

WEST WOLDS

u3a

"Learn, Laugh and Live"

Website: www.westwoldsu3a.org

May 2022 Newsletter

Issue 105

Thanks for all contributions, these are very well received, I will endeavour to get them in if possible. *Terry Francis (Editor)*

newsletter@westwoldsu3a.org

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Each month seems to come around so quickly as Terry and I were saying recently. We have to prepare the content a few weeks before you get to read it. If you have an article about your interest group please do send it in. I am happy to report that our Upholstery Group has restarted, with restricted numbers. This means we have a safe space to work in both in the garage for clean tasks and outside when it comes to stripping off old upholstery. It was lovely to get back together again and encourage each other with help and advice. Many tasks feel less daunting if you have someone else with you.

We do need people to step forward to run new groups or revive old groups which no longer have someone to run them. The organisation has to continually renew itself for it to be able to carry on so please think about what you can contribute. That might be running a group, standing for committee jobs, being a greeter, helping, set up the Festival Hall once a month or helping with refreshments. All these tasks are necessary for the smooth running of our u3a and require people to volunteer to do them.

I am very grateful that there is a Family History Group and a Local History Group, both of which I attend. I have learnt so much over the years by being a member of these groups. Various radio and television programmes have also been fascinating and continue my life long learning. I hope you are all enjoying learning new things and meeting new people at our u3a.

Best wishes
Gail Dennis, Chairman

We need catering volunteers to come forward to help in the kitchen in July, please contact Rachel Telfer.

SPEAKER PROGRAMME 2022

9th June 'Age UK - Get Involved!



Age UK Lindsey is an independent local charity, working to promote and improve the well-being of older people in East Lindsey, West Lindsey and North Lincolnshire. Katie and Lin will talk us through their initiatives and projects.

14th July 'The discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun' by Eric Jackson



This year marks the 100 year anniversary of the opening of Tutankhamun's tomb by Howard Carter.

The talk describes the discovery of the tomb, its layout and the principal items found; and also what happened afterwards including the so-called 'Mummy's Curse'.

11th August Trevor Rogers 'Gardening in The North'



What are the key adaptations we gardeners must make to succeed in a less than perfect climate? Trevor is a fruit growing consultant and horticultural speaker, as well as finding time to be a volunteer gardener at Gunby Hall.

WHAT DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE PAY FOR?

Every u3a across the country pays a fee to the national office called 'Capitation'. It has increased this April to £4 per member, and for West Wolds this amounted to £1,248. So what do we get from national office for this fee? The one most people are aware of is **Insurance Cover** yet there is a general misconception as to what this really covers so here is a short overview:

Public Liability

Covers injury caused to a third-party or their property arising from a u3a activity. Members can be regarded as a third-party if they are injured as a result of an accident for which the u3a is legally liable.

Property

Covers damage to moveable items owned by the u3a and contents of a member's home whilst a u3a activity is hosted.

Cyber

This covers any costs involved following a data loss.

Money

This covers Theft of u3a money as a result of a break-in or during a u3a activity.

Apart from insurance, National office deliver training workshops, summer schools, advice and legal updates, procedures for committees to follow, an annual AGM, as well as regional conferences to exchange ideas and receive updates on future strategy, online learning events free to all members on diverse subjects (more info: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>) Branded items and so on.

In addition, there is a fee for members to receive the **Third Age Matters** (TAM for short) Magazine at £3.35 per member which on current predictions will be invoiced shortly at approx. £800. Members can opt-out of receiving this publication if it is not required, or could share with another member, either option would make a saving to our u3a coffers (see below).

Finally there is a £1 per member fee to cover the costs of **Beacon**. This is the management system designed and implemented by u3a members which frees up a lot of time and effort for committees and streamlines many of the processes required to run a u3a.

So from your £17 standard single-membership rate*, there is £8.65 remaining to run West Wolds u3a on (*some members pay a reduced rate so we do not receive that from all members). The biggest outlay is the monthly general meeting with hall hire fees (which increased by 35% in April), speakers and refreshments. There are other costs of course, Neighbourhood fees, printing and postage generally and for the Newsletter, stationery, PAT testing, start-up grants for new groups and so on- the details are presented at the AGM each November.

