



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 85

ONLINE VERSION

March 2008

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

February has been a month of mixed weather and I hope none of our members was hurt when Stamford was turned into a skating rink on the 19th. We have had some good news and bad news about two of our past committee members. First, Norman Dean, a stalwart member of Stamford U3A for many years and a former Group Co-ordinator died in January. We send our sympathies to his wife Elizabeth also a long standing member who was leader of a Music Appreciation Group. But the good news is that our previous but one chairman, Rosemary McCulloch got married in Australia on the 17th of February. I have e-mailed her our best wishes.

Apologies to the three new members who turned up at Barn Hill on the 21st of February. We had to change the date after printing the Newsletter and we thought that we had got in touch with everyone about the change. I do hope this does not put you off from joining in U3A activities.

In the Newsletter there is a very kind invitation from Ketton Tennis Club to use their facilities during the summer months. This is the first invitation of the kind that we have received so please, please do take it up – all you keen tennis types. If enough people join, we could have a Tennis Group Leader who could help co-ordinate things. And if anyone has any idea for new groups don't be backward about coming forward.

You will have found already that there is no parking allowed in the car park today and I am afraid that the same "circumstances beyond our control" have forced us to alter the premises for our main meeting today. The Church is needed for a funeral and therefore we will not be able to use it for John's Recital. The Vicar of All Saints' has very kindly let us use his church for the meeting, so after coffee, please can you make your way through the tunnel down to All Saints'.

You will find that we have blocked off access to the church so please do not try to go that way. If you have a mobility problem, we have people on hand to help you. Further announcements will be made while you are drinking your coffee. Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you. I am sure you understand that from time to time the needs of the Church's parishioners must have priority over us.

This month's Newsletter sees an innovation – Can Anybody Help? Joan Newey needs help with her computer but I am sure there are other problems out there that you would like to have solved. If you have anything that you think other members can help with, do let us know and we will print your cry for help.

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

March 3rd A Musical Interlude
J Comber and J Pescher

April 7th Mutual Community Support
Gp Capt RLA Atherton
OC RAF Wittering

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

April Issue deadline 25 March

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

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL due 1st April

Membership renewal forms will be available when you register at March meeting. We will have an additional table to avoid congestion.

The renewal forms are being issued well in advance to ensure that the renewal process can be carried out gradually and smoothly.

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

The next meeting of the group will be held at the Rhyall Village Hall on March 17th at 2 pm.

Arts, Crafts and Skills are a continuous need in order to keep our hands busy and our brains focussed. At the meeting we are having a display of our members interests and talents. It is hoped that some information will be given on each skill or craft and why the member became interested etc. There will be a short session firstly about charities and Sheila will give a presentation on one of her favourite medical charities. All welcome.

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

MANSION HOUSE TRIP

I have managed to arrange a trip to the Mansion House for a guided tour on Wednesday 2nd July. I am also trying to combine this with a trip to the Guildhall. Unfortunately the Guildhall cannot be booked for tours until 6 weeks before the date required. Therefore at the moment, I cannot guarantee a guided tour of the Guildhall. However, I can arrange a guided tour of the Guildhall Art Gallery.

The way this will be organised is that our group will be split into two groups. The first group will have their tour of the Mansion House at 11 am finishing at 12.30 pm. They will then make their way to the Guildhall (five minutes' walk) to get there for their guided tour at 2 pm, followed if enough people want it, by a tour of the Art Gallery at 3 pm finishing at 4.30 pm approx.

The second group will have their guided tour of the Guildhall at 11 am finishing at noon, followed by the tour of the Art Gallery – depending on numbers, at 1 pm. This tour will finish at 2.30 pm and they will have to make their way to the Mansion House for their tour at 3 pm - finishing at 4.30 pm. As you can see, if you do the three tours it will be quite a busy day so the only compulsory tour is for the Mansion House.

So when you sign up please say which tours you want to take. The cost for the guided tour of the Mansion House and the Guildhall and the coach is £15 payable on booking. The cost for the guided tour of the Mansion House, the Guildhall and the Guildhall Art Gallery and the coach will be £20. If there only 25 people or fewer want to do the Art Gallery tour then that tour will be around 1 pm. Bookings are being taken on a first come first served basis.

Please make your cheques payable to Stamford U3A Art History Group.

We will leave the Bus Station at 8 am and the Danish Invader at 8.05 am. There will not be a comfort stop at Baldock as we must arrive at the Mansion House by 10.45 am. Please ring me if you would like any more information.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

BALLROOM DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be held on Wednesday 26th March at 2.30 pm in the Roman Catholic Church Hall. New members welcome.

Meg Atkins Moss

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Volunteers are required to provide technical support at the monthly meetings, by operating the audio visual equipment at Barn Hill.

