



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 93

November 2008

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

I am sorry to have to report the loss of another of our members - Bob Caldwell on Saturday 18th of October. He regularly attended our meetings and was a very active member of the Intermediate Bridge Group. He will be sorely missed and we send our deepest sympathy to Sheila at this time.

We have an innovation this month. As we had so much material, we have taken the list of Groups off the back page to make more room for news. The list of Groups is available separately. One of the items on the back page is a brief report on our recent Istanbul trip. As you will read it was a huge success and I know Dick is hoping to have the forms for Annecy in the spring ready for today's meeting.

You will be delighted to hear that the money you donated at the October meeting raised £374 for the Bansang Hospital. This will pay for a regular supply of cannulas which are used to introduce fluids and drugs into patients who need them urgently. I received a very appreciative letter from Anita Smith which I put up on the notice board. If you missed it upstairs you can look at it downstairs after the meeting.

I also received a copy of a letter sent to Joyce Burton from one the recipients of our parcels. This was also on the notice board and you can read it later if you like. I have put the letter on the notice board but I thought the end of it was worth including here. "So from me and the boys, thank you again. We appreciate all that you do. It

is an honour to serve you folk back home, just like our seniors did and their seniors did and so on. All our love, The Squaddies from Stamford".

In fact this has been the month for letters. After a long silence I also heard from Kathy Lynn James – the American lady who used our Art Craft Groups as the basis for her PhD. She has now finished her thesis and received her doctorate. She is sending a couple of copies to us – one for the U3A archives and another for Stamford Library.

Once these arrive I will bring them to a meeting for you to have a look at. She is also going to send me some digital copies on CDs as pdf files so if you are interested let me know.

And now for more mundane matters. Every year at the December meeting you are asked to pay 50p in addition to the £3 you have paid for your ticket for the Buffet lunch. The £3 covers only the cost of the subsidised lunch. We still need your 50p to cover the cost of coffee, hall hire and the Newsletter. This also means that if you don't want to stay for the lunch, you can come along, pay your 50p and enjoy the entertainment.

Thank you very much,

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

November 3rd **The Galapagos Islands**
Henry Stanier

December 1st **Christmas Entertainment
and Buffet**

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

November Issue deadline 21 November

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**
- Thu 13th Nov** **Calendar Girls** at Cambridge Arts Theatre
- Sat 20th Dec** John Rutter's **Christmas Celebration** at Westminster Central Hall
- Wed 14th Jan** **Piaf**, with Elena Roger
Vaudeville Theatre
- Thu 19th Feb** Rodgers and Hammerstein's
Carousel, at the Savoy Theatre
- Wed 18th Mar** **Enjoy** by Alan Bennett, with
Alison Steadman, David Troughton
at the Gielgud Theatre

For information, prices and application forms contact
Karyl Rey 753769

ART GROUP 2

Art group 2 is looking for new members. If you would like to join this group please contact Bernie Atter

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be held at the Roman Catholic Church Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesday 18th November. Everyone welcome. More information contact
Mary Rowe

PIANO AND ORGAN RECITAL

On Saturday November 22nd, John Comber and Jim Peschak will be giving a Duo Piano recital with organ music at Lyddington Church near Uppingham at 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

ART HISTORY

The next meeting of the Art History Group will be held on Wednesday 26th November upstairs in the Livingstone Room at the United Reformed Church Hall.

Coffee from 10.15 am – talk at 10.30 am.

This month's subject is **An Introduction to Spanish Art.**

More information contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE CROWN

Monday 15th December at 12.30 pm.

Price £16.95. Please sign up today and pay. Please make your cheques payable to The Crown Hotel. Menu choice is now available. For more information contact

Paddy Thompson

WALKING GROUP

November 7th **Hallaton**
Carolyn Mellows 755864

November 21st **Wadenhoe Village, Kings Head**
Helen Simmonds

Walks start at 10 am. There will be an opportunity to have a pub lunch afterwards.

For more information contact Chris Rippington

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting 13th November will be held at 25, Edinburgh Road. Please ring Joan Shields to confirm you are coming.

The December 11th meeting will be at Les Coquelicots First Drift, Wothorpe. Please ring Jim Guthrie on to confirm your attendance.

ART HISTORY VISIT TO 'BRUEGEL TO RUBENS' EXHIBITION

On 12th November, the Art History Group are going to the 'Bruegel to Rubens' Exhibition at the Queen's Gallery followed by the Renaissance Portraits Exhibition at the National Gallery. There is also a small exhibition of Sisley in Britain at the National Gallery.

The coach will drop us off at the Queen's Gallery and after seeing the Bruegel we will then walk up to the National Gallery. If you think the walk is too much for you, the coach will drop you off at the National Gallery. The cost will be £35. We will leave the Bus Station at 8 am and the Danish Invader at 8.05 am. Contact

Hendy Farquhar-Smith 756316

STROLLERS

November 14th White Horse, Empingham (Remember about closed road). Oakham 10.30 bus will do well.

Janet Kempson .

December 12th Normanton car park, Rutland Water.

Nancy Alexander .

January 9th A stroll around Ketton

Jose Fox

HELP WANTED

We need four active people to help clear up at the end of the Buffet Lunch. If you would like to help, please ring

Hendy 756316

SELF HELP FOR HEALTH

Due to the ill health of the instructor, we were not able to have our line dancing last month so we are holding it on our next meeting on November 17th in the Ryhall Village Hall. All welcome. There will not be a regular meeting in December.

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT AND BUFFET

Tickets for the Christmas Entertainment and Buffet are on sale today.

