

# NEWSLETTER

## August 2023

Meetings are held in  
The Corn Exchange, Bourne.  
Third Monday of the month  
Next meeting 21 August 2023

# BOURNE u3a

## Learn, Laugh, Live

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1100094

### *The Chair's Chat*

Hello there

August already and I hope you are enjoying the sunshine and the rain. I know the weeds are.

Now for a Chairpersons nightmare. Along with Gill, our Speaker Finder, I never relax at our monthly meetings until the guest speaker walks through the door. That awful feeling of 'what will we do if they don't arrive' gnaws away. Having walked round the car park asking hovering drivers if they were the Bee lady and realising that it didn't sound very nice I never want to do that again.

So I would like to make a register of members who are willing to take to the floor and talk about any subject that they just know would be of interest.

If you feel you can help or would simply like to know more as to how it could work please come and chat with me. There will be no obligation and I will be forever grateful and so much more relaxed.

Our ever busy Anytime Out Group have another great trip arranged for August 17th to Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings. Seats on the coach are still available. This promises to be an interesting trip so why not contact Stewart on [bu3a\\_ato@yahoo.com](mailto:bu3a_ato@yahoo.com) and then just sit back and let the coach driver deal with all that traffic.

If your group is planning anything where other Bourne u3a members could join you let me know and I will try and help.

As always please remember if the committee can help you with any u3a matter or if you have any ideas that you would like to suggest whether it is reference groups or even the main Monday meetings you just have to give me a call on 01778 425786.

Best wishes

Pat



Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings

## ***Committee Page***

**Renewing online with your credit card  
is quick, safe and easier.  
No membership form to download.**

## ***Monthly Meeting***

The monthly meeting is held on the 3rd Monday of each month at Bourne Corn Exchange, the hall is open from 13.45 and the talk generally commences at 14.15

## ***Speakers for 2023***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
21 August	Great British Eccentrics	Paul Robbins
18 September	The Plague Dr of Eyam	David Bell
16 October	TBA	TBA
20 November	The Battle of Towton	David Skillen
18 December	The Ukulele Orchestra of Spalding	

## ***Desk Clerks, Meet and Greeters***

Desk Clerks	21 August	Kay Lofts	Peter Lofts	Maureen Handy
Meet & Greet	21 August	Eleanor Boss	David McDonald	John Boss
Desk Clerks	18 Sept	Jennie Coley	Janet Blacoe	Cathy Hebborn
Meet & Greet	18 Sept	Philip Pavier	Margaret Smith	Colin Peters
Desk Clerks	16 October	Martin Adkins	Pam Smith	Jeanette
Meet & Greet	16 October	Marilyn Batchelor	Yas Fairbairn	Susan Hadfield

We were pleased to welcome more new members and hope all enjoy their membership.

Debbie Keefe, Robert Amies, Eileen Meybrey, Martin Ellett, Maureen Targett, Elaine Scotter, Julie Maltby, Janice Galbraith, Paul Stark, Jean Crawford, Tony Taylor.

**Jean Parsons – Membership Secretary**

## **Wake House has installed a car park management system using ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition).**

Members attending any group meeting will need to log their vehicle number each time they visit. Please ensure you arrive no more than 15 minutes before your group meeting. Due to the limited parking spaces it has been agreed that any users who overstay the time they are actually in Wake House will be stopped from using the car park.

Members can use the ipad located in either the main reception or at the bottom of the back stairs and enter their registration number and length of time required.

If you have any problems just let Wake House know.

## **SALE ITEMS**



**Free to a good home,**

### **Projector Stands;**

1; Metal with bag

2; Metal & Wood

If interested, contact Pat.

[chairwoman@bourneu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairwoman@bourneu3a.org.uk)



### **Information on Bourne u3a**

Full information reference Bourne u3a can be found on our website at:

<https://bourneu3a.org.uk>

## Antiques & Collectables Group

The Group's last three meetings have been on quite contrasting topics which have featured some fascinating antique objects as well as local history.

In May we finally welcomed Michael Brown (aka the Historic Gardener). He was originally booked to speak to us before the lockdown but was further delayed when he caught the dreaded covid bug and then the Coronation hijacked our usual second Monday of the month slot! But he was well worth the wait.

