

BOURNE U3A

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

Chairman's Chat

Well, at the time of writing it looks like we will be able to get back to some sort of normal from July 19th. I really hope this is the case as I know that a lot of groups are waiting for just that.

Going around Bourne town, as I do most days, apart from mask wearing it looks like things are back to normal already.

On a very positive note, we have had a few new members join us this month. All eager to get out and start living again after our enforced lockdown.

I have been out to the first Garden Group meeting in a long time to Ascoughfee Gardens in Spalding. Had a lovely afternoon out, with sunshine, Tea and Cakes.

NGS Gardens have been open in our area and with my wife we have visited a private garden at Humby Near Grantham. A large garden well laid out, one man's passion.

The second place we visited was the gardens around Little Ponton Hall. A much grander garden. With large lawns, trees and shrubs. We nearly missed a fantastic walled garden with plants and shrubs for sale, grown in the large greenhouses, all at very reasonable prices.

John



Committee Page

Special General Meeting

I give notice that a Special General Meeting of Bourne U3A will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday 19 July 2021 via Zoom to consider the following agenda item viz:

To appoint Mike Alexander as Treasurer; proposed by John Owen, seconded by Tony Gray

The S.G.M. immediately precedes the July monthly meeting and you will receive a request for you to register your attendance at these meetings shortly

John Boss

E-Mail Issues

As you are aware, Beacon is a centralised U3A database that is used to contact (via mail and more commonly email) all relevant members.

Sometimes emails bounce or are accidentally blocked by specific members, in this case Beacon informs the sender that the email has not been received by the recipient.

There are two kinds of notification - Bounced and Blocked

Bounced

Bounced means that the message has been rejected by the recipient's email provider, usually because the address is incorrect, disabled or no longer valid.

Blocked

Typically indicates a temporary delivery issue to an address. While there are many reasons an email address may be blocked, below are some common reasons this could happen:

- Mailbox is full (over quota).
- The Recipient email server is down or offline (an example is orange.net which is no longer an active mail system)
- Email message is too large

Therefore if any U3A member is expecting but not receiving the Newsletter, information from Group Leaders etc., then please check out the proposed options above or contact Phil Pavier U3A Database Administrator who will try and resolve any issues you may be experiencing.

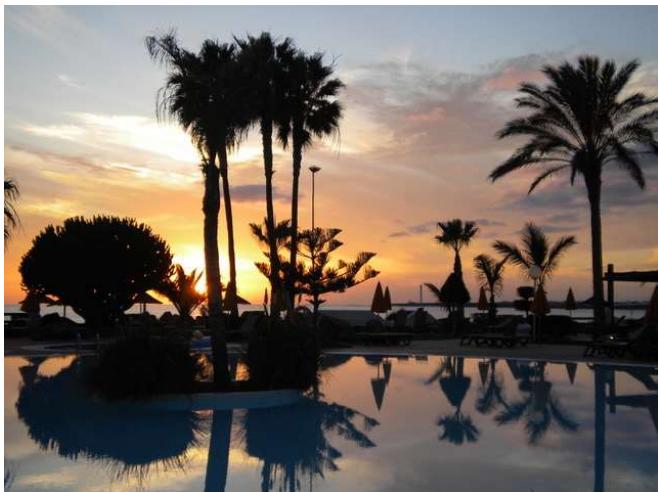
New Members since 1 February 2021

Even in these unusual times, Bourne U3A is delighted to welcome new members. The following have joined in recent months. I hope that you all enjoy your membership as the committee attempts to slowly return to some degree of normality.

Keith Bagley, Jean Butter, Valerie Brown, Nigel Chubb, Christine Newcomb, Margaret Reeves, Peter Shaw, Sarah Waters, Jenny and Robin Woodward and Carlota Whyte.

