

October 2018

Bulletin No. 132



2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Walking Group taking a well earned rest

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## **MEMBERSHIP DATA PROTECTION PERMISSION**

Thank you to the 167 members who have completed and returned their emails (or forms) giving their consent to use specific personal data. Your co-operation is really appreciated.

**This is a message to the 90 or so members who still have not provided their consent.**

It is a **LEGAL** requirement that we **MUST** have your consent to hold any of your personal data.

Please can we remind those of you who have yet to reply to go to their email inbox and open the email that has been sent to you and to action it as soon as possible.

To those of you that do not have email please could you return the paper forms that have been handed to you or posted through your house door.

Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A Committee

## Monthly Meetings

**Welcome** to the Wycliffe U3A. We meet on second Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church Hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits available from **10am – 10.30am**. An opportunity to meet friends old and new, book exchange, information about trips etc. All are welcome to join.

**Speaker:** Alan Cutler – ‘A Major Investigation’ by Judge Darling. Our speaker will be acting as judge, prosecutor and defence in a murder trial that took place in the UK towards the beginning of the last century and our members will decide whether guilty or not guilty after carefully weighing up all the evidence. Do we find him not guilty or send him to the gallows?

**Visitors:** may come to one monthly meeting (payment of £1), after which they must become a full member if they want to come again.

**Membership:** to interest groups is limited to full members only. Please contact the group co-ordinator to ask for further details if you would like to join a group. If you have an interest/hobby not covered by the existing options, why not think of joining with like-minded people to form a new group. Contact Viv Weller (01455 557136) for assistance and advice.

### **Refreshments:**

**October 11th.** - Anne Dean, Janice Poile and Lesley Chapman

**November 8th.** - Paul Butler, Andrea Nichol and Ann Hetherington (in charge this month)

**December 13th.** - Jill Betts, Jan Golding, Sue and Brian Poulter

## Notices

### NEW GROUP!

If you are interested in joining a new ASTRONOMY group, please meet with Rawdon Bottom over coffee at the start, or in the foyer at the end, of the U3A meeting on OCTOBER 11th. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please ring Rawdon on 07596 079661 or email him.

[RawdonBottom@outlook.com](mailto:RawdonBottom@outlook.com)

Early days, but some ideas are a monthly daytime meeting to discuss the night sky and also an evening meeting for viewing, dependent upon what's in the sky that month!

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### WE STILL NEED YOUR USED STAMPS

Liz White of Lutterworth U3A is collecting used stamps on behalf of **Medical Detection Dogs**. They can be any used stamps but please could you ensure they have approximately a 1cm (roughly a finger's width) surround.

Please hand in your used stamps to Sue Creeden at the reception desk at the monthly meetings and she will pass them on.

## **ANNIVERSARY LUNCH 2019**

As many of you probably know, our anniversary lunch will be held at the Wycliffe Rooms on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

For the past 2 years we have had over 100 attendees at the annual lunch and it would be nice to see as many of you as possible at the 2019 lunch. To tempt even more of you to “join the party” we are offering everyone a complimentary glass of sparkling wine or fruit juice when you arrive. The Wycliffe Rooms can accommodate over 150 so let’s see if we can get closer to that number as we have nearly 275 members in our U3A.

A new booking form has been made out and has been appended below. Please print the form out and fill it in with your choice of dishes. I will also print out some forms for the monthly meetings, but to keep my costs down (I don’t claim expenses) I would appreciate it if as many of you as possible could print these forms out.

If you are able to attend the lunch, please return the form with your payment at any of the October/November/December/January meetings. If you wish to sit with a group of friends, please indicate on the form in the space at the bottom.

I look forward to seeing you.     Nigel Burt

Print your annual dinner form from here: [Stop Press](#)  
or print the form on next page.

# WYCLIFFE U3A LUTTERWORTH

ANNUAL LUNCH THURSDAY 07TH FEBRUARY 2019

12:30 for 1:00PM

## BOOKING FORM

MEMBERS NAME . . . . .

PARTNER'S NAME . . . . .