Contact Percy Moss during the meeting. Remember that numbers are limited for this event, so buy your tickets early and avoid disappointment!

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

Next Dates are 5th and 19th November and 3rd and 17th December.

Dancing takes place upstairs in Barn Hill at 11 am. New members are very welcome.

Graham Creedy

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION GROUP

The group holds its meetings at Priory Court at 14.30 on the second Wednesday in the month and the next meeting is on 12th November.

The subject will be 'The Chancellor's autumn speech to Parliament', but in the view of the financial crisis affecting the whole world, the subject will cover a much wider field.

New members are always welcome, contact

Betty Meadows or George Birch

JAZZ APPRECIATION GROUP

Our November meeting will be on Monday 24th - please note the time has now been changed to 2 pm during the winter months.

As this will be the last meeting of 2008, the theme for this session will be Celebrations ie seasons - Christmas in particular, birthdays or any other notable occasion.

As always we will enjoy the choices everyone manages to find and play.

Terry Watkins

BALLROOM DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be on Wednesday, 26th November from 3 to 4.30 pm at the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Broad Street.

Everyone welcome. No need to have a partner.

Meg Atkins Moss

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

The Drama Group respectfully advises patrons that their Christmas production The Emperor's New Clothes has been classified Parental Guidance, as it contains explicit scenes which may disturb those of a sensitive disposition. If in doubt, please contact Rita King.

Because of the nature of this performance, no one under the age of 18 will be allowed to be in the Hall.

Many thanks

Philip Dale

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Autumn Concert

Sibelius	Finlandia
Elgar	Cello Concerto
Dvorak	9th Symphony, from the New World

Sunday 16th November at 3 pm

Conductor Paul Hilliam, Soloist Tim Gill (Principal Cellist RPO), Leader Angus Gibbon

Broadway Theatre, Tickets £12 (concessions £10)
Accompanied School Children (16 and under) Free

Contact Broadway Theatre 01733 316100

SINGING FOR PLEASURE

We will be practising for the Christmas concert, so make sure you all come. Everyone welcome. There will be nothing difficult, so turn up at 10.30 at Barnhill on Thursday, 13th November.

The concert is always great fun so come and make it happen!

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

We provide a valued service, would you like to join in? Commitment is only one duty per month. The task is for drivers and helpers to collect books from the library and deliver them to recipients' homes. Full training is provided and travel expenses incurred are paid.

If you are interested contact Lincolnshire Libraries 01522 782010 or the WRVS 0845 6014670.

SINGING GROUP

Elizabeth Snowball has restarted her group to get ready for the Christmas season. As well as practising two pieces for the concert, the group will again give great pleasure to residents at local rest homes.

If you would like to sing in harmony rather than in unison go along to All Saints' Church on Wednesday mornings from 11 to 12 am.

Contact Elizabeth Snowball

DISCUSSION GROUP

Due to lack of support for continuation of this group, it has been reluctantly decided not to hold any further meetings and to wind it up, unless or until there is renewed interest in the idea.

Tony Barry

LOCAL HISTORY

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th November (Armistice Day) with a talk about the First World War in Stamford, by John Plumb.

Meetings are held at Barn Hill at 10am for 10.30am. All welcome.

Christine Bearne .

ISTANBUL TRIP

37 intrepid travellers set out in the dark in the middle of the night (5.30 am) on the Monday and 37 intrepid travellers came back in the middle of the afternoon on the following Saturday. The days in between were spent in various Group activities. Church Visiting was top of the list with the entire party visiting two mosques and a Greek Orthodox chapel. Some real keen types visited more mosques perhaps beguiled by the muezzin who called from the minaret opposite the hotel – and served as an excellent alarm clock – albeit a little early! He started his call to prayers at sunrise!

Some temporary groups were formed – a Bosphorus Boating Group and a Princes' Islands boating group. Each of these outings led to two excellent Luncheon Groups with our doughty travellers attacking strange foods they had not experienced before. Of course they did not tackle these meals until the two burning questions had been answered, "Is lunch included?" and "Can you eat the salad?" Another gastronomic experience was laid on at breakfast – runny jam – into which you dipped your toast rather than spread it.

The Princes' Island Boating Group also led to the temporary formation of the Chariot Riding Group. Our guide, Gurçan announced that on both of the islands we were to visit, we would be riding on chariots. These turned out to be little horse drawn carriages – seating

four people on tacky plastic seats.

On the first island they were so fast that some of our party nearly fell out but on the second island our driver was no Ben Hur and we got back about twenty minutes after the main party to find we had missed the boat back. However the two hour wait for the next one passed quickly enough with lashings of apple tea.

Another highlight was the cistern which has been part of the Istanbul water system since Roman times. Situated underground, it has over 1000 columns, which gives it an appearance of an underground temple.

No visit to Istanbul would be complete without a good look round the Topkapi Palace and a bargain hunt in the Bazaar. Both missions were accomplished to such an extent that the majority of the party had run out of Turkish Lira by the time we got to the airport for our return flight.

Thank you to Dick for organising the trip and thank you my fellow travellers for being such good company.

Hendy Farquhar-Smith

HARLAXTON

2009

Summer Schools

FIRST SCHOOL 5 to 8 July

Dukes of Rutland	John Plumb
Art in Spain	Hendy Farquhar-Smith
Creative Writing 'Ways In'	Di Watson
Papercraft	Jill Dunn
Antiques and Collectables	Peter Edwards
Great 9th Symphonies	David Lovell Brown

**The second school is now fully booked.
Places are still available for the first school**

For more information and to obtain application forms:

www.HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk (application forms can be downloaded) or e-mail:
info@HarlaxtonU3A.co.uk