and supporting the recently re-opened and re-furbished Manvers Arms in the village

