

NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Meetings are held in
The Corn Exchange, Bourne.
Third Monday of the month
Next meeting 18 March 2024

BOURNE u3a

Learn, Laugh, Live

WEBSITE: <https://www.bourneu3a.org.uk>

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1100094

The Chair's Chat

Hello everyone

Is this year going fast or is it me?

Friends have been saying how lovely it is to see the daffodils and crocuses in the garden but the best sight for me was when the gardener turned up on Friday to give the lawns their first cut. This is usually a task that I enjoy but the grass was so long that knew for certain that unless I ventured out there with a map, a machete and a guide I would never make it back indoors again.

When you reach page 3 of this Newsletter you will see that three members of the committee have been very busy organising a Quiz to follow on from the AGM. This will be a fun quiz so if you are willing to share your knowledge please pass your team's details to Janice Lyon. If you are coming on your own then that is fine as I am sure you can be slotted into a team that has a space.

As you know the AGM is open to all members but the reason we need to know who will be staying on for the quiz is that we will need to set up sufficient tables.

You will also see details of the AGM with a request from our secretary John Boss asking for committee members.

I know you hear this every year but without a committee the u3a cannot function. We are a self-help organisation and it is important that tasks are spread among the whole of the membership. Our Group Leaders are great and work hard on our behalf but we do need a committee. Please think about this and have a chat with one of us if you are willing to help.

In last month's Newsletter there was a request from the schools asking for invigilators. Just out of interest has anyone applied?

Best wishes
Pat

Welcome to our new members who have recently joined Bourne u3a.

Joan Beavis, Christine Griffiths, John Griffiths, Sue Renner, Juliette Renner and Richard Salmon.

Speakers for 2024

Date	Subject	Speaker
18 March	Tinderbox, Dance and Song	Margaret Wainwright
15 April	Burghley House Preservation Trust	David Pennell
20 May	AGM plus Quiz	Quiz Master—Tony Gray

Desk Clerks, Meet and Greeters

Desk Clerks	18 March	TBA	TBA	TBA
Meet & Greet	18 March	TBA	TBA	TBA

Another u3a Membership Renewal Reminder

As the date for renewal of u3a membership for 2024/25 has passed could I ask you to please confirm that all members of your group have renewed their membership. If not, please give them another gentle reminder.

Thank you to those who have already replied to my earlier reminder.

There are three ways to renew membership – online at: www.bourneu3a.org.uk/members-area - or if they prefer by payment through you as group leader or directly to the Membership Secretary, either by post or at the next monthly meeting with a completed renewal form available at:

www.bourneu3a.org.uk/files/ugd/5e6ea9_a2c92782bd244b4c9cbc1a32d0621247.pdf

And finally a request. If there is room for a new participant or two in your group could you please let me know.

Thank you for your time and support – without you u3a Bourne could not function.

Richard Linning – Group Co-ordinator.

Poetry Group

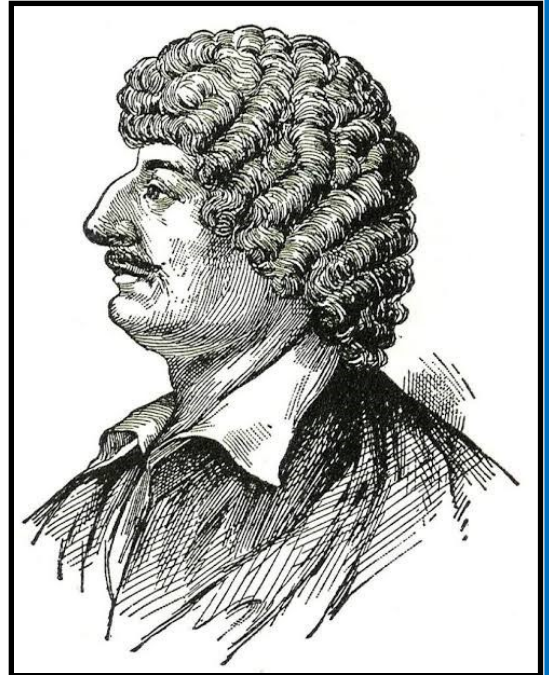
For our February meeting, the Poetry Group spent time with Robert Herrick (1591-1674), chosen by Janet Dowse. Herrick, born in London when Shakespeare was coming into his prime, eventually became an Anglican priest with a living in a quiet part of Devon. He never married. His lifetime spanned Elizabeth I, Charles I, the Civil War and the Restoration of the Monarchy in the person of Charles II. Impressively, he seems to have avoided both political and religious controversy. Herrick's poetry is pleasingly lyrical and, besides describing nature and rural customs, he wrote a number of slightly risqué poems. As an example, consider

