

Monthly Meetings Update

As we are all aware, the Covid pandemic has greatly affected our social lives. Although Zoom talks were well attended initially, only 14 people subscribed to the last broadcast. The picnic at Misterton Hall was a joyous occasion, as 70 members mingled freely in the glorious gardens, catching up with friends and the latest news. The value of “face to face” meetings was obvious and so with this in mind we have been trying to resume monthly contact.

Our usual venue, the Methodist Church has a limit of 40 attendees for the present, as great care has been taken in safeguarding all visitors to the building. This may change in the future, but will be led by the course of Covid infections.

As an alternative, interim meeting place, we have contacted the Main Hall of the Wycliffe Rooms to check on availability for October, November and December. This offers a larger well ventilated space in which chairs could be distanced. Unfortunately only Wednesday morning is on offer. This is not ideal but facilities are good with sound and screen for hire. We are aware that this date may conflict with Interest group activities, but this is our only option if we wish to meet.

Important Summary:

- 1, Date change to **Wednesday October 13th**
2. Venue: **Wycliffe Rooms**, entry by **side door** not through café
- 3 Speaker: Roy Smart 10:30am – 11:30am. Subject: Local History: Percy Pilcher and Stanford Hall
4. Please register on entry
- 5 **Coffee/ tea** arranged for this month –**Volunteers** needed to help from 9:30am
6. Room vacated by 12 o'clock

This meeting has incurred extra expense, which we are happy to pay from funds, providing there is good support from Members. Come and enjoy an hour in the company of real people!

Chris Brady - Chairperson

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Notices

On October 20th, from 9am onwards, there will be displays and information on events in Lutterworth, organised by Age Concern at the Wycliffe Rooms. If you have time to spare and are looking for some extra stimulating activities this might be the place to visit.

This is aimed at a wide range of age groups. All are welcome.

Chris Brady

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Snail Pace Walking Group

Next walk at Sharnford all u3a members are welcome to join in with the walks each month.

Mandy

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 bring your stamps to the Wycliffe Rooms 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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LIVELY DISCUSSION

Co-ordinator: Dot Barnard

01455 208190

Meeting held on 13th September 2021

The Olympics - What are they all about?

Let us first start with a bit of history

The first Olympics were in 776 BC. They took place at Olympia, a flat area of ground that was not otherwise used and were originally, mainly, a religious ceremony. They consisted of a tug-of-war and a chariot race and were considered to be a contest of the ultimate physical challenge. Women were not allowed to compete or even watch. Gradually other contests were included such as running and wrestling. Long jump was included but required the participant to carry weights in each hand. The chariot race was not won by the horse or driver but the owner of the horse. There was only the winner; no second or third places. (Women were not ignored entirely as they had separate contests but not at Olympia.)

As the Romans conquered the Greek empire, they took over the Olympics. Emperor Nero was keen to take part in the Games, included poetry in the competition, and won every event in which he took part. As the Roman Empire declined and Christianity took over from the pagan gods the Games declined and the last Olympics were held about 500 AD. The modern Olympics were revived in 1896 in Athens.

Where are we now?

We have just finished the 2020 Olympics (delayed 1 year) in Tokyo. What have we learnt?

As expected the top 4 medal winning countries were the US, China, ROC and Great Britain. Does it matter who wins the most medals? I have enjoyed watching the various competitions but freely admit

that I have neither the ability nor dedication required to take part although feel quite excited when GB wins a medal. Certainly I find some of the competitions rather obscure and the marking system is totally beyond me. There is no doubt that, to the athletes, taking part and hoping to win a medal has often been a lifetime goal. But should we be concerned with the country medal tally? Is it fair to compare participating countries? If we do not do that, how can we measure how successful the Games have been?

