

Lindsey u3a

Magazine

Quarterly Edition No. 104 (July 2025)

u3a learn,
laugh,
live



Visits Group members leaving the church during the visit to Saltaire in April

Features

- ▶ 'My journey from Nursing to Author' by Joy Wood
- ▶ 'All you want to know about St Barnabas hospice'
- ▶ 'A Family History Journey spanning 20 years'
- ▶ Visits Group visit to Saltaire



Images from the
Visits Group visit
to Saltaire

Notes from the Editor



Welcome to the July 2025 edition of the Magazine.

In this edition we feature accounts of our general meetings with items from author Joy Wood and St Barnabas Hospice. Also included is a fascinating Family History story, reports of visits to memorable places and reports from our sporting groups. Do remember to visit our excellent website for regular

updates of events & group activities.

We continue to try to provide an interesting magazine for members recounting the fascinating meetings, group visits and activities throughout the year, I welcome any new articles from any member that may have had a notable experience or visit.

I would particularly like to thank those members who have continued to contribute to the magazine and my proof readers team of Dawn Bowskill & Jenny Porter. I would particularly like to invite general members to contribute to the magazine if they have an item that may be of general interest, **it is your magazine.**

The deadline for the October 2025 magazine is 6th September 2025. Contact details are: Geoff Sherman
email: lindseyu3a.editor@gmail.com

Geoff Sherman
Editor

Lindsey u3a Website
www.lindseyu3a.org.uk

Webmaster: Sid Miller
Email: sid.milleru3a@gmail.com
Do visit our new website!

Contents

Topic	Page
Editorial	3
Notices: Meeting schedule First Quiz	5
Group news & welfare officer details	6-17
Articles:	
'My Journey from Nursing to Author' by Joy Wood	18
'All you wanted to know about St. Barnabas hospice'	19
Architecture Group visit to Lincoln Cathedral	20
U3a Bowling Group	21
Lindsey Bridge Group	22
Talk on Bardney Manor Walled gardens	23
Visits Group Coach trip to Saltaire	24
'A Family History journey spanning 20 years'	26
Trojan Mice Group visit to Eco-Pantry, Lincoln	28
Architecture Group visit to Brigg	29
Committee members and duties	30
Group meetings week by week	31

NOTICES

Meeting Schedule 2025

July 3 rd	Scams and fraud awareness by Sharon Hall from Lincolnshire police. Sharon will describe the tricks and cons used by criminals and how we can avoid being duped by scammers and fraudsters.
August 7th	Mayflower Pilgrims - New Beginnings by Maggy Watkins. Maggy has a great knowledge of local history and a particular love of the Mayflower Pilgrims and their links to Lincolnshire towns
Sept 4th	My Life as an Author by Margaret Dickinson. Margaret has published over 40 books in the historical fiction genre and sets her stories in her native rural Lincolnshire. She is regarded as a most prolific author in this genre.

FIRST QUIZ

34 uncertain but enthusiastic members arrived at Welton Village Hall on a sunny afternoon. They had been told to expect a quiz with a difference and that is exactly what it was! Teams of four were picked at random out of a hat and then each team was given TRUE and FALSE cards, together with others depicting A B & C. The teams each had their own sheet on the wall with 20 lines on it and they started with 2000 points. Team names were also chosen and added to the sheet. On the tables, all teams were given 20 written and picture questions to fill in before the half-time interval.

Our Quizmaster, Tony, then asked a question and the team had to decide whether the answer was TRUE or FALSE or A B or C and hold up the appropriate card, simultaneously with the other teams. In addition, they had to decide how certain they were of their answer and write on the wall sheet how much they wished to bet.

It sounded complicated, but everyone quickly got the hang of it and by the last round many of the teams were still in with a chance of winning. Our grateful thanks to our Quizmaster, Tony Wilkins, who guided us through tremendously and has very kindly agreed to do it again for us when, we hope, more members will come along.

Luke Pickering

GROUP NEWS

ARCHITECTURE GROUP



We are a large and friendly Group, who are interested in the buildings and settlements of the local area. We arrange talks in the winter months and trips to towns, villages and individual buildings once the weather gets warmer. We have a varied programme which includes the ancient and modern, usually with knowledgeable local guides. Our tours often finish in the local pub or teashop!

We meet on the third Thursday of the month, generally at 10.30am. Some of our visits do have limited numbers and we have Booking Forms at the General Meetings where you can put your name down. If you have any questions, please phone Luke

Programme

17 July Guided tour of Caistor.

21 August Tour of Kirton Lindsey.

18 September Uphill Lincoln Walk with Penny Forsdyke.

“Murder and Mayhem.”

Luke Pickering, group leader

ART GROUP



At our art group, members can draw and paint together in a hall location. The group is open to all abilities and complete beginners. So if you have ever wished to give it a go now is your chance!

We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at the Welton Room. Examples of recent meeting projects include: still life designs, tonal studies in pencil, charcoal & watercolour, watercolour landscapes, figure drawing, flower painting,

GROUP NEWS

exploring pen and wash techniques, starting out in pastels. Please contact me for further information.

Geoff Sherman, group leader

ART APPRECIATION

Art Appreciation Group members would welcome new attendees at their meetings. Activities include members' presentations on artists and exhibitions attended, guest speakers, visits to art galleries. Meetings are informal and are held in members' homes unless an outing has been arranged. All meetings take place on the third Monday of the month at 2 p.m.



