



February 2017

Our monthly meetings take place in Kibworth Grammar School Hall, on the third Tuesday of the month, 1.45 - 3.45 pm.

Please note: Doors will not be opened until 1.30 pm.

***This month's meeting: Tuesday 21st February
Life in Music by Andy Smith***

Forthcoming dates for your diary include

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 21 st March | Easter Egg making and decorating - <i>Tom Phillips</i> |
| Tuesday 18 th April | Martin's Quiz |

Your New 2017 Committee



Left to right: Stephen Poyzer, Christine Spinks, David Porter, Linda Chambers, Ron Spinks, Carol Townend, Roger Whiteway, Gail Goldie, Ian Hearn, Ann Robinson and Cliff Hollingsworth

Chairman's Chunters

Hi Folks,

Well it looks as though we will have a full quota of committee members for this year, thanks to four worthy volunteers. They say that 'one volunteer is better than ten pressed men', well I didn't have to 'press any men' although one of our lady volunteers did require 'a reassuring cuddle' from your chairman to clinch the deal (it's a tough job being chairman but someone has to do it!). This winter seems to be dragging on a bit I for one am a bit 'fed up' with this 'ere global warming! I suspect that in a previous life I might well have been a creature that hibernated, seems like a worthy idea as I look out the window at the feeble snowflakes drifting by? Anyway, a silly story to cheer us all up.

A vicar was walking down the street when he came upon a group of a dozen small boys surrounding a dog. He was most concerned and asked suspiciously 'What are you doing with that dog?' One of the boys replied 'He's just a neighbourhood stray which we all want'. 'We've decided whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog'. The vicar was furious and went into a ten minute rant against lying, beginning, 'Don't you know it's a sin to tell a lie' and ended with 'When I was your age I never told a lie!' There was dead silence for a moment or two, just as the vicar was beginning to think he'd got through to them, the smallest boy gave a big sigh and said. 'All right, give him the dog'!

Looking forward to this month's talk by Andy Smith who talks about and plays a variety of musical instruments, should be interesting to a non-musical bod like me, I've only ever been able to play on the linoleum as a child! Actually, that's not strictly true, I did once manage to perform 'Happy Birthday to You' on a recorder for my dad as a child at a family 'do'. Then I noticed everyone present had pained expressions with gritted teeth and decided against a career in music around about then. See you Tuesday.

Regards

Roness

Do you fancy dancing?

Several members have said they may be interested in joining a group to learn or practise ballroom dancing. This would need to involve an experienced teacher and would have to include fees and possibly travel expenses so would not be cheap. Anyone who is interested should ensure they have an available partner. We need someone to offer to "lead" this group which would simply involve liaising with the teacher, booking premises and collecting fees. If you are interested please contact Groups Co-ordinator Ian Hearn whose details are at the back of the Newsletter. If the numbers seem to make such a group viable we will try to find a suitable teacher.



Possible New Group

Do you have a thirst for knowledge? Would you be interested in joining a new wine appreciation group? If so please contact John Freeland.

JFreeland@btinternet.com

0116 279 6369 or 0751 207 3618

U3A Matters

News from Our Interest Groups

Anglo-Zulu War Study Group

The U3A Kibworth Carbineers (**dismounted**) successfully thwarted the attempts by the Whirling Dervishers to “tweak the lion’s tail” in the Sudan and are now in strict training for their next campaign in the Dark Continent. At our next parade we will be undertaking a recce into the background of the Zulu nation and its impis in order to be better prepared to cope with the enemy when we are placed “under orders”.