## MENU

STARTERS: All served with crusty bread & butter

Leek and potato Soup

Creamy garlic mushrooms served on a bruschetta topped with Stilton

Smoked mackerel mousse

Tomato and mozzarella stack with a pesto dressing

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	D

MAIN COURSE: All served with fresh market vegetables & potatoes

Chicken stuffed with apricot stuffing and wrapped in bacon

Braised steak with mushrooms, baby onions, pancetta & red wine sauce

Poached salmon with ba citrus crust

Loin of pork with a mushroom and masala sauce

Vegetable wellington

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	E
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	G
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	H
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I

DESSERT:

Citrus cheesecake

Sticky toffee pudding

Chocolate torte

Fresh fruit salad

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	J
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	M

Tea or Coffee with Chocolate Mints

Price £18.00p per person - please make cheques payable to Wycliffe U3A Lutterworth

Please complete and return this form with payment to any of the Oct/Nov/Dec/Jan monthly meetings

If you are unable to attend one of the meetings please post to me at 9 Shelley Drive, LE17 4XF

If you want to sit with any person/group please indicate below

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## **BOOK CHAT**

Co-ordinator: Sylvia Curtis

Tele: 01455 554504

'Winter in Madrid' by *C J Sansom* was our book for September.

1940: after the Spanish civil war, Madrid lies in ruins; it's people starving, while General Franco considers whether to enter the war. Into this uncertain time comes Harry Brett, a veteran of Dunkirk turned reluctant British spy. He is tasked with gaining the confidence of an old school friend, Sandy Forsyth, now a shady Madrid businessman. Meanwhile Sandy's girlfriend is seeking to find her former lover who fought during the civil war and was also an old school friend of Harry and Sandy.

Although this sounds somewhat contrived, the plot is skilfully woven and the story kept the interest of the members. We all learnt a lot about the Spanish civil war and its aftermath. All members enjoyed this book and C J Sansom is definitely on our list of favourite authors.

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## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

Co-ordinator: Sue Hicks

Tele: 01858 880273

27 September 2018

We divided into two groups for the personal news so that people had longer to talk. The trouble is, we all missed part of it. We then listened to News in Slow French about hurricane Florence and typhoon Mangkhut. After a translation about a cross-Pacific swim, we had a general discussion on the makings of a good marriage. There were several participants who had been married for 50 years or more, so they should know!

Next month we meet on 25 October, and Bill has offered to tell us about the organ, with live music. The meeting in November will either be a film or a Christmas celebration, or both. There will not be a meeting in December.

Sue

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## **GARDEN GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

Tele: 01455 557888

Once again it was lovely weather for our visit to Westview Garden in Great Glen. Gill and John Hadland had moved from Cumbria where the soil was ideal and no frosts to a Victorian garden of heavy clay and less favourable weather conditions. However, over the years they have turned their garden into an absolute delight. The plot is long and narrow with a beech hedge on one side and a wall on the other. There seemed to be every genus of plants including herbaceous borders, alpines, ferns and shady situation plants. At the far end of the garden there was a vegetable plot, soft fruits and a greenhouse. They had even made a pond for the wildlife. Despite the storm the previous weekend, there was still lots of colour and interest. After our tour we were treated to tea and delicious cake and we returned to Lutterworth in the safe hands of our minibus driver Richard Hill. Our thanks go to Paula for co-ordinating this trip.

We will be moving indoors for our October meeting. On Tuesday 23rd October Nigel Deacon is coming to talk about apples. Nigel has collected and grafted unusual apples for many years. Some of them are heritage apples from all over the country. Some are curiosities which no-one will ever produce commercially - red fleshed, or egg shaped, or with a peculiar flavour, or which stay on the tree all winter. He will also bring along apples for tasting.

The meeting will start at 2.00 p.m. in Gilmorton Village Hall. The address is Main Street, Gilmorton, LE17 5LS. There is limited space in the car park which is round the back. This is at the end of Church Drive which is a narrow one-way road and the entrance is off the Lutterworth Road. (If coming from Lutterworth, Church Drive is second on the left after the Grey Goose. If coming the other way turn into Lutterworth Road at the Crown Pub and Church Drive is 1st on the right.) The cost will be £3.50.

If you would like to come, please contact me as soon as possible on 01455 557888 or email [sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net](mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net)

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## **GENTLE CYCLING GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

Tele: 01455 557888

### Riding Over Conkers

An intrepid and optimistic 'summer wine' group of cyclists set forth at 10am from the Black Horse in Walcote, heading up Swinford Lane into the teeth of the notorious Storm Ali. The strong wind threatened to blow the wheels from under them, however they carried on regardless thinking of encouraging phrases such as "it will be easy coming back" and "it's due to get stronger at 12".

