



Misterton Picnic

There was an enthusiastic response to the invitation to picnic at Misterton Hall. We were lucky to have a warm, sunny day. All 64 members were registered on arrival before choosing a favoured spot to plant chairs and tables. The shared joy in meeting face to face after such a long time in various forms of isolation led to plenty of movement between groups. No-one was lost for words, quite the reverse. After lunch, some chose to stroll over the lawns and along paths to look at the water birds, whilst others played croquet. The occasion breathed new life into us all and made us all aware of the need for social contact and interaction. Let's hope we are able to function more normally in the coming months. Mrs. Craven's generosity in opening up her grounds was much appreciated. *Chris Brady*

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Notices

September "At Home" Monthly Meeting

Hi All

Your u3a committee made a decision to hold our September 2021 monthly meeting via the Zoom online platform. The committee will review again shortly to see if a face to face meeting will be possible in October. Further details will follow.

Our talk on Thursday 09/09/2021 at 10:30 hrs is "Life After Eurovision" presented by Vince Eager.

Many of you will recall being entertained by Vince - "You're Never too Old to Rock and Roll" in our February online presentation.

This meeting will be via a "ZOOM" presentation and unlike February will be interactive with the speaker. The joining link is attached.

We do have a limit on the number of "log ins" we can entertain on our zoom licence so please DO NOT share any log in / link outside our Wycliffe u3a membership.

The talk is scheduled to start at 10:30hrs but please can you log in from 10:15hrs to allow us to start on time.

The log in detail was forwarded to all on Sunday 29/08/2021.

Regards

Andrea Nichol (Speaker Liaison)

Colin Beadle (Vice Chair)

Important notice from the HISTORY GROUP

After a recent meeting in a pub garden we have decided to change our meeting day to the first TUESDAY in the month, still 2 till 4 pm. It was on Mondays before. (This is because it seems 90% of all possible venues for trips close on Mondays!)

We are not yet holding meetings indoors but I will put the info in the bulletin when we do.

Viv

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Important notice from the GARDEN GROUP

NEW CO-ORDINATOR REQUIRED

As mentioned last month, after eight years of being co-ordinator for the Garden Group, I have made the decision to stand down and let someone with fresh ideas take over. I have booked the above visit for September and will work to organise a programme of winter talks through to the end of March 2022, which should give ample time for a new co-ordinator to get up to speed to ensure a smooth handover.

I have very much enjoyed arranging outings and talks over the last eight years and have been very grateful for the appreciation and support I have always received.

Thank you all very much, Sue.

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Used Stamps

Liz White of Lutterworth U3A is still 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 hang onto your stamps until we are able to meet again and give them to Sue Creeden, or you can pop them through her letterbox (25 Holly Drive, Lutterworth) and she will pass them on.

Sue Creeden



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QUIZ GROUP

Co-ordinator: Joan Coiley

Tel: 01455 558658

Quiz Group meeting on August 3rd.

The Quiz Group met, after many months of waiting, this month, August. There were only a few of us, six, on this occasion but that's to be expected with child holiday care etc. Nevertheless, I think we all enjoyed being back even though our brains were badly out of practice.

New participants are always welcome. We meet at the Town Hall on the first Tuesday of each month and have a rota for appointing a question setter and presenter. A small example of questions perhaps?

"William Pitt, the Younger" introduced Income Tax in which Year?"

"What character lives in rubbish bins on Sesame Street?"

As you see the questions cover a wide field. If you are free and interested, do come and join us for a taster session.

Answers? 1799 Oscar

Joan

AUGUST LONG WALK

Co-ordinator: George Robertson

Lime Street in the village of Burton Lazars was lined with parked cars as a group of 17 walkers assembled for an 11 mile walk through Leicestershire countryside. The name Lazars comes from a St Lazarus who was the patron saint of Lepers and a large leper hospital was established here in the 12th century, thought to be the largest in the country at the time. We set off across fields with a fine drizzle in the air. The cloud level lifted and we had a dry warm day for most of the walk. We stopped for a coffee break at St James Church which sits on a hill outside the hamlet of Little Dalby. The earliest records of the church date from the 13th century. We were pleased to see that the carving of the lady on the church was covid compliant with mask over her mouth.



