

NEWSLETTER

January 2024

Meetings are held in
The Corn Exchange, Bourne.
Third Monday of the month
Next meeting 15 January 2024

BOURNE u3a

Learn, Laugh, Live

WEBSITE: <https://www.bourneu3a.org.uk>
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1100094

The Chair's Chat

Hello everyone.

A little late but on behalf of the committee I would like to wish you all a peaceful and happy New Year.

First of all a big thank you to the members who were able to join us for the December meeting.

From the comments I have had the Ukulele Orchestra of Spalding proved to be popular and entertaining. Sitting at the back of the hall it was good to see folk bopping in their seats and a special thank you to everyone who took part in the Christmas jumper/hat competition. A happy afternoon.

A request from a group. The Singing for Pleasure group are in need of a keyboard player. This group has been going for a long time and certainly gives pleasure but without a keyboard player they may not be in a position to carry on. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (p.m.) and if you think you can help please contact me on 01778 425786 or email to james_howes@sky.com

At the meeting on January 15th the ATO group will be showing their programme for 2024 and a very interesting programme it is. So, as you are collecting your hot drinks and biscuit, please pop along and have a chat with Stewart.

Best wishes
Pat

Membership Renewal

I need to remind you that it is time to renew your membership of Bourne u3a for the year 2024-2025. The year begins on the 1st February and, therefore, membership renewals need to be with the Membership Secretary by the 1st FEBRUARY, 2024 at the latest.

Payment online is simple, and it is safe. It would help greatly, both the Treasurer and the Membership Secretary if you pay your membership fee online.

Just go to <https://www.bourneu3a.org.uk/members-area>

Go down the blue page until you come to a yellow box headed MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL. Simply click on Membership Renewal and follow the instructions.

Alternatively, click on downloading a Membership Renewal form, just below the above, print this off, complete it and send it along with your membership fee of £12.00 per person to the Membership Secretary. The address is on the form.

Of course, you can also renew your membership at the Monthly meeting. Complete a form and take your fee to the Membership Secretary at the meeting. The date of the next meeting is Monday, 15th January, 2024. Doors open at 13.45 pm.

Speakers for 2024

Date	Subject	Speaker
15 January	The Art of Storytelling	Keith Butters
19 February	Farming and Wildlife	Nicholas Watts
18 March	Tinderbox, Dance and Song	Margaret Wainwright

Desk Clerks, Meet and Greeters

Desk Clerks	15 January	TBA	TBA	Jan Burton
Meet & Greet	15 January	Colin Peters	TBA	TBA

Hello there

We are very much in need of adding to our Meeters and Greeters list.
The more people who are willing to help the better.

I am sure that many of you will agree that it can be very daunting to walk into a hall and not know a soul. My first thought many years ago was to turn and run. Thanks goodness I didn't as joining the Bourne u3a was one of the best things that I have done.

That first impression for visitors (who hopefully become members) and for new members is really important.

So please, please contact me even if you are only thinking about it and as soon as I have a few names I will arrange for us to get together with Bill Reid who organises the group and have a meeting where we can go through everything you need to know.

This is a great group for our newer members to join as your first meeting is fresh in your mind and you may well have some good ideas that we can use.

Very best wishes.

Pat (Howes) Contact 01778 425786 or james_howes@sky.com

Handicrafts

Margaret McGregor who founded the Handicraft group 28 years ago turned 90 on the 1st of December. There was a small celebration at the group meeting on the 5th where Margaret was presented with a present and a cake.

The group has been in constant operation at the Butterfield Centre apart when we couldn't meet during covid.

It is because of Margaret that a lot of friendships have been forged and different crafts learnt.

Margaret has now handed over the leadership of the group but still attends. The group has had to relocate from the Butterfield centre due to the food bank moving into the centre and taking over the whole of Tuesdays.

The Handicraft group will continue to run on a Tuesday 2pm to 4pm but now at the Abbey Church Hall.



Anytime Out – Coach Trips

Anytime Out Christmas Party.

No trip in December, not even a Wake House meeting. So we all (well 43 of us) rocked up at the Black Horse in Baston for a Christmas Meal and a few drinks.

Stewart summarised the events of the year - our 10 trips covering Museums, Houses and Gardens and confirmed that we had already organised 10 trips, one for every month February to November inclusive.

Thanks to Sue, Yas and Val for supporting Stewart, especially when problems at his home could have meant the suspension of the group.

And for Stewart, a true surprise to receive a present and thanks from the entire group.



Next meeting will be in Wake House at 10:00 on Thursday 18th January 2024. We will not collect any room rent but please make sure that you are ticked off on the group list. We will be collecting a £15 deposit for our first visit to the newly restored and re-opened Nottingham Castle on February 15th.

We will also try to give you guide prices for almost all of the trips through out the year.

Science and Tech Group Meeting December 2023

The meeting held on Tuesday 5th December meeting was our usual pre-Christmas Show and Tell. This year followed by a Christmas Lunch at the Horseshoe in Thurlby.

This was to be the last meeting at St Firmin's Church Hall in Thurlby as it is closing and will be demolished in the New Year.

The Show and Tell is a series of short presentations by members on subjects that interest them and that they can then interest the meeting members.

The first was by Dave Richardson who brought along various artefacts that he had dug up in his garden that included the remains of a jug made in Stamford and various items from our industrial past.