Martin Crofts 0116 279 2218
martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

Art Appreciation

Since the last issue of the U3A Newsletter several of our group have seen a couple of films - borrowed for free from U3A Central Resources - and visited the only house in England to have been re-designed by the famous Scottish architect Charles Rennie Macintosh, namely 78 Derngate, Northampton. (Front door pictured below)



If you have been recently watching the BBC One 'reality competition' television series on Interior Design then this house should be on your ‘must see’ list. Not only is the house spectacularly decorated the associated background information from the guide is also very interesting. Guided

talks take place at 12 noon and at 1.30 pm and are free but you need to book preferably in advance on 01604 603407. Your ticket costs £7.50 unless you belong to English Heritage and then it’s a snip at only £6.25 and lasts a year so you can visit as often as you like. 78 Derngate is celebrating its centenary this February since it was re-ordered back in March 1917. There is a special exhibition to commemorate this which lasts until 19 April. The group have yet to decide on our next visit.

Stephen Poyzer 077133 28028
stephenpoyzer@gmail.com

(Duplicate) Bridge

We would like more players to come to our *easy going* Duplicate Bridge sessions, which take place every Wednesday in St Wilfrid’s Church Hall. Start time 2 pm prompt. If you would like to come but do not have a partner please telephone me and I shall try to help.

John Ruddock 0116 279 2331
valruddock007@btinternet.com

(Social) Bridge Group

This is a social group mainly playing rubber bridge with occasional learning sessions. We play Chicago with prizes about once a month. We meet in the Lounge at the Grammar School Hall every Thursday, room open 2.00 to 4.30 pm with play starting by 2.10 pm. I am afraid we are at maximum capacity for the room and tables and therefore cannot take any new members for the near future.

We have just had our ‘late Christmas’ bridge lunch at Shearsby Village Hall which was very successful. Thanks to Mavis Jeffery in helping to hire the hall and caterer Jill Lewin for preparing an excellent meal. The table winners were Byron Wigley, Peggy Parry, Hugh Hackett, Mary Franks, Cliff Hollingsworth, Betty Hudspith, Gerald Mitchell, Hazel Baxter. Two other prizes were won by Nicola Porter and Clive Huntley.

Clive and Joyce Huntley 0116 279 2528
clive@huntley22.plus.com

Craft Group

This group meets in the Methodist Church Rooms at 2-4pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. We knit and sew and contribute £2 towards the cost of the room. We stop for tea and biscuits. You will be made very welcome if you join this friendly gathering. You will need your own materials.

Liz Greenhalgh 0116 240 2545
lizzmg@gmail.com

Curry Club

Our next Curry Club outing is to Babe Blooz in Market Harborough is next Sunday, 26 February. If you would like to come along for a relaxing curry with friends please do give me a call.

Chris Graves 0116 279 1505
chris@cjgraves.plus.com

Film Appreciation Group

'Manchester by the Sea' did not disappoint. A beautifully crafted film albeit full of grey landscape and human grief. I hope that Casey Affleck is at least nominated for an Oscar. The film scheduled for the last Wednesday of February (the 22nd) is '20th Century Women' directed by Mike Mills. The story is set in 1970s California and tells of a mother's struggle in dealing with her teenage son Jamie. She enlists the help of friends in the attempt to raise her son to be 'a good man'. The Phoenix programme description concludes 'Profound, witty and featuring a career-best performance from (Annette) Bening; despite its setting in the nostalgia-drenched 1970s, 20th Century Women feels timely, universal and relevant.'

On a practical note, for those that may be driving to the Phoenix the adjacent car park now has increased charges to bring it into line with Dover Street etc. However, it is still very reasonable and on my last visit had plenty of spaces vacant. If anyone needs advice regarding transport etc please do not hesitate to call me.

Hazel Taylor 0116 279 2872
hazelann.taylor@talktalk.net

Flower Arranging



Well done ladies, what a success the February theme of TV Programmes was !

The effort and imagination you all put into your arrangements was excellent.

We all had fun guessing the programme titles, which included, "Spring Watch", "Master Chef", "Through the Keyhole", "The Two Ronnies", "Bird's of a Feather", "Rosemary and Thyme", "Apple Tree Yard" and "You have been Framed".