Carrying on they took a left fork onto a bridleway taking them downhill towards Stanford, which was great fun for those with suspension. A brief stop was taken at the bridge over the young River Avon on it's way to Rugby, and eventually joining the River Severn near Tewkesbury. A Red Kite was spotted here, flying effortlessly in the strong wind, circling in the sky, just above aviation pioneer Percy Pilcher's Monument.

The tree lined lanes were scattered with fallen twigs, acorns and conkers blown off by the force of Ali. Riding over them we carried on to Clay Coton then took another bridleway to Lilbourne. This part was tough, into the wind and uphill, definitely get off and walk. We passed by the Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground, perhaps feeling that soon it might be our turn. We noted the motte and bailey mounds on the right, still prominent there at Lilbourne and carried on to Catthorpe where we turned right to head to Shawell, going under the A14. It was easier going now with the wind at our backs as we headed back to the Black Horse and a welcome brew.

Distance 14 miles starting from Walcote, 20 miles if you started from Lutterworth.

Dave Hunter

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The ride in October will be a local one, on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**. We will meet at **Ullesthorpe Garden Centre at 10.00 a.m.** The route will be through the Claybrookes, up to Frolesworth and on to Leire and Dunton Bassett. From there we can decide whether to cross the A426 and skirt Gilmorton or whether to go directly up to Ashby Parva. We can then choose again whether to ride straight back to Ullesthorpe or add the loop through Bitteswell. I know it's a repeat of previous rides but I thought it best to keep it local now the weather is unreliable.

Everyone is very welcome to join us, the more the merrier. Our rides are no more than 10 - 14 miles and are very leisurely, (if there is a difficult bit we walk) so why not give it a try. If you would like to join us just email Sue Creeden – [sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net](mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net) or phone 01455 557888 to let her know you will be there.

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Everyone is very welcome to join us, the more the merrier. Our rides are no more than 12 - 14 miles and are very leisurely, (if there is a difficult bit we walk) so why not give it a try. If you would like to join us just email Sue Creeden – [sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net](mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net) or phone 01455 557888 to let her know you will be there.

Sue Creeden

## **HISTORY GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Viv Weller 01455 557136

email: [ywellerz@aol.com](mailto:ywellerz@aol.com)

### September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 Joint Meeting of the History Group and the Engineering, Science & Technology Group

#### THE HISTORY OF FLIGHT IN LEICESTERSHIRE

This talk was given by Anne French, a member of the Council of Management of Leicestershire Aero Club based at Leicester Airport at Stoughton. Anne has a Private Pilot's Licence (PPL) and is joint author of '100 Years – a Celebration of the Leicestershire Aero Club 1909 – 2009'.

We learnt that the earliest aviation in the county was a balloon flight from Belgrave Park in 1826. Also had Percy Pilcher not been killed in an unfortunate gliding accident at Stanford Hall in 1899, Lutterworth could have been the birth place of powered flight, not Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Anne spoke about the social side of flying excluding the two world wars. In its infancy flying was restricted to those with money and influence. There was much snobbery and even the engineers who worked on the planes were prevented from flying by their wealthy employers.

On August 30<sup>th</sup> 1909, 6 weeks after Bleriot crossed the English Channel the Leicestershire Aero Club was formed. They had no airfield and no planes! Nevertheless Leicestershire businessmen and those in society anticipated the importance of flight. Cars were new and only about 200

miles of road throughout the UK were tarmacked. So being able to fly from one field to another directly was very attractive. The Aero Club of the United Kingdom (later to become the Royal Aero Club) recorded the inaugural meeting of the Leicestershire Aero Club (LAC) in their notices to members.

Civil flying was stopped on the outbreak of WW1 and many club members joined the Royal Flying Corps (later became the RAF). In 1916 LAC together with the Chamber of Commerce presented a Daimler built BE12, christened 'The Leicester', to the war effort at a ceremony in Western Park. The plane was lost on the Western Front soon afterwards. LAC re-formed in 1919. It was often featured in the Leicester Mercury which asked why Leicester did not have an airport. In 1928 the Royal Aero Club started the King's Cup Air Race which still continues today and LAC hosts one of the stages every year. Many will remember the air days at Stoughton on August Bank Holiday Monday which stopped a few years ago and sadly are no longer financially viable.

