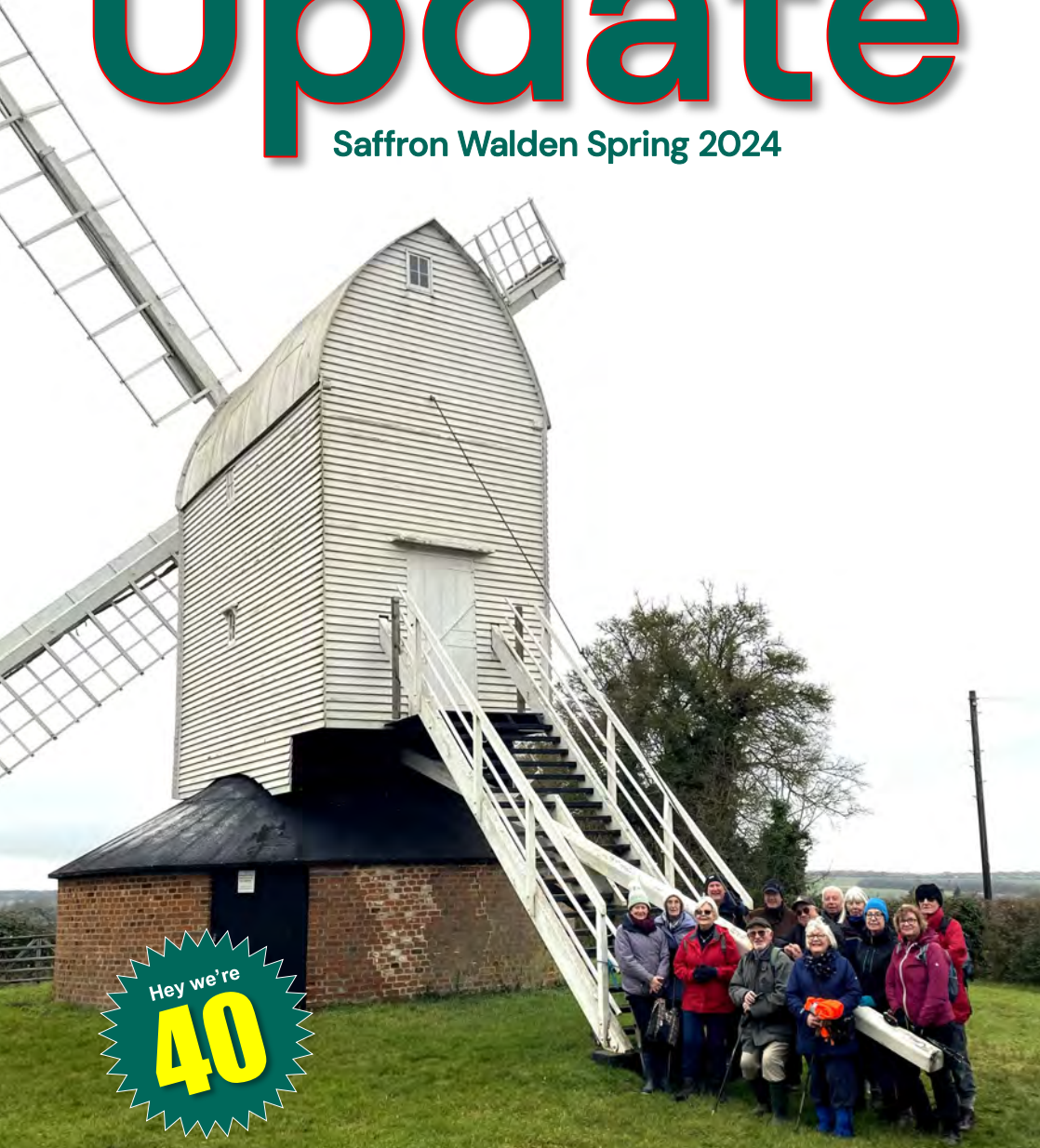


u3a Update

Saffron Walden Spring 2024



Hey we're

40

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Saffron Walden u3a:
Registered Charity
No 290670

Cover photo: Ramblers
at Ashdon Windmill by
Martin Hugall, December.

Chairman's Report

*"this year
we are
celebrating
our 40th
Birthday"*



Saffron Walden u3a was the first u3a to be formed in Essex in 1984, so this year we are celebrating our 40th birthday. We hope that you will come along and celebrate with us - see page 15 for details.