Contact Elizabeth Wilson - group leader

BOOKLOVERS GROUP

We are a very friendly group and meet at 1.45 p.m. on the third Wednesday in a members home, with a cuppa and bickies. Upcoming good reads are 'The Story Collector' by Evie Woods and Robert Goddards 'The fine Art of Uncanny Prediction'.

Jan Benson. Group Leader Email janbenson01@hotmail.com

BIRD WATCHING

The group of Bird Watchers is run by the Cliff Villages u3a group on the third Wednesday of the month and they would welcome new members. You will need to be prepared to drive a little way as many sites are on the coast.

GROUP NEWS

If you would like more details, please contact via www.cliffvillageslincolnu3a.org.uk

BOOKWORMS - BOOK GROUP

We are a small friendly group, meeting each month in one another's homes to discuss a book accompanied with refreshments.



Each year, as a group, we select a wide range of books including contemporary novels, the classics, biography and non-fiction. Individual members decide whether to obtain their books from the library service, use electronic downloads or purchase a hard copy.

For further information please contact: Helen Nicholls - group leader helenandgraham@outlook.com

CANASTA GROUP

Have you ever played or wish to learn how to play? Brian has been playing Canasta since the 1960's and is willing to teach new members how to play. The game can be played by 2, 4 or 6 players on one table and can last for 2 hours or more or finish at a set time.



Brian is thinking of setting up a new group if there is enough interest. If you are interested please contact Brian Siddown on 01673 860433 indicating your preferred meeting day.

CIRCLE DANCING

Circle Dancing is open to everyone. No experience is necessary as all the dances are taught first. No partner is needed as we all join hands and dance together. The circle of



GROUP NEWS

dancers is welcoming and supportive and we can all have fun and make friends while learning dances to music from around the world. We always say 'There are no mistakes in Circle Dancing - only variations'.

We meet on the third Wednesday in the month from 10.00 - 11.30 at Moorland Methodist Church, Skellingthorpe Road.

There is a small charge to pay for the hire of the hall.

NB There is a little uncertainty about sessions over the next few months so if you are thinking of coming along to a session for the first time please contact Helen Nicholls first to ensure the group is meeting that month.

For further information please contact: Helen Nicholls

helenandgraham@outlook.com

COFFEE MORNING

Held at the Scothern Garden Centre on the 4th Thursday of every month. Excellent coffee and tea plus the best scones ever! Please come along and enjoy a chat and maybe stop for lunch. It is important that you advise me if you wish to attend as we have to advise the cafe beforehand.

Luke Pickering,

ZOOM COFFEE MORNING

Feeling left out or cut off from the world? Reluctant to go out but wanting to meet people? On the first Tuesday each month we host a coffee morning on-line. Using the 'Zoom' software a number of people link together and have a chat for about 40 minutes to an hour. There is no agenda and no set topic, we just chat about things generally. We make ourselves a coffee, some have biscuits, and enjoy cheerful banter. And it's free!

GROUP NEWS

If you want to join, contact Sid on sid.milleru3a@gmail.com and he will send you a link so that you can join in.

COMPUTERS FOR ALL



During our planned monthly meetings we explore the needs of Apple iPad users, along with those using Windows and Android devices.

The meetings take the format of discussion and practical help, giving guidance to members using their different devices. We aim to sort out each other's problems along with exploring and obtaining more use from your apps.

This non-technical approach is giving group members more confidence in using their devices so they can now show the grandchildren how to do it !!

The group welcomes new members of all levels of interest in technology who would like to further their knowledge and hopefully help others to benefit from what they have learnt. If you would like to join our happy group please email me on perrenialgardner@gmail.com or just come along to one of our meetings, which are held at the Welton Village Hall on the 2nd Monday of the month at 2 p.m. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Mike Kirkby, Organiser

CONVERSATION

The Group is currently in abeyance. If anyone is interested in becoming Group Leader of the Conversation Group, please apply to Jenny Porter Lindsey u3a Groups Coordinator.



GROUP NEWS

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Duplicate Bridge Group meets every Thursday 1.45 p.m. at Old School Hall, Mill Hill Nettleham.

We have a very good membership for Lindsey u3a also u3a members from Cherry Willingham and Market Rasen and Lincoln clubs. Members can always check the results via Lindsey u3a Bridge Group web site.



Shirley Droy - group leader .

FAMILY HISTORY

We report each month on our own individual research, and pool our knowledge and experience to help with any 'brick walls'. Related topics are discussed, such as housing, work and migration, and also storage and information retrieval on a practical level.



Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of each month in members' homes although we are currently up to our limit. However, if anyone wishes to start their family history we are happy to provide guidance and encouragement.'

Janet Freeman - group leader janethfreeman.12@gmail.com

FRENCH CONVERSATION - New Group!

Bienvenue au Groupe de Conversation en Français!

Don't worry; this is an informal group and no-one is expected to be fluent. You just need to enjoy and appreciate French language and



GROUP NEWS

culture. This is an opportunity to practise some French and develop confidence in speaking, reading and listening; to share anecdotes about French life and culture - books, films travel etc, and about yourselves.

Whatever you can bring to the table - or “à la table”!

Numbers are limited, as the group will be meeting in each other's homes. They will take place at 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

Alan Gidney group leader fitzal@hotmail.com

GARDEN GROUP

The Garden Group meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held in Welton Village Hall at 2 pm with an entrance fee of £4 which includes refreshments. There are garden visits in February and the summer months.



