

LINDSEY U3A
EDITION No. 44

APRIL 2009

NEWSLETTER



**U3A Members Visited the Red Arrows
at RAF Scampton in March 2009**

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LINDSEY U3A COMMITTEE MEMBERS & DUTIES

Chairman	Margaret Campion
Vice Chairman	David Lee
Secretary	June Charles
Treasurer	Mike Kirkby
Membership Secretary	Janet Crees
Groups Co-ordinator	Pamela Huggett
Hall Organiser	Janice Wright
Village Hall Rep	Norman Clarke
Newsletter Editor	Peter Abela
Regional Representative	Robin Gulliver
Speaker Vote of Thanks	Jo Smith

Message from Our New Chairman



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

At the U3A General Meeting in March, you were kind enough to elect me as your Chairman - or Chairperson - for the next year. Normally, as newly appointed Chairperson, I would be expected to thank the outgoing Chairman – Robin – for his outstanding work. But I was slow, the meeting was moving rather more slowly than we had expected and our Speaker was waiting. To my shame, the moment passed.

However, I would like to use the Newsletter as a vehicle to say what I should have said at the meeting – namely that Robin really has been an outstandingly good Chairman and the Lindsey U3A has thrived and expanded under his leadership. I think his major contribution has been his unfailing good humour; he chairs meetings with skill and patience and manages to keep us more or less to time and in order! He has, with Janet Crees, begun to link Lindsey U3A with the other groups in the East Midlands – and this role both he and Janet have agreed to continue for the next year at least. He has been active in encouraging the newly formed local groups and has organised and managed the two Open Days; in Welton last year and Cherry Willingham in February this year.

He will be a hard act to follow but I will do my best!

Margaret Champion

Note from the Editor

Thanks to all of you who sent in pictures and short articles for this edition of your Newsletter. The deadline for the July edition is Monday 15th June.

Thanks also to the Editorial Team: Sub-Editor: Dawn Bowskill,
Member: Anne Driver

Peter Abela, Editor

DOOR ROTA

May	Mr & Mrs A Ball
June	Mrs J Cooper and Mrs S Staehr-Nielsen
July	Mr & Mrs G Heard

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA

May	Mr & Mrs M Whalley, Mrs I Wilson Mrs E Mansfield
June	Mrs S Dickinson, Mr & Mrs D Lee Mr N Clarke
July	Mr & Mrs R Bennett, Mr B Wise Mrs M Whaler

SPEAKERS OF THE MONTH

Thursday 14 May

Vince Kerrigan "Another Alternative Tenor – Some Myths Exploded". Thanks by Gordon Heard

Thursday 11 June

Rob Lidstone Scott. Coastal Warden, Donna Nook: "Nature Reserve Warden –Is it a Proper Job?" Thanks by John Good

Thursday 2 July

David Robinson "When Grandparents went Sea Bathing - A History of Lincolnshire Seaside Resorts" Thanks by Rita Dobbs

Membership News

Welcome to the following new members:

Ivan Baker, Barbara Cansfield White, Janice Dennis, Michael and Susan Dickinson, Gloria Dunn, Margarita Harvey, Michael Hughes, Elizabeth and Trevor Jarrett, Hazel Little, Lyn Morley, Simon and Sylvia Payne, Lorraine Olsen, Luke Pickering, Isobel and Malcolm Reynolds, Patrick Rowan and Ted Warner.

Janet Crees
Membership Secretary

January General Meeting - Gossiper from the Echo

One email I received at the New Year suggested we should all try to wear a smile from now on to appear friendlier and generally help the world along. No one attending our January general meeting could accuse the speaker of not doing his bit in this respect.

From his opening sentence he positively radiated good cheer and bonhomie, and those present quickly warmed to his 'panto' like performance. Peter had worked for the Lincolnshire Echo for many years, and for a long time produced his own regular series of articles under the heading of 'The Gossiper'.

The 'Gossiper' took in anything thought to be interesting, but possibly not big enough for a large article, and Peter regaled us with a series of stories, the results of his being sent almost anywhere to cover almost any story.

One of his photographers once found himself on stage at The Theatre Royal photographing what he thought was a rehearsal of 'Swan Lake', but when he turned round found to his horror he was up there with the dancers during a children's matinee!

