

BOURNE u3a

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

Chairman's Chat

Hello All

Testing positive for Covid has slowed me down this month. I lost the first two weeks to isolation at home. So sorry if you missed me at the Monthly meeting, I am back and getting ready for this month's meeting.

Fast approaching is our AGM and the election of committee members for the next year. As a self-help organization, we are always looking for members old or new to join our committee. And this year is no exception. We have at least two vacancies and would welcome anybody that wants to join us and help us run what is a highly successful U3A

Please don't exclude yourself because you have just joined or been a member for many years. Have a chat with any committee member if you need any information.

John

Committee Page

New Members

During March 2022, we welcomed several new members to Bourne U3A – Richard Dyason, Allan and Eileen Jeavons, Julie Mancey, Valerie Neasham and Lorna Sherratt.

I look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

Jackie Searl – Membership Secretary

Free to a good home.

I have a box of 20 ink cartridges, bought in error, which I'd gladly donate to anyone in U3A. They are by Colour Direct and fit various Brother printers. Five each of Black, Cyan, Magenta and Yellow. One Black is opened but unused. Compatible printers are shown in the image below.

If anyone is interested, please contact me and I will pass your details on to Nick Searing.

For/Pour

MFC-J6910CDW/J6710CDW/J5910CDW/
J825N/J955DN/J955DWN/J705D/J705DW/
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J840N/J625DW/J860DN/J860DWN/J960DN-B/
J960DN-W/J960DWN-B/J960DWN-W/J432W/
J430W/J6910DW/J6710DW/J5910DW/
J6510DW/J435W/J835DW/J280W/J425W
DCP-J525N/J540N/J740N/J925N/J525W/
J725DW/J925DW/J940N-B/J940N-W

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 2022		
DATE	Speaker Names	Title of Talk
25 th April	Mark Schofield from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	Wildflower Gardening
16 th May	AGM / Colin Ray	History of the Music Halls
20 th June	Gary Powell	St. Paul's Cathedral
18 th July	Graham Short	Art on a pin head
15 th August	Jane Barnes	Tales from Dairy Farmer's Wife
19 th September	Steve Lovell	Wildlife of Lincolnshire
17 th October	Steve Price	Magic
21 st November	Paul Robbins	Great British Eccentrics
19 th December	Bernard Locket	The Musical Theatre of Gilbert and Sullivan

Group News

Garden Group (Editor's apologies, as this should have been in last month's issue)

Visit to Deene Park, Northamptonshire

It is with pleasure that we can say the Garden Group is now up and running again.

We started our first meeting with an outdoor visit to Deene Park in Northamptonshire. The sixteenth-century house, incorporating a medieval manor, has evolved through the Tudor and Georgian periods to the mansion it is today, occupied by the Brudenells since 1514. It is built round a courtyard, where we started our tour, accessed via the impressive wooden gates. We were met by Andrew Jones, who has been developing and caring for the gardens since 2001.

He started by walking us through the history of the gardens along with the house on leaving the courtyard. Along the north side of the building there is a lovely bank of snowdrops drifting past the pond and past the bridge that spans the river, ending at the church. We then proceeded to the east front. The most striking feature of the gardens is the box hedge parterre planted with topiary teapots

designed by David Hicks in the 1990s. The planting consists of clipped lavender, perennials such as geraniums, salvias, irises and spring bulbs, including hyacinths & tulips.

Next to the house is the long border with 50 varieties of named snowdrops, aconites, crocuses, scented viburnums, daphne, violets, hellebores, and winter honeysuckles. The long borders are separated by a circular hornbeam hedged garden dedicated to the four seasons with statues contained within. The focal point in this garden is a large, central stone urn planted with tender perennials for summer. At the far end of the long borders is the stone summerhouse, built by the 7th Earl of Cardigan.

We then walked through the impressive acres of naturalised snowdrop woodland down to the view of the lake and bridge, before making our way back to the tearoom. Set in what was the old kitchen for the main house, the tearoom is dominated by a wall-to-wall Victorian range complete with open fire; the original stone slabs set into the floor were quarried locally, probably from the Weldon Quarry.

Well worth a visit. Looking forward to going back to see the summer planting.

Janet Blacoe. Group Leader

Any Time Out Group

On Thursday March 17th a smaller group than usual from went to visit Stamford Town Hall and visited the mayor's parlour which was a beautiful room designed to impress visitors.

