



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 48

February 2005

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

February, the month when we hope we are coming out of winter and are looking further ahead. It is also the time when the U3A committee think about the next AGM. The AGM will take place on Tuesday May 3rd at the United Reformed Church (URC). Under our constitution the committee is elected each year at this meeting. Last year we did not fill all the spaces on the committee. If none of the existing committee members leave, we could still have two spaces available to fill. Nominations for committee places must be made to Joy Paterson by 5th April. Nominations must be proposed and seconded, and have the approval of the proposed candidate. I am sure the current committee members will be pleased to answer any queries that aspiring candidates may have.

The feedback following the first meeting at URC suggests that it went off very well. Our committee review of the day revealed the need for some minor changes which will be implemented in February. Of necessity, the first meeting embraced a significant amount of work and I thank all the members involved. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Now for another subject that I have mentioned previously. A few days before the January meeting some members were not aware of the change of venue. Newsletters are not reaching all members via the monthly meetings and group meetings. However, the newsletter is now available on-line either through our main website or direct to the Newsletter On line address. Since many members who could benefit from this will not see this letter, please pass this information on to any members who may not be receiving the newsletter by traditional means.

Finally an update on U3A figures. Nationally the U3A organisation continues to grow at a significant pace. The latest figures, produced on 9th December 2004, show 552 U3As with 142,177 members.

Best wishes,
Dick Colgrove
Chairman

t: 01780 752101

e: dick@SU3ANews.co.uk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dick Colgrove	Chairman
Paddy Thompson	Treasurer
	Deputy Chairman
Hendy Farquhar-Smith	Group coordinator
Joy Paterson	Minutes Secretary
Kate Rogers	Speaker Finder
Gill Bolton	Membership Sec
Percy Moss	Treasurer's Asst
David Ellis	

NEWSLETTER ONLINE
www.SU3ANews.co.uk

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

Tuesdays

March 1st **Pink Elephants over the Rainbow**
Beryl Allen

April 5th **Air Ambulance**
Margaret Ryan

Meetings will be held at the United Reform Church and Hall on the first Tuesday of each month. Coffee will be held at the Hall at 10 am, the meeting will start in the Church at 10.30

For information on how to become a member and for subscription information, please contact the Membership Secretary, Gill Bolton,

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

t: 01780 756316

e: hendy@hf-s.co.uk

MARCH Issue Deadline 22 February 2005

Harlaxton Summer Schools 2005

Following last year's success with the Harlaxton Summer School, this year there are two schools on the following dates:

10 - 13 July 2005

14 - 17 July 2005

Many courses are now fully booked, but there are still some with available places especially during the second school. Harlaxton Summer Schools provide an opportunity to relax and enjoy the exclusive use of Harlaxton Manor while studying a subject of interest.

For more information, Pamphlets and Application Forms please contact:

Rosemary McCulloch 01778 346184
Hendy Farquhar-Smith 01780 756316

e : info@HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk
Website: www.HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk

NEWSLETTER ON LINE

The Newsletter On Line site has now been operating for a few months. The site provides a copy of the latest printed Newsletter, with a reduced level of personal detail, which you can read on screen in colour, or can print using your own printer.

There are a number of other facilities, which makes the site worth visiting even though you might have collected a printed version of the Newsletter. With more and more people having Internet facilities, and many now with broadband, websites are going to be very important for keeping in touch.

Please visit the website and send us your comments - these are essential if we are to provide you with the best possible service. For example, what other services and facilities could be included to make the Newsletter better?

You can reach Newsletter On Line, through a hyperlink in the Group's website at

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

or, if you prefer, by going direct to

www.SU3ANews.co.uk.

RUSSIAN GROUP

We have some interest in setting up a Russian Group. Any potential leader out there ?

Phone Hendy Farquhar-Smith on 756316

TRIP TO

TURNER - WHISTLER - MONET EXHIBITION

A coach trip has been arranged to attend this Exhibition at the Tate Britain on Wednesday 27th April.

Please sign up at the February meeting if you would like to go. Tickets for the coach and Exhibition will be £16.

If you just want to go London, without visiting the exhibition, tickets are £10 each.

If you cannot get to a meeting to sign up for this, or if you want more information, please phone

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year 2005/2006 are now due and should be paid by no later than 31st March, 2005.

Please send your completed forms and a cheque for the subscription of £6, together with a stamp address envelope to Gill Bolton the Membership Secretary. Please ensure that the forms include any changes or additions to your personal details.

By asking members to send their subscriptions and receive their cards by post, we are trying to avoid the queues and delays that our large numbers would cause if members tried to subscribe during meetings.