LAC has had several homes. The first was at Desford and in 1930 Sir Lindsay Everard opened a second airfield to be used by LAC on his own property at Ratcliffe on the Wreake. It became one of the foremost airfields in Europe and attracted many well-known aviators. Amy Johnson was to open the airfield but under doctor's orders was told not to, so Sir Sefton Brancker the Director of Civil Aviation performed this task. The Duke of Gloucester and the Duchess of Bedford, together with John Stannage all visited the air field and could be seen taking tea on the balcony. Leicester City Corporation thought Leicester should have an airport as Desford and Ratcliffe were private airfields. In 1935 this became a reality at Braunstone. LAC was asked to

move to Braunstone to manage the airport. Its first manager was Winifred Spooner and there were some female pilots. The Duchess of Bedford flew in her own Gypsy Moth. Once again civil aviation was suspended during WW2.

After the war Lindsay Everard was knighted for his services to aviation. He again offered his airfield as the council wanted Braunstone back. A lease was drawn up and LAC shared the field with Taylorcraft. The club used Austers for training as they were made nearby in Rearsby. In 1949 Sir Lindsay died unexpectedly and his family didn't want their property used for the airfield so the club moved to Stoughton (formerly known as Leicester East Airfield which had been used by the RAF during the war), where it is today. In 1958 the Queen and Prince Philip arranged to fly in and this prompted the council to resurface the main runway which had been neglected since the RAF moved out. Some hangars were pulled down but you can still see the remaining WW2 hangar which is in use today. Some Leicester firms started to base their aircraft there. Fox's Glacier Mints had a Rapide and then a Dove. English Electric kept a 4-engined Heron aircraft for business flights. Many other businessmen kept twin and single engine aircraft too and the Club had Auster, Terrier, Tripacer and Cessna aircraft for training.

In 1969 the Club prevented a crisis for the Ford Escort. The Ford Plant in Halewood was running short of bushes for a rear suspension unit because of the non-arrival of a load sent by road. The gap could be filled by Dunlop Polymer Engineering at Evington. A twin engine plane was sent from Speke but there was fog and cloud cover at 300 feet over Leicester Airport. Two of the three packages were sent by road to Castle Donington for the Liverpool aircraft to collect, in the meantime LAC's Chief Flying Instructor (CFI) and the Club Secretary took off in a

single engine Cessna and delivered the 3<sup>rd</sup> package within an hour to a waiting car at Speke. In the 90's Anne worked for a label printing company in Leicester and she and the then CFI delivered Smirnoff labels to a bottling plant in Glasgow in the Club's Cessna 172, thus preventing closing down the bottling line of a major brand!

Stoughton was leased from the Co-op who owned the airfield and much surrounding farmland. When the Co-op went bust recently the land was bought by the Wellcome Foundation, and so LAC continues. The Club has around 400 members. Leicester Airport is used by visiting sports teams/stars, business people, the Air Ambulance and Police Helicopters for refuelling and sometimes the Army or RAF drop in. Visits are arranged for cubs, scouts, schools and other youngsters. Adults can also visit if they wish.

Dot Barnard

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## **LIVELY DISCUSSION**

Co-ordinator: Dot Barnard 01455 208190

[dot.barnard@uwclub.net](mailto:dot.barnard@uwclub.net)

### **What Makes a Successful Marriage? September Meeting**

Marriage is about relationships so the Church and State both have vested interests. Prior to 1140 it was a tool to establish diplomatic and trade ties giving mutual advantage to all via obligations with others. As wealth became important it influenced the act of marrying an equally wealthy and powerful person. There was no personal concern for the couple so the father arranged 'deals' for economic and political advantage.

In 1140 Canon Law said couples should verbally consent and consummate the marriage, this was church policy into the 13th century. 'Handfasting' (engagement to be married) was common law and legally binding unto death. In 1563 Marriage officially became 1 of 7 sacraments in the Catholic Church. In 1549 Protestants put Wedding Vows in the Book of Common Prayer and Archbishop Cranmer laid out the purpose of marriage. The 1753 Clandestine Marriage Act meant that the State became involved. Couples must get married in a Church, with the ceremony conducted by a minister or the union was void. A formal marriage announcement was needed - Banns read or a licence obtained. Penalties were introduced. In 1836 the Marriage Act was introduced. This was a non-religious Civil marriage to be conducted in a Register Office.

Love was talked/sung about often but in the Victorian Era 'Love' became the thing. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were held up as icons of a 'loving marriage'. Catholic and Anglican doctrine has

elevated procreation as a primary reason for marriage. This changed in the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century but is still controversial in the Catholic Church. To many couples the Church wedding is 'mystical' before God in a sacred setting and is blessed.

