



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 95

January 2009

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

First of all a very Happy New Year to you all. As you are no doubt aware the media give us a very bad prognosis for 2009 – so let's see if they are justified. And my commiserations to any of you who, like myself, were struck by the dreaded flu bug over the Christmas period. I've recovered enough to do the Newsletter but my typing fingers appear to have been seriously affected by it. How many different ways can you miss spell January?

It's very pleasing to start the New Year with one of our members starting up a new group. I am very grateful to Val Harvey for having the initiative to start up her Dancing Group and I hope many of you will support it. Meg Atkins-Moss is taking over the Creative Writing Group from Cynthia Nightingale. Many thanks to Cynthia for her hard work leading this group and I am sure Meg will do a sterling job in keeping this lively group on their toes.

One of my most pleasant surprises before Christmas was the arrival from the States of two copies of Kathy Lynn James' Dissertation. Our Art and Craft Group members will recall that Kathy spent over five months with us in 2007 researching for her Dissertation on "Rethinking Art Education for Older Adults: an Ethnographic Study of the University of the Third Age." On opening up the large tome I was amazed to find that Kathy has written in a most readable manner about Stamford, our Group and the U3A in general. She really has captured the spirit of our groups and is not only incredibly complimentary about our U3A but extremely

knowledgeable as well. For the purposes of the Dissertation she has given us all 'noms de plume' and it has been fun recognising who is who.

On a purely personal note I had no idea that my Art History was one of the groups she was studying. I thought she just came along to my talks out of interest! If I had known I was under her microscope I might have tried to make my stuff a bit more scholarly and keep the jokes down to a minimum. However she was incredibly complimentary about my Art History – especially for what my regular group members know as may failing to tow any party line and my mantra "Art historians don't agree."

Before Christmas I was half way through the Dissertation abstracting information of interest to each of the relevant Art and Craft groups. Had I not been hit by the flu bug I would have finished this by now and had photocopies of all relevant pages to give out to Group Leaders at today's meeting. But I will get on with it and finish the abstracts as soon as possible. In the mean time, I have an extra copy which in the fullness of time I am presenting to the Library. I have it with me today and if anyone wants to borrow it please let me know. I can guarantee you – it is fascinating reading!

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

January 5th	Jubilee Line Extension Project David Leggett
February 2nd	Louis Comfort Tiffany Ian Powys

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

February Issue deadline 23 January

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

Happy New Year

2009



FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of this group will be on Thursday 15th January at Christine Lambert's house. If you would like to attend please ring Christine

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, 13th January at Barn Hill at 10 am for 10.30 am start.

Trevor Kirk will give a talk about the meanings of names in Stamford.

Meetings are held at Barn Hill

Christine Bearne

ART HISTORY

The next meetings of the Art History Group will be held on Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 28th January, upstairs in the Livingstone Room at the United Reformed Church Hall. Coffee from 10.15 am – talk at 10.30 am.

Subjects are:

January 14th **El Greco**

January 28th **Velázquez**

For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

STROLLERS

January 9th A stroll around **Ketton**. Meet at the Nothwick Arms at 11 am, or earlier if you want to order lunch.

Jose Fox

A1 THEATRE

All matinées - top price seats

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

Lion King, Disney
Lyceum

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 **OR**

Lloyd Weber, **Sunset Boulevard**,
Comedy Theatre

For information, prices and application forms contact
Karyl Rey 753769

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

The next meeting for this group will be on January 19th at 2 pm in the Ryhall Village Hall and will be about 'Heart Attacks, Angina and Heart Failure'.

The discussion will be on Euthanasia - have we changed our minds? We are encouraging the brain cells to work again after the Christmas laze!

Everyone welcome. For more information contact

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

Forthcoming dates are 14th and 28th January, 2009. 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.

TRAVEL GROUP

Our next holiday is for 7 days to 'Ancey and the Beautiful Alps' departing on 12th May 2009. As usual we have a guide and included tours for each day.

Our next Travel Group meeting will be on 20th January at 10 am at Barn Hill when our speaker will be Richard Adams who will talk about 'Travels with my camera'. At this meeting we will also decide to which city we will go on our autumn holiday.

For further details and booking forms for the next holiday please see Dick Colgrove.

NEW DANCING GROUP

A new group will be starting up to run regularly on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. It will be held in Tinwell Village Hall from 10 am until 11.30 am and the cost will be £2.

The group will move to your favourite music – no steps to learn, no partners needed, just dancing in your own style for your own pleasure.

The first session will be on 8th January and it will be a "rehearsal" to check the sound system and for the leaders to try out ideas and gain confidence. We are all learning! We need dancers to give us feedback on what works and what doesn't so please do come along and support us. For more information contact

Val Harvey

OPEN UNIVERSITY AND THE U3A

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Open University (OU) and the Third Age Trust has been signed which recognises the complementary missions of both organisations, their joint interests in engaging areas of life long learning and through agreed collaboration the two institutions wish to open up wider modes of learning and promote educational opportunity in the UK and the World.

The OU has been the first university to provide free on line access to many of its course materials by launching OpenLearn. Through it the OU is sharing its knowledge and expertise by making course materials available free of charge. The subjects focus on areas that satisfy current demands in the UK educational market and contribute to skills and work-related learning. These include writing skills, study skills, the environment, management, leadership and languages.

OpenLearn allows you not only to learn using free study materials, but also to reuse and remix open education resources, which can be shared throughout your groups. To reach OpenLearn visit

www.open.ac.uk/openlearn

JAZZ APPRECIATION

The next meeting of this group will be held on Monday 26th January at 2 pm. The theme will be 'Natural Elements'.

New members welcome. For more information contact

Terry Watkins

KEEP FIT CLASS

These classes will start 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

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of this group will be held at Priory Court at 2.30 pm on January 14th when the speaker will be John Willoughby from the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

He will be speaking about the work of the Bureau with particular emphasis on helping people in our age group.

New members always welcome but first contact Betty Meadows or George Birch if you would like to come.

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

January 14th

Fotheringhay

Meet at Church in the High Street

At 10 am

Chris Rippington

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

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be on Tuesday, 20th January at 10.30 am in the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street. Everyone welcome.

For more information contact

Mary Rowe

Visit your website

www.SU3ANews.co.uk