

## **MONTHLY MEETING**

**On Thurs 13th Oct we have the long awaited visit from Dale  
Osbourne (the ranger at Watermead Country Park)**

He will be talking about the wildlife that is found at Watermead  
and in the reedbed reserve at certain times of the year.

The habitats found there and the management that is required to  
upkeep them. Also, the connections between our reserve and  
reserves found in Uganda.

He hopes to have several relevant questions thrown at him during  
and after the talk.

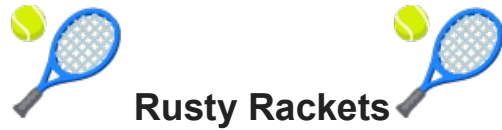
Put this date in your diary and come along for an entertaining and  
informative morning.

*Coffee and tea served from 10am*

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## NOTICES



Did you play tennis in the days of your youth? Do you still have a racket stuck in the corner of the loft which hasn't seen the light of day for many years? Do you have a secret desire to hit a tennis ball once again?

If so, then why not come along to Rusty Rackets on a Tuesday afternoon. We are small and friendly group of tennis has-beens, but still enjoy a knock-around on the tennis courts on the Gilmorton recreation ground. If you're interested, please call Geoff on 07443569725.

### **Please bring along your used stamps to the next meeting**

As you know, Liz White of Lutterworth U3A is collecting used stamps on behalf of **Medical Detection Dogs**. They can be any used stamps (even just 1st or 2nd Class) but please could you ensure they have approximately a 1cm (roughly a finger's width) surround.

Please bring them along and give them to Sue Creeden at the monthly meeting. Alternatively, you can pop them through her door – 25 Holly Drive, Lutterworth. Sue will then pass them on to Liz.



Many thanks.  
Sue

## LIVELY DISCUSSION

Co-ordinator: Dot

Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **Should we be aiming for Net Zero?**

‘Entrepreneurs are better at inventing things which use energy than they are at finding acceptable ways to provide it!’

Some definitions:

**Greenhouse gases** are comprised of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons and other gases. The reason carbon emissions are mentioned most often is because methane and nitrous oxide etc. are expressed in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents for carbon trading purposes.

### **What is the greenhouse effect?**

When greenhouse gases such as CO<sub>2</sub> build in the atmosphere, they act like a blanket around the earth. When sunlight (mostly short-wave radiation) hits this blanket, it passes straight through and continues until it reaches the surface of the planet.

The earth then absorbs this sunlight and emits a different type of light, longer-wave infrared radiation back out to space. As it leaves the atmosphere, the infrared radiation also hits the greenhouse gas blanket. Most of it goes straight through, but some of it is absorbed and goes back down to earth. This traps the infrared radiation and causes the surface to heat – a process we call the 'greenhouse effect'.

## **Weather and Climate**

Weather refers to short term atmospheric conditions while climate is the weather of a specific region averaged over a long period of time.

### **What is the difference between carbon neutral and net zero?**

Carbon neutral refers to a policy of not increasing carbon emissions and of achieving carbon reduction through offsets. While net zero carbon means making changes to reduce carbon emissions to the lowest amount – and offsetting as a last resort.

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In 1988, the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) was set up to provide governments with information to tackle climate change.

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Below you will find the opposing points of view on climate change which we discussed. However, the group took a more pragmatic approach as to whether we should be working towards NET ZERO.

People enjoy their current lifestyle and are unlikely to support government attempts to force them to go without - if it curtails their freedoms to drive, heat their homes, access technology as it suits them or any other proposals made. Various commitments to NET ZERO by 2030 and 2050 have been made. Theresa May passed the 2050 commitment into law and Liz Truss committed to it whilst campaigning for the Tory leadership.

Liz Truss also committed to:

A temporary moratorium on the green energy levy

A radical review of the government's international development strategy and putting climate change on the back burner

Declared herself an ecowarrior in her teenage years

Not wanting to see ordinary households penalised by NET ZERO targets

Looking for better ways to deliver NET ZERO targets

(She has a maximum of 2 years as PM in this parliament.)

On Sky News she said 'Far from being dependent on the global energy market and the actions of malign actors, we will make sure that the UK is a net energy exporter by 2040.'

This seems a sound policy unless you are worried about fracking and are aware that Jacob Rees-Mogg, the new Secretary of State for Energy, has investments in gas and oil.

There is no doubt that successive governments have left us vulnerable and that we need to be self-sufficient, particularly in food production, and in energy too.

It was pointed out that NET ZERO sounds good but is unrealistic. We need technology to catch up with what our requirements actually are, and the targets should reflect that. The transition away from fossil fuels is necessary but where is the 'green fuel' going to come from? Oil, natural gas and coal currently supply 84% of global needs, and have only decreased by 2% in the last 20 years. Renewables have supplied this 2% so there's a very long way to go.