After a short break we continued on across rolling countryside towards the village of Somerby. The leader thought a challenge was necessary so led the group along a

slippery little path just to get the adrenalin flowing. We entered the pretty village and headed for the Stilton Cheese Inn for our pre ordered lunch.

Suitably refreshed we set off again and headed for Borough Hill Fort. This is an Iron Age fort set high in the Leicestershire countryside with magnificent views. The fort dates back to 200BC but only the earthworks remain. One of group admitted to having been to the site before but denied being responsible for the disappearance of any of the stone work over the centuries. However, she does have a very fine stone garden feature at her home.



We left the fort behind and followed field paths and minor roads including one marked as Moscow Lane. Didn't think we had walked quite that far. After a final short break we returned to our cars and headed home having had an enjoyable walk in good company.



Are you a walker? We offer a range of walking activities so contact the walk coordinators for more information.

George

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GARDEN GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden, Tel: 01455 557888

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our visit to Aqueduct Cottage in August. It seemed bringing our normal visit day forward a week meant it was not a convenient day for members. There were insufficient numbers to make the trip worthwhile.

Hopefully our September outing will be more successful.

On **Tuesday 21st September** we will be visiting 'Briarwood', another NGS garden this time in Barton Seagrave, Northamptonshire. This is garden for all seasons with quirky original sculptures. The south facing aspect has a lawn and borders containing bulbs, shrubs, roses and rare trees with year-round interest; hedging, palms, climbers, a wildlife, fish and lily pond, terrace with potted bulbs and unusual plants in odd containers. There is also a secret garden with garden room, small orchard, raised bed potager and greenhouse.

A minibus has been arranged for this visit. It will leave Lutterworth Leisure Centre at 1.30 p.m. and I estimate we will be back in Lutterworth between 5.00 and 5.30 p.m. The cost of the trip is £11.50 (£6.00 for entry and £5.50 for transport). The minibus can carry 14 people but if more than 14 members wish to join the visit, perhaps some could travel under their own steam. The full address is 4 Poplars Farm Road, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, NN15 5AF.

If you would like to come, please let me know by email:

sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net or by telephone (number above).

NEW CO-ORDINATOR REQUIRED

As mentioned last month, after eight years of being co-ordinator for the Garden Group, I have made the decision to stand down and let someone with fresh ideas take over. I have booked the above visit for September and will work to organise a programme of winter talks through to the end of March 2022, which should give ample time for a new co-ordinator to get up to speed to ensure a smooth handover.

I have very much enjoyed arranging outings and talks over the last eight years and have been very grateful for the appreciation and support I have always received.

Thank you all very much, Sue.

GENTLE CYCLING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

Tele: 01455 557888

Our ride this month was a bit chilly, more like autumn than August. At least it stayed dry. It was nice to have a welcome a new member to the group and nine of us set off from Gilmorton. Our route took us down to Ashby Magna, and across the A426 at Dunton Bassett cross roads. We cycled through the village and up and down the hills to Leire and on to Frolesworth. We turned left here and pedalled up and down more hills (the final one being a 'walking' hill) to Ullesthorpe. We turned again to Ashby Parva and down Cauldwell Lane to cross back over the A426. The final leg was along Ullesthorpe Road back to Moretons Bistro where we enjoyed refreshments in the garden. A pleasant 12.5 miles although the roads did seem to be a bit busier this time.

Four of the Group also took part in the Rotary's Big Bike Ride from Misterton Hall the following Sunday. Earlier weather predictions were for possible thunderstorms on the day but luckily it turned out that concerns were unfounded. We cycled the short route of 11 miles and all enjoyed a pleasant morning, culminating in a free hog roast on the lawn.



The next ride will be on Wednesday 15th September, details to be announced. If you fancy joining us you will be very welcome. Just give me a call on the above number or email me - sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net.

