



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Web Address:-
www.heartofenglandu3a.btck.co.uk

Heart of England

Newsletter Deputy Editor: sandy.j.stewart@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary: Sue Tringham, 2 Guild Cottages, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HD
Telephone: 01789 204 295. Email: suetring@tesco.net

July 2016 Newsletter

TODAY'S MEETING

Today the speaker is Andrew Lound. His topic is 'When the lights went out Birmingham goes to war'

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER

Our speaker for August will be Graham Sutherland. His talk is entitled "More Tales Of Extraordinary People"

CHAIRMAN'S JULY JOTTINGS

Geoff Bridgewater

Hello everyone and a very warm welcome to our July monthly meeting.

After the terrible car accident to Edwin and Elaine Lilly, reported last month, I am pleased to be able to tell you that Edwin is now making very good progress and, by the time that you read this, should be out of hospital and recuperating at home. I'm sure you will all join me in sending Edwin our very best wishes for a full recovery.

We held our annual new members welcome meeting last month and 26 new members attended. It was our opportunity to 'informally' tell them about the aims and history of the national U3A movement, introduce them to our own committee and for us to find out a little about them, over a cuppa and a bickie! This year's guests had a wide range of interests, including icon painting, French boules (petanque) and music, whether singing, playing or listening. I was delighted to hear that several are already enthusiastic members of one or more of our 33 interest groups, enjoying the 'fun and friendship' of the Heart of England U3A. Wonderful!

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY – New Group

Geoff Bridgewater

In addition to modern compact digital cameras, with the increasing popularity of using mobile phones and tablets, such as the iPad, to take really good photographs, I am considering the start-up of this new group to help stimulate your creative juices, and to view, edit and store your best efforts, all in a friendly group environment.

It will initially be limited to 12 people, so please let me know if you are interested.

OUTING

HUGHENDEN 12 JULY 2106

On 12 July we will go to Hughenden near High Wyckham. This a National Trust property and was Disraeli's country house. We will leave Henley at 9.00 and the leisure centre at 9.30. The cost is £18.50 if you are a National Trust Member and £27.50 if you are not a member. All the places have been taken but I need the money in now as I have to pay for the coach and the house before we get there.

COURSES ON-LINE-FROM NATIONAL OFFICE

Robyn Nicoll



There is a vast list of courses available which may be found on the National U3A Web site. For a detailed list, you will need to access the Members' Area by creating a user name and password. **National Web site:** www.u3a.org.uk

The Australia U3A offer a large selection of topics which may be studied individually or in a small group as we have done previously but with an annual charge to sign up. (For an individual - \$25; For an Organisation - \$15.)

The topics include: World Affairs and History - 10 courses; Nature - 5 courses; Writing and Creativity - 12 courses; Livestyle - 11 courses; Science - 11 courses. (See the notice board for a detailed list)

NB The original free Untutored Courses have been downloaded and saved so are available to members as before. A list of these courses may be found on the notice board. These courses may be forwarded to members via e-mail or transferred to a memory device. These courses are ideal for a small group to study together.

Courses studied so far: Garden History, Art History, and China History Ancient and Modern. The Russian History Course has recently been complete and a second Garden History Course has been arranged.

For more details about courses, please contact Robyn (redbird22@hotmail.co.uk)

[NB: Do look at the National Web site to see all the opportunities and information available to U3A members.]

THE CHINA DISCUSSION GROUP

Robyn Nicoll

We looked forward to meeting Hu, a Chinese student studying at the Shakespeare Institute until September. He spent our June get-together telling us about the research of the Visitor's book at the Birthplace which he has been doing. **Next meeting: Date and topic to be arranged.**

Our get-togethers are informal and varied consisting of a short language/practical session led by Patricia Wy, followed by discussion of the chosen topic often accompanied by a photo presentation and concluding with "what the papers say". If you would like to join us, please contact Robyn.