Let us consider alternatives

Taking population into account, smaller countries have to work much harder. Dividing the habitants of the countries by the number of medals won, San Marino comes out on top (2 for shooting and 1 for wrestling). Population 34,000 - 1 medal per 11,313 people. By comparison, the US rate 1 medal per 3 million people, and China 1 medal per 16 million people. Bermuda's gold in the triathlon brings the highest gold medal per capita ratio of 1 per 64,000 people. On this basis the US came in at 60th. Luxembourg, pop. 633,622 sent 12 athletes to compete in 7 sports and won no medals. The US sent 613 athletes to compete in 35 sports. The break up of the Eastern Bloc, after the fall of the Soviet Union, benefited the US in terms of medals since individual countries were now competing. Nevertheless there is a strong sports infrastructure in these countries which was established by communist regimes. Large population provide a bigger pool of athletes.

Alternatively the size of a country's economy is strongly linked to the number of medals it can win. Having a large economy and population means not only can a nation pick it's athletes from a large talent pool but also fund it's elite team to perform at their very best. If the country's medal haul was adjusted for population and wealth how would the table reflect its success? Jamaica's 11 medals in the 2016 games would change to 38 when adjusted for its population of 3M. The UK with the fifth largest economy in the world would shrink from the 67 medals in Rio to 2. However, North Korea with its small economy and population punches far above its weight. India, with 1.35 billion people often finds itself at the bottom of the medals table. This could be explained by cultural reasons and that it has a strong preference for cricket (which is not an Olympic sport) and that this diverts talent and resources from other sports. If a country is very poor it will not have the resources to convert ability into world class competitors. Lower income countries can often only compete in lower cost sports, like wrestling, while wealthy countries can compete in expensive sports like equestrian

and sailing. If the average wealth per person is calculated China and Russia come in first and second in the table with Kenya third while the US comes in at number 15.

Cultural and political factors are important to Olympic success. Britain was a pioneer in developing sport and consequently Commonwealth countries do better than expected based on their size and wealth. Besides cricket, India also excels at hockey but that would yield a maximum of 2 medals, 1 for men and 1 for women. It does not do you a lot of good to be keen on team sports when other sports, such as gymnastics, swimming and athletics, can produce several medals per athlete. Countries in which women have more equal opportunities send more female athletes to the games. In this context the majority-Muslim countries have underperformed.

Final medal tallies can be 95% predicted based on population size, GDP per capita and medal hauls in previous Games. Countries which have over or under achieved can be identified from this.

So, finally, what is it all about?

Should we abandon a medal table for countries? Does it matter? Should we just celebrate individual winners? Should we abandon elite sports and focus on the basics such as athletics and swimming. Remember that most of the sports featured in the Olympics have their individual world championships. The cost of staging the Games is huge although there is a financial kickback from the spectators and media. But do not forget the abandoned stadia from past hosts such as Barcelona. Perhaps no financial figure can be put on the exchange of ideas, cultural understanding, personal enjoyment of the participants and spectators and general success of an event that has no political agenda.

There are so many other questions that could be asked:

Should cricket be an Olympic sport?

What about netball?

Is it right that there is no minimum age for competitors?

Why did team GB not enter a football team in 2021?

Can shooting really be considered an Olympic sport in terms of fitness?

How are the rules and regulations of the Olympics decided?

Who would want to be on the International Olympic Committee?

The topics raised in the discussion document were then debated by the group.

We concluded that the current medal table should continue because it would be too complicated and confusing to include all the other factors.

The cost of staging the Games is huge and ever increasing due to TV coverage and every host country seems to want to outdo previous events. The only occasion when a host country kept to its original budget was Los Angeles in 1984. The money gained back from spectators plus the boost for the local tourism would normally be some consolation. However, for Tokyo the absence of spectators would have led to a huge loss.

One of the most important advantages of the games is the opportunity to inspire youngsters to try different sports. The discussion also included the potential impact of the recent US Open tennis tournament and the inspiration that the two young women in the ladies final could instil in future generations.