As we know Europe is in difficulties as they rely on Russia for 40% of their natural gas supply, and there are protestors against fracking in many countries.

Oil is still used for 97% of global transport (land, sea and air). To get the same amount of energy from renewables we need to increase mining for the raw materials by 1000%! These contribute 50% – 70% of the cost of solar panels, batteries etc. Copper, iron, silicon, nickel, chromium, lithium and other rare earth elements are needed for motors, turbine blades, solar panels, chips for car electronics and batteries etc. Much energy is required to manufacture these things and, where will the mines be sited?

We are worried about China and India – heavy polluters – and China is the largest source of these rare elements. Environmentalist protesters in the US prevent their government using 100% of 17 critical elements which they have, resulting in unnecessary imports.

The 'cloud' uses twice as much energy as the whole of Japan! Data centres at its heart use 10 times more electricity than 10 million electric cars.

According to the World Bank green energy is more material intensive than the current energy mix.

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There were mixed views on this topic despite intense media coverage of climate change. In the group we had 2 points of view as to whether humans are changing the climate:

**The first point of view states:**

That the general public have swallowed the so-called 'science' of climate change as being caused solely by man's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It has been led to believe that only since the industrial revolution has the average temperature begun to rise as this was when coal burning really began to rise. The IPCC First Assessment Report published a graph (From 900 to the present) showing a 'Medieval Warm Period' where temperatures peaked (c.1200 AD), above those of today allowing the Vikings to colonise Greenland. The curve then drops down to the 'Little Ice Age' when the Thames froze over every winter (bottoming out c.1650 AD) – the Vikings then had to evacuate at the start of the 15th century – before rising gently again; studies of ice cores, bore holes and tree rings, etc., have shown this.

This 'Warm Period' clearly did not fit in with later 'climate change' theory and every effort was being made to flatten it out.

In 'The Deliberate Corruption of Climate Science' by Dr Tim Ball (over 40 years as a climatologist), he states that "most people have no idea that climate changes... of the extent and speed with which [it does] ... and that is a vital part of the problem of climate science." "Climate change has happened is happening and will always happen." He gives an illustration of a "simple systems diagram of weather components and interactions." He further states that "CO<sub>2</sub> is not visible in the diagram because it is one miniscule part of the atmospheric influences on climate."

Professor Bjørn Lomborg, former director of the Danish government's Environmental Assessment Institute (EAI) in Copenhagen, was originally a supporter of the theory of man-made climate change but, being a statistician by profession (and a former Greenpeace member), decided he needed to check

the data upon which conclusions were being drawn. He studied over 4000 papers and found, to his astonishment, that the data, in general, did not support the 'facts' that were being quoted. This resulted in the writing of his best-selling and controversial book, 'The Skeptical Environmentalist' (2001). His issue is not with the reality of climate change, but rather with the economic and political approaches being taken (or not taken) to meet the challenges that climate change poses. He argues also that many of the costly measures and actions adopted by scientists and policy makers to meet the challenges of global warming will ultimately have minimal impact on the world's rising temperature. The sums involved are eye-wateringly massive and would send developed nations, and probably the world, into serious economic depression resulting in mass famine, wars etc. This is why we have to be very sure that we have the facts and are not being misled. However, this publication is now more than 20 years old.

It has been said there is no correlation between CO<sub>2</sub> rise and temperature rise. In fact there is, but temperature rise actually lags behind CO<sub>2</sub> rise by 300 years or so, i.e., the latter is causing the former to rise, not the other way around!

### **The second point of view states:**

More than 95% of scientists now confirm that climate change is a fact in the same way that we know that the earth is round and not flat.

In the 11,000 years before the Industrial Revolution, the average temperature across the world was stable at around 14°C. The Industrial Revolution began in the mid - 1800s with burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas. Burning fossil fuels produces energy, but also releases greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, etc. into the air. Over time, large quantities of these gases have built up in the atmosphere.

E.g. the level of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere rose by 40% during the 20th and 21st centuries and is now over 400ppm (parts per million). In 2019, the CO<sub>2</sub> level in the atmosphere was higher than at any time in at least 2 million years.



Once in the atmosphere, greenhouse gases such as CO<sub>2</sub> form a 'blanket' around the planet. This blanket traps the heat from the sun and causes the earth to heat up.

### **How fast is the temperature rising?**

Since the Industrial Revolution, the average temperature of the planet has risen by around 1°C. This is a rapid change in terms of our global climate system. Previously, natural global changes are understood to have happened over much longer periods. It is also important to remember that the world is not warming evenly, so the temperature increase is higher than 1°C in some countries.

Evidence has shown that the high levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are the leading cause of increasing global temperatures.

