

# BOURNE u3a

## NEWSLETTER

### FEB 2023

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

### *Chairman's Chat*

Hello All

Was I glad to get January out of the way, it is always a long month and for me the worst month of the year. For those that attended the General meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> it was a good to see you getting out in the cold to break the month up.

Just a reminder that if you have not renewed your membership yet, your membership is now due, and you have until the end of the month. After that date your membership will be showing you as lapsed. You must not attend any groups after this date.

Please if you can, renew on our website at [www.bourneu3a.org.uk](http://www.bourneu3a.org.uk) Please click on the renewal link not the Join link and have a go. If you cannot renew this way, there is also a link to print of a new style renewal form. **Please do not use old forms or the new member form.**

Having been the membership secretary myself I know that this is a very busy time, so please be kind and patient if you have problems.

We have had a few of you re-joining instead of renewing which causes a few headaches for our membership Secretary and Treasurer so please take extra care.

**John**

## *Committee Page*

**Renewing online with your credit card  
is quick, safe and easier.  
No membership form to download.**

## *Monthly Meeting*

**The monthly meeting is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2023		
Date	Subject	Speaker
20 <sup>th</sup> February	The Kings Tiger Rag. Story of arrival of Jazz in Britain	Roger Browns
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Life on the Lincolnshire Saltmarshes	June Barton
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Must Farm	Mark Knight
15 <sup>th</sup> May	The Natural History of Scotland	Steve Lovell
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Police Work. Title to be arranged	Steve Seabrook
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Maths on the back of an envelope	Rob Eastaway
21 <sup>st</sup> August	Great British Eccentrics	Paul Robbins
18 <sup>th</sup> September	The Plague Dr of Eyam	David Bell
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Farming and Wildlife	Nicholas Watt
20 <sup>th</sup> November	The Battle of Towton	David Skillen
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Entertainment	Alan Bolt

## *Desk Clerks, Meeters and Greeters*

<b>Desk Clerks</b>	20-Mar	Jeanette Marshall	Deirdre Neagus	David McDonald
<b>Meet &amp; greet</b>	20-Mar	Anne Barrett,	John Boss	

## **New Members**

We were pleased to welcome more new members during December and January and hope all enjoy their membership, they are Anne & Brian Corpe, Maureen & John Handy, Karen Osborne, Corinne Howarth, Ann & Roy Pettitt, Vilma Woods, Timothy Heywood and Brian (Bri) & Geraldine (Ges) Nicholls.

I look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

**Jean Parsons – Membership Secretary**

## ***Group News***

### **Local History Group**

All are welcome to our first meeting:

Monday 6 March at 2.00pm in the Baxter Room at Wake House

‘Bourne on the Eve of the First World War – the 1911 Census’

**Group Leader Malcolm Scriven**

### **Science and Technology Group**

The January meeting of the Science and Tech Group at our home meeting place of St Firmin's Church Hall, Thurlby

The **Subject** of the January meeting was: -

**The Rescue of Pisces III**, a mini submarine. The presentation was given by Trevor Horn, a member of the Bourne U3a.

Trevor opened his presentation by giving a short history of his engineering background that included a period with Vickers Oceanic's, who were the operators of Pisces III, that's sinking and subsequent rescue was the main subject of the presentation. Trevor was working on design at the time and played a crucial part in designing a special hook that was used in the rescue of the submarine.

Pisces III was working on laying transatlantic telephone cable on the seabed, approximately 150 miles southwest of Cork in Southern Ireland. Their job entailed an eight-hour shift in the six-foot diameter submersible which moved along the seabed using water jets to liquefy the mud and lay cable, then cover over the cables. The submarine would usually take approximately 40 minutes to reach a depth of 1,500 ft., this is a depth not suitable for divers hence the use of a submersible and had been on a routine dive and was in the process of returning to the mother ship when a cable that was used to pull the submarine onto the ship snapped. When the cable broke it also removed a rear hatch on Pisces III that allowed water to enter a watertight sphere and sink Pisces.



