



Thrapston & District



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

**Newsletter**

January 2017

## **WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR**

Happy New Year and welcome to 2017. After everyone's hard work putting on the excellent Christmas Social, the festive break was probably very welcome. However there's lots to do in the next few months, with the Open Day on the 6th May and the AGM on the 19th May. In the following paragraphs I want to update you on the work of the Committee, leading up to both.

**AGM** Regrettably, my time as Chairman will be up and I will have to stand down. Where did the last 2 years go? Other positions also, becoming vacant are: the Business Secretary, Publicity Officer, Newsletter Editor and possibly Vice Chairman. That's 5 posts which need filling and for which we are seeking Volunteers. The Groups Coordinator is also up for re-election.

You're probably thinking I'm being bit premature and that May is a long way off. True, but that gives volunteers a chance to sit in on our monthly Committee meetings and see what we do. Those wishing to stand can get up to speed, briefed by the outgoing members and if elected, land running in May. Let me assure you, life on the Committee is not onerous. Yes, we take our jobs seriously, but there's lots of laughter too. We are all volunteers working to make our U3A the best we can. If you chose to join the Committee, you would be fully supported and assisted by your colleagues. **Curious?** Come and sit-in and view the Committee in action, you will be most welcome. Call myself or talk to any member of the Committee for more information.

Remember, U3A is run by the members for the members, so come and make a difference.

**The Constitution.** Our Constitution is now 5 years old and whilst it has served us well, it is now due for a review. Changes can only be approved by the membership at the AGM, so prior to then, the Committee will be carrying out a full review and submitting it to the Third Age Trust, who will ensure it meets the tenets and principles of the U3A and the requirements of the Charities Commission. The proposed revised Constitution will be emailed to you all before the AGM for your consideration and a copy will be placed on the website.

**Open Day 6<sup>th</sup> May.** The aim of the Open Day is to boost our membership. This will be a major event where members of the public will be invited to learn about the U3A, meet all our Activity Groups, view displays, be entertained and talk to members. This will involve a lot of work and will need the help of all of you to make it a success. Details will be released as the plans evolve. Please support your Committee and Group Leaders. Help us make it a great success and show all our visitors why we are so proud of this wonderful organisation, which is Thrapston and District U3A. Do make sure you tell all your friends and get them to come along.

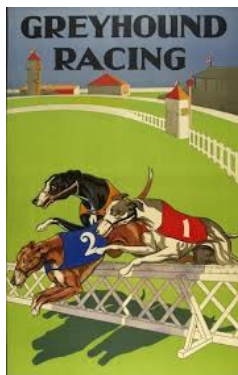
Enjoy your Newsletter.

Frank Boydell, Chairman - 01832 735797

chairmanthrapstonu3a@gmail.com

**MEET AND GREET TEAM** We are now trying to organise the coming year so that we can have refreshments at our monthly meeting in The Plaza. We require three volunteers each month to make this possible. We have enough helpers for January but after that there are gaps in the calendar. Could you please look in your diaries and see if you could sign up for one month? The rota is on the notice board in The Plaza on the day of the meeting, so you can sign up or see Brenda or Sheila at the meeting in January.

## Forthcoming Events



### GREYHOUND RACING

Following a number of requests, a trip to the greyhounds is being organised for April. If you are interested please sign up or see Irene at The Plaza January meeting.

Further details will be available at later date.

<b>20 January</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – My Favourite Things by Will Osbourne</b>
<b>9 February</b>	<b>Group Leader and New Members meeting</b>
<b>17 February</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – Life with my Father, Eric Morecombe by Gail Stuart</b>
<b>2 March</b>	<b>FUNNY GIRL – fully booked</b>
<b>17 March</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – MBE, Investiture at Buckingham Palace by Guinette Davies</b>
<b>21 April</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – Kicks and Frills, the story of the Can-Can by David Price</b>
<b>6 May</b>	<b>Thrapston and District U3A – OPEN DAY</b>
<b>19 May</b>	<b>AGM &amp; Branch Meeting – Along the Nene by Martin Izzard BEM</b>
<b>16 June</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – School Holiday Fiascoes by Mike Leonard</b>
<b>21 July</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – Amy Johnson by Roy Smart</b>
<b>18 August</b>	<b>Thrapston and District U3a Summer Event (details to be advised)</b>
<b>15 September</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – Rockingham Castle 950 years of history by Patricia Wood</b>
<b>20 October</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – The Plague Doctor by David Bell</b>
<b>17 November</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – Day in the Life of a TV Licence Enforcement Officer</b>
<b>15 December</b>	<b>Thrapston and District U3A – Yuletide Event</b>
<b>19 January 2018</b>	<b>Branch Meeting - Tales from the Cornerfield Apiary by Freddie Harris</b>
<b>20 April 2018</b>	<b>Branch Meeting – You cannot be Serious – tales from the Centre Court at Wimbledon by Alan Gray MBE</b>

