



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 64

ONLINE VERSION

June 2006

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

It is with great pleasure and a little trepidation that I take over as fifth Chairman of Stamford U3A. As you can see from the list on the front page of this Newsletter I have an excellent committee to back me up. We have two new Committee members – Sue Webster who is going to be Minutes Secretary and Howard Jones who has the wonderful title of General Factotum. Paddy is going to be Deputy Chairman and is being thrown in at the deep end as I will be on my way to Amsterdam on the day of the June meeting. Gill continues as membership Secretary, Percy as Treasurer, Kate Rogers as Speaker Finder and Chris Rippington is taking over from me as Group Coordinator. With a committee like this, I have no cause for any trepidation.

As Dick has handed over, we have organised all our archives and all the Committee Minutes are intact. But what makes most interesting reading is our archive of Newsletters. We have a copy of every one since we started. Reading through them, I realised that some of our Group Leaders are the ones who originally started up the groups. This made me think that as our numbers have grown, the amount of people coming forward to lead groups has not grown at the same rate.

It isn't difficult to lead a group – especially one that meets say only once a month. No special qualities are required apart from a personal interest in the subject.

You can offer to lead a group as soon as you join the U3A. I did! My Monday Spanish Group is still going strong. So please, don't be backward at coming forward. If you think you have a specific interest you would like to share with a few like minded people, do get in touch with our new Group Coordinator, Chris Rippington.

We have come a long way since our foundation in 1993. The original number of members was 12. We're now over 500. There were five original study groups four of which are still going strong – Literature (we now have four of these groups), Rambling and Musical Appreciation. The Local History Group (initially called the Stamford History Group) started with four members. They now get well over 50 at their monthly meetings. Incidentally the charge for room hire and coffee at the monthly meetings in 1994 was 80p. So at 50p twelve years on, you are getting a bargain!

And these five original groups have now blossomed into almost 60. So I take over a really flourishing U3A. let's hope by the time I finish my stint as Chairman it will have "blossomed and flourished" even more.

Regards,

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

t: 01780 756316

e: hendy@hf-s.co.uk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hendy Farquhar-Smith	Chairman
Paddy Thompson	Deputy Chairman
Percy Moss	Treasurer
Sue Webster	Minutes Secretary
Gill Bolton	Membership Secretary
Chris Rippington	Group coordinator
Kate Rogers	Speaker Finder
Howard Jones	General Factotum

NEWSLETTER ONLINE

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

t: 01780 480611

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

July 3rd	Beatrix Potter Marion Foers
August 7th	Escape from Berlin - 1949 Mrs Northern

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

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

t: 01780 756316

e: hendy@hf-s.co.uk

July 2006 Issue Deadline **23 June 2006**

SOCIAL HISTORY

Joan Newey has come forward with a very interesting suggestion for a Social History Group. It would be a bit of an ad hoc group, with members of the group researching a specific aspect of social history and then reporting back to the group. Anyone interested in joining such a group should contact

Joan

SELF- HELP FOR HEALTH GROUP

We are back to our usual meeting times of 2 pm at the Essendine Village Hall.

We have an outing on June 6th when we will go on a Treasure Hunt walk around Stamford followed by tea at the Arts centre.

Sheila Halliday - Pegg

KEEP FIT

Clare Grant's Keep Fit Group would like some more members. They meet every Wednesday at 12.15 pm at Barn Hill. If you would like to join phone

Clare

UNDERSTANDING MUSIC

Because of the recent sad loss of John McCulloch this group needs a new leader. If there is any member – particularly a new member who has a wide knowledge of Classical Music and would like to help run this group, please could they contact either John Plumb on 757065 or me on 756316.

John will be quite happy to help a new leader run the group – so you will not be alone.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

Visit your website at
www.SU3ANews.co.uk

BLOOD BROTHERS – THE MUSICAL

The Travel Group are organising a trip to a matinee of this musical at the Birmingham Hippodrome on Wednesday 18th October.

The price will be £33 including ticket, coach and driver's tip. Full payment please at or before the July meeting.

To book please phone Paddy

STROLLERS GROUP

If you would like to take part in walks of 2 to 2.5 miles (max) at a 'gentlish speed' on a Friday morning, please contact Jose Fox and tell her of your interests, comments or any suggestions that you might have so that the strolls can be organised.

Geoff and Jose Fox

ATTENTION GROUP LEADERS

We would like to publish a little booklet describing the activities of all our groups. Please could you send a very brief outline of what your group does to me – about three sentences by snail mail, e-mail or simply phone and I'll take down the details. If you don't reply – I'll make it up myself!

