



# Learn from yesterday, Live for today, Hope for tomorrow.

Never stop learning!

January 2018

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 16th January includes our Annual General Meeting Amy, Wonderful Amy - a talk by Roy Smart

Forthcoming dates for your diary include

February 20th	Stoneywell and the Gimsons - <i>Mark Temple</i>	
March 20th	'Big Cats': Where they live; Habitat and Conservation - Barbara Meyer	



The Walking Group ready start a new walk for the New Year - obviously after ordering what each of us wanted to eat upon return first. Very good value at The Black Hose, Aylestone.

### Chairman's Chunters

Hi Folks,

Let me start by wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

As well as a talk about Amy Johnson by Roy Smart, this month sees our annual AGM at which three of our present committee members are 'retiring'. Since Carol, Gail and Ian have 'clocked up' around twenty

years service between them, I trust that you will join me in thanking them for their efforts over the years. The proposed committee for this year will see two 'new' male members who have volunteered to join us. Well done to Michael and John for that! This does cause a little imbalance and we could do with one or two more ladies on the team to even things up. I would guess that at our monthly meetings the ladies outnumber the gents so come on ladies, give us a hand; after all, you wouldn't want to let an 'old soldier' down would you? (see aside).

These days we read a great deal about unequal pay arrangements between the sexes, well I'm proud to report that within the Kibworth U3A committee there's complete parity! (ie. nowt moneywise but a warm feeling for doing your bit and a splendid camaraderie shared by all) I'll finish with a laugh.

While shopping for holiday clothes, a husband and wife looked at a display of bathing suits. It had been at least twenty years and quite a few pounds since the lady had bought one. She asked, "Should I buy a bikini or an all in one?"

"Better get a bikini", he replied. "You'll never get it all in one!"

Shouldn't laugh, really, he's still in intensive care!

See you on Tuesday Regards **Roness** 



# **Possible New Group 1**

# **Beginners Line Dancing -**

Friday mornings 11am at Smeeton Village Hall Please ring or email Val Crofts if interested.

martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

0116 279 2218

# Possible New Group 2

# **Beginners Bridge**

New member, Mary Ireland, would love to learn how to play Bridge.

She is looking for others who also wish to learn. Mary has arranged for a teacher to be available so please contact Mary in the first instance on **0116 279 6892**mary ireland@btinternet.com

# Possible New Group 3 An online course

# Beyond the Ballot: Explore the remarkable history of women's rights

6th February 2018 will mark the centenary of the Representation of the People Act, the change in the law that gave (some) women the right to vote in Westminster elections for the first time. To coincide with this centenary, Royal Holloway, University of London, and the UK Parliament are launching a free online course on **FutureLearn** in February 2018. On this course you will travel back to the nineteenth century to explore the legal, social and economic frameworks that limited women's rights prior to the vote and discover the pioneering women campaigning for change. You will learn the story of how and why the vote was extended to women in 1918, the movements behind this change and how the struggle for equality continued throughout the twentieth century.

A link to this course is on now our website at the bottom of our front page. Go to www.kibworthu3a.org.uk

Please read the online introduction and decide if this course is for you.

Contact Ann Robinson on 0116 279 3226 if you want to follow the course. We are expecting it to be free to members of our U3A.



Sketch Club: David picture from his urban sketching project..

# **News from Our Interest Groups**

#### **Anglo-Zulu War Study Group**

Following our desperate escape from Isandlawana via Fugitives' Drift, the K&D U3A Carbineers(dismounted) are now in the hastily fortified mission station of Rorke's Drift. We are awaiting the attack by the element of the Zulus who were held in reserve from the earlier battle. From the hill of Shiyane we have sighted the main body of the Impi approaching from the south and are steeled and ready to face overwhelming Zulu forces, with our

outnumbered, but well armed and barricaded force.

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

## **Arts Appreciation**

Malcolm and Celia Lever Jones went to see Verdi's Rigoletto as a Stage on Screen production at the Cinema De Lux on 13 January 2018. In **February 2018** we are planning to watch an appropriately named film "Summer in February"

www.kibworthu3a.org.uk

January 2018

in Kibworth Grammar School Hall Lounge. Date has yet to be agreed. Members of the group will be notified by email.

March 2018 we are to go to the New Art Gallery in Walsall.

If you wish to join us on any of these activities please contact;

Stephen Poyzer

0116 279 3590

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

johnhruddock@gmail.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 - 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. Please contact us if you would like to be put on a waiting list. There is NO bridge on Thursday 25th January due to the Lounge and Main Hall being used for local referendum all day.

