



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 77

ON LINE VERSION

July 2007

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

It is very refreshing to see that we are still generating new groups – Ballroom Dancing, Singing for Fun and a Discussion Group. But what we don't seem to be generating are new group leaders. All the leaders of the new groups are well established members of the U3A.

We had a very good new members' meeting last month and I am hoping that we will get some new volunteers as a result of that. And talking of volunteers, I have slightly changed the Theatre Group Organiser's job. To make it easier, I suggest we have a Theatre Trip Organiser and dispense with the occasional meetings. This is one of the most popular groups we have so please will someone out there think about taking it over.

We don't often have petitions at our meetings but when we do, they seem to be rail related. The last one was about the closing of the gate onto to the fields by Welland Mews which the railway company took it upon themselves to do.

Now we would like you to sign another petition at today's meeting about the ridiculous situation at the station where anyone who has difficulty in climbing stairs or carrying a suitcase is not allowed to cross the line. Stringent measures have been put in force to stop people doing so and the only way to get

round the difficulty is to get the train to Melton, change platforms there and wait for the next train back to Stamford or if you want to go in the Birmingham direction, take the train to Peterborough, change there and get the next train back!

In theory the crossing can be used when the station is manned. As Stamford is only manned until 12.30 pm this means that for most of the time there is no one to help the less able.

Earlier this year at an East Midlands Area Meeting I heard a talk given by a member of one of the London U3As about Study Groups. I thought that it sounded an excellent idea but did not know how to get one started here in Stamford. However, I went to a meeting about the future of the Derby and Joan Club building in North Street and realised that I had found a subject for a Study Group, when I was asked if the U3A could help research the history of the Recreation Ground. A small group of us have now formed a Study Group to work on this topic.

Regards,

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	

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

July 2nd	Arrive Alive Classic Paul Smith of DSA
August 6th	Mansion House Mark Bush

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

August 2007 issue deadline 24 July

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

DISCUSSION GROUP

At the initial meeting it was agreed that the group would meet monthly to discuss current affairs issues. A number of members will present their views, but with a time limit to give everyone the opportunity to have their say.

Meetings will be held at the Toby Norris, St Paul's St, at 2.30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The first topic will be **'Is the English language being corrupted by creeping Americanisation and other influences, and will people mind if it eventually becomes known as the American language?'** More information contact

Tony Barry

TRAVEL GROUP

Durham Trip

Overnight trip to Bowes Museum and Durham on 9th - 10th September. Dinner, bed and breakfast in the Durham Marriott, a 4 star hotel in the centre of Durham. £98 all inclusive.

Some places still available, but no single rooms. Final payment by August 6th, please. If you are interested, book soon and contact

Paddy Thompson

ART GROUP I

There will be no meeting of the Art Group in July or August. The next meeting will be on September 4th.

Marie Hare

STAMFORD RIVERSIDE MUSICAL FESTIVAL

Saturday, 7th July 2007

VOLUNTEERS FOR AN AUDIENCE SURVEY

Riverside Festival is a not for profit voluntary organisation that organises and stages this annual one day **FREE** admission **LIVE** music event for the benefit of the local community that takes place in The Meadows, Stamford. The event last year attracted a crowd of more than 22,000 over the course of the day.

The event last year cost £45K to stage and every penny of this has to be raised by our Volunteers. We have approached a number of companies for sponsorship, and some are potentially interested but want to know more about whether our audience matches their customer base.

Accordingly, we are seeking volunteers to carry an audience profile survey during the event on 7th July. If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer please contact

Jenny Collins 01778 343337

m: 07788 534290 e: jennycollins10@aol.com

www.riversidefestival.co.uk

RECREATION GROUND STUDY GROUP

Have you any memories or photographs of the Stamford Rec.? The Study Group needs your help.

If you think you can help, please get in touch with

Joan Newey

ART HISTORY GROUP

There will be no meetings of this group during July and August. The next meeting will be on Wednesday as follows:

September

12th Millais and Burne Jones

The meetings are held at the United Reformed Church Hall upstairs in the Livingstone Room.

Talks will start at 10.30 am, coffee from about 10.15, everyone welcome. For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316.