Jackie Searl Membership Secretary

Photography Challenge



The challenge was to take photos on the subject of “**Reflections**”. This month an independent judge decided that the 3 top entries were from Carole Rippon (2 pictures) & Pat Benn.
Other entries were received from sarah Salmon, Dianne Hinchliffe, Sandy Love and Paul Smith

The new challenge is " Heatwave " (entries by 03-08-21)
The next challenge is " Freedom " (entries by 07-09-21)

Entries to :- vasmroberts@gmail.com

Group News

Music for Pleasure

As we are a very small group it was possible to hold a meeting at my house this month. It was lovely to be able to get together again and even have a cup of tea in the interval. We do not always work from a theme but on this occasion I decided to play music on the theme of plants and animals. It was an eclectic mix ranging from ‘The Waltz of the Flowers’ by Tchaikovsky to ‘Delaney’s Donkey’ by Val Doonican, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. We hope to meet again at Deirdre’s house on 7th July. We look forward to the day when Covid restrictions are lifted and we can invite more members to join us.

Margaret Shephard – Group Leader

Let's Make Music – Group closing.

Sadly, the diverse range of instruments and my lack of musical skill defeated us, and the Let's Make Music group has had to close. However, my music teacher is starting a similar group. This cannot be a U3A group because we will have a paid tutor, but anybody is welcome to attend.

It will be an opportunity to get together with other amateur enthusiasts to have fun and improve your skills. Any instrument or level welcome. £6 per session.

St Firmin's Church Hall, Thurlby.

Friday 2.30 - 4.00pm TBC as soon as Government regulations allow.

If interested please contact Ruth Smith on 07985 076 897 or email ruthmsmith67@gmail.com

Malcolm Scriven

Nosh and Natter Group

Several weeks ago five ladies met for afternoon tea at a venue close to Netherton Football club in Peterborough. We enjoyed a superb tea but appreciated as much the interaction and chat. This particular company had organised our golden wedding celebration and provided tea at home for my family earlier in the year. Refreshments included mixed sandwiches, savouries, large scone with jam and clotted cream and a selection of cakes. Most of us had "doggy bags" to take home. We all felt the benefit of meeting like this.

Jackie Searl Group Leader

Church Visiting Group

It will be hard for this group to start meeting again this year. Churches are not generally welcoming visitors yet and Wake House has limited numbers in its rooms.

However, I had the idea of asking if members would like to join me in my garden for tea and chat. Eight of the twenty-seven members said yes to the idea so I arranged a date and I was joined by five ladies on a hot afternoon. We had a selection of cakes and biscuits with elderflower cordial. It was an opportunity to members to mix informally with the chance to get to know others better. It was a successful afternoon which I hope to repeat for those who could not attend that afternoon and more members if they wish to come along.

On a slightly different theme of church visiting, along with over 200 other U3A members, I attended a Third Age Trust organised Zoom event about Southwark Cathedral. Three of the guides talked about the history and monuments of the building, its one royal wedding, earlier associations with the theatres of the area not to mention the "Bishops' Geese" or "ladies of the night". It was fascinating, informative and brightened a wet Monday morning.

Jackie Searl Group Leader

U3A litter picking report

What grit and determination! Despite torrential rain and traffic noise the notorious nine met to clean up the verges of North Road. We were endowed with extra enthusiasm as a result of our limericks which we brought along as our homework! There is not space to print them all, but the favourites as selected by 2 independent reviewers included:

There one was a chap with a picker
Who trembled when people left litter.
It made him so cross
To see all the dross
But he cleared it away and felt better!

Several members wrote verses which included details of vicars, knickers, Great Danes and brides! Such creativity!

There once was a chap with a picker
Who thought "with two he could do the job quicker."
He went down a road
And picked up a load
Then collapsed due to his dicky ticker!

A Good Day for the Garden Group

On Wednesday 23rd June the group took it's first tentative steps towards getting back to normal meetings.

We arranged an informal meeting at the Ayscoughfee Hall Gardens in Spalding.



Ayscoughfee Hall dates from the mid-15th century and is a Grade I listed building. Whilst the hall features a museum and is home to many events and exhibitions, its gardens are often the main draws. There's nothing better than taking a seat in Ayscoughfee Hall Café, while admiring the beautiful gardens. There's a splendid yew tree walk dating back to the 1720s, a peace garden, tennis courts, bowling green and children's playground. The ornamental lake features, at its head, a war memorial designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.



The day was sunny, bright and warm when we all arrived at 2pm. 13 members were able to get there with 1 or 2 extras. My granddaughter, Willow, and Pearl's lovely little dog Jessy both were welcomed by all and they both got on very well together.

