



# NEWSLETTER

## September 2012

**This month's meeting - Tuesday September 18<sup>th</sup>**

*The Big Quiz*



**Martin Crofts**

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

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*Forthcoming meetings for your diaries include:*

**October 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Autumn Social* (to include light refreshments and entertainment)

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Tibet*

**Dr Sue Ablett**

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**Your U3A needs you**



*Carpet bowls*

Leaders **WANTED** for possible new groups –  
see page 3

*and Poetry* -  
see page 7

More members **WANTED** to join the Flower  
Arranging Group – see page 5

Then you could be making this!  
**This Christmas!**



## Chairman's Musings



Well Summer is now officially over and, at last, we have had some good weather! I noticed two weeks ago that the starlings have arrived back to start roosting in the trees at the bottom of the garden and on the TV aerials but the numbers seem to reduce every year. A real sign that Autumn is here.

When we first came to Kibworth over 25 years ago (yes, we are still in the same house) the trees were full of them at this time of year. I used to delight in going in to the garden and clapping my hands to watch swarms of the starlings fly out of the trees and circle to find another roosting spot. Not quite a “murmuration” but certainly several thousand birds. Now it is down to a few hundred at most. Apparently starling and house sparrow numbers have declined rapidly throughout the UK. I think there were fewer swifts, martins and swallows this year as well. Good job our resident blackbirds are doing well! You still may be fortunate enough to see a starling murmuration in the surrounding area. I saw one when travelling up the A6 last year. Truly fantastic! So keep a look out. I certainly will.

In stark contrast we went to the Victory Show at Cosby at the weekend. With a WW2 theme there were very noisy tank battles (yes, the Germans lost) and a brilliant flying display of WW2 aircraft. Literally thousands of men (and some women) were camped on the fields and in the woods in the battle dress of the allies, the Russians and the Germans. Weapons and vehicles of all sorts abounded. *I trust the weapons had been deactivated.* There was even a model flying display. A great show but one that served to forcibly demonstrate how much effort we as a race we put in to killing each other and that was 70 years ago. Thankfully we won the real thing as well.

On the same theme I read in this weeks Times supplement that we are the Earth’s deadliest species with killings running at about 500,000 of our own kind each year! Makes you think that we would be better off spending all that money and effort trying to protect the planet rather than to kill each other.

Now to U3A matters. It’s also that time of year that we need nominations for the U3A Committee. So if you have any interest at all in joining the Committee the please talk to one of the existing Committee members about what is involved. You will probably be surprised at how enjoyable the work can be. Fresh ideas are always welcome in the Committee and the commitment can be less than a couple of hours a week.

See you all at the Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>

*Keith*

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## Communication - don't forget

Our new **mobile number 074 076 10888** for any U3A queries.

Leave your name and number and someone will call you back



### Email addresses

If you change your email address please let us know. Many email address rejections are received when the Newsletter is sent every month! Please remind your friends especially those who do not get to the meeting to pick up a paper copy and who may not be receiving their emailed copy.

## **News from Interest Groups**

### *Possible three/four new Groups - Leaders required*

#### **Carpet Bowls**

At a recent Open Day at the Bowls Club it was suggested that we form a K&DU3A group to play Carpet Bowls, say once a week, and hire their room and equipment for an hour or so. I am aware that there could be some interest in such a group but a group leader would be required.

The group leader would not have to have any great responsibilities or any particular skills in carpet bowling. All that would be needed is just to organise a few people, collect a weekly subscription and pay the Bowls Club. I am sure Ron Williams would assist in giving initial tuition in how to play.

We would give any prospective group leader every help to get going. All we need is somebody to step forward to lead the group.

Please register your interest with

**Ron Williams**                      **0116 279 2752**

[mertoncottage@btinternet.com](mailto:mertoncottage@btinternet.com)

**Clive Huntley**                      **0116 279 2528**

[clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk)

#### **Traditional Folk and Country Dancing**

There is now sufficient interest to start a group but unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, I cannot now do this until the end of November at the earliest.

**Paul St Clair**                      **0116 279 2181**

[paul.stclair@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:paul.stclair@mypostoffice.co.uk)

#### **Alternative Walking Groups**

1) A social walk with dogs around 1 - 1.5 miles (approx) – no response yet from last month's suggestion in the Newsletter.

