

OADBY AND WIGSTON NEWSLETTER APRIL 2011



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR:

I hope April will not be as showery as in the old saying! By now we're well used to the dawn chorus and so welcome John Clewes who will speak about

Action for Birds

Eileen Holly

PS Have you paid your subscription yet?

Annual Report from the Chair

Another busy year behind us, with lots going on. This gives me the opportunity to thank all the Committee members for their hard work in keeping things moving, and all the Group leaders too for arranging events and activities for us to enjoy. All these people are vital to a successful U3A.

Of course the highlight of the year was our 10th Anniversary, with colourful evidence of most of our activities, with music, food and fun. A great occasion. We also saw a move to what we hope will be a more permanent and comfortable meeting place.

We could still expand our range of interests - there is plenty of local and national support for setting up new groups. Any ideas?

Eileen Holly

Groups Co-ordinator Report

It's been another busy year for the group leaders, with quite a few changes of venue, times and days. Sadly, we lost the Computer, Local History, one Water-colour, and the beginners French groups. Although Carole's Lunch group disbanded, it has now, happily, been reinstated. The new bi-monthly Coffee Morning is proving very popular. The Film group too is expanding, (65 at the last film) bringing in new associate members from the City and County U3A's and new members for our U3A. The Bridge group is also expanding, now with four tables.

Bob reports that he has managed to keep the peace in the lively Discussion group! And that the History group has gained a lot from the presentations by some group members. The Music group also benefits from individual members varied programmes. The Digital Photography Group's learning format has evolved into a more structured approach and the new venue is much more appropriate.

These, and ALL the other groups continue to provide us with a wide variety of activities, thanks to the hard work of the group leaders and support of group members. Hopefully you will have seen the interesting and informative display of group activities at the Anniversary celebration.

There is, of course, always room for more interest groups, so do get in touch if you would like to start one, it's really not that difficult!!

Jean McLeod

(Secretary's Report to follow)



HELP!! HELP!

Despite my gentle pleas at the last meeting there has been no response to my request for additional names to the tea/coffee rota. It was quite amazing how many people managed to evade my eye contact and find something urgent to look for in handbags or pockets!!

The basis of UTAH is to work together and support the local group in its activities and this amounts to volunteering when the need arises. Tea and coffee making is something most of us do every day and well within the capabilities of many of us in the group. Help to carry out the job will be at hand - you will not be abandoned!! We urgently need volunteers for May, new ones preferably, in order to give the 'uvulas' a rest. If no one comes forward we shall have a 'non tea' month.

Thank you in advance for any offers

Glenys Janes

COFFEE MORNING

Monday 23 May will be our next get-together, at the King's Centre Wigston at 10.30am. All welcome.



LUNCHEON GROUP 1

We enjoyed our lunch at the Rose and Crown, Thurnby, and we all agreed to re-book later in the year. Our next lunch will be a buffet at the Wigston Stage Hotel on Monday 16 May. This will be £7 a head. On Monday 20 June we shall be returning to the Red Lion, Gilmorton, also a buffet at £7 a head. Then on Monday 18 July it will be back to the Stage Hotel, Wigston.

If you would like to join us at any of these venues please contact Alan or Sheila (tel: 2885910).

LUNCHEON GROUP 2

There will be no meeting of Lunch Group 2 on Monday 2 May, as this is a Bank Holiday and The Chartwell Arms will be too busy to cope with us.

The next meeting of the Group will be on Monday 6 June at 12 noon. Ring Carole on 0116 288 7455 if you need any further information.

MUSIC GROUP

Join us on Thursday 12 May at the Methodist Church Hall, Wigston at 2.00pm. It's another wait and see programme!

New members always welcome.



WATER COLOUR GROUP

This Group meets at Guthlaxton College 'B' Block on Tuesdays 10.00 – 12.00noon. This group has a vacancy; if you would like to join us please contact Peter Reeves (tel 2889674).