We were all very sorry that Gill Holyoake could not be with us and wish her a speedy recovery. Pam took flowers and a card signed by the group round to Gill's house to cheer her up.

Our next meeting will be held on March 7th at 2 o'clock in the lounge when the group are invited to use flowers of their choice to make a stemmed arrangement. This can be a candlestick or any raised/ stemmed container.

Pam and Gill have spare ones, if anyone would like to use one please contact one of us before the next meeting.

After tea Sue College has kindly offered to demonstrate a "Spring Arrangement" with a theme of mainly blue and lime green flowers. For details of this friendly group please call :-

Pam O'Sullivan. 0116 240 3541

pamosullivan14@icloud.com

Gill Holyoake 0116 279 2079

Folk Group

With one of our number transported to sunnier climes for the winter and another dipping out due to other commitments (we were obviously working her too hard), we are down to 8. We could definitely do with another female vocalist, so if there are any budding Sandy Dennys out there, please let me know.

We are starting to build a new repertoire and looking out for venues at local folk clubs for live performance opportunities. This research might involve checking out the ales too. Its a hard life. Watch this space about dance ideas!

Michael Rodber 0116 279 3089

michaelrodber@me.com

Gardening Group

It was great to see so many members at our January meeting. Thank you for braving the wintry weather to attend. Dr Richard Gornall, Senior Lecturer and Director of the University of Leicester Botanic Garden, gave an illustrated talk on the classification of plants and how they get their names. After tea, we tested our little grey cells with a horticultural quiz. Congratulations to first prize winner, Anne Roberts, who narrowly beat Bob Higgins into second place by 1 point. Roger Whiteway was also rewarded for gamely owning up to having the fewest correct answers. As the Newsletter goes to press, we are looking forward to our **Trip to Cambridge University Botanic Garden on 22nd February**. The coach will leave Kibworth Grammar School Hall (KGSH) car park at 9am. We will report on the renowned Winter Garden and worldwide plant collections in the heated Glasshouses in the next issue.

We are back at **KGSH** for our meeting between **2.30-4.30pm on 29 March**. Guest speakers, Stephen Barker and Sue Blaxland, from the Leicestershire and Rutland Garden Trust will talk about restored walled gardens in these counties. We will also watch Mary's fascinating DVD of past visits during 2015/16.

All seats are currently taken for our **Half Day Coach Trip to Grimsthorpe Castle, Park & Gardens on 26 April**. The £22 payment is due by 26th February. If you would like to go on the reserve list please contact Mary.

Due to space restraints, the group is regrettably closed to new members. If you wish to go on the waiting list, please email Gail with your name, K & D U3A membership number, address, telephone number and email address.

Gail Goldie 0116 279 6882

gail.goldie@btinternet.com

Mary Franks 0116 279 3110

franksdrama@tiscali.co.uk

German Conversation

We cater for members wanting to keep up, improve, or even resurrect their conversational German. The format is relaxed and spontaneous chit-chat. We are not a study group, the only instructional element being dictionary look-up, if all else fails! We usually meet twice monthly on Wednesday morning and our meetings are hosted by members in rotation.

Ian Hearn 0116 240 3357

ian.hearn@btopenworld.com

Investment Club

Our main aim is to buy and sell stocks and shares with a social side to the experience. We have now reached our maximum number so sadly we cannot take any new members at this time. Please contact me if you want to be placed on a waiting list.

Clive Huntley 0116 279 2528

clive@huntley22.plus.com

John Thorpe 0116 240 2236

zulumowsley@aol.com

Line Dancing

We meet in the Scout Hut at 2pm on Monday afternoons. Having taken in 4 new members I'm afraid this class is full but I would be happy to start a beginner class if enough people were to express an interest. Linedancing is a great way to exercise the feet and the brain plus a very pleasant way to spend a few hours with friends.

Val Crofts 0116 279 2218
martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

Lunch Club

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th March at Goodwins (formerly the Horse and Hounds) Glen Rise, Oadby LE2 4RG.