A collection of 14 charters known to be one of the largest collections in the country is held here. King Edward IV granted the earliest in 1462 all of which are written on vellum and in Latin. Most of them have been translated from the original Latin or old English for the quincentenary celebrations of the town in 1961. Apparently, the earliest charter was granted by a Saxon King Edgar during the 10th century granting permission to set up a Mint and I don't mean Polo or pepper!! There are coins on display which clearly confirm the existence of the Mint during this period. One of which was given to RAF Wittering as a gift in return for the gift they gave to the mayor when they were given the Freedom of the town. Charters allow Aldermen and Burgesses to acquire land, rents and services in the area and they were exempt from prosecution for any criminal act they may commit.

One event a lot of us may not know about is that for 600 years they had a Bull running contest through the town on St. Brices day, November 11th, for fun and then ate it. However, the government in 1839 hated the idea and stopped it permanently.

We were shown the extremely impressive and valuable collection of Regalia and gifts which had been given to various Mayors over the past 600 years. The Mace which always proceeds the mayor into a council meeting is beautiful. Really interesting stories, I can only suggest that you visit yourselves to learn them all.

There is a room dedicated to the life of Malcolm Sargent one of Stamford's well-known residents. In 2008 his PA gave a collection of his personal effects to the Town Hall. We left after an hour and a half of extremely interesting Stamford history for instance Stamford produced silk once upon a time and they used to have their own material called Haberget which was a tweed material during the Wool era. By the way the Wool era only ended because the river Welland silted up and was no longer navigable.

At Browns Hospital in the afternoon our guide was David Wallington who is yet another extremely knowledgeable Stamford historian. BH history is based on the Wool trade of a Merchant named William Brown and his generosity to the poor and needy of Stamford. So very interesting - do go and visit the place. We were all absolutely amazed at what we learnt about Stamford and the people who live there. Such a fabulous day.

Janet Burton, Group Leader

Church Visiting Group

After a break of just over two years, I am pleased to say that the Church Visiting Group will be meeting in April. It is not easy at present to contact churches and arrange visits, but several have now been confirmed with more, hopefully, following. I do not plan a full programme of visits in 2022 so there will be no meeting in August and I am not sure yet what will happen between November 2022 and March 2023.

I have arranged a visit to Colsterworth Church on Thursday, 28 April, meeting at around 10.15am at the church for a 10.30am start. For those who have not visited previously, a visit could also be made separately to Woolsthorpe Manor, birthplace of Isaac Newton, which is a couple of minutes' drive away.

I look forward to seeing as many members as possible and new group members are welcome. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

Jackie Searl, Group Leader

Poetry Group

Geoffrey Chaucer, who got vernacular English going as the language of literature, spoke of April as a month of 'sweet showers', but T. S. Eliot, perhaps the godfather of English Modernist poetry, called April 'the cruelest month'. I'm with Chaucer - I'll settle for sunshine and showers after the bleakness of winter; you take your choice. But at the Poetry Group's April meeting we enjoyed the wonderful cadences of the Irish poet Seamus Heaney (1939-2013) and then looked at a range of poets whose forenames begin with the letter 'H' - so, the likes of H. W. Longfellow, Hilaire Belloc, Hannah More, and Heather Brower. But, for Bourne U3A's poetry fix this time round, here's a well-loved poem by Harold Munro:

Solitude

When you have tidied all things for the night,
and while your thoughts are fading to their sleep,
you'll pause a moment in the late firelight,
too sorrowful to weep.

The large and gentle furniture has stood
in sympathetic silence all the day
with that old kindness of domestic wood;
nevertheless the haunted room will say:
"Someone must be away."

The little dog rolls over half awake,
stretches his paws, yawns, looking up at you,

wags his tail very slightly for your sake,
that you may feel he is unhappy too.

A distant engine whistles, or the floor
creaks, or the wandering night-wind bangs a door.

Silence is scattered like a broken glass.
The minutes prick their ears and run about,
then one by one subside again and pass
sedately in, monotonously out.

You bend your head and wipe away a tear.
Solitude walks one heavy step more near.

Philip Dunkerley Group Leader

Aviation History Group

With Beautiful weather on the 24th March we made our way to Wickenby Aerodrome and the Skunk Works. Unfortunately, due to the ever-present covid our numbers were down. With only four of us attending.

We were not disappointed and were given a guided tour of the skunk works hangar. With Plenty of vintage aircraft to sea, mostly airworthy, the one in the picture had flown on the previous day



Also, the aerodrome is a working airfield with a flying school café and museum, so we also had a tour of the museum that commemorates the previous life as RAF Wickenby. Which was a purpose-built Bomber Command Class A airfield built in 1941 and remained open until 1956.

It was a large airfield with over 2000 personnel on site from Number 12 and 626 squadrons. The Museum in the old control tower gave us an excellent insight into what life was like during the time it was operational.

Singing for pleasure

SINGERS WANTED!

