



# BOURNE U3A NEWSLETTER

## September 2019

u3abourne.org.uk

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1100094

*Photograph of the month: Rutland Water by Vaughan Roberts*

### *Chairman's Chat*

Hi Everybody,

There isn't much to recommend the aging process except freedom from the tyranny of fulltime paid employment and the opportunity to do things you never had the time or energy to do while at work or bringing up a family.

One of the things I have enjoyed in retirement is going to Stamford Arts Centre, particularly for concerts. I have a love of folk music, especially from the Celtic fringes – perhaps reflecting my Scottish ancestry. I remember one brilliant concert by Ally Bain (on fiddle) and Phil Cunningham (on accordion). They played for two hours, without music, and with a precise energy that was incredible to see. Watching two people play with an almost telepathic understanding of what the other one was going to do next was a real delight.

Music has played an increasing role in my life over the last six years and my wife, Lesley, realised a lifelong ambition when she retired and started to learn to play the clarinet. Her teacher is kind enough to try and teach me the recorder – dupuytren's contracture limiting my choice of instrument and wishing to stay on good terms with the neighbours precluding the trumpet or trombone. Music is now an interest that we can share and the mental and physical challenges it presents help to keep mind and body sharp.

Lesley was making slow but steady progress when her teacher persuaded her to join Sleaford Training Band. Since then, her playing has become much more confident and fluid. There is no doubt that if you play a musical instrument, having other people to play with, learn from and compare notes with, not only improves your own abilities but can be good fun into the bargain. If only my playing was not so full of breathless squeaks and painful pauses!

I have come across a number of people who say they used to play such and such a musical instrument but haven't touched it in years and all of this has made me wonder, are there any lapsed piano players or other musicians around in Bourne U3A? We have a couple of music listening groups but the only music making group is Singing for Pleasure. We have 634 members in Bourne U3A but only 21 who are making music. Those of you who have always played probably already have an outlet for your musical talents but what about those who haven't played for years, or those, like me, who are just starting to learn? Would any of you appreciate the chance of playing with others? Would anybody be willing to organise such a group? If so, have a word with our Group Co-ordinators, Karen and Penny.

Cheers,  
Malcolm

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

**Glenys Brown, Yaswanti Fairbairn, Audrey Peet, Peter Taylor, Gordon Usher**

### **New Members Meetings**

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

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<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>
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>
<b>2020</b>	
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> U3A Drama Group
15 June	Clive Simpson – <i>What do we do with Space – the final frontier?</i>
20 July	Ken Davies – <i>Rutland Osprey Project</i>
17 August	Jane Barnes – <i>The Delight of Dairy Farming</i>
21 September	Rob Eastaway - <i>Maths – the beautiful drama</i>

<b>ROTAS FOR THE COMING MONTHS</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>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>
<b>DESK CLERKS</b>	Ingrid Canwell Jane Christmas	Chris Cooke Susan Hadfield	Cathy Hebborn Margaret Smith	Anne Barrett Marilyn Batchelor
<b>VISITOR HOSTS</b>	Eleanor Boss Jan Douglas Pat Benn	Colin Peters David McDonald Deirdre Neagus	Bill Reid Vaughan Roberts Pam Smith	Dennis Winsor May Slater Pat Benn
<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	Play Reading	Poetry	Reading (Bourne)	Executive Committee

## *Introducing the Committee ....*

### **Bill Reid - Rotas**

I have been married to Eleanor for 50 years, 48 of which have been in the Bourne area. We have 5 children and 4 grand-children and have fostered about 50 others.

I started secondary school at Oundle then qualified as a toolmaker at Hotpoint before going on to design machines and automation and not retiring until the age of 71.

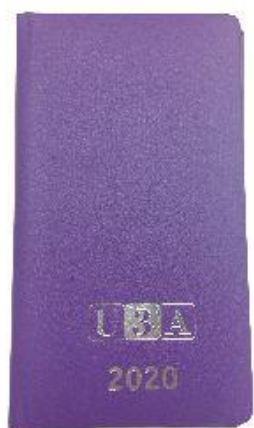


There have been many achievements in that time including designing the world's first automated nut runner and the design of Cadbury's prototype machine to produce their Snaps, (a chocolate Pringle), which is now produced in Australia.