A thoroughly knowledgeable professional he gave us his talk on 'The History of Gardening in 100 Objects (or thereabouts)', from the humble dibber to the first lawn mower via Victorian obsessions with killing any living animal (aka pest) in the garden this was a fascinating look at some bygone objects.

In June it was my opportunity to share one of my collecting passions with the group. I collect Visiting Card Cases which seems to be a bit of an overlooked bygone. First of all I gave a brief history about calling/visiting cards and some of the bizarre and convoluted etiquette surrounding their use during Victorian times. The second part of my talk concentrated on the card cases themselves looking at all the diverse materials, designs and decorations that make this such an interesting hobby (to me anyway!). I had brought along many examples from my collection so the the group was able to get a close look at the exquisite workmanship that had gone into their manufacture.



In July we switched emphasis to local history with a new talk from Jonathan Smith. Jonathan has been researching the history of one of Bourne's oldest and most interesting buildings, the Red Hall. Originally the home of a wealthy Tudor family it has survived threats of demolition several times over the years whilst serving as the town's railway booking office and now as the base for Bourne United Charities. There are also stories of a ghost!

New members are always welcome.

The Group's next meetings are:

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Val & Colin Dunn will be 'Looking at Things Differently' with a special photographic quiz.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September

Steve Giulleri will be talking about street names of Bourne.

The Group meets at 2pm in the Baxter Room, Wake House.

Steve Froy

Group Leader

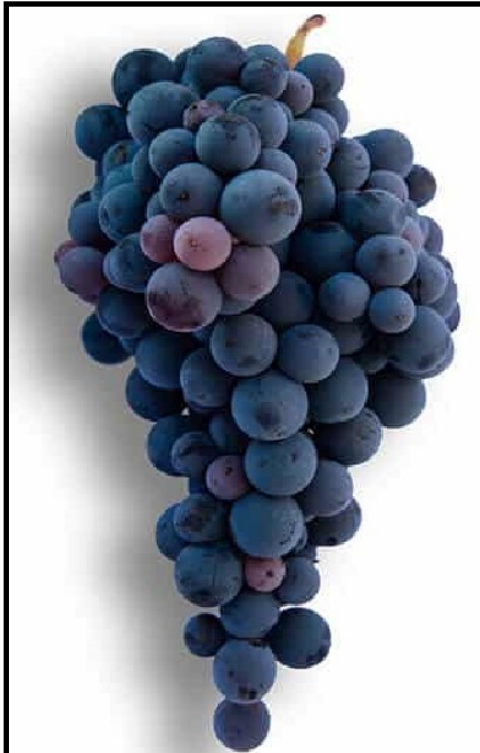


### Wine Group 3

Our group is currently tasting one wine from the Old World and one from the New, made with the same type of grape. For our July meeting the host had brought from a visit to Sicily a bottle of Nerello Mascalese, a red wine describing itself as dry, elegant and harmonious. The group was in

agreement that it was dry but the elegance and harmony were a matter for debate and ultimately personal taste.

As the Nerello Mascalese, which is a dark skinned grape variety, is only grown on the volcanic slopes of Mt Etna the host sought the nearest match for the second wine.



Nerello Mascalese grape

produced by the family estate of Luis Felipe Edwards in the Leyda Valley, Chile, the only winemaker producing Pinot Noir wine in that country. This wine tasted quite remarkably similar to the first. Despite the grapes having ripened slowly with the cooling ocean breezes of the Leyda Valley and the wine having been aged in French oak barriques, the resulting supple, smoky fruit flavours were not enough to balance the dominant refreshing acidity, which resulted in an interesting if not entirely popular wine tasting experience.





## A Trip to Spalding Fen

The Garden Group went on our second visit of the year to a lovely garden in Wragg Marsh, Spalding in June. It is to the home of Colin and Lisa King.

Colin, Lisa and their helpers welcomed us into their kitchen on arrival with a cup of tea to warm up and then showed us the pond with bird baths in it, along with a large cage that the birds can fly in and out of, so that they can be fed safe from predators.

We all agreed that it was one of the best gardens we have been to in terms of planting. It wasn't so much the diversity of planting but the variation and variety of the plants beautifully displayed. We were firstly treated to a full herbaceous border of different plants, featuring varieties of peony. Moving round we came to the first of their rose borders with many unusual varieties, all carefully labelled. We then walked through the trees and shrubs to a large lawn.