There have been many changes over those 40 years but some traditions remain. For example in December we hosted our annual Christmas Buffet at the Golf Club and in January we hosted our Activities and Groups Taster meeting at the Bowling Club, which was an outstanding success where we signed up 30 new members. Our thanks go to all those who participated and helped us to achieve that figure.

But whilst tradition is a good thing, we need to be innovative too. Which brings me to our Antiques Roadshow that was held at the Bowling Club in October. This was a first for us and proved to be another success, see article on page 10.

And take a look at our Theatre & Travel Group's programme for 2024. As well as theatre trips, there are visits to interesting and historical places, a river cruise plus holidays. Our u3a continues to offer a wide choice of activities to our members and we hope that you will take advantage, get involved and learn something new.

Our annual membership will be increasing to £15 from September due to spiralling costs, but I'm sure you'll agree that it still remains remarkable value for money.

Jim Dwyer, Chairman

It's the Chinese Year of the Dragon, so let's see if you can find the 2 hidden dragons in this edition of Update. There is also the usual deliberate mistake, come on - you know you love it! There are some Dingbats to work out and another 7-letter crossword just waiting for a genius to solve - could that be you?

Send all your answers to the Editor at: jim_dwyer@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary's Report

"more people are making use of our on-line payment facilities"



Thank you to everyone who renewed their membership and welcome to all new members who have joined us this year. At present our membership stands at 748 and is continuing to grow.

I am pleased to report that more people are making use of our on-line payment facilities. Over a third of renewals were paid using on-line payment via Beacon and many new members are choosing to pay their membership fee via BACS.

I do hope you are enjoying taking part in our activities or groups. Don't forget our monthly Open Meeting held at the Saffron Walden Bowling Club in Abbey Lane on the 3rd Monday at 1:45 pm each month. It is a good place to meet up with other members and listen to an interesting talk from a guest speaker.

If you have any questions about membership, please come and see me at an Open Meeting, I'm normally at the table where you sign in.

John Trueman,
Membership Secretary

Our u3a is going from strength to strength – thanks to the enthusiasm of our members. All our groups are thriving and we have 2 new ones starting – New Testament Greek Reading, and Scrabble. Following the Activities and Groups Taster event several people showed an interest in starting new groups and this is developing as I write. Hopefully we'll have more news soon.

"By the members, for the members" is the motto of u3a, so please consider what you can bring to our membership. We all have something we can share, a skill we can teach, and interests we can develop. So have a think – and let's make 2024 the year we have even more groups to keep our u3a alive and flourishing. I look forward to hearing your ideas.

Mary Curtis,
Activities Organiser



Activities Organiser's Report

"people showed an interest in starting new groups"

Saffron Walden u3a Committee

Title	Name	Tel.	Email
Chairman & Update Editor	Jim Dwyer	07531 115160	jim_dwyer@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman & Activities Organiser	Mary Curtis	01799 524784	maryfcurtis@live.co.uk
Secretary & Venues Organiser	Susan Brown	07808 772774	susan_m.brown_swu3a@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Steve Messenger	01223 890133	stevemessu3a@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	John Trueman	01799 541288	joandjohn@btinternet.com
Speaker & Special Events Organiser	Brian Kerrison	01799 516586	briankerrison599@btinternet.com
Non Committee			
Website Manager	Martin Hugall	01799 527805	mjh243419@gmail.com