If you enjoy singing, we would love you to join us. We are a small group who meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Methodist Church Hall in Bourne. We sing for pleasure, so no auditions required and all abilities very welcome. We sing a variety of songs either with a

karaoke machine, discs, or an accompanying pianist. Just come along on any of the afternoons and you will be assured a very warm welcome, or if you would like more information our leader Marjorie Wright (01778 422252) would be more than happy to chat with you.

PIANIST / KEYBOARD PLAYER REQUIRED

The Singing for Pleasure group would really love a permanent musician who could accompany us at our meetings. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Methodist Church Hall Bourne, we are a small enthusiastic group of singers, and you would be made most welcome. If you feel you would like this challenge and to help us develop this lovely group, please pop in on one of our afternoons or contact Marjorie Wright (01778 422252) if you would like to know a little more.

Marjorie Wright, Group Leader

Friday Striders

16 Striders met at the Wishing Well, Dyke on another cold but sunny April morning. After leaving the pub walk took us along field edge paths before crossing the A15 and heading towards Cawthorpe. After passing Cawthorpe House and farm walk continued along various field edges and tracks crossing the A15 again near Morton.

Walk then briefly went through Morton before returning to the Wishing Well with 14 Striders booked in for lunch.

Throughout the walk we followed well waymarked and dry tracks and field edge paths which enabled us to have an enjoyable morning walk of approx 5.5 miles.

Friday Striders walk on the 2nd and fourth Fridays of the month and walks are between 5-7 miles in length. Further details can be obtained from the group leader.

Janet Cartwright (janetmcartwright@gmail.com) Group Leader

Science and Technology Group

Spalding Gentlemen's Society Visit

Instead of our usual first Tuesday meeting we will be visiting Spalding Gentlemen's Society on Thursday 19 May. Our guided tour will start at 10.30am and, as we have places left, all U3A members will be welcome. I will collect a £5.00 donation from each member on the door. Please let me know if you would like to attend by email on mpscriven@hotmail.com or on 01778 426483. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Malcolm Scriven Group Leader

Litter Picking Group

We continue to meet on the morning of the 3rd Friday of the month, to tidy up the footpaths of various sections of Bourne. Understandably all members of the group cannot attend every occasion due to other commitments but we usually number just short of a dozen. We can be easily recognised by our pickers, orange bags and occasionally sport hi-vis vests. It is disappointing (it really shouldn't be necessary) yet rewarding (we have done our bit to help) when we fill loads of bin bags in less than 2 hours, photos of which have been included in previous newsletters as evidence!

We have periodic additional challenges, that of April being additional content to the song “Jerusalem” on a litter picking theme!

Entries included:

“Bring me my picker and yellow vest,
Bring me a bag, we’ll do our best
We meet every month on a Friday morn
We are the U3A litter group of Bourne” by Vaughan

Or “Bring me a plastic bag of gold,
Bring me the strength to never tire
Bring me the litter-picker’s pole
Bring me a zeal that burns like fire!
I’ll strive with all my main and might
I’ll pick and grab with either hand
And we will toil and not succumb
Till Bourne’s a clean and pleasant land!” by Philip Dunkerley

Or “And did the litter pickers of Bourne
Go forth upon our littered streets.
And was the litter cleaned up here
So the pickers earned some treats” by Julie Sellwood

Antiques & Collectables Group

I am pleased to announce that the meetings of the Antiques & Collectables Group are about to begin again. Our first meeting will be on Monday 13th June, 2pm in the Baxter Room at Wake House.

We will be starting where we finished off just before the pandemic with our first speaker, Keith Talbot, who will be bringing along more of his collection of 3-D advertising figures and memorabilia. If you remember his previous talk, you’ll not want to miss this one.

Entrance fee will be £3 as usual.

We look forward to seeing some old friends ... and hopefully some new ones too.

Steve Froy, Group Leader

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2020 – 2021			
TITLE AND/OR JOB	NAME	PHONE 01778	E MAIL
CHAIRPERSON	JOHN OWEN	07949524475	chairman@bourneu3a.org.uk
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I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.

**The copy date for the next issue is
9am on Wednesday, 11 May 2022**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to editor@bourneu3a.org.uk
or post to *Paul Smith, 21 Northfields, Bourne, PE10 9DB*

I reserve the right to either bring this date forward or retard it if my personal circumstances dictate.



*To advance the education of the public and in particular the education of middle-aged and older people who are not in full-time gainful employment in Bourne and district.
The provision of facilities for leisure time and recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the above persons in the interests of their social welfare.*

**NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE
for the year 2022/23**

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

<i>Position</i>	<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 Monday 2 May 2022.....