In December 2005 the Civil Partnerships Act was introduced in Great Britain. This accords same sex relationships the same rights and responsibilities that are available to married couples. In 2014 the Same Sex Marriage Act came into force in the UK, making it equal with heterosexual marriage.

The following 3 headings are from internet research.

Success in Marriage - 7 reasons for Marital Success:

- Spouse as a best friend - deep abiding friendship
- Liking spouse as a person
- Marriage as sacred institution
- Marriage as a long-term commitment
- Agreement on aims and goals
- Spouses become more interesting to each other
- Wanting relationship to succeed

## Advice to young couples

1. There must be similarity of background, values and interests - as a way to prevent discord in relationships especially dealing with children and parenting.
2. Successful marriage will be characterized by love, regard and mutual respect - beyond sexual desire, and should develop intimacy over time.
3. Don't expect the perfect spouse - take time to get to know each other before marrying - and then make a serious commitment to a long term relationship.
4. Communicate openly and tactfully - even if difficult.
5. Be willing to compromise, to negotiate and share responsibilities - it's all a balance - give and take!

## Points to consider: before marrying:

- Understanding, Tolerance, Sense of Humour, Give and Take, Perseverance,
- Happiness, Love, Trust, Safety and Security, Support of Each Other
- Enjoyment of, and with each other – talk, argue and listen
- Compromise, Compatibility, Respect
- Own hobbies/interests but do things together too
- Strive and work together to achieve goals (e.g. home, kids)
- Supportive, helpful family around
- Family traditions & bonding
- Some LUCK!
- You'll live longer!

A third of the group had been married for more than 50 years. Several people had been married more than once, sometimes through being widowed and sometimes through divorce. This gave a wide variety of ideas and advice. What is a successful marriage, is it longevity? If the couple is no longer content can this be regarded as a success?

Some people believe that there should be a strong male head of household with the woman in background doing 'everything'! Others in the group strongly disagreed with this sexist idea and it would not work in same sex marriages. Other advice offered was:

- You can't expect someone else to make you happy
- Good behaviour towards your partner is key
- Think before you start an argument and always resolve it before you go to bed
- Don't blame each other as this will lead to a lack of respect and one should show respect to all, don't let familiarity breed contempt
- Have separate bathrooms!
- Make yourself get on with your partner's family and friends
- Trust each other
- Have separate interests as well as interests in common
- Be humble and resilient, know when to give way
- Display kindness
- Have a healthy sex life
- Work through your ups and downs, marriage isn't conducted in a golden glow as shown on TV and in films
- Agree on important things such as whether to have children and how to bring them up, how money is managed, major purchases etc.
- 'On Marriage' a poem by Kahlil Gibran gives very good advice to those getting married

We were concerned that although weddings are increasing some people seem more interested in a good party or a very expensive dress. Even hen and stag parties involve a holiday or weekend away when the money would be much better spent on a deposit for a house.

We went on to discuss how partnerships have changed. Many live together and may or may not get married after children have been born. Examples were given of 2 couples who have lived together for decades and have recently got married because of Brexit as the partners are English and German and there is so much uncertainty. Some of us couldn't see relationships lasting till the death of a partner as women are no longer regarded as property and often have equal jobs and equal income. Informal agreements were suggested - such as how to divide responsibilities for everyday living, how to contribute to household costs and to stay together at least until the children are 18 and then decide whether to continue or not. Also included would be legal rights such as inheritance, property and care. Some women keep their original name after marriage. We no longer have to marry to keep the species going, for security or the merging of property. Today there are hook-ups which seem to be just for sex and then people move on. Victorian fathers and the Church meant that people were forced to marry if they wished to remain respectable. Nowadays the average time together before divorce is 8 years although the media have covered divorces around retirement age. Being together 24/7 brings its own challenges. The Justice Secretary, David Gauke, wants to abolish the system of fault-based divorce and has announced a consultation on the matter.

We were able to see wedding photos belonging to some members and one member's family tree dating back to the 1880s. It is interesting to consider whether these marriages would have lasted so long if women had had the vote, not been regarded as property, contraception had been available and women had been able to earn their own livings.