In the shade of the trees were beds of heuchera in many different colours and a hosta bed all beautifully laid out and labelled. We moved on past a long hedge of hydrangea on the right and on the left a poly tunnel to propagate plants and this also shelters a trial garden with a deep spiral meadow. Beyond are the orchard and wildlife garden. To the front of the house is the second rose garden and borders of lavender surrounding a large lawn.



It was a shame the weather was so cold, wet and windy. With better conditions we could have enjoyed more of the garden and learnt more about the birds and wildlife that Colin is very passionate about.

After we were taken round the garden, we were treated to a lovely tea of filled rolls, cakes and scones.

A real treat of a garden enjoyed by all.

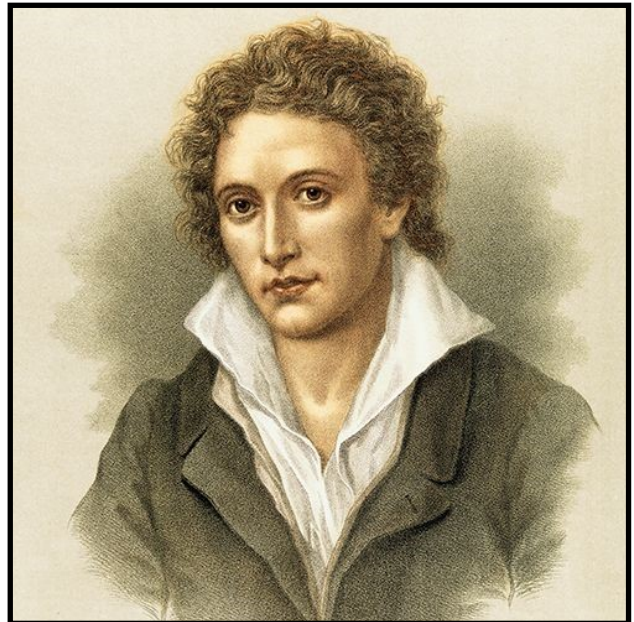
## Poetry Group

In midsummer, as the rain pelted down, your Poetry Group met to look at the poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822) who was a major figure of the English Romantic movement, despite his untimely death at the age of 29. In his short life he made his presence felt as a political radical and scourge of the Establishment, as well as as a vegetarian, an atheist (or pantheist?) and a good friend of Lord Byron and John Keats. He eventually lived (and died) in Italy where he became frustrated by the fact that much of his best work was withheld from publication in England until years after his death. Below is a short poem, 'Love's Philosophy', that was published during his lifetime. Shelley is not easy, but many of his radical ideas have been vindicated by their continuing relevance to our own world.

The fountains mingle with the river  
And the rivers with the ocean,  
The winds of heaven mix for ever  
With a sweet emotion;  
Nothing in the world is single;  
All things by a law divine  
In one spirit meet and mingle.  
Why not I with thine?—

See the mountains kiss high heaven  
And the waves clasp one another;  
No sister-flower would be forgiven  
If it disdained its brother;  
And the sunlight clasps the earth  
And the moonbeams kiss the sea:  
What is all this sweet work worth  
If thou kiss not me?

Philip Dunkerley  
Group Leader



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## Science and Tech Group Meeting July 2023

The Subject of the meeting was:- **Moulton Mill, presented by Alan Lambert.**

The July meeting was technology from the Victorian age, namely the windmill at Moulton near Spalding that has been restored and is in working order within this Grade 1 listed building.

Alan Lambert, who gave the presentation is a retired civil servant who decided to retire to the country and was asked to volunteer to help with the Mill restoration and then found himself running it.

Alan told us the history of the Mill, it was built in 1822 by Robert King, it was a fully functioning windmill, grinding wheat and other products from then until 1890 when the last miller, Mr. J.T. Biggadyke ceased milling. However, on 12 December 1894, the sails were damaged in a great storm and were removed in 1895. Soon afterwards, a steam engine system was installed to power the mill and then in 1924 an oil engine was installed.

Continued on page 8



## Science and Tech Group Meeting July 2023

Continued from page 7.

