

# BOURNE U3A NEWSLETTER

## August 2019

u3abourne.org.uk  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094



*Photograph of the Month: Wheels by Dave Pask*

### *Chairman's Chat*

Hi Everybody,

I bet most of you can remember the Sony Walkman. It was introduced more than 40 years ago and more than 200 million have been sold. It started with Sony's co-founder, Masaru Ibuka wanting to listen to music while travelling to business meetings. He asked Executive Deputy President Norio Ohga to design a portable, playback only stereo system and the result was a 14 ounce, blue and silver, portable cassette player with chunky buttons, headphones and a leather case.

The story nearly ends there because Sony's marketing department opposed the project. They had no evidence of demand for such a strange product and considered it a waste of time. People did not listen to music while travelling. However, Masaru Ibuka persevered and launched the product. It had 50,000 sales in the first two months and its successor, the MP3 player is now part of everyday life.

This is a good example of the 'build it and they will come' philosophy; creating a product or service that has not existed before and then watching people rush to consume it. Of course, it doesn't always work out like that. Many of you may also remember the Sinclair C5. However, these cases show that we don't know if people want something until it is provided, and this takes me to the experience of Bourne U3A.

In July 2017, Tony Burke started the Railway Group. Bourne U3A had been in existence for 15 years and never had a Railway Group. If we had a marketing department, they would probably say there was no demand for one. But it now has 24 members and continues to grow. This makes me think that although we have 55 groups, there might be a demand for many more.

There are some surprising omissions to our list of groups. Where is the local history group? The Spanish and/or Italian for Beginners? The ukulele orchestra? And what about those that can come out of left field? Kite flying, anybody? We won't know if there is a demand unless we launch new groups and see if they create interest.

Now, I am nowhere near as dynamic as Sony's Chairman at the time of the Walkman, Akio Morita. But I promise that any member that wants to start a new group will get the Committee's full support. Who knows, there may be other members who share your interest in Geocaching or the Hula Hoop. All you need to get started is to have a word with our Group Co-ordinators, Karen Knott and Penny Neal or speak to any Committee member. It would be good to have a rash of new groups to interest our growing membership.

Cheers, Malcolm

***We welcome the following members who have joined us recently and hope all enjoy participating in the various activities:***

**Jonathan Crook, Rita Donavan, Patricia French, Judith and Dennis Gentleman, Nigel Sellwood, Diane and Martin Siddle, Dawn Stewart**

#### **New Members Meetings**

Meetings are held in the Windmill Room in Wake House from 2pm to 3pm. Details of future dates are published in the Newsletter and on the rolling screen at the monthly Monday meetings.

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>The following speakers have been booked for forthcoming Monday monthly meetings at the Corn Exchange which has a hearing aid loop system. Doors open 1.45 pm with Meetings starting promptly at 2.15 pm</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker and Subject</b>
19 August	Special General Meeting <i>followed by:</i> Chris Collins - <i>Boudicca and the Creation of Two Empires</i>
16 September	Julie Stevenson - <i>Incas – a civilisation before their time?</i>
21 October	Zoe Gibson - <i>Andrew Carnegie and the Gilded Age</i>
18 November	Andy Hawes - <i>The trials, tests and temptations of writing Opera Libretti</i>
16 December	Jane Lang - <i>British Red Cross – connecting human kindness with human crisis</i>
2020	
21 January	Sam Owen - <i>The Future of Food</i>
17 February	Sam Dobson – <i>Sir Malcolm Sergeant, local hero</i>
16 March	Steve Short - <i>David Niven, It's magic</i>
20 April	Tony Hadfield - <i>Islay and the poetry of peat</i>
15 May	Annual General Meeting <i>followed by:</i> Performance by U3A Drama Group
15 June	Clive Simpson – <i>What do we do with Space – the final frontier</i>

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>ROTAS FOR THE COMING MONTHS</b>				
<b><i>Please let Bill Reid know if you or your Group are unable to help on any of these occasions. Thank you for your continued support. Tel: 01778 570234</i></b>				
	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>DESK CLERKS</b>	Anne Barrett Marilyn Batchelor	Ingrid Canwell Jane Christmas	Chris Cooke Susan Hadfield	Cathy Hebborn Margaret Smith
<b>VISITOR HOSTS</b>	Paul & Pearl Rose Dennis Winsor	Eleanor Boss Jan Douglas Pat Benn	Colin Peters David McDonald Deirdre Neagus	Bill Reid Vaughan Roberts Pam Smith
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	Kurling	Play Reading	Poetry	Reading (Bourne)