1st WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Joint Co-ordinators: Peter & Irene Moore

Tel: 01455 552594 Mob:- 07931 568792 email.- peter79moore@gmail.com

Date of Walk :- Wednesday 6th October 2021

Driving distance:- 8 Miles each way.

Walk leaders :- Peter & Irene Moore. email- peter79moore@gmail.com Tel.-01455 552594

Meeting Point and Time : Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.20am to leave at 9.25am.

Start Point : The Lime Tree Pub, 2 Cambridge Road, Whetstone, LE8 6LF
Leave 10.00am.

Toilets available

Directions to Start :- Take the road to Blaby A426, turn left towards Whetstone at the 2nd Island after joining the Dual Carriageway, turn left towards Cosby, pub is immediately on the left. Car park after pub.

Route and Distance

Exit the car park into the main road , turn right then right again onto Burnham Drive into the housing estate, through the estate and cross the bye pass to join the footpath towards Countesthorpe via Blaby golf course. Turn onto footpath and follow to the Bridge over River Sence. Coffee time at the Glen Parva Manor. Continue onto Canal, turn left towards the old County Arms. Leave the Canal and pass through Whetstone and return to The Lime Tree Pub.

Approx 5 Miles. A pleasant walk through farmland and the Canal for company on our return.

Good and varied choice of food , extensive lunch time menu. Gluten -free food available. Order before walk.

Next Walk 5 Miles. Enderby and Narborough. A lovely country walk through quiet pastures.

Wednesday 6th October 2021

Peter and Irene Moore

Report.

Walk 4th August 2021

21 walkers and 2 dogs left the Queens Head at Bretford heading towards Wolston with a very young River Avon as company. On into Brandon for our *Luxury coffee break* at the Royal Oak. Continuing on to Brinklow Heath and return for 17 walkers to enjoy the Best Lunch for many a mile at the Queens Head. We enjoyed a mild and dry country stroll. 5 miles.

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4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinators: Sue & Peter Creeden Tel: 01455 557888

Wednesday 22 September 2021

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

Meeting Point and Time:- Lutterworth Recreation Ground Car Park at 09.05am to leave at 09.15am.

Start Point and Time:- The Bell Inn, Main Street, Gumley LE16 7RU. Depart at 10:00am

Directions to the Starting Point:- There are several ways to get to Gumley but to avoid narrow lanes on some routes it is recommended you take the Market Harborough Road from Lutterworth. At Lubenham, take the left turn and follow the signs to Foxton. At Foxton turn left to Gumley. On entering Gumley, the Bell Inn is immediately on the left. Park anywhere on Main Street past the Bell Inn. Toilets available. Return Mileage from Lutterworth: 30 Miles.

Route and Distance:- Starting at Bell Inn, the walk goes up Main Street and then takes the quiet lane to Laughton. The route then goes down field tracks to the canal and continues along the tow-path until the first road bridge where we leave the canal and walk along quiet lanes back to Gumley. Length of walk 5.5 miles – no stiles.

Lunch Arrangements:- At The Bell Inn Gumley. Order meal prior to walk. They have a small lunchtime specials board – Starters - £2.00, Mains £6.95.

SNAIL'S PACE WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Mandy Cutler

August Walk



Fourteen of us enjoyed a lovely walk around the village of Stoke Golding, across fields and along part of the Ashby Canal tow path. The summer sun shone and the countryside was both beautiful and tranquil.

It was an excellent way to start up our walking again after such a long, enforced break.

Diane and Richard joined us all later for a hearty lunch courtesy of Alex and her team at 'The George and Dragon'.



September Walk: Friday 17th September

Sheila Eggleton will be leading this walk. Here are the details.



We will meet at Manor Farm Shop and Cafe, Main Street, Catthorpe LE17 6DB. Please meet here at 10.45 am to order lunch, unless you have already done so on line or via the telephone. The walk will start at 11.00 am.

The walk takes us through the village, past the Latvian Centre to Lilbourne Church and village.

Whilst most of this circular rural walk is along lanes and quiet roads the last section will be along a footpath and across one field (no stiles). The walk is 2.9 miles.