Upon Julia's Clothes

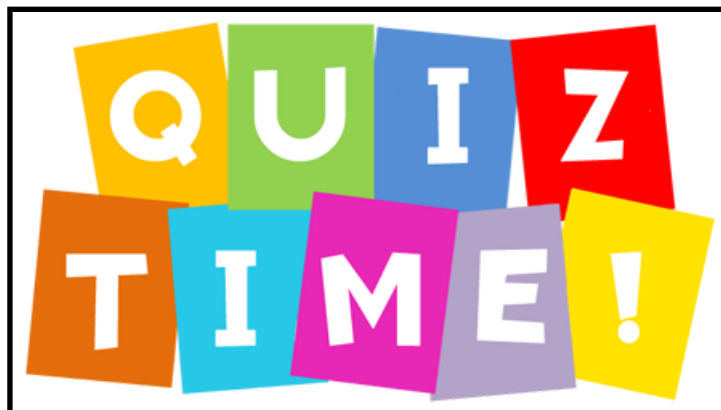
Whenas in silks my Julia goes,
Then, then (methinks) how sweetly flows
That liquefaction of her clothes.

Next, when I cast mine eyes, and see
That brave vibration each way free,
O how that glittering taketh me!

Philip Dunkerley
Group Leader



Robert Herrick



ADVANCE NOTICE!

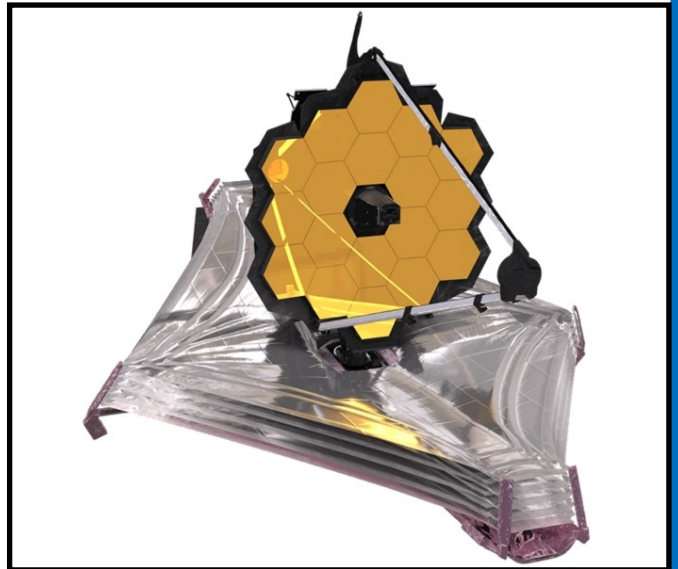
Following the AGM on 20th May, we will be having a light hearted quiz with the well-known quizmaster Tony Gray entertaining us. Applications are invited for teams of up to 6 and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. **Janice Lyon will be taking names at the back of the hall at the March and April meetings.** Our usual raffle will be held at the end of the quiz and there will be prizes for the team who come first and a booby prize for the last. So chat to your friends, decide on a name for your team, and get those little grey cells working!

Science and Tech Group Meeting February 2024

The meeting held on Tuesday 1st February was a presentation about The James Webb Space Telescope, presented by Keith Townsend.

The February meeting took us into the realms of space exploration. The James Webb Space Telescope, named after the man who ran NASA between 1961 and 1968, is a very complex and expensive piece of equipment (circa 10 billion dollars). It was launched on 25 December 2021 after many delays and near cancellation, due to technical issues, from its planned launch in 2016. The James Webb Space Telescope is a true technological marvel. The largest and most complex space telescope ever built, it is far more capable and complex than the Hubble space telescope that preceded it. Webb will be able to gather light that has been traveling for billions of years, almost since the beginning of the universe allowing us to peer at the first galaxies to form after the Big Bang.