Programme

Tuesday 22 July - visit to Marigold Cottage Hotchin Road, Sutton-on-Sea,

Tuesday 26 August - visit to The Fern Nursery, Binbrook

Tuesday 23 September Talk on Organic Gardening by Philip Maddison

Please view details of further meetings & visits at the Welton Room at general meetings

Garden group leader: Louise Kevill

gardengroup.lindsey@gmail.com

INDOOR BOWLS

This is a group open to anyone who would like to give bowling a try or just come along and have a roll-up. We use the facilities at Dunholme Indoor Bowls Club and they are happy to provide shoes as



GROUP NEWS

you are not allowed to wear your own ordinary shoes on the carpet, and bowls that they have for those starting up. Bowls come in many sizes and weights so you can try different ones until you find ones you are comfortable with. For new bowlers free tuition will be given for the first three Tuesdays or Thursdays. The bowls group meet for a fun game every Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the summer months at 10.00 ready to start bowling at 10.30 p.m. for two hours. All new members are welcome. Rink fees are £5 for two hours (£4 for bowls club members). Teas and coffees are available for £1 each.
Jane Guy - group leader

JEWELLERY GROUP

I am happy to let you know about the return of the jewellery making group. Before the pandemic, a small group of us enjoyed making various pieces of jewellery. I have now extended this group to cover **jewellery and some other crafts**. Our group is currently full, however please contact Chris Saynor saynor_chris@hotmail.com for further information. N.B. Meetings cancelled for the time being.

KNITTING GROUP

This group is a chance for people with an interest in Knitting and Crochet to meet. All levels welcome, any help needed can be given to new knitters. Just come along and enjoy a good chat and a chance to swap some ideas.



The Group meet at the Methodist Church Welton on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10.00 a.m.
Barbara Jones, group leader

GROUP NEWS

PAPER CRAFT GROUP



This group is presently in abeyance. If anyone is interested in becoming Group Leader of the Paper Craft Group, please apply to Jenny Porter Lindsey u3a Groups Coordinator.

PLAY READING

The group meets to read a wide variety of plays, both classical and modern, from Oliver Goldsmith and Chekhov to Arthur Miller and Alan Bennett.

This group has now been running since 2004 and has given all members a great deal of fun.

For information please contact Margaret Howard, our organiser. We meet on the 4th Monday of the month at Margaret's house in Sturton by Stow.

Play Reading group leader: Margaret Howard -
margarethoward@outlook.com

POETRY READING GROUP

The poetry reading group is currently in abeyance. A new group leader is required. For further information please contact Jenny Porter

QUIZ GROUP

The Quiz Group has been set up to organize twice yearly afternoons of competitive fun for all. We have already held a very successful first Quiz with a Difference and plan to hold similar ones each Spring, with a more conventional Quiz in the Autumn. The Group will be open to all members and we hope that up to 50 will join us. We will announce the date of our Autumn Quiz in the summer, so please watch this space!!

Co Group Leaders Luke Pickering Malcolm Thompson

GROUP NEWS

SCRABBLE

Witham u3a have Scrabble meetings on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Monday of the month from 13.30 - 15.30.

They meet in Cherry Willingham. 1 New Crescent LN3 4AJ. (New Crescent is off High Street, between the Millennium Hall and Church Hall). They would welcome members from Lindsey u3a

Organiser: Thelma Britz -

Email: thelmabritz@gmail.com

SHORT WALKS GROUP

This group meets on the second Monday of each month at about 9.45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. start. We usually have easy walks of 2-3 miles taken at a leisurely pace, followed by a visit to a suitable place for refreshments and to discuss future walks. Any u3a member is welcome to join us, either on a regular basis or just occasionally. Further information from Janet Paley

THEATRE GROUP

We continue to be well supported and our performances have been enjoyed. Reports of our visits can be seen on our web page.



Our last performance was “Ghost The Musical” at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on 2 April. We are going to Buxton again for the Gilbert and Sullivan festival in August to see Iolanthe. Our final visit for 2025 will be to see “Blood Brothers” in Nottingham in September. All tickets are sold but there is a reserve list. February 2026 sees a return to Sheffield to see “The Bodyguard Musical”. If you are a keen Theatre fan and want to be notified of future visits, then let us know and you will be put on the list. We don’t expect all members to go to all events but we will try to vary the type of event to give everyone an opportunity. To follow our progress there is a Theatres page on

GROUP NEWS

our web site, lindseyu3a.org.uk, and we will endeavour to have a table in the Welton room at the general meetings. Thanks to all those who have shown their support to date. Sid and Jane Miller email: sid.milleru3a@gmail.com or phone:

TROJAN MICE GROUP

The Environment's Friends

This group meets on the second Monday of the month in the Waitrose Community Room in the Nettleham Rd store. We meet at 3.15 pm and our meetings generally last around 90 minutes. Refreshments are available from the cafe.



We are a friendly and lively group of 30+ members who have been meeting now for over a year. Increasingly we are moving to a member-led programme where topics are determined by the group and members with relevant knowledge or particular experience or interest take the lead in designing a programme covering two or three sessions and including a mix of presentations and discussion, outside speakers and visits. Future topics include:

14 July: EVs Unplugged 3: Public Transport: A Comfortable Alternative?

August: No meeting

8 September: Energy from Waste visit.

Our recycling point is available to all U3A members at general meetings to provide a one-stop drop-off point, especially for those who might struggle with transport or additional bags when shopping.

Julie Guest works hard to ensure that all the donated items are recycled responsibly. Currently the items being collected are: blister packs, spectacles and sunglasses, light bulbs, household batteries, water jug filters, printer cartridges and postage stamps.