Please send your forms and subscriptions well before the deadline. Any queries please contact

Gill Bolton

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL GROUP LEADERS

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS

We have had many queries recently about non-members attending group meetings - for a "taster".

We have taken advice from Head Office and they say that it is perfectly acceptable for potential members to attend a maximum of two group meetings as long as they meet the appropriate requirements and are therefore genuine potential members of the U3A, for example, they must be semi-retired.

This means that children do not meet these criteria and therefore cannot join in any U3A activity.

CALLING ALL GROUP LEADERS

Peterborough U3A are organising a Study Day for Group Leaders, Group Co-ordinators and Committee members from different local U3As to compare notes on similar learning activity objectives.

The proposed dates are Wednesday 20th April or Wednesday 4th May.

Please could you tell Dick if you would like to come and which date you would prefer. A suitable venue will be arranged by Peterborough U3A.

COUNTRY DANCING

The Country Dancing Group now meets once a month on the third Tuesday. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th February at 10.30 in the United Reform Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

ART HISTORY

The Art History talks in February will be:

Wednesday 9th February - Michelangelo

Wednesday 23rd February - Titian

These talks are held upstairs in the Livingstone Room at the United Reform Church Hall at 10.30 am and everyone is welcome.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

WALKING GROUP

Feb 4th	Fineshade Top Lodge Lunch Slater Arms, Colyweston	5	Eric & Avery Woods
Feb 11th	Bulwick Queen's Head	5	Roger & Marion Teasdale
Feb 18th	Greetham The Wheatsheaf	5	Chris Rippington
March 4th	Burghley Park to Barnack Lunch - Millstone. Return by Bus with leaders, or walk back		Anna & Harold Bridger

All walks start at 10.30 am. Queries on individual walks please contact the Leader. General queries contact José .
If you have any doubts about the conditions please contact the Walk Leader.
In case of cancellations, or any other problems, Walk Leaders please contact José before 9 am.
Please check your e-mails before leaving home!
If you do not have e-mail, please 'link' with someone who does, who can relay any messages.

INVESTMENT GROUP 3

We are looking into the feasibility of setting up a third Investment Group. Unlike other groups, being a member of the Investment Group does entail a monthly subscription of £25 to put into the fund to buy shares.

If you are interested in throwing your money away in this manner, or perhaps to have the off chance of making some money, please get in touch with

Hendy Farquhar-Smith on 756316.

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of the Local History Group will be held on Tuesday, February 8th. Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.00 am and the meeting will start at 10.30 am.

This month our presentation will be by John Plumb who will be speaking about

Thomas Trensham – a very contrary Northants Elizabethan gentleman

Until further notice, the Local History Group will meet in the United Reform Church Hall in Broad Street.

The Local History Group invites all U3A members to its presentations and looks forward to seeing you there.

John Plumb

LONDON TRIP

TO SEE THE CARAVAGGIO EXHIBITION

A coach trip has been arranged to go to the National Gallery to see the Caravaggio Exhibition on Wednesday 23rd March.

The cost will be £16.50 to include coach and entry to the Exhibition.

If you just want to go to London without visiting the exhibition, there are some spare seats at £10 per person. For the return join the bus at the National Gallery.

Please sign up at the February meeting or phone

Hendy Farquhar-Smith on 756316.

THEATRE GROUP

A big thank you to all of you who attended the meeting at All Saints and St. John's Church Centre on Monday the 17th January.

The outing on Thursday, 24th February to see "The Real Thing" at Northampton is now fully booked. However, if you would like, we will be pleased to put you on a waiting list.

"Stepping Out" by Richard Harris is showing on Thursday, 31st March at Nottingham Theatre Royal. Tickets are £19.50 and this production still has vacant seats.

Also, "Chicken Soup with Barley" by Arnold Wesker at Nottingham Playhouse on Thursday, 21st April, with tickets at £14.50. This performance still has a number of seats available.

Likewise with "Don Quixote rides again...." adapted by Chris Bond at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre on Thursday 30th June, tickets £18.50.

Please see the stand at the United Reformed Church Hall at the meeting on the Tuesday, 1st February to purchase your tickets.

Further information or any queries please contact
Shirley Draheim-Jackson

CHURCH VISITING GROUP

A meeting to discuss and plan this year's programme will be held at Des and Janet Kempson's home on Friday 25th February at 11 am.

All interested members are very welcome to attend.

Anna Bridger

ELEMENTARY BRIDGE

Elementary Group is held every Tuesday at 2 pm in Stamford Bridge Club in the Arts Centre.

This group is looking for some more new members.

Do come along if you want to practise your Bridge. If you need any more information, or to become a new member, please contact

Ellie Edmans