A local campaign was established to restore the Grade I listed mill to full working order. In 1998 the Moulton Windmill Project was formed. In 2003, the mill featured on the first series of BBC2's "Restoration" which helped to publicise the restoration, along with many fundraising events has meant that the "Friends of Moulton Mill" campaign has succeeded in raising enough money to restore and refurbish the mill's structure and add a new cap. The new white ogee cap, which weighs at least 12 ton was installed in 2004.



Alan enlightened us to some of the design features within the ogee cap such as using iron gears meshing with wooden gears to reduce the likelihood of sparks because flour dust in the air is explosive. He also proudly pointed out that French millstones were used, this being unusual in Lincolnshire. The French millstones are of a finer texture to the British counterpart and produce a finer flour.

The volunteers used various methods to keep the cost of refurbishment as low as possible and they decided to build the shutters for the sails themselves. The Friends of Moulton Mill have encouraged local people to "sponsor" a shutter to raise further funds.

The Gallery opened on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2008 and the sails refitted in 2011.

The mill is open to the public on weekends and Bank Holidays, unfortunately further opening is not possible at the moment due to the loss of volunteers during and after the pandemic.

The mill features The Granary Tearooms and a shop and make for a pleasant visit. A fine example of how wind power has been used, in this case to directly power a machine as opposed to the ever increasing use to generate electricity as is the modern trend.

One other interesting fact, the mill is 200 years old but has no foundation. Another well-presented and interesting presentation.

The next meeting will be at Bourne Fire Station on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September



## u3a Online

Perhaps if you cannot get out as much as you would like, or would just like to try something new, you might be interested in u3a on line. If you go on to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/interest-groups-online> you will see a range of activities you can join in from the comfort of your home. For example, I have been part of an Art Appreciation group since the Covid pandemic, which has members from all over the country. We take it in turns to post a painting, sculpture, etc which we like, accompanying it with details about the life of the artist and an appropriate poem. I also take part on a zoom quiz on a Monday evening which is great fun. It costs £12 a year to join on line u3a and I thoroughly recommend it.

You can [read the July News Extra](#) on the u3a website.

Jacqui Linning

## Basic Cooking for Men

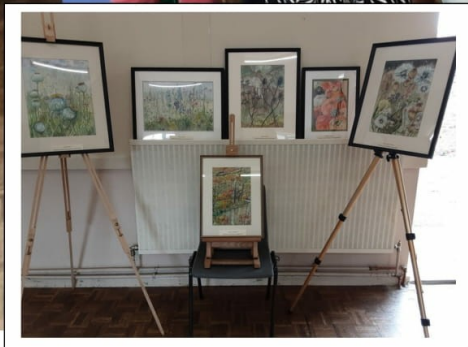
A light meal was there at our last meeting because of the hot ☀️ weather we were experiencing which we all enjoyed but to make sure calorific value was not missed Paul produced the most delightful and eye catching pudding "Fruit Jelly" another pleasant surprise from Paul 🍓🍓🍓.

Alan Palmer





## *Bourne Brushstrokes July Gallery*



17 Members of the group raised £66 for the Butterfield Day Care Centre at their exhibition in the Abbey Church Rooms on June 24<sup>th</sup>. There were over 100 pieces of art displayed including corners dedicated to the groups late tutor Chris Moxley, also a display of Bourne and other works on many varied subjects. Visitors also had the chance to enjoy the delicious refreshments whilst meeting the talented artists personally.



Sadly the Bourne U3a Drawing and Art Group lost a longstanding member in June.. Eric Hinchcliffe has been a member of our group for many years and was a prolific artist and a friend to everyone who knew him. He passed away this week and will be sorely missed by us all. Rest in peace Eric.



### **Our Speaker for August is Paul Robbins on "Great British Eccentrics".**

He is a highly experienced presenter, historian and author. He has been featured on National TV when he spoke about Sir Winston Churchill. He has delighted many u3a clubs and other organisations with his talks.

Paul takes you on a light-hearted journey that looks at some of the great characters from our past like the Lord who spent many hours floating in a large indoor glass water tank writing rude letters to the Prime Minister.

Listeners hear from a unique singer, a comically UFO obsessed peer, and then to more recent times some of the great eccentrics of the last 30 years including some world - famous characters who you will recognise immediately as well as wonderfully ordinary eccentric people.