Trevor described the rescue of Pisces III that was eventually completed with the assistance of sister submersible Pisces II, which had to be retrieved from work in the North Sea and some equipment sent from America. Trevor was charged with the design a special hooking device that could be used to attach to Pisces III to the mother ship. This design and the manufacture of the device was completed in an extraordinary short time, design (15 minutes and manufacture 14 hours), was used to eventually bring Pisces III to the surface and retrieved to her mother ship. Fortunately, both crew members were alive and able to board the mother ship

As Trevor was so closely associated with the rescue he was able to give a vivid explanation of the processes and the atmosphere that prevailed at the time. Trevor also made plain his view of where procedures were not carried out correctly that that had been a major factor in causing the accident and where he believes responsibility lied.

A very interesting and informative presentation.

Next Science and Tech meeting is on Tuesday 7th March, the Subject will be “open-Source Software: presented by Stewart Goldsmith of Bourne U3a. Proceedings start at 9:30 with tea/coffee and biscuits, presentation from 10:00, usually our presentations last 45 mins to 1 hour. All U3a members are welcome.

**Report by Michael Thorpe**

### **Play Reading Group**

Would anyone like to join our group? No acting required, if you can do an accent/voice that will add to the FUN, and we do have fun.

We meet at a member's home on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting at 9.45 and generally finishing around 1230. It is dependent upon the play we are reading and whether we want to finish it.

We have vacancies for 2 new members, ladies or gents, to bring us up to a total of 10. We do a range of different genres, but we do like a good farce!

**If you are interested, please contact Marylyn Black on 01778 420472 or Kathleen on 01775 423210**

### **Drama Workshop Group**

Have you ever wondered if you had the nerves to act a role in a play, or to recite a monologue, or take part in the improvisation world of Would I Lie to You? If so, the Drama Workshop group is the one for you. There is no pressure to perform outside of the group. We are established just to have fun with words from Greek plays to Shakespeare, from comedy sketches to murder mystery short plays and of course acting games. All just for our own amusement.



Occasionally it has been known for one or more to burst into song and all in the best possible taste.

So, if you would like to act out the angst of a wronged woman in one of Euripides tragedies, or the grief stricken and depressed Prince of Denmark in Shakespeare's Hamlet, or you are up for telling the group a disguised story or nursery rhyme only for them to guess the tale you are telling, then come along and join us. And don't worry there is no having to learn lines, scripts will be provided, or

you can just make it up as you go.

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2pm in St Firmin's Church Hall, Thurlby.

**Group Leader Malcolm Ranson**

### **Railway Group**

In late January, four members of our group travelled by car to "Locomotion", Shildon (Co. Durham) to explore the museum which is part of the National Railway Museum based in York.



Shildon is connected to the world's first passenger railway between Stockton and Darlington and the first train was hauled by (Locomotion No. 1) which took two hours to complete the twelve-mile journey. The town of Shildon became a major centre of British Rail engineering.

This was our first field visit for 2023 and we meet generally on the first Wednesday of the month in St Firmins Church Hall, Thurlby at 2pm. New members are always welcome

where we discuss future events or field visits. If you are interested in railways, you will be made most welcome.

**Report by Paul Gosden**

### **Creative Writing Group**



The photo is of the creative writing group during a Highlights Tour of Peterborough Cathedral. We were there to seek inspiration, divine or otherwise! for our first project of 2023.

Such visits are a common feature of our activities and during our six years in existence we have also visited the John Clare Cottage Museum, Ayscough Hall and Peterborough Museum all of which has led to the production of a wide variety of creative offerings.

Our format remains the same each month. We distribute our individual stories to all members in advance of our meeting at which we offer constructive comment on each other's work. Also, at each meeting we try to include a short exercise which aims to improve our writing skills.

We currently have up to three vacancies in our group. If the above description attracts your interest, please contact me for further information.

**Group Leader John Boss**

## Antiques & Collectables Group

The Antiques & Collectables Group had a successful start to 2023 beginning the new year in traditional fashion with a 'Show & Tell' session. This gives members the opportunity to bring along to the meeting an item or items of their own. It doesn't have to be valuable or rare, but it helps if there's a story behind the object. It's always a great social event that gets everyone talking.

It's surprising how diverse this year's crop of objects was!

