



Thrapston & District



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2013

*BBQ
16th August
10- 5pm*

Chairman's Notes

Luke Johns, the Senior Ranger, gave us a fascinating insight into the development of Stanwick Lakes at our last meeting. We were especially grateful as he stood in at the last moment for a colleague who was away. We changed the meeting format so that he did not have to abandon his responsibilities for too long.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the arrangements for the meeting; setting out the chairs, welcoming people and of course making the refreshments. Quite a few people signed up for the rota for future meetings but Tricia is still looking for a few more. Because of the help we have had we have been able to have the Plaza ready by 10.00 am. That means you can come along in plenty of time for the 10.30 meeting start, enjoy your coffee, chat with friends and investigate all the group activities on offer. Don't forget however that this week we will not be in the Plaza but enjoying a barbecue at the Sailing Club.

You will see that the newsletter has changed this month to be leaner and meaner. We hope very soon to unveil our new web site which will have full details of all the interest groups. If you don't have access to it you can always find out about the groups – and meet their leaders – at the regular general meetings. We shall of course continue to produce a newsletter and any views you have about its format would be welcome.

Regards
Glyn James

Group Co-ordinator's Report - August 2013

We now have 25 groups running. Most recent new groups are Bowls, Sewing and Singing for Pleasure. Unfortunately, due to ill-health, Ken is unable to lead the **Singing group** for the time being and so I am looking for a volunteer with keyboard skills who would be willing to step in. Please let me know if that's you by email glynishill06@aol.com

The **Bowls group**, meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6.30, has bonded into the Islip club well; most of them play in the team matches now which are friendly and enjoyable. There are still places open for other members to join before the season ends which will be in 6 weeks' time. Pete says 'It's a good past time, also good for the brain and limbs'.

The **Sewing group**, led by Guinette meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays; September dates will be 9th and 23rd.

There are vacancies in Classical Music, Family History, Jazz Appreciation, Luncheons, Poetry, Tai Chi, French Revivers and of course Theatre Trips and Outings.

Further news from groups:

Current Affairs group will re-commence in September on the first Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m.; the first being 3 September, please let me know if you'd like to join us (email below).

The Jazz Appreciation group is now being led by Veronica with regular attendance at the Courtyard Hotel in Stanwick.

Margaret has written a resume of **Gardening 2's** visit:

'We enjoyed an exceptional afternoon at Kathy Brown's garden at Stevington Bedfordshire. Kathy is renowned for her garden at the Manor House but more so for her book, Edible Flowers. The visit included a guided tour of the garden and afternoon tea on the lawn in the very welcome shade of the trees.'



The rose petal cake or the raspberry and elderflower cake did not disappoint and were enhanced by the Earl Grey tea from rose petal china beakers.

The afternoon was a great success and can be recommended. Garden visits can be made on Tuesday and Sunday afternoons details from [www.http://kathybrownsgarden.homestead.com](http://kathybrownsgarden.homestead.com)

This month we are visiting a garden at Hemingford Grey on the 3rd Wednesday of August.

Finally don't forget the day out in **ST ALBANS** on 9th October

Once known as the Roman Town Verulamium, St Albans has a Roman Theatre (the only one of its kind in England), a magnificent cathedral, several museums, a street market, good shopping (high street and individual) and many eating places. It promises to be a good day out. The cost of the coach will be £13 (including driver's tip). Please sign up with your payment as soon as possible. Contact BRENDA on 730225

Please contact me if you're interested in joining a group or if you would be willing to lead a new group. Also, if anyone is photography-able, Rachel would be really delighted to receive photographs of groups in action to use for Publicity and on the website. Please email them to her on rachelk@uwclub.net

Glyn Hill
Group Co-ordinator
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Dates for your diary

Members meetings

16th August **BBQ** 11.30 - 17.00 Food served from 12.30pm
Middle Nene Sailing Club, Meadow Lane, Thrapston, NN14 4QL

20th September Brian Sumpton RSPB **The Story of the Red Kite**

18th October Jean Fouhly 'Shoe Boxes to Kurdistan'

Outings

26th September **TO SIR WITH LOVE** Royal & Derngate, Northampton.

9th October **St Albans visit**

Also

2nd September Group Leaders meeting

14 - 15 September U3A National Conference