Directions from Lutterworth to Catthorpe Manor Farm Shop and Café, LE17 6DB

- From Lutterworth, take the Rugby Road down to the A5 Gibbet Cross roundabout.
- Take the second left at the roundabout to the A5 south.

- Just under 2 miles later, the road/signs to Catthorpe will be on the left hand side. It is called Rugby Road.
- The farm shop is on your left once you reach the village. There is quite a large car park and plenty of room to park on the side of the road if necessary.

Lunch

We will have lunch at the Manor Farm Café. Phone: 01788 869002. The website address is:

<https://manorfarmcatthorpe.co.uk/the-kitchen/daily-menu/>

I have arranged for us to be seated in the private side room.

Meet by 10.45 am if you need to order lunch.

Please let me know by **Monday 13th September** if you intend to come and numbers for lunch. Email: sheilaeggleton@yahoo.co.uk Mobile: 7503 726914 for text.

POETRY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sylvia Hitchen

Our topic this month was Charity which definitely posed more of a problem in finding suitable verses than any previous topics. Nevertheless we persevered and an interesting selection was presented.

It included a poem written by one of our number about walking Hadrian's Wall which was based on 'Invictus' by William Ernest Henry. This member has just completed the walk in aid of Cancer Research.

Other poems included Bitcherel by Eleanor Brown, purporting to show charity and kindness but being very cleverly bitchy; and 'The Charity Shop' by Ernestine Northover which approached charity from the fund raising point of view and trying to convert a friend to shopping in charity shops.

Other featured poets were many of our favourites and we found that we just had to research their canons more diligently to uncover suitable verse. W. H. Auden's 'Refugee Blues', although written about Jewish refugees seeking safety during WW2 feels completely contemporary because of the situation in Afghanistan, Syria and Yemen.

Poems you may enjoy include 'Miracle on St David's Day' and 'Listen' by Gillian Clarke; Philip Larkin's 'Ambulances' and 'An Arundel Tomb'; 'The Skip' by James Fenton; 'The Gunman and the Debutante' by Dorothy Parker; 'Mrs Malone' by Eleanor Farjeon; Alden Nowlan's 'Weakness'; and 'In Memory of Dennis O'Driscoll' and 'A Poem about Jesus' by Wendy Cope.

Also covered were 'Britain' by Carol Ann Duffy; 'Call Out The Mountain Rescue' by Pam Ayres; 'Kamikaze' by Beatrice Garland; 'Look Closer' by Phyllis McCormack; Fleur Adcock's 'For a Five Year Old'; 'Those Winter Sundays' by Robert Hayden; and Charles Lamb's 'Charity'. 'Help in Need' by James McKintyre was a modern take on the Good

Samaritan. So despite our initial difficulty we found many enjoyable and interesting poems.

The next meeting is on 23rd September at 2pm. The topic is *Women* and new members are welcome.

Dot Barnard

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FRENCH CONVERSATION

Co-ordinator: Sue Hicks

Tel: 01858 880273

26 August 2021

It was good to meet in person again. After everyone had recounted a piece of news and lots of chat, we studied an article on a French Paralympic athlete. The next meeting will be on 23rd September.