- Several pieces of Chinese funerary pottery possibly 1000 years old to a modern-day vase by a Welsh art potter, plus other 'tube-lined' works by William Moorcroft and Old Tupton Ware.
- An exquisite small, enamelled scent bottle with a vinaigrette hidden in the base.
- A real 18<sup>th</sup> century 'piece of eight'.
- Some early 19<sup>th</sup> century calling card cases with fine silver decoration ... were they made of ivory or bone?
- Probably the smallest corkscrew ever made for 19<sup>th</sup> century invalids to open their medicine bottles.
- A fine gold watch chain now used as a necklace.
- A flower press ... often misidentified as a tie press (or was it for small ties??).
- A recent first day cover celebrating the new King.
- A small brass tube with a finely carved image on its lid for holding pen nibs.
- A beautiful blue and white jug that had holes at the lip which after discussion the group decided were for a lid (possibly made of pewter) and was now missing.
- Some early 20<sup>th</sup> century books illustrated with pencil sketches and paintings of Italy.
- The prize for the most unusual 'show' must go to the collection of bits of metal, leather, and wood, all of which were beautifully worked that had been purchased cheaply at a general stall at an antiques fair ... they turned out to be pieces of Japanese Samurai armour!

Why not come and join us? We have a full programme of speakers for the coming year covering not only antiques and collectables but also local history and social history. We'll even give you a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. In the coming months we have:

Monday 13 February: Steve Guillieri, the Bourne local historian, will talk about his research into Bourne Castle

Monday 13 March: Peter Young, a retired auctioneer from Nottingham will talk about his experiences of 'Surprising Discoveries in Unusual Places'.

Monday 3 April: Keith Talbot on Restoration of Collectables for Beginners

We meet in the Baxter Room at Wake House, 2pm start.

**Group Leader Steve Froy**



## Abbey Church Garden Group



A small group of us meet on the last Tuesday afternoon of every month to tidy Church Walk and the ground immediately around the Abby Church. As we are coming up to spring there is a lot more work to do and we need a bit more help – Pat is already on her knees!

If you would like to spend an hour a month having a little gentle exercise in the fresh air with good company, please contact me on 01778 426483 or [mpscriven@hotmail.com](mailto:mpscriven@hotmail.com)

**Group Leader Malcolm Scriven**

## Friday Striders

On a bright but breezy 13<sup>th</sup> January 25 striders and 3 guests met at Barnack for the first walk of 2023. After walking through the village, the walk passed through the Hills and Hollows. A medieval quarry now a Site of Scientific Interest (SSI). Half the surviving limestone grassland in Cambridgeshire can be found at the site which is now protected due to the number of orchids which grow each year.



The walk then passed an entrance to Walcot Hall, whose owners once sued and won £950,000 compensation for the noise levels of harrier jets from RAF Wittering although the judge did say the RAF could continue to fly over the house and land nearby.

After walking through the village of Southorpe the walk continued onto Ufford and briefly onto the Torpel Way skirting Bainton before returning to Barnack. In total the walk was 6 miles in length although 3 walkers did opt for a shorter 4 mile walk.

Future walks include Haconby on the 24<sup>th</sup> February and Ryhall on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Details from Group Leader Janet Cartwright [bourneu3astriders@gmail.com](mailto:bourneu3astriders@gmail.com)

**Group Leader Janet Cartwright**

## The Anytime Out Group

The Anytime Out group will continue to organise coach trips to places of interest. We aim to provide one trip per month from February to November. Each trip will start from Bourne Bus station on the Third Thursday of the month. Departure time will normally be 9:30 am – get there 10 minutes earlier please - but it may vary a bit depending up on distance to cover. You can look on the U3A web site for our current confirmed schedule and details of each trip.

Our coach has 49 seats, and we nearly always have spare seats.

I have set up a group called **Anytime Out – Standby**. This group will not have any activities of its

own, but its members will be informed of Anytime Out trips. Although I am limiting the number of people in this new group, I would like to hear from everyone who would like to be included in the list. Once I know the numbers of interested people, I will work out an appropriate way of handling the demand.

Our immediate schedule of visits are: -

- February 16th: to the Derby Museum of Making and is already a sell-out.
- March 16th: to Cadbury's World with lots of chocolate related activities as well as a chance to see some of the Bournville Village. There are still places on this chocolate trip (both meanings) so contact Stewart.
- April 18<sup>th</sup> : We are looking at visiting one of the following:- The Space Centre in Leicester, Royal Armouries in Leeds or a day visit to York.  
Email me or come and talk to us if you are interested.