He described the end of the Saxilby to Lincoln raft race, watched by hundreds of spectators, where the winners were ignored as the pontoons carrying the Mayor and official party slowly sank, leaving the worthies up to their knees in the waters of the Brayford.

The Lincoln Music festival has been an annual event for many years, but at one memorable festival the conductor achieved national acclaim, or possibly notoriety, when he raised his baton to start the performance, his braces broke and his trousers fell down. I guess he became a 'belt & braces' man from then on.

Peter told how he once asked to go into the cage with a lion when the circus visited, instantly regretting it, but was obliged to carry it through so as not to lose face. He obviously has nerves of steel as well as bags of personality, both of which must be vitally important in his retirement hobby of entertaining children under the name of 'Pedro the clown'.

We were treated to story after story gained during his reporting career. In my opinion one of the best concerned a junior reporter sent to interview Dr Michael Ramsey, the former Archbishop of Canterbury. While taking tea with the Archbishop, the young girl became more and more confused and embarrassed about how she should address him. After stumbling about trying 'Sir', 'Mr Archbishop', and 'Your holiness', none of which really sounded right, she realised she was really digging herself into a hole. Finally Dr Ramsey came to her aid by quietly saying, 'Say, Your Grace'. Misunderstanding his meaning the reporter took another biscuit, closed her eyes and said, 'For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly grateful'.

We may not have believed every word but Peter was an excellent speaker!

Alan Champion

March General Meeting - Cycling in Cuba

The assembled membership was treated to an inspirational talk at the March meeting, when Prue Chadderton told us about a bike ride which she did in Cuba to raise funds for the charity "Women for Women".

The original suggestion, from a friend of hers, was for a ride in India, to which, following an initial period of serious self doubt, she eventually agreed. There were two major problems to overcome however. Firstly there was the matter of raising the sponsorship money - a minimum of £2,800.00 was required - and then there was the question of how she, a virtual non-cyclist, was actually physically going to manage the trip.

Displaying considerable ingenuity, and not even using much arm twisting, she managed to raise the money fairly readily, eventually even exceeding the minimum by quite a bit.

Being a "two miles down to the shops occasionally" kind of cyclist, considerable training was obviously going to be required to fit her for the task of riding for five consecutive days, with daily distances of up to a hundred kilometres in probably difficult conditions.

Showing great determination she began riding regularly, steadily building up her daily mileages - ten, then twenty and more, then up to fifty, discovering quite a bit about the local countryside in the process. Her husband joined her on the rides, and her training received a big fillip when her son presented her with a lovely bike he had built for her, to replace the heavy shopper she had been using.

After a charity "familiarisation" event in Yorkshire, where she met many of the other participants, all seemed to be in place for the fast approaching journey. Then disaster, as is its habit, struck! A

fall, while out training, resulted in a broken leg. With the ride only weeks away cancellation was inevitable.

A lesser person would probably, at this point, have thrown in the towel - but not Prue! No! She arranged to transfer the whole effort to a later ride - hence Cuba - and when she had recovered from the accident she started the training all over again, which process involved another enjoyable "familiarisation" event, this time in the Cotswolds.

We heard how she arrived in Cuba. How all that dedication and hard work eventually paid off. How, as one of the oldest participants in the event, she tackled the five arduous days of cycling in fine style. Enduring tropical temperatures, facing strong headwinds and grinding up some nasty climbs without ever once dismounting, she finally proudly achieved her goal.

The effort was not without its compensations. She made good friends along the way, met one or two celebrities, and even had her photograph taken with Lord Winston, a patron of the charity, who was briefly present at the event. And the culminating reception and gala dinner formed a most pleasant end to the whole affair.

Her greatest thrill, though, must have lain in the sheer satisfaction of her achievement.

Inspirational as the story was, my enjoyment of that morning came as much from the manner of its telling. I don't think I have ever before heard a talk delivered with such joyous spontaneity and enthusiasm as to so fully communicate to the audience the speaker's sheer delight in her achievements. At the end Prue commented that this was something she would never forget. Here is one listener who can say the same about the talk itself.

Vince Kerrigan

Art Appreciation



Monday afternoon saw 14 people gathered to hear a masterly presentation given by Elspeth Young on the work of Georgia O'Keeffe. Georgia was probably the most important of 20th century artists in America; she was born in 1887, and had a remarkably long and prolific working life, dying in 1986.

