



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 98

ON LINE VERSION

April 2009

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Spring is here at last. This is the time of year when we can take advantage of the short opening of the private gardens at Burghley House. This is quite a delightful walk since the daffodils are out in all their glory. The entrance is from the Orangery Restaurant. At the entrance is an Honesty Box where you are invited to make a donation to Peterborough Down's Syndrome Association. I am leading a Strollers' wander through there on Good Friday. If you are new to the area, this is a very pleasant experience that you should not miss.

I was very pleased to be thanked by Pauline Wakefield for all your donations to her appeal for wool. She is delighted with the response she has had from our members. Thanks to everyone who has helped with this. I was also gratified to hear that Peter Herrick has had such a good response to his offer of a "Taster Session" at the Bowls Club.

The new members' meeting was very successful with over 40 new members attending. Many people said how helpful they had found it. Thank you to all the Group Leaders who came and helped to make the morning such a success.

We have several "extra" pieces of information in the Newsletter this month. Two have come from members. One is advising us about the need to renew your European health insurance cards and the other is warning us about a change in the credentials of gas fitters. Both are very useful and I am very pleased to see this sort of contribution that is helpful to all of us. The other change that is in the air is the limits to the use of our Bus Passes. I don't think that this is going to affect

our short distance trips but please keep me posted about any changes that might curtail our Bus Pass use.

I do apologise about having to send letters to all Group Leaders about handling finances in Groups. We have had quite a lot of correspondence about this from Head Office and I just wanted to make sure that everyone knew exactly what they should be doing about finances. I realise that many groups do not have to handle money at all but it seemed to be the most sensible way to contact everyone instead of second guessing for whom the information was relevant.

I am also delighted that we have had three people volunteer to come on the Committee for the next year. As you know the May meeting is the Annual General Meeting and we will try to get the boring part over and done with as quickly as possible and then we will be entertained by the Drama Group with one of their original productions. It must be the only AGM that I look forward to since I know I am going to enjoy myself.

We are always looking for new group leaders. Please get in touch with Chris or me if you think you would like to take a group. And we are still after about two years still trying to find a Theatre Group leader. This was a much supported group that brought a lot of pleasure to many people and I would really like to see it started up again.

A Happy Easter to you all and let's hope the weather is kind to us in April. All the best,

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

t: 01780 756316 e: h@StamfordU3A.co.uk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hendy Farquhar-Smith	Chairman
Paddy Thompson	Deputy Chairman
Percy Moss	Treasurer
Sue Webster	Minutes Secretary
Chris Rippington	Group coordinator
Jim Guthrie	Membership Secretary
Howard Jones	Speaker Finder
Sheila Halliday-Pegg	

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

April 6th Tales of a Wimbledon Umpire
Alan Grey

May 11th AGM

Monthly meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at Barn Hill, except for Bank Holidays. Coffee at 10 am - the meeting will start at 10.30 am.

Registered Charity Number: 1077090

May Issue deadline 27 April

To become a member and for subscriptions please contact Jim Guthrie:

t: 01780 752755 e: Jim@StamfordU3A.co.uk

Please send comments and contributions to the Editor: Hendy Farquhar-Smith

t: 01780 756316

e: h@StamfordU3A.co.uk

PARCELS FOR THE TROOPS

The British Legion are continuing with their Parcels for the Troops programme. As you know, you don't have to make up the parcel yourself - the British Legion will do that for you.

The sort of things that are most appreciated are Bic Razors, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, wipes, sweets, crisps – especially Pringles because of the packaging, crossword books, notebooks, pens etc. Please do not send any liquids or chocolate.

Please bring the items to the next meeting or get in touch with the British Legion direct.

LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting on Tuesday 14th April is the last of the indoor talks until October. The subject is

'The History of Rutland Water' by Lloyd Park.

This will be the last opportunity to sign up for the summer visits. We meet at 10 am for a 10.30 am start at Barn Hill. Everyone welcome.

Christine Bearne

GERMAN CONVERSATION

This group will meet for the first time in April. We have decided that the 3rd Tuesday of the month will be best so the first meeting will be on 21st April at 2.30 pm.

If anyone else is interested in joining this group please contact

Shirley Draheim-Jackson

Visit your websites

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

www.SU3ANews.co.uk

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

The Home Library Service provides books for housebound people. If you know of anyone you think would benefit from this service please get in touch with Hendy on 756316

ART HISTORY

There will be no meetings of the Art History Group in April.

The next meeting will be on the 13th of May when the subject will be the Picasso Exhibition at the National Gallery. For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

WOOL WANTED

Thank you very much for helping with this appeal in September. The ladies of Stamford Inner Wheel are still in need of wool for making blankets for charity. If you have any oddments of double knitting wool please contact Pauline Wakefield. She will collect the wool from you if you wish.