The telescope had to be packed into the nose section of a rocket and so had to be built such that it could open out once it was on station, about 1 million miles from Earth in the L2 point in space, this is to enable it to remain in constant communication with Earth. A series of critical deployments followed to open up the telescope and its sun-shade. If any of these operations had failed, James Webb would have been an unusable disaster. But the programme was perfectly executed, a process that ran more smoothly and successfully than anyone had dared hope, let alone expected. All the instruments, which look at deep space in different wavelengths, had to be cooled down, along with the telescope, otherwise they would radiate background heat which would interfere with the sensitive observations of astronomical objects. The last to be turned on was MIRI, (Mid-infrared Instrument) that operates at the lowest temperature, just seven degrees above absolute zero, which took several months to achieve.



Since launch the telescope has been transmitting pictures and information back and discovering many more galaxies and other space bodies never seen before, even looking back before the birth of our Sun.

A presentation that was full of information that stretched our understanding and encouraged us to think in a new dimension given by a person who has a great understanding and ability to impart such information.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at Edenham village hall. The subject will be The History of Our Atmosphere and the speaker will be Stuart Osbourne.

Report by Michael Thorpe

Friday Striders

16 walkers met on Friday Feb 23rd at Easton on the Hill for a walk of just under 6 miles. After crossing the A43 the walk followed the footpath toward Wothorpe House (Tower). Turning down the left hand side of the house the route crossed a couple of fields before walking under the A1.

The walk then passed through a recent housing development at Wothorpe and due to ongoing construction a diversion of the footpath is currently in place which led onto the A43. After crossing road walk continued down onto Stamford Meadows. The walk back to Easton was supposed to be via the river, however due to recent rainfall and flooding earlier in the week the route had to be altered.

After leaving the Meadows a short circuit of Burghley Park using Chabonell Spinney was taken before leaving the park onto the Old Great North Road. Turning left the walk continued up towards the golf course before crossing the road. Walking along Warren Road the walk once again passed Wothorpe House (Tower) before returning back to Easton on the Hill.



Whilst several large puddles had to be negotiated underfoot conditions were not as bad as expected giving all the recent rainfall.

Group Leader: Janet Cartwright

Wothorpe House was built as a lodge in early C17 by Thomas Cecil, 1st Earl of Exeter, the eldest son of William Cecil, 1st Lord Burghley, the great advisor to Elizabeth I.

On succeeding to the Burghley Estate in 1754, Brownlow Cecil the 9th Earl of Exeter engaged Lancelot Capability Brown to landscape Burghley Park. Brown was responsible for the design and creation of the stable block range at Burghley and according to the local Stamford historian Drakard, this was built from stone removed from the site at Wothorpe in its first phase of part - dismantling in 1754 / 1755 .

In the 1790s there was a further phase of part-dismantling of the building. Thereafter the site was used principally as the home farm for the Burghley Estate until the 1950s, (latterly including pig-farming). This was followed by its subsequent virtual abandonment until it was eventually purchased by the Griffins in 2004.

This elegant ruin has now been fully consolidated by them resulting in its removal from the National and Local Heritage-at-Risk Register. The structure sits within the privately owned and occupied Wothorpe Towers Estate.

Bourne Brushstrokes - March Gallery



*Mad as a
March Hare*



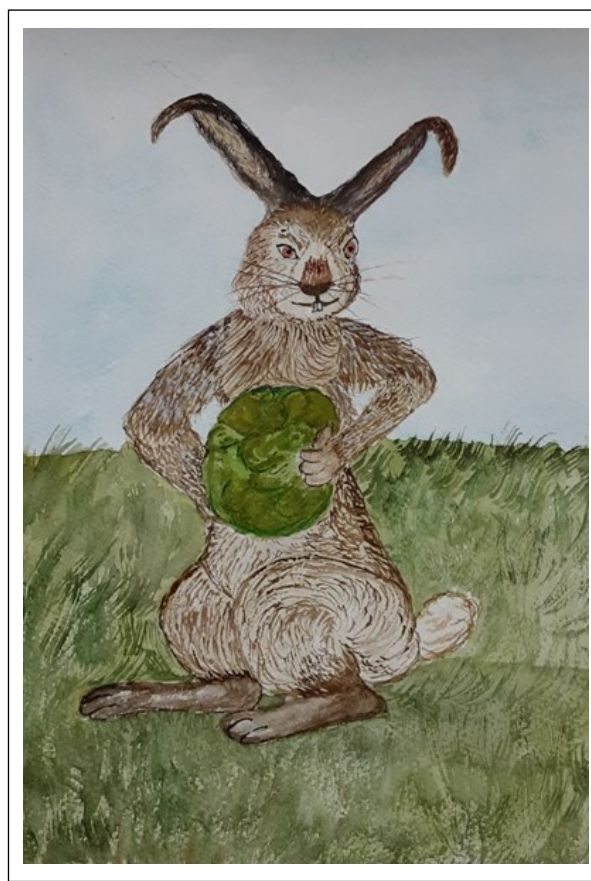
Lesley – With a touch of colour!