This restaurant has recently been refurbished. Please let Pam have your menu choices asap.

Pam Moody 0116 279 2817
paminleics@aol.com

Music Appreciation

We are a sociable little house group, who all share an interest in varying types of music. We meet on the first Thursday afternoon of the month to play and briefly discuss music of a chosen subject. For the next block of meetings we will be working our way through the alphabet to discover composers, artists and music. This should take several months. Unfortunately, our group is full at the moment but if anyone is interested in joining us please give me a ring and I will try to accommodate you in the future.

Martin Crofts 0116 279 2218
martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

Painting

This Group meets in the Methodist Church Rooms at two o'clock until four on every other Friday. We contribute £2 towards the cost of the room. We stop for tea and biscuits. You will need to bring your own materials. We do not have a teacher but we learn from one another. We have room for one more person. Do not worry if your painting skills are rusty, we are not at all judgemental and everyone is made welcome. The Open Day was received very well and we have one or two new members. Thank you.

Liz Greenhalgh 0116 240 2545
lizzmg@gmail.com

Photography

At our first meeting in 2017 we discussed what topics we want to learn more about and also planned a list of visits to make during the year so that we can put our knowledge into practice. For a start, we are going to undertake a project around Kibworth and Market Harborough and surrounding areas so that we can photograph and critique areas of individual interest.

We have new members joining so please come along - any level of expertise, any apparatus as long as it takes a photograph. The next meeting is on Tuesday 21st February at 10.30 in the Kibworth Scout and Guide Hut.

Karen Spencer 0116 279 2552
spenkib@aol.com

Poetry

The Miracle by John Drinkwater (1882-1937)

*Come, sweetheart, listen, for I have a thing
most wonderful to tell you – news of Spring.
Albeit Winter still is in the air
and the Earth troubled, and the branches bare,
yet down the fields today I saw her pass -
the Spring – her feet went shining through the
grass,
she touched the ragged hedgerows – I have seen
her finger-prints, most delicately green;
and she has whispered to the crocus leaves,
and to the garrulous sparrows in the eaves.
Swiftly she passed and shyly, and her fair
young face was hidden in her cloudy hair.
She would not stay, her season is not yet,
but she has reawakened, and has set
the sap of all the world astir, and rent
once more the shadows of our discontent.
Triumphant news – a miracle I sing -
the everlasting miracle of Spring.*

Our friendly little house group continues to enjoy a selection of poets and poems. This month we read and discussed the life and works of Jackie Kay, a truly interesting person and a great poet. Next month we will be searching our books for poems on the theme of Spring.

Val Crofts 0116 279 2218
martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

Safari Supper

At the end of January seventeen of us visited The Lighthouse for another super supper evening. We were not the first to arrive but nearly and we certainly were the last to leave as we were enjoying it so much!! A selection of starters to share, some delicious sea bass or twice-baked cheese soufflé and puddings are to die for with tea or coffee to follow. All for a very reasonable £22.50. What is there not to like?

This month we are off to another of our favourite restaurants - The Bakers Arms in Thorpe Langton - for a three course feast. The Bakers is a cosy haunt and is always welcoming. Kate and Tim do us proud. This outing is on Wednesday 22nd February and is, alas, fully booked.

At the end of March we are going back to the Fox and Hounds at Tugby especially as we will have put the clocks forward and the nights will be staying lighter longer. If you wish to come along drop me an email as soon as possible. I am sure we could possibly squeeze you in. The date for our supper is Thursday 30th March.

Stephen Poyzer 0116 279 3590
stephenpoyzer@gmail.com

Singing for Pleasure

We enjoyed a very tasty lunch together after our singing session at the end of January. Our thanks to the Lunch Stop team for delicious food and excellent service. It was lovely to be able to relax and chat after flexing our vocal chords in a new song and revisiting some favourites.