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Broadway Theatre, Peterborough, 11th June, 7 pm

'Ballet music from Le Cid' - Massenet

'Guitar Concerto' - Rodrigo

'The three-cornered hat' - Manuel de Falla

Box Office: 01733 316107

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

In the recent quiz published in our magazine 'Read Our Writes' the highest score of 20 out of 23 was achieved by two entries. Nobody managed to score the full 23, but two questions were very tricky indeed. We have decided to split the £20 book token prize and award £10 to those who achieved the highest score of 20. Congratulations to H Lawrence and Mrs S Marnoch.

The answers to the quiz are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 I Understand | 13 Sandbox |
| 2 Reading Between the Lines | 14 He's Beside Himself |
| 3 Scrambled Eggs | 15 Crossroads |
| 4 Bi-plane | 16 Glance Backwards |
| 5 The Plot Thickens | 17 Three Degrees Below Zero |
| 6 Neon Light | 18 Bees in her Bonnet |
| 7 Touchdown | 19 Long Underwear |
| 8 Life After Death | 20 Downtown |
| 9 GI Overseas | 21 Split Level |
| 10 Man Overboard | 22 Tri-cycle |
| 11 Circles Under the Eyes | 23 Six Feet Underground |
| 12 Just Between You and Me | |

From the Archives

Newsletter Issue 2 - October 1994

Discussion Group

'We have tended to stray a little at times as the subjects have opened further interesting avenues and have found that some member has a veritable fount of knowledge in the area. To quote from Jean Thompson "Every third ager has something valuable to offer whether academic knowledge or life experience".'

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

'An optimist is a man who starts a crossword with a fountain pen'. Anon.

'The average amount of sleep required by the average person is five minutes more'. Max Kaufman.

'A lady of 102 was asked if she had any worries. She replied "No, not since I got my eldest son into an old people's home"'. Anon.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2006/07

100+ members have not yet paid their renewal fee, which was due on 31st March! So if you have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible.

It would help considerably if all groups leaders and members could check that they and friends have renewed their membership for this year - **particularly those who do not attend main meetings.** Please let me have the name and address of anyone who does not wish to renew.

Membership fee is still only £6.

Gill Bolton, Membership Secretary 480611

SCIENCE GROUP

The next meeting of the Science Group will be on June 8th at 2 pm in the small upper room at Barn Hill. The talk and demonstration by Phillip Strauss will be an Electrifying Experience.

Percy Moss

Science Group Trip to London

On 11 May two minibuses of the Science Group sped through a boiling hot day to a visit to the Royal College of Physicians in Regents Park, to be greeted with a delicious buffet lunch. Then a tour of this august institution, encompassing architecture, portraits, alarming antique medical instruments - urgh - physic garden, mind-stunning library, finale the first, original Caxton. Yes, before our very eyes.

This event arranged, conducted, shepherded by Ms Caroline Moss Gibbon, clever, kind and beautiful. The fact that she is my step-daughter in no way influenced me. A Great Day Out.

Meg Atkins Moss

Church Visiting Group

Our June visit will be on Friday, 30th to St Firmins, Thurlby. The church is not in the village but the on the other side of the main road.

Meet at 11 am at the Church. Lunch will be at the nearby Horseshoe Inn - there is no need to move the car.

Anna Bridger

CONSTABLE EXHIBITION TRIP

The Art History trip to the Constable Exhibition at the Tate Britain will be on Wednesday 14th June. The coach will leave the Bus Station at 8.00 am and the Danish Invader at 8.05 am.

Please note that there is once again a £2 charge for parking the in the Danish Invader Car Park. Put £2 in an envelope with your car registration written on and put it through the blue door at the back.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be held in the United Reformed Church Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesday 20th June. Everyone welcome. Please note that there will not be any meetings in July and August.

For further information about the group please contact

Mary Rowe

SERVICE TO MEMBERS

The website now has a new item which provides service to members, the following advisory subjects are offered:

Are you troubled by advertising 'cold' telephone calls?

Do you want to stop unsolicited advertising mail?

Would you like to ensure your safety on the Internet?

We welcome any feed-back on these topics, and would like to have your views in which other subjects would be of interest and of value to our members. Please send your contributions to

Hendy@hf-s.co.uk

ART HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of the Art History group will be on:

Wednesday 13th September in the Livingstone Room of the United Reformed Church starting at 10.30 am with coffee beforehand.

The subject will be Canaletto

Everyone is welcome to come along to these meetings.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

WALKING GROUP

June 2 nd	Market Overton Black Bull	5	Eric Woods	
June 9 th	Denton Welby Arms	5	Roger Teasdale	
June 16 th	South Luffenham The Coach House	5	Roger Teasdale	

Queries on individual walks to the Walk Leader. General queries to Eric or Avery Woods.
All walks start at 10.30 am. Please try to share cars.