



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Newsletter

May 2015

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Attend the AGM on 15 May and ensure this Branch has a strong base for your benefit.

May Membership Renewal

If your membership renewal is due in May, please remember that many other members are due to renew at the same time. You can pay by bank transfer (please email treasurerthrapstonu3a@gmail.com for details) or send your completed form and payment to the Membership Secretary.

If you plan to pay at the AGM please arrive early and if possible pay by cheque which can be processed quickly by a team of helpers.



The Walking Group in Short Wood, Southwick

Membership Renewal

During the year we changed membership renewal to be on the anniversary of joining but for many members that still means May. In order to make renewal as efficient as possible so that the meeting is not disrupted, members whose renewal is due in May can help by:

- paying by bank transfer (for details please email treasurerthrapstonu3a@gmail.com),
- posting or delivering your completed form and payment to the Membership Secretary at any time during the month, or
- arriving early and paying by cheque at the meeting. There will be a small team dealing with these renewals, but those paying by cash will need to queue for the Treasurer.

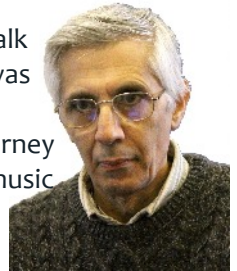
Reciprocal Arrangement

with Higham and Rushden U3A. I'm pleased to be able to tell you that we have just arranged a reciprocal arrangement with Higham and Rushden U3A, which means that members from our two U3As can in certain circumstances join groups organised by the other U3A. Members must of course telephone the group co-ordinator to see if there is room, as home members get preference. Sometimes, if the group is very small, it would be good to encourage members from the other branch to make the group more enjoyable. More details to follow.

April Branch Meeting



We were treated at this meeting to an illustrated talk by Charles Bezzina, who was In Search of Ice Made in Heaven. This detailed a journey into the Arctic, with film, music and stories of the lives of the Inuit tribes. Charles is an artist and displayed some of his paintings done during his northern sojourn to the delight of many in the audience. A delightful



tale that was warmly received by his audience.

'I do not fear loneliness, although I prefer Company. Along the way I've collected many memories - there isn't much space in my rucksack however I have tried to freeze with my camera and in my sketchbook some of the journeys, and now that you are listening or flicking through my sketchbook look into my kaleidoscope and see the journey through.' Charles Bezzina 2013

Forthcoming Events

Branch meetings start at 10.30am on the third Friday of each month at the Thrapston Plaza unless stated otherwise. Doors open at 10.00am when tea/coffee and biscuits are served.

- 15 May Thrapston and District U3A Annual General Meeting.
- 22 May Peterborough Greyhounds - meet at Co-op car park at 5.30pm for the RB coach. The last race is at 10.30pm so we will be back quite late. I hope we have a fun night and you are lucky.
- 10 June Deadline for copy to the Editor for inclusion in the June Newsletter.
- 19 June Branch Meeting - **Don Chiswell, Alfred the Great, Statesman and Cook.**
- 15 July **Jesus Christ Superstar** at Milton Keynes - matinee performance. The last day for payment is the April meeting. The cost is £35 and cheques should be made payable to Thrapston & District U3A. There is one seat remaining for this show and if anyone would like it then please contact me on 01832 732724 or email dennison987@gmail.com Pauline Dennison
- 17 July Branch meeting - **Ian Keable, Satirist to Insanity, the Life and Works of James Gillray, the Successor to William Hogarth.**
- 21 August Thrapston and District U3A Barbecue. Details in later editions.
- 18 Sept. Branch Meeting - **Derek R Harris, Up the Cut, the Story of the Development of England's Canal System in Tales and Songs.**
- December Thrapston and District U3A are hoping to arrange a coach trip to the Thursford Spectacular Christmas Show. As we have to book as soon as possible to stand a chance of getting a block booking I need your names now together with £1 deposit pp to secure your seat. The balance will be payable in September and is non returnable or exchangeable. If we have a waiting list we will offer the tickets accordingly. The overall price for the coach fare, driver's tip and the show will be approximately £50 pp but I will let you know as soon as we have confirmation of our booking. The dates put forward are Wednesday 25 November, Tuesday 1 December and Wednesday 2 December - all for matinee performances. Give your names and contact number or email address to Iris together with your deposit.