More information from Robyn Nicoll. redbird22@hotmail.co.uk or

David Ralph. david@ralphhome.com

ALL SWING & JAZZ GROUP

Brian Bradley



The May programme was devised by Geoff. Harrison and was entitled 'The Blues'. In it we listened to a broad spectrum of Jazz Blues such as *Tailspin Blues* by Jack Teagarden, *Saint Louis Blues (March)* and *Rhapsody in Blue* by Glenn Miller, and *West End Blues* and *St. Louis Blues* by Louis Armstrong. Also included were many other well known Jazz greats such as Humphrey Littleton, Sidney Bechet, Preservation Hall Jazz, Wild Bill Davidson and Miles Davis, with vocal greats such as Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald. Thank you Geoff.

ART APPRECIATION

Sylvia Kentish / Pam Collins



For our June meeting we are expecting to go the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery to see an exhibition called *Turning to See: from Van Dyck to Lucien Freud*. In July we're planning to go to the Court Barn Museum in Chipping Campden.

BRIDGE GROUP

John Yoemans



We play in a relaxed atmosphere and are always keen to welcome new members with some experience of the game. If you would like to "try us out" please come as a guest so that you can decide if you would like to join the Group. We meet every Tuesday afternoon for a two and a half hour session starting at 2.00 pm in the Methodist Hall Side Room 1, next to the kitchen.

CARD MAKING GROUP

Carolyn Leach



No copy for the newsletter this month.

CHINWAGS

Belinda Sylvestor



We are still at Le Bistro Pierre where good food, chat and laughter are on the menu.

THE CHOIR

Dorothy Jones



We are looking forward to our Choir Social Evening at Briarcroft. We have a delicious buffet supper and then individual members of the choir entertain us.

"THE CHOIR'S GOT TALENT"!

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Aline Cumming



We cancelled May as no-one could make it. We meet again third Monday 20 June for another selection from Valma Rose's gift. Some Beethoven and Bach this time.

COMPUTER GROUP

Robyn Nicoll

The course of 5 sessions at the Parish Centre is almost finished.



This course is covering topics for **tablets and laptops** and is offering help to members who wish to upgrade their computers to the free Windows10 operating system.(free until 23rd July)

The course concludes on Wednesday, 13th July.

We aim to resume after the summer break - dates to be decided. If interested in joining for a short course, please sign the sheet on the notice board table.

More experienced members give their time to help the "students" and this has been greatly appreciated. If you are able to offer some time and expertise for the next course *please let Robyn know. redbird22@hotmail.co.uk*

CREATIVE CRAFTS GROUP

Robyn Nicoll for Tricia Callaghan



No copy for the newsletter this month.

DINAHS

Sylvia Crooks



We last dined at the Red Lion on the 7th June. After lots of chat we managed to order our meal!! We did try to put the world to right with Brexit. We all seem to feel we are swayed backwards and forwards with all the information in the media. There was time for a mention for the change of bus timetable changes. Losing the bus to Warwick Hospital seems to be crazy!! Midsummer Nights Dream and the RST. Also the closing of BHS, a thought : maybe Primark will arrive in Stratford!!. We meet again on Tuesday the 5th July at the Red Lion at 12.15pm

DISCUSSION GROUP

Athena Roderick



We reviewed our intentions about voting in the Referendum. We still mostly feel uncertain about what the future holds, but perhaps, safer in than out. We all felt that we would be happier if there wasn't so much bureaucracy coming from Brussels & immigration is a big concern. We very much hoped that we make the right decision, so that UK stays united & also for future generations. Only time will tell.

FILM GROUP

Mary Fishleigh



The newsletter went to the printer too early for copy this month.

GAMES GROUP—SCRABBLE, DOMINOES AND CARDS

Sue Tringham



We will NOT be playing our games in July and August but will resume in September. Thank you for all the support and look forward to starting again in September.

GARDEN APPRECIATION GROUP

Jayne Jones



Our July outing is on Tuesday 12th to Snowhill Lavender Farm, near Broadway. If anyone is interested in coming along then please email me at jaynejones303@gmail.com. For further information regarding 2016 outings check out our programme on the Chairman's notice board.