Is it just a coincidence that the day of our discussion was World Suicide Prevention Day! Dot Barnard

\* \* \* \* \*

There is a vacancy for a permanent member of the Discussion Group

### **INVITATION TO ATTEND AS A GUEST**

Would you like to come along to the Lively Discussion Group occasionally? The maximum number of people that I can accommodate is 12, and sometimes regular members are unable to attend. We meet on the second Monday in the month at my house 10.30 – 12.30. Please phone or email me if you wish to attend and I'll let you know if there is a space on your chosen date. 01455 208190 or [dot.barnard@uwclub.net](mailto:dot.barnard@uwclub.net)

### **TOPICS 2018**

- Apr 9<sup>th</sup> – How attitudes have changed, is respect a thing of the past?
- May 14<sup>th</sup> – What is the future of the high street?
- Jun 11<sup>th</sup> – Is the lottery a good idea?
- Jul 9<sup>th</sup> – The future of British farming
- Aug 13<sup>th</sup> - HS2
- Sept 10<sup>th</sup> – What makes a successful marriage?
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – The pros and cons of mass air travel
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup> – What is the effect of mass media on the young?
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup> – Xmas meeting

## **MOTOR CYCLE INTEREST GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Colin Beadle

tele: 01455 558013

mob: 07505 997767

email: paula\_colin@btinternet.com

### September Ride

With such appealing weather the open roads were very inviting – so off we went.

We departed Lutterworth and took a short ride to the Triumph factory at Hinckley. We have visited before but it is a great stop for their café – and to explore a new exhibition in their visitors centre. After a longer than planned stop – amazing how time flies when motorcyclists start talking – we started our journey.

A clockwise route took us up the A5 and then the A444 through Twycross. We headed right soon after and crossed country to Ashby before Coalville and home.

Not quite the mileage of our last outing but very satisfying on an idyllic day.

Colin Beadle



All revved up and ready to go

## **PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Michael Bates

tele: 07899937595

### **September Meeting**

There was a good attendance at our first meeting after our summer break and a good start with a talk by Nigel Bones, on his view of photography. Nigel's talk was more about the reasons we take pictures rather than the techniques of photography.

Nigel considered the difficulties of taking landscape pictures and how best to convey the feelings we have when we take the picture. He questioned why our individual efforts often fall short of pictures we see in the media and concluded that, generally, our pictures are taken by chance without much preparation whereas professionals spend a long time to get that perfect picture. Nigel remarked however, the more professional pictures we view and understand, the better our "opportunistic" pictures will be. Nigel also considered other issues, the most important being that our pictures should "tell a story". Nigel illustrated his point with some famous news pictures that needed no comment to understand the story being told. While not advocating we should try and emulate these heroic photographers, Nigel suggested there are many more domestic stories that can be told if we just think about how we frame our pictures.

Nigel's talk was followed by a short debate which resulted in the conclusion that the main reason we take pictures is to reinforce memories of friends, family and places visited.

Thanks to Nigel for a very thoughtful and thought provoking talk.

Our picture topic of the month was “Transport” and we had a wide interpretation of the subject. The pictures will be added to the U3A website picture gallery in October.

**Next Meeting – 10am on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018 - Gilmorton Village Hall**

Our picture topic for October is “Modern Architecture” hoping that we will find some striking images. Don’t forget that it does not have to be a whole building but perhaps a design feature used by the architect to create a visual reaction. If you cannot find something modern we will include something similar architectural gems from the past.

We are trying to work out a programme of talks for the next few months and hopefully we will be able to offer some of our ideas at the October meeting. There will be a talk at the October meeting, and we will let the members know the topic nearer the meeting date.

We are happy to welcome any U3A member to our meetings, even if you cannot attend on a regular basis, or are just curious about what we do.

All our members’ monthly pictures can be viewed in the gallery section of the Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A website.

For more information regarding the photography group contact us at [wlu3acamera@outlook.com](mailto:wlu3acamera@outlook.com)

Michael Bates

## **POETRY GROUP**

Co-ordinator : Sylvia Hitchen

Tele: 0116 247 8353

email: [Sylvia.hitchen@btinternet.com](mailto:Sylvia.hitchen@btinternet.com)

The topic for September was “work days and school days” and we read a rich variety of poems from famous and unknown poets, poems which were funny and sad, gruesome and beautiful, thought provoking and those sort of poems where you just have to admire the writer’s imaginative skills and ability with words.

My picks of the month for anyone who might be interested in having a read are:

Spike Milligan – The ABC, a very funny poem about the letters of the alphabet communicating with each other.

Kenn Nesbitt – My Teacher ate my Homework. Funny again, with a twist at the end. A great poem for reading to children.