Competing in the Games is also the dream of top athletes and provides much of their motivation and commitment.

Watching the TV coverage did provide a definite 'feel good factor' and made us proud of GB's successes.

In conclusion it was thought that the Games, even with all its flaws, are here to stay.

Judith

GARDEN GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden, Tel: 01455 557888

In September our visit was to another NGS garden 'Briarwood' in Barton Seagrave near Kettering. We were made very welcome by the owners, Elaine and William Portch who explained that over the 14 years they had been there they had established a very secluded natural garden with lots of unusual trees. There was a small patio surrounded by unusual containers of succulents



and this led onto a lawn area bordered by autumn flowering plants and shrubs including bright red and orange dahlias, rudbeckias, roses and salvias.



A path led us past a small pond and through the fruit trees to a lovely fully equipped garden room with a quirky barbecue. Finally at the bottom of the garden was a large greenhouse where there were lots of photos of the garden over time and in different seasons. Throughout the garden there were many original sculptures made from upcycled waste materials.



The weather was perfect to enjoy the garden at its best and there were plenty of places to sit and enjoy tea and delicious home-made cake.

Our next outing will be a day visit to **Batsford Arboretum** in Moreton in the Marsh on **Tuesday 26th October**. The minibus will leave Lutterworth Leisure Centre at 10.00 a.m. and hopefully arrive around 11.30 a.m. We will be given a brief introduction before plenty of time to wander at leisure. The minibus will leave for our return journey at 3.30 p.m. There is a café for hot drinks, snacks and lunch but there are also picnic tables behind the Visitor Centre.

The cost is £13.00 (£6.00 for entry and £7.00 for the minibus). If you would like to come, please let me know by email: sueandpeter.creeden@talktalk.net or by telephone (number above).

Sue

GENTLE CYCLING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

01455 557888

We had just one gallant gentleman to chaperone seven ladies on our bike ride in September. We met at Mini Meadows Farm in Welford and cycled down the long quiet lane towards Naseby. Just as we were approaching the village, we experienced the first hill to cause a bit of buffing and blowing. Once recovered we circled the village and then headed off past the battlefield site to Sibbertoft. This was another quiet lane that took us gently up hill and down dale. However, it was badly in need of resurfacing; it was full of potholes and quite tricky for cyclists to negotiate.

We took a short break at the seat dedicated to the RAF



and then it took us a little while to get round the village as our leader got a little confused as to the route (oops!) However, eventually we found the right road and cycled on to Sulby where we turned left back to Welford. Rather cruelly, there was another steep hill back up to Mini Meadows Farm. Refreshments were enjoyed on the terrace overlooking the animals. A slightly shorter ride this time but very pleasant.

The next ride will be on Wednesday 20th October, 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

Date of Walk :- Wednesday 3rd November 2021

Driving distance:- 9 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 9.10am to leave at 9.15am.

Start Point : Copt Oak Pub, Hardwicke Road, Narborough, Leicestershire, LE19 3LU.

Leave 10.00am.

Toilets NOT available.

Directions to Start :- A426 towards Leicester, at Dunton Bassett cross roads (with Traffic Lights) turn left on through Broughton Astley to T junction with Coventry Road, turn right towards Leicester, turn left after Railway onto Huncote Road (Honda Dealers on corner), next right onto Hardwicke Road, approx. 80 meters before end, with T junction (the Pastures) turn left into Copt Oak Road and park (the old Road), Pub is behind you, however the car park opposite has a 2 hour parking limit, Please avoid parking fines and Park on the road as above. Meet at Tables to Pub.

Order lunch from *Lighter Lunches Menu*, before starting walk. Varied Choice of food.

Route and Distance :- Exit the car park onto The Pastures, turn right, ½ mile right at T junction and left into parkland, on through Alliance and Leicester's Head Office grounds and Enderby Golf Course, past the interesting Enderby Warren, return through the Maze of Alleys in Enderby and the old Railway track (Built to haul the Granite from Enderby Quarry) back to The Copt Oak for lunch.

