

**Members Bulletin** 

Jan 2023



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# **NOTICES**

Snail's Pace Walking Group - New Walkers Welcome.

Just before Christmas, I updated the list of our group members – sadly, some are unable to continue with our walks.

We are a very friendly group of people who enjoy a bit of exercise, the opportunity to socialise and a pub lunch afterwards - optional, of course!

Our walks take place on the third Friday of the month, starting at 11.00am.

The walks are 3 miles or under, as a guide, and we try to avoid stiles that require a climb!

If you want to come along, you will be most welcome. Just get in touch with me on 01455 251809.

Best wishes, Mandy Cutler

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# **Bulletin Reports**

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

# trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com

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

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Link to U3A Interest Groups

# PLEASE BRING ALONG THE USED STAMPS FROM YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS AND YOUR USED TONER CARTRIDGES

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 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 next monthly meeting. Alternatively, you can pop them through her door -25 Holly Drive, Lutterworth. Sue will then pass them on to Liz.

Also for the **Medical Detection Dogs Charity**, Mary Oldham has a box to collect used inkjet cartridges (but not laser/toner cartridges). Please save these too and bring them along to the next meeting.

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Sue

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# LIVELY DISCUSSION

Co-ordinator: Dot

# Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

# Call My Bluff

We celebrated the Christmas season as usual by playing Call My Bluff. You may remember it was a TV programme chaired by Robert Robinson and featured contestants including Dennis Norden, Frank Muir and Marghanita Lasky, Teams of three contestants were given 3 possible definitions of the same word and had to find the correct one. Here are a few of our chosen words for you to contemplate:

## Xebec:

1. River or beck named for King Xerxes I of Persia in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC. b) A small boat once used by pirates. c) Ancient nickname for Rebecca along with Becca and Becky

## Chrometophobia:

1. A fear of money or spending money. b) The fear or belief that an illness is the result of faulty chromosomes. c) The fear or hatred of items made from chrome.

## Camelopard:

1. A creature which is a cross between a camel and a leopard. b) An obsolete word for a giraffe. c) A person who runs with a loping gait.

## Marlinspike:

 A fishing tool used for catching marlin. b) A spiked weapon used for hand to hand fighting in mediaeval times. c) A tool used for separating strands of rope or wire.

#### Frugivore:

a) An animal which feeds on fruit. b) A person who lives in a frugal way, e.g. some orders of monks and nuns. c) A person who forces people to live on the breadline, or keeps people very short of food.

#### Glossolalia:

a) The phenomenon of ecstatic speaking, usually in incomprehensible language, especially in evangelical Christianity, or as a symptom of a mental disorder.

#### Fullflopper:

a) A bird sufficiently feathered to leave the nest. b) A person who is habitually drunk and falls over frequently. c) A person who is always flopping out and falling asleep.

## Pingle:

a) Another word for pins and needles in the body similar to tingle. b) In Victorian times in haberdashers' shops where pins were stored until they were sold. c) A small enclosure usually long and narrow.

The correct definitions are shown below:

Xebec – b Chrometophobia – a Camelopard – b Marlinspike – c Friguvore – a Glossolalia – a

Fullflopper - a Pingle - c

We rounded off the meeting with social time and seasonal goodies.

Visitors welcome, please contact Dot Barnard <u>dot.barnard@uwclub.net</u> 01455 208190

We meet on the second Monday morning of each month.

## 2023 Topics

- January "Apparently less than half the population of England and Wales identify as Christian for the first time since the Dark Ages". What has caused this decline? What are the ramifications for our society? How will the monarchy be affected?
- February TBA
- March Early Years Education, a luxury or a sound investment?

## **ART APPRECIATION**

Co-ordinator: Ursula

# **December Meeting**

Our meeting at Bitteswell Village Hall was a light-hearted occasion, just right for our last get together before Christmas. It began with a quiz based around different aspects of the Art world, from famous paintings, artists and venues e.g. Which former England cricketer owns a gallery in Chipping Sodbury and is a well-known artist? To a miscellaneous section. We had agreed prior to this meeting to each bake a small "artistic" cake to share when we had a break for refreshments. Not being a great baker or possessing much artistic talent I was incredibly impressed with member's talents. We had representations of Van Gough's, Rennie Macintosh and Dali's work, just to name a few. We spent so long admiring, discussing and of course eating the entries that we never did get to finish the second half of the quiz which will be held over until the February meeting. We hope to visit the Frieda Kahlo exhibition in Coventry for our January meeting.