Our ethos is singing for pleasure so there are no auditions. Singing lifts the spirits and is fun. Do come and join us, you would be very welcome. We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays in the month at St Wilfrid's Church Hall from 10 - 11.30am.

Sue Bradburn 0116 279 3678
sueburn@rectory-cottage.co.uk

Ann Robinson 0116 279 3226

Singles Sunday Lunch Club

The Singles Sunday Lunch group had another very enjoyable lunch on Feb 5th. The venue this time was The Bell at Gumley and the food and company were excellent and eleven of us attended.

The next date lunch will be on March 5th, venue yet to be arranged.

As always new members very welcome
If you are interested please contact me.

Anna McConachie 0116 431 1470
07966 497 360

hamanna@sky.com

Sketch Club

Our Pen and Wash session was postponed and replaced by a session at Su's sketching each other. David hosted a session on using pastels and coloured papers in your sketchbook. The session included a YouTube tutorial to demonstrate some different techniques. Very interesting and enjoyable.

Our next meeting is a sketching visit to IKEA which will provide us all with interesting challenges!



The programme for 2017 will include several outdoor sketching trips to local villages and attractions as well as a portrait session and sessions exploring other sketching techniques. We have vacant places so if you want to take up or resume sketching for fun come and join us. Plenty of help is available and all ability levels are welcome. Our main aim is to enjoy our

meetings. We meet on the second and fourth Fridays of the month between 10.30 and 12noon either at an agreed location or at one of our houses.

John Willcocks 0116 279 1085
07926 704490
Keith Holyoake 0116 279 2079

Table Tennis

We meet every Friday 2.30 to 4.30 pm at the Kibworth Scout Hut. We welcome all levels of players from good to people who have never played before, or who have not played since school, want to get some exercise, socialise and learn to play or improve table tennis. We have a break half way through for tea and biscuits and put the world to rights. We have some spare bats so why not come along and give it a try. Just turn up at the scout hut at 2.30 pm Fridays

We have just had our Christmas Lunch at The Crown, Tur Langton which was very enjoyable.
Clive Huntley 0116 279 2528
clive@huntley22.plus.com

T'ai Chi

This Group meets in the Village Hall at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesdays with our very experienced teachers. T'ai Chi is a gentle form of exercise with many benefits. No experience is required and all that is needed is comfortable clothing and shoes. If you would like to know more about the Group please contact:-

Sue Dargie 0116 279 6706
suedargie@googlemail.com

Vintage British Sitcoms

Our new group is up and running on the second Monday afternoon in the month and at our last meeting we enjoyed a compendium of The Best of British Comedy. As a tribute to the late Gordon Kaye we will be laughing at his antics in "Allo 'Allo" and, by request Sid James in "Bless this House". Our third item will feature another much missed person who made us laugh, namely Victoria Wood in "Dinner Ladies". Unfortunately, the group is now full, but if you are interested please give me a ring and I'll try to find you a place in the future.

Martin Crofts 0116 279 2218
martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

Walking Group

On a rare frosty, sunny morning on 20 January, 24 walkers, led by Colin New, set off from the Black Horse Inn, Ayleston, under the defunct Great Central Railway and over the Grand Union canal and medieval packhorse bridge where the River Soar meandered across the floodplain. We continued along cycle tracks on to the Great Central Way and into Ayleston Meadows nature reserve. From the canal towpath, we saw great spotted woodpeckers in nest building mode. We were soon back in Ayleston village and paused to see Aylestone Hall. The old streets led us past St Andrews church back to the warm pub where we were soon tucking into our delicious lunches in convivial atmosphere.

21 walkers met at The Coach & Horses, Lubenham on Friday, 3 February, for a walk led by Terry Scrivens & Heather Verrill. Starting with a climb up Mill Hill, which afforded us lovely panoramic views in the sunshine, we walked towards Foxton before heading back to the pub through muddy fields and over numerous stiles (a record number apparently !), where 22 diners enjoyed good food with excellent service.

