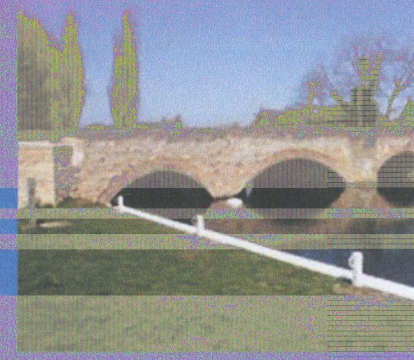


Thrapston & District



## From the Chair

Welcome to the first newsletter of our branch!

The Steering Committee is established and a number of groups are up and running. We already have over 100 members and have plenty of space for more, so if you're already a member, please recommend U3A to friends or if you've picked up this newsletter in a library, surgery or estate agents do have a look at our website or come along to a meeting.

As we get going I'm hoping to be able to advertise more 'What's On' events; there are suggestions that we establish a U3A Choir and so a concert could be in next year's programme and with Christmas just round the corner (!) we could have a special event at our 21 December meeting. The decisions are entirely down to members and I welcome your ideas; there will be a suggestion box at each membership meeting or please email me.

Wishing you a good summer.

Glyn Hill

[glynishill06@aol.com](mailto:glynishill06@aol.com)

## How to get involved

U3As are completely run by volunteers and we rely on you as members to help in the operational running both of the Branch and in setting up and supporting groups. I'm delighted that we have 16 groups already but we are looking for additional Group Co-ordinators. You don't have to be an expert; just be willing to organise a group of people and facilitate the activities. We're also looking for members who may have a bit more expertise, for example, we need experienced players to join the Bridge Group. Contact our Group Manager David Read if you'd like to help [david.d.read@btinternet.com](mailto:david.d.read@btinternet.com)

## Membership Meetings

Meetings take place on the third Friday of the month 10.30-12.00. Our first membership meeting took place in July with a very interesting talk from Eric Franklin on Thrapston in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. We're organising our meetings slightly differently from this month, the doors will open at 10.25 with tea, coffee and biscuits at the beginning followed by our Speaker. There will then be time to speak to our Group Co-ordinators at the end of the talk. We will be making a charge of £1 for members and £2 for visitors. Our speaker seeker Richard Swindall has organised the following talks but is always on the lookout for suggestions. He can be contacted on [richardaswindall@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:richardaswindall@tiscali.co.uk) or on 01832 734383

- 17 August Greta Palmer 'Dressed to Impress'
- 21 September Margaret Burgon 'It couldn't happen at a wedding'
- 19 October Mick Boyce 'The Story of Rockingham Castle'

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### Membership Meeting

Friday 17 August 10.30-12.00

The Plaza, Cosy Nook,  
Thrapston

Speaker: Greta Palmer

'Dressed to Impress'

based on her research  
subject: Decorative trappings  
as worn by Indian elephants.



## The Steering Committee

The committee was established in May and will continue to lay the foundations for the branch until the AGM of May 23 2013 when there will be the opportunity for all members to nominate and elect the formal committee.

Co-Chair (August onwards)	Glyn Hill	01832 735797	<a href="mailto:glynishill06@aol.com">glynishill06@aol.com</a>
Co-Chair (May- August)	David Read	01832 733407	<a href="mailto:david.d.read@btinternet.com">david.d.read@btinternet.com</a>
Vice Chair	Veronica Norwood	01832 731960	<a href="mailto:vdbbaker@talktalk.net">vdbbaker@talktalk.net</a>
Secretary	Liz Treacy	01832 733264	<a href="mailto:liz.treacy@talk21.com">liz.treacy@talk21.com</a>
Treasurer	Bryan Elliott	01832 734004	<a href="mailto:elliottshome@aol.com">elliottshome@aol.com</a>
Group Manager	David Read	01832 733407	<a href="mailto:david.d.read@btinternet.com">david.d.read@btinternet.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Jo Hancock	01933 460764	<a href="mailto:johan17@aol.com">johan17@aol.com</a>
Publicity	Rachel Thompson	01832 734974	<a href="mailto:rachelk@uwclub.net">rachelk@uwclub.net</a>
Speaker seeker	Richard Swindall	01832 734383	<a href="mailto:richardaswindall@tiscali.co.uk">richardaswindall@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Newsletter editor and webmaster	Glyn Hill	01832 735797	<a href="mailto:glynishill06@aol.com">glynishill06@aol.com</a>

## The Groups

16 groups have been established so far with more in the pipe line. Some are already full and so additional groups may need to be formed. There will be an opportunity to sign up for those with spaces at the meeting or you can ring to check with the individual group co-ordinator.

