



Stamford Third Age Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue 80

ONLINE VERSION

October 2007

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

It's Harlaxton time again. I make no apologies for the fact that the Newsletter is being somewhat dominated by information about the 2008 Harlaxton Summer Schools. Firstly I think the article written by one of the people attending this year gives an excellent introduction for our new members to whom Harlaxton is simply a place name and secondly because the courses filled up so rapidly last year, we don't want anyone in Stamford U3A to miss the boat.

If you were there this year and you have not yet received your information and application forms for next year in the post, please wait a few days for the mail to catch up. If you have not heard anything by Monday the 8th then do get in touch with me.

Our very first Shared learning Project on the history of the Rec has been a great success. Many thanks to Joan Newey and her team for all their hard work. If you know of any other organisation that is looking for someone to research a project, please let me or Joan know as this is something that is really appreciated by other members of our community.

We have as usual quite a few new members and they have raised a few issues that might need to be clarified. One is that you can join as many groups as you want – as long as there is room for you –

another is that there is no "right" time to join a group – you can join at any time of the year. And the most important is that none of the groups – apart from the Bridge Groups requires any previous knowledge of the subject – only a keenness to learn and take part. You don't need to be an expert to lead a group either. Again an interest in the subject and the willingness to do some work is all that is needed – we don't want our group leaders to be dominated by retired teachers!

Talking of Group Leaders – don't forget the Workshop for Creative Writing, Music and History to be held at Winthorpe Community Centre on Thursday 18th October. Ring Chris on 764489 if you would like to go.

We will be selling tickets at the November meeting for the Christmas entertainment and Buffet at £3 each. If you cannot make the meeting and you would like a ticket please phone Percy on 482446. The tickets have to be limited because of the size of the halls, but there should be enough to go round. Don't miss this event simply because you have to miss the November meeting.

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	
Jill Haynes	

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

October 1st **A Collection of Trivia from the Archives of Stamford Hospital**
David Baxter

November 5th **The Prince's Charities**
Ann Chant CB

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 22 October

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

HARLAXTON 2008

U3A SUMMER SCHOOLS

6 to 9 July

Royal Edwardians **Jean Townsend**
The - isms of Art **Hendy Farquhar-Smith**
Art for All **Sally Crew**
Geology & Landscapes in Britain **John Aram**
Short Walks **Gordon Young**
English Musical Renaissance **David Lovell Brown**

10 to 13 July

More Paper Craft **Jill Dunn**
Eminent Edwardians **John Plumb**
Polish up your Computer Skills **Pam Bisnauthing**
DH Lawrence **Dr Jane Mackay**
The Buildings of Lincolnshire **David Start**
Singing for Fun **Paul White**

For more information and to obtain application forms:

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

Phone Hendy 01780 756316 or Pat 01778 341248

Book early, places are taken up very quickly!

SCIENCE GROUP

Unfortunately there will not be a Science Group meeting in October.

The next meeting on Thursday November 8th, will be a visit to the JODRELL BANK RADIO TELESCOPE in Cheshire.

This trip will be by coach, tickets will be approximately £22 including entrance fee. If you are interested, please put your name on the list.

Confirmation of actual cost and coach times will be in the November News Letter. For more information contact

Percy Moss

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

Once again we are looking for members of the U3A to entertain us at our December meeting.

If you would like to do your party piece get in touch with Rita Wood on .

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

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE CROWN

This annual event will be held on Monday 17th December at the Crown Hotel. Please sign up for this at the September meeting and make your choice of menu. The cost will be £16.95 and full payment will be due in October. If you cannot make the meeting phone Paddy on .

ART HISTORY GROUP

The next meetings of the Art History Group will be on Wednesday,

October

10th Whistler

24th Millais - based on the paintings in the Exhibition.

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.

VISIT YOUR WEBSITES

www.StamfordU3A.co.uk

www.SU3ANews.co.uk

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Autumn Concert will be held on Sunday 14th October at 3 pm in the Broadway Theatre.

Tickets are £12 – Concessions £10 with accompanied children under 16 free. Tickets available from the Broadway Theatre t: 01733 316100.

Programme – Rossini's Thieving Magpie Overture, Mozart's Horn Concerto No 4 and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 6 (Pathetique).

