



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 131

ONLINE VERSION

January 2012

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

I wish a very happy New Year to all members of Stamford U3A, may the prospects for the future of this country improve this year! Well we have been lucky with the weather over the Christmas period of 2011 compared with 2010. It has been so good to be able to get around for shopping and attend all the concerts and children's Nativity Plays. My grandchildren are all too old for these except the 9 year old who is on stage in Torquay for the Pantomime.

A huge thank you to the Drama group for their excellent entertainment at the December meeting. I think that it was the best yet! They are getting so professional and many even remembered their words!! I do hope that the group does not become too good with all word perfect as this would remove a great deal of the humour. Thank you and Rita King for all your hard work, the costumes were beautiful. Thanks must also go to Rita Wood and the musical Director David Lovell-Brown for all their hard work. It was a pity that we were unable to invite the residents of the Care homes on the Tuesday afternoon but they had a previous invitation!

The lunch at the Golf Cub attended by 72 members was much enjoyed. There was a very happy atmosphere and the service good. Thanks to Tony and his staff.

Now for the New Year resolutions. Christine Bearne has taken over the tea and coffee service, and she will be looking for volunteers to help at meetings. It is

Happy New Year

2012



quite interesting to get involved especially if you are a new member as it is a good way to meet new people. Also Jim is always wanting people to man the register at meetings. There are sign up lists for these.

U3A is run by the members and would not function if there were no volunteers, so please put your thinking hats on and see if there is anything that you could offer. A good New Year Resolution.

Help is still required with communications in the form of the News letter and the sound system. All offers to Horace!

All the best for 2012

Christine Rippington

t: 765651

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Rippington	Chairman
Judy Westwood	Vice Chairman
Peter Bearne	Treasurer
Carmen Orchard	Secretary
Jim Guthrie	Membership Secretary
Lyn Robinson	Group Coordinator
Howard Jones	Speaker Finder
Lynn Darwin, Kathleen Fryer, Rosemary Peck, Horace Farquhar-Smith	

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

Jan 9th	Biscuit Bites Duncan Manley
Feb 6th	Help for Heroes Carole Roome

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 23rd January**

To renew your subscription please contact the Membership Secretary, 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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDERS

These were sent out in DECEMBER so please renew your membership and confirm that the details of your address, telephone numbers and email are correct. Thank you.

Jim Guthrie 752755

CHURCH VISITING

The Church Visiting Group has finished for the season. May we thank everyone who has organised church visits last year – all were very good.

Our next meeting will be to organise next year's visits and will be held at Welland Mews at 11 am on February 24th 2012.

Elaine Ward and Mavis Sharpe

FUEL SAVINGS FOR THE OVER 80s

E-On has a 'Warm Assist' scheme offering a minimum of 15% discount for people over 80 years of age. For more information contact 0800 9173353.

The only catch to this is that to qualify for the discount you have to switch your gas to E-On as well !

ART HISTORY

The next meeting of this group will be on **Wednesday, 11th January** when the subject will be:

American Impressionists I - Mary Cassatt and Whistler.

Wednesday, 25th American Impressionists II - The Giverny Group and Childe Hassan.

The meetings are held at Barn Hill. Coffee from 10 am, talks start at 10.30 am. Everyone welcome.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

STROLLERS

Friday 13th January - 11 am – Meet at the steps in the far corner of the Marham Retail Car park – opposite Lidl's – on Ryhall Road for a stroll to Gypsy Meadows in Gwash Valley David and Felicity Baxter

Friday 10th February - 11 am Meet in Burghley House car park for a stroll round the Sculpture Garden and enjoy the snowdrops. Entrance is free. Anna Bridger

All strolls start at 11 am.

Daphne Sharpe

SWIMMING FOR THE OVER 55s

So many people have said to me recently, "I would love to come but I'm not a good swimmer." You don't have to be! Lots of people come, swim a bit, chat to their friends and then enjoy the exercises afterwards.

Pool times during term time as Mondays 11am – 12 noon and Thursdays 2- 3 pm. If in doubt as these change during school holidays – ring Stamford Pool on 765522

Ann Linton

A1 THEATRE

All matinées - **top price seats**

2012

Wed 18th Jan **Matthew Bourne's 'Nutcracker'** at Sadler's Wells.