2) A strollers group to meet once a month for short walks 1 - 1.5 (approx) miles

A suggestion has been made by Stephen Poyzer who would be prepared to "start the ball rolling" with the following:

##### **Winter Village Wanderers**

On the middle Sunday of each month October – March a chance to amble around nearby villages in a small convivial group looking at different architecture /gardens etc. Initial villages to consider include Foxton, Lubbenham, Burton Overy, Kibworth Harcourt, Kibworth Beauchamp, Smeeton Westerby and perhaps Market Harborough alleyways.

We would meet at Kibworth Grammar School car park (with a view to organise car sharing where necessary) at 2pm and return about 3.45pm

Other suggestions still welcome, perhaps some of the existing walking group members would like to organise their own shorter walks and meet at the same pub as the main group for lunch?

Anyone interested in either group please contact me so I can ascertain the viability of the proposals.

**David Porter**                      **0116 279 3150**

[davidporter66@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:davidporter66@mypostoffice.co.uk)

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made most welcome and will help to sustain the continuation of this 'for fun' group. If you are interested and require more information about the concert band please contact me on the number below.

**Barbara Hooley** 0116 279 6458  
[barbara.hooley@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.hooley@btinternet.com)

### Craft Group

The Craft Group continues to meet every other Tuesday at the same venue as the Art Group. Contact me for details of dates. We knit, embroider and produce a wide variety of handmade goods. We have room for two or three new people. Please come along and give us a trial on a one off basis to see if this group would suit you. We are busy making items for the Exhibition. Give me a call (see below) as my computer is not so reliable here in the back of beyond in Mowsley (email address below if you wish to try).

**Liz Greenhalgh** 0116 240 2545  
[chumbaz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chumbaz@hotmail.co.uk)

### !New group now started!

#### Digital Photography

The first session of this club was held on Monday 10th September. Nine members came to the session which started to explore the basics of getting a good picture from a digital camera. Next session will be Monday 24th Sept at the Kibworth Grammar School from 10am finishing at 12. We will continue with the basics and set up your camera for the best result. So please bring your camera to this session.

New members and those on holiday for the first session are very welcome. Glen Tillyard came along as a "helper" and offered some very useful advice on how to get the best results from the course - Glen runs courses professionally and is a freelance photographer.

If you are interested contact me. Cost will be £3 per session

**Keith Holyoake** 0116 279 2079  
[kbholyoake@aol.com](mailto:kbholyoake@aol.com)

### Introduction to Family History

A new group is now up and running and our first meeting was on September 12<sup>th</sup> when we looked at the first steps to starting a family tree.

**Val Crofts** 0116 279 2218  
[martin.crofts05@virgin.net](mailto:martin.crofts05@virgin.net)

### Flower Arranging

We have a group of very enthusiastic ladies who would like to set up a U3A Flower Arranging Group but we need more members to make it viable. The group consists of ladies with varying amounts of experience to those who have no experience. The aim of the group would be to share expertise, learn and get ideas from each other and help anyone with no experience to get started. If you would like to find out more please contact me. You could be producing beautiful flower decorations for Christmas. Join us and give it a try.

**Joyce Huntley** 0116 279 2528  
[clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk)



### French Conversation

This is a group for people who are fairly fluent in French and who meet to practice and work on their conversation skills together. We meet on the

first and third Thursday morning of each month. Just ring if you would like details of the next meeting.

**John Willcocks** 0116 279 1085

### Gardening

Fingers crossed for an Indian Summer, as we explore the horticultural delights on our two Autumn trips:

**26 September**

**Visit to Lamport Hall, Lamport NN6 9HD:**

Please make your own way there for 2.30pm. Restored and extended over the past two decades, the tranquil gardens and parkland were originally laid out in 1655 by Gilbert

Clark. They were strongly influenced in the 1820s by Mary Isham and her son Charles, who was responsible for the Italian and Rock Gardens and allegedly introduced the first garden gnomes! Wander at leisure around the 7 acres. Admission is £4. Should you so wish, a guided tour of the House at 3pm and refreshments are available at additional costs.

### **31 October**

**Visit to the Attenborough Arboretum, Carisbrooke Road, South Knighton, Leicester LE2 3PF:** Please make your own way there for 2.30pm. We have arranged a guided tour of the 5 acre site which includes possibly the city's only surviving medieval ridge-and-furrow field. The planting scheme is designed to display native trees in sequence of their arrival in this country following the ending of the last ice age. Please note there are toilets, but no refreshments available on site. The tour cost is £3.50.