Best ever coffee stop.

2 Step over type barriers. 5 Miles. Gentle walk through farmland and back alleys of Enderby

Good choice of Food , extensive Lunch time menu. Gluten Free Food available.

Summary. Varied Walk , mostly field paths and some quiet road walking , Fairly flat walk. Walking through the grounds of Alliance and Leicester Building Society

Next Walk December 1st 2021, 4.75 miles.

New walk in Bedworth/Bulkington, Navigating 2 canals that join. Very interesting Ramble.

Peter and Irene Moore

Walk Report Shilton. September 1st 2021

I was due to have hernia surgery at short notice on the walk date and it is with much applause and sincere grateful thanks that Trevor and Pauline Stott took over with the great style of * the show must go on, AKA Queen * I'm sure you all will be in debt to them both. The weather was fine and warm on the day and Your Leaders performed the task brilliantly. That's surely means that they deserve a glass, it's just a case who is to pay? I'm sure all our loyal patrons will fall over each other to finance the deal, if not you may need a volunteer. The quality of the food was outstanding. I did manage that. Quite a story with no surgery.

An interesting walk including very long aqueducts and high arched Railway bridges and a stroll, with the Canal as company.

See you all on the Wednesday 3rd November 2021.

Peter and Irene Moore (inc. Mr and Mrs T Stott)

4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

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

September 2021 Walk Report

This was my first U3a walk for a long time so it was great to arrive at the Bell Inn in Gumley to see all the usual smiling faces that I had missed. There were 20 of us who set off up Main Street on a beautiful sunny morning being led by Pete Williamson with Jean following up at the rear. This felt very wrong, Pete was always at the rear closing all the gates. As we set off into the woods we had to be halted to wait for two late comers to catch up. We then took the lane to Laughton. It was supposed to be quiet but nobody had told the motorists! The route then took field tracks to the canal where we stopped for a break. We then continued along the peaceful and tranquil tow-path until we reached a road bridge where we left the canal to follow the lanes to head back towards Gumley. We could see the tower of Gumley Hall in the distance but to reach it we had to cross several fields and climb a testing hill, for some, to reach an alleyway back into Main Street. A very enjoyable walk. This is a lovely part of Leicestershire with interesting villages and beautiful scenery with stunning views. Thank you Jean and Pete.

Peter Creeden

Next walk: Wednesday 27 October 2021

Walk Organiser:- Stephen Carter Tel: 07990 522697

Meeting Point and Time:- Lutterworth Recreation Ground Car Park at 09.10am to leave at 09.20 am.

Start Point and Time:- The Village Hall, Wilkinson Lane, Elmesthorpe LE9 7SP.
Depart at 10:00am.

Directions to the Starting Point:- There are several ways to get to Elmesthorpe. The easiest is through Bitteswell, Ashby Parva and Frolesworth to turn right onto the B4114. Then turn third left (the Mill on the Soar is to your right) onto the B581, through Stoney Stanton to Elmesthorpe. The village hall is signed at the far end of the village to the right. Distance from Lutterworth 12 miles.

Route and Distance: Starting at the village hall we initially walk back through the village along the B road (which has a pavement but can be busy) along a country lane and through open farmland to reach Burbage woods. Then through the woods, along field edges, under the railway and across Burbage Common to the Coffee Shop (toilet available). We return via a minor road and Bridleway. The walk contains a mix of country lanes, tracks, forest trails and open farmland. Length of walk 5.3 miles, no steep hills and a maximum of 4 stiles.

Lunch Arrangements:- If you wish to have lunch in Elmesthorpe please make your own arrangements. The Wentworth Arms has a reasonably priced menu with main courses at £5.99, desserts and starters at £2 each. <https://www.greeneking-pubs.co.uk/pubs/leicestershire/wentworth-arms/menu/seniors-menu>.

