



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 101

July 2009

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

I am sorry that I am not at today's meeting but I have to be at Harlaxton and I can't be in two places at once! As I write this we are having our hottest days of the year so I hope it is continuing.

I hope you are all being greatly amused by all the dire warnings about how the older generation should be very careful in this weather and stay indoors etc etc etc. I think one of the great advantages of growing old is the fact that we have sense and experience. It isn't the over 50s you see down the High Street burnt to a deep red, exposing flesh that none of us would dream of exposing. We know the benefits of shade and of not slaking one's thirst with vast quantities of alcohol. We also know that we have survived much without the "nanny state" telling us what to do.

I wrote complaining about the removal of the notices from the lobby of the library as well as the fact that groups such as Shoestring and our various amateur musical groups will no longer be allowed to promote their performances in the Library. I got a very bland reply telling me that all would now be in the Community Corner – tucked away at the end of the lobby on the right and unvisited by the many. The posters in the lobby were described as "visual noise that was detracting from our core services."

The posters in the lobby were what drew people into the library – but then people must not be a part of their core services! The local displays advertising

forthcoming shows will also be hidden away in the Community Corner. A modernisation programme is afoot – "a modern self service system, improved public access computers and an updated children's section." Not a lot there for the U3A. If you want to complain write to John Whitaker, Corporate Complaints, PO Box 841, Lincoln LN 1 1ZE.

There is a very interesting article in the Newsletter from John Polkinghorne about how his Climate Change Group have become involved with the move to make Stamford a Transition Town. My knowledge of Transition Towns is based solely from what I have gleaned from "The Archers" but it does sound like a very good idea.

And now we all shut down for two months. When I first joined the U3A I thought that everything would carry on during the school holidays, because we would not be so foolish as to go away ourselves during that time. But I was ignorant of the demands the summer holidays make on parents and grandparents – house sitting, animal sitting, baby sitting, having the grandchildren to visit and all the other things that crop up in the summer.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

t: 01780 756316 e: h@StamfordU3A.co.uk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hendy Farquhar-Smith	Chairman
Percy Moss	Treasurer
Sue Webster	Minutes Secretary
Chris Ripington	Group coordinator
Jim Guthrie	Membership Secretary
Howard Jones	Speaker Finder
Horace Farquhar-Smith	
Lynn Darwin, Kathleen Fryer, Judy Westwood	

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

July 6th **Titanic Lincolnshire Connection**
Rod Fanthorpe

Aug 3rd **Disaster of the Stage**
Clive Read

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

August Issue deadline **27 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

A1 THEATRE

All matinées - top price seats

Thurs 30th July **La Cage aux Folles**
Playhouse Theatre

Sun 30th Aug **Shall we Dance**
A tribute to Richard Rogers
Sadler's Wells

Wed 28th Oct **Twelfth Night**
Richard Wilson as Malvolio
RSC Stratford

Sun 22nd Nov **Classical Spectacular**
Royal Albert Hall

For information, prices and application forms contact
Karyl Rey 753769

FAMILY HISTORY

The next meeting will be on the 10th September. For more information contact

Jim Guthrie

WALKING GROUP

July 17th **Thorpe Wood Golf Club**
Joan Alexander

August 7th **Barholm.** Park in village.
Start at Footpath sign by the Church. 5 ¾ miles. Pub not open. Pauline Read

August 21st To be arranged

Sept 4th **White Swan Wood, Newton**
Helen Simmons

Sept 18th Offers wanted.

October 2nd Offers wanted

All walks start at 10 am. New members will be particularly welcomed. For more information contact

Chris Rippington

WRITE AGAIN

Our Creative Writing Group has produced its annual booklet. Copies will be on sale at the meeting or contact Ann Linton.

TRAVEL GROUP

Our 5 day visit to Jersey beginning on 12th October is now confirmed. We can take some more bookings for single and double rooms. Details and application forms will be available at the meeting on 6th July or from Dick Colgrove .

GERMAN CONVERSATION

This Group has a new meeting place – 17 Ryhall Road, Stamford and in future the Group will meet on the 4th Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 pm.

For more information contact

Shirley Draheim-Jackson

CHURCH VISITING

Future Visits: (All Fridays)

July 31st **Uppingham** 11 am

Maisie Hand

August 28th **Wansford** 11 am

Ken Moss

If you need transport please contact Elaine Ward on 740323.

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be on 15th July. After that there will be a break until 16th September.