SO NO BRIDGE 25th January!
Clive and Joyce Huntley
0116 279 2528
clive@huntley22.plus.com

#### **Craft Group**

This group meets in Kibworth Methodist Church upper room, 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

<u>lizzzmg@gmail.com</u>

#### **Curry Club**

Our next outing will be on Sunday 28th January meeting at 7.00 pm at Leeja Palace, 13, The Parade, Oadby. They have a very comprehensive website. We have a core of regular members, but always welcome new people. We chose Sunday evenings to meet as we could not find a suitable weekday evening for everyone. An added bonus is that Sundays are usually relatively quiet with a faster service. If you would like to join us please contact me.

**Chris Graves** 

0116 279 1505

chris@cjgraves.plus.com

### Film Appreciation Group



We are so fortunate to have the Phoenix Cinema/ Art/Café/Bar here on our doorstep in Leicester and if you haven't had the opportunity to visit yet why not come along on the last of Wednesday of the month when this group gathers to attend the 'silver-screening' at 11 am. A wide variety of films are shown and I have yet to be disappointed. Actually, that is not quite true, the Cohen Brothers offering of 'Caesar' made one member of the audience cause to ask, "What was that all about then?" and I was inclined to ask the same. However, all the rest ranged from good to excellent.

Our next visit will take place on Wednesday, 31st January to see Steven Spielberg's 'The Post' starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks and depicts the true story of the Washington Post's fight to publish the 'Pentagon Papers', a Department of Defence history of US participation in Vietnam. Tickets for silver-screenings currently cost £6.00 and this includes coffee and biscuits. Give me a call if you would like more information.

**Hazel Taylor** 

0116 279 2872

hazelann.taylor@talktalk.net

### **Flower Arranging**

Our next meeting is on February 6th at 2pm in the Grammar School Hall Lounge, when the theme will be "Song Titles".

So ladies get your thinking hats on. There is a vast amount of songs you can choose from.

For details of this friendly group please contact:

Pam O'Sullivan.

0116 240 3541

pamosullivan14 @icloud.com

Gill Holyoake 0116 279 2079

#### Beaker Folk

Beaker Folk would like to thank the committee and audience for a fab "do" on the 19th {December}. We thoroughly enjoyed it; it made all the rehearsals well worth it. Special thanks to 'Captain Mainwaring' of course. We meet again on the 10th, take a deep breath and decide what next....

**Michael Rodber** 

0116 279 3089

michaelrodber@me.com

#### **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

hearn.ianp@gmail.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 Smeeton Westerby Village Hall at 2pm on Monday afternoons. The group have responded really well to the challenges of some harder dances and we still find plenty of time to dance our old favourites. This group is not suitable for beginners and space is very limited in our new venue.

**Val Crofts** 

0116 279 2218

#### **Lunch Club**

In January we will be meeting at The Crown in Tur Langton for our first meal in the new year. On Wednesday 14th February we will be returning to the Queens Head at Billesdon for

lunch at 12.30pm. Please let Pam know your menu choices by Wednesday 7th February.

Pam Moody

0116 279 2817

paminleics@aol.com

**Hilary Firth** 

0116 279 2804

#### Gardening Group

Very sadly Pat Thomas went to join the angels just before Christmas. She was a lovely lady. One of the first members to join our group, Pat's boundless enthusiasm, kindness and great sense of humour was an inspiration to us all. She will be sorely missed by her many friends. We are looking forward to seeing you again after the Christmas break on 31st January, between 2.30-4.30pm, in Kibworth Grammar School Hall. John Shone and Martin Keeley from Rutland Willows will be describing how they created a Show Garden at the Sandringham Flower Show. There will be a free prize raffle as well. We will also be welcoming new members, which brings numbers back to maximum capacity. The 2018 Programme was emailed round last month. If you would like to receive it again, please email Gail, as there will only be a few hard copies at the January meeting for members who are not on-line. Payment for the coach trip to Holme Pierrepont Hall and Gardens on 28 March is due at the meeting. If you are not able to come,

28 February: Talk on the Restoration of

please drop your cheque through Mary's

Middleton Hall Gardens

year's activities:

**28 March:** Trip to Holme Pierrepont Hall &

letterbox. Meantime here's a quick recap of the

Gardens

**25 April:** Trip to Hodsock Priory

**30 May:** Trip to Arbury Hall & Gardens

**13 June:** Visit to the Gower & Dripwell House

Gardens

**27 June:** Trip to Spetchley Park Gardens

**25 July:** Trip to SulgraveManor & Pettifers

Gardens

29 August: Trip to Bodenham Arboretum

**26 September:** Trip to Middleton Hall & Garden

31 October: Talk on Year Round Colour

28 November: Christmas Social

Gail Goldie 0116 279 6882

gail.goldie@btinternet.com

Mary Franks 0116 279 3110

franksdrama@tiscali.co.uk

#### **Poetry**

Our friendly little house group continues to enjoy a selection of poets and poems. For our first meeting of 2018 we read our own personal favourites from The Nation's Favourite Poems. At the end of the meeting we voted for our favourite from the book and the winner was the poem below.