**Gail Goldie** 0116 279 6882  
[gail.goldie@btinternet.com](mailto:gail.goldie@btinternet.com)

**Mary Franks** 0116 279 3110  
[franksdrama@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:franksdrama@tiscali.co.uk)

### **German Conversation**

We meet in members' houses on the second and fourth Wednesday in the month for informal chat on whatever subject occurs at the time. This group is full at present.

**Elizabeth Willcocks** 0116 279 1085

### **Guitar Circle**

The Guitar Circle now usually meets on Wednesday mornings at 10 am. John Hooley leads the sessions in which we play a mixture of folk, rock, blues etc. If you are interested in joining us, please give me a ring.

**Trish Hunt** 0116 279 2136  
[trishhunt@btinternet.com](mailto:trishhunt@btinternet.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 our waiting list.

**Clive Huntley** 0116 279 2528  
[clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk)

### **Latin for Beginners**

After spasmodic meetings during the summer we are now starting again with regular fortnightly meetings and we continue to have fun in Latin using the Cambridge Latin Course. Recapitulation has been our theme during the summer and we are now looking forward to going forward once again to discover more about life in Pompeii as it was two thousand years ago.

**Norman Hallett** 0116 279 2659  
[hallett379@btinternet.com](mailto:hallett379@btinternet.com)

### **Line Dancing**

We meet in the Scout Hut on Mondays at 2pm. All abilities are welcome but you need to attend on a regular basis if you want to progress to the better quality dances. New members are always welcome until the capacity of the hall is reached. We have 4 men in the group and you don't need a partner so why not give it a try? It's great fun and good for the body and the mind.

**Val Crofts** 0116 279 2218  
[martin.croft05@virgin.net](mailto:martin.croft05@virgin.net)

### **Luncheon Club**

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 10th at the **Black Boy Inn, Hungarton LE7 9JR**. Please arrive from 12 noon onwards, ready to eat at 12.30pm. If you would like to join us please book your meal with Gill by Friday October 5th.

**Gill Newnham** 0116 279 2928  
**Beryl Tory** 0116 279 2184  
**Pam Moody** 0116 279 2817

### **Music Appreciation**

We are a friendly little house group, who all share an interest in varying types of music. We meet on the first Thursday afternoon in the month to play and discuss music of a chosen subject. Recently we have featured Holidays

and Songs from the Shows and future subjects will include Names in Titles and Towns and Cities. If anyone is interested in joining us please give me a ring.

**Martin Crofts** 0116 279 2218  
[martin.crofts05@virgin.net](mailto:martin.crofts05@virgin.net)

### Painting

The Art Group continues to meet every other Friday afternoon at 2 until 4 pm. We break for tea and biscuits and contribute £2 towards the cost of the room. We learn from one another as we do not have a teacher. We meet in the upstairs room of the Methodist Chapel. For details contact me –see below. We have met throughout the Summer months and we are getting work organised for the U3A Exhibition. We have room for two more people. Beginners are welcome. This Group is wonderful for getting your creative juices flowing. We have tried watercolour painting, crayon, silk painting, painting on glass and such like.

**Liz Greenhalgh** 0116 240 2545  
[chumbaz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chumbaz@hotmail.co.uk)

### Play Reading

The Group meet on the second Thursday in the month in the afternoon at 2.30 p.m. and will be reading a varied selection of plays starting off with Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft's smash hit TV comedy 'Are You Being Served?'

**Rosanne Lane** 0116 279 2727  
[rosanneplane@talktalk.net](mailto:rosanneplane@talktalk.net)

### Poetry

We meet on the first Wednesday morning of the month to look at the life and work of poets chosen by the members. This is a house group and therefore numbers are limited and the current members have been meeting for at least 5 years! If anyone is interested in setting up a new poetry group I would be happy to point them in the right direction so that more people could enjoy this lovely subject.