Deborah – Finished with pen

Jill – Double act in pastel

Ann – Sitting in watercolour pens

Bourne Brushstrokes - March Gallery



A second page of delightful spring paintings

Brenda – Boxing Hares in watercolour Margaret – Hare with his lunch
Janet – Watercolour Jumping Hare

BOURNE U3A—Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 23 rd Annual General Meeting of Bourne U3A will take place at 2 pm on Monday 20th May 2024 at the Corn Exchange.

The business to be transacted is set out below.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th May 2023.
3. Trustees' Report
4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31 March 2024
5. Appointment of the Independent Examiner for 2024/ 2025
6. Motions
7. Election of Honorary Officers and Executive Committee Members
8. Date of the Next Annual General Meeting

Forms [attached] and Notices of Motion must be with John Boss, Honorary Secretary, 36 Stephenson Way, Bourne PE10 9DD by Friday 3 May 2024 either by post or by scan and e-mail to secretary@bourneu3a.org.uk

John Boss
Secretary, Bourne U3A
13 March 2024

Secretary's note.

"Three committee members are retiring at the AGM. We welcome therefore nominations for the committee from members who are keen and willing to assist in all aspects of Bourne U3A, with a particular need for individuals to help with new members, co-ordination of groups activities, and with the provision of speakers for our monthly meetings. Specific allocation of committee roles will be agreed at the first meeting of the newly elected 2024/2025 committee."

If you wish to be nominated complete the form on page 9 of this Newsletter.

AGM

Annual General Meeting



NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

for the year 2024/25

Members wishing to stand should ensure they are eligible to do so under the Charity Commissioners rules.

Nominated persons should sign below to agree to stand for election and must be proposed and seconded.

PLEASE PRINT NAMES AND SIGN

Position	<i>Print Name and Membership No. of Nominated Member</i>	<i>Signature of Nominee</i>	<i>Printed Name, Signature and Membership No. of Proposer</i>	<i>Printed Name, Signature and Membership No. of Seconder</i>
Chairman				
Vice Chairman				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Committee				
Committee				

Please return your completed nomination papers to John Boss, Secretary, Bourne U3A at 36 Stephenson Way, Bourne PE10 9DD, or scan and send by e-mail to: secretarybourneu3a@gmail.com by Friday 3 May 2024.....