Brian Patten – Geography Lesson. A tale of an inspirational teacher with a helping of pathos.

Alan Shapiro – Astronomy Lesson. I love the way the everyday and banal is interwoven with the mind blowing concepts of time and space, that the two strands seem so very far apart, until the last couple of lines where we see the relevance of one to the other.

Gillian Clarke – Shearing. The imagery is beautiful and sensuous, but this poem packs a jarring kick towards the end.

Philip Larkin – The Toad. A famous poem where Larkin envisages work as a toad, squatting on his life.

Pam Ayres – With these Hands. A good read aloud poem. Amusing and light.

The next meeting is on 25<sup>th</sup> October and the topic is “Autumn”.  
November’s meeting will be at Dot’s house and the topic for that is “Food and Drink”.

Sylvia.

## **SNAIL'S PACE WALKING GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Sheila Eggleton

tele: 01455 554287

email: [sheilaeggleton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sheilaeggleton@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Snail's Pace October Walk**

The October walk will be around Stoke Golding, meeting at the George & Dragon pub in the centre of the village. We will be walking around the village, across some fields and a short distance on the canal towpath.

Food should be ordered at the pub before we leave at 11 am. The menu is on their website.

Anne needs to notify the pub of numbers beforehand so please let Anne know if you are going on this walk [geoff\\_anned@hotmail.com](mailto:geoff_anned@hotmail.com) (please note there should be an underscore between the words geoff and anned on the email address.

### **Directions to Stoke Golding**

There are various routes – one way is to follow the A5 towards Hinckley. At the roundabout after Paynes Garage take the second exit on to the A47 (signposted Barwell, Market Bosworth). Follow the road until you reach the Windmill/Morrisons roundabout and take the left exit towards Stoke Golding.

Alternatively, drive through Stoney Stanton and Elvesthorpe to the A47, turn left and follow A47 to the Windmill/Morrisons roundabout and then turn right to Stoke Golding.

Follow this road through the village to the T Junction, turn right and you will see the George & Dragon in front of you on the bend. There is a car park behind the pub, the entrance is on the right hand side.

### **September Walk:**

Thirteen of us enjoyed the circular walk around Monks Kirby - in spite of heavy rain that was not forecast! We passed St Joseph's RC Church and the former convent in the village, before heading out across the fields to Pailton. There was no sign of wild deer on this occasion, but they are out there! We returned to Monks Kirby along the footpath into Bell Lane and enjoyed some lunch and warmth at 'The Denbigh Arms'. An enjoyable morning in spite of the elements!

### **Continuation of Snail's Pace Group 2019:**

Mandy (Cutler) has kindly agreed to take over as group leader for the Snail's Pace Group when I step down at the end of November. I will be passing her your email details so she can contact you about the programme of walks she is arranging for 2019. She will be asking for volunteers to lead some of the walks. If you no longer wish to be part of the group and want your name removed from the database please let Mandy know **by the 8th November 2018**.

mandycutler@sky.com

### **Reminders:**

If you have not filled in and returned a Data Protection form (a legal necessity in order for the U3A to retain your details) can you please do so as a matter of urgency. If you are unable to do this on line a paper copy will be available for you to complete at the next U3A meeting. If you have not collected your U3A membership card can you please do so at your earliest convenience.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> TUESDAY WALKING GROUP (with Lutterworth U3A)**

Co-ordinator: Gordon Jones

tele: 01455 556192

#### **NOTE THE EARLIER START TIME**

**Date of Walk:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Walk Organisers:** Gordon and Sue Jones

**Meeting Point and Time:** Recreation Ground car park, Coventry Road, Lutterworth. Meet at **9.15am** to leave at **9.20am**.

**Walk Start Point:** The Red Lion Inn, Market Bosworth.

**Directions to Start:** Take the A5 North to Dodwells Roundabout, take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit from the roundabout and follow the A47 across the north of Hinckley. Turn left at the traffic lights on to Ashby Road, A447, and stay with the A447 to the Bull in the Oak crossroad (about 5 miles). Turn Left for Market Bosworth. Just after entering the 30 limit take the Left fork of the one way system and turn Right at the end, drive past the square and turn Right. Take the next Right and immediately Left into the Red Lion carpark.

**Route and Distance:** 5½ miles of field paths and two lengths of village roads.

**Lunch arrangements:** At the Red Lion Market Bosworth, bar menu around £6.00. Place orders before setting out, eat about 1.30 pm.

