



## Stamford Third Age Group

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 106

December 2009

### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Christmas has come round again, but this year it is tinged with sadness as during the month of November we lost two of our members, Anne Harvey and Tony Linton. We send our deepest sympathies to their families.

I have an apology to make to Terry Watkins. I have not properly thanked him for all the work he did to repair our display board. It was in such a poor state that we were seriously considering buying a new one. But thanks to Terry that won't be necessary.

It is always so heartening when someone volunteers to do something and we have a volunteer to take over the Science Group. Ian Burrows has offered to do this, starting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January at Barnack Village Hall. If anyone has a problem with transport, let me know and I can organise something.

Last week I went to the Christmas Spectacular at Thursford and really enjoyed it. Several people on that trip suggested that we should have one organised for next year for the U3A. You have to get your applications in by the 4<sup>th</sup> of January! So on your behalf I am going to apply for tickets for a matinée in November. The only problem is that it is quite pricey. Even the cheapest seats are £24. However if you are spending that amount of money I think it is worth paying a bit more for a better view

of the stage. So it looks as if the trip will cost in the region of £45 - £50 per head for tickets and the coach. Fortunately we do not have to commit any money at the moment but I thought it would be helpful if I gave you lots of time to think about it.

One of my favourite Christmas events – and it's free – is the display of decorated Christmas trees in St John's Church at the end of the High Street. This year this takes place from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Do go along if you can. It really is quite unusual. In fact you could go after the Christmas meeting as it's just down the hill from the church.

A great big annual thank you to all our group leaders both for the work they do during the year and for the special Christmas meetings they put on. A special thank you too to the Drama Group for their performance today and the able assistance of the Singing for Pleasure Group and an special thank you to non member David Lovell Brown for his musical contribution.

And finally a very happy Christmas to you all and all the best for 2010. But spare a few minutes from your celebrations to think of those for whom this Christmas will be the first one without a loved one they have lost during the year.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

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

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hendy Farquhar-Smith	Chairman
Percy Moss	Treasurer
Sue Webster	Minutes Secretary
Chris Rippington	Group coordinator
Jim Guthrie	Membership Secretary
Howard Jones	Speaker Finder
Horace Farquhar-Smith	
Lynn Darwin, Kathleen Fryer, Judy Westwood	

### MONTHLY PROGRAMME

**Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Christmas Entertainment and Buffet**

**Jan 4<sup>th</sup> Speaker will be announced later**

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**

**January Issue deadline 23 December**

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

*Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year*



### PARCELS FOR OUR TROOPS

The Royal British Legion, Stamford, are arranging to send to our troops, on active service in Iraq and Afghanistan, those small items which they cannot get locally and which means so much to them as a reminder of home! They tell us that they really would like to get puzzle books, disposable razors, travel games, sweets, wetwipes and personal toiletries. Anything but liquids and chocolates which do not post well.

The aim is to show them our concern and appreciation for everything they are doing under very difficult circumstances, and in particular, that they are not forgotten.

Please bring your donations to a meeting, or contact Steve Bond for more information t: 757041

### SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be on 9<sup>th</sup> December, starting with coffee and mince pies at 10.30 am. The January meetings will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January. All meetings are held in the upper room at Barn Hill, normally starting at 11 am.

Graham Creedy

### PRIORY INVESTMENT CLUB

If you think that you can see the green shoots of financial recovery why don't you come and join us at the Priory Investment Club. You invest a modest figure every month and hope to cash in on the impending market recovery.

The Club is informative and interesting, but above anything else - it is great fun! Note, this Club is not a U3A Group.

If you are interested contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

### FAMILY HISTORY

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at Jim Guthrie's house.

Please note that from January 20<sup>th</sup> the group will meet on the third Wednesday of the month.

For more information please contact

Jim Guthrie 752755

## A1 THEATRE

All matinées - top price seats

**Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Dec** **Billy Elliott**  
Victoria Palace Theatre  
Following a 3 course festive lunch at the Rubens Hotel.

**Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Jan** **Swan Lake**  
Matthew Bourne  
Sadler's Wells

**Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Jan** **Peter Pan** at O2 –  
Full scenic projection

**Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> March** **Phantom of the Opera**  
Her Majesty's Theatre  
**Or** (One bus, two venues)  
**The 39 Steps**  
Criterion

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> May** **Love Never Dies**  
Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to The Phantom at the Adelphi.

For information, prices and application forms contact

Karyl Rey 753769

## WALKING GROUP

The next walks are:

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** **Normanton.** Park on the road and meet near the Dam. Chris Rippington

**December 18<sup>th</sup>** **Surprise Walk.** Meet at FOCUS DIY  
Chris Rippington

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

Chris Rippington

## EARTH SCIENCE

Next meeting of this group will be on

9<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30 to 11.30 am.

At Carole Needham's home, 85 Lonsdale Road. For more information please ring Carol on

## HELP 1

I need help with using the programmes on my laptop to make greetings cards and other creative uses of my printer. Is there anyone out there who has the expertise and patience to help me? I can afford a small remuneration in return for this help. Thank you.

Rita Wood

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### U3A CHOIR

Being the founder of the Stamford U3A Choir nine years ago I would like to thank all the members for their hard work, loyalty and dedication. The entertainment we provided at Stamford, Tallington and Werrington Residential homes during the summer and Christmas periods gave much pleasure to many people.

The members also performed Zadok the Priest at St John's Stamford and at a wedding in Barnack Church.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Elizabeth Snowball

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### ART HISTORY

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December and the subject will be

#### The Christmas Story as told by Giotto

Our meetings are now held in the small upper room at Barn Hill. They start with coffee around 10.15 am and the talks begin at 10.30 am.

New members are always welcome. For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

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### STROLLERS

**December 11<sup>th</sup> Blue Bell**, Easton on the Hill  
Jean Farmer

**January 8<sup>th</sup> Little Casterton** Park in the paddock next to Little Casterton Church – behind the houses on the left when facing in the Ryhall direction.

David and Felicity Baxter

Lunch at the Crown at Great Casterton

All walks start at 11 am, come in good time if you wish to order lunch beforehand. For more information contact

Anna Bridger

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If you are interested contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

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### SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The next meeting will be on Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am at Barn Hill.

Rita Wood

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### TONY LINTON

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Tony Linton on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. Tony and Ann were almost founder members of Stamford U3A and have been involved with the Newsletter from edition number 4.

Tony then took over the Newsletter when it changed to the Link and was responsible for that for three years until it turned back into the Newsletter. Tony also ran the Creative Writing Group for a while. Ann continues to run the Swimming Group and is an active member of the Drama Group. We extend our deepest sympathies to Ann and her family at this sad time.

### ANN HARVEY

We also have to announce the death of Anne Harvey who helped Val Harvey (no relation) set up and run the Dance Group.

Anne was a member of Stamford U3A for only a short time but she was a very enthusiastic and hard working group co-leader. Our deepest sympathies go to her family.

### FAMILY HISTORY

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Jim Guthrie 752755

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### TRAVEL GROUP

Paddy Thompson has completed the accounts for the Jersey holiday and there will be a refund for everyone who was on that trip. The refunds can be collected from Paddy at the December meeting.

The Spring 2010 holiday to Dubrovnik is now fully booked. Dick has announced his wish to stand down as Travel Group leader after the Dubrovnik holiday. If you would like to volunteer to take over, please get in touch with Dick.

The next Travel Group meeting will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 10 am at Barn Hill. The speaker will be Janet Racklyeft who will be talking about Scandinavia.

Dick Colgrove

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### LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting of this group will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December when there will be seasonal readings read by members of the Shoestring Theatre Group.

The meetings are held at Barn Hill at 10.00 am for a 10.30 start.

Christine Bearne

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