GRUMPY OLD MEN GROUP

Graham Mitchell



No report this month as June meeting took place after deadline for submission of reports.

NEXT MEETING - WED. JULY 20th Venue - Le Bistrot Pierre. Subject - To be advised

HISTORY GROUP

Jean Hicks



At our June meeting we watched the second episode of Michael Wood's four part documentary on the life of William Shakespeare. This episode covers his lost years when for all intents after leaving Stratford he disappears from the public record reappearing a decade later in London. Theories abound and probably always will do, but Michael Wood eloquently gives his view.

Next meeting: Monday 11th July - Michael Ledgard on experiences as a Guide at Snows Hill and Halls Croft

We do not meet in August. On Monday September 12th our speaker is Richard Pearson (archivist at KES) his talk on the Boys of KES during 2 World Wars.

KEEP FIT GROUP



The Keep Fit Class is now full to capacity. We have a new instructor who keeps us active and we all think we feel much better for our efforts. A waiting list has now been started if anyone is interested. Please phone Mary Palmer on 204707.

PAINTING/DRAWING GROUP

Dorothy Jones



We have decided to have a Summer break during July & August and will resume Monday 5th September. Hopefully everyone will be busy sketching and painting whilst on holiday. If you wish to join us in September you will be most welcome.

PILATES GROUP - MONDAY

Weekly at St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Shottery, 12:15 to 1:15. For more information call Gill Ganner on 269657.

PILATES GROUP - WEDNESDAY

Weekly at St Andrew's Parish Centre, Shottery, 10.15 to 11.15 . For more information call Sue Workman on 297061.

PLAY READING GROUP

Sylvia Crooks



We meet at Sylvia's Thursday 21st July at 10. 30am.

READING GROUP – MONDAY

Phyllis Bailey



Monday reading group. As you know we do not meet until the 3rd Monday..our book is unusually ..sort of crime fiction! I am not impressed but keep plowing on. The group's response next time!!

READING GROUP—WEDNESDAY

Dorothy Jones



This month we are reading *THE BOY I LOVE* BY Lynda Bellingham. The critics say, "Lynda captivates with a story of heartbreak and betrayal. It will be interesting to hear the comments from our group!

READING GROUP - FRIDAY

Coral Bradley

No copy for the newsletter this month.

ROCK AND ROLL GROUP

Coral Bradley



No copy for the newsletter this month.

SCIENCE, NATURE & 'ALL THINGS' TECHNICAL GROUP

Geoff Bridgewater



Following the most interesting talk at our January general monthly meeting, over twenty of us SNATTs 'petrol heads', including many ladies, were inspired to visit the newly renamed, refurbished and greatly enlarged British Motor Museum at Gaydon. We were taken by an enthusiastic guide around the World's largest collection of historic British cars from over many decades, including examples from the very earliest days of motoring when a man with a red flag had to walk in front of his master's car! Most of the beautifully restored vehicles on display, and with well known names from the past, were from manufacturers based in the Midlands, sadly no longer around - Austin, Morris, MG, Standard, Triumph, Humber, Riley, Singer, the list goes on. Even those familiar current names such as Jaguar, Land Rover, Rover, Aston Martin, Bentley, and Mini, are now owned by 'Johnnie-foreigners'! Successive governments over many years just let it happen. After lunch, a visit to the new restoration workshop, manned again by volunteers, concluded a fascinating day out.

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

Brian Bradley



The July lunch will be on Sunday 3rd. July 2016 at the Henley Golf Club. On the 7th. August 2016 we will be at the Stratford Golf Club. Names please to Brian Bradley, Tel: 01789 488551.; email: brianbradley@uwclub.net.

SYMPHONY HALL CONCERTS

Dorothy Jones



We have enjoyed three super concerts during the 2015/16 season.

I will be booking from the 2016/17 programme soon.
Details in the next newsletter.

THEATRE GROUP.