Her early work immediately before the Great War, was mostly in charcoal, but she very soon turned to oils and the intense colours she began to use soon became one of her trademarks. She said she “painted what was before me” and painted as she saw – and she saw detail! Her best known works are from this early period and were mostly of flowers, but flowers magnified to show the detail of their centres rather than merely the outward display of petals – a complete contrast to the delicate flower paintings of another artist we have studied, Winifred Nicholson. O'Keeffe's flowers were extreme, almost pornographic, causing a few intakes of breath from the group assembled! It was not hard to imagine the sensation they caused when first exhibited in the 291 Gallery of Alfred Stieglitz, a well known artist-photographer in New York. Stieglitz was twenty years her senior, but they did eventually marry and he is credited with promoting her work and giving her the economic security to develop her work.

Her next ‘period’ was between the wars and contained many landscapes from North America, where her husband had an estate and from New Mexico where she eventually lived to the end of her life. The landscapes of this period are striking and colourful, rather easier to live with than the flowers, was the general opinion! She did some wonderful cityscapes from her New York apartments, and visits to her small ranch in Mexico produced extraordinary pictures of the many animal skulls which scattered the arid desert around her home. These were

extraordinarily beautiful and detailed and in the ones we were shown she had added a living (recognisable!) flower to the bones, perhaps to emphasis the living against the bone dry and dead.

At the very end of her long life, when she was both blind and very deaf, she gave up painting and turned to pottery, producing wonderful, smooth, graceful pots which would be a triumph to the young and sighted, let alone the blind and very elderly!

Altogether it was a most interesting afternoon and our thanks go to Elspeth who knew her subject so well and inspired admiration for O'Keeffe in all present.

Margaret Campion

Art Appreciation Programme

This group meets on the second Monday of each month at 2pm. We meet "in house" and numbers are therefore limited. However, when we have outside visits to galleries or studios we can often accommodate larger numbers. Anyone interested in the group should contact Margaret Campion on 01522 522679.

Monday 13 April 2009. No Meeting – Bank Holiday!

Monday 11 May 2009. "Shirley Trevenna – Vibrant Watercolours" Ruby Crofts.

Monday 8 June 2009. "Isms in Art: art movements from Impressionism onwards" Margaret Howard. Venue to be decided.

Monday 13 July 2009.
Planning Meeting. Organiser Marion Knowles.

Theatre Group - Castle Howard Visit



Once again, Mark and his Stephenson coach transported us surely and safely, on a very icy day, to the venue for our pre-Christmas trip, which this year was Castle Howard in Yorkshire. The scenic route there was fantastic - bright blue sky and snow covered hills. The

welcome at Castle Howard was warm, even if the weather was not. There were a number of very pretty craft stalls in the stable courtyard and various shops in the stable buildings.

After a very nice lunch, it was time to view the delights of the house itself. There were very inviting log fires in every room and some rooms decorated beautifully for Christmas. The guides were enthusiastic and knowledgeable. The upper floor of the house, which had been very badly damaged in a devastating fire in 1940, had been partly restored and this was the area that had been used in the film "Brideshead Revisited" and in which there were graphic accounts of the fire and the more recent filming. The whole building is a magnificent edifice set in the most beautiful countryside.

As always, it was an enjoyable day and our thanks go to Shirley and her "girls" for their organisation.

Joy Goodale

Local Knowledge Quiz: Identify the Lincolnshire town or village from each clue.

1. Sell dried fruit

2. Wins town

Answers on page - 25

Theatre Group: Ice-skating Spectacular Mystery

Had you asked me, a few years ago, where on my 'List of Things I Must Do, Before I Get Too Old' would come a visit to an Ice-skating Spectacular, the answer would have been number 67 – or thereabouts.

This just shows that Welton U3A, like all the best educational institutions, socialises its denizens. There was a time when the prospect of observing Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* 'balletified' to unknown music, and performed in John Prescott's spiritual home, could not even have registered on my personal Richter Scale of Interests. Yet, when the Theatre Group did take me beyond the Land of Green Ginger, I was wowed by the experience.

Last Saturday, there was a mixed sensation of mordant serendipity about travelling the A1 to this new experience – of ice spectacular - between the snow blanketed fields of Britain's worst Winter Crunch for 20 years. Picking our way carefully over the ice, from the coach-park at the East of England Showground, we were certainly going from like to like.