Classes and Coordinators

Class	Coordinator	Telephone & Email	Day	Time & Venue
Art	Jean Mead	01799 501405 j.mead@mac.com	Tuesday	2:00 - 4:00 pm URC
Art Appreciation	Linda Dyer	01799 218759 lindadyr70@yahoo.co.uk	Friday	10:30 - 12:00 pm Bowling Club
Ballroom & Sequence Dancing	Pauline Palmer	01799 502560 pauline.palmer3@ntlworld.com	Tuesday	9:45 - 10:45 am URC Hall
Book Group 1	Mary Curtis	01799 524784 maryfcurtis@live.co.uk	First Thursday	10:30 - 11:30 am Café Cornell
Book Group 2	Susan Brown	07808 772774 susan_m.brown_swu3a@btinternet.com	Third Tuesday	10:00 - 11:15 am Café Cornell
Book Group 3	Susan Brown	07808 772774 susan_m.brown_swu3a@btinternet.com	First Tuesday	10:00 - 11:15 am Café Cornell
Book Group 4	Catherine Prentice	Catherine.prentice@btinternet.com	Third Thursday	10:30 am Café Cornell
Book Group 5	Gillian Frost	07814 669275 gillianfrost2@gmail.com	Second Thursday	10:30 - 12:00 noon Café Cornell
Choir	Walter Poulter	07766 330749 w.poulter9999@btinternet.com	2nd & 4th Wednesday	11:30 - 1:00 pm Quendon Village Hall
Cribbage	John Trueman Christine Taylor	01799 541288 joandjohnt@btinternet.com 01799 501886 christine.e.taylor@ntlworld.com	Thursday	2:00 - 4:30 pm Fairycroft
Drama	Gill Williamson	01799 524947 gill.e.williamson@gmail.com	Thursday fortnightly	2:00 - 4:00 pm Member's homes
Easy Riders Cycling	Colin and Anne Taylor	colinandannetaylor@live.co.uk	First Thursday	11:00 am



Classes and Coordinators

Class	Coordinator	Telephone & Email	Day	Time & Venue
Exploring Churches	Christine Hall	c.hall153@btinternet.com	Second Friday	Various
French Conversation 1	Joelle Doegar	01799 501897 joelle.doegar@gmail.com	Monday	2:00 pm Member's homes
French Conversation 2	Isobel Jones	01799 522552 isobel.jones@talktalk.net	Thursday	10:30 - 12:00 pm Member's homes
Gardening	Marilyn Hemmings	07788 544401 marilynhemmings@sky.com	Last Friday	2:00 - 4:00 pm Bowling Club
Gym Fit 1	Judy Hervey-Murray	01799 543164 judyhm@btinternet.com	Tuesday	11:30 - 12:10 pm Just Gym
Gym Fit 2	Judy Hervey-Murray	01799 543164 judyhm@btinternet.com	Monday	3:00 - 3:40 pm Just Gym
History Byways	Diane Tucker	tucker.diane@gmail.com	Monday fortnightly	11:00 - 12:00 pm Baptist Chapel
Indoor Bowling	Derek Ayres	01799 521180 derekandjuneayres@yahoo.co.uk	Contact coordinator	Turpins Indoor Bowls (behind Butler centre)
Keep Fit	Lynda Sawkins	01799 521022 sawkins.roylynda@gmail.com	Wednesday	11:15 - 12:15 pm Baptist Hall
Knit & Natter	Penny Maystre	01799 501262 pennymaystre74@hotmail.com	Monday	10:00 - 12:00 pm Coordinator's home
Landscape & Literature	Alex Reeve	01799 522818 alex_reeve@hotmail.com	Contact coordinator	Contact coordinator
Latin	Alex Reeve	01799 522818 alex_reeve@hotmail.com	Monday	11:00 - 12:30 pm Coordinator's home
Line Dancing	Rod & Betty George	01799 584527 rod.george1@btinternet.com betty.george1@btinternet.com	Monday	10:30 - 11:30 am 12:00 - 1:00 pm URC Hall