# Sheila Eggleton



# **GENTLE CYCLING GROUP**

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

Unfortunately, our December ride had to be cancelled due to freezing weather conditions. However, not to be out done, we convened a meeting to discuss future rides. At least that was the pretext of the gathering, in truth it was just an excuse to enjoy a social coffee and mince pie together!

Our next ride, weather permitting, will be on **Wednesday**, **11**<sup>th</sup> **January 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 - <a href="mailto:sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net">sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net</a> or call me on 01455 557888.

Sue

# 1st WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Joint Co-ordinators :- Peter Moore & Kay Bliss Mob:-07562086800

<u>Date of Walk</u>: - Wednesday 1st February 2023 email. - peter79moore@gmail.com

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

Walk leaders :- Peter Moore & Kay Bliss. email.- peter 79moore@gmail.com Tel.-07562086800

Meeting Point: Red Lion, Crick. If you need a lift, please contact me.

Start Point: Red Lion, Crick, Northant's. NN6 7TX. Leave 10.00am. Toilets available.

<u>Directions to Start</u>: Take M1 south, exit at junction 18, left onto A428 to West Haddon and Northampton, at 1<sup>st</sup> island turn right signed Crick, left at 1<sup>st</sup> island, follow road into village, pub on right after passing Co--op store on the right.

## Route and Distance.

Exit the car park, turn left then right, passing the church, towards Yelvertoft, over the bye pass bridge, turn right onto footpath, follow path until meeting canal, turn right and exit at canal bridge, cross canal onto good track towards Yelvertoft, break time. Re-trace route, turn left to join canal, turn right onto canal, exit at bridge onto good footpath to return to Red Lion for lunch.

**Distance:** 5 Miles – No stiles

Good food, plenty of choices, Gluten free food available, great value.

Order food before walk.

Summary.

Fairly flat walk, some pavement walking to join it all together.

Next walk Wednesday 1st March 2023.

Royal Oak. Brandon. 5 miles. With the very young River Avon as company

Peter Moore and Kay Bliss.

# **PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

#### **December 2022 report**

This is the first year that we have had a December meeting and took the opportunity for our members to bring along a guest which many did. To mark the occasion, we had a guest speaker, Dr. Michael Colechin and ended the meeting with some festive food and drink.

Michael is an engineer by profession, working in the energy sector, but Photography was a hobby which became a passion and now, in addition to his work as an engineer, he is a professional photographer. Michael's approach to photography could be considered a little "retro" as he uses a tripod mounted "Field Camera" which is similar to cameras seen in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and comprises a wooden body, fabric bellows, full size screen, separate lenses and a cut film cassette. Despite it's looks the camera is very modern, and using modern optics produces very detailed large-scale prints.

Michael prefers landscape photography and unusually enjoys taking his pictures in grey overcast conditions which he says enhances his style of photography as it gives a very "flat" even light devoid of harsh contrasting shadow. The pictures we viewed provided a lot of detail due to the even lighting. Although quite portable Michael's camera needs some time to set up and while we would consider that a disadvantage, Michael feels it is in fact an advantage as gives him more time to consider how he wants to capture the image. One of the advantages of his type of camera is the amazing control he can achieve in focussing either with a selective depth of field or whole scene in sharp focus. Michael's principal message is to take more time "looking" at the subject before taking the picture.

If you are interested in Michael's range of work, please go to his website via the following link <a href="https://www.colechin.co.uk/">https://www.colechin.co.uk/</a>

The December monthly picture theme was "Humour", selected by one of our members at the November meeting. I am not sure where our members get their ideas for these topics and similar to our November "Gold" this month was really challenging. Perhaps that is the point of our monthly topics. You can judge if we were successful by looking at a sample of our pictures in the gallery section of the Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A website.

We invited our guest speaker to suggest a topic for January and he suggested "A Ten-Minute Walk from Home", a picture of any subject or view that is ten minutes from our home. Thinking about where some of us live we have modified the topic to include a ten-minute journey by bike or car. The only condition is that the picture should be taken in January 2023 rather than something from our archives.

Our January meeting will be on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 10.00 am, in the Ullesthorpe Village Hall.