Peterborough Exec's audience - besides accessing a pleasing number of wheelchairs - comprised our maturity and a large number of families and parties of sub-adolescent girls. These were the main targets - I believe - of the franchisers selling coloured light-swords and kaleidoscopic Catherine wheels, which later glowed colourfully as incidental nova amongst the darkened space-masses of the audience. I think U3A confined itself to purchasing sustaining ice-cream.

Well, what would you predict an ice spectacular would contain? Spectacle, of course, which will be largely visual, consisting of the human, and the decoration of the human. The humans will be seen in extraordinarily graceful movement, with Olympic quality

stars, capable of the aerial acrobatics of leaping, spinning and – above all - the ‘lifts’ of ballet, with the extra ‘wince’ factor of worrying whether the skate blades will draw blood. Skating’s special contribution is the spectacle of a rigidly held pose, which is also in motion, as the skates continue the impetus of the now braced legs of the principal dancer, pairs, trios, quartets etc.

Also, like ballet, the dancing area can be filled with the synchronised but smaller spatial movements of the chorus members, through whom - like a shooting star - one of the principals can come dramatically speeding.

Decoration of the human comes intimately with the costumes, which in this show could be everything from Tenniel’s garish clashing stripes on multi Mad Hatters pestering Alice in Jazzland, to the arching frames of butterfly wings in the finale. It was a constant mystery how the majority of the large ensemble flashed off stage and on again a minute later newly bedecked. Less intimately, lighting effects pick out and bathe the costumes, and before the show began we saw half a dozen light operators climb trapeze artists’ rope ladders into the individual platforms around the apron stage. They stayed aloft during the interval.

Costumes, lights and props, such as the constantly separating yellow school bus, were in continuous movement and change, challenging the audience’s eyes to ‘look here’ or ‘see this’; ‘oh, you missed that’. And what could possibly be non visual if it is part of the spectacle, do you ask? Well, just as most of the tourist attractions in London’s West End are ‘Musicals’, *Mystery’s* visual excitements were in synch with its sound track. Played fortissimo!!

They strutted their stuff to the rousing Purcell/Britten *Theme to the Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra*; the skeletons cavorted to the Devil’s screeching violin of *Danse Macabre*; and Tolkien’s Ent-like tree-men whirled to *O Fortuna* from Orff’s

Carmina Burana. It was almost a relief when the superbly athletic young skaters went into the romance appropriate to their years and wound in and out ... slowly ... sinuously to *Oh, So Beautiful*.

Although the biggest cheer of the evening went to the leprechauns? anthropophagi? homunculi? Whatever, ... who joined on one by one, skating backwards, to link with alternate ends of a continuously circling line. As the last pairs of pea-green tail-coated dwarfs with sunken, bearded ginger heads chased retroactively after the ever faster circling, I found I was holding my breath against failure or a fall.

So the show was not without its moments of simple drama. As regards connective plot ... well that was not something they taxed our minds with. Still, even Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty* ballet runs out of plot when the Beauty gets kissed almost as soon as the second half starts.

Our show was called *Mystery*, and both halves bustled along with attractively choreographed episodes, performed with highly skilled grace and energy. They contained homage to *Danse Macabre*, *Alice*, and *Lord of the Rings*, which are all known to be mysterious, so it was up to us to make our own connections. And as for the Boy Meets Girl skate-offs; maybe the connection was that Romance is the most mysterious Mystery of life itself.

Alan Heywood Kenny

Theatre Group Programme

"DANCING QUEEN" at Hull Theatre on Saturday 30th May, Matinee performance at 2.30pm. Coach & Tickets £ 24.00

This show features a dynamic cast of singers and dancers, beautiful costumes & dazzling choreography. This musical extravaganza includes Abba hits, such as "Money Money Money", "Fernando", "Voulez Vous" and many more. Also

features party classics from the 70s. Guaranteed to have everyone dancing and singing and swinging. The number of seats are limited.

Pickup point. Welton Village Hall: 9.45am.

Pickup point Waitrose car park: 10.00am.

"PIRATES OF PENZANCE" Gilbert & Sullivan presents at Buxton Derbyshire on Saturday August 22nd 2009 at 2.30pm. Matinee Performance, Coach & Tickets £30p.p. Pickup details at a later date.