Classes and Coordinators

Class	Coordinator	Telephone & Email	Day	Time & Venue
Literature	Elise Collins	01799 540316 emcollins1@hotmail.co.uk	Last Wednesday	2:30 - 3:30 pm Faircroft
Lunch Club	Peter Cowper	01799 527161 petercowper@btinternet.com	Various	Monthly
Mah-Jong 1	Christine Greet Irene Bedward	01799 531732 tygreet@gmail.com 01799 528178 irenebedward@hotmail.com	Wednesday	1:30 - 4:30 pm Little Chesterfield Village Hall
Mah-Jong 2	Jess Grinyer	01799 500344 / 07811 382541 grinyer.jess@gmail.com	Thursday	1:30 - 3:30 pm Coordinator's home
Mah-Jong 3	Geraldine Plunkett	01799 599159 ger_plunkett@yahoo.co.uk	Tuesday	1:30 - 3:30 pm Coordinator's home
Mandarin	Wen Zhang	07425 830888 zhangwenl@gmail.com	Tuesday Friday	1:00 - 1:30 pm both, contact coordinator
New Testament Greek Reading	Chris Salter	07967 126045 chriskay02@gmail.com	Thursday Fortnightly	10:30 - 12:00 pm Members' homes
Nice'n'Easy Fitness	Jan Powell	01799 523855 janibobs@ntlworld.com	Wednesday	12:30 - 1:30 pm Baptist Church
Out & About	Rod George	01799 584527 rod.george1@btinternet.com	TBC	Contact Coordinator
Philosophy 1	Richard Gilyead	01799 510749 rgilyead@gmail.com	Tuesday monthly	10:30 am Coordinator's home
Philosophy 2	Peter Wright	01799 516749 p.r.wright@outlook.com	Second Tuesday	10:00 am Member's homes
Photography	Bronwen Woods	01799 599950 bronwenwoods@btinternet.com	2nd Monday monthly	2:00 - 4:00 pm Community Hub
Pilates 1	Hilary Price	01799 521696 hilaryprice127@gmail.com	Thursday	1:00 - 2:00 pm Friends Mtg House
Pilates 2	Irene Bedward	01799 528178 irenebedward@hotmail.com	Thursday	2:00 - 3:00 pm Friends Mtg House
Pilates 3	Rob Garmey	07497 969229 robgarmey@gmail.com	Thursday (during term)	3:15 pm Friends Meeting House
Pilates 8	Chris Kerrison & Christine Simpson	01799 516586 briankerrison599@btinternet.com	Tuesday	11:30 - 12:30 pm Baptist Hall

Classes and Coordinators

Class	Coordinator	Telephone & Email	Day	Time & Venue
Play Reading	Gill Williamson	01799 524947 gill.e.williamson@gmail.com	Third Monday	10:00 - 12:00 pm Coordinator's home
Ramblers	Colin Potterill	01223 834937 colinpotterill@hotmail.co.uk	Thursday fortnightly	10:00 am Leisure Centre
Scrabble	Bronwen Attenborough	01799 524772 bronwen.atten@googlemail.com	Thursday	10:00 - 12:30 pm Member's homes
Spanish Improvers	Jessica Reeve	01799 522818 jessicareeve@hotmail.co.uk	Wednesday	2:00 pm Coordinator's home
Table Tennis	Ann Cousins	01799 219072 cous.anns@gmail.com	Wednesday	2:00 - 4:00 pm Widdington Vill. Hall
Tai Chi 1 & 2	Angela Rowland	01799 521192 mrsarowland@gmail.com	Wednesday	1) 9:30 - 10:45 am Baptist Church 2) 10:45 - 12:00 pm Baptist Church
Theatre & Travel	Christine Duffy	01799 520173 chrisduffy146@gmail.com	Third Monday	1:45 pm Bowling Club
Holidays	John Martin	01799 521504 (07803 197983) jomacot@tiscali.co.uk	monthly	
	Jim Dwyer	07531 115160 jim_dwyer@btinternet.com		
	Jean Little	01799 513411 little361@btinternet.com		
Ukulele	Mary Curtis	01799 524784 marycurtis@live.co.uk	Wednesday fortnightly	10:00 - 11:30 am Wimbish Village Hall
Writing for Pleasure 1	David Broadley	07944 660231 david.broadley1@icloud.com	Monday fortnightly	10:00 - 12:00 pm Faircroft House
Writing for Pleasure 2	Lisa Mades	07939 437191 lisa.mades@gmail.com	Tuesday fortnightly	9:30am Member's homes

Coordinators: please check your details and advise the Editor if there are any errors. If you don't want your details to appear on the website please advise the Website Manager (details page 5).

Antiques Roadshow

We had an excellent turnout for our **Antiques Roadshow** which was held on Monday 23rd October at the Bowling Club. Members arrived with their treasured possessions, paid their £1 entrance fee and sat at tables positioned around the hall.

Possessions were placed on tables as refreshments were served by Committee members Mary and Susan. Our antiques expert, Mr Alan Woolston, walked from table to table giving his professional opinion and approximate value to each item. Any items he was unsure of he was able to give the owners some good advice.

Steve, our treasurer, gave a running commentary so that everyone could hear what was being said, although our sound system unfortunately let

him down on occasions. The items that members brought along were varied: there was a bronze bust of Nelson, a gold watch, a Mickey Mouse figure, china vases, jewellery, painted lead soldiers, limited editions, silver ware and much more.