What you also receive, apart from that mentioned above, is access to over 40 interest groups; providing not only the opportunity to learn or improve a skill or your health and wellbeing but a social setting to meet new and old friends and laugh, live, learn.

Sharon Rupp - Secretary

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE - DO YOU READ THE THIRD AGE MATTERS MAGAZINE?

Those eagle eyes among you will be well aware that times are getting tougher, and of course our u3a is no exception. Your committee have spent some considerable time thinking how we might save money rather than put up the fees, and one of our largest expenses is the cost of our National magazine which is £3.35 per annum per household to cover the postage on five issues. This is called Third Age Matters (TAM).

We are aware that these are not widely read by our members, though there are some who enjoy

receiving and reading them. Other local u3a's charge their members extra to receive TAM. We don't want to go down that road at this time but instead we have decided to ask you to let me know if you want to continue to receive this. Therefore will you please let me know by the end of July if you want to continue to receive the magazine. If I don't hear from you, I will assume you do not want TAM.

If you are still taking TAM and don't want to keep it after you have read it, why not bring it to the monthly meeting to recycle for another member to take it away and benefit too?

Jane Guy, Membership Secretary

U3A 40TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH - 14TH APRIL 2022

After 2 years of not having Spring or Christmas lunches held at the Market Rasen Golf Club due to the pandemic, I am pleased to report that the U3A 40th Anniversary Lunch held on Thursday 14th April 2022 was a success. From comments I received on the day and after the lunch. This was despite the Golf Club's building works finishing late and me the organiser unexpectedly catching Covid, 12 days before the event. The lunch was a good example of the ethos of U3A as an organisation.

- ◆ **Organised by the members for the members:** I would like to thank Terry Francis, Gail Dennis and Angela Murtagh for their assistance.
- ◆ **Live:** I would like to thank the 38 members of West Wolds U3A for buying their tickets and supporting the event. I do hope the 4 members who bought tickets and were not well enough to attend the lunch at the last minute are fully recovered.
- ◆ **Learn:** I would like to thank Joe Willisich for his thought - provoking talk about anniversaries and celebrations and what these meant to those present at the lunch. From Joe's potted history of the U3A organisation I believe we all learned some new facts and figures. Joe went on to explain what 'a life saver U3A' had become for himself and I

- ◆ know this resonated with other members.
- ◆ **Laugh:** There was plenty of laughter in the function room. The lunch was a golden opportunity to socialise with existing friends and acquaintances whilst making new ones.
- ◆ Last, but not least, I would like to thank Janet, the Manageress and her team from the Market Rasen Golf Club for all their hard work to make our lunch a success. I am looking forward to hopefully organising our Christmas Lunch on Thursday 8th December 2022.

Shirley Fuller

CYCLING GROUP - WHY NOT GET BACK ON YOUR BIKE WITH THE U3A ?

As we approach Spring how about exercising in the better weather and try cycling.

If you and/or a friend are interested in moderate exercise there may be a ride that suits you both

Members can liaise with the group leads and bring a friend, to introduce new members, to promote our active u3a.

To see what's on, visit the U3A website's cycling pages.

Gordon Jennings

HEALTH ISSUES

If you have a hearing or sight issue, or any other health issue that you feel we may be able to help you with whilst attending a group or the general meeting, please speak in complete confidence to a committee member.

Catering Helpers Rota

June

Serving:: Alison Lang
Christine Pearce
Kitchen: Vera Brisban
Mike Newton

July

Serving:: Keith Grayburn
Anita Handford
Kitchen: **2 Helpers needed**

Greeters Rota

June

Gillian Anderton
Barry Dukes
Eunice Hughes

July

Pauline Wellings
Val Walsh
T B A

GARDENING GROUP PROGRAMME



25th May: Basic pruning workshop at The Fern Nursery in Binbrook. £3 p.p.

21st June: Visit to Overbeck, Scothern. Private garden of John & Joyce Good **(NEW)**

24th/27th June: A four-day holiday to The Lakes, visiting gardens and staying in the Riverside Hotel in Kendal.