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SNAIL'S PACE WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Mandy Cutler



Here is Sheila Eggleton's report on the Catthorpe walk in September.

We started and ended our walk, of slightly under three miles, from Manor Farm Tea Rooms (highly recommended). Manor Farm was established as a model farm in 1882 by Major Cross; it was at that time part of the Catthorpe estate.

Our walk took us past the church of St Thomas, which dates from the end of the thirteenth, beginning of the fourteenth century. The bell tower of the church was repaired in 2018. Dyer, a Welsh poet and painter, was the priest in charge of St Thomas's in the 1740s. From the church we walked along the lane past Catthorpe Manor. The present building dates from 1925; the original, which had once been known as Catthorpe Towers, burnt down early in the nineteenth century.

The manor now hosts weddings, conferences and banquets but was at one time a nursing home, when it was owned by the Latvian Welfare Trust. The

home briefly came to notoriety when it was discovered an individual wanted for war crimes was a resident.

From Cattothorpe Manor we followed the lane around and past All Saints Church, a grade one listed building. The chancel of this church dates from Saxon times. We continued around the lane, up a slight incline, past the cemetery into Lilbourne, before making our way back along the public footpath, across the field to re-join the lane back to the village.

October Walk: Friday 15th October

Sheila Morgan and Fran Nott will be leading this walk. Here are the details.



We will meet at 'The Bricklayers' pub and restaurant car park (which is on the opposite side of the road from the pub), 23, Leicester Rd, Sharnford, LE10 3PP. Please meet here at 10.45 am to order lunch, unless you have already done so on line or by telephone.

The walk will start at 11.00 am.

The walk will take us along a narrow path, past a stream through a field and into Fosse Meadows. We will take mostly a circular route around the inside of Fosse Meadows, mainly on paths and possible through a few wooded areas. It will be a circular walk in Fosse Meadows and then back to the lane and past the stream to return to the pub and restaurant. The walk is flat with no stiles and is about 3.25 miles and should take about an hour and a half. This can be shorter; there is the possibility of stopping at the coffee van which sells coffee, hot chocolate and cakes should you wish to do so.

Directions from Lutterworth to 'The Bricklayers' pub and restaurant car park, 23, Leicester Road, Sharnford, LE10 3PP

Phone 01455 271799.

- From Lutterworth, take the road to Bitteswell.
- Turn right into Bitteswell and bear right after the Rugby Club to Ashby Parva.
- Continue through Frolesworth and turn left when you meet the B4114 to Sharnford.
- Pass the Sharnford Arms on the left to reach the Bricklayers shortly after on the left.
- 'The Bricklayers' car park is opposite on the right.

Lunch

We will have lunch at 'The Bricklayers', Sharnford. Check Garden Menu here:-.

<https://www.thebricklayers.org/take-away-menu>

If you order the Garden Menu they will box it up individually, to be handed to you on our arrival after the walk. I have pre booked the outside marquee. I found the staff really helpful and friendly and well organised for COVID safety. We will have two copies of the menu with us for you to make your choices.

Meet at 10.45am if you require lunch.

Please let me know by **Monday 11th October** if you intend to come and numbers for lunch.

Email: sheilsonwheels03@gmail.com

Mobile: [07876140075](tel:07876140075)

Sheila

POETRY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sylvia Hitchen

Meeting held on 23rd September 2021

Seven of us to meet up in person and it felt that “normal” might be returning! We were also connected to Zoom for another member to be able to join us.

Our topic this month was Women and it proved to offer a variety of rich and interesting takes on the topic.

Popular poets included Carol Ann Duffy, Hollie McNish, Gillian Clarke and Roger McGough.

Maya Angelou featured with the powerful “Phenomenal Woman’ which urges the reader to look beyond the stereotype image of women.