Val Crofts

0116 279 2218

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know, His house is in the village though; He will not see me stopping here To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer To stop without a farmhouse near Between the woods and frozen lake The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake To ask if there is some mistake, The only other sound's the sweep Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

#### **Robert Frost**

martinandvalcrofts@hotmail.co.uk

# **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. 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.

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

#### **Photography**

We held our December meeting on 5th and had a few nibbles and drinks whilst viewing a selection of photographs from the group for Christmas. At our next meeting we will be viewing our winter photographs - the snow forming a beautiful backdrop. Next year we are hoping to intersperse our monthly meetings with many more trips out. Our next meeting is 16th January at 10.30 in the Scout Hut. We have no waiting list so new members of any ability are more than welcome.

**Karen Spencer** 

0116 279 2552

spenkib@aol.com

#### Safari Supper

The first Safari Supper outing is planned for Wednesday 31st Janaury and I already have nine names or 50% of our normal group. The final arrangements are currently being put together however, if you would like to join us on one of our outings please email me. You don't need any qualification - just an appetite, your credit/debit card and be ready to enjoy a very pleasant evening with others.

**Stephen Poyzer** 

0116 279 3590

stephenpoyzer@gmail.com

# Singing for Pleasure \*\*

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 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month at St Wilfrid's Church Hall, 10 - 11.30am.

Sue Bradburn

0116 279 3678

sueburn@rectory-cottage.co.uk

**Ann Robinson** 

0116 279 3226

#### **Singles Sunday Lunch Club**

We venture out on the first Sunday of the month to a local hostelry for lunch and a chat. As always all are welcome. If you are interested please contact me:

**Ted Swift** 

0116 279 0026

charles.swift2u@gmail.com

#### **Sketch Club**

We have not had a meeting since our session on drawing with pen and ink in mid December due to the Chistmas holiday.

Our next session on Jan 12th will be an object sketching session and we will put together our New Year's programme Why not come and join us? We are a small group with different ability levels so if you want to take up or resume sketching for fun you will be made very welcome. Our main aim is to enjoy our meeting. We meet on the second and fourth Fridays of the month between 10.15 and 12.00 either at an agreed location or at one of our houses. Give me a call if you are interested. A Happy New Year to All

**Keith Holyoake** 

0116 279 2079

kbholyoake@aol.com

#### **Table Tennis**

Table tennis has been proved to be an excellent way of "keeping young". It helps with mobility, co-ordination, socialising and brain activity (remembering the score !!). Why not come and join us on Friday afternoons at 2.30pm – 4.30pm at the Scout Hut. We have spare bats available. On the 5th January we had our Table Tennis Christmas Lunch at the Swan in Kibworth, which was very successful and enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Ruth and Linda for organising the lunch.

**Clive Huntley** 

0116 279 2528

clive@huntley22.plus.com

#### Painting (Art)

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 or two new members. Do not worry if your painting skills are rusty, we are not at all judgemental and everyone is made welcome.

Liz Greenhalgh

0116 240 2545

lizzzmg@gmail.com

#### **Tennis**

The U3A tennis has suspended its play until January now, weather conditions allowing of course. Kibworth Tennis Club has now resurfaced its bottom two courts which we shall be using when we restart.

Currently there are only 5 people playing so hopefully we can encourage more in this New Year. Contact me, Pete Robinson, for further information.

**Pete Robinson** 

0116 279 3226

peterjrobinson@aol.com

#### **Vintage British Sitcoms**

Our now established group is up and running on the second Monday afternoon in the month. At our last meeing in January we enjoyed episodes of "Are You Being Served", The Two Ronnies", Terry and June" and "Fawlty Towers". At our next meeting in February we will be laughing at "Pinkerton's Progress", "Fawlty Towers" "Please Sir" and more episodes of our favourite comedies. 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**

Although heavy snow had fallen in the days leading up to our last walk of 2017 on 15 December, inspections of the area showed it being safe to go ahead as planned. However, heavy snow again fell on the 14th December, causing major traffic problems on the B6047, the route to Billesdon. Thankfully, the large group arrived safely so Colin New led 32 stalwart walkers from the Queens Head up towards the church in festive spirit. Soon a narrow jitty led to the footpath across white fields, the damp snow providing surprisingly good grip and a problem free walk led to the B6047. Safely across, great care was taken on the icy Cranhill Drive, then a further 3 fields led us to Bushby Road and Rolleston cross roads. Here we took the road down to the lake, past Rolleston church, the Hall and riding arena then the snow covered old cottages and trees added to the Christmas card scene. Here at the scenic lake everyone was surprised that Colin, with the help of Marion and Alan Brown had secretly carried warm mince pies and warm mulled wine which were soon shared by all. Full of festive cheer and in good spirits we had an easy walk back to the warmth of the Queens Head, where we were soon tucking into our turkey and other tasty delights - the cold, ice and snow almost forgotten. A great day out was had by all.