**.Val Crofts** 0116 279 2218  
[martin.crofts05@virgin.net](mailto:martin.crofts05@virgin.net)

### Singing for Pleasure



We are a friendly, non-auditioned choir. We welcome new members so if you want to give us a try

please get in touch with

**Carol Baker** 0116 279 2956

[cbaker100@talktalk.net](mailto:cbaker100@talktalk.net)

**Meriel Godfrey** 0116 259 8589

[merielgodfrey1@gmail.com](mailto:merielgodfrey1@gmail.com)

### Sketch Club

If you love drawing in principle but don't very often do any, this group may be just the thing to get you started again. Meetings are on the second and fourth Friday morning of each month. Just ring if you would like details of the next meeting

**John Willcocks** 0116 279 1085

### Table Tennis

We meet every Friday at the Kibworth Scout Hut, 2.30 - 4.30 pm. We welcome all levels of players from good players to people who have never played before or who have not played since school and who 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

**Clive Huntley** 0116 279 2528

[clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk)

**John Smith** 0116 279 2129

### T'ai Chi

We start the autumn session on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September at 11.30 am in the Village Hall. T'ai Chi is a very gentle form of exercise with many benefits. All you need is comfortable clothing and shoes. Our instructor is very experienced. If you would like to know more please contact

**Val Ruddock** 0116 279 2331

[valruddock007@btinternet.com](mailto:valruddock007@btinternet.com)

## Walking

This month's report is a combined effort, started by Alan and completed by Mike.



Having reported last month about the difficulties of arranging walks to avoid problems arising from extreme wet weather, we have recently enjoyed walking during a dry, warm spell although the hazards of deep puddles and iron hard footprints remained. Alan writes that Mike has developed a reputation as having supernatural powers concerning the arrival of blue skies.

**31<sup>st</sup> August** was a fifth Friday and as such was the opportunity for a walk further afield. Our thanks go to guest leaders Hugh and Kathleen Hackett who led us from **Barrowden**, in Rutland, across the fields and through **Wakerley Woods**. This was a delightful walk of 5.5 miles enjoyed by eighteen of us with blue skies and balmy weather. The food at the **Exeter Arms** was excellent and supplemented by the pub's own brewed beers. Next came a circular walk on **7<sup>th</sup> September** led by Mike from **Hungarton** via **Baggrave Park**, the bank of a stream and several field paths. Although this one was planned to be 4.5 miles, the terrain and the heat took their toll on our group of 21 and it was fortunate that we could shorten it to 3.5 miles. Once more we enjoyed an excellent morning with lovely views and a good lunch, this time at **The Black Boy** in Hungarton.

Our next walks will be **21<sup>st</sup> September**, Derek and Edith ([edith@south-view.co.uk](mailto:edith@south-view.co.uk) **0116 247 8319**) will lead a walk which starts and ends at the **Chandlers Arms** in **Shearsby**. Parking is on the street.

They intend to walk through **Shearsby**, **Arnesby**, **Peatling Magna** and back to **Shearsby**. The length of the walk is approximately 5.5 miles, mostly through very pleasant open countryside. Many stiles have been replaced with gates but there are a few remaining. Due to the terrain, boots are strongly recommended and poles would be useful.

**25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September** a small group will be walking in **Norfolk**.

(See next month's issue for a full report)

**5<sup>th</sup> October** a walk from the **Crown Inn at Tilton on the Hill** will be led by Alan and Marion ([lithops@onetel.com](mailto:lithops@onetel.com) **0116 279 2559**). This is expected to be about 5.5 miles long with about 5 stiles. It is probably a bit more difficult than our usual walks due to steep slopes. Here again, boots are advised. More details from Alan in due course.

**19<sup>th</sup> October** a shorter walk will be arranged. New members are always welcome. Car sharing can be arranged if needed.

If you intend to join any of our walks or need further information about them please contact the walk leader or, if you want to know more about what we do, please contact Mike or Alan.

Photos taken during our walks can be seen on the Kibworth and District U3A website at: <https://sites.google.com/site/kibworthdistrictu3a/photos/2012>.

**Mike Bullows** **0116 259 8297**  
[mbugby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mbugby@hotmail.co.uk)

**Alan Brown** **0116 279 2559**  
[lithops@onetel.com](mailto:lithops@onetel.com)

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*If you would like to join any of our groups, please contact the relevant leader*

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This Newsletter is now available online (and with colour pictures!) at  
[www.kibworthu3a.org.uk/newsletterseptmber12](http://www.kibworthu3a.org.uk/newsletterseptmber12)

## NEWSLETTER

Next deadline – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Group Leaders – please email your entries to our new email address:

**[newsletter@kibworthu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@kibworthu3a.org.uk)**

*If you have any photos (preferably over 1MB) or stories of your group's activities that could be published in a future edition please send them to the above email address. Thank you.*

### How to obtain a copy of this Newsletter

Copies of this Newsletter are available :

1. at the monthly meeting.
2. from either Kibworth or Fleckney libraries, shortly after the meeting.
3. by email I now send a copy of the Newsletter to every email address which we hold on our records.(see note on page 2)

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: Christine Lea, 12 Beaker Close, Smeeton Westerby, LE8 0RT

### How to join K&DU3A

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 and telephone number.