GROUPS WITH VACANCIES - 1 December 2023

Group	Leader	Meets	Venue
Abbey Church Garden Group	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483	Last Tuesday afternoon of each month or as notified	Outside Church in Church Walk
Antiques & Collectables	Steve Froy 01778 393017	2nd Monday afternoon every month	Wake House
Art History 2	Betty Davies 01778 571631	1st Wednesday morning every month	At Members Homes
Aviation History	John Owen 07947 741842	4th Thursday afternoon every month	Wake House
Birdwatching / Natural History	Vaughan Roberts 01778 426255	1st Friday of the month	As Notified By Group Leader
Church Visiting	Sue Hadfield 01778 426417	4th Thursday morning Monthly	As Notified By Group Leader
Clay Pigeon Shooting	Gerry McLean 01775 750544	The first Friday of every month	As Notified By Group Leader
Creative Writing 2	John Boss 01778 424153	3rd Wednesday of every month	At Members Homes
Desk Clerks	Bill Reid 01778 570234	At the main Monday meetings	
Dining	Kay Williams 01778 570650	3rd Thursday evening every month	As Notified By Group Leader
Drama Workshop	Malcolm Ranson 01778 423834	2nd Wednesday every month	Methodist Church Hall, Thurlby
Friday Striders	Janet Cartwright 01778 344831	Friday mornings twice a month	
Garden Group	Janet Blacoe 01778 393226	1st Tuesday afternoon every month	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
Green Bowls	David Ashby 01778 424137 or Steve Froy 01778 393017	Currently Tuesdays and Thursdays Outdoors BTBC	As Notified By Group Leader
Handicrafts	Carol Robbins 01778 217028	Tuesday p.m 14.00 - 16.00	Abbey Church Hall
Jazz	May Slater 01778 425525	On hold until the New Year but please contact leader if you are interested	Check with Group Leader
Kurling	Brian Empson B.empson@btinternet.com	2nd Tuesday every month 14.00—15.30pm	Corn Exchange
Litter Picking Group	Vaughan Roberts 01778 426255 or Pat Howes 01778 425786	3rd Friday morning	As Notified By Group Leader
Local History	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483	1st Monday of every month at 1400	Wake House
Meeters & Greeters	Bill Reid 01778 570234	At the main Monday meetings	
Play Reading	Marylyn Black 01778 420472 or Kath Dolby 01778 423210	1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings each month	Members homes
Railway	Mike Morgan 07368 622288 or Paul Gosden 07946 397192	First Wednesday of each month at 14.15Hrs	Methodist Church Hall Thurlby
Reading 4	Chris Ankerson 01778 422391	Last Tuesday morning every month	At Members Homes
Reading 3	David Mainwaring 07711 944305	1st Friday morning every month	At Members Homes

GROUPS WITH VACANCIES 01 December 2023 continued

Science and Technology	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483 or Eric Cooper 01778 394656	1st Tuesday morning every month	Edenham Village Hall
Singing for Pleasure	Marjorie Wright 01778 422252 or Jill Gornall 01778 423677	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons every month	Methodist Church Hall
Theatre Group	Janet Burton 01778 426462	2nd Monday afternoon each month	Wake House
Table Tennis	David Moisey 01778 421864	Every Tuesday and Friday Afternoon	Harveys Gym
Ten pin Bowling	Dave Rippon 01778 422101	Every Wednesday Morning	Hollywood Bowl Peterborough
Wayfarers Walking Group	Bill Reid 01778 570234	2nd and 4th Tuesday Mornings at 10.30 every Month	As Notified By Group Leader
Wine Appreciation 2	Gerry Blacoe 01778 393226	4th Friday evening every month except December	At Members Homes

Entertainment for Monday 18 March 2024



**Tinderbox—Dances,
Readings and Songs**

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2023–2024

Title and/or Role	Name	Email
Chair	Pat Howes	chairwoman@bourneu3a.org.uk
Vice Chair	Kevin Grewcock	vicechair@bourneu3a.org.uk
Secretary	John Boss	secretary@bourneu3a.org.uk
Secretary (pro tem)	Janice Lyon	sec2@bourneu3a.org.uk
Treasurer & Equipment Loan	Mike Alexander	treasurer@bourneu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Jean Parsons	membership@bourneu3a.org.uk
Groups Co-ordinator	Richard Linning	groups@bourneu3a.org.uk
Speaker Finder	Gill Stoneman	speaker@bourneu3a.org.uk
Raffle Organiser	Val Shuell	raffle@bourneu3a.org.uk
Rotas	Bill Reid	rotas@bourneu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	Martin Adkins	webmaster@bourneu3a.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Martin Adkins	newseditor@bourneu3a.org.uk
Committee Member	Jacqui Linning	committee4@bourneu3a.org.uk
NON--COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS		
Data Manager including Beacon Administrator	Phil Pavier	data@bourneu3a.org.uk

I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.
The copy date for the next issue will be 9am on the first Monday in April.
Please e-mail your copy and pictures to: newseditor@bourneu3a.org.uk
or post to: Martin Adkins c/o Wake House, 41 North Street, Bourne, PE10 9AE

Please Note—All copy to be emailed using Microsoft Word or similar.
All photographs to be emailed separately as JPEG's.
PLEASE Do NOT embed photographs in your word document.

Quote of the Month

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are."