In their most recent report, the IPCC states that human activity is unequivocally the cause of climate change.

As of 2018, the 20 warmest years on record globally have been in the previous 22 years. Even if we stop all emissions today, we cannot avoid some level of warming. The amount of warming we will see, beyond what we have already caused, depends on the changes we make.

The Met Office, UK Climate Projections (UKCP), help us see how climate change might affect the UK in the future.

In a high emission scenario the Met Office expects that the UK will experience:

- Warmer and wetter winters
- Hotter and drier summers
- More frequent and intense weather extremes

In 50 years' time, by 2070 they project:

- Winters will be between 1 and 4.5°C warmer and up to 30% wetter
- Summers will be between 1 and 6°C warmer and up to 60% drier

These changes could have a big impact on how we live our lives

### **Impacts of climate change**

Human activity – from releasing greenhouse gases and aerosols into the atmosphere, to changing the use of land – is the main driver of climate change. This has a range of impacts on the climate system, ecosystems, and people.

Changes to the climate system include:

- **Rising ocean levels** – Rising temperatures are causing glaciers and ice sheets to melt, adding more water to the oceans and causing the ocean level to rise. Oceans absorb 90% of the extra heat from global warming: warmer water expands, and so our oceans are taking up more space.
- **Ocean acidification** – Ocean acidification occurs when the ocean absorbs carbon dioxide and becomes more acidic. It is often called the 'evil twin' of climate change.
- **Extreme weather events** – Climate change is causing many extreme weather events to become more intense and frequent, such as heatwaves, droughts, and floods.

Climate change can also affect people and ecosystems. For example:

- **Flooding of coastal regions** – Coastal cities are at risk from flooding as sea levels continue to rise.
- **Food insecurity** – High temperatures, extreme weather events, flooding, and droughts can damage farmland. This makes it difficult for farmers to grow crops and means that their yield of crops each year is uncertain.
- **Conflict and climate migrants** – Climate change is a stress multiplier – it can take existing problems, such as lack of food or shelter, and make them worse. This can cause people to fight over resources (food, water, and shelter), or to migrate.
- **Damage to marine ecosystems** – Rising ocean temperatures, ocean acidification, and ocean anoxia (lack of oxygen) are damaging to marine life such as fish and coral reefs.

This completes the opposing viewpoints.

Can we contemplate heat, drought, floods and the decimation of animal and insect life?

Decide for yourself whether or not you think we should be aiming for NET ZERO, how we should approach it and over what time period. Do bear in mind that mankind has always adapted to the situation in which it finds itself, although there are millions more of us than there used to be.

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Visitors welcome, please contact Dot Barnard [dot.barnard@uwclub.net](mailto:dot.barnard@uwclub.net)

tele: 01455 208190

We meet on the second Monday morning of each month at 10.30am.

### **2022 TOPICS**

- September – Should we be aiming for Net Zero?
- October – Is Truss a good choice for PM?
- November – Ageism

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### **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

Co-ordinator: Sue

**22 September 2022**

We discussed everybody's news and then read the message of the French President to the people of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth following the Death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The next meeting will be on 27 October.

Sue

## GARDEN GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue

We had a warm sunny afternoon for our September outing to The Old Barn, Stretton en le Field near Swadlincote. On our arrival we were greeted by peacocks, not just one or two but about 15 or 20 peacocks, peahens and youngsters strutting about the stable yard area and garden.