**Group Leader Stewart Goldsmith**



## Bourne Brushstrokes - February 2023 Gallery



### Winter Theme

Rosie Cooper - St Petersburg & Bourne Abbey

Brenda Greatwood - Malham's lonesome tree

Newcomer Ann Wakeford - Wigwam Winter

Chris Moxley (Tutor) - Midnight Mass



BOURNE U3A COMMITTEE 2022 – 2023			
TITLE AND/OR JOB	NAME	PHONE	E MAIL
CHAIRPERSON	JOHN OWEN	07949524475	<a href="mailto:chairman@bourneu3a.org.uk">chairman@bourneu3a.org.uk</a>
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PUBLICITY OFFICER	VACANT		
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JOINT GROUPS AND NEW MEMBERS CO-ORDINATOR	PAT HOWES	425786	<a href="mailto:groups@bourneu3a.org.uk">groups@bourneu3a.org.uk</a>
RAFFLE ORGANISOR	JANET BURTON	426462	<a href="mailto:janet.jimjans@talktalk.net">janet.jimjans@talktalk.net</a>
	YAS FAIRBAIRN		
WEBMASTER	MARTIN ADKINS	07852 532276	<a href="mailto:webmaster@bourneu3a.org.uk">webmaster@bourneu3a.org.uk</a>
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I welcome reports of Group activities with photographs, if applicable.

**The copy date for the next issue will be  
9am on Saturday, 11 March 2023**

Please e-mail your copy and pictures to [editor@bourneu3a.org.uk](mailto: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.*

Group	Leader	Meets	Venue
Antiques & Collectables	Steve Froy 01778 393017	2nd Monday afternoon every month	Wake House
Anytime Out- Standby	Stewart Goldsmith 01778 426147	As advised by Group Leader	As advised by Group Leader
Art History 2	Betty Davies 01778 571631	1st Wednesday morning every month	At Members Homes
Aviation History	John Owen 07949 524475	4th Thursday afternoon every month	Wake House
Birdwatching / Natural Hist	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
Computer Tutoring	Martin Adkins 07852 532276	As required	
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	
Discussion	Linda Parker 01778 425389	3rd Thursday of every month	At Members Homes
Drama Workshop	Malcolm Ranson 01778 423834	2nd Wednesday every month	St Firmens Church Hall, Thurlby
Friday Striders	Janet Cartwright 01778 344831	Friday mornings twice a month	
Gardening	Janet Blacoe 01778 393226	1st Tuesday afternoon every month	St Firmens Church Hall, Thurlby
Green Bowls	David Ashby 01778 424137 Steve Froy 01778 393017	Currently Tuesdays and Thursdays Outdoors BTBC	As Notified By Group Leader
Jazz	May Slater 01778 425525	<b>On hold until the New Year but please contact leader if you are interested</b>	Check with Group Leader
Listening to Classical Music		<b>On hold until New Year. If interested contact Pat Howes on 01778 425786</b>	At members homes
Litter Picking Group	Vaughan Roberts 01778 426255 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
Lunch Lunch	Chris Cooke 01778 393544	To suit members	As notified by Group Leader
Meeters & Greeters	Bill Reid 01778 570234	At the main Monday meetings	
Memorial Garden Group	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483	Last Tuesday afternoon of each month or as notified	Outside Church in Church Walk
Play Reading	Marylyn Black	1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings each month	Members homes
Railway	Tony Burke 01778 426617 Paul Gosden 01778 420292	First Wednesday of each month at 14.00Hrs	As Notified By Group Leader
Reading 4	Chris Ankerson 01778 422391	Last Tuesday morning every month	At Members Homes
Reading Morton	David Mainwaring 01778 571213	1st Friday morning every month	At Members Homes
Science and Technology	Malcolm Scriven 01778 426483 Eric Cooper 01778 394656	1st Tuesday morning every month	St Firmens Church Hall, Thurlby
Singing for Pleasure	Marjorie Wright 01778 422252 Jill Gornall 01778 423677	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons every month	Methodist Church Hall
Snooker (3)	George Brown contact at gw.b@btinternet.com	Every Thursday 13.30 to 16.00	Snooker 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