TRAVEL GROUP

SPRING HOLIDAY VENUE

At the latest Travel Group meeting members voted to go to Ireland, staying in Dublin and Killarney. Details and booking forms available from Dick Colgrove at the Travel Desk.

MILLAIS EXHIBITION

There will be a trip to the Millais Exhibition at Tate Britain on Wednesday 14th November.

The cost will be £20 payable when you sign up. Please sign up at the meeting or contact Hendy on 756316. We will leave the Bus Station at 8 am and Danish Invader at 8.05 am.

DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of the Discussion group will be at the Tobie Norris, on Wednesday, 17th October at 2.30 pm to discuss the topic:

Is Britain really an increasingly violent and lawless country and is the only solution to lock up more people?

Tony Barry

HARLAXTON

Harlaxton must be seen to be believed and even when one has seen it, it is not always easy to believe

(Mark Girourard)

I longed to see beyond the eccentric façade and the U3A's Summer School provided me with an entrée. The U3A have been using Harlaxton Manor for five years and some students have never missed; such is its popularity that the committee eschews reports of its success as once the booking is opened, it gets filled in a very short time.

Let's take a tour of the Manor. Inside the front door there is a gentleman's cloakroom, a vast fireplace and a wide stone staircase somewhat reminiscent of Citizen Kane. You can, from the landing, walk the length of the Great Hall, gape at the huge crystal chandelier made for a Madrid Palace, enter the Dining Room, now joyfully the Bar and pass into the Ante Room which makes Versailles look austere.

Next is the Long Gallery and one discovers, confusingly and rather like being in an Escher drawing you are back at ground level: you will dine and be entertained here on at least one occasion. A beautiful conservatory follows with pool and Koi and plants donated by Kew: the artists usually bag this spot. The Gold Drawing Room follows with its 92 putti, trompe l'oeil ceiling and enough gilding for the most demanding Midas.

Incredibly the pièce de résistance is still to come! The Cedar Staircase is the house's most outrageous feature: it actually only leads up three flights but the ceiling, false clerestory balcony, allegorical figures, drapes, clam shells, atlantes cherubs and various other decorative devices vie for the viewers attention. The painted sky is at the 7th floor level. It is not rare to see visitors lying on the inlaid marble floor just for the view.

As students wander round trying to find where coffee is being served, like some latter day Theseus, they will catch glimpses of others - a group admiring The Last of England, snatches of Elgar, singing from the Long Gallery and painters in wrapt concentration. All this plus extensive gardens and distant views of Belvoir (one less room than Harlaxton) can be yours as it was for U3Aers this year. Make a date for 2008 - you won't regret it.

David Harrison - Hall

SELF-HELP FOR HEALTH GROUP

At the meeting on October 15th, in Ryhall Village Hall, we are welcoming an Optometrist who's talk is entitled "But will it make me blind?"

This is apparently one of the most frequently asked questions from customers and he has promised that it will be gentle on us whilst encouraging us to go for regular eye checks. Preceding the talk we will talk about epidemics and pandemics and precautions to take.

Sheila Halliday-Pegg

CHURCH VISITING GROUP

The continuation of the Group has been very successful - our thanks to members who have arranged church visits.

A meeting will be held in February to organise the 2008 programme, and details will be published in the January Newsletter.

Mavis Sharpe and Elaine Ward

SCOTTISH STRATHSPEY DANCING

The next meetings will be on:

3rd, 17th and 31st October. 14th and 28th November.

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

Graham Creedy

WALKING GROUP

Programme Fridays 10 am

October 5th Fox and Hounds Exton
Margaret Harkey

October 19th Red Lion West Deeping
Aileen Marriott

November 2nd Hare and Hounds, Greatford
Ann Henley

For more information contact:

Chris Rippington 764489

COUNTRY DANCING

The next meeting of this group will be held at the Roman Catholic Church Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesday 16th October. Everyone welcome - more information contact

Mary Rowe

STROLLERS

Fridays

October 12th. Meet at The Northwick Arms, Ketton before 11 am. Leader Jose Fox.

November 9th. A walk in Fineshade Forest. Leader Margaret Mitchell.

Wanted: Leaders for 14 December and 11 January.

Anna Bridger