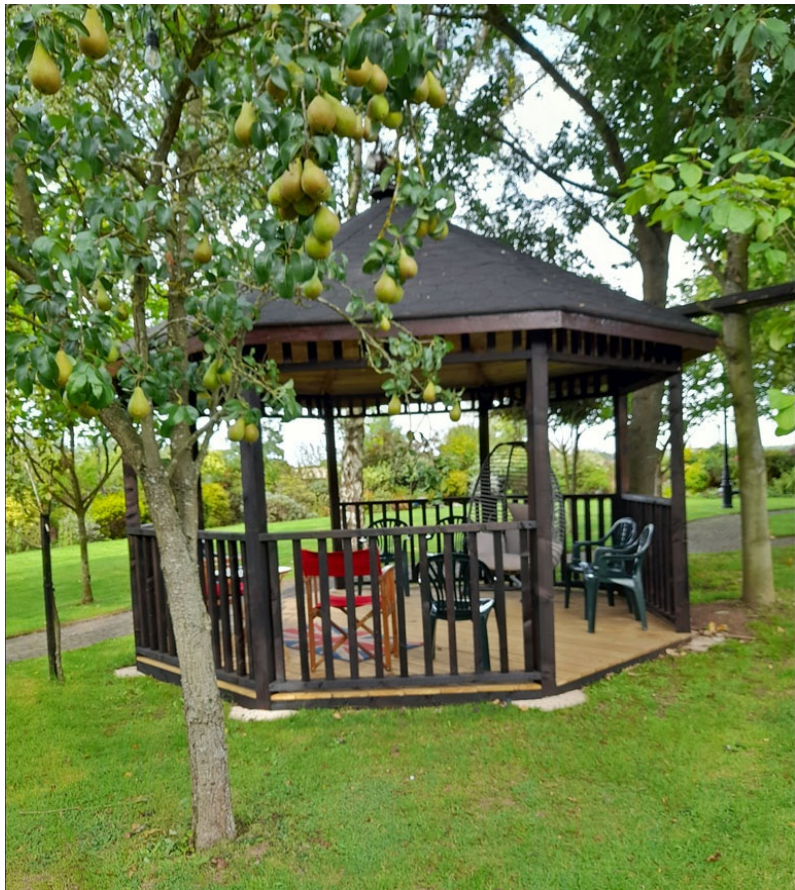
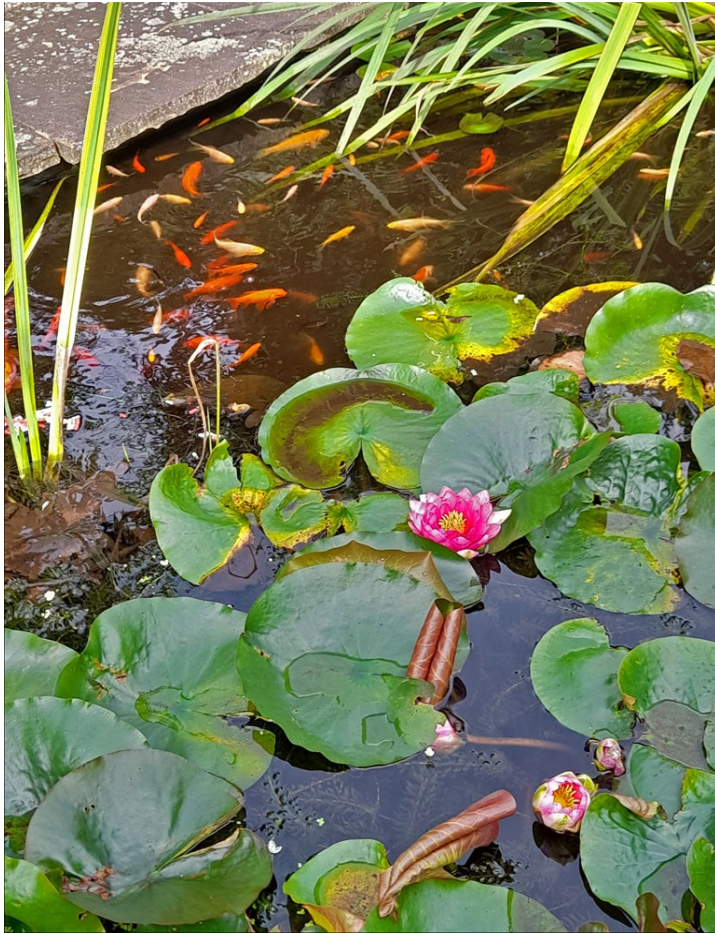
The garden itself was split into three sections, a lawn area – which was now green again after the September rain - with colourful herbaceous borders, a walled garden with a central pond full of goldfish, and an orchard cum wild flower meadow from which there was a delightful view of the open countryside beyond. The garden was shaded by a variety of trees and tucked in a corner by the walled garden was a chicken coop with quite a variety of different breeds.

There were lots for seating areas, including a beautiful domed pergola, for us to sit, relax and enjoy tea and delicious home-made cakes. A lovely afternoon enjoyed by all.

Sue.







## **OCTOBER GARDEN GROUP MEETING**

Tuesday 25th October 2.30pm

**GILMORTON VILLAGE HALL**, Main Street, Gilmorton, LE17 5LT

Cost £5 per person including refreshments.

Mike Rowe will talk to us about Organic Gardening. You may remember his talk on Bees last year.

Please contact Sue Creeden by 20th October if you wish to attend.

01455 557888 [sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net](mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net)

## GENTLE CYCLING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

It was a beautiful morning for our early September ride but unfortunately only four of us were available to meet at Catthorpe Farm Shop to enjoy it. We all had a bit of a puff soon after we set off as the first mile or so was uphill. (Most of our rides coincidentally start off going downhill which gives us a bit of a warm up!) We cycled under the M6 and then a left and right down to Shawell. A right turn here took us over the M1 and on to Swinford. Continuing on the South Kilworth road the route turned right before the village and went down past the lovely view over towards the reservoir and the Percy Pilcher Memorial to Stanford on Avon. Following a short breather, we turned left to pedal over the A14 this time and through Clay Coton. At the top of the hill, we turned right for Lilbourne and right again in the village to arrive back in Catthorpe for a coffee. Most of us had cycled roughly 12 ½ miles but Colin had started his ride from Gilmorton and clocked about 28 miles by the time he arrived home! (He was on a power assisted bike mind you!) A great morning out.