Future walks

David and Nicola Porter will be leading a short walk on 3 March and Malcolm and Celia Lever-Jones a longer one on 17 March. Further details of these will be circulated to members in due course.

As usual, please inform the walk leader no later than two days before the event if you are planning to walk and whether or not you intend to stay for lunch (please also provide your telephone number). Our usual schedule is to walk on the first Friday morning of the month (a shorter walk), the 3rd Friday (longer) and the 5th if applicable (further afield or an opportunity for something different), all usually followed by a leisurely pub lunch. An up-to-date walking schedule can be found on the Walking Group webpage of the K&D U3A website.

If you need further information about any of the walks, please contact the walk leader or, if you want to know more about what we do, please



Canal side reflections in Aylestone. Colin's walk in that area on a beautiful Friday morning

contact:-

Group Leader

David Holmes

0116 279 6010

david@holmeoak.co.uk

Sue Dargie

0116 279 6706

suedargie@googlemail.com

Yoga

Watch all the gloom and doom on 10.00 p.m. news about oldies and the NHS and avoid being locked in hospital for a year by keeping fit.

Michael Rodber

07802 380252

michael.rodber@me.com



Another waterside stop. Ros Holmes short walk group at Welford take a five minute break

This Newsletter is online at
www.kibworthu3a.org.uk/newsletterFeb17
Next issue's deadline –Tuesday 14 March 2017.
Group Leaders – please email your entries to our email address:
kibu3a@gmail.com

How to obtain a copy of this Newsletter

Copies of this Newsletter are available :

1. at the monthly meeting.
2. from Kibworth library, shortly after the meeting.
3. by email. A copy of the Newsletter is sent to *every* email address which we hold.

Please ensure that if you change your email address you let our secretary/treasurer/newsletter editor know so that we can update our records and you can continue to receive the newsletter promptly.

If you can't get one by any of the above methods, the Secretary is willing to send out a copy by post on receipt of a large s.a.e. Please send your envelope to: **Keith Holyoke, 3 Links Road, Kibworth**

How to join K&D U3A

Joining could not be easier, provided that you are over 50 and no longer in full-time employment. Please contact our membership secretary **Cliff Hollingsworth, 20 Springfield Crescent, Kibworth, LE8 0LH. Tel: 0116 279 2025** giving name, address, email address (if you have one) and telephone number. Subscriptions: cheques should be made payable to K&DU3A. Please send **SAE** for your membership card to be returned to you.

To find out about what is going nationally see www.u3a.org.uk for on-line courses and further information.

Your K & D U3A Committee

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| Chairman: | Ron Spinks | 0116 279 6604 | ron.spinks@hotmail.co.uk |
| Vice-Chairman and | | | |
| Treasurer and | Cliff Hollingsworth | 0116 279 2026 | annandcliff@btinternet.com |
| Membership Secretary | | | |
| Secretary: | Ann Robinson | 0116 279 3226 | ann2001ann@aol.com |
| Technical consultant | Stephen Poyzer | 0116 279 3590 | stephenpoyzer@gmail.com |
| Newsletter Editor and | Carol Townend | 0116 279 6002 | caroltownend@gmail.com |
| Minutes Secretary | | | |
| Speaker Co-ordinator: | Christine Spinks | 0116 279 6604 | chris.spinks@hotmail.co.uk |
| Publicity and | Gail Goldie | 0116 279 6882 | gail.goldie@btinternet.com |
| Newsletter editor: | | | |
| New Groups Co-ord. | Ian Hearn | 0116 240 3357 | ian.hearn@btopenworld.com |
| Committee Member: | Roger Whiteway | 0116 279 2543 | rogerwhiteway@aol.com |
| Committee Member: | Linda Chambers | 0185 854 5598 | lindachamber51@gmail.com |
| Committee Member: | David Porter | 0116 279 3150 | davidporter1941@gmail.com |