19th October: Monthly meeting. Peter Williams People, Plants, Places.

20th December: Monthly meeting. Janette Merillion, garden designer "The sensual garden".

The holiday in June is for four days to the Lake District and again there are still some seats available on the coach. If you would like more information, please contact Jane as below.

To join the group, or for any other garden enquiry please contact me by phone

**Jane Guy: telephone 0797 1277 482,
email gardening@westwoldsu3a.org**

Visit to Ashfield House on Sunday the 17th April.

This was the most perfect way to spend a Sunday morning. It was such an informal arrangement, that we would be at the garden at 11.00am but with no fixed notion of actually meeting up. It was lovely to see so many members of the group there; some people whom I already knew and others whom I had seen before but never had the opportunity to speak to. We sat in the courtyard outside the old stable building, enjoying coffee, cake and good company in pleasant Spring sunshine.

I had no idea what to expect at Ashfield House and the garden was a complete surprise. I think I was anticipating the formality of borders and beds, all laid out in pristine fashion and properly

labelled. Instead there was the most wonderful relaxed feeling of space, and room to wander amongst beautiful trees. The first area we came across was the cherry trees, 150 of them in 40 different varieties, standing in beautifully mown grass and surrounded by swathes of white daffodils. The blossom was beautiful, and even more so on a lovely morning with enough sunshine and blue sky to show it off. There were so many shades of white, pink and cream and even one where the blossom was a delicate shade of green. And the colour of the bark was amazing too. There were some which glowed smooth and red; absolutely irresistible. I just had to touch them.



Photograph courtesy of Tom Leigh.

Then on to the magnolias. Again there were so many varieties in so many colours – from deep purples and pinks, through to cream and yellow (as pictured above). And just beyond the magnolias, the garden could be seen in a natural wild state towards its border, plainly a home to so much wildlife. The further reaches of the garden were clearly a haven for birds and wildlife of all descriptions.

Apart from the drifts of white daffodils, there were other areas dedicated to bluebells and fritillaries. The bluebells were promising but not yet in bloom. Fritillaries are always a joy to see. Another patch was full of primroses. Or perhaps they were primulas? By now I didn't mind what they were. The informality of the garden was getting to me. I was just at ease, walking beneath the trees and alongside the lake, watching a mallard with three fluffy ducklings. It was all so beautiful.

Memories by Stephanie Heywood.

**PRUNING WORKSHOP on Wednesday, 25th May
at 2 p.m. at The Fern Nursery, Binbrook.**

Several of our garden group members have asked me to arrange some workshops, although the only topic I have been given so far has been 'pruning'. You will recall Neil Timm, who came to our meeting in February and gave us an interesting talk about ferns. He has also written several gardening books and is an expert when it comes to all things gardening. He is opening up his garden to us on the 25th May. Like myself, Neil is also a bowler and has a large bowling green in his garden along with pavilion which his village are pleased to use. On the pruning day we will be in the pavilion for the workshop where he will also serve us tea and cake. This workshop is only £3 per person so do come and join us for what I know will be an interesting and entertaining session. First, though, you need to make a booking with me but bring your money on the day. I hope to see you there.

Jane Guy

**LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
2022 PROGRAMME.**

June - 14th. "Railways of Lincolnshire" - Alan Stennett.

July - 12th. Visit to Lincoln Cathedral, guided by David Oliver.

August - 9th. Visit to the Joe Nickerson's Gallery at Rothwell - Paddy Schilling.

September - 13th. "Discovering Cleethorpes"
A guided walk around Cleethorpes by Emma Lingard

October - 11th. "The Louth Industrial Trail" - Stuart Sizer.

November - 8th. "The Effects of the railway coming to Market Rasen" - Hazel Barnard.

December - 13th. Christmas Quiz - Paul Ettridge.

For information about any of these talks or visits contact **Paul Ettridge telephone 01472 398921**
Email groupcoordinator@westwoldsu3a.org

LEARN HOW TO PLAY GOLF CROQUET



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The Croquet season begins again after 5th April and will take a week or so to get going again. Bob Potter, Woodhall Spa, croquet convenor has offered some coaching sessions for those who want to play in the forthcoming tournament.