### Potential new groups:

The following list comprises suggestions from the original questionnaire sent out at the launch meeting plus one or two later additions. Sign-up lists will be available for interested members; the group formation will be dependent on numbers interested and in having a co-ordinator, so please let the Group Manager David Read know if you're interested in this role. We can have as many groups as is manageable; they might only meet once a month or more regularly if appropriate.

Theatre*	Poetry Reading	Foraging	Personal Finance
Sewing	Trips and Visits* *	Languages*	Antiques
Photography	Cookery	Knit & natter	Lacemaking
Art Appreciation	Tai Chi	Board Games	Miniature Dolls Houses
Ten Pin Bowling	Archaeology	Boule	

\*Groups already signed up – awaiting co-ordinators



## Established Groups

**Books**  
**Veronica Norwood**  
01832 731960  
vdbbaker@talktalk.net  
Last Friday in month 10.30  
Thrapston Library

**Creative Writing**  
Ann Barrowcliffe  
01832 734196  
annbee1@hotmail.co.uk  
2nd Wednesday  
no spaces - second group to be formed

**Bridge**  
Liz Bryant  
01832 734221  
ebthrap@gmail.com  
3rd Thursday  
Space for experienced players

**Computers**  
Margaret Bland  
01832 732761  
margaretbland@virginmedia.com  
1st and 4th Fridays

**Card Making**  
Irene Gandy  
01832 732948  
2nd & 4th Thursday p.m.  
2 spaces

**Family History**  
Neil Busby  
01832 731047  
u3athrapstonfh@gmail.com  
Contact co-ordinator

**Gardening**  
Rachel Thompson  
01832 734974  
rachelk@uwclub.net  
4th Wednesday  
No spaces -second group to be formed

**Luncheon Club**  
Joyce White  
01832 734517  
joybob1983@gmail.com  
Day varies  
Space for more members

**Discussion**  
Glyn Hill  
01832 735797  
glynishill06@aol.com  
2nd Tuesday  
New group - space

**Military History**  
Gerry Martin  
gerrymartin1@waitrose.com  
1st Monday 10-12  
new group - space

**Patchwork**  
Veronice Norwood  
01832 731960  
vdbbaker@talktalk.net  
Days vary  
2 spaces

**Weekenders Lunch**  
Veronica Norwood  
01832 731960  
vdbbaker@talktalk.net  
4th Sunday

**Playreading**  
Liz Treacy  
01832 733264  
liz.treacy@talk21.com  
4th Thursday  
Contact co-ordinator

**Walks and Wheels**  
Rachel Thompson  
01832 734974  
rachelk1983@uwclub.net  
Contact co-ordinator

**Destress and relax**  
Rachel Thompson  
01832 734974  
rachelk@uwclub.net  
New group-space

**World War II**  
Rachel Thompson  
01832 734974  
rachelk@uwclub.net  
New group-space

## First feedback from groups:

**Creative Writing:** The Creative Writing Group has made an excellent start with each member contributing their own unique style of writing. The subject for our September story is 'The Phone Call'. During the meeting we will be exploring how to create and portray characters.

**Luncheon Club:** The first lunch took place at the Bridge Hotel and had twenty members. Next is on Wednesday 15 August at Feast World Buffet in Kettering with 25 having signed up. Because we arrange different days of the week and month, this enables different people to come along. It's a good way to get to know members. The Luncheon Club Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 12th December at Hartford Marina and is open to anyone who wants to come along with a maximum of about 40. Please sign up ASAP and provide £5 per head non-refundable deposit to Joyce.

## The Website

It's up and running and our url is <http://u3asites.org.uk/thrapston> Please use it to check on your group meetings and to keep up to date with events, you can also print off the latest newsletter and the membership form. Photographs from groups are very welcome; please email them to me [glynishill06@aol.com](mailto:glynishill06@aol.com).

## What's On

**Oundle U3A - Picnic in the Park** 13 Aug 201 14:00 - 17:00 at Barnwell Village Hall. Non- members welcome. For more information please call 01832 274778. £1 including tea and coffee