An English translation of Miroslav Holub’s poem “Five Minutes after the Air Raid” depicts the shocking image of a woman losing her home, her family and her complete sense of loss after an air raid.

On a slightly lighter note we heard “Gonna be a Bear”, “I am becoming my Mother” by Lorna Goodsion and Pam Ayres “Hope”.

The next meeting is on 28th October at 2pm.

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FRENCH CONVERSATION

Co-ordinator: Sue Hicks

Tel: 01858 880273

We each gave a short introduction to ourselves and some news. We read a difficult article about COVID-19 and chatted generally.

The next meeting will be on 28 October.

Sue

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HISTORY GROUP

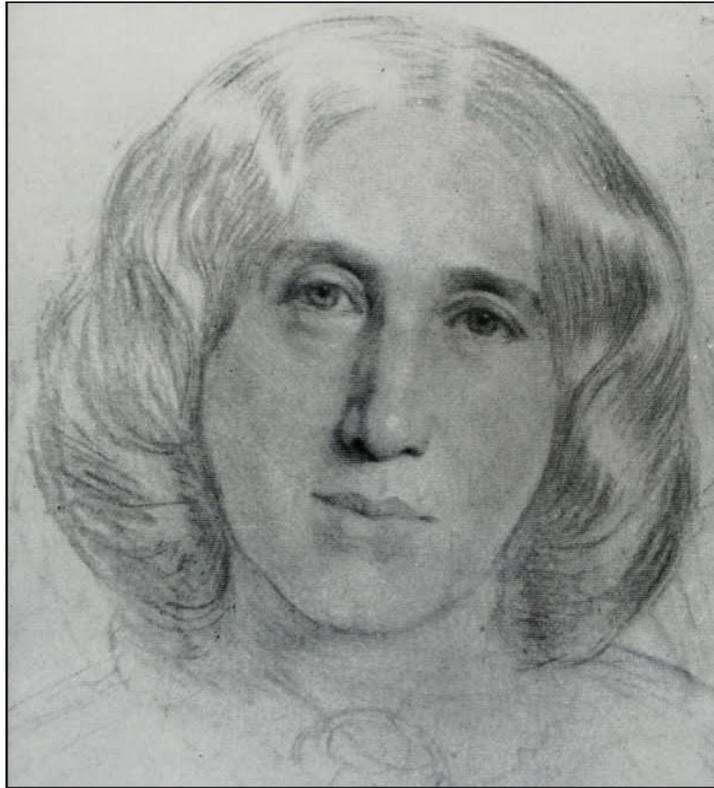
Co-ordinator: Viv Weller 01455 557136

Report for the U3A History Group. September 2021

Our trip to Kirby Muxloe castle this month was cancelled by English Heritage due to staff shortages so, as a late substitute, a few members of the group went to visit Nuneaton's Museum and Art Gallery. This is housed in an old building situated in pleasant gardens in Riverside Park. The weather was lovely so we were able to sit outside for tea and enjoy a stroll round the park afterwards.



This turned out to be an interesting place to visit as the museum has a varied collection ranging from local Social and Economic History to a special focus on local celebrity author, George Eliot. Her sitting room is recreated and displayed alongside several personal artefacts and documents. We learned all about her unconventional Bohemian lifestyle which, surprisingly seems to have been accepted in 19thC Nuneaton.



<http://www.georgeeliotarchive.org>

George Eliot - Print from Chalk Portrait Study by Sir Frederic W. Burton,
c. 1864-65 (Plate created 1972)

She seems to have been a feisty woman, especially for those days, despite her demure appearance in portraits. Nuneaton is rightly proud of nurturing such a great literary talent. We spent some time discussing her books and which one we liked best. Everyone had a different favourite!

The art on display was an eclectic mix of old oil painted landscapes and portraits and some very modern abstract pieces. There were also a couple of small temporary exhibitions. The one on the 1990s was interesting but quite sparse and some of us felt we had more old stuff from that decade lurking in our cupboards at home! However, there was also a larger exhibition of textile artwork, some of which were excellent.