We all then went our separate ways round the gardens. They were tranquil and pleasant, bathed in sunshine with plenty of seating, both in the sun and in the shade.

We started our walk along the path of the bowling green, to the aviaries and the children's playground, which is tucked away in the corner behind them out of the way of the main garden. Then our route took us round the top of the garden, past the formal flower beds and through a small wooded area that brought us back to the other side of the garden. We walked back to the house along the side of the formal pond with fountains. In front of the house is a very nice café that many enjoyed.

There was something for everyone - an enjoyable afternoon.

U3A Drawing and Art Group

For some weeks now we have been meeting in our groups of six in the Thurlby Church Hall. We have had to wear masks and we are unable to use the Kitchen facilities which means we must take our own flasks of coffee. In addition, we have had to clean the desks after the meeting, but all these restrictions have not dampedened our enthusiasm.

We have two tutors who give us very valuable advice and the fact we can all meet and talk is a very real bonus after all our weeks of lockdown. We are all looking forward to July 19th so we can get back to meetings as they were many months ago.

During these incredibly challenging months our group has kept in touch every week by a combination of weekly newsletters, sketching on the Wellhead and meeting in the Hall. Of course, all these activities had to be done in accordance with the Government regulations so to meet inside we had to produce a written risk assessment then get it approved by the Hall Committee.

We are now looking to the future and will be making a decision on where we hold our weekly meetings when local venues open up again. Regardless of where we decide to meet, we owe our thanks to the Thurlby Church Hall for working with us to make our meetings possible.

If there are any U3a members out there who facies dabbling in Drawing and/or painting, we have spaces for two new members. You don't need previous experience, I had never painted or drawn when I joined 4 years ago and having had instruction from our tutors and seeing other members working, I now wish I had started earlier. If you are interested just contact a committee member or ring me direct and I will give you more information.

As a group we have been trying to get access to one of the empty shops in Bourne to put on a lockdown art exhibition. We thought it might brighten up the town. Alas we have not had any success in gaining access to them so one of our members has made a very generous suggestion by offering up her garden and expertise for us to stage an Art in the garden exhibition. All the proceeds of this event will go to **The Blood Cancer Charity**. All U3a members are invited to attend and a poster for this event is attached below. As it is in a private garden we will have to have a pre booking system to regulate the amount of visitors at any one time. Even if you are not artistic, please come and have a natter as the charity is very worthwhile.

See the details at the end of the newsletter.

Other Third Age Trust free online events

See <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

Coming subjects include: Cricket, Japan, Crochet, Philosophy, Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners, Well-being in Nature

Wendy and Philip Hodson

Invite you to the

“Gallery in the Garden”

An opportunity to see the work of

Bourne U3A Drawing & Art Group`

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th August

Between 2.00 to 3.00pm; 3.00 to 4.00pm & 4.00 to 5.00pm

at 10 The Pollards, Elsea Park, Bourne. PE10 0Q

Free to a Good Home

For over 40 years I have been going on self-catering holidays with a friend of mine. In our younger days we went camping but in recent years we have restricted our ‘camping’ activities to cooking soup in a lay-by at lunch-time. Sadly my friend died last year and I am left with two one-burner camping stoves for which I now have no use. If anyone would like to have them I would be happy to donate them free, together with a refill camping-gaz, to anyone who comes to collect them.

Contact Margaret Shephard on 01778 425778.

Computing equipment

The following are available to a "good" home or homes and to be collected:

1. VGA switch box with three ports
2. USB Hub with seven ports
3. USB lead with connectors three other devices (various connectors)
4. VGA to USB converter lead
5. VGA to HDMI converter lead
6. 3 x VGA to VGA converter leads
7. Box of Read/Write CDs
8. Contain half full of Write only CD
9. 20" computer screen (measured diagonally)

Contact Jackie Searl 01778 422518

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2020 – 2021			
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	YAS FAIRBAIRN		
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Please note that as there has not yet been a meeting of the new committee some responsibilities may well change.

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

**The copy date for the August issue is
9am on Saturday, 31 July 2021**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to editorbourneu3a@gmail.com

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.