Valuations varied too: £30 - £50 being a common value with some items being valued at three figures and a few reaching the dizzy heights of four figures. It was also a very good social occasion with members holding conversations and admiring each other's possessions whilst waiting for Alan to visit their table.

It was generally agreed that the event, dreamt up by our Marilyn Hemmings, was a great success and that we will be having another one later this year.



T&T: Melton Mowbray



Dateline: 7th November 2023.

Destination: Melton Mowbray.

Reason: To see a demonstration of pork pie making and tasting.

Well who could refuse an offer like that? 34 u3a Theatre & Travel members couldn't, so they set off at 8:00am heading for Melton Mowbray on a beautiful autumn day under the stewardship of coordinator Chris Duffy.

The journey took just under two hours, we were met by our guide who gave us a brief talk before we set off for coffee and a look at the market. We then headed for the church where our pork pie demonstration was to be held. Unusual place for a pork pie demonstration you may say, but we didn't complain.

Whilst we sat enthralled (see photo), our pork pie chef gave a brief history of how pork pies became the local delicacy whilst he assembled a pork pie. We learnt how the pastry was kneaded and shaped, how the meat

was prepared and which cuts were used. Once the meat was inserted into the pie, the pastry lid was added and secured to the sides with finger/thumb manipulation and water. A hole was pierced in the lid to allow steam to escape and for the jelly to be added.

There was no baking, but our chef had some pre-baked pork pies at the ready which he cut and handed round; everyone appeared to enjoy them.

After the demo we were given a voucher to purchase pork pies at Ye Olde Pork Pie Shoppe. This gave everyone an appetite so we headed back to the coach which took us to a lovely restaurant for our lunch.

The afternoon was spent driving around the beautiful countryside and through some lovely old villages with our guide describing the history and answering questions. We eventually dropped our guide off at the railway station and we headed for home, reflecting on a very enjoyable day.

Photography goes to College



Open





Further to their trip to Cambridge, see page 14, the Photography group took their cameras for a walk through Christ's College. Extreme left: a bicycle park, left: a statue of Jagadish Chandra Bose a student at Christ's College. Bottom left is a statue of Charles Darwin with a little bug, below centre is part of Hobson's Conduit and below is Christ's College motto '*Souvent me Souviens*' which translates as 'I often remember' or 'Think of me often'. The photos above include St John's College motto and some general shots.



Monday 13 November 2023 was the day chosen for one of the u3a's Photography Group's Cambridge location meetings. It was windy, with torrential rain first thing. Five brave souls attended; they were rewarded with blue skies and some sunshine.

The walk around Cambridge was led by Hilary, one of our members. We started our visit at Christ's College, which allows free entry; it also has a café, which is open to the public although we did not venture in. Our knowledgeable guide pointed out various unusual trees, as well as statues and items around the college. We also viewed various forms of architecture, some very old, as well as very modern and, dare I say, ugly new buildings?

During this part of the walk, before visiting Jesus College, we walked through some parts of Cambridge. We visited Lloyds Bank, which was built in 1891 in the Dutch renaissance style, but with a neo-Tudor extension from 1935. Inside we viewed the beautiful ceiling and wall tiles. We were amazed that we were allowed to take photographs,

provided we did not photograph any sensitive areas. We continued to Jesus College by visiting the back entrance to Waterstones bookstore, where there is an ornamental railing beside a staircase.

Jesus College also has free access to the grounds and the chapel where we saw some beautiful stained-glass windows. There were numerous statues in the grounds, far too many to see all of them in our short time there. The location meeting was deemed a success and it is hoped that we might organise another similar walk in the summer.

You do not need to be an expert or have a fancy camera to join the group; some members use their mobile phones. Each monthly session has a "learning" section and a photographic theme; after refreshments we view members' themed photographs. If you would like to join the photography group, the details are on page 8 and on our website, which is (www.saffronwaldenu3a.org.uk) under "Groups". You will be assured of a warm welcome.