GROUP NEWS

Please join us at any of these meetings. You will be made very welcome. For further information, please contact robyn.jane.crosby@gmail.com or heatherfrier@hotmail.com

VISITS GROUP

The Visits Group has a programme of outings being prepared.

Programme

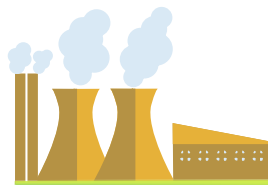
A tour of Thorne's -Beehive specialist Rand,

Nr Wragby Tuesday 30th September

Watch out for further information on the website and at General Meetings.

Leaders : Rosey Thompson Email;

roseythompson61@gmail.com and Malcolm Thompson.



WALKING GROUP

Group meets once a month on the first Monday. Walks are of about 5 miles at a gentle pace usually completed by 1 p.m. Programme is on display at the monthly meetings and is regularly circulated via email.

No need to sign up in advance for a walk just be at the listed meeting place at 9.45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. start. Contact the group leader or the monthly meeting contact (Janet Freeman) for full details. Kevan Chippendale, group leader
kevanchipp@gmail.com



Welfare

Jane Miller is our new Welfare Officer. If you know of anyone who is ill, had a bereavement or is simply having some difficulties or if you think a card from the Committee would be welcome, then let Jane know and she will send a suitable message.

Her contact details are email: jane47.miller@gmail.com

ARTICLES

My Journey from Nursing to Author by Joy Wood April General Meeting

A packed Hall was treated to an entertaining and informative talk by the nurse who became an author, Joy Wood.

In the first part, she told us about her career nursing in Lincolnshire and how she was driven to always do her best by her father's wise words.

They certainly motivated her, as she took up every job opportunity and challenge to become a senior manager. After a time in this role, which she thought was going well, she was asked to come to a meeting where she was surprised to be told she was being made redundant.

Joy had always loved writing stories and this was the spur she needed to try to see if she could become an author. She decided to write a romantic fiction novel. After writing her first draft, which her husband proof read, she sent it to an agent. His advice was that the

romance was a little tame and required spicing up! The result was "For the Love of Emily". She now had to publicise herself and her book. She persuaded first the Grimsby and then the, larger circulation, Grimsby newspapers to interview her. She talked Waterstones local manager into letting her, an unknown, do a book signing where, to her great surprise, she outsold some of the well-known authors. At a future event in Wetherspoons she suggested to some of the men they should buy it for their wives, as it would liven their love lives! Her marketing worked and Joy has now written further romance and detective stories, some still with adult content.

Luke Pickering

ARTICLES

“ All you wanted to know about St Barnabas Hospice but were afraid to ask” - May General Meeting

Our speaker Fiona, a community fundraiser for St Barnabas Hospice, began by debunking some of the myths around hospice care e.g.

You have to be religious - NOT TRUE

You have to pay - NOT TRUE

It's just for end of life care - NOT TRUE

It's only for cancer sufferers - NOT TRUE

St Barnabas Hospice is a charity in Lincolnshire that provides free, high-quality, compassionate care and support to people with life-limiting or terminal illnesses and their families. They offer a range of services including inpatient care, day therapy and hospice at home to help patients live as fully as possible during their remaining time. They also offer emotional and psychological support, spiritual care, welfare and benefits advice plus pre and post bereavement counselling support. Fiona impressed upon us that should we or a family member receive a diagnosis of a terminal or life-limiting illness we should contact St Barnabas Hospice immediately Tel. 0300 020 0694 email

enquiries@stbarnabashospice.co.uk

They offer support when needed, not just at the end of life. Help is available not only for cancer

sufferers but for conditions such as Parkinson's, Motor Neurone Disease and Alzheimer's.

St Barnabas Hospice is facing significant financial pressure. It receives just 44% statutory funding and with rising running costs of £40,000 per day, alongside recent National Insurance and National Living Wage increases is not financially sustainable. In order to continue to deliver a free service they are desperate for funds.

Fiona gave some examples of how we could help if we wished:-

- ♦ Play their weekly lottery
- ♦ Consider using their house clearance service across Lincolnshire, if needed.
- ♦ Help in their shops and donate unwanted items.
- ♦ Become a volunteer to support them in many different roles.
- ♦ Fundraise for St Barnabas Hospice or leave a gift in your will.

For more info. go to their website stbarnabashospice.co.uk

Tel. 01522 518221

Fiona finished her informative talk with a quote from the founder of the modern hospice movement Dame Cicely Saunders

“You matter because you are you and you matter to the end of your life. We will do all we can, not only to help you die peacefully but also to live until you die.”

Sheila Nash

ARTICLES

Architecture Group to Lincoln Cathedral 'The Glass Tour'

With the sun streaming through the myriad of windows, we assembled inside the West Front of our glorious Cathedral where we met our guide Simon.

He told us there are a staggering 140 stained glass windows, with the earliest dating from the 13th century. Our tour started in the Nave, where the glass is mainly Victorian, with Old Testament scenes on the north side and ones from the New Testament to the south. Many different companies made the glass with one local maker, the Sutton Brothers of Brant Broughton, generously making no charge for any of them.

We then moved to the Transepts, which have some early medieval windows as well as the famous Dean and Bishops Eyes. The Bishops Eye is made up of a hotchpotch of medieval glass after Cromwell's Troops had used it for target practice in 1644!! We were told that virtually no stained glass windows were made after the Civil War until Victorian times when the Cathedral was in a



The
George
Boole
window

poor state. We stopped in the Service Chapels, where there are fascinating local scenes and a striking modernist window from the 1950s.