Poetry for Pleasure Programme

(Please inform your host if you cannot attend)

Apr 6	Friendship	Iris Wilson
May 4 or 11	Epic Poems	Hugh & Ursula Taylor
Jun 1	Elizabeth Jennings	Marion Knowles
Jul 6	Religion	Marion Plenderleith

Sheila Gravells

Industrial Awareness Group (IAG)



Visit to Cote Hill Cheese Tuesday 13th Jan 09.

Cote Hill Cheese must be familiar to most of us from visits to the various Farmer's Markets around the county, but I, personally, had never bought any and was delightfully surprised at the lovely creamy cheese that was provided as light refreshment half way through our visit.

The farm is very small by Lincolnshire standards – 184 acres, mixed arable and dairy originally. Some years ago our host needed a hip replacement, so got rid of the cows, had a new hip and resumed arable farming. But he missed his cows! Four strapping sons and a charming wife did not compensate for his cows! A review of options led to the purchase of a mixed herd of Friesian and Holstein cows, a two day course in Cheshire supplied the necessary cheese-making knowledge and a wife willing to change career from teacher to dairy maid resulted in the Cote Hill Cheese Making Enterprise. A truly remarkable lifestyle change for all concerned!

The visit started with a talk by our host, Michael Davenport, who supplied the above background – in much greater detail than given here – and then we divided into two groups to watch the cheese making process. Although small scale compared to other commercial dairies, their output seemed phenomenal – 6 tonnes of cheese last year from a small dairy staffed by Mrs. Davenport and one part-time assistant – plus Farmer Davenport, his Cowman and around eighty cows, of course!



**Ready to observe cheesemaking
Cote Hill Farm**

Two types of cheese are produced, the now familiar Cote Hill blue cheese and a softish yellow cheese, aptly named Yellow Belly Cheese, small disc shaped with a hollow back and covered in a bright yellow wax. This cheese is now being stocked by the Co-op

supermarkets and has involved the company in the purchase of vacuum packing equipment in order that small portions can be stocked rather than the whole cheese. The blue cheese has a

short shelf life of 4 – 6 weeks but the yellow cheese with its wax overcoat can be stored for longer.

We were able to buy both cheeses at the conclusion of the visit and the Campion household are very much enjoying their evening snackeroo of crackers and Cote Hill Blue! A most enjoyable visit!

Margaret Campion

IAG: Visit to Ruddocks Printers

Most people from the Lincoln area know Ruddocks the stationers and bookshop in the High street, but not everyone knows that they have a separate printing business in the industrial area on Great Northern Terrace. In January our IAG was given the chance of a visit to see their operations, and 18 of us availed ourselves of the opportunity.

The printing part of the business has been running continuously for about a hundred years, having started out at the back of the present high street shop.

Our group first had an introduction from the Managing Director, Paul Banton, in which he explained the foundations of the firm and how it has kept up with the rapidly changing technology of printing.



Learning about Ruddocks Printers

We were then shown round the design department, which proved to be a clean, quiet area, equipped with a room full of computers and staff who looked to us 'oldies' much too young to be doing such a complicated and specialised job.

We then saw the operation of the machines which took the finished designs and produced the thin printing plates required to feed into the actual print machines. Here too everything was extremely clean with not a drop of printers ink in sight.

We next went into the print room where most of the printing machines were 'state of the art' technology, computer controlled and capable of performing a whole range of operations. We also saw two or three machines which were still giving good service and had done so with the firm since the early 1950s. These were used by Ruddocks to hand finish complicated shapes which needed cutting to shape, and to produce very small runs. Interestingly the senior printer had worked for Ruddocks for 40 years and the most junior, who they called 'the apprentice', had also worked there for 26 years, so not a very great staff turnover there.

We finished by watching thick heaps of printed material being cut to shape, also controlled by computer and with fail-safe systems to ensure no printer lost his fingers, and then to the storage area where completed jobs awaited dispatch.

Fifty years ago a printer would take about 3 to 6 weeks to hand set the type and deliver the printed material to the customer. Now Ruddocks expect to deliver within five days and the customer is usually on the phone if no delivery has been made within a week. We received a very warm welcome. The impression was of a happy staff which worked well together, and enjoyed telling us about their jobs in which they take great pride.

Any of our members contemplating a print job could do well to consider this excellently run local firm.

