

BOURNE u3a

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

Chairman's Chat

Hello All

With January behind us, I am looking forward to spring coming. I know it's a little while yet, but we all need something to look forward to. The Garden group have a visit to Deene Park this month and as a member I will be going along. Hopefully we will see the first signs of spring.

Later in the month we have our general meeting in the Corn Exchange and after the successful January meeting, when we had some 70 people attending, our next speaker will be talking about Murder, Sex and Mayhem in the English churches. I am sure that this subject will attract a similar attendance.

Also, this month the Aviation History Group have a talk given by Lt Commander Rob Wilkinson. All about his 30-year career as a Navy Helicopter Pilot, culminating to him being Commanding Officer at RNAS Culdrose in Cornwall. This meeting is open to all Bourne U3A Members and is on Thursday 24th February at 2pm in The Baxter room at Wake House.

John



These are a couple of the editor's photos which hopefully show that Spring is on the way!

Committee Page

New Members

We welcome Erene Cumming, Mark Davies, Helen Didsbury, Valerie Docherty, John Jones, Susan King, Stephen Laws, Joan Phillips, Maureen Sibborn, James and Jennifer Steven, Kate Weston and Ann Wheeler

We hope you enjoy the benefits of membership and look forward to meeting you.

Jackie Searl – Membership Secretary

A Note from the Treasurer

Another year has started, and I hope you have all been digging down the back of your sofa, breaking into the piggy bank, robbing your partners wallet, to find the annual fee to be a member of Bourne U3a.

Many members, I am sure, have at some time wondered what we (well, me as treasurer), spend your membership fee on.

Well here goes; Of the £10 full membership fee our governing body ‘The Third age Trust’ receive £8.35.

This is broken down as follows.

For being member of U3A (known as Capitation fee) £4.00.

For Third Age Matters magazine £3.35.

For us to use Beacon online database £1.00.

This leaves £1.65 of your membership for Bourne U3A. Yes, you did read that correctly, £1.65 and

That is spent on:-

Our monthly meetings cost around £250 on average.

This breaks down to Corn Exchange hire, speaker fee, tea, and coffee.

If the average good attendance of 80 members pays £2.00 each, that means we must pay £90.00 from our funds. Most months we have less than 80 members attending the meetings.

We must put money aside for our groups in case they need to rent a hall, buy equipment, or have their own speaker but do not collect enough funds to cover costs.

Therefore, it is important when filling in your renewal form, you tick Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer, and do not tick TAM if you do not want to read the quarterly magazine, as this gives us more of your membership fee for me to spend on you.

Have a great year as a member of your Bourne U3A

Mike Alexander Treasurer

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 **Please note that April's meeting is on the 4th Monday as the 3rd Monday is Easter Monday.**

SPEAKERS FOR 2022		
DATE	Speaker Names	Title of Talk
21 st February	John Vigar	Murder, Sex and Mayhem in English Churches
21 st March	Clive Simpson	Travels in Time and Space
25 th April	Mark Schofield from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	Wildflower Gardening
16 th May	AGM	
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

Poetry Group

Poetry Group for Newsletter - 85th Meeting

In February, the Poetry Group focused on 'Frost' - not the stuff often found early in the morning at this time of the year, but the poet Robert of that ilk (1974-1963). Although American, he first came to prominence in England and is responsible for writing such favorite poems as 'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening', 'The Road Not Taken' and 'Fire and Ice'.

After partaking of super home-made cake, we turned our attention to poets whose forenames start with the letter 'F'. Of many lovely poems we enjoyed, here is a 'belter' from Fleur Adcock, born in New Zealand in 1934 but now resident in London:

For a Five-Year-Old

A snail is climbing up the windowsill
into your room, after a night of rain.
You call me in to see, and I explain
that it would be unkind to leave it there:
it might crawl to the floor; we must take care
that no one squashes it. You understand,
and carry it outside, with careful hand,
to eat a daffodil.

I see, then, that a kind of faith prevails:
your gentleness is moulded still by words
from me, who have trapped mice and shot wild birds,
from me, who drowned your kittens, who betrayed
your closest relatives, and who purveyed
the harshest kind of truth to many another.
But that is how things are: I am your mother,
and we are kind to snails.