## ***Introducing the Committee ....***

### **John Owen – Membership Secretary**

I moved to the area to be closer to my family in 2011 and have two daughters and five Grandchildren. I joined the U3A with my wife in 2016, joining the Short Walking and the Aviation History Group. I started my working life as an engineer for what is now BA Systems and then Westland Helicopters in Yeovil. During a lull in the aircraft industry I took a temporary job as an AA patrol.



Little did I know that I would be with the same company nearly thirty years later before being made redundant. I have since worked in a school doing IT support until I took early retirement in 2011.

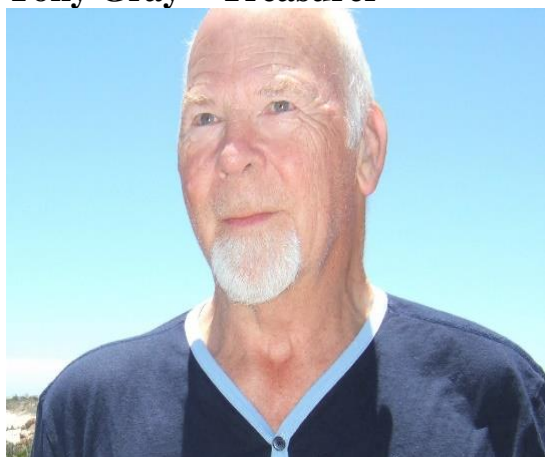
Hobbies - first of all I love Plains, Trains and Automobiles. Also, I have been into Computing and IT in general for the last 30 years.

Although I no longer have pets, I love animals of any sort, dogs in particular, so much so that I rarely pass a dog in the street without saying hello. I think that maybe I was a dog in a previous life.

I like all foods and you would be hard pressed to find any food that I would not eat. If I had to make a choice it would have to be cakes and buns of all descriptions and you will find me happily baking cakes at least once a month.

I am very pro Bourne but also like to see the sea. I now restore woodwind musical instruments for pleasure, and it keeps me using my engineering skills whilst keeping warm in the winter.

### **Tony Gray – Treasurer**



My wife Angela and I arrived in Bourne in 1999 when I took up a new job in Peterborough. Angela joined U3A very quickly, but I only joined 7 years ago. Before Bourne, I worked at Massey Ferguson in Coventry for twenty years in various accounting roles including Payroll Manager. I once saw just over £1million in cash laid out to make up the 3 week holiday payroll. I left MF in 1988 and arrived at Bourne after working as a Payroll Consultant with both Lucas Industries and IBM.

I went to my first football match in 1958 with my dad and have followed Coventry City ever since. I am Treasurer for Hereward Probus and Secretary for the Galletly Patients Group. After all the years indoors, I like to be in the open air where I am a poor gardener but a one man plant demolition squad.

I grew up on egg and chips, but my favourite food is Italian. We both like Lincolnshire with its wide skies and spacious feel but my most relaxing holiday place is Kefalos on the Greek island of Kos.

We have two sons and a daughter all married. Our eldest son is in Milton Keynes (3 grandsons), our second is in Hassocks (1 grandson) and our daughter lives in Australia.

## ***Group News***

### **DRAWING AND ART GROUP - PETE GILLATT**

The Group will be displaying some of their work at the Bourne Garden Club Flower Show on Saturday, 10th September in the Bourne Abbey Church Hall.

The exhibition will be open from 14.30 to 16.30 and all fellow U3A members and friends are welcome to come and look at some of our work

### **WINE APPRECIATION 3 – DAVID McDONALD**

As our world tour came to an end in Spain last month, it was decided that the group would look at the various varieties of grapes and how they might differ from region to region.

The grape selected this month was the Merlot, the third most grown varieties in the World and one of the most blended varieties.

After a brief history, two examples were provided for the group to sample - a Gold Label from Bordeaux region of France purchased at Marks and Spencer and an Australian offering from the Yellow Tail Winery in the South East of that country and available at many outlets. The main difference is the picking and processing time off the grape in each country.

