



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 94

ONLINE VERSION

December 2008

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly!" It's Christmas time again and who could possibly have missed that fact. The Christmas cards have been in the shops since September, the Christmas lights are in every High Street, Morrisons have had their Christmas trees in the entrance hall since the beginning of November. We say it comes round quicker every year and so it does because the commercialisation starts earlier every year.

However it is a time to take stock. Our membership continues to grow but fortunately not all of our members come to the monthly meetings so we still fit comfortably into the Church. I had a look at last year's December Chairman's Comments to give me inspiration for this year and would you believe I was asking for a Theatre Group Organiser. Here we are one year on and still without a Theatre Group. But the rest of our groups carry on with some changes of leaders this year but basically they run very smoothly. I cannot thank group leaders enough for all the work they put into running their groups. The groups are a life blood of the U3A and without the continuing efforts of the leaders and the support of the members, there would not be much to attract over 600 members to Stamford U3A.

And at this time of year some special thank yous. One to those Group Leaders who organise something special for their members at Christmas – it may be just the odd mince pie or a full blown lunch but it does mean extra work for some people and a great big thank you to all

concerned. Another thank you in advance to Paddy and Gill and their crew for helping behind the scenes today – preparing the rooms and lunch and then tidying it all up at the end. A special thank you to Paddy for organising the Christmas Lunch at the Crown. I organised this for a few years so I know how much work is entailed. Finally a special thank you to the members who have entertained us today. Thanks you for all your hard work and time spent rehearsing. And last but not least – a great big thank you to the Drama Group for their performance today. They have been rehearsing for months and I am sure their efforts will be crowned with great success and much hilarity from us.

But before you start your celebration of Christmas spare a thought for those who this year have lost a loved one and for whom Christmas will be a time of sadness – especially those of our members who have been bereaved during 2008.

I hope that you will enjoy your time your families this Christmas and that the festive season will bring you all that you desire and all the best to everyone for 2009.

Thank you very much,

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 | |
| Jill Haynes | |

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

December 1st Christmas Entertainment and Buffet

January 5th Jubilee Line Extension Project
David Leggett

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 22 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



FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of this group will be on December 11th at Les Coquelicots First Drift, Wothorpe. Please ring Jim Guthrie to confirm your attendance.

ART GROUP 2

Art group 2 is looking for new members. If you would like to join this group please contact Bernie Atter

BALLROOM DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be on Wednesday, 28th January from 3 to 4.30 pm at the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street.

Everyone welcome. No need to have a partner.

Meg Atkins Moss

LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting of this group will be held on Tuesday, 9th December. One of the Museum staff is going to give a talk on a Christmas theme.

Meetings are held at Barn Hill at 10 am for 10.30 am start.

Christine Bearne

ART HISTORY

The next meeting of the Art History Group will be held on Wednesday 26th November upstairs in the Livingstone Room at the United Reformed Church Hall.

Coffee from 10.15 am – talk at 10.30 am.

This month's subject is **An Introduction to Spanish Art.**

More information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE CROWN

Monday 15th December at 12.30 pm.

Price £16.95. Please sign up today and pay. Please make your cheques payable to The Crown Hotel. Menu choice is now available. For more information contact

Paddy Thompson

A1 THEATRE

All matinées - top price seats

Sat 20th Dec John Rutter's **Christmas Celebration** at Westminster Central Hall

Wed 14th Jan **Piaf**, with Elena Roger
Vaudeville Theatre

Thu 19th Feb Rodgers and Hammerstein's
Carousel, at the Savoy Theatre

Wed 18th Mar **Enjoy** by Alan Bennett, with
Alison Steadman, David Troughton
at the Gielgud Theatre

For information, prices and application forms contact
Karyl Rey 753769

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

Forthcoming dates are 3rd and 17th December and 14th and 28th January. Dancing takes place in the upstairs room at Barn Hill at 11 am.

New members are very welcome. Contact

Graham Creedy

PARCELS FOR THE TROOPS

The British Legion will be resuming their Parcels for the Troops in January. 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.

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.

STROLLERS

December 12th Normanton car park, Rutland Water.
Nancy Alexander

January 9th A stroll around Ketton
Jose Fox

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

There will not be a meeting of this group in December.

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

5 to 8 July

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dukes of Rutland | John Plumb |
| Art in Spain | Hendy Farquhar-Smith |
| Creative Writing 'Ways In' | Di Watson |
| Papercraft | Jill Dunn |
| Antiques and Collectables | Peter Edwards |
| Great 9th Symphonies | David Lovell Brown |

The Second School is now full, but there are places available in all the courses of the First School on 5 to 8 July - details on the left.

Information and to obtain application forms:

www.HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk or

e-mail: info@HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk or

Phone Hendy **01780 756316** or Pat **01778 341248**

KEEP FIT CLASS

The last class before Christmas will be on Wednesday 17th December. It will commence again on the 7th January 2009.

It is not only a unique class, but especially programmed for the over 50's. We work the whole body, incorporating gentle stretching exercises, barre ballet work and dance.

NEW MEMBERS

If you are thinking of joining this class in January, it would be advisable - where possible - to attend the start of the new term, instead of joining half way through it.

I enjoy teaching such a lovely, friendly group of U3A members and would like to thank all the ladies who have supported this class over the past three years.

For more information ring Clare

ACTIVE LIFE FOR THE OVER 50s

A Swimming and Exercise programme at the Stamford Leisure pool which is open to all over 50s in the district. Timetables change with school holidays, or Bank holidays. The schedule is:

Mondays, 11 to 11.30 am **Swimming**
11.30 to 12 **Exercise (called Active Life)**

Thursdays, 2 - 3 pm **Swimming.**
3 to 3.45 pm **Active Life**
3.45 to 4 pm **Swimming**

Ann Linton

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be the Christmas Special.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL START AT 10 AM AND NOT 10.30 AM AS USUAL. Everyone welcome.

The meeting is on the 16th December in the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street. For more information contact

Mary Rowe

TRAVEL GROUP

Our next holiday is for 7 days to 'Annecy and the Beautiful Alps' departing on 12th May 2009. As usual we have a guide and included tours for each day. For further details and booking forms please see Dick Colgrove.

Our next Travel Group meeting takes place on 20th January at 10 am at Barn Hill. At this meeting we will decide which city we go to for our autumn holiday. Our speaker will be Richard Adams.

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

We provide a valued service, would you like to join in? Commitment is only one duty per month. The task is for drivers and helpers to collect books from the library and deliver them to recipients' homes. Full training is provided and travel expenses incurred are paid.

If you are interested contact Lincolnshire Libraries 01522 782010 or the WRVS 0845 6014670.

WALKING GROUP

December 5th **Braunston** – The Blue Bell
Lynn Darwin

December 19th Kirby Road **Gretton**
Pauline Reed

January 2nd **Hambleton** Finches' Arms
Jill Lessey

On Friday 30th January there will be a coffee morning at Chris Rippington's house at 10.30 am for all those interested in walking. New members will be particularly welcomed. For more information contact

Chris Rippington

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The December meeting will be held on 11th December at 10.30 am at Barnhill.

Everyone welcome. The more the merrier!

Rita Wood