This is a change from our usual Friday but for the rest of 2023 we will be back to the last Friday of the month. 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.

As you will probably be reading this after Christmas, on behalf of all our Photography Group members, may I wish all our U3A colleagues a Happy New Year.

wlu3acamera@outlook.com.

Michael Bates









#### SNAIL'S PACE WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Mandy

# January 2023 Walk: Friday 20th January



Our walk will start from the car park of the Bricklayers Arms (213 Main Street, Thornton, LE67 1AH) at 11.00 am after we have pre-ordered lunch (see below for details). There is a path from St Peter's Church to the circular walk around Thornton Reservoir. I can collect the key to the church from the village store, so those who want to can look inside.

The walk is approximately 3 miles long. It will be largely on gravel paths, but it can be a bit muddy after rain.

Directions from Lutterworth to The Bricklayers Arms, 213 Main Street, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 1AH.

- Take the M1 North, from Lutterworth, leaving at Junction 22.
- Take the A511 exit to Ashby/Coalville.
- At the roundabout, take the first exit onto Cliffe Lane (signposted Stanton, Thornton).
- At the next roundabout continue straight over onto Cliffe Hill Road.
- Take the next left into Elliott's Lane and then right onto Broad Lane.
- Broad Lane turns slightly right and becomes Markfield Lane.
- The next left is Main Street and the pub is on the left.

## Lunch

We will have lunch at The Bricklayers Arms. Phone: 01530 230808. We can preorder at 10.45 am before starting the walk.

There was a change in management at The Bricklayers Arms in December 2022. I have spoken to a member of staff, who was very welcoming, and they

plan to release a new menu in the new year – still a combination of meals and snacks.

If you would like to come on this walk, can you please contact me on:

01455 251809 or email mandycutler@sky.com

by Wednesday 18th January. Best wishes, Mandy.

Snail's Pace Walking Group - New Walkers Welcome.

Just before Christmas, I updated the list of our group members – sadly, some are unable to continue with our walks.

We are a very friendly group of people who enjoy a bit of exercise, the opportunity to socialise and a pub lunch afterwards - optional, of course!

Our walks take place on the third Friday of the month, starting at 11.00am.

The walks are 3 miles or under, as a guide, and we try to avoid stiles that require a climb!

If you want to come along, you will be most welcome. Just get in touch with me on 01455 251809.

Best wishes, Mandy Cutler

# **ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GROUP**

**Co-ordinator: Chris** 

December Event: 'HOBBIES'

This months event, the last this year would have traditionally been a Group Christmas lunch, but because we all seem to have lots of celebrations in Dec it was decided to postpone it until January, however this would have clashed with the main U3A Annual Lunch so we will do something culinary in the spring or summer next year.

Colin Beadle, Michael Bates and I came up with the idea of 'Hobbies' where we would hold a free and easy event where members could just talk about their particular hobby past or present.

First up we had a talk by Mel Jackson on his extensive and amusing experience of travelling to the Le Mans Classic 24hr race in a Morgan 4-4 together with 2 other classic cars.

Mel finished his talk with an outline of the Engineering process call SPF or "Super Plastic Forming" where a sheet of aluminium is heated to a point where it is in the plastic stage (just before melting) while being clamped all round the edge between a top and bottom mould.

An inert gas is then pumped in at high pressure in the top which causes the sheet to deform into the mould shape at the bottom.

This was trialled as a process to form the large Morgan front wings in place of the traditionally welded sectioned and fettled wing but proved difficult to develop.

Next Bob Withers described how as a youngster he train spotted and collected Railway memorabilia, specifically Railway shed Number plates which where shown attached to the front of the Steam Engine and which designated the depot (or shed) the Engine was kept in.

Similarly, Warren Dawson gave a talk, telling the members how since retirement he had rekindled his interest in Model railways describing the different scales available and the process where he had chosen the 18.5mm scale which involved having to make the rolling stock from scratch as it is not generally available ready made, Warren also planned to set up a specific track layout for the scale.

On the stages area, we had some beautiful examples displayed of Scalectric model cars brought along by Colin Beadle, Michael Bates and Howard Grant, Michael actually used to tune and raced them in his local slot car club and Howard currently has a stage set of the Goodwood Revival Pits and assembly area.

Colin had kindly brought along a Scalectric track which they set up on the stage in 'figure of 8' with the idea that everyone would have 1 minuet to do as many laps as possible.