The French favour the early picking to reduce the possible disease problems while the Australians and other New World producers prefer to pick later and so grapes have more flavour and body.

The group all preferred the Australian variety and discovered that it went very well with our own Lincolnshire pork pie. Cheers



## **GARDENING GROUP – JANET BLACOE**

### **A visit to an allotment**

Our last U3A garden visit was to an allotment in Stamford; the location is just past the Mole Grain Store on the Stamford to Deeping road.

The allotment is owned by Kay and Neil Bamford. They have been opening their allotment to visitors for many years, raising money for charity. This is their last year to host a large number of people.

25 of us attended, which was a good turnout; all they were expecting was a veg plot with a shed.



Everyone managed to find the location and there was good parking for us all.

Kay met us and we started with a walk down the lane past the other allotments, theirs being right at the end. They were very varied in what they grow with fruit, veg and flowers. Some are laid out as normal gardens with a lawn and borders and wonderful scarecrows. Kay told us the last ones opposite their allotment were used by school children and disabled adults and that the car park had been enlarged for their benefit.

Unlike the others you can't see their allotment from the lane. When you first walk in through the gate, it is like walking into a small garden with lawn and flower beds. You are then taken along the garden path and round the hedge, which opens to the bank of the river Gwash on the left, where we will be served tea. Turning to your right you go through another small lawned garden enclosed with bushes.



On the right hand side are redcurrants, loganberries and raspberries: on the left a shed and greenhouse.

Moving on, the garden then opens out to the vegetable garden, surrounded by fruit trees, where we were shown round by Kay and Neil, pointing out the different varieties that they grow.

After our tour we had a fabulous tea.

## CHURCH VISITING – JACKIE SEARL



On the hottest day of the year members visited Threekingham church – fortunately the interior was cool!

Brent, our guide, treated us to a potted history of the area around the village going back into pre-history covering the influences of the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons, the Danelaw and entries in the Domesday Book with references to around 100 occupants and the early churches of St Peter and St Mary.

Building of the existing large church started in 1170 when the roof was higher than at present. The broached spire dates to 1270 and is deemed one of the finest in the country, attracting students of architecture. The *de Trykingham* family enlarged the church adding the side aisles in 1310 and 1325, their wealth having come from sheep farming and wool. The effigy below right shows a knight in full regalia and his wife, who has two Talbot dogs at her feet (unusually they are shown fighting). Three stone coffins belonging to the same family can also be seen. The circular, carved font has been dated to around 1200. The 15<sup>th</sup> century pew ends were saved during the Victorian restorations. Several carved, painted angels can be seen above the altars. These were carved by Belgian prisoners of war during WW1.



There are three bells but only one is rung plus one from the missing St Mary's Church.

The marble pulpit was the gift of former vicar and a detail of the excellent carving is shown on the right. In 1841 there were 163 village residents in 39 properties. Today that figure has little changed. The village self-sufficiency of the 1850s is now lost with only the church and pub remaining.



Close to the church, impressive whalebones can be seen at the entrance to a village property. These relate to connections of a family with that industry in times past. We were grateful for tea/coffee and biscuits to end our visit to a hugely impressive church in a tiny village.



**AVIATION HISTORY GROUP - JOHN OWEN**



In difficult conditions 38°C temperatures, we made our July visit to the Shuttleworth Collection at Old Warden near Biggleswade.

We had a full tour of six hangars booked with a very experienced guide. Neither the content of the hangars nor the expert guide disappointed. We were shown a collection of aircraft that cannot be matched anywhere in the world and, the best thing was, they all still could and do fly.

We saw and were told about both the oldest flying British aircraft and the oldest flying aircraft in the world - both in this superb private collection.

After two hours of being shown around we came back to a lovely visitor centre with air conditioning in part to have our lunch and then have another look around ourselves or call it a day and get back in the cool in our cars for the journey home, with a good visit had by all.

## FROM THE THIRD AGE TRUST JULY NEWSLETTER

***Editor's Note:*** There are many more snippets of information in these newsletters. If you wish to read them for yourself, sign up at [u3a.org.uk/email](mailto:u3a.org.uk/email) and they will be sent to you directly.

### CAN YOU READ PITMAN SHORTHAND?

The **GNM Archive**, part of the [Guardian Foundation charity](#) is asking for help from U3A members who can read Pitman shorthand. The Archive collects, preserves and makes accessible records of the Guardian and Observer newspapers.