KENNY BALL AND HIS JAZZMEN



Corn Exchange Theatre - Stamford 7.30 pm Thursday, 14th May 2009

Tickets £15 Concessions £13

Box Office: Arts Centre 01780 763203
Corn Exchange 01780 766455



*Presented by Stamford Rotary Club
to help eradicate Polio worldwide*

CHURCH VISITING

The next meeting of this group will be on Friday, April 24th at St John's Church, Cathedral Square, Peterborough at 11.30 am.

We suggest that you take the 10 am bus from Stamford. The full summer programme of visits will be in the May Newsletter. For more information contact

Mavis Sharp and Elaine Ward

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

The next meeting will be held on Monday 27th April at Ryhall Village Hall at 2 pm. There will be a speaker from the Evergreen Trust talking about Care in the Community. She could well be looking for volunteers to assist the Trust. Everyone welcome. For more information contact

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next meetings will be held on 6th and 22nd of April and 6th and 20th of May in the upper room at Barn Hill at 11 am.

New members always welcome. For more information contact

Graham Creedy

BALLROOM DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be held on Wednesday, 22nd of April from 3 pm – 4.30 pm at the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street. Everyone welcome. No need to have a partner.

Meg Atkins Moss

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The next meeting of this Group will be at Barn Hill on Thursday, 9th April from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. All are very welcome.

Rita Wood

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of this group will be at 2.30 pm in Priory Court on April 8th when they will discuss the topic, **“How the group members are coping with the economic climate.”**

This will involve all the members and will be led by a group member. New members are always welcome but please contact Betty Meadows or George Birchif you wish to attend.

TRAVEL GROUP

Places are still available on the trip to Annecy in the French Alps. The holiday is for seven days beginning on 12th May 2009.

The Autumn holiday this year will be to Vienna leaving on 19th September for 6 days. City and country tours are included as well as a day trip to Bratislava.

Booking forms will be available at the meeting, for more details contact

Dick Colgrove .

HARROGATE FLOWER SHOW

Places are still available for this trip on Thursday 23rd April. Pick up Bus Station 8.15 am, Danish Invader 8.20 am. Price £27. Please pay at the April meeting.

Sandy Ellis

BOWLS – TASTER SESSION

In view of the interest expressed by U3A members, Stamford Indoor Bowls Club is offering a taster session at their Exeter Gardens premises. It will take place on Tuesday 14th April at 2.10 pm and last about 2 hours. Qualified instructors and club members will be on hand to introduce newcomers to basic skills and strategies. There be an inclusive charge of £3 per person. Please wear comfortable clothes and flat shoes.

For more information contact Peter Herrick

STROLLERS

April 10th – a stroll round the grounds of Burghley House (only open for 6 weeks in the year). Meet in the car park below the House at 11 am. Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

May 8th - A stroll round Ryhall. Meet at the Millstone Car park in time to order lunch before 11.00 am start. Leaders Jenny Whetstone and Rosemary Chappell.

JAZZ APPRECIATION

The next meeting of this group will be on Monday 27th April at 7 pm at Terry Watkins's home in Ryhall. For any more information phone Terry on 751067.

PICASSO EXHIBITION - NATIONAL GALLERY

This trip has been cancelled and re-arranged with another organisation for the 21st May. For details contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

BROWNE'S HOSPITAL

Volunteers are needed to help with stewarding at weekends and Bank Holidays from the Spring Bank Holiday weekend until the end of September.

If you would like more information or are offering your services please contact

Pam Sharp .

ORIGINAL ROLY POLYS

Pam Cadman from the Original Roly Polys will be at Lady Anne's Hotel for an evening of laughter on Thursday 9th April.

The cost will be £8 to include coffee and biscuits. This has been organised by the Stamford Twinning Association. If you are interested please ring

Eileen.

WALKING GROUP

April 17th **Easton on the Hill**
Daphne Sharpe

May 1st **Langham**
Carolyn Mellows

May 15th **West Deeping by Church**
Chris Rippington

All walks start at 10 am. New members will be particularly welcomed. For more information contact

Chris Rippington

GROUP INFORMATION

The back page of the Newsletter has the latest information about Groups, up to the publication date. If there are any changes in between Newsletters, the information appears on the Group page of the Website, which is reviewed weekly.

If any Groups would like to offer additional information to that in the Newsletter, for publication on the website, please contact Hendy 756316.

CHANGE OF GAS REGISTRATION BODY

From April 1st CORGI will no longer be the registration body for gas fitters and engineers. It will be replaced by the 'Gas Safe Register', whose logo is a yellow and black triangle with these words included.

Ensure that if you employ a gas engineer or fitter you ask for his identity which will show 'Gas Safe Register', the logo and his name.

Janet Kempson

EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE CARD (EHIC)

Ensure that your EHI card is still valid before you travel. If it needs renewing this can be done easily by visiting www.nhs.uk/healthcareabroad or by phoning 0845 6062030.

If you do not have a card, these contacts can also be used to acquire one - they are free.