## From the Groups

**LINE DANCING** Due to unforeseen circumstances Line Dancing is suspended until further notice. If you have the desire to join the group please add your name to the list at the Groups table at the January meeting.

### Science and Technology



The group is open to anyone who is interested in and curious about all aspects of science, technology and mathematics. We've been running for nearly a year now and we've grown to 17 members. Our recent talks have included Statistics by Ken, Xrays by Sheila and in December Neil explored the Impact of Technology. Planned titles for the spring are A Future for Airships? Wet to Dry Photography and the Evolution of Pigmentation. So, our scope is wide!

We have also attended lectures at Cambridge University and these have included the Physics of Hair and 'Manufacturing – the vital capacity for effective innovation'. This month we are visiting the Whipple Museum in Cambridge travelling on the guided bus from St Ives and calling in to gaze at the new Corpus Clock. In July, we are touring a shoe factory.

Members are encouraged to present something that interests them but this is not essential and it's equally ok to choose to show an on-line resource e.g. TED talks ([www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)) or volunteer to organise a visit that interests you.

We meet on the third Monday of the month 2-4. We recently discussed what to do about our expanding membership and decided that rather than turning potential group members away we would move our venue to the Baptist Church in Sackville Street, Thrapston. We could accommodate 25 comfortably.

So, we now have eight vacancies. If you're interested in joining us, please ring or email me, A charge of £2 covers the hall hire and a hot drink and biscuits. Glyn Hill 01832 735797 [glynishill06@aol.com](mailto:glynishill06@aol.com)

#### Thrapston and District U3A Committee

Chair: Frank Boydell

Vice Chair: Sheila Underwood

Treasurer: Tricia James

Secretary: Guinette Davis

Groups Co-Ordinator: Marion Healey

Membership: Madeline Fisher

Publicity: Ann Carter

Speaker Seeker: Paul Ollett

The Newsletter is published on behalf of the committee of the Thrapston and District U3A. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, or of the committee of the Thrapston and District U3A or of the U3A Trust.

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Website [www.thrapstonu3a.co.uk](http://www.thrapstonu3a.co.uk) where committee contact details may be found

# Christmas Social 2016

Many pictures of the Christmas Social have been posted on the website for you to peruse, these will be available at the January Meeting for you to look at.

## The Underground Game as requested at the Christmas Social the answers to the quiz



To each clue supply an answer that is the name of a London underground station.

Clue	Answer
1 Letter to the Corinthians	St Pauls
2 Longest Reign (prior to Eliz 2)	Victoria
3 Anyone for tennis?	Wimbledon
4 Seven husbands for...	Seven Sisters
5 In the Hops Country	Kentish Town
6 New Street for ...	Old Street
7 Egg shaped	Oval
8 Pillar of Stone	Monument
9 Timber ashes	Burnt Oak
10 Arms dump	Arsenal
11 Up the wrong tree	Barking
12 H <sub>2</sub> O for a Laurel	Bayswater
13 Over the eyes	Temple
14 Bigger than Big	Wapping
15 Botanical Bliss	Kew Gardens
16 A Messenger of God	Angel
17 Is falling down	London Bridge
18 England expects ...	Trafalgar Square
19 Clerical envy	Parsons Green
20 Off with his head!	Tower Hill
21 Please cross here Sir	Knightsbridge
22 Women's Lib' ends here!	Holloway
23 Alpine hut	Swiss Cottage
24 Channel crossing	Turnham Green
25 Young tree	Wood Green
26 Irate Monarch	Kings Cross
27 Oriental Pig	East Ham
28 Royal graveyard?	Kingsbury
29 Napoleon's Finale	Waterloo
30 Royal Judgement	Earls Court
31 Sea Defence	Shoreditch
32 African Chefs	Blackfriars