New Year's Day saw 29 walkers enjoy fresh air and exercise (in bright sunshine!) on the first walk of 2018 led by Celia Lever-Jones. After marshalling at the square in Kibworth, a last minute change of plan, owing to tricky conditions underfoor on the field paths, meant us walking to Smeeton Westerby first to rendezvous with others from the group, before retracing our steps and

taking in some of the highways, byways and jitties of Kibworth Beauchamp and Harcourt. The three and a half mile walk culminated with a delicious tea provided by Ros and David Holmes. Thanks to them for their kind hospitality to the group – what a great way to start the walking year Twenty three walkers were keen to get going on 5 January following the festive season and after days of heavy rain, on a walk starting from the Black Horse, Aylestone, and again led by Colin New. It was dry on our N Easterly route across Middleton St., through the 13th Century St Andrews churchyard and along Old Church St., past the old hall - almost all that remains of the old village, later streets giving away their origins, Disraeli St. and Canal St. Here the towpath is conveniently flattened and tarmacked and the canal walk pleasant; soon we turned left into Aylestone Meadows near the site of an old mill. We continued through green meadows, trees and varied habitats on tarmac paths, then boardwalks over the river skirting the floods following days of rain and reached the Gt Central Way. Now heading back towards Aylestone, passing many allotments then to ground level past the swollen River Soar, with its huge bridge of stunning brickwork we soon crossed Braunstone Lane East. Walking now in cold drizzle but still in good spirits, tracks led us across the Soar Valley and backwaters where we paused to read the plaques marking the medieval pack horse bridge. Crossing the humpbacked bridge over the canal we soon changed footwear at our vehicles. Dodging the rain we quickly found the pub lounge with a real fire, our drinks ready and soon served - closely followed by our lunches. Many commented that the food and service was excellent and good value.

#### Future walks

Alan and Marion Brown will be leading a longer walk from Maidwell on 19 January; David Holmes a shorter walk round Leicester on 2 February and Michael and Lorna Rodber a longer walk on 16 February (route to be arranged). More details of these will be sent to all group 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. New members are always welcome.

**Malcolm Lever Jones** 

0116 279 2714

kibu3awalkers@gmail.com

#### **Wine Tasting**

We'll plan to meet on Tuesday 6th February at 4 Carlton Road to investigate the 377 grape varieties of Italy.

John Freeland

0116 279 6369 0751 207 3618

JFreeland@btinternet.com

Monies from our U3A tea/coffee fund were sent to Wishes 4 Kids. Linda has received this reply. Thank you for your support



#### **Dear Mrs Chambers**

I write, on behalf of the Charity, to thank you and the members of the Kibworth U3A for the very kind donation of £60 which was received at our office on 20th November.

On behalf of the families that you have helped and everyone at the Charity please accept our heartfelt thanks for your kindness.

Best wishes

Janine Bates Trustee





Pictures from last month's

A Christmas Wiscellany

B E A K E R F O L K





Singing for Pleasure group in full voice



Our 'four' poetry readers!

Our fabulous tea ladies and registration team





# Never Too Late to Learn Something New



90 year-old identical twins, Hilda and Daisy Bennison (pictured above), have joined U3A for the very first time – saying they wanted to keep active.

Born on the 11th March 1927 in North London, Hilda and Daisy have spent their retirement trying amateur operatics; swimming every day and even surfing in Cornwall until they were 75. But last month they joined Wellingborough & District U3A in Northamptonshire for the range of activities U3A offers.

Daisy said, "We've enjoyed being members of U3A. We found the German group was too advanced, but the Group Leader recommended a book which we are working through by ourselves; we hope to join the next new course when it starts. The Art and Painting group is very good, with some amazing talent.

"Staying active is important to us. It's no good sitting around! We've kept busy all our lives"

# This Newsletter is online at www.kibworthu3a.org.uk/newsletterJan18

Next issue's deadline –Tuesday 13th February 2018.

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: Ann Robinson, 7 Springfield Close, 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 Kibworth & District U3A Committee

(until 19th January 2018)

Chairman:	Ron Spinks	0116 279 6604	ron.spinks@hotmail.co.uk
Vice-Chairman and			
Treasurer and	Cliff Hollingsworth	0116 279 2025	annandcliff@btinternet.com
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