The Woodhall Spa U3A group meet at the Jubilee Park Lawns, Woodhall Spa every Tuesday morning at 10.15 a.m. till the end of October when the season ends. All equipment will be provided. Participants just need to wear casual clothing with flat soft soled shoes. Cost is £4 per session when participating with Woodhall Spa U3A members and lasts about 2 hours approx.

Anyone wishing to have some coaching sessions (4 West Wolds U3A members at each session) should email Bob direct [dadannepotter@gmail.com](mailto:dadanepotter@gmail.com) The date of the tournament is still awaiting Woodhall Spa Croquet Club to set their fixture list.

Anyone who wishes to participate in the tournament contact Shirley.fuller60@gmail.com or telephone 07810845178.

INCREASING OUR MEMBERSHIP

Can any members suggest any places in your villages around Market Rasen where we can place general u3a and speaker posters where people congregate, to advertise the West Wolds u3a.

Please let the Publicity Officer, **Gary Beighton**, know of any suggestions, and whether you are willing to collect a poster at the General Meetings to be put up in your neighbourhood.

NEWS FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

GIFT AID - WHAT IS IT?

This is a Government Scheme to offer financial help to charities and is now commonly used by charities such as The National Trust, so when you join or renew your membership they invite you to 'sign up for Gift Aid'. This means that if you pay a membership fee of say £50, 25% or 1/4 of that amount can be reclaimed by the charity from HMRC. Smaller charities have also taken advantage of this windfall and your u3a is no exception. It is the committee who have to reclaim the money, all you have to do, providing you are a taxpayer, is on your membership renewal form tick the box to say you are a taxpayer and then sign in the appropriate place. That's it - and we get 25% of your fee in addition. Please let Jane know if you are a UK taxpayer at any time and she will make the necessary arrangements.

BADGES

We are disappointed that very many of you do not wear your name badges at meetings. We know it is difficult for most of us to remember names of people who we do not see regularly, and it is so much nicer if we can call them by their name too.

We believe there are two main reasons for not wearing them, we forget to bring them with us, but more important 'what is the point' when we can't read them easily. The name is very small and there is a lot of other 'stuff' on the badge. We have therefore redesigned the badges and will introduce the new ones when you renew your membership in late summer/early autumn. As for those who forget to bring their badges - ladies keep them in your handbags and that way you should have them with you. Gentlemen - if you are coming with your wife ask her to put yours with hers. For those men who are on their own and for the ladies who regularly change their handbags - any suggestions are welcome!

LANYARDS

Generally our badges are ones we pin on, but your committee put theirs on blue lanyards and the convenors wear yellow ones; this is so you can more easily identify them. If any convenor needs a yellow lanyard, please contact me at a general meeting.

Jane Guy, Membership Secretary

Telephone: 0797 1277482

Email: membership@westwoldsu3a.org

CAPTION COMPETITION

Submit a funny caption

For example

Steve: it was windy today

Gary: no it's Thursday

Brian: So am I - let's have a drink!



CHANGES TO OUR GENERAL MEETINGS FROM APRIL 2022

Due to increasing costs, particularly for the hire of the Festival Hall for our monthly meetings, it has been necessary for the committee to consider how best to meet a potential shortfall in our funds. It has therefore been decided to increase our door fee to £1 from our April meeting onwards.

We hope that you will continue to support the monthly meetings where you can find out 'what's on', have a cuppa and a chat and hear a different subject speaker each month.

The Committee

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP-
APRIL PICTURES OF THE MONTH



Best Photo of the month
submitted by Angela Wilson

Lens Flare
submitted by
Steve McCarthy



Spring
Submitted by
Mary Orphanoudakis

GROUPS DISCLAIMER

Please be aware that now groups or activities have recommenced, it is your responsibility to take care of your own health and safety when participating in any u3a activities, and ensure that any current Government guidelines around Covid are adhered to.

The Committee

CHANGES OF CIRCUMSTANCE

If you have any changes of circumstance, e.g. change of address, telephone or email, or a death of a member, please let the Groups Co-ordinator and Membership Secretary know by phone or email.