It has acquired the unique collection of Clyde Sanger, the Guardian's first Africa correspondent, reporting for the newspaper between 1960 and 1965. Clyde's papers include around 130 notebooks mostly covering his work in Central, Southern and Eastern Africa. Many are partially written in Pitman shorthand, which the archivists (and most researchers) can't read!

U3A members have so much experience and expertise that the archivists hoped to find anyone who might be willing to transcribe the shorthand text.

Read more about this at <https://www.facebook.com/u3auk/>  
Please write to [elizabeth.drury@u3a.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.drury@u3a.org.uk) to express your interest.

### U3A OFFER

Bloomsbury Publishing are offering book loving U3A members a **30% discount** on most books on the site, that includes fiction, non-fiction, children's and cookery plus a discount on all events at the Bloomsbury institute using the code **U3A30** at checkout. Visit [www.bloomsbury.com](http://www.bloomsbury.com) and use code U3A30 at checkout to redeem the offer.  
Redeemable on books under £100 RRP  
Postage and Packing free in the UK on order over £25

Bloomsbury also own the Writers' and Artists' brand and the 30% discount is also included on their editing services and one day events run by the Writers and Artists website <https://www.writersandartists.co.uk/> use code **U3AWRITERS**



BOURNE U3A GROUP SCHEDULE 05/08/2019			
Groups	VACANCIES	CONTACT	Meetings
Antiques & Collectables	NO LIMIT	01778 393017	2nd Monday afternoon every month
Anytime Out	10	Janet Burton	1st Thursday morning every month
Art	2	01778 422019	Every Thursday afternoon
Art History 1	0		2nd Wednesday morning every month
Art History 2	0	Betty Davies	1st Wednesday morning every month
Aviation History	NO LIMIT	<a href="mailto:simplyjohn@outlook.com">simplyjohn@outlook.com</a>	4th Thursday afternoon every month
Basic Cookery(for men)	0	<a href="mailto:alanplmr@sky.com">alanplmr@sky.com</a>	Date to suit members
Birdwatching / Natural History	10	01778 426255	1st Friday of the month
Canasta	NO LIMIT	01 778 421 295	2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings
Church Visiting	6	01778 422518	4th Thursday am
Classical Music	5	01778421864	3rd Tuesday every month Afternoon
Clay Pigeon Shooting	NO LIMIT	Gerry McLean	The first Friday of every month
Computer Tutoring	NO LIMIT	01778 423002	As required
Creative Writing 1	0		1st Monday afternoon every month
Creative Writing 2	0	07940714914	1st Monday afternoon every month
Desk Clerks	NO LIMIT	Bill Reid 01 778 570 234	At the main Monday meetings
Dining	0	01778 570650	3rd Thursday evening every month
Discussion Group	2	<a href="mailto:discussion@u3abourne.org.uk">discussion@u3abourne.org.uk</a>	3rd Thursday Morning of each Month
Drama	0	01778 426617	usually a Wednesday afternoon (once a month)
Drawing and Painting	0	07752342671	Every Tuesday morning
French Intermediate	0	<a href="mailto:obrien42polly@gmail.com">obrien42polly@gmail.com</a>	Every Tuesday morning
Friday Striders	0	<a href="mailto:bourneu3a.walk@gmail.com">bourneu3a.walk@gmail.com</a>	Friday mornings twice a month
Gardening	2	<a href="mailto:janetblacoe@gmail.com">janetblacoe@gmail.com</a>	1st Tuesday afternoon every month
Green Bowls	NO LIMIT	01778 424137	Every Thursday Morning
Handicrafts	1	<a href="mailto:handicraft@u3abourne.org.uk">handicraft@u3abourne.org.uk</a>	Every Tuesday afternoon
Jazz	4	01778 425525	Thursday evening every 4 weeks
Kurling	NO LIMIT	07759677012	2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month
Ladies Fun and Exercise	NO LIMIT	01778 421020	2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings every month
Lunch Gp Sunday 3	0	01778 393544	To suit members
Lunch Gp Weekday 1	1	01778 701068	1st Thursday afternoon every month
Meeters & Greeters	NO LIMIT	Bill Reid 01 778 570 234	At the main Monday meetings
Music for Pleasure	1	01778 425778	First Wednesday in month.
New Members	NO LIMIT	<a href="mailto:groups@u3abourne.org.uk">groups@u3abourne.org.uk</a>	As announced in the Newsletter see Group Leader(s)
Nosh and Natter	0	Jackie Searl	1st Wednesday evening of each month
Photography	15	01778 426255	1st Wednesday of the month
Play Reading	1	01778 219447	1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings every month
Poetry	0	<a href="mailto:dunkerleyphilip@hotmail.com">dunkerleyphilip@hotmail.com</a>	2nd Friday morning every month
Poetry 2	NO LIMIT		TBA
Railway Group	0	01 778 426 617	First Wednesday of each month at 14.00Hrs
Reading Gp 4	3	01778 422391	Last Tuesday morning every month
Reading Gp Bourne	0	<a href="mailto:whitfieldhm@gmail.com">whitfieldhm@gmail.com</a>	1st Friday morning every month
Reading Gp Hereward	0	01778 425786	2nd Monday morning every month
Reading Group Morton	1	01778571213	1st Friday morning every month
Science and Technology	NO LIMIT	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483	1st Tuesday morning every month
Singing for Pleasure	4	Marjorie Wright 01778 422252	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons every month
Snooker	0		2nd and 4th Monday afternoons every month
Snooker Group (2)	3	01778 426904	Tuesday PM
Supper	1	01778 394656	Every 3rd Wednesday Evening of the month
Table Tennis (1)	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Tap Dancing	NO LIMIT	01778 560548	Every Thursday of the Month
Ten pin Bowling	NO LIMIT	<a href="mailto:airforce1.dr@gmail.com">airforce1.dr@gmail.com</a>	Every Wednesday Morning
Theatre Visits	2	01778 393544	2nd Monday afternoon every month
Wayfarers Walking Group	NO LIMIT	Bill Reid 01778 570234	2nd and 4th Tuesday Mornings at 10.30 every Month
Wine Appreciation 2	0	<a href="mailto:geraldblacoe@gmail.com">geraldblacoe@gmail.com</a>	4th Friday evening every month except December
Wine Appreciation 3	0	01778 424153	3rd Friday Evening every Month