### **Our Speaker for September is David Bell "The Plague Doctor of Eyam".**

They say never judge a book by its cover; equally never judge a guest speaker by the title of his talk! David Bell, the Plague Doctor, is a hugely popular and refreshingly different guest speaker recommended by hundreds of clubs & societies across the UK.



David will not only surprise you but will also make you think and certainly put a smile on your face. I promise you are in for a treat . . . first and foremost the Plague Doctor aims to entertain.

Having retired to Eyam in the heart of the beautiful Peak District David was confident that in his quest for a quieter life the famous plague heritage of his new village would be nothing other than a passing distraction. How wrong was he. Tens of thousands of tourists flock there every year to see for themselves where a brave disease driven lockdown was played out so tragically.

Doom and gloom nevertheless is not the name of the game for this compelling speaker. His tongue-in-cheek take on living in 'the plague village' and on staying fit and well 350 years ago should convince you that even in today's troubled times we all have a lot to be thankful for.

With hygiene not even an after-thought and disease seemingly around every corner surviving the grim reaper in the mid 1600s was simply a case of 'que sera sera'.

Laughter is the best medicine in David Bell's world, so brace yourself - clench your buttocks - and reserve your appointment now. He's just what the doctor ordered.



## Friday Striders

New leaders Dot and Peter White for the walk on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July choose to start from Billingborough.

After leaving the car park at the Recreation Ground the walk headed through Billingborough passing Spring Wells. The natural artesian springs have been used to great effect to provide a water feature of peace and tranquillity in the very heart of the village although the water is likely to be quite unhealthy it has become a place to sit and dream and watch the world go by and for swans and waterfowl to congregate.



After walking along the Billingborough to Pointon Road the walk headed along various cross field paths and field edges. Along the way the walk passed St Andrew's Church Sempringham, Birthorpe plus views across to Folkingham Church and water tower. In total the walk was approx. 5.5 miles with good weather and good underfoot conditions.

Group Leader Janet Cartwright





## Garden Group

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 24 members of the Garden Group visited the Seed Co-operative at Gosberton Bank Nursery. This was a new experience for most of us, recommended by one of our members.

We were met by Sharn Jones, the Manager on quite a cold day and she informed us that the many acres of land were worked by just 5 ladies. I'm going to quote directly from their catalogue to explain what they are trying to do:

'The Seed Co-operative exists to shine a spotlight on the vital, but all-too-often, forgotten role of the humble seed in building a resilient food system. The future of food has to be rooted in democracy, diversity and health. That means diversity of ownership and shared knowledge of genetics and wildlife diversity. We grow, process and sell organic, open-pollinated seed for the UK and develop new varieties through organic plant breeding, to support the collective work of those striving towards making agro-ecological farming and food sovereignty a reality.'

We were split into two groups and taken to look around the fields and the greenhouses and the way of working in each was explained as we wandered around. We were extremely honoured to be allowed into the seed room where we were allowed to buy seeds which were very reasonably priced. The ladies explained that they would need to clean the area after we left to ensure hygiene/lack of contamination to the seeds. Because of this we were not allowed into the freezers where the seeds are stored.

The difference in temperature in the greenhouses was marked but it was pointed out that if it had been a warm day, the greenhouses would have been too hot for us to go into, so we were lucky in our cold and windy day!

The Co-operative was only started in 2017 and are still building up their stocks. They are in the process of getting some cattle (non milkers) and rescue chickens to help with the organic feeding of the crops.

Everyone enjoyed their day and a lovely tea.

Anyone interested in the work of the Seed Co-operative can look on google for more details at [seedcooperative.org.uk](http://seedcooperative.org.uk)

Barbara Froy



## Anytime Out – Coach Trips

We run coach trips to places of interest within about 3 hours of Bourne. Members of the Anytime Out groups are the first to hear about the trips, however we rarely fill the coach. So by the start of the month of the trip, we generally throw the trip open to any member of Bourne u3a, either individually or as a member of one of Bourne u3a's other interest groups.

Contact Stewart Goldsmith on [BU3A\\_ATO@Yahoo.com](mailto:BU3A_ATO@Yahoo.com) or 07944203092 (leave a message if I do not pick up the call).

Trips start at Bourne Bus Station - get there by 8:35am for a prompt 8:45 start.