As it was a nice morning the following week, another group got together for an outing. This time we met at Ullesthorpe Garden Centre and cycled through Ullesthorpe and down to Claybrooke Parva. Here we turned left and headed up to the A5. Once safely across we took the grassy lane down, across Coalpit Lane and on to Monks Kirby. After a short break, we headed back on the other road out of the village, back across Coalpit Lane and back up to the A5. Once we had all made it to the top of the hill into Ullesthorpe (on foot for most of us!) we took the gentler route back to the Garden Centre via Ashby Parva. Yet again, we were able to enjoy coffee outside. Another very pleasant morning.

Our next ride will be on **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00 am**. The starting point and route to be confirmed. If you fancy joining us, we will be very pleased to see you. Electric bikes welcome. Just email me - [sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net](mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net) or call me on 01455 557888.

## HISTORY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Viv

### Report for the U3A History Group. September 2022

The History group enjoyed a visit to our local stately home, Stanford Hall, on September 6th. We are all familiar with the beautiful exterior of this mansion but few of us had been inside and it proved to be a fascinating experience. In an introductory talk in the library, we heard about the complex history of the owners of the Hall and the scene was set to give context to the remainder of our tour. It was hard to tear ourselves away from this lovely, comfortable room, full of rare books, artworks and bronze ornaments. Our knowledgeable guide pointed out several framed old documents, some relating to the building of the house in the reign of William and Mary in 1697. There were also framed letters and an interesting inventory of the house contents. We were taken through some extremely attractive rooms, including a grand ballroom which had been converted in the 18thC to be double height. This overlooked a vista across the park and down the long drive. We all imagined the extravagant parties that must have taken place here. Each room had something different to intrigue us, from painted wallpapers, delicate porcelain and antique furniture to Royal portraits. There was a suite of portraits of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18thC Jacobite pretenders to the throne; interestingly, one portrait of James Stuart was labelled 'King James III' by a later lady of the family, although we all know he never got to become King.

The Cave family has had a close association with the area since 1430s and received the title of Baronet by Charles I in 1641 but for their early years they were simply Knights of the shire. However, they were rewarded for their royal service by being allowed to acquire the Stanford estate in 1540 after the Dissolution of the Monasteries and they built a grand mansion there. It was in that house that Sir Thomas Cave entertained King Charles I just before Naseby in 1645. It was obviously a challenging time for them during the Republic but they survived and thrived as Lords of the extensive estate. At the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, ambitious plans led to the demolition of the old house and the building of the house we see today. The family also made important connections with other high-ranking Midlands families, including the Lucy



family of Charlecote. There were certainly many ancestors looking down at us from the walls! These family links enabled them to take over an earlier title once held by Lord Braye in the 16thC. That Braye peerage was brought out of abeyance by Queen Victoria in 1839. The family enjoyed a privileged lifestyle in their elegant house and clearly had a considerable income which enabled them to keep up with fashions. In 1862, a daughter of the family, Sarah Otway-Cave, inherited and became the 1st Baroness Braye. It was unusual for a woman to succeed but possible in this case, as the original title was conveyed by Royal writ.

We climbed an impressive, cantilevered staircase as we continued our tour of some of the bedrooms, each with its own themed décor and style. It's a lovely place, still used by the present family and despite being full of antiques and valuables, it has a homely feel.

At the end of the 19thC, Stanford Hall became a centre for innovation. Hydro-electric power, harnessing the river Avon, lit up the house in 1898. This must have been a marvel at the time and it came about due to the modern ideas of Adrian, son of Alfred the 5<sup>th</sup> Baronet. Unfortunately, his experiments with flight did not go so well and a year later, tragedy struck when his friend, Percy Pilcher's flying machine failed and Percy plummeted to his death in the park across the road from the hall, on the site of the deserted village. A monument commemorating Pilcher's historic flight stands there today. The Hall has a fascinating little museum about the daring ambitions of these men, including a replica flying machine.

After some delicious refreshments in the old stables café, some of us took the opportunity to see inside Stanford Church, which contains some interesting monuments and old stained glass.

Our guide was knowledgeable and engaging and we all came away having learned something and certainly having enjoyed seeing the many beautiful things in this most stately of Stately homes.

VW

Please note our October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting is **cancelled** as the date clashes with the U3A holiday in Somerset.