COMMITTEE & MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES 2021/2022

Chairman and General Meeting Coordinator

Gail Dennis Tel: 01673 843575
chairman@westwoldsu3a.org

Vice Chairman

Jane Lloyd Tel: 01673 843078
vicechairman@westwoldsu3a.org

Treasurer

Terry Francis Tel: 01673 842088
treasurer@westwoldsu3a.org

Business Secretary, Speaker Finder

Sharon Rupp Tel: 07803 694889
secretary@westwoldsu3a.org
speakerfinder@westwoldsu3a.org

Membership Secretary and Safeguarding Officer

Jane Guy Tel: 01673 885415
membership@westwoldsu3a.org

Groups' Coordinator

Paul Ettridge Tel: 01472 398921
groupcoordinator@westwoldsu3a.org

Newsletter Production Editor and Technical Support

Terry Francis Tel: 01673 842088
newsletter@westwoldsu3a.org

Publicity Officer

Gary Beighton Tel: 01673 849364
publicity@westwoldsu3a.org

Secretary to

East Lincs. Neighbourhood
Shirley Fuller Tel: 01673 885948
eastlincs@westwoldsu3a.org

Support Roles (Non Committee)

Catering Coordinator

Rachel Telfer Tel: 01673 844244
rachetelfer1@hotmail.co.uk

Greeters Coordinator

Caroline Dale Tel: 01673 844142
ginger.mike29@btinternet.com

Welfare

Mandy Murphy Tel: 01673 565295
Mandy.murphy1396@gmail.com

Website Administration

Steve McCarthy Tel: 01673 308364
webadmin@westwoldsu3a.org

How to Subscribe on the West Wolds website to receive updates and notice of New Posts by email.

Opening the West Wolds website homepage, www.westwoldsu3a.org, look for the area shown on the right.. Enter your email address and click on the 'Receive Updates' button. You will receive an email from Wordpress, which refers you to opening your account. Make sure you click the link shown.

Back copies of all Newsletters can be seen on the website.

Sign Up For Updates

Enter your email address to get updates from Westwolds U3A and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Join 93 other subscribers.

Recent Posts

Here is the Interest Groups Monthly Timetable as shown before the Lockdowns, please contact the relevant Group Convener shown overleaf to ascertain if the group is running, and times and where they meet.

Conveners, please check the days and times for your group are correct and let me know if any changes are needed. *Terry Francis (Editor)*

INTEREST GROUPS MONTHLY TIMETABLE (excludes short run groups)

WEEK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st	14:00 Bridge 14:00 Digital Photography 14:00 Turkish Delight Desert Dancers 14:30 Table Tennis	10:00 Family History 14:00 Backgammon 14:30 Spanish 14:30 German	10:00 Country Walks 10:00 Cycling (Short Rides) 10:30 Strollers 14:00 West Wolds Warblers 14:00 Canasta	10:00 Beginners Italian 10:00 Patchwork 10:00 Keep Fit 14:00 Indoor Bowls 14:30 Drama 14:30 Recorder Group	10:00 Latin 10:00 10:00 Biblical Hebrew 10:00 Cycling (Longer Rides) 14:00 Scrabble 14:00 Discovery Group
2nd	14:00 Bridge 14:00 Recorders 14:30 Table Tennis	10:00 Local History 10:00 Beginners Family History 14:30 Spanish 14:30 German	10:00 Embroidery 10:00 4 Mile Walkers 10:00 Cycling (Short Rides) 12:00 Luncheon Group 14:00 Poetry	09:45 GENERAL MEETING Festival Hall Market Rasen 14:00 Indoor Bowls 14:30 Drama	10:00 Latin 10:00 10:00 Biblical Hebrew 10:00 Cycling (Longer Rides)
3rd	14:00 Bridge 14:00 Digital Photography 14:30 Table Tennis	10:00 Country Walks 10:30 Strollers 14:00 Embroidery 2 14:30 Spanish 14:30 German	10:00 Telling our Stories 10:00 Cycling (Short Rides) 14:00 Readers Group 1 14:00 Gardening Group	10:00 Italian 10:00 Keep Fit 10:00 Patchwork 14:00 Indoor Bowls 14:00 I.T. Workshop 14:00 Discussion Group 14:30 Drama 14:30 Recorder Group	10:00 Latin 10:00 10:00 Biblical Hebrew 10:00 Cycling (Longer Rides) 14:00 Scrabble* (*And 5th Friday of the month, if there is one)
4th	14:00 Bridge 14:30 Table Tennis	10:30 3 Mile Walkers 14:30 Spanish 14:30 German	10:00 Embroidery (*Last Wednesday of month) 10:00 Cycling (Short Rides) 14:00 Rasen Book Group	10:00 Cross Stitch 10:00 Keep Fit* (* And 5th Thursday, if there is one) 14:00 Indoor Bowls 14:30 Drama	10:00 Latin 10:00 10:00 Biblical Hebrew 10:00 Cycling (Longer Rides)* (*And 5th Friday of the month, if there is one) 14:00 Mah Jong