### **Thursday August 17<sup>th</sup> Avoncroft Historic Buildings - £45**

Over 30 historic rural and agricultural buildings which have been rescued, moved and rebuilt in appropriate settings. Many have recreated interiors and gardens. The site also includes the national collection of telephone booths all connected to old working exchanges – press button B again.



### **Thursday September 21<sup>st</sup> Bressingham Gardens and Steam Museum - £15 deposit**

World famous gardens often seen on TV. The home of the Bloom family, 3 generations of innovative gardeners.

But this visit is not just for gardeners. The site includes:- Dads Army TV series sets and props including the old vehicles. Also steam trains and the museum seen in the Channel 5 series Inside the Steam Museum. Old fair ground rides which were originally powered by static steam engines. Steam train rides around the trial grounds. Our price include access to these areas but in some cases, you may be asked to pay for specific rides if you want to try them.



Continued on page 15



## Recent Visits

Newby Hall where we had a private guided tour of the house and walked around the gardens (again frequently seen on TV). The site also housed Giles Brandreth's Teddy Bear collection and a set of Dolls Houses for adults showing intricate craft work in miniature. One or two people took a boat trip along the river.



A Day At Sea Side in Skegness and Chatsworth House both attracted over 30 u3a members for an enjoyable and trouble free day out.



**Come and join us on our trips.**



**GROUPS WITH VACANCIES 21 JULY 2023**

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>MEETS</b>	<b>VENUE</b>
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 07949 524475	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 / Meeters & Greeters	Bill Reid 01778 570234	At the main Monday meetings	
Drama Workshop	Malcolm Ranson 01778 423834	2nd Wednesday of every month	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
Friday Striders	Janet Cartwright 01778 344831	Friday mornings twice a month	
Gardening	Janet Blacoe 01778 393226	1st Tuesday afternoon every month	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
Green Bowls	David Ashby 01778 424137 Steve Froy 01778 393017	Currently Tuesdays & Thursdays Outdoors BTBC	As notified by Group Leader
Litter Picking Group	Vaughan Roberts 426255 Pat Howes 425786	3rd Friday morning	As notified by Group Leader
Local History	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483	1st Monday of every month 2pm	Wake House
Sunday Lunch	Chris Cooke 01778 393544	To suit members	As notified by Group Leader
Play Reading	Marylyn Black	1st & 3rd Wednesday mornings each month	Members homes
Railway	Mike Morgon 07638 622288 Paul Gosdon 07964 397192	1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
Reading 4	Chris Anderson 01778 422391	Last Tuesday morning of every month	At Members homes
Reading Morton	David Mainwaring 01778 571213	1st Friday morning if every month	At Members homes
Science & Technology	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483 Eric Cooper 01778 394656	1st Tuesday morning of every month	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
Singing for Pleasure	Marjorie Wright 01778 422253 Jill Gornall 01778 423677	2nd & 4th Wednesday afternoons every month	Methodist Church Hall
Snooker 3	George Brown, email; gw.@btinternet.com	Every Thursday 1.30—4pm	Snooker Harveys Gym
Theatre Group	Janet Burton 01778 426462	2nd Monday afternoon each month	Wake House
Table Tennis	David Moisey 01778 421864	Every Tuesday & 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 & 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

## 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
Treasurer & Equipment Loan	Mike Alexander	treasurer@bourneu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Jean Parsons	membership@bourneu3a.org.uk
Groups and New Members Co-ordinator	Pat Howes	groups@bourneu3a.org.uk
Speaker Finder	Gill Stoneman	speaker@bourneu3a.org.uk
Publicity Officer	VACANT	
Raffle Organiser	Val Shuell	raffle@bourneu3a.org.uk
Rotas	Bill Reid	rotas@bourneu3a.org.uk
Webmaster and Meeting Display	Martin Adkins	webmaster@bourneu3a.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Martin Adkins	newseditor@bourneu3a.org.uk
Committee Member	Yas Fairbairn	committee1@bourneu3a.org.uk
Committee Member	Richard Linning	committee3@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
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I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.  
**The copy date for the next issue will be 9am on Monday 4 September 2023**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to: [newseditor@bourneu3a.org.uk](mailto: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

"Never underestimate the power you have to take your life in a new direction"