Philip Dunkerley Group Leader

Science and Technology Group

Tuesday 1 March Tom Grimes will give his talk ‘300 Years of Spalding Gentlemen’s Society’. All U3A members are welcome to attend. Meeting at St Firmin’s Church Hall, Thurlby, PE10 0EH with refreshments served from 9.30am.

Malcolm Scriven Group Leader

Wine Group

For our January meeting we recommenced matching wines to specific meals. On this occasion, paella was the food of choice. Of the two wines sampled, by far the most appreciated was a 2020 Albarino from Spain. It’s just a passing thought but perhaps one should always match a country’s dish with one of their own wines for best results. Just think of haggis and whisky as a good example.

Incidentally, the second wine we tasted was a 2020 Viognier from France. Pleasant enough but definitely second best on the night.

John Boss Group Leader

Rail Group

The Rail Group are continuing with their regular monthly meetings at which we are, at last, able to organise some trips and visits. In January we visited the National Railway Museum in York, to which we travelled by train. We went on the new “Azuma” trains and the journey took only 2 hours each way. Super! Later in the month, we visited the Steam Gala on the Great Central Railway at Loughborough. We had a super day out – it was nice and warm in the car journeys, it was warm on the trains, and it was warm in the waiting rooms – but it was absolutely BITTER on the platforms, thanks to a strong, cold wind.

We are currently in the process of organising trips on the Scunthorpe steel-works railway, the Keighley and Worth Valley Spring Gala in March and The Tramway Museum at Crich towards the end of April.

We would welcome new members, so, if what we do interests you, contact me, **Tony Burke**, on **01778-426617** or by e-mail at derwent39burke@gmail.com . I produce a set of notes following every meeting – so that people not there, can see what we have arranged etc. If you want a copy of the notes from our last meetings, request them by e-mail.

On 2nd March we have a special speaker who will talk about exotic holidays in India. His talk will be illustrated with slides and videos.

We now meet at St.Firmin's hall in Thurlby at 14.00Hr on Wednesdays . This location, new to us, has a kitchen which allows us to serve refreshments, starting at 14.00Hrs, with the talk starting at 14.30Hrs.

Tony Burke Joint Group Leader

Friday Striders

On Friday 11th February 14 striders met at Burghley Park on a dry sunny bright morning for a walk of just over 6 miles.



After walking through the park, with good views of both the house and Stamford the group exited onto the Old Great North Road before heading up towards the golf club. Skirting around the edge of the golf club we then walked along Hereward Way (Ermine Street) an old Roman Road before joining Barnack Drift Road, the route headed into Pilsgate before returning into Burghley Park.

Friday Striders walk on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month and walks are between 5-7miles in length. For further information on future walks please contact

janetmcartwright@gmail.com

Janet Cartwright Group Leader

Wayfarers

We are a friendly group that takes in walks in the area around Bourne and we are currently looking for some new members.

We start off at 10.30 on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month and usually walk for about four miles or two hours each time. Dogs are welcome if under control.

Sometimes we stop afterwards for a drink/lunch at a pub if there is one nearby.

Each member can take a turn at leading a walk if they so wish but this is not obligatory, you can just tag along for the exercise and the companionship.

If you are interested, then check out some of our past walks on mikeswalk.weebly.com

We look forward to you joining us

Bill Reid Group Leader

Volunteer at Grimsthorpe Castle

Grimsthorpe & Drummond Castle Trust is a charity which relies on the donations of time and finances from special people who understand the importance of its preservation for future generations.

Volunteering has many benefits, for the volunteers themselves, the organisation, and the local community.

We have the following roles available to start in April, and volunteers can give as much or as little time as they like:

- Castle Room Stewards
- Meet & Greet Volunteers
- Volunteer Gardeners

More information can be found here on our website: www.grimsthorpe.co.uk/volunteers. Any interested parties can email visit@grimsthorpe.co.uk for more information and an application form.

BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2020 – 2021			
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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, 16 March 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.