In the South Aisle is the most colourful group, which were considered by many in Victorian times as garish, but with the sun behind them they looked fantastic. Our tour concluded with the great east window, regarded as a Victorian masterpiece.

Our thanks to Simon for a very enlightening tour. It encouraged me to buy the book and revisit the World Class windows on our doorstep. Perhaps others might like to do the same.

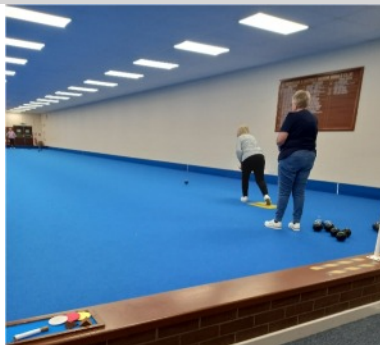
Luke Pickering

U3a Bowling Group

I am not sure whether I would describe bowling as a sport, gentle exercise, an opportunity to meet new people or a fun activity but it is certainly all of those and more. Our u3a Bowling group meets weekly although it is not essential to play every week.

If you have not bowled before, I will help get you started with special shoes and bowls and explain how to play. Your first three sessions are free which gives you an opportunity to try bowling first to make sure it is something you would like to continue.

There are probably 30 plus members of our u3a group who are also bowlers so you are sure to know someone if you come along. Once we have learnt how to play and got the feel of the bowls and how to bowl them, we will start playing games. The session lasts for two hours but we stop for about 15 minutes for a cup of tea, coffee or hot chocolate and sit together and catch up on our week, maybe what is happening in the world, or how life is treating us generally.



The club has five rinks and is well resourced and always lovely and warm. The facilities there are superb. There is a good private car park for those using the club in Honeyholes Lane in Dunholme. There are lots of equipment aids for anyone with mobility difficulties.

We meet on a Tuesday and Thursdays at 10 a.m. for 10.30 a.m. start. Give it a try. What have you to lose? There is a charge of £5 per session (£4 for bowls club members) which is for rink hire.

If you want more information please give me a ring

Jane Guy

Lindsey Bridge Group

The Lindsey u3a bridge group have taken on the challenge and entered into the national u3a's Bridge 2025 charity festival event held on 24-28 March, to raise money for McMillan Cancer Support. The fundraising target for 2025 was to raise £1,250 and this was more than doubled with £3,334 being donated to date. During the Festival week, some 303 pairs participated from 30 different groups from around the country, and on the day we played, there were 303 pairs participating.

We played face-to-face on 27th March, during our normal Thursday afternoon, (see photo of us all gathered around Shirley) but the competition was also available for on-line play. The results from all u3a groups playing that day, showed that three of our pairs were listed in the top 15 (from 303). Our highest scoring pair, David Hunter and Wendy Wilcox gained 3rd place with 68.78%, with Thomas McManners and Cathy coming 5th with 63.26%



and our relative newcomers, Mary Barlett & Jan Sims gained 15th place with a creditable 58%.

Our thanks go to our team, with Gytha McBirney as Tournament Director and Shirley Droy as Treasurer, and aided by Stuart Henderson and others who set up the furniture. Especial thanks go to Martin Amery who dealt out the pre-set cards, for us ensuring neutrality!

Cathy Platt

ARTICLES

Bardney Manor Walled Gardens - Lincolnshire's Best Kept Secret Talk to Garden Group by Samantha Wright .

Samantha Wright, Lady of the Manor, gave us a glimpse into her busy life restoring the walled garden. Her enthusiasm and knowledge about all things horticultural was evident and as she delved into the history of the gardens her passion was infectious.

From as early as 1086 a manor and farm dwellings in Bardney were recorded in the Domesday Book. Owned by the Church for a time, it had various tenants, including in 1538, the Tyrwhitt family whose coat of arms was inscribed "Where I stand, they will flourish". In the 18th century John Sutton Sharpe of the famous Sharpe's International Seed Company became its most famous tenant. With his wife, who was a Sutton from the Sutton Seed family, he transformed the Manor and gardens into what was said to be "one of the largest walled gardens in England in the 18th century"

The glass houses that housed

vines were 3/4 of a mile long. John set up seed trial grounds at the manor in the fields surrounding Bardney and developed Bardney Sharpe Seeds Factory.

From reviews about the gardens, Samantha makes herself available to visitors and is generous with her time and knowledge despite working every day to develop the gardens and open Bardney Manor as a horticultural training centre. Clearly a very knowledgeable and experienced horticulturalist, she ranks with many well-known personalities in the gardening world.

If you'd like to visit Bardney Manor Walled Gardens, refreshments, toilets and gift shop are available on site but check the website www.bardneymanorwalledgarden.com for opening times (alternate Sundays) during the summer.