Overall, it was an interesting couple of hours. It was especially pleasant to see each other and enjoy chatting about History together again after so long.

Viv

Future meetings

October NO meeting as I am away.

However, members may be interested in a free Mirthy online zoom talk on Thursday October 7th at 4pm, This is one of the national events of Black History Month and is titled '***African Women an the Divine Feminine***'. This sounds like it will be a very interesting and unusual topic.

Note, You must register for this online talk but this is very quick to do. Go to Mirthy.co.uk and search for free events and you will find it.

November The Engineering Group has kindly invited us to join them for a talk on a 17thC wartime crisis. (Engineering Group – Chris Ridley - chris.ridley209@btinternet.com)

'The Dutch Fleet Attack on London in the Medway' The speaker is Chris Tarratt.

As we are guests of another group, please note it will be a different week and time for this meeting.

9th November 9th 2021. 10.00 to 1200.

It will take place at our usual venue, the Rugby Club in Ashby Lane. Bitteswell.

December 2nd, 2021. NOTE This is on a **THURSDAY** to fit in with the café's opening hours.

I have provisionally arranged for us to go to 'Back in Time for Tea', the 1940s café at Ashby for a Festive afternoon tea. **Please let me know ASAP whether you wish to come.**

January no meeting.

February 2nd. I hope to restart meetings this month in our new regular slot of First TUESDAY in the month, 2 'till 4pm. I have booked the bigger room at the Rugby Club to give us all more space. More details on the arrangements will follow nearer the time.

New members are welcome.

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PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Michael Bates

Mob: 07899937595

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP SEPTEMBER 2021 REPORT

This month we were fortunate to have a guest speaker, Neil Phillips from the Aperture Photography Group which is based North Northamptonshire. Neil is a very experienced photographer and gave us a presentation on Travel Photography. Neil categorises people as those that *'go on holiday **and** take pictures'* and those that *'go on holiday **to** take pictures.'* As keen photographers Neil and his wife Christine are in the latter category and have travelled widely, both independently and with professional photographers.

In addition to seeing great pictures of Italy, Neil explained many of the techniques he uses to inject 'feeling' into a picture, so it invokes a strong memory of the place and when viewed by others, provides something of the 'feeling' of the moment when the picture was created. Neil also provided useful tips on pre-planning for taking travel pictures. Even when your prime objective is a 'holiday' a little research into places, times of day (for good lighting) etc. will enhance your experience of your visit and as a by-product provide a good photo opportunity to impress fellow photography group members. You don't want to be on Santorini in the middle of the day and miss the spectacular sunsets.

Our picture topic for September was 'Straight Lines' as suggested by Stephen Carter, who set the group quite a challenging task. As always though everyone rose to the occasion, and we had quite a varied selection of pictures. A few pictures are included with this report and a wider selection will be available on the U3A website.

Our next meeting, will be hosted by **Colin Beadle**, and will be via Zoom on Friday 29th October, starting at 10.00 am. We will send out meeting invitations nearer the date.

This will be our last Zoom meeting and hopefully we will be returning to 'face to face' meetings in November. We are investigating several venues that will provide us with the ability to continue some measure of social distancing and will confirm when and where the November meeting will be held nearer the time.

Our October picture topic is *'Archways,'* where we are asking our members to use an archway to frame a view either externally or within a building. The archway can be traditional, in brick or stone, or contemporary in steel or glass but hopefully clearly defining the main subject beyond the arch.

Our meetings are open to all U3A members, and we encourage any member to get in touch (e-mail address below) and we will be delighted to send you an invitation to our monthly

Zoom meeting. All you need to join us is an iPad or Android tablet, a PC or smart phone with the Zoom program loaded and that's it. Alternatively, you can wait until November and meet us face to face.

wlu3acamera@outlook.com.

Michael Bates