For **Theatre Trips** you may add your name to the lists at the Branch Meetings. Pauline Dennison Tel: 01832 723724

The U3A holds several national events which may be of interest to you. Please check the U3A website (www.u3a.org.uk) at the events and competitions page of the Members' Area Homepage.

Group Leader's Report

New Short Town and Village Walks Group

Brenda Berry and I are the group leaders and our plan is to organise spring/summer monthly short walks around our beautiful local villages with an aim of finding out more about their history and significant events.

We anticipate that they will be about 1.5 hours and 1.5 miles long and will take place on a weekday morning from 10.30 until 12. Members might wish to follow up with lunch at a local hostelry.

The draft programme is:

Thursday 12 June 10.30 Thrapston: Guide Neil Busby. Start: The Bull Ring

To be arranged:

July (Not Thursday)	Higham Ferrers
August	Oundle
September	Grafton Underwood
October	Geddington

We have 19 core members but all members are welcome.

Please email me glynishillo6@aol.com or phone Brenda 01832 730225 if you would like to come to the first walk

Current Group Vacancies - For new members or those established members who are looking to take on something new, we have places within groups including:

- Advanced Motoring
- Antiques and Collectibles
- Bowls
- Country Dancing
- Current Issues
- Cycling
- Family History
- Magic
- Papercraft
- Patchwork
- Photography
- Ten Pin Bowling
- Walks 2

Contact details are on the website or email me on <glynishillo6@aol.com>

Ideas for new groups are welcome. Please contact me for an expressions of interest list to be available at the April Branch meeting.

There are spaces in other groups– the best way to find out more is to look at the group pages on the website or contact me and I can advise you on what's available.

Photography - The Photography group meet on the first Monday in the month 10.30 to 12.30 at Thrapston Bowls Club and there are five places for new members. There is a wide range of experience and expertise, from those of us just finding out what our cameras can actually do to those who already produce stunning photographs. If you'd like to join us please contact me on glynishillo6@aol.com 01832 735797.

Glyn Hill, Group Co-ordinator

Social Committee News

Brenda Berry, Richard Swindall and Glyn Hill are the Social Sub-committee. The events definitely confirmed are the Barbecue at the Sailing Club on Friday, 15 August at 12.00. It will have the same successful format as last year. In addition it is intended to have a Barn Dance as an annual event in December, possibly at the Plaza.

The committee is looking at a Warner's Holiday which takes place at Thorsby Hall from 2 to 5 February 2016. For four days half board the cost is £208 per person with £50 deposit and the balance in September. There are double and twin rooms available but no singles. Brenda will be taking expressions of interest at the next two meetings and will organise travel (either a bus or shared cars) if there are enough takers. Email me on glynishillo6@aol.com or ring Brenda on 730225 if you have any queries or would like to go on the list.

Mystery photograph: The photograph last month, as most of you knew, was of the entrance to the Masonic Hall in Hortons Lane. Because of the non-existent response by members to the mystery photograph, no further photographs will appear unless there is a call by the members to do so. My thanks to Eric Franklin for providing the photographs and details used.

The minute somebody joins a committee... they immediately suffer from committee brain. They become wildly over-enthusiastic, over-optimistic, over-pessimistic. Committees (can) turn people into idiots. P. J. O'Rourke (American political satirist)

Thrapston and District U3A Committee

Chair:	Glyn James	Vice-Chair:	Glyn Hill
Treasurer:	Tricia James	Secretary:	Michelle Owen
Group Co-ordinator:	Glyn Hill	Membership:	Maddie Godden
Publicity:	Rachel Thompson	Speaker Seeker:	Richard Swindall
Website:	Neil Busby	Editor:	Parry Jones
Member:	Michelle Collison	Member:	Anne Carter

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

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