Sheila Nash

Visits Group Coach Trip to Saltaire – 30 April 2025

Summer clothes were in evidence outside Welton Village Hall as 46 cheerful members eagerly awaited the arrival of the coach taking us to the West Yorkshire model village of Saltaire. The previous day had been the hottest of the year, so we were hoping for something similar for our outing. PC Coaches driver Joel had experienced traffic problems and our transport appeared a little later than expected. However, we were soon on our journey through the beautiful spring countryside, chatting to companions or just relaxing and enjoying the ride. Our coach drop-off point was opposite the impressive Salt's Mill and we had a short walk to the former Congregational Church, now Saltaire United Reform Church. Inside we were welcomed by our talk and walk guide, Maria, who wore a typical Victorian mill worker costume. Having directed us to gather in the front pews, Maria began the story of the life of Titus Salt, who was born on 20 September 1803 to parents Daniel and Grace, of the Old Manor House, Morley. He attended the local dame school, then Batley Grammar School and began his working life learning the textile trade. After being in partnership

with his father, Titus went on to take over the business and expand it to become the largest employer in Bradford. In 1836 he came upon some bales of Alpaca wool in a warehouse in Liverpool and took samples away to experiment. The result was his development of the lustrous and fashionable fabric which immensely increased his vast wealth and allowed him to pursue his vision to create a mill, in a rural setting away from the slums of Bradford, together with houses for his workers, each with a supply of fresh water, sanitation and gas. Saltaire is ideally situated between the River Aire, the railway and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Salt's Mill and the houses were built between 1851 and 1871 and in 1869 a baronetcy was bestowed on Titus by Queen Victoria. He then became Sir Titus Salt.

Maria had taken on the character of Mrs Ellin Dooley, a Saltaire mill worker, who is "as common as muck", with her own opinion of Sir Titus Salt! At this stage, she invited our Vice Chairman, Luke, to stand beside her and she introduced him as her husband Henry. She described their worker's house in Saltaire and asked him to repeat and confirm her descriptions. They have 12

ARTICLES

children. Ellin disclosed to Henry and the audience that there is now another one on the way! After allowing Henry back to his seat, she continued her story of Sir Titus Salt and life as a mill worker, interspersing it with entertaining stories and amusing anecdotes and supplying so much more than the basic information. Every now and then she referred to Henry for confirmation of facts and also interacted with Rosey. Before leaving the building, we were allowed a glimpse of the mausoleum where Sir Titus Salt was interred after his death in 1876.

Making our way outside, we were able to take in the full splendour of Salt's Mill. With Henry close by to corroborate, Maria, as Ellin, shared even more of her extensive knowledge, educating us with details of the workings and requirements of cloth manufacture in the Mill, together with social aspects of life in Saltaire. Sir Titus would allow no pubs or unions!! Some energetic members of our party followed her on a short walk further into the village, eventually thanking Maria for a most interesting, enlightening and unique tour. It was then time to split up and check out the various eateries. I chose to picnic on the canal side, in the glorious sunshine.

11 members booked themselves on a very peaceful and relaxing canal boat trip, on a vessel aptly named TITUS. Afterwards, some even treated themselves to an ice cream, sold from a nearby barge. Plenty of time was needed to experience Salt's Mill and explore all that was on offer on each of its floors. The Mill ceased production of cloth in 1986 and now this vast, imposing and elegant building is used for various purposes including quality shopping outlets, galleries, exhibitions and cafes. During the afternoon, most members could be found wandering and browsing, with many pausing to enjoy and appreciate the David Hockney exhibits which are always a huge attraction.

The village of Saltaire, a combination of (Titus) Salt and (River) Aire, was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001. It is indeed a very special place. The weather was perfect and the sun was still shining for our journey home. A very successful day!

Many thanks to Rosey and Malcolm for their hard work in researching and organising the trip.

Jenny Porter

ARTICLES

Family History group

'No Quick Fix - a Family History journey spanning 20 years!'

This article is written by a member of the Family History group and describes her lengthy efforts to trace her immediate ancestors as her mother was not forthcoming A case of Who Do You Think You Are?-Ed.

At the time I retired in 2004, I knew only the story my mother maintained, that my father (a sailor) had died during the war, her parents had died and she had no brothers or sisters. In contrast both sides of husband John's Platt family were teeming with aunts, uncles, cousins galore ... many still living within 10 miles of their birth place.

The facts I had were that my mother, Barbara left Aberdeen, Scotland with me as a 2/3 year old and took a housekeeper's job in Leeds for about two years. Then we moved another 4 times, then around 1951 she/we settled in Knutsford Cheshire until her death in 1979.

Not believing the 'no relatives' tale, I set out to research what I thought was a very unusual surname, 'Tough'. The Aberdeen Family History society (AFHS) were holding a

Family History day at Kings University, where they told me Tough (pronounced Tuach) was a very common local name. So began my search, using parish register entries on microfiche of the area where I knew mother was brought up - Bridge of Don, the parish of Old Machar. It was on an old map of the area I spotted the name Morrison's Croft, which was written as her place of birth on her certificate. One asset the AFH society had was a library of past researcher's family studies. I started researching the Tough section (many written by Americans and Canadians) and probably on the 5th or 6th of these files, I knew I'd found the right Tough family. I phoned John Tough, the author of this file and following some hasty arrangements, met John, his uncle Bob and aunt Betty in Aberdeen, and 4 other cousins.

ARTICLES

Next decade 2024, I started a search for paternal ties, and I took a DNA test. Shocking results followed as I discovered I was 50% Norwegian. So I'd been searching for records of Jack & sailor in the wrong country. I finally looked at two old books of my mother's about old Norway, and saw the signature Jack Stendal. Focus now turned to the Norwegian Archive office. They responded with information on a Jacob Andreas Stendal. His military record showed he was in the UK during the war, there were 2 newspaper clippings, plus mention of a biography published in 2020 proving he survived the war. More research followed, as reading the book 'Shetland Bus' showed many Norwegians, with access to a boat escaped occupied Norway to get to UK and became registered and deployed in war work.

