



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 59

ON LINE VERSION

January 2006

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

I hope that you had a good Christmas, and wish you all a Happy New Year.

As usual December 2005 produced a reduction in some normal group activities but this was accompanied by the seasonal increase in social activities. The December meeting with the drama production, choir, music, carol singing and buffet lunch was again an enjoyable event. Our thanks go to the performers, scriptwriters, musicians, choristers, committee members and all those who helped on the day. The Christmas lunch at The Crown was also a very enjoyable event and well attended. We thank Hendy for organising this again.

I read in the Summer 2005 edition of the U3A News that the vision of retirement is now being seen as a time of 'opportunity and reinvention' rather than 'rest and relaxation' and many of us can see that this is the case. It is a positive attitude and is helped for our age group by the fact that, probably, we are living in the best time there will be for retired people. This is enhanced by our U3A activities.

The other day I heard the U3A described as one of the UK's best-kept secrets. In many areas there may be no local U3As or even where there are the local population are not aware of them.

To improve this situation the U3A National Executive Committee is planning a 'National U3A Awareness Month' for March 2006. It is stressed that this is not a recruitment campaign. Indeed, in Stamford at the moment, we do not need a recruitment campaign. The proposed campaign is a move to increase awareness of the U3A's country-wide organisation, one that has over 570 U3A branches with more than 150,000 members, and which continues to expand.

Best Wishes
Dick Colgrove

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

NEWSLETTER ONLINE
www.SU3ANews.co.uk

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

February 6th **Loose Connections**
Peter Tomkin

March 6th **Jubilee Sailing Trust**
Ann Thomas

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

Registered Charity Number: 1077090

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

t: 01780 480611

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

t: 01780 756316

e: hendy@hf-s.co.uk

February 2006 Issue Deadline 23 January 2006



HAPPY NEW YEAR
2006
TO ALL OUR READERS

HOTEL OFFER FOR STAMFORDIANS IN OUR TWIN TOWN OF VENCE

Tom and Ruth Weber, offer all Stamfordians four nights accommodation, on a bed and breakfast basis, for the price of three at their hotel, the Auberge des Cayrons, situated 1 mile from the centre of Vence. There is a regular bus service. The nearest airport to Vence is Nice.

Price details at www.aubergedescayrons.com - the 'Prices' page is available in English. Add 8 Euros per day for breakfast, as the offer is on a **b&b** basis.

t: +33 493 58 11 27 e: aubergedescayrons@wanadoo.fr
or contact

Arthur Mitchell

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership expires on 31st March, 2006. Renewal forms will be available at the February meeting, but please note that these forms are always available on the website, and can be downloaded whenever you wish.

To avoid creating long queues at meetings, it would certainly help all of us, if the completed form, a cheque for £6.00 per member and a self-addressed stamped envelope was sent direct to me at the address shown on the form. It would also help if you send them earlier rather than later.

Those who are unable to get to the main meetings may get them on the website, or members and group leaders can pick them up on their behalf.

Gill Bolton, Membership Secretary 480 611

RUBENS EXHIBITION TRIP

National Gallery on Wednesday 11th January 2006

Please will all those who have signed up for this trip, pay Hendy at the January meeting. The cost is £20 and cheques should be made out to Stamford U3A Art History Group.

We will be leaving the Bus Station at 8 am and the Danish Invader at 8.05 am.

Return from the National Gallery leaving at 4 pm.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

ART WORKSHOP

The next meeting of this group will be on Monday 23rd January in Essendine Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon.

The regular members of the Workshop look forward to welcoming those of you who have expressed an interest in joining our group. Further information contact:

Gordon Bland



HARLAXTON 2006

13 - 16 July School Courses

Contrasting Garden Styles of the World	Glenys Whittle
Botanical Illustrations	Barbara Clemence
Main and Branch Lines	Geoff Smith
A Geological History of the Midlands	John Aram
Digital Photography and Imaging	Rod Sloane
Computing for Beginners/Improvers	Pam Bisnauthsing
Singing for Fun	Paul White

The Summer Schools are an opportunity to relax and enjoy the exclusive use of Harlaxton Manor and its many facilities while studying the course of your choice. Harlaxton, which is near Grantham, is a beautiful 19th Century house restored and now furnished as a residential college and conference centre.

The first school is now virtually complete - phone for availability.

There are places in all courses in the Second School, but they are also filling up quickly.