Wed 8th Feb **'The Lady killers'**

Tue 6th Mar **Verdi's 'Aida'** in the round at the Albert Hall

Wed 28th Mar **Adam Cooper in Singing in the Rain**

Tue 26th July **Twelfth Night at Stratford**

For more information, prices and application forms contact

Karyl Rey 753769

LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting of the Local History Group will be on 10th January at Barn Hill when **Richard Allam** will speak on **the Burghley Garden of Surprises**. The talk starts at 10.30 am with coffee from 10 am. Everyone welcome. For more information contact

Christine Bearne

TRAVEL GROUP

The next meeting of this group will be on Tuesday, 17th January 2012 at Barn Hill, 10 am for 10.30 am start.

The speaker will be David Leggett who will talk about the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.

Maggie Newbigging

INTREPID TRAVELLERS

We had our first meeting and a great deal of enthusiasm was shown for varied holidays. If you would like me to include you name, e-mail and telephone number in the list of contacts please let me know. We will hold another meeting in February.

Chris Ripington 765651

WALKING GROUP

January 20th Walking around Helpston. Meet at Bainton Church. Leader Iris Clifford 01778 347281

February 3rd Ferry Meadows. Meet at Thorpe Wood Car Park. Leader Joan Alexander 754012

All walks start at 10 am. New members always welcome. Leaders always needed.

Lynn Darwin

JAZZ – RYHALL RHYTHM CLUB

The next meeting will be on January 23rd at 2 pm.

We are still making our way through the alphabet and the next letter is "M". Such gems as 'Mack the Knife' and 'Mood Indigo' come to mind. I expect you will think of some unique tunes.

Terry Watkins

AMBLERS' WALKS

January 25th **Exton Fox and Hounds**
Rosemary Henley

I would also like offers for next year to lead walks.

Chris Rippington 765651

CREATIVE WRITING II

We are an enthusiastic, smallish, fairly new group with loads of writing talent. We would welcome one or two more on the team who feel they are not fulfilling their potential in writing. Meetings are at my house on the first Wednesday morning of the month.

Ann Linton

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The next meetings of this group will be at Barn Hill at 10.30 am on Thursday 12th and 26th January. New members always welcome.

Rita Wood

COUNTY OLYMPICS SWIMMING GALA

Grantham U3A are keen to organise a Swimming Gala some time in May this year. If you are interested in taking part then get in touch with John Down on 01476 577081

Visit your websites:

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

www.SU3ANews.co.uk

MODEL RAILWAY WEEKEND

The Museum of Lincolnshire Life is holding a Model Railway Weekend on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd January from 10 am to 4 pm showcasing the fascinating and detailed work of the Lincoln and District Model Railway Club.

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next dates will be 4th and 18th January 2012.

Dancing takes place in the large upper room at Barn Hill from 11a.m. to 12 noon. New members are welcome. For more information contact

Graham Creedy

GARDEN GROUP

On Wednesday 15th February we are visiting the winter garden and snow drop collection at Anglesey Abbey. A table is booked for us at 12 noon in the self service restaurant. Guided tour of the snow drop collection at 1.30 pm.

More details at the January meeting or contact

Richard Brown (away late January).

HUMOUR IN THE NEW YEAR

GCSE ANSWERS

The following questions were set in last year's GCSE examination. The answers are genuine.

Q Name the four seasons

A Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.

Q Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink.

A Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q How is dew formed?

A The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.

Q What causes the tides in the oceans?

A The tides are a fight between the earth and the moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water there, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins the fight.

Q What guarantees may a mortgage company insist on?

A If you are buying a house they will insist that you are well endowed.

Q In a democratic society, how important are elections?

A Very important. Sex can only happen when a male gets an election.

Q What are steroids?

A Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs.

Q What happens to your body as you age?

A When you get old so do your bowels and you get intercontinental.

Q What is the fibula?

A A small lie.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Stamford Evergreen is looking for more help, especially with the meals service.

This involves laying tables, serving meals and clearing away. These are at Essex Road and Emlyns Gardens. It is very rewarding!

If you would like to know more about this please ring the office on 765900.