**Return Mileage From Lutterworth:** 40 miles.

## **2nd WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Mike Chapman 01455 209972

Last minute updates see “Stop Press” on the website.

(Final update 8:45 on day of walk.)

**Date of Walk:** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Details of the November walk will be in next month’s edition.**

### **September walk report**

A group of 18 walkers and 2 dogs set off from Smeeton Westerby to take a short walk through the Leicestershire countryside. The weather was much kinder than had been forecast earlier in the week and the sun put in an appearance at times. We had a pleasant stroll through rolling fields and along a pretty section of the Grand Union canal. We returned to the start point along farm roads. My offer to stop and play “Poo Sticks” at a small bridge was not seized upon as enthusiastically as I was expecting. You can only try your best! We all returned to our cars having had another sociable enjoyable outing.

If you haven’t walked with the group before, come and give it a try we’re a friendly bunch.

George Robertson



## **4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP**

Co-ordinators: Sue & Peter Creeden 01455 557888

**24 October 2018**

**Walk Organisers:-** Pete & Jean Williamson -Tel: 01455 209882

**Meeting Point and Time:-** Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.20 am to leave at 9.30am.

**Start Point and Time:-** The Hollybush, Ashby Parva (Postcode LE17 5HS). Toilets available. Walk starts at 10.00 am.

**Directions to the Starting Point:** Drive to Bitteswell. At crossroads turn right into Ashby Lane. Take 3<sup>rd</sup> right turn into Ashby Parva. Follow the road through the village. The Hollybush is on the left and it has a car park at the rear.

**Route and Distance:-** The route goes from Ashby Parva along field paths via Boggy Bray (not boggy any more) to Dunton Bassett returning to Ashby Parva along a quiet lane. Certain fields may be muddy. Distance approx. 5.8 miles – 8 stiles.

**Lunch:-** Pre-order lunch : lunchtime deal £7.50 on many items

\* \* \* \* \*

## **August 2018 Walk Report**

A beautiful sunny morning encouraged an incredible total of 34 walkers to set off from The Bulls Head at Brinklow. The walking was easy across fields, lanes and canal towpath with no hills. We headed north first along the Coventry Way to Grimes Bridge and then the Centenary Way up to the M6. Turning right we then walked parallel with the motorway for 500 or 600 yards along a footpath that had been overgrown with brambles but cleared enough to allow us to pass, but with difficulty. Brambles have a marvellous knack of tripping you up.

We stopped for a break where the footpath crosses the Fosse Way. It was not the leaders fault but it turned out to be a bad choice with heavy tractors turning into the field where they were harvesting and chopping sweetcorn for cattle feed. Just before we moved on one of the tractors decided to stop for his break right next to us, leaving his engine running. He was then joined by the harvester. Walking on we headed to Stretton-under-Fosse and then on to Brinklow Arches and the Oxford Canal. Leaving the towpath we walked along the road before getting back into fields to return to Brinklow.

A very pleasant walk.

Peter Creeden

## **U3A WALKING GROUPS – CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND WALK**

The Christmas lunch and walk will be on Wednesday 12 Dec 2018. Emails with the menu have been sent out to all the regular walkers. If you have not received an email and would like to join us then please contact Peter Creeden

## Committee April 2018– March 2019

Office	Name	Contact
Chairman	Nigel Burt	01455 554498
Vice Chairman	Tony Allen	01455 552087
Treasurer	Jan Newman	01455 209179
Membership Secretary	Sue Creeden	01455 557888
Interest Group Co-ordinator	Viv Weller	01455 557136
Speaker Liaison	Mike Perry	01455 556724
Bulletin	Trudy Haddon	01455 552905
Committee Member	Andy Hetherington	01455 203498
Committee Member	Ann Hetherington	01455 203498

You can join the Wycliffe U3A at one of the monthly meetings or you can apply online at [www.wycliffelutterworthu3a.org](http://www.wycliffelutterworthu3a.org)

Contributions for the website should be sent to Mike Chapman  
email: [wlu3acmte@gmail.com](mailto:wlu3acmte@gmail.com)

Articles, Reports, News items etc. for inclusion in the next bulletin should be sent to the editor: e-mail [trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com](mailto:trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com)

**Deadline for inclusion in the next bulletin:** on the last day of the month.

**Interest Group Dates and Times** can be found on the website under 'summary'

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