This proved very popular with the prize eventually going to Nigel Bedford with 20 laps completed in the time.

Nigel was presented with his "bottle" prize which was kindly donated by Kris and Alex Bullard.



Colin had also brought along examples of past hobbies including a Control Line model aircraft complete with a range of vintage small petrol/Nitro engines of 3.5cc capacity which where used to power these models for high speed circular flight patterns, an selection of original 1950 model accessories catalogues and creative wiring kits...

Throughout the event we had seasonable nibbles, snacks and refreshments available and the morning proved to be a really relaxed and enjoyable event with lots of interest for the talks and examples on show.

My thanks go to everyone who helped make the morning such a success, thanks to all the speakers and those who brought exhibits and thanks to Roy Maiden for opening up specially early to put the heating on !!!

I also have to give special thanks to Colin Beadle who came all the way back from London for this event and to both Colin and Michael for raiding the loft in search of exhibits and Scalectric track.

**January Event** - As yet we don't have anything for January's event but we still have the hall booked if we need it so get your thinking caps on please and let me know .........

February Event on Thursday 16th 'Working on Canals' a talk by Nick Hill.

Nick worked on commercial narrowboats and had his own boat, The talk is based around the coal trips from the Ashby canal to Dickensons papermills around Hemel Hempstead - Rickmansworth area, with other information on how the canal carrying system was organised.

	M	fore	events	to	come	later
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Chris

## WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

# **December 2022 Walk Report**

The morning was bright but very cold. Peter Moore led 22 walkers from The Old Crown, near Bulkington, along a flat route of tracks, canal towpaths and roads. There was excitement early on when walking on a private track we passed ponies in a field



and then encountered a stile and a gate that were so close together that we had to negotiate it one by one. Walking on we joined the Coventry Canal towpath and the Centenary Way to reach a bridge which we crossed into a housing estate on the edge of Bedworth. Once through it we crossed fields to return to the canal but walking on the opposite side in the opposite direction to reach Hawksbury Junction. An interesting part of the canal network where the Coventry Canal and Oxford Canal, a network of footbridges and canal boats berthed. We then followed the Oxford Canal towpath (the Centenary Way and Oxford Canal Walk) to reach the road leading back to the pub. Most then stayed for an enjoyable Christmas lunch in the pub.

Thank you Peter for leading the walk and keeping it (almost) stile less.

Peter Creeden (who didn't actually walk)

## FOURTH WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

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

# Wednesday 25th January 2023

Walk Organisers: Sue and Peter Creeden

**Meeting Point and Time** (for car sharing):- Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.25am to leave at 09.30am.

**Start Point and Time:** The Queens Alms, Main Street, Leire LE17 5HF. Start time 10:00am

**Directions to start:-** Go via Bitteswell, Ashby Parva to Leire. As you go through the village the pub car park is on the right (we have permission to use it)

**Route and Distance:-** The route starting at Leire goes to Dunton Basset and then Broughton Astley before returning to Leire. It will be a mixture of roads, lanes, tracks and field footpaths. The recent wet weather will mean that there are some muddy sections. The exact route will be finalised after an assessment of any issues nearer the date. It will be no more than 5 miles and there will be approximately 3 stiles.

**Lunch Arrangements**: Unfortunately, the pub will more than likely be closed at lunchtime (despite what their website says) so I suggest that if you want lunch afterwards you book a local pub.

**ETHNIC DINING GROUP** 

Co-ordinators: 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 January we will be visiting a Chinese restaurant.

The details are as follows:

Wednesday February 8th 2023 at 7.30pm

The Dunton Bassett Arms 9 Bennetts Hill **Dunton Bassett** 

**LE17 5JJ** 

If you wish to join us please contact us by February 1st at the latest.

Penny & Peter Ross

email: penelopeross.ross@gmail.com

Tel: 01455 272797

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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 January we will be visiting The Bull in Clifton upon Dunsmore.

The details are as follows on next page:-

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Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at 12.30pm

The Bull Inn

33-35 Main Street

**Clifton on Dunsmore** 

**CV23 0BH** 

If you wish to join us please contact us by 26<sup>th</sup> January at the latest.

Penny & Peter Ross

email: <a href="mailto:penelopeross.ross@gmail.com">penelopeross.ross@gmail.com</a>

Penny

# **Committee Members**

Office Name

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