Coral Bradley



On 9 July we will go to Malvern to see HMS Pinafore. All the tickets have been sold but there is still some money outstanding. We will leave Henley at 12.00 and the leisure centre at 12.30.

On 20 August we will go to Malvern again, this time to see Present Laughter, a Noel Coward play with Sam West in the title role. The cost of this trip is £32.00. Support and look forward to starting again in September.

WALKING GROUP

Valery Redfern



Details about the July walk will be announced at the July meeting.

WHAT'S ON – MONTHLY MEETINGS AT STRATFORD, SHOTTERY, DENE VALLEY AND ALCESTER U3AS.

Stratford	-	27th July	- "Sudely Castle and the Tudors"	-Derek Maddock
Shottery	-	2nd August	- "Staying Sharp (Memory & Music)"	Maggie Cotton
Dene Valley	-	12th July	- "Riding for the Disabled"	- Ed Bracher
Alcester	-	2nd August	- "I Just made the Tea— an insiders view of formula 1"	- Diana Spiers

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>GROUP LEADER</u>	<u>USUAL MEETING DAY (MONTHLY)</u>
All That Swing & Jazz	Brian Bradley	4th Thursday 2.00—4.00pm
AmDram & Supper	Geoff Bridgewater	As Announced
Art Appreciation	Sylvia Kentish Pam Collins	3rd Friday 2.00pm
Bridge	John Yeomans	Every Tuesday 2.00pm
Card Making	Carolyn Leach	As Announced
China Discussion Group	Robyn Nicoll	See Newsletter
Chinwags Lunch	Belinda Sylvestor	4th Monday 12.00 noon
Choir	Ruth Grahame Dorothy Jones	Every Friday 10.30—12.00 noon
Classical Music	Aline Cumming	3rd Monday 2.00pm
Creative Crafts	Tricia Callaghan	3rd Thursday 2.00—4.00pm
Computers	Robyn Nicoll	2nd & 4th Wednesday 2.30—4.00pm
Dinahs Luncheon	Sylvia Crooks	1st Tuesday for lunch
Discussion	Athena Roderick	2nd Wednesday
Film Group	Mary Fishleigh Mavis Pickett	2nd Tuesday 2.00pm
Games –Scrabble, Dominoes and Cards	Sue Tringham	1st & 3rd Monday 2.00—4.00pm
Garden Appreciation Group	Jayne Jones Suzy Genge	2nd Tuesday
Grumpy Old Men	Graham Mitchell	3rd Wednesday for lunch
History	David Dumper	2nd Monday 2.00pm
Keep Fit	Mary Palmer	Every Thursday 10.00am
Painting/Drawing	Dorothy Jones	As Announced
Pilates - Monday	Gill Ganner	Every Monday 12.15—1.15pm
Pilates - Wednesday	Sue Workman	Every Wednesday 10.15—11.15am
Play Reading	Sylvia Crooks	See Newsletter for dates
Poetry Reading	Jennifer Davey	2nd Wednesday 10.00—12.00noon
Reading - Monday	Phyllis Bailey	3rd Monday 2.30—4.30pm
Reading - Wednesday	Dorothy Jones	3rd Wednesday 2.30pm
Reading - Friday	Coral Bradley	As Appropriate
Rock & Roll Music	Coral Bradley	2nd Thursday 2.00—4.00pm
Science, Nature & All Things Technical	Geoff Bridgewater	2nd Friday 2.00—4.00pm
Sunday Lunch	Brian Bradley	As Appropriate
Symphony Hall Visits	Dorothy Jones	As Appropriate
Theatre Visits & Outings	Coral Bradley	As Appropriate
Walking	Valerie Redfern	2nd Wednesday 10.00am

HEART OF ENGLAND U3A ROTA FOR AFTERNOON TEAS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
July 2016	Grumpy Old Men	October 2016	Walking Group
August 2016	Reading Groups	November 2016	Card Making Group
September 2016	Rock & Roll Group	December 2016	Dinah's Lunch