Alan Champion

IAG Programme

Fri 24th Apr 10am Hill Holt Wood, Norton Disney

Up to 30 people. Cost £5 per head. Hill Holt Wood is a charity and an environmental social enterprise operating a small woodland where over twenty people are employed providing countryside management services. For details of what is on offer see www.hillholtwood.com . Directions from Lincoln: Take A46 (Lincoln Bypass) towards Newark, at Swinderby roundabout take 2nd exit A46 to Newark, do not turn off at the Norton Disney/Swinderby turn off. When you see the next road sign, it's for Norton Disney/Collingham, start to indicate left and slow down. The turning for Hill Holt Wood is immediately behind the road sign. If you go too fast you will be unable to turn in!

Fri 15th May 10am Woodland management

A two mile walk with Roger Brownlow, a woodland specialist. Appropriate footwear and clothing essential. Meet Kettlethorpe Church (off A 156 , West of Saxilby) 9.45am for a prompt departure at 10am. No dogs. Bring binoculars. Succour offered at Friendship Arms, Laughterton for survivors. Signing up in April.

Friday 19th June 2009. 10am. Uncle Henry's, Kirton Lindsey.

Just off A15. A 'Short' Farm walk then 'Do It Yourself' sausage making. Farm shop and excellent home produced lunches available afterwards.

Alan Champion

Another Local Knowledge question:

3. Robin's Green

4. One end of pig

Answers: page 25

Music For Us Programme

18th March Music of Handel - Centenary Celebration
15th April Music of Haydn
20th May Music of Mendelssohn
18th June Desert Island Discs - Jean Lee's Choice

Hugh Taylor

Microwave Warning

A 26-year old man decided to have a cup of coffee. He took a cup of water and put it in the microwave to heat it up (something that he had done numerous times before). I am not sure how long he set the timer for, but he wanted to bring the water to a boil. When the timer shut the oven off, he removed the cup from the oven. As he looked into the cup, he noted that the water was not boiling, but suddenly the water in the cup 'blew up' into his face. The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand, but all the water had flown out into his face due to the build up of energy. His whole face is blistered and he has 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face which may leave scarring.

He also may have lost partial sight in his left eye. While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a microwave oven. If water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to diffuse the energy such as a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc (nothing metal).

General Electric's Response

The information that you received is correct, micro-waved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the boiling point. They can actually get superheated and not bubble at all. The superheated liquid will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for more than two minutes per cup. After heating, let the cup stand in the microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything into it.

Here is what our local science teacher had to say:

Thanks for the microwave warning. I have seen this happen before. It is caused by a phenomenon known as super heating. It can occur anytime water is heated and will particularly occur if the vessel that the water is heated in is new, or when heating a small amount of water (less than half a cup)

What happens is that the water heats faster than the vapour bubbles can form. If the cup is very new then it is unlikely to have small surface scratches inside it that provide a place for the bubbles to form. As the bubbles cannot form and release some of the heat that has built up, the liquid does not boil, and the liquid continues to heat up well past its boiling point.

What then usually happens is that the liquid is bumped or jarred, which is just enough of a shock to cause the bubbles to rapidly form and expel the hot liquid. The rapid formation of bubbles is also why a carbonated beverage spews when opened after having been shaken.

Janet Crees

MUSIC FOR US - CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP 2



Our Group numbers about ten members and we meet on the third Wednesday afternoon in each month. In December and June we discuss and settle the programme for the following six months.

The programme centres on classical and light music and extends into jazz. We are working through

composers in alphabetical order and alternate with topical themes. This year it is "Centenaries of Composers". 2009 is a bumper year as we are blessed with the anniversaries of four composers - Purcell, Handel, Haydn and Mendelssohn. From time to time one of our number presents their choice of music in the form of "Desert Island Discs".

Each member brings their own discs which collectively form the programme when we discuss the composers, their music and personal recollections.

At our last meeting we played the compositions of Purcell and heard about his life. Born in London in 1659 and died there in 1695. He was a composer and organist of great distinction.

We played some fifteen pieces of music covering his composing career - ranging from his opera: Dido and Aeneas, semi-operas, the Indian Queen and incidental music. We also heard some of his choral works such as Queen Mary's Funeral Music. The afternoon certainly highlighted our collective knowledge of the music of Purcell and added to our understanding of his compositions and his life. He was an inspiration to Benjamin Britten and Vaughan Williams who helped to restore him to prominence. He became regarded as one of the greatest of English composers and in his instrumental works his genius was recognised.