Susan Brown



See previous page

Theatre & Travel

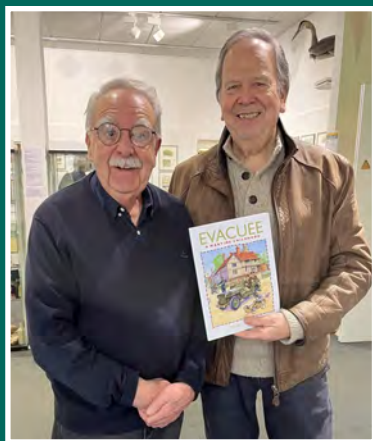
If you like to visit interesting places or to see a West End show and enjoy the company of like-minded people, then the Theatre & Travel group is waiting to hear from you.

The coordinators are available every third Monday of every month (except August &

December) at the Open Meeting in the Bowling Club. Doors open at 1:45pm

For all the latest information, dates, costs etc, please contact one of our T&T coordinators, contact details appear on page 9, or check out our website: www.saffronwaldenu3a.org.uk

Saffron Walden Museum



On 25th November, I visited the Saffron Walden Museum to meet Brian Sanders, author of his autobiography 'Evacuee, A Wartime Childhood'. Brian lived in the Elephant and Castle area of London as a child, but was evacuated to Saffron Walden during the Second World War.

Brian's recollections of that period are funny yet poignant and his illustrations of Saffron Walden as it used to be are excellent and nostalgic, conjuring up a period of shortages and hardship but from a humorous perspective.

The museum always offers something interesting to see, from Ancient Egypt through to local history - definitely worth a visit. **JD**

IT'S OUR 40th BIRTHDAY

Come and celebrate with us.

At The Bowling Club in Abbey Lane
on Monday 16th September 2024 - 1:30 pm to 4:30 approx.

There'll be cake, drinks and plenty of entertainment with the Ukulele Group and others.

It's going to be a momentous event so make a note in your diary now

Drama

In December, our U3A Drama Group presented a recital of a variety of Christmas-themed prose, poetry and drama with a smattering of Christmas songs and carols to a total of six different centres for older/disabled people in Saffron Walden, Newport and Thaxted. We had fun performing and singing (trying to sing in my case!) The Drama sketch was an original piece

written by our own Jim Ford, ironically titled, 'The Joys at Christmas'. We hope our audiences had fun, too. They usually joined in with the songs and laughed in the right places! We hope to continue this type of entertainment in 2024. Watch this space!

Gill Williamson, coordinator



Holiday to Scotland 2024

The Rob Roy Hotel, Aberfoyle
8th to 14th September 2024

Stopping overnight on the way up and back.

**Dinner, bed and breakfast - 6 nights/7 days
£759.00 - Price to reduce if 25 persons.**

Contact Jean Little: Telephone 01799 513411
Email: little361@btinternet.com

Cribbage

A poem by Phil Collins

Fairycroft House, Thursdays at two,
Card players meet. What do they do?
These Cribbers come from near, and far,
Arriving by foot, bus and car.

Ready to play? Now take a card,
Then find your partner, not too hard!
All nice people, or so it seems.
'Til they're drawn against other teams.

Tensions mount as the game begins;
Does it really matter who wins?
Cards shuffled, then drawn for the deal;
Good hand, bad hand, the tension's real.

Just what is it these Cribbers say?
That cryptic language used in play.
Just when you think you're a hero,
You shout nineteen, but get zero.

Then you get a cute yellow duck,
To bring you cheer for your bad luck.
Cards which total fifteen score two,
No more points? Then the rest won't do.

It's Morgan's orchard, for two pairs,
And one for his Nob, if one dares!
To win the game you must peg out.
Then the game ends beyond all doubt.

There are times when memories fail,
And one forgets to move the nail,
Causing your opponents to frown,
When you move your peg up, not down!

Halfway through there's a welcome break
For coffee, tea, biscuits or cake.
Play resumes and back to the fore,
Struggling toward the final score.

Jo and Chris as soon as able,
Collate points for the league table.
And top of the league, if you please,
At one, two, three; John, Jo, Louise.

But when the play finally ends,
Everyone parts, the best of friends.
Season's greetings, full of good cheer,
Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!



On 19th November, the Theatre & Travel Group went on a three day trip to Chatsworth House. Three of the group pose opposite under one of the beautiful Christmas Trees. The trip included a visit to the remains of King Richard III shown below here, Richard's head had to be moved slightly to fit into the space.