INTEREST GROUP CONVENERS

BACKGAMMON

Bill Roberts 01673 842703

BIBLICAL HEBREW

Alison Atkinson 01673 849979

BRIDGE – New Convener required

TBA - New Convener required

CANASTA

Jan Watkins 01673 308791

CARD MAKING

Ginny Beard 01673 844432 / 07980 209642

CROSS STITCH

Audrey Storey, 01673 849625

CYCLING

Gordon Jennings 0794 8881121

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Pat Hage 01673 849447

DISCOVERY GROUP

Mary Howes 01673 849554

DISCUSSION GROUP

Angela Wilson angewilson55@gmail.com

DRAMA

Gail Dennis 01673 843575

EMBROIDERY

Pat Hage 01673 849447

FAMILY HISTORY

Jacqueline Reid 01673 849490

FAMILY HISTORY - BEGINNERS

Jacqueline Reid 01673 849490

GARDENING

Jane Guy 0797 1277482 / 01673 885415

GERMAN

Gary Beighton 0758 2227856

INDOOR BOWLS

Jane Guy 0797 1277482 / 01673 885415

ITALIAN (for beginners)

Patricia Spolton, 01673 828568

I.T. WORKSHOP

Steve McCarthy 01673 308364

KEEP FIT

Dawn Stopper 01472 851133

LATIN

Gwen Parsons 07749 044413

LINE DANCING

Margaret White 01673 849274

LOCAL HISTORY

Paul Ettridge 01472 398921

LUNCHEON GROUP

Caroline Dale 01673 844142

MAH JONG

Jacqueline Reid 01673 849490

PATCHWORK

Lyn Henry 01673 843851

POETRY

Eva Smith 01673 842218

READERS GROUP

Audrey Storey 01673 849625

RASEN BOOK GROUP

Kathryn Wade 01673 849487

RECORDER GROUP

Geoff Goddard 01673 842287

SCRABBLE

Audrey Storey 01673 849625

SPANISH

Sandra Dean, 01507 313934 / 0773 4456213

TABLE TENNIS – NOT CURRENTLY MEETING

Brian Siddown, 01673 860433

THEATRE VISITS

Jane Lloyd 01673 843078

TRIBUTE BANDS

Phyl Murray 01673 838543

TURKISH DELIGHT DESERT DANCERS

Gillian Anderton 01673 844382

UPHOLSTERY AND FURNITURE

RESTORATION – CLOSED DOWN TIL SPRING

Gail Dennis 01673 843575

THE WEST WOLDS UKULELE GROUP

Tim Hirst, 01673 849571

WEST WOLDS WARBLERS

Terry & Julia Francis, 01673 842088

THE 3-MILERS

Ken Howitt 01652 678490

THE 4-MILERS

Ken Howitt 01652 678490

THE COUNTRY WALKERS

Ken Howitt 01652 678490

THE STROLLERS – New Convener required

TBA – New Convener required

THE 9-MILE HIKERS – New Convener required

TBA – New convener required

Have a look at our Facebook page for interesting information, share it to all your friends, to increase our membership.



westwoldsu3a