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday November 1<sup>st</sup> at Ashby Parva Village Hall from 2 'til 4pm.**







## SNAILS PACE WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Mandy

### September Walk: Monks Kirby, Leicestershire.



We enjoyed a stroll around this beautiful village in a designated conservation area. Many of the houses in the village are over 100 years old and the 11<sup>th</sup> century St Edith's church dominates the landscape. There is a nationally famous ring of 8 bells: one of the bells dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and is still in use today!

Our circular walk took us across the fields skirting the Newnham Paddox Estate to Pailton, the surrounding countryside looking very autumnal, before returning to Monks Kirby. Thanks to Daryl for leading this walk.

## October Walk – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October



Unfortunately, the planned walk around Crick is not possible: Ann Hetherington has another commitment.

So, I have chosen the Catthorpe walk. 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 only the one field – a plus if the

ground is wet! There are no stiles, and the distance is 2.9 miles.

We will meet at Manor Farm Shop and Cafe, Main Street, Catthorpe LE17 6DB. Please meet here at 10.45 am to order lunch. The walk will start at 11.00 am.

## 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/>

The food is good quality and there is plenty of choice. Meet by 10.45 am to order lunch on the day.

If you would like to come along, please let Mandy know by **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. You can email Mandy at:

[mandycutler@sky.com](mailto:mandycutler@sky.com)

or call on **01455 251809**.

**New walkers** are always welcome. Please contact Mandy Cutler on [mandycutler@sky.com](mailto:mandycutler@sky.com)

or phone **01455 251809**.

## ART APPRECIATION

Co-ordinator: Ursula

In September we visited Rugby Museum and Art Gallery to view their Exhibition of works by Louise Bourgeois.

She is a French - American artist, whose career is spanning 8 decades from 1930 to 2010. She is best known for her large scale sculptures and installations, inspired by her own memories and experiences. She also was a prolific painter and printmaker, who did not fit in any particular artistic movement. Her work is centred around reconstructing her memories, a web of emotions.

Her iconic spiders are representative of the mother figure, weaver, clever, nurturing, protecting ( eating mosquitos ).

This was not "Easy Viewing". The opinions were spread right across the spectrum.

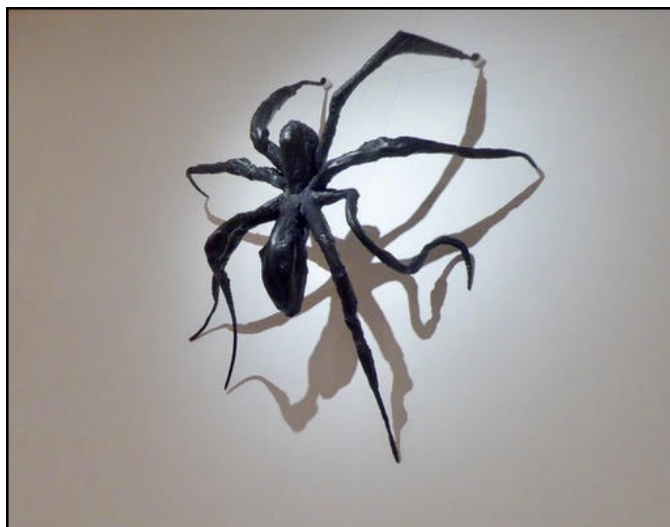
Seeing her work made us express our thoughts in no uncertain terms.

We then visited the "Showcase of Rugby Artists" on the Gallery floor below, a bit less demanding, a safer perspective.

The discussion over a cup of tea at the Garden Barn was very lively and productive.

Our next Session will be : 14.10.2022 "Graffiti Walk in Leicester"

Ursula



## POETRY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sylvie

I am changing timetable for poetry - instead of fourth Thursday of month we are going for last Thursday of month.

Notes from yesterday:

The topic for September was "Love and Relationships", so lots of romantic love poems ranging from Shakespeare's sonnets to more modern takes on the theme.

We also read poems featuring the relationship between mother and child , lesbian and sexual relationships, relationships with discarded lovers, friends and even football.

My favourite was the very striking poem "The Golden Room" by Wilfred Gibson. This encapsulates beautifully the coming together of a group of poets in 1914, their friendship and talking and laughter. The poets included Edward Thomas and Rupert Brooke who were to die in the coming war, so an element of tragedy, also.

The topic for October is "Poet Laureates from 1952 to the present. So Masfield, Day Lewis, Hughes, Motion, Duffy and Armitage. The meeting will be on 27th October.

Sylvie



## **ETHNIC DINING GROUP**

Coordinators : Peter and Penny Ross

We choose restaurants serving food from around the world, some familiar, some more unusual. Everyone is welcome to join us, regularly or occasionally.

In November we will be visiting a Mediterranean restaurant.

The details are as follows:

Wednesday November 9th 2022 at 7.30pm

Vieta

6 Weston Court

George Street

Lutterworth

LE17 4EG

If you wish to join us please contact us by 3rd November at the latest.