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next meetings will be on:

July 11th and 25th

August 8th, 22nd and 29th

We start at 11 am in the large upper room at Barn Hill preceded by (optional) coffee in the Well. New members are very welcome - especially men. All enquiries to

Graham Creedy

WALKING GROUP

PROGRAMME - FRIDAYS 10.00 am

July 6th Fineshade/Blatherwick Lake
Jean Farmer 76650

August 3rd Clipsham The Olive Branch
Michael Flemming 07811 956708

August 17th Foxton Locks Long Stay Car Park
Note: 10.30 am for day out
Bring a picnic! (About 7 miles)
Chris Rippington 764489

The walks are taken at a reasonable pace so that we can enjoy the views and the countryside. There is also an opportunity to have a pub lunch afterwards.

For more details, or if you wish to join this group, please contact

Chris Rippington

U3A BALLROOM DANCING

We plan to hold the first Ballroom dancing session on Wednesday 26th September at 2.30 pm. at the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street, and thereafter the fourth Wednesday in every month. Each session will last for 2 hours, the first hour tuition for beginners or those wanting to brush up, second hour dancing.

Cost is expected to be £3 per person, per session. If finances allow, we may be able to reduce this cost. Please contact

Meg Atkins Moss

Or **Maggie Colgrove**

CALLING ALL GROUP LEADERS

ADVANCE NOTICE There will be a Coffee Morning for all Group leaders at Hendy's house on 20th August at 10.30 am.

CHURCH VISITING GROUP

All Fridays - Visits start at 11 am

July 27th	Awalton Church Ken Moss 762394
August 31st	Langham Church Peggy Aldridge 751584 Margaret Mills
September 28th	Morcott Church Jean Farmer 766650

All members welcome

After the visits lunch is organised nearby. For more information, or if you need transport, contact

Elaine



TYROL VISIT

The travel group had a very enjoyable trip to Austria in May. After a short flight to Munich they were met by Mary, their tour guide. She gave a summary of the week's programme during the two hour drive to

Kirchberg near Kitzbuhel.

The area is in the mountains surrounded by fields of flowers. The weather remained hot and sunny for the whole week and the party enjoyed visits to Salzburg, Innsbruck, Kitzbuhel and Rattenberg. They also took a ski lift up to 1670 metres on Hahenkamm mountain to get wonderful views over the surrounding snow covered mountains.

Accommodation was in a small family run hotel which was very welcoming and provided substantial meals. Mary the guide gave a detailed history of the area with some amusing odd literal translations from German into English. Did the von Trapps "fly" over the mountains (flee)? The group also went "upstairs in a gondola"! Many thanks to Paddy for organising the holiday.

Chris Rippington

THEATRE TRIP ORGANISER

As no one has come forward to take over from Shirley Draheim-Jackson, there might be someone interested in organising just the theatre trips – dropping the idea of occasional theatre themed meetings and concentrating only on organising two or three theatre trips per year.

Shirley has offered to help anybody who wants to take this job on. If anyone would like to volunteer to organise theatre trips please get in touch with

Chris Rippington on

SELF-HELP FOR HEALTH GROUP

After a a very pleasant walk around the Thistleton Herb gardens recently, we are going to consider herbal remedies old and new in August.

Please bring along your recollections of treatments in your childhood and any recent experiences in the use of herbs.

On July 16th we are having a healthy walk around Ryhall village, led by Jenny Whetstone and Rosemary Chappell. Please meet at the village hall at 2 pm. For more information contact

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

VOLUNTEERS STILL REQUIRED FOR 'BOOKS ON WHEELS'

Volunteers are urgently required for Books on Wheels. This is a very well worth while service, taking books to the housebound elderly who cannot get to the Library.

It only entails about one Monday every two months but volunteers really need to be able to carry a bag of books. Car driving is useful but not essential. Full training will be given.

Either get in touch directly at Stamford Library or phone Hendy 765316.

COUNTRY DANCING

Country dancing will be held at the Roman Catholic Church Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesday 18th July. Everyone welcome. For more information contact

Mary Rowe

SCIENCE GROUP

There will be no Science Group meetings in July or August.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 13th September and will be a visit to Bletchley Park. Sign up at the July or August meetings or contact

Percy Moss

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

This group will start on Thursday, September 13th at 10.30 am at Welland Mews community room and thereafter on the second Thursday of every month. Everyone welcome.

Unfortunately, the list of interested names went missing after the last meeting. Therefore, if you would like to sing your heart out, please sign up again or contact

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

STROLLERS

Meet at "The Prince of Wales Feathers", Peterborough Road, **Castor**, next to the Village Green at **11 am on Friday, 13th July**. We will select our meal and then drive to the starting point for a short walk to Water Newton. Looking forward to seeing you all then.

John and Joan McNeill