For more information visit www.harlaxtonU3A.co.uk or e-mail info@harlaxtonU3A.co.uk or phone

Rosemary McCulloch	01778 346184
Hendy Farquhar-Smith	01780 756216
Pat Leggett	01778 341248

THEATRE GROUP

A date for your diary - at the 16th January 2006 meeting we will present the new productions for the Spring Season. The meeting will be held at Barn Hill, in the ground floor room. Coffee at 10 am, the meeting starts at 1015 am.

Mr H Warren, who is a former actor and director, will give a talk on: "**The Repertory Movement**". We hope that as many people as possible will attend. Don't forget to bring your cheque books and diaries!

Shirley Draheim-Jackson



SINGING GROUP

We have enjoyed a year of fun singing as a small group led by Elizabeth Snowball.

After practising them in the Spring, in the Summer we sung light songs for residents of local care homes. We added some well-known war songs which they enjoyed as communal singing. We ended the year by singing them carols and reading poems.

We were made so very welcome in these care homes that we are planning to continue to perform for them during next year.

The Group needs more singers, particularly sopranos and also men!

We hold meetings as required in the reading room in Bainton, usually on Wednesday mornings - we are starting again in March. For more information contact:

Elizabeth Snowball

SCIENCE GROUP

The next meeting of the Science Group is on January 12th in Barn Hill Methodist Church at 2 pm in the church.

The talk will be by Caroline Moss-Gibbons, head of heritage collections at the Royal College of Physicians. This is a unique opportunity to discover the rare maps and atlases held in the library of England's oldest medical institution. They range from Ptolemy's 'Fan' map of the world to those used in the search for the North West Passage.

The maps chart man's exploration and reflect the map-making techniques of printers and engravers from the earliest woodcut illustrations of 1500 to the Bleau and Jansson atlases of the 17th Century and beyond, to the mass produced maps of the Victorians.

Percy Moss

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

We are once again back at Barn Hill. All meetings are 10 for 10.30 am.

January 10th – Ben Robinson from Peterborough Museum will give a talk on Durobrivea, the large Roman industrial complex on the outskirts of modern Peterborough – (Water-Newton and Castor).

Summer 2006 Outings Programme

All on Tuesday

May 9th - Village Tour to Folkingham - fine crossroads village with an important church, market square and former County House of Correction.

June 13th - Drayton House and Lowick Church. Home to the Earls of Peterborough, the Dukes of Dorset and now the Stropford Sackvilles. Not normally open to the public, only to booked parties.

July 11th - Stamford Arts Centre for a talk on its Historical Development and a guided tour of the parts you do not normally see.

September 12th - Ayscoughfee Hall and Spalding Church. The Hall is a fine town mansion going back to the Middle Ages, which now houses the museum collection for the South Holland District. Spalding's fine church is next door.

John Plumb

COME ON FOLKS !

With the publication of the Creative Writing Group's new magazine, "Read Our Writes" and the offer of a prodigious prize therein, the magazine will be on sale again at the January meeting at a price of £2.

So there is still a chance for you to take part in our unique quiz inside and win yourself a £20 book token. First correct entry to be drawn from a hat at the end of February 2006.

ART GROUP 1

Marie Hare will be taking over this group from January onwards. Her phone number is 763086. Many thanks to Mary Burnett for all her hard work as leader.

The group are reverting to their old meeting times of first and third Tuesdays of the month at 10 am.

TRAVEL GROUP

The next meeting of the Travel Group will be on Tuesday, 7th February 2006 10.15 for 10.30 am in the lower hall at Barn Hill.

As well as the usual business there will be a talk about an aspect of Tourism in France followed by a final briefing for those going to New York. If this is relevant to you please allow appropriate car-parking time.

Marketing material is now available for a proposed 7 day holiday to Tuscany starting 6th October 2006. Please see Paddy if you are interested.

Paddy Thompson



COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting will be held at the United Reformed Church Hall on Tuesday 17th January at 10.30 am.

New members always welcome.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316



ART HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting will be held at the Livingstone Room at the United Reformed Church Hall at 10.30 am on Wednesday 25th January - coffee from 10.15.

The subject will be Tintoretto.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316



WALKING GROUP

January 13th	Elton The Crown	5	Daphne Barry Peggy Aldridge	
February 3rd	Exton Fox and Hounds	4/5	Dorothy Piggott	
February 17th	Market Overton Black Bull	5	Eric and Avery Woods	
March 10th	Peterborough Country Park. Farcett Eating place to be decided	2	John and Joan McNeill	

Walks are planned for the first three Fridays of every month. Those already scheduled are shown above.

All walks start at 10.30 am. Queries on individual walks please contact the Walk Leader.

General queries please contact Eric or Avery Woods. Please share cars whenever possible.