Sue

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HISTORY GROUP

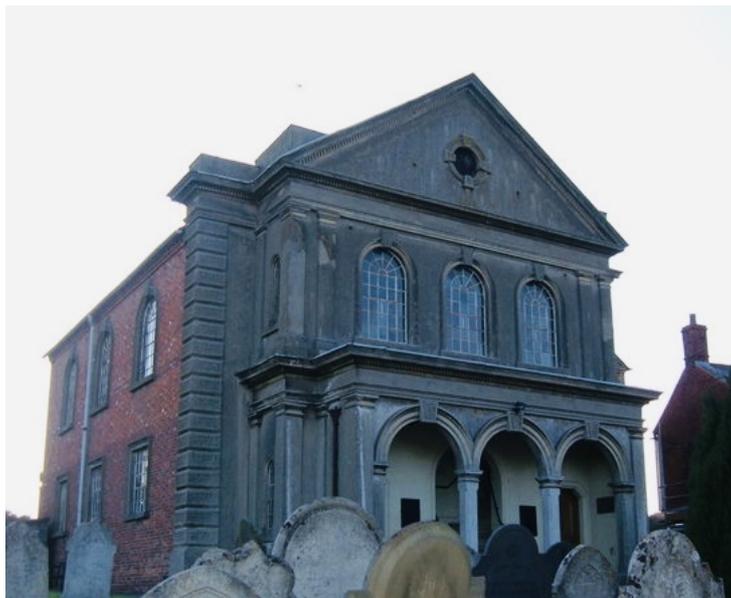
Co-ordinator: Viv Weller

Tel: 01455 557136

U3A History Group 19th August 2021

An historical walk around Clipston

Our historical trail around Clipston was delayed, courtesy of 'Test and Trace' so fewer members than expected could join in. Nevertheless a group of us enjoyed an interesting stroll around this pleasant village. There are some lovely historic buildings to admire and we were able to see many of them while Viv pointed out some of the stories and people associated with them. The grand 18thC Baptist chapel and Old Manse are testament to the fact the village was once a thriving nonconformist evangelical centre, visited by well known religious leaders of the day and on into the 20thC. We saw the grave and house of Thomas Jarman who was an eminent composer of religious music in the 19thC. People flocked from miles around to attend his concerts. Once a national celebrity, Jarman is hardly known today though you might know his most famous hymn tune 'Lyngham'. *(If you search this on YouTube you can listen to it).*



18thC Baptist Chapel

A few random archaeological finds suggest there were Romans at Clipston but the village was really an important Saxon settlement, as its name shows. In the medieval period it was twice as big in area as today with another long street and many houses and closes. The house platforms and streets of the old 'lost' parts of the village can still be seen in the landscape. Close-by, in the direction of Sibbertoft, was once another village called Nobold and another small hamlet called Cleve, each closely linked to Clipston. Both of these are now DMVs though they're still referenced in street and farm names. Like most rural settlements, Clipston was self sufficient and every possible trade was plied in the village until the mid 20thC but its roots were always based in agriculture. Ridge and Furrow showed us where some of the Open Fields once were and several large handsome 18thC farmhouses in the village illustrate the considerable impact of the Parliamentary Enclosure of the land in 1776.

Our walk took us past the village green, once the site of the local annual hiring fair at Michaelmas, as well as village events and celebrations and on down the High Street, This street has several lovely old timber framed and thatched houses dating back to the Medieval and Early Modern periods while at the bottom of the hill, we find the parish church, dedicated to All Saints. Parts of this ancient building date back to the 12thC though there have been many changes since. There are several larger more imposing buildings on High Street too, including the large Regency style Clipston House, across from the Green and the stunning Clipston Court, now sadly hard to see behind its high brick walls and new gates.



Another striking historic ironstone building on High St is the 17thC Grammar School and Hospital (offering care for the poor and the old) . This was endowed by Sir George Buswell in 1667 and the school is still in use as a popular primary school. The

original Grammar school was a 'Free' school offering education for poor boys. In fact, Clipston was quite forward thinking in terms of education generally and it was one of the early places in England to set up a school for poor girls in the 19thC. There were other small private schools for higher class children in the 19thC, including a small academy for young ladies at 'The Lilacs'.

The Buswell family were very important locally for many years. What is thought to be the oldest house in the village bears two old inscriptions to 16thC members of that family. This small stone house opposite the church has parts which date back to the early medieval period. The Buswells were Royalists and Sir George was rewarded for his loyalty with a baronetcy by Charles II in 1660. This enabled the family to become well established as local landowners and patrons.

Our walk took us along Kelmarsh Road as far as the White Arches Bridge over the River Ise and then we returned, via the church yard and the back lane at Nether Green, to the Bull at Clipston for a well earned lunch.

Viv Weller

Next meeting

Tuesday, September 7th 2-4. A visit to Nuneaton Museum and Art Gallery

October. No meeting as Viv will be away.

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