I have many hobbies including gardening, photography, walking and DIY, but most of my time since retirement has been the slow renovation of my 200 plus year old house.

## *Committee Page*

### **Do you need a 2020 pocket diary?**



**The 2020 U3A diary is now available to purchase through the online shop.**

**Individual Diaries can be purchased at £3.25, or packs of 5 are £13.75 (£2.75 per diary)**

**Please allow up to two weeks for delivery.**

**[Shop Now](#)**

## **POETRY GROUP - PHILIP DUNKERLEY**

On a bright and breezy day, with the temperature in the middle 20s, our August meeting tackled the topic of 'Summer'. Curiously, most of the poems we selected were about rain! Not that we didn't manage to include a poem called 'Fat Southern Men in Summer Suits' and another 'London's Summer Morning' by Mary Robinson (1758-1800), a woman poet who, though little known, achieved much during her lifetime.

One of our favourite choices, though, was a sonnet by local poet John Clare (1793-1864), who's great knowledge of the countryside round Helpston and effortless rhyming is always a delight. If you've not yet visited the John Clare Heritage Centre at Helpston, do go! Here's the poem:

### **Summer Evening**

The frog half fearful jumps across the path,  
and little mouse that leaves its hole at eve  
nimbles with timid dread beneath the swath;  
my rustling steps awhile their joys deceive,  
till past, and then the cricket sings more strong,  
and grasshoppers in merry moods still wear  
the short night weary with their fretting song.  
Up from behind the molehill jumps the hare,  
cheat of his chosen bed, and from the bank  
the yellowhammer flutters in short fears  
from off its nest hid in the grasses rank,  
and drops again when no more noise it hears.  
Thus nature's human link and endless thrall,  
proud man, still seems the enemy of all.

## **WINE APPRECIATION 3 – JACKIE SEARL**

Continuing the theme of investigating a single grape variety, we chose white wine in the hope we would have a warm summer evening and could sit in the garden. However, it was a windy but humid evening, so we drank our Pinot Grigio wines indoors, although the grape variety was not revealed until after the two wines had been sampled.

Our first choice was a Campanula 2017 from Hungary. We decided it was a fruity wine with citrus undertones, dry in the mouth but some felt it then became sweeter. None of us identified the green apple and most did not recognise the grape variety.

Our second was an Alessandro Gallici 2016 from the Veneto region of Italy. This was paler, dryer with more body than the first. Again, there were apple and citrus flavours, but the taste differed totally from the Hungarian wine.

Both wines came from Laithwaites and would be good with seafood/fish with the Italian also recommended for roasted vegetables and chicken.

Most people were surprised to find they were drinking Pinot Grigio. Although everyone enjoyed both wines, the Group were evenly split on which of the two they preferred.

We continued the evening with good conversation and Italian themed refreshments of meats, cheeses, bread, tomato salad, etc.



## *Group News*

### **RAILWAY GROUP - TONY BURKE**

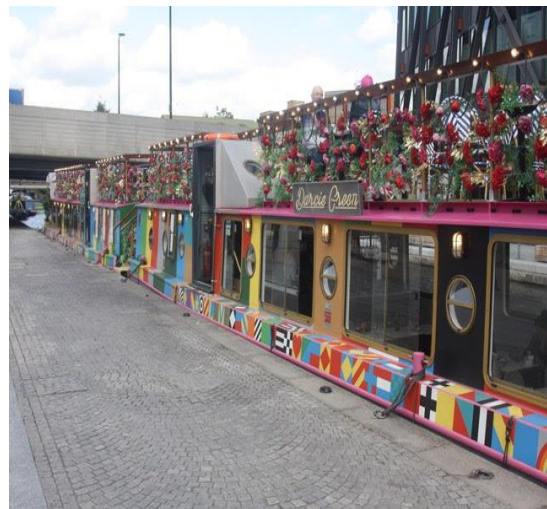
After some 18 months of trying, we eventually managed to organise a formal tour of Paddington Station. And for which it was well worth waiting.

12 of us met-up, as usual, on the 07.30 Hrs bus out of Bourne in order to catch our train to Kings Cross from where we bused it to Paddington. (Mick and I were the last to board the Delaine Bus and, much to the amusement of the other passengers, the rest of our party started handing me money – because I had bought all the train tickets!).