A Google search of his name, showed the biography ('From war to a peaceful life' - roughly translated title) written by Emse Andreas Lote. This book was not freely available

anywhere other than in academic libraries. An Oslo Library assistant alerted me to Norwegian Yellow Pages, and soon I had contact details! Next steps - a Christmas card, an email, an extract translated of an incident Jacob foxhunting with the Grantham Hunt, was sent. My follow up, pressing to buy the book, was queried, so I said I suspected we could be related. A Video call was arranged, and after some questions, Emse said, 'whatever the truth/result was, my face shape was unmistakably Norwegian' as to convince her I had a Norwegian parent. She agreed to send me her book, and take a DNA test. On 9 April 2025 she emailed, confirming I now had 2 half-sisters (with English speaking husbands) 4 nephews, 1 niece, 4 grandnephews, plus many more wider family members, so 20 Norwegians. Thus these relatives, added to the Scots clan (16 or so estimated) plus the 100+ Platts, reveal I'm part of a sizable tribe now.

Cathy Platt

Trojan Mice Group visit to the EcoPantry in Bailgate, Lincoln

Watching the deeply shocking 'Blue Planet 2' during Covid was the inspiration for Johann Bridges' eco-friendly, zero waste 'Lincoln Eco Pantry' on Bailgate.

The central ethos of the EcoPantry is to have no or absolutely minimal plastic and to create as little waste as possible. Goods are delivered in large refillable bags and cleaning products and food are delivered in huge tubs which are sent back to the manufacturer to be refilled.

Johann encourages customers to shop carefully and responsibly, buying only what they need and changing their shopping habits gradually, focussing on one type of product at a time. She does a huge amount of research into each product and her suppliers, always alert to any changes in their manufacturing processes or ethics. She sources organic goods where possible and also aims for products which are produced 100% slavery-free and where workers are paid fair wages.

Johann has a large number of local companies within Lincoln-

shire from whom she purchases her supplies. Soap and beauty products, for example, are all made and sourced within a 30 mile range. She also aims to sell the products at as fair a price as possible to reduce costs to consumers.

A huge range of largely organic products - teas, sweets, dried fruits and baking essentials are available upstairs to purchase. We noticed the quality of some of the products, such as dried fruits, to be much better than the ones for sale in traditional stores.

Johann educated, informed and entertained us in a lively and interesting way. Her passion and commitment to the environment was infectious. At the end of the discussion we were eager to check out the stock and refill our cupboard shelves. It was an inspiring and really informative visit.

Take a look for yourselves next time you are in the Bail! Maybe eco-friendly, zero waste shopping will become a habit.

Robyn Crosby

Architecture Group trip to the historic town of Brigg, May 2025

The drive northwards to the historic town of Brigg follows the course of the Ancholme River which influenced the development of this interesting town.

The group met at The Angel, a hostelry, now the Heritage Centre, where manager Glyn Alexander explained the town's history.

Most Famous is the Bronze age raft; the ultimate technology of 3000 years ago. The melting ice-cap 20,000 years ago created a huge lake in the Ancholme valley, a wetland that our ancestors colonised by mastering the environment, including transportation. The huge raft was constructed using nettle cordage and animal fats to make it watertight and was propelled by punting.

Next, we walked up Bridge Street to see how the draining of the land and the shaping of the river from the 1200's influenced Brigg's development. We saw the old wharfs where corn millers, coal merchants and dealers used to be, and Springs Jam factory. Alas, the sweet fragrance of the fruit was a distant memory for some of our party.

In the market square we saw the

entrances to the courtyards which led off to both sides where the townspeople lived and worked. Coney Yard tells of the rabbit industry from 1700 to early 1800. Massive Warrens lined the valley. There was no sanitation for the workers and urine was used in the processing; it is a blessing that the smells no longer lingered. The phrase 'Mad as a hatter' was the result of mercury poisoning used in the treatment of the pelts by the young women and 'daft as a brush' because the young boys who swept up were affected too. The Shamrocks in School Court remind us of Irish Labourers brought over to dig the canal, build the railways and sluice and straighten the river.

Morley's Yard and Chapel renovated with the involvement of group leader Luke Pickering houses small businesses.

The town has links to the gunpowder plot and to Oxford's Clare College. There is so much to come back for another time.

As I left the Angel Car Park I saw two paddleboarders on the canal; a modern link direct to the people of the Bronze Age.

Rosey Thompson

LINDSEY u3a COMMITTEE MEMBERS & DUTIES		
Chairman	Sid Miller	
	sid.milleru3a@gmail.com	
Vice Chairman	Luke Pickering	
	lukep@lahestates.co.uk	
Treasurer	Malcolm Thompson	
	mjt0511@btinternet.com	
Secretary	Jenny Porter	
	jennylporter47@btinternet.com	
Membership	Tricia Barnes	
	memlu3a@gmail.com	
Groups Organiser	Jenny Porter	
	jennylporter47@btinternet.com	
Speaker Finder	John Saynor	
	johnsaynor@me.com	
Publicity	Sheila Nash	
Hall Committee Liaison	Janet Freeman	
	janethfreeman.12@gmail.com	
Kitchen/Door Rota	Joy Smith	
Magazine editor	Geoff Sherman	
	lindseyu3a.editor@gmail.com	
Committee Members	John Saynor, Geoff Sherman, Sheila Nash, Tricia Barnes, Janet Freeman, Rosey Thompson	
Webmaster	Sid Miller	
	sid.milleru3a@gmail.com	