If you are interested and have a reasonable knowledge of computers, please contact Hendy. Any required training will be provided.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The Committee are delighted to announce that Christine Bearne has expressed her willingness to be the Group's new chairman.

WINTER 2008

March 11th – Ann Feather will speak about Lady Margaret Beaufort (Henry VII's mother) who lived in Collyweston Palace

Particulars of the Summer Programme will be available at the March meeting.

TRAVEL GROUP

Istanbul was the clear winner in the voting for the mid October 2008 autumn holiday. We will stay in Istanbul for 5 nights.

An overnight trip to Bristol and Bath for early September is also planned. There are some places left for the holiday in Ireland commencing on 15th May. Details of these events are available from Dick Colgrove at the Travel Desk.

The next meeting of the Travel group will be at 10 am on 29th April at Barn Hill.

KETTON TENNIS CLUB

We have received a very kind invitation from Ketton Tennis Club to make use of their courts on Wednesday mornings from 10.30 am – 12 noon each week during the summer beginning on Wednesday 26th March. There will be two members of the Club present to help with coaching and organise games as wished. This is a very good opportunity for anyone who wants to learn the game or improve their game and have the fun of a social morning. You may invite friends to join you who are not members of the U3A.

There will be a small cost of £2 per session but this will include all tennis balls, coaching and refreshment drinks. Please let Terry Connolly on 01572 812902 know if you are interested by the 17th of March and also tell her if you are beginners or improvers. Tennis rackets can be provided so tell Terry your requirements on this and whether men's or ladies' rackets are required.

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th March at 10.30 a.m. in the Roman Catholic Church Hall.

Apologies to anyone who turned up on the 19th of February – the meeting was cancelled because of the extreme weather conditions.

Mary Rowe

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GROUP

The next meeting of the Science Group will be held on March 13th at Barn Hill Methodist Church.

The talk will be given by Tony Wakefield on the effects of global warming on the sea level around the United Kingdom and what we can do about it. Something will be revealed at this talk that the general public have not considered.

Percy Moss

STROLLERS

Friday 14th March **Wothorpe**

Meet at the Barnack Road entrance to Burghley Park, opposite the end of Water Street at 11 am. Lunch will not be booked.

Anna and Harold Bridger

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

Future dates are:

March 5th and 19th . **April 2nd, 16th and 30th** at 11 am at Barn Hill Methodist Church. New members are always very welcome.

Graham Creedy

STARTING A STRING QUARTET

John Hagan would like to start up a string quartet.

Are you musically inclined? Do you play?

If you are interested please ring John .

THE CAN ANYBODY HELP CORNER

Normally intelligent, but technologically illiterate female would be grateful for help in sorting out her computer. I am completely lost in Broadband, e-mail, and something about wireless for which I have a box of things which have left me totally confused.

I need someone who can explain simply, in words of one syllable leaving me with a check list of actions for each mode. I have been left reeling by people who talk very fast and use computer jargon leaving me more confused than I was to begin with.

CAN ANYBODY HELP?

If so, please contact

Joan Newey

WALKING GROUP

All walks on the first or the third Friday starting at 10 am.

March 7th **Fotheringhay**
Rosemary Henley

March 21st **Greatham Valley Golf Course**
Marion Teesdale

This group is looking for additional members, especially men! For more information, or to join contact

Chris Rippington

CALLING ALL GROUP LEADERS

Head Office have sent a general information pack for all group leaders. It covers all aspects from setting up a group, how to deal with unruly members, what to do when a group is failing, where to get resources within the U3A and much more.

If you would like a copy, please let Hendy know. There will be one available for you to look at at the March meeting. It is around 20 pages long – so there will be a lot of photocopying to do if lots of group leaders want them.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

ART HISTORY GROUP

Art History in March will consist only of the trip to the Royal Academy on the 12th of March.

There will be no meeting on the 26th of March and we will resume in

April 9th when the subject will be **Futurism**.

The meetings are held in the United Reform Church Hall upstairs in the Livingstone Room. Talks start at 10.30 am with coffee from around 10.15 am. Everyone welcome. For more information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

LIVERPOOL ART TOUR

The Deepings U3A are organising a five day Art Tour to Liverpool on the 9th June 2008.

Price is from £339 and there will be visiting the Walker Art Gallery, the Liverpool Tate, the cathedrals, Speke Hall, Shugborough Estate and calling in at the Lowry at Salford on the way back.

For more information, please contact

Brian Thornthwaite 01778 343093

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

The next meeting of this group will be held at 1030 am on Thursday 13th March at 10.30 at Barn Hill.

Rita Wood

VISIT YOUR WEBSITES

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

www.SU3ANews.co.uk