We were met there by bubbly Lorna, a member of the Station Staff. With a colleague of hers we divided into two parties to be shown around the station with all its history and upgraded facilities. One I.K. Brunel created the whole estate in the 1850's to launch trains along his super-smooth, level line to Bristol (and eventually the West Country). The basis of his creation is still there, although much has been modernised – and very tastefully, it has to be said.

Outside the station, moored along-side the walkway (towpath) are several barges which have been decorated and converted into cafes and bars. It is worthwhile visiting the station just for these facilities.

We were taken around the Management Offices, amongst which was the control room. The people in their stare, all day, at a multiplicity of video screens and “control” the movements of trains in-and-out of the station. (It is difficult to imagine going to work each day – the “work” being staring at a screen – and then going home!!! What a life!).



Great Western Railway (GWR – Gods Wonderful Railway!!) has a fleet of high-speed trains painted in a reserved, dark green, with a yellow blob on the streamlined nose and extended as a stripe across the roof. Seeing 5 or 6 such trains lined-up, from the side, was a very impressive sight. After much negotiation by our Bubbly Lorna, we were allowed into the driving cabin for a shufti at where the driver sits and what he does – all at 125 mph. Most impressive and what a difference from the physical effort and filth of the trains Mr. Brunel fostered.

We all enjoyed our “away-day” and thought it was a worthwhile exercise. However, there was one final bonus. We got talking to a fellow traveller who revealed he worked for London Underground as an engineer. Our little group has never had a speaker from or visit to an Underground facility. So, we asked him to come and give us a talk. He did not say “NO”, which we took as a hopeful sign. I have written to him inviting him, so keep your fingers crossed for us.

## **CHURCH VISITING – JACKIE SEARL**

Once again, the visit proved that you never know what you will find when visiting village churches. For our August meeting we visited St Botolph's, Helpston. Around 70 churches have this designation and the name is incorporated into five village names. St Botolph, the wayfarers' saint, was a 7th c Saxon, probably English, missionary saint who founded a monastery in a remote and desolate spot thought to be in Suffolk which was known to have been in operation from 654-870 AD.

We started with a walk around the outside of the church which is built of limestone from a quarry local to the village. Our guide indicated several interesting external features and explained the unusual structure of the tower, which contains three bells dated 1671, 1618 and 1866. The tower is unusual in having several identifiable levels; a square Norman base, an octagonal level from the 1330s, a clock of 1884, a level with four small windows and gargoyles finishing with a small spire.



We viewed the grave of the poet John Clare who lived a couple of hundred yards from the church. His grave has a new marker with inscription fashioned as a miniature upright version of the original.

Throughout the church there is evidence of the original Saxon building. Some carvings are incorporated into the existing building, others are housed in the tower area with a child-size coffin lid on display.

The Chancel roof is maintained by a Cambridge college with a nearby farm bearing the name of College Farm, (during a harsh winter our guide said he was shown two priests holes concealed within this building). A second nearby building has associations with Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII.

In front of the altar rail are the remains of two strips of a Roman mosaic pavement from a villa near the village. Although damaged, they do contain unusual features. Victorian mosaics of Alpha and Omega can be seen on either side of the altar. The south wall has a double piscina, dated to the reign of Edward II and a treble sedilia.

A wall plaque commentates an organist who played three successive organs over a seventy-year period. Close to it is an upside down head usually left by a Mason if he was unhappy about something such as non-payment of wages.





Also, on show are two, rather scary, medieval pew ends and a late 10<sup>th</sup> c carved wheel head cross (grave marker) which was found when the tower was rebuilt in 1865.



We thank our Guide, Chris, and the ladies who served us refreshments.

### **CORRECTION**

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

The Group will be displaying some of their work at the Bourne Garden Club Flower Show on **Saturday, 7th 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

#### **SUPPER GROUP – ROSIE COOPER**

Having just returned from a fabulous meal at the Ship Inn, Pinchbeck where the portion size was exceptional and the quality of the food totally delicious, reminded me that a photo was taken at our last Supper Group meeting. This was at the Queen's Head in Kirkby-la-Thorpe which was also a lovely meal. Our membership of 16 is now full but there are other eating out groups if they have spaces available. Our group has been established for over thirteen years and remains pretty constant but we do have a small waiting list.