Group Meetings		
Week One of the Month		
<u>Monday</u>		
9.45 a.m.	Walks	Kevan Chippendale kevanchipp@gmail.com Walks of about 4 to 6 miles
	Poetry Reading Group	Group currently in Abeyance
<u>Tuesday</u>		
9.30 a.m.	Jewellery Making & crafts	Christine Saynor saynor_chris@hotmail.com . No meetings at present
10 a.m.	Zoom coffee morning	On-line meeting arranged by Sid Miller sid.milleru3a@gmail.com
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Wednesday</u>		
2 p.m.	Paper Craft	Group in abeyance
<u>Thursday</u>		
9.45 a.m. to 12 noon	General Meeting in Welton Village Hall Welton Village Hall is at 51 Ryland Road, Welton, LN2 3LU Coffee/tea at 9.45, Speaker at 10.30	
1.45 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	Shirley Droy shirleydroy14@gmail.com Meetings at Old School Hall, Mill Hill, Nettleham LN2 2PE
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Friday</u> There is nothing planned on this day		

Week Two of the Month		
<u>Monday</u>		
9.45 a.m.	Short Walks	Janet Paley Walks of about 2-3 miles
2 p.m.	Computers for All	Mike Kirkby perrenialgardner@gmail.com Meetings held in the Welton Room. Welton Village Hall
3.15 p.m.	Trojan Mice	heatherfrier@hotmail.com , robyn.jane.crosby@gmail.com Meetings held at Waitrose Community Room at the Nettleham Rd store
<u>Tuesday</u>		
10 a.m.	Knitting	Barbara Jones handb@handb.me.uk Meetings held in the Methodist Church, Welton
13.30 p.m.	Scrabble	Witham u3a , 1 New Crescent LN3 4AJ. Cherry Willingham.
2 p.m.	Book Group (Bookworms)	Helen Nicholls helenandgraham@outlook.com Meetings held at members' homes
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Wednesday</u>		
10 a.m.	French Converstiaon	Alan Gidney fitzal@hotmail.com
<u>Thursday</u>		
1.45 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	Shirley Droy shirleydroy14@gmail.com Meetings at Old School Hall, Mill Hill, Nettleham LN2 2PE
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Friday</u> There is nothing planned on this day		

Week Three of the Month		
<u>Monday</u>		
10 a.m.	Family History	Janet Freeman janethfreeman.12@gmail.com The Family History Group meet in member's homes
2 p.m.	Art Appreciation	Elizabeth Wilson elizabethrwilson52@gmail.com Meetings held at a member's home
<u>Tuesday</u>		
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Wednesday</u>		
10 a.m.	Circle Dancing	Helen Nicholls helenandgraham@outlook.com 10-11.30a.m.at Moorland Methodist Church Hall, Skellingthorpe Road, LN6 7RB
1.45 p.m.	Booklovers Group	Contact Jan Benson janbenenson01@hotmail.com
	Bird Watching	please contact via www.cliffvillageslincolnu3a.org.uk
<u>Thursday</u>		
10.30 a.m.	Architecture	Luke Pickering lukep@lahestates.co.uk Outdoor Visits and meetings in Welton Room
1.45 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	Shirley Droy shirleydroy14@gmail.com Meeetings at Old School Hall, Mill Hill, Nettleham LN2 2PE
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Friday</u> There is nothing planned on this day		

Week Four of the Month		
<u>Monday</u>		
13.30 p.m.	Scrabble	Witham u3a , 1 New Crescent LN3 4AJ. Cherry Willingham.
2 p.m.	Play Reading	Margaret Howard margarethoward@outlook.com Meeting held at Margaret's home in Sturton
<u>Tuesday</u>		
2 p.m.	Garden group	Louise Kevill gardengroup.lindsey@gmail.com Welton Village Hall in Winter; Garden Visits in Summer
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy
<u>Wednesday</u>		
	Conversation Group	Group currently in abeyance
<u>Thursday</u>		
10 a.m.	Art Group	Meetings held at Welton Room, contact Geoff Sherman, lindseyu3a.editor@gmail.com
10.15 a.m.	Coffee Morning	Scothern Garden Centre coffee shop. Contact Luke Pickering,
1.45 p.m.	Duplicate Bridge	Shirley Droy shirleydroy14@gmail.com Meetings at Old School Hall, Mill Hill, Nettleham LN2 2PE
10 a.m.	Indoor Bowls	Jane Guy -
<u>Friday</u>		There is nothing planned today



u3a members attending
Trojan Group visit to the Eco
Pantry, Lincoln



Members of the
Walks Group
taking a well
earned rest on
their Doddington
walk

Group Meetings Summary Page

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Mon	9.45 a.m. 5/6 mile walk	9.45 a.m. Short Walks 2 p.m. Computers for All 3.15 p.m. Trojan Mice	10 a.m. Family History 2 p.m. Art Appreciation	1.30 p.m. Scrabble 2 p.m. Play Reading
Tue	10 a.m. Jewellery Making NB Next meeting May 10 a.m. Zoom coffee morning 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls	10 a.m. Knitting 1.30 p.m. Scrabble 2 p.m. Book Group (Bookworms) 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls	10 a.m.. Indoor Bowls	2 p.m. Gardening 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls
Wed		10 a.m. French Conversation	10 a.m. Circle Dancing 1.45 p.m. Booklovers Group All day Bird watching	
Thu	9.45 a.m. General Meeting in Welton Village Hall 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls 1.45 p.m. Bridge	10 a.m. Indoor Bowls 1.45 p.m. Bridge	10.30 a.m. Architecture 1.45 p.m. Bridge 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls	10 a.m. Art Group 10.15 a.m. Coffee Morning 10 a.m. Indoor Bowls 1.45 p.m. Bridge
Fri				