Stuart Goldsmith followed on with the history of the transistor and its integration into computers, giving background of the industry at the time and the emergence of Intel as an industry leader and the intriguing observation made by its CEO, Gordon Moore" that the number of transistors on a microchip doubles every two years, also the speed and capacity will increase and the price will decrease. This is known as "Moors Law". He also observed the growth of microprocessors is expediential. This is trusted well enough that future designs can be planned using this observation.

Next Vaughan Roberts gave an insight to the development of bicycle rear light development over the years that showed some similarities to the previous subject in terms of miniaturisation.

Trevor Horn gave an insight into the development of BS SPEC 7121 that is the standard for safety when lifting items and equipment with mobile cranes. Trevor had worked in the industry and was aware of the complex requirements of moving things with mobile cranes and the documentation required, and some of the shortcomings of the past before proper standards were applied.

This was followed by Ian Tanners card trick, no Science and Tech pre-Christmas meeting would be complete without some of Ian's magic.

The presentations were completed by Martin Siddle with Robey the robot that was a toy from his younger days that could walk, a forerunner of some of the sophisticated toys available now.

A very interesting series of presentations that rounded off the year 2023 and our time at St Firmin's Church Hall.

Eric Cooper proposed a "thank you" to Malcolm Scriven, our Group Leader, for his work in organising this year's events that was rightly supported by all present and then we moved on to the Horseshoe for Christmas Lunch.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at Edenham village hall

Report by Michael Thorpe



Poetry Group

In December, the Poetry Group looked at the work of Robert Browning (1812-1889) - he of 'Oh, to be in England / Now that April's there' fame. But as such thoughts are clearly inappropriate for this time of year, here is one from Louis MacNeice (1907-1963) that's a better fit.

Snow

The room was suddenly rich and the great bay-window was
spawning snow and pink roses against it
soundlessly collateral and incompatible:
world is suddener than we fancy it.

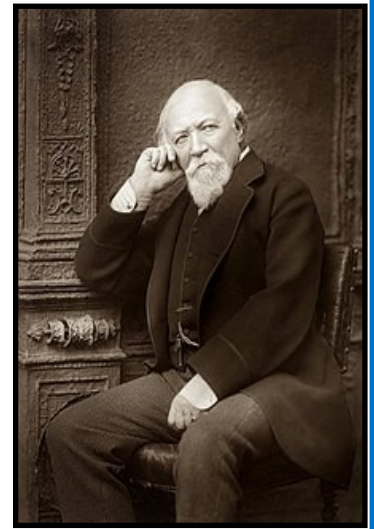
World is crazier and more of it than we think,
incorrigibly plural. I peel and portion
a tangerine and spit the pips and feel
the drunkenness of things being various.

And the fire flames with a bubbling sound for world
is more spiteful and gay than one supposes—
on the tongue on the eyes on the ears in the palms of one's hands—
there is more than glass between the snow and the huge roses.

Philip Dunkerley
Group Leader



Louis MacNeice



Robert Browning c



Keith Butters - Storyteller in Lincolnshire, is our speaker in January 2024.

Keith tells stories about his native home county of Lincolnshire. He has lived in the same cottage all his life except for three years when he was away at college. Brought up on a farm, he understands the joys and sorrows of Lincolnshire rural life.

His father, Geoff, was a storyteller but did not know it! In other words, Geoff just told us about the experiences of himself, family and friends.

Keith tells a story of Jabez, his great-grandfather, who went courting one winter's night in South Ormsby. He still has a recording of Geoff telling the story. Keith has a number of Lincolnshire stories including the "Wormsgay Dragon," "The Buried Moon " and "Jack went to Horncastle Fair."

Bourne Brushstrokes - January Gallery



Wishing you all a Happy 2024

Group members and partners celebrated Christmas in style with an excellent lunch at The Woodhouse Arms, Corby Glen on December 13th and then again at their last meeting of 2023 with a display of some pieces of their work from the year. Members are looking forward to 2024, the opportunity to learn from each other and produce some brilliant pieces for future exhibitions.

GROUPS WITH VACANCIES - 1 December 2023			
Group	Leader	Meets	Venue
NEW - New Age Kurling	Interim leader - Pat Howes	Inaugral meeting - 9 January 2024 - Tuesday morning	Corn Exchange
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	Butterfield Centre
Jazz	May Slater 01778 425525	On hold until the New Year but please contact leader if you are interested	Check with Group Leader
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 07638 622288 or Paul Gosden 07946 397192	First Wednesday of each month at 14.00Hrs	St. Firmins Church Hall Thurlby
Reading 4	Chris Ankerson 01778 422391	Last Tuesday morning every month	At Members Homes
Reading Morton	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	St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby
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

Looking for a new venue? The Bourne Cricket Club clubhouse – comfortable, warm with all the usual facilities – is available for £20 per session (not per hour). Contact Lisa On 07989 131 121.

Our speaker for February is Nicolas Watts MBE of Vine House Farm.

Nicholas has farmed at Vine House Farm since 1964. His inspiration and enthusiasm for farming and wildlife is the reason why Vine House Farm Bird Foods was born.

The team around him has grown over the years, to not only manage a growing farm, but build a bird seed business too.

With his team behind him, Nicholas is able to dedicate more time to his passion of caring for wildlife.



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 February
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

"Cheers to a new month and another chance for us to get it right."