



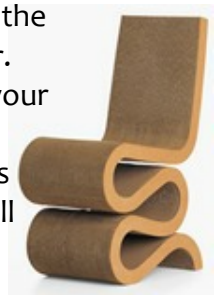
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Ramblings From the Chair

The Autumnal chill is creeping in and the leaves are turning. It's a wonderful time of year that reminds us of kicking through the dead leaves and collecting conkers when we were kids and thinking of the treats to come: halloween, bonfire night and - best of all - Christmas.

It's the latter that now demands our attention as we start the planning for our Christmas Showcase, on the 16 December. This is the chance for your activity group to demonstrate your skills, knowledge and prowess to entertain the audience and attract new members. Spare a thought for the Groups Coordinator who gets to solicit, organise and coordinate all your inputs. Please give her your help and support, but most important, have a go.



The showcase is an open event when you can bring your friends and neighbours and give them the chance to find out about U3A and to join this wonderful organisation. I know it's only October, but it's not too early to start thinking whom to bring and maybe help to change their life for the better. Enjoy your Newsletter. Frank Boydell, Chairman - 01832 735797

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.
12 October **Branch Meeting - Thrapston Miscellany** by **Eric Franklin** (see page 3)
18 November **Branch Meeting - Badgers** by **Brian Sanders** will elaborate on the life style of the Badger including information on its habitat, food and how it catches its food. There will be content on threats to the badger including culling and historical information relating to the badger population in North Northamptonshire. After the talk there is a Q&A session appertaining to →

badgers both locally and nationally.

14 December **Thursford Christmas Event** - The coach fare for Thursford is now due so if you have not paid for this could you please let me have your money at the next U3A meeting in October. £ 12 per person.

Thank you. Iris

16 December **Branch Meeting - Christmas Event.** More details later.

2017

20 January **Branch Meeting - My favourite Things** by **Will Osbourne**

17 February **Branch Meeting - Life with my Father** by **Gail Stuart**

2 March **Funny Girl** - Tickets have been booked for the matinee performance



at Milton Keynes. We have good seats in the stalls and the price will be £55.50 which, as usual, includes, seat, coach and driver's tip.

Bookings, with payment, taken at the October meeting or contact Pauline on 01832732724. Please note cheques will not be cashed until we have sufficient numbers to fill the seats.

17 March **Branch Meeting - MBE, Investiture at Buckingham Palace** by **Guinette Davies**

21 April **Branch Meeting - Kicks & Frills, the Story of the Can-Can** by **David Price**

19 May **Along the Nene** by **Martin Izzard BEM**

16 June **School Holiday Fiascoes** by **Mike Leonard**

21 July **Amy Johnson** by **Roy Smart**

18 August **U3A Summer Events** (details to be advised)

20 October **The Plague Doctor** by **David Bell**

15 December **U3A Yuletide Event** (details to be advised)

For **Theatre Trips** you may add your name to the lists at the Branch Meetings. Pauline Dennison Tel: 01832 732724

Latin Group

After nearly two years, the Latin Group continues to thrive, but needs new members. Please do not be put off by the Latin! What we do is go through a Latin text, with the help of a crib and relate it to a period of Roman history. We have recently been dealing with the Roman conquest of Britain. There was also an interval, where we looked at the eruption of Vesuvius and the destruction of Pompeii, as witnessed by Pliny. Next we are moving on to the middle east and Judaea, during the same period. It sheds a light on the extent of the Roman Empire, its development and the

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A Local Miscellany in Word and Pictures

Thrapston U3A, 21 October 2016. Introduced by John Dawkins and Eric Franklin

Thrapston Heritage are pleased to introduce a morning of views, tales, a poem, stories from the past and a sound recording from 1959 of old Thrapston. Much of this presentation is of previously unseen material and will be presented by John Dawkins and Eric Franklin, with technical support from Neil Busby. The morning is designed to inform and entertain.

It will include:

- Bridge Street Station whilst in operation and its demolition with pictures from the 1930s to 1965;
- a children's rhyme from Ringstead and an excerpt from Wally Jacques' memories from before World War I;
- an excerpt from the recording of the last passenger train to leave Midland Road Station in 1959;
- a few Where Are Theys of places in town you have passed, possibly without noticing;
- short items on Thrapston Baptist Church and Oundle Road Cemetery;
- pictures from the past fading in to the current view;
- Edwin Cottingham, an internationally known clockmaker from the area, now virtually forgotten and the Thrapston Church clock he built for the town;
- the beginnings of cycling in Thrapston and the Nene Valley Wheelers;
- railways in town and the demolition of Midland Road railway bridge and a recent view;
- Northamptonshire County Council's 1970 proposed replacement for the Nine Arch Bridge.
- and many other one-off items.

Voices Whispering Around About Gardens.

Various individuals are suggesting that Thrapston has an Open Garden event some time in 2017. What do gardeners think about this? Would you permit strangers walking into your garden and commenting on your pride and joy?

We are proposing that there is public meeting sometime in October. Here we will get a good idea of the level of interest and also set up a small steering group to deal with the practicalities.

Posters, showing where and when will be distributed soon.

If you are interested in helping in any way please let me know either by phone or email.

Guinette Davies: Tel: 01832 733436 or guinette.m.davies@btinternet.com

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early days of Christianity. Some knowledge of Latin is preferable, but not compulsory. Why not give it a try? Meetings are on the afternoon of the third Tuesday each month. Ring Robert Dickenson on 01832 733066 or e-mail rdickenson@supanet.com.

Invitation from Ringstead Heritage

Next Sunday 16 October Ringstead Heritage have organised a three miles walk. Starting off at Woodford tea room (Ringstead) at 10 o'clock with a brief history talk on the Mill itself then onto the old Railway line a walk of 10-15 minutes to the area of Cotton mill which once supplied paper to Jane Austen (another five minute talk) then up the old Roman track towards Raunds to site of Ringstead Windmill, (another five minute talk) then back via the public footpath to the Willy Watt mill and car park. We would take just over an hour. Anyone welcome and dogs on leads. Thanks, Jon Abbott RHG Chairman.



Nordic Walking

Thrapston and District U3A Committee

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Groups Co-ordinator: Marion Healey

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Secretary: Guinette Davis

Membership: Madeline Fisher

Speaker Seeker: Paul Ollett

This 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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