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2018 – 2019			
TITLE AND/OR JOB	NAME	PHONE 01778	E MAIL
CHAIRPERSON	MALCOLM SCRIVEN	426483	<a href="mailto:chairman@u3abourne.org.uk">chairman@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
VICE CHAIRMAN			<a href="mailto:vicechairman@u3abourne.org.uk">vicechairman@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
SECRETARY	CHRIS SEARL	422518	<a href="mailto:secretary@u3abourne.org.uk">secretary@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
TREASURER	TONY GRAY	394588	<a href="mailto:treasurer@u3abourne.org.uk">treasurer@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
JOINT GROUPS and NEW MEMBERS CO-ORDINATORS	KAREN KNOTT and PENNY NEAL	421131  422562	<a href="mailto:groups@u3abourne.org.uk">groups@u3abourne.org.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:groups@u3abourne.org.uk">groups@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	JOHN OWEN	420378	<a href="mailto:membership@u3abourne.org.uk">membership@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
PUBLICITY OFFICER	MARTIN ADKINS	07852 532276	<a href="mailto:publicity@u3abourne.org.uk">publicity@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
ROTAS	BILL REID	570234	<a href="mailto:rotas@u3abourne.org.uk">rotas@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
SPEAKER FINDER			<a href="mailto:speakers@u3abourne.org.uk">speakers@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
COMMITTEE			
NON-COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS			
DATA MANAGER (incorporating Beacon Administration, Webmaster, Meeting Display and Computer loan)	CHRIS SEARL	422518	<a href="mailto:webmaster@u3abourne.org.uk">webmaster@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	JACKIE SEARL	422518	<a href="mailto:newsletter@u3abourne.org.uk">newsletter@u3abourne.org.uk</a>
RAFFLE ORGANISOR	JANET BURTON	426462	<a href="mailto:raffle@u3abourne.org.uk">raffle@u3abourne.org.uk</a>

I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.

**The copy date for the September issue is  
9am on Saturday, 31 August 2019**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to [newsletter@u3abourne.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@u3abourne.org.uk)  
or post to Jackie Searl, 6 Lilac Close, Bourne, PE10 9TS

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