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

No meeting in April, but don't forget to bring your new photos and your camera to the meeting on 18 May at the Peace Park Pavillion in Wigston at 10am. New members welcome.

HISTORY GROUP

For the meeting on Monday 16 May Dr Margaret Bonney will host us at the Record Office, Long Street. She will have the room ready by 10.00am, leaving time for people to look at the exhibits in the lobby first. She will deal with the history and background of Paddock Street, Wigston and will have documents, pictures etc for us.



We can sign in as a group, so individuals do not need to sign in themselves.



ARCHITECTURE GROUP

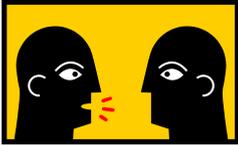
There are still five places on our proposed trip to the new St Martin's Cathedral Centre on Wednesday 18 May. If you are interested please give me a ring (you can leave a message on 2714402) or send me an email (on migray@talk21.com). Please leave your phone number. We aim to meet in the Cathedral car park at 2.00pm. Would you consider a donation of £3 to the Cathedral Centre Fund ?

For further details please contact Malcolm Gray.

GARDEN GROUP

Our next meeting is on Monday 9 May at The Pavilion, Peace Park, Wigston at 10.30am. The Speaker is Dave Reid a member of the Regional Dahlia Society. Dahlias seem to be coming back into fashion and I thought this would be a good time to get some tips on growing this showy flower. Beryl (tel 2889164)





DISCUSSION GROUP

Due to the Bank Holiday there will not be a Discussion Group in May.

At the meeting on Monday 6 June we shall continue with our discussion on the topic "Creeping urbanisation could destroy rural England in 30 years!!?"

SCRABBLE GROUP



In view of summer holidays and planned outings falling on the first Thursday of the month, I have decided to cancel Scrabble until the autumn term. The next meeting will be on THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER.

I apologise if you are disappointed and look forward to meeting again in October.

Myra

FILM GROUP

The film group in April was treated to the delightful film 'Gigi' which seems like a classic boy meets girl except the girl was a very gamin Leslie Caron and the man played by Louis Jourdan was a wealthy playboy. With Maurice Chevalier acting as anchor man holding the plot together and finding time to sing some enchanting songs. There was much to delight the eye in seeing places that are unfamiliar to us as the camera peeped round the corner of buildings and gardens not normally seen, and not forgetting the ladies in the audience who delighted in the exquisite dresses. This was altogether a crowd pleaser with many well-known actors playing cameo parts.

Marion Watkins



The next meeting of the Film Group will be on Wednesday 11 May when we plan to show the cult 1967 film "The Graduate", which stars Dustin Hoffman and Anne Bancroft, and is directed by Mike Nichols. Simon and Garfunkel did a pretty good job on the sound track . . ."Hello Darkness my Old Friend", "Mrs Robinson" etc.

We meet at Phoenix Square at 10.30am.

The film for June will be an adaptation of DH Lawrence's short story "The Virgin and the Gipsy".

For more details contact Malcolm Gray 0116 2714402 or migray@talk21.com

WALKING GROUP



Last month's walk from Huncote was of interest to several members who had not previously climbed to the top of Croft Hill – the view down into the quarry was quite something!

Our next walk will be completely different, meeting at the Royal Arms, Sutton Cheney, on Tuesday 3 May at 10.00am, we shall be on more level ground around the canal.

Everyone welcome - see you there!

DAY TRIPS 2011



THURSDAY JUNE 2nd GLOUCESTER

PRICE £18.85

There are lots of things to do in Gloucester so take your pick.

There is a Norman Cathedral where Harry Potter and Dr Who were filmed.

The Victorian Docks which houses the Waterways Museum, an Arts and Craft Centre and Antiques Centres.

Blackfriars Priory is a medieval Dominican Priory founded in 1239.

There is a Designer Outlet at Gloucester Quays

You can cruise on the canal or river.