Penny and Peter Ross email: [penelopeross.ross@gmail.com](mailto:penelopeross.ross@gmail.com)

Tel : 01455 272797

## **PUB LUNCHES GROUP**

Coordinators : Peter and Penny Ross

Meeting friends, old and new, to enjoy lunch at a variety of pubs in local villages, many of which we are visiting for the first time. Everyone is welcome to join us, regularly or occasionally.

In November we will be visiting The Bull in Broughton Astley

The details are as follows:

Wednesday 2nd November 2022 at 12.30pm

The Bull

2 Main Street

Broughton Astley

LE9 6RD

If you wish to join us please contact us by 24th October at the latest.

Penny & Peter Ross email: [penelopeross.ross@gmail.com](mailto:penelopeross.ross@gmail.com)

Tel: 01455 272797

## **FOURTH WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP**

**Co-ordinators:-** Sue and Peter Creeden (Please use your U3A website if you need to contact us)

**Wednesday 27 October 2022**

**Walk Organisers:-** Stephen Carter & Rawdon Bottom

**Meeting Point and Time** (for car sharing):- Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.20am to leave at 09.25am

**Start Point and Time:** West Street, Welford around St. Mary The Virgin Church and its cemetery. Parking in the street. Toilets cannot be guaranteed but last time it was found that the church was open and had one. Departure time 10:00am

**Directions to start:-** Leave Lutterworth on the road to Market Harborough. (A4304). After passing through North Kilworth take the first right (just after going over the canal). Turn right at the next T junction onto the A5199. After approximately a mile you pass the Wharf Inn and just after you enter High Street, Welford, turn right into West Street. Make your way along to the church. Parking is on West Street

**Route and Distance:-** We head down Hall Lane and then after around 200 yards or so turn left through a farm gate to pick up the footpath heading in the general direction of South Kilworth. After around 1.25 miles we reach the Grand Union Canal where we turn left and quite soon reach a bridge and cross to the other side. Continuing along the towpath we pass under 5 further bridges ( stopping at the 3rd for coffee break) then leave the towpath to briefly join Stanford Road before turning left onto the footpath up through the Hemplow Hills. Up through the woods then follow the footpath to Hemplow Home Farm and then continue along Hemplow Drive that eventually crosses the

S Kilworth Road and then along W End back into Welford. Distance 6miles with just 1 stile.

**Lunch Arrangements:** There are none but the Wharf Inn is usually a good bet. Their telephone number is **01858 575075**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **FOURTH WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP**

### **September 2022 Walk Report**

With Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> starting off wet we had our fingers crossed for the next day. No need to have worried as it dawned dry and sunny although a little cool (6C), but this built to a much more comfortable 12C later.

Eleven walkers gathered at the Bell Inn Gumley to complete the figure of eight “down and up” 5 mile course to Laughton (some disputed that it was actually shorter but no one has ever complained), and with just 5 easy stiles to cross and a minor road to walk it is irresistible. I’ve always maintained that the views around Gumley are pretty spectacular, and so they proved to be in the autumnal sunshine on our outward leg. Of course it helps that as all routes from there are down you can’t help but get good visibility.

Conditions underfoot were superb, with the meadow grass dry and short (thanks to all the sheep) and St Luke’s Church Laughton soon came into view as we strolled through the village (hamlet) roads. Taking our break there we set off on our return leg, which would have been equally scenic had the clouds not rolled in, and walked through a series of kissing gates down to Gumley Lodge, which we passed for the second time. With only 2 (flat) arable fields to cross on the entire route our final short steep climb up to Gumley proved a little unexpected for some.

With appetites suitably stimulated 10 of us sat down to the excellent and reasonable midday lunch at the Bell, served promptly by Michelle and Carol even though we had arrived 5 minutes earlier than promised (I joke). Only I had the desert, but then I just can’t resist their apple crumble and custard (served in a jug of course).

To avoid complaints about favouritism I might give Gumley a miss next year, unless I’m persuaded otherwise.

**Tony Allen**

## **U3A WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUPS**

### **ADVANCE NOTICE**

### **CHRISTMAS WALK & LUNCH – 7 December 2022**

This year`s Christmas walk is on Wednesday 7th December. We plan to return to The Old Crown at Bulkington. Peter Moore is leading the walk and has rejigged it so that there are NO STILES this time. Peter Creeden is organising the lunch.