## **IN AID OF ST. FIRMIN'S CHURCH, THURLBY**

**October 3rd - Doors open 7.15pm**

### **MUSIC IN THE AISLES**

**St Firmins Church, Church Street, Thurlby**

A great evening of Traditional JAZZ with

Mike Cotton (Trumpet) *Acker Bilk Jazz Band*,

Peter Oxborough (Clarinet/Sax) *Dixiemix*,

Chris Wigley (Trombone) *Dixiemix*,

John Stuart (Banjo/Guitar) *The Temperance Seven*,

Bill Coleman (Bass) *Kenny Ball's Jazzband*,

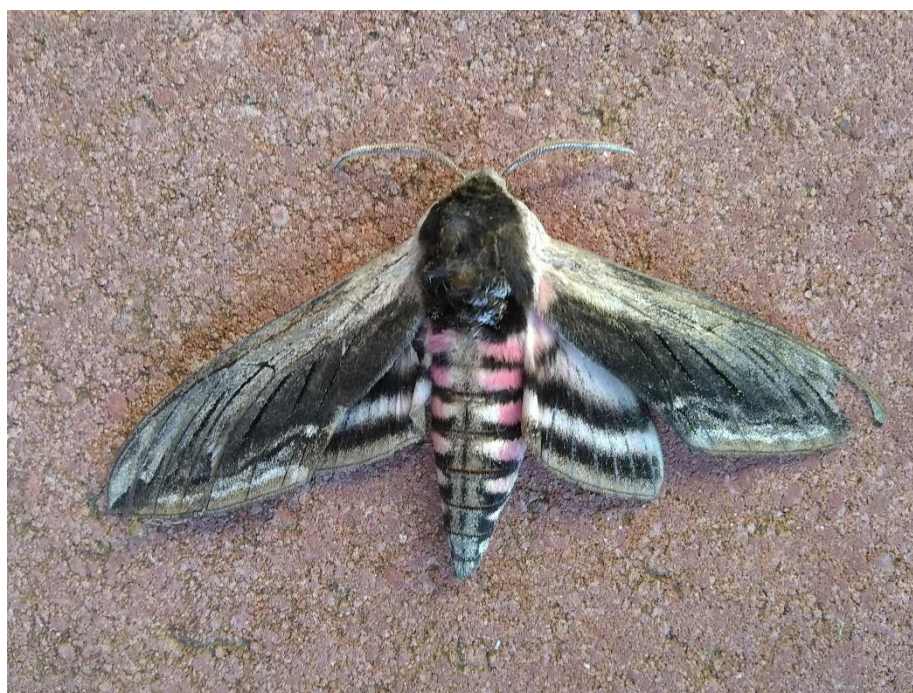
John Ellmer (Drums) *Terry Lightfoots's Jazz Band*.

Refreshments available at interval.

Tickets £10 phone Mary on 07432156298 or [email:mary.trumble2@gmail.com](mailto:mary.trumble2@gmail.com)

### **Are there any Melittologists or Apicologists (bee experts) out there?**

Nick Searing says he has found a dead bee in his garden and wondered if a member can identify it for him. (*Could it be a moth (in which case a Lepidopterist is a needed)*)?



Please contact Nick if you can help him – Tel: 01778 422764 or E Mail: [nick.searing@gmail.com](mailto:nick.searing@gmail.com)



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		0 2nd Wednesday morning every month
Art History 2	0	Betty Davies	1st Wednesday morning every month
Aviation History	NO LIMIT	simplyjohn@outlook.com	4th Thursday afternoon every month
Basic Cookery (for men)	0	alanplmr@sky.com	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		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	discussion@u3abourne.org.uk	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	obrien42polly@gmail.com	Every Tuesday morning
Friday Striders	0	bourneu3a.walk@gmail.com	Friday mornings twice a month
Gardening	2	janetblacoe@gmail.com	1st Tuesday afternoon every month
Green Bowls	NO LIMIT	01778 424137	Every Thursday Morning
Handicrafts	1	handicraft@u3abourne.org.uk	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	groups@u3abourne.org.uk	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	dunkerleyphilip@hotmail.com	2nd Friday morning every month
Poetry 2	NO LIMIT		0 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	whitfieldhm@gmail.com	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		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	airforce1.dr@gmail.com	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	geraldblacoe@gmail.com	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	JOHN OWEN	420378	<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>
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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 October issue is  
9am on Saturday, 5 October 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.*