Writing for Pleasure *Towards a Story with Dialogue*

The author in residence stared at her blank sheet of paper and wondered where the dialogue would come from.

The given topic was a story told through dialogue. Sitting on the sofa she was in the last days of the solstice holidays. She found she had relaxed more into being alone this year, to begin to appreciate not always having to get ready to go out and sorting out the ever-changing bags for each event; the automatic glancing at the clock, checking her diary each morning and the rush for food when she returned.

She had set up a drip feed of audio books and listened again to the Inspector Grant novels by Josephine Tay. They were written in the early twentieth century when the science of psychology created another level of interest to the unfolding of the events.

Where was dialogue going to occur in this deep realm of introspection? Was it watching the News that blocked the thought of inventing a plot, a story? Did she only want to stay in this introspective world of hers as a refuge from a world of plots and stories, a world of plight and distress? Was that

why she felt blocked to recreate more?

'Audible outbursts do happen here,' she had to admit. The energy behind her swearing at the cooker, the repeated efforts to get a group of notes to work properly, shouting at herself 'For goodness sake get a grip!'

Exclamations of fury at views on the radio, the rain again, forgetting, dropping, getting tired, getting cold, audible outbursts but not really dialogue.



The season of friendly greetings and messages with other people would now become dialogue again and she sighed as she returned to the cancelled dates on her phone, dates for the plumber to return to

complete her shower unit. Beginning on November 20th a total of twelve cancellations. Each one had a different excuse. Did he have a Plumber's Excuse Manual? Another branch of creative writing? Hopefully being out and about again would raise her energy to deal with this, to sort it and maybe next time a story would emerge on the blank page. It was only January.

Joan Graham



The Theatre & Travel group travelled to the Cliffs Pavilion Theatre in Southend to see 'Fairytale of New York' on 28th November followed by a Christmas meal.

Activities & Groups Taster Meeting

The idea of this meeting was to recruit more members. Our coordinators came along to the Bowling Club and demonstrated their particular activity; existing members came to see what other groups were doing and members of the public came, curious to see what our u3a was all about.

Among those groups represented were Cribbage, Mah-Jong, Sequence Dancing, Ukulele, Exploring Churches, Table Tennis, Philosophy, Photography,

Theatre & Travel, Choir, Books group, Cycling, French, Gardening, Writing, Latin, Drama and many more.

The Committee were present and explained how the u3a operated to non-members and introduced them to coordinators. The meeting lasted 3 hours with some staying for the duration whilst others came and went. There was a friendly atmosphere and refreshments were available. We signed up 30 new members, quite an achievement.



Uttlesford Community Bus

is available to all u3a members.

If you have transport needs just get in touch on
01799 519008 or
info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org

Dates for your Diary



Monday 18th March

OPEN MEETING: '50 Years of Rock & Roll' - talk by Alan Goldsmith

Wednesday 10th April

OUTING: East Grinstead Bluebell Railway Museum

Monday 15th April

HOLIDAY: Torquay & Eden Project

Monday 15th April

OPEN MEETING: 'Unexplained Mysteries and Cover-ups' - talk by Andy Thomas.

Wednesday 8th May

OUTING: Japanese Gardens at Holland Park, London.

Monday 20th May

OPEN MEETING: 'Wildlife in Africa' - talk by Alison Mees.

Wednesday 29th May

OUTING: Bletchley Park

Wednesday 5th June

OUTING: Belvoir Castle & gardens

Monday 17th June

OPEN MEETING: 'WW2 Airfields' - talk by Andy Strange.

Thursday 20th June

OUTING: Ballet, Swan Lake (in the round) - Albert Hall.

Wednesday 10th July

OUTING: Thames River Cruise & cream tea.

Monday 15th July

OPEN MEETING: Saffron Walden Alms House talk

Wednesday 14th August

OUTING: Wroxham Broads, Bure Valley Railway & Paddle Steamer

Tuesday 27th August

SHOW: Hello Dolly, London Palladium - evening

Monday 9th September

AGM at Baptist Church

Monday 16th September

u3a 40th Birthday Party.

What are the well-known phrases below?

STANDING
Miss

MAST

DUTCH
DUTCH

DINGBATS

Easy Riders

In spite of some ill-health affecting our members and some cancellations due to bad weather, Easy Riders still has 15 or so active members with some new ones in the pipeline.