Subscriptions: cheques payable to K&DU3A. Alternatively ring our *new mobile telephone number* **074 076 10888** and leave your name and telephone number and someone will call you back as soon as possible

**The national U3A magazine** is sent out three times a year; to find out about what's going on in between times, see the website: [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) for on-line courses and further information.

### Useful contacts:

|  |                     |             |  |
|--|---------------------|-------------|--|
| Chairman:                                | Keith Holyoake      | 01162792079 | <a href="mailto:kbholyoake@aol.com">kbholyoake@aol.com</a>                             |
| Vice-Chairman and<br>Group Co-ordinator: | David Porter        | 01162793150 | <a href="mailto:davidporter66@mypostoffice.co.uk">davidporter66@mypostoffice.co.uk</a> |
| Newsletter Editor:                       | Barbara Pickering   | 01162793590 | <a href="mailto:barbarapickering@gmail.com">barbarapickering@gmail.com</a>             |
| Treasurer:                               | Cliff Hollingsworth | 01162792025 | <a href="mailto:annandcliff@btinternet.com">annandcliff@btinternet.com</a>             |
| Secretary:                               | Christine Lea       | 01162790009 | <a href="mailto:jlea294@btinternet.com">jlea294@btinternet.com</a>                     |
| Minutes Secretary:                       | Ian Hearn           | 01162403357 | <a href="mailto:ian.hearn@btopenworld.com">ian.hearn@btopenworld.com</a>               |
| Speaker Co-ordinator:                    | Pam Moody           | 01162792817 | <a href="mailto:pmoody2@toucansurf.com">pmoody2@toucansurf.com</a>                     |
| Publicity:                               | Gail Goldie         | 01162796882 | <a href="mailto:gail.goldie@btinternet.com">gail.goldie@btinternet.com</a>             |
| Committee member:                        | Clive Huntley       | 01162792528 | <a href="mailto:clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk">clivejoyce@mypostoffice.co.uk</a>       |

# Outings



## Chatsworth House Thursday, November 22nd

A **Christmas Market** (with 100 stalls) and a tour of the House decorated with the theme **VILLAINS AND DAMES**.

*The arrangements for the day are as follows : -*

Meet at the Grammar School Car Park for 9.15am departure. Arrive Chatsworth at 11.30am.

Unfortunately, I have been unable to book coffee on arrival, due to the number of visitors expected for the Market. Departure for home will be at 5pm

'Food to Go' outlets serve a wide range of meals and snacks to suit all budgets.

The Carriage House restaurant (self-service) and the Cavendish Rooms Restaurant also available to serve the inner man

Cost of coach and entrance fee combined will be £17.50. There are still a few places available.

Payment please, by cheque payable to K & D U3A OUTINGS by September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Please check that your name is on the list. The cost has been worked out with this list, and should the number drop, there may be an increase in cost to cover the coach.

**If you need to post your cheque, please include the slip below, this helps me with contact details.**

**Hello Dolly**

**Curve Theatre**

**Leicester**

**Wednesday Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 2013 2.30pm Cost £21**

Tickets have now been booked for a party of 9 and should be available at the meeting. Thank you all for the prompt payment. **Travel arrangements later.**

For further information please contact

|                     |                      |  |
|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>Gill Newnham</b> | <b>0116 279 2928</b> | <a href="mailto:gillian.newnham@homecall.co.uk">gillian.newnham@homecall.co.uk</a> |
| <b>Jean Chapman</b> | <b>0116 279 1544</b> | <a href="mailto:mail@jeanchapman.me.uk">mail@jeanchapman.me.uk</a>                 |

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**KIBWORTH AND DISTRICT U3A – OUTINGS - REPLY SLIP**

**To: Gill Newnham, 6 Birdie Close, Kibworth, LE8 0PW**

I wish to book \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the outing to \_\_\_\_\_  
and enclose the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_

**Cheques should be made payable to: K&D U3A Outings**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_