WEDNESDAY JULY 20th LEEDS OR HAREWOOD HOUSE

PRICE £19.35 PLUS £8 FOR HOUSE

You can either visit Leeds city centre where you will find the Cathedral, the Civic Hall, St. John's Evangelical Church (the oldest church in Leeds built between 1632 and 1634) or there are Victorian and Edwardian shopping arcades which have been restored and feature a dramatic stained glass roof.

OR

Harewood House which was built in the mid 18th century with magnificent interiors by Robert Adam, furniture by Chippendale and paintings by Turner, Reynolds, Titian and El Greco.

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1st BOAT TRIP ON THE RUTLAND BELLE
FOLLOWED BY A VISIT TO STAMFORD**

PRICE £20

We will be taking a leisurely morning cruise on the Rutland Belle where coffee and biscuits will be served followed by a visit to Stamford. In Stamford you can visit All Saints Church which dates back to the 13th century or Barn Hill where the TV series Middlemarch was filmed amongst other places.

Details / booking Di Hensman (tel. 2888365)

Details Peter Reeves (tel. 2889674)

A deposit of £5 per person is required with booking please, and full payment a month before the trip.
Cheques payable to Oadby and Wigston U3A Travel

For your diaries - Dates of forthcoming monthly meetings

!!!!!!! NEW VENUE !!!!!!!

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BUSHLOE END, WIGSTON

Wednesday 25 May 2.00pm

The Census Story - Wendy Freer

Wednesday 29 June 2.00pm Come Fly with Me – confessions of a Tour Guide – Tamara Shanks

Wednesday 27 July 2.00pm Village Names – The Origin Behind Place Names - Gareth King

Wednesday 31 August 2.00pm Leonie and the last Napoleon - Tony Bullemier

Items for May Newsletter to:

Richard and Anne Gilbert, 85 Repton Road, Wigston, Leics LE18 1GD

Tel 2885081 email dick.anne@ic24.net by **19 MAY** please.

Remember: Copies of your U3A Newsletter are no longer being posted to members not attending the monthly meetings but are available from Local Libraries in Oadby, South Wigston and Wigston Magna, so if you miss your copy or wish to obtain an extra copy to give to a friend, call in and ask the library staff for one. If you require a copy through the post, send a stamped addressed envelope (indicating in the top left hand corner the month you require) to Di Hensman, 125 Aylestone Lane, Wigston, Leicester LE18 1BB.

The Newsletter can also be accessed on the internet website: www.oadbyandwigstonu3a.org.uk/latestnewsletter.pdf

OADBY AND WIGSTON U3A

Chairman:	Eileen Holly	Committee Members:	Richard and Anne Gilbert
Membership Secretary/Treasurer:	Di Hensman 2888365		Glenys Janes 2704440
Secretary:	Malcolm Gray 2714402		Mary Pethick
Groups Co-ordinator:	Jean McLeod 2882458		Peter Reeves
Speakers Secretary:	Pam Robinson 2885067		Peter and Carole Richardson

Group Leaders:

Architecture	Malcolm Gray	2714402	Latin	Jennifer Bell	2880234
Bridge	Mary Pethick	2704431	Lunch Club 1	Alan McKenlay	2885910
DigitalPhotography	John Thacker	2781877			mob:07761634489
Discussion	Bob Gill	2708570	Lunch Club 2	Carole Richardson	2887455
Film	Marion Watkins	2714301	Music Group	Jean McLeod	2882458
Film	Malcolm Gray	2714402	Reading	Di Hensman	2888365
French	Jennifer Bell	2880234	Scrabble	Myra Towse	2810737
Gardening	Beryl Keeber	2889164	Spanish	Eileen Holly	2885925
Gardening	Di Hensman	2888365	Travel	Di Hensman	2888365
German	Eileen Holly	2885925	Travel	Peter Reeves	2889674
History	Bob Gill	2708570	Walking	Bob Gill	2708570
			Water Colour	Peter Reeves	2889674