The photograph shows the “gang” on our February cycle ride (l-r); back: Colin, Ed, Jeni, Simon, Mike, Trevor; front: Rod, Anne, Anna, Miranda, Terry, Vic. We were bathed in sunshine; what a righteous lot we must be! The route chosen for this occasion took us from Little Hadham cross-country to Manuden

and then round through Berden and back to our start – after lunch at The Catherine Wheel which features in the picture. The ride was not uneventful (not many are). Miranda’s gears played up near the start as we cycled up a rough track. We stopped a few times to appreciate the scenery, and to get our breath as the route included a few hills.

Nearing the lunch stop, Terry’s chain broke. Thank goodness that the last half mile or so to the pub was mostly downhill. We had anticipated having to collect a car for broken bike and disappointed rider, but Vic had a chain repair tool and he and Rod put it to good use after lunch. The whole group were off again on the short leg back to our start after cycling around the beautiful Patmore Heath.



Colin Taylor

Quiz answers from our autumn edition

The hidden footballs were behind Mary Curtis on page 4 and in the sky of the painting that appeared top right on page 13. The observant members who found them were Dolores Clew and Christine Taylor. Jean Little found one on page 13.

The deliberate mistake was ‘Dates for your Dairy’ - not Diary. Christine Taylor found this.

The crossword was successfully completed by Liz Hartley, Pamela Mugliston, Helen Lightning, Caroline Shelton, Kathy Warren Wilson and Marilyn Hemmings - well done ladies.

Answers across: 1a Section, 5a Rapport, 6a Epitome, 7a Yankees.

Answers down: 1d Surgery, 2d Caption, 3d Iron Ore, 4d Nutmegs.

Thank you to all our Competition entrants. Our new crossword is overleaf.

7 letter Crossword

1			2		3		4
5							
6							
7							

This is our new 7 letter Crossword. Each answer is seven letters long, good luck.

Clues across: 1. This seal ran its own weapon store. 5. Atoms split and produce energy in their creator. 6. When I tail in secret, it comes first. 7. I'm sensing some sort of naval flags.

Clues down: 1. By taking flight, you will experience nail ire. 2. Cats sit to study the internal and external forces in a structure. 3. The end of the world is not nigh, it isn't anything. 4. This little-known village in The Alpujarra region of Spain is all rose.

Please send your answers to the Editor: jim_dwyer@btinternet.com

Notice Board

u3a NEEDS YOU



New Committee members wanted for next year

If you think you have what it takes, then please contact any of our Committee members. We look forward to hearing from you.

Any u3a member who feels isolated can speak to a Committee member - see details on page 5.

U3a term dates 2024

Summer Term:

15 April - 23 July

Bank holidays: 6 May & 27 May

Half-term: 28 May - 31 May

Autumn term:

2 September - 20 December

Half-term: 28 Oct - 1 November

Remember

to visit our website at
www.saffronwaldenu3a.org.uk
for all the latest u3a
information.

Pun fun

Two antennas got married last Saturday, the reception was fantastic.

Inspecting mirrors is a job I could really see myself doing.

A golfer brought an extra pair of pants in case he got a hole in one.

I once knew a woman who owned a taser gun, she was a real stunner.

Have you heard about that new kind of shovel, it's ground-breaking.

My dog can do magic tricks, it's a labracadabrador.

I used to have a fear of hurdles but I got over it.

My fear of moving stairs is escalating.

When you dream in colour, it's just a pigment of your imagination.

I was given some dead batteries last week, they were free of charge.

Notices

Saffron Walden u3a is a Registered Charity Number 290670

- The views and opinions expressed in Update are not necessarily those of the u3a or of the Committee
- The Committee reserves the right to close any class or activity because of low enrolment or poor attendance
- Errors and omissions excepted
- We try to keep in contact with all members but it is not always possible to do. This may be due to illness or other incapacitation
- If you hear of any member who may need assistance please contact any member of the Committee
- Saffron Walden u3a retains the copyright of the contents of Update
- For more information visit our website at www.saffronwaldenu3a.org.uk

Insurance

All members are covered by public liability insurance, but Saffron Walden u3a accepts no responsibility for any accident not covered by that insurance

Legal Assistance

Legal advice, including Private, Commercial and Employment advice, is currently no longer available



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