Dancing takes place in the Upper Room at Barn Hill at 11 am. New members welcome. For more information contact

Graham Creedy

BALLROOM DANCING

The next meeting of this Group will not be until Wednesday 28th of October at 2.30 pm in the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street.

Everyone welcome. No need to have a partner.

Meg Atkins Moss

WAJIR RAFFLE

At the August meeting Pat and Kevin Gallacher will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Wajir Orphans. This is our 20th year and we have great prizes. Already we have had a £200 donation.

Among the prizes are meals at the Crown, the George, Lady Anne's and the Garden House. There are many other prizes donated by local businesses. Good luck to all of you who wish to participate.

Pat Gallacher

PEOPLE OVER 65

CAN GET FREE SMOKE ALARMS

To take advantage of this offer make an appointment with your local fire station who will arrange an appointment to fit a smoke alarm that will last ten years.

Those who are hard of hearing can get special equipment which includes fire alarm and a Strobe and Vibrating Alert system which will wake you when you are in bed asleep without your hearing aids.

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

The group will meet in July at Ryhall Village Hall at 2 pm on 27th July – Please note this is the 4th Monday of the month – not the third.

We shall be looking into health matters and the Internet – where to look for information and how to decide what information is reliable.

Sheila Halliday- Pegg

STROLLERS

July 12th Old Quarry Pit Lane (The Geology Trail Car Park). This walk has been arranged by Jose Fox and it will be led by Philip Rudkin who will show us the flora and fauna. There is no food at the Northwick Arms at the moment. If there is a change - please check the July Newsletter.

Leaders Wanted for strolls from September onwards.

All walks start at 11 am. For more information contact

Anna Bridger

BOOKS ON MODEL MAKING

A friend of one of our members has several books on Doll's House making and miniature furniture making that she would like to give away to anyone who is interested. She also has some materials for carrying out this very interesting hobby.

If you are interested contact Mrs Wright

GROUP INFORMATION

The back page of the Newsletter has the latest information about Groups, up to the publication date. If there are any changes in between Newsletters, the information appears on the Group page of the Website, which is reviewed weekly.

If any groups would like to put additional information about their groups in the website, please contact

Hendy 7563165

JAZZ APPRECIATION

Our next Jazz session will be on Monday 27th July at 7 pm and the theme will be 'Favourite Vocalist'. This can include old or new singers.

Terry Watkins

Visit your websites

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

www.SU3ANews.co.uk

EUROPEAN HEALTH INSURANCE CARD (EHIC)

Ensure that your EHI card is still valid before you travel. If it needs renewing this can be done easily by visiting www.nhs.uk/healthcareabroad or by phoning 0845 6062030.

If you do not have a card, these contacts can also be used to acquire one - the cards are free. All you need is your NHS or NI number.

RED HAT SOCIETY

This ladies group was started in America with a view to meeting up every month for fun and frivolity. Maureen Naylor has set up a Stamford Branch – the A1 Hat attractions – and is looking for members.

The only qualification you need to join this group is a sense of fun and a red hat!

For more information contact Maureen on 01572 767365 or e-mail at maureen.naylor@goolemail.com.

ART HISTORY

The next meeting of this group will be on

Wednesday 9th September when the subject will be

An Introduction to French Art. Further details will be in the August Newsletter.

The meetings start with coffee around 10.15 am and the talks begin at 10.30 am. They are held in the Livingstone Room of the United Reformed Church in Broad Street. New member are always welcome. For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

ART HISTORY TRIP TO TURNER AND THE MASTERS

There will be a trip to the Tate Britain to see Turner and the Masters on Wednesday 21st October. The cost will be around £30. Usual leaving times – 8 am at the Bus Station and 8.05 am at the Danish Invader. Sign up at this meeting.

For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

Eighteen months after its shaky beginnings this group is now well established with a wealth of scientific and technical knowledge coupled with great enthusiasm for enquiry.

However, in the past few months the group has been diverted into looking at the possibilities of the Transitional Town (TT) movement which is rapidly expanding not only across the UK but also the world.

As a result it has now spawned a proactive organisation that could have far reaching implications for Stamford. On May 27th it brought together school and college teachers, Friends of the Earth members, reps from industry, the SKDC, Fair Trade and concerned local councillors whose aim is to introduce the concept of TT to this town. The inaugural meeting of this new initiative took place in the New College on July 1st

The question I ask myself is - 'is this type of spin off normal for U3A groups or is this a unique occurrence?'

Our work of studying climate change will, of course, continue as normal with some of our members attached to both groups.

John Polkinghorne