For details of the lunch please contact Peter Creeden via the Wycliffe Lutterworth web site He will need to know ASAP if you would like to join the lunch and have received your menu choices and payment by latest Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

## **1st WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP**

Joint Co-ordinators :- Peter Moore and Kay Bliss. Tel.- 07711882510

**Date of Walk** :- Wednesday 2nd November 2022. email.- peter79moore@gmail.com

**Driving distance**:- 8 Miles each way.

**Walk leader** :- Peter Moore. email.- peter79moore@gmail.com Tel. 07711882510

**Meeting Point and Time** : Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.10am to leave at 9.15am.

**Start Point** : Bulls Head, Coventry Road, Brinklow. Leave 10.00am.

Toilets available.

**Directions to Start** :- Take 2nd exit at A5 Magna Park Island signed Brinklow, continue through Pailton to tee junction in Brinklow, turn right onto Coventry Road. Bulls Head on right after 300m

Car park at rear of Pub.

**Route and Distance**: Field footpaths and Canal toe path around Brinklow and Easenhall.

Exit the car park, turn right and after 300 meters right again onto gravelled foot path. Take the footpath at an angle to a gate in the hedge. Turn right, keeping to the hedge to go through several gates to a small copse in the right hand corner. Turn left and right to join a small road over the canal. Continue through farm and follow path to gate, turn right and follow line of Motorway over stream and follow farm road to main road. Straight on into Stretton under

Fosse, turn right at road, take the foot path after 600 meters to corner of field, go slightly back on your self. Follow stream under bridge to join canal towards Brinklow, leave at bridge, a small amount of road walking, turn right from canal and return to Bulls Head for Lunch.

**Distance:** 5.20 Miles 1 stile.

Good and varied choice of Food. Extensive Lunch time menu. Gluten free food available.

Order before Walk.

**Summary:** Varied Walk , mostly field paths, some quiet road walking , Fairly flat walk.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Next Walk:** Wednesday 19th December 2022. Start 10.00am. As last year starting from Bedworth.

**Christmas Lunch Walk:** As last year but a totally new walk, avoiding those tall stiles.

Details to follow in future newsletters

Peter Moore and Kay Bliss

## PHOTOGRAPH GROUP SEPTEMBER 2022 REPORT

September's monthly theme was "Trees", and we had a huge selection of pictures to view, in fact paraphrasing the old saying, "*we could not see the pictures for the trees*". To give us a little variation in subjects we also looked at a few pictures from the British Photographers Awards 2022 shortlist.

September's topic was inspired by the pictures we reviewed at our August meeting from the professional photographer, Simon Baxter who specialises in trees in the woodland and landscape. We had a lot of pictures all with very different approaches to the subject. If someone mentions trees, we probably have a clear idea of what we would see. What stood out was how different trees appear in the UK, depending on the species of trees planted. We saw open pastures with singular trees, lush deep green woodland with mighty beech trees, open Pine plantations in Scotland and rows of trees defining fields and roads. We also looked much closer at individual trees with textures and patterns of bark creating some pleasant abstract images.

Our monthly look at other photographers' work took us to the 2022 shortlist for the British Photographers Awards competition. There are many competitions each year in the UK and around the world, but this particular competition is limited to British photographers working in the UK and around the world and other nationals who are working in the UK. The competition has 19 categories and the shortlist generally have about 380 images for judges to choose from. We looked at images of landscapes, street photography, birds and animals, commercial products and interestingly a category for aerial pictures taken with a drone.

There were some interesting pictures many of them heavily reliant on photo editing but quite a few that would look at home in our monthly topic submissions. Often an "eye" for a situation or being ready for the unexpected are useful tools for achieving an interesting picture.

October's topic is the colour "Gold" or a recognisable shade of gold. This is going to be a very challenging topic and it will be interesting to see what our members come up with.

Our next meeting will be a week earlier than normal and will be on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022, 10.00 am, in the Ullesthorpe Village Hall.

As usual, our meetings are open to all U3A members as a regular or as a guest. If you would like more information e-mail us at the address below.

[wlu3acamera@outlook.com](mailto:wlu3acamera@outlook.com).

Michael Bates





Chris Ridley



Peter Osborn





Val Ridley



Trudy Haddon

## Committee Members

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>
Chairperson .....	Chris Brady
Vice Chairman .....	Colin Beadle
Treasurer.....	Ruth Bones
Secretary .....	Nigel Burt
Membership Secretary.....	Ann Hetherington
Minutes Secretary.....	Anne Dean
Speaker Finder.....	Andrea Nichol
Interest Group Co-ordinator.....	Colin Beadle
Membership Records.....	Andy Hetherington
Committee Member.....	Nigel Bones
Committee Member.....	Peter Ross
Committee Member.....	Sue Poulter
Committee Member .....	Hamish Paterson

**Note:** Any committee member can be contacted via our email address:

[thewycliffelutterworthu3a@gmail.com](mailto:thewycliffelutterworthu3a@gmail.com)

Articles, reports, news items etc. for inclusion in the next bulletin should be sent to the editor:

[\*\*trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com)

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

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