Hugh Taylor

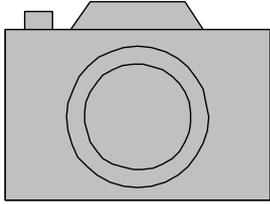
Lindsey U3A Website

The Lindsey U3A website keeps you informed of any changes and brings you the latest news. Interest groups are able to make changes to their pages on a regular basis so that you will always have access to the latest information. The address is:

The website is kept up to date by our Webmaster John Haley.

Mike Kirkby

PHOTOGRAPHIC GROUP



A viability meeting was held on 21st November in the Welton Methodist Hall where it was agreed that there was enough interest to start the Group. Mike Kirkby announced that our U3A would be purchasing eight lap-top computers as well as digital projectors and that all computers would have Adobe Photoshop Elements 7 software installed.

Up to date we have had three meetings where we have discussed correct exposure, had a presentation by Michael Hughes of his award winning photographs, and presented our photographs for discussion.

At our March meeting we will have the use of our new equipment for the first time and Michael Hughes has volunteered to demonstrate Photoshop to us - thank you Michael.

Tony Davis

Olde Tyme Music Hall

In January 2008 the Theatre Studies Group entertained our monthly meeting with an Olde Tyme Music Hall led by their convenor Pat Hagon and accompanied by her son Richard. On Saturday 23rd May 2009 several members of the group are joining 35 singers from

Hagon Happenings Theatre Company to perform a Costumed Concert of songs composed by Richard and Pat from six of their Musicals. It will be held at 4.30p.m. at Our Lady of Lincoln Parish Centre, Laughton Way, Lincoln (off Nettleham Road). Tickets are priced at £3.50.

Natural History Group Programme

Meetings on Thursdays at 2.00pm

9 April Chambers Wood; meet in furthest car park

7 May Old Wood Skellingthorpe; meet at end of surfaced road

1 June Ancaster meet near Church

25 June Whisby Nature Reserve; meet in car park

Peter Chapman

5-6 Mile Walks Programme

Mon 6th April The Champions. Normanby by Spital; meet near church

Mon 20th April Robin Gulliver: Details later.

Mon 4th May. Bank holiday - probably no walk?

Mon 18th May Joy Babington. Whisby Nature Reserve, meet in the car park.

Mon 1st June Mike & Marlene Curtis. Hagworthingham meet at the George & Dragon.

Mon 15th June The Champions: Clumber Park. Round the Lake. Suggest we pool cars

Mon 29th June Robin Gulliver Long Walk:.

Mon 6th July. Leader required:

Joy Babington

Gardening Group Programme



April 28 Welton Village Hall (2 - 4 pm)

Today we have Mrs. Cheseldine with a talk and slide presentation entitled "Orchids as House Plants". A local lady who really loves orchids.

May 26 Visit to the Walled Kitchen Garden at Clumber Park (2 - 4 pm)

This visit will include a guided tour of the garden, given by one of the gardeners. Clumber Park is a National Trust property and N.T. members will pay £4.00 for the visit, and non N.T. members will pay £7.00 for the visit. We will travel by car and will have free car parking within Clumber Park.

July 28 Brodsworth Hall and Gardens, Doncaster

A visit by coach, details will follow.

Pauline Haley

Local Knowledge Quiz answers from pages 11 and 19

1. Market Rasen
2. Gainsborough
3. Lincoln
4. Swineshead

TIMETABLE OF INTEREST GROUPS					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	9.45am 5/6 mile walk 2pm Poetry for Pleasure	10am Art and Drawing	1.30pm Bridge	10am General Meeting	2pm Winds of Change
WEEK TWO	10am Computer Studies 2pm Art Appreciation	10am Armchair Travel 2pm Book Group 2 Bookworms	1.30pm Bridge		
WEEK THREE	9.45am 5/6 mile Walks	10am Circle Dancing 2pm Book Group 1	1.30pm Bridge 2.30pm Music for Us	10am Architecture 10.15am Coffee Morning 2.15pm Classics & Voice	
WEEK FOUR	2pm Enjoying Classical Music 2pm Play Reading	2pm Gardening	1.30pm Bridge 2pm Discussion Group	10.00 am Photography	

Some of the U3A Activities

