

# Brixworth and District Newsletter

# u3a

## Learn, laugh, live

Registered Charity No 1178196

Issue 107

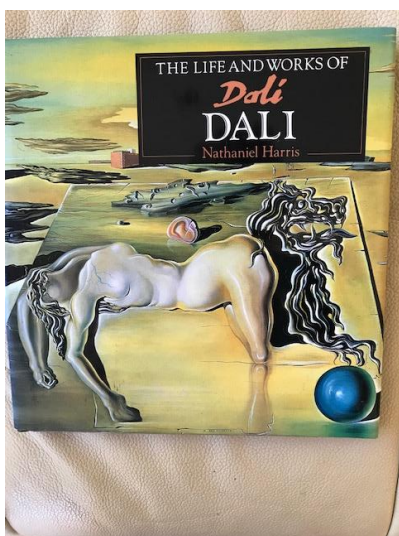
April 2026

### THE STORY BEHIND OUR ART APPRECIATION GROUP – interview with Janet Womack

I met with Janet on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April to discover more about our Art Appreciation group – which Janet tells me started over a random chat with Elaine Nunn back in November 2013. They decided that there would no doubt be quite a bit of interest in starting up such a group and Elaine volunteered to be the first Group Leader, although Janet took over a couple of years later. It is very rewarding to know that at least 9 people signed up for the first meeting – at least four of whom are still regular members.

Their first meeting began with a DVD on John Constable, followed by a talk by a local artist. They don't necessarily have a long-term programme, but tend to look at various countries, or regions, during a year – or maybe a mini-theme, such as "Skies", "Light & Shade" or "Still Life" and, of course, an in-depth look at "Women Artists" (as it seems most of the group are women! Come along chaps – art is for everyone!). By starting each year with an overview of the art or sculpture of a particular country or theme – members then go off and research their chosen individual artists and give a presentation later in the year, using images from books, internet or from members' personal artefacts.

Countries' art that they have looked at include North America, Australia, France, Holland, Scandinavia and even the art of Asia (which took them out of their comfort zone, Janet tells me!).



They are currently looking at the art and sculpture of Spain – beginning with a DVD on the art of Spain, before going off and individually researching the likes of Gaudi, Picasso, etc. They have also recently had a visit to the University Archives which was organised by Angela Carter.

Janet is very grateful to all the current 11 members of the group for their support, for maybe stepping up to do the research on a subject and give a short talk, helping make the tea (always essential at group meetings!) or maybe organising a visit – such as to the Sir Alfred East Gallery in Kettering or the exhibition of Northamptonshire artists at Lamport Hall.

If you would like to find out more or to join the group, please contact Janet via the website – they meet at the Heritage Centre on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 2 – 4pm.

**Chris Rowe**

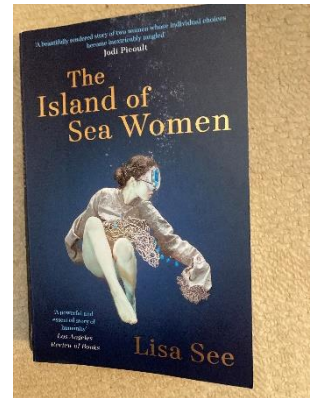
## NEWS FROM OUR INTEREST GROUPS

### BOOK GROUP

#### March: “The Island of Sea Women” by Lisa See

The group found this book to be a fascinating read. The plot was well developed and beautifully interwoven: linking the tragic history of Korea in the 20th century, to the challenging lives of female free-divers on the island of Jeju located in the East China Sea.

The book opens in the present day with an elderly Haenyeo woman interacting with tourists. There is movement backwards and forwards throughout, but this really works, and the poignancy of the final reveal is immense now that you understand the characters’ stories.

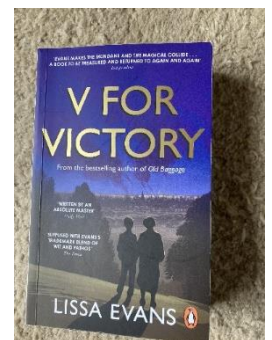


We felt the book was well-researched in both the historical events and details of the life of the Haenyeo women and how their daughters are trained to be divers. The journey was very hard and dangerous; tragedy was never far away.

We also enjoyed the social interaction within the group of female divers and the humour many of them expressed about their husbands, who seemingly spent most of their time sitting under trees while minding the children!

#### April: “V for Victory” by Lissa Evans

This book was well received by the group; we found it warm and humorous with an amazing array of characters. Set during the closing year of WW2 it depicts the difficulties faced by the civilian population dealing with the privations of war and the new threat of the V2 bombing campaign. Many of the characters were getting on with their lives with great stoicism, also there was bravery and kindness. Many of their stories were very poignant. The author showed great insight and laid out a range of feelings and emotions. **Chris Laukaitis**



#### Forthcoming titles:

5th May: Question 7 by Richard Flannagan  
2nd June: The Good Samaritan by John Marrs

### CRAFT GROUP NEWS from Rosemary



At the March meeting members decorated boxes with “Decoupage” – small strips of fancy paper glued onto various sizes and shapes of boxes.

While in April we practised “Mandela” decorating coasters which were done with acrylic paint pens on wood, while the stones were painted with acrylic paints.



## GARDEN GROUP – report by Annie Curtis



In March the group heard from Chris Rowe about the gardens of the Chateaux of the Loire Valley, including those at Amboise, Blois, Chaumont, Chambord and Villandry (*photo left*) – most of which were built on the orders of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century king of France, Francois I. Thanks Chris for a very interesting and informative talk.

The April meeting was a visit by coach to Ascott House, a National Trust house and garden just outside Leighton Buzzard. Formerly it had been a hunting lodge for the Rothschild family but many rooms had since been demolished. The house was filled with treasures brought back from their travels. These were displayed in 5 rooms on the ground floor. The guides were friendly and knowledgeable, allowing us to wander around in a free flow system. There was a golf buggy available to transport visitors between the carpark and the House.

Outside the gardens and parkland were spectacular. Distant views of the white lion on the hillside close to Whipsnade zoo were possible. The parkland and gardens were filled with magnificent mature trees. Everywhere the lawns and flower beds were pristine. With the aid of garden maps, we were able to wander at our leisure in the sunshine. Plenty of seating was available, with the exception being around the pond, which had a recently laid footpath. Everyone enjoyed the spectacular Dutch garden, filled with beautiful tulips and jonquils around a large fountain. Closer to the house-was a large pond which freezes over in the winter to provide opportunities for skating. Nearby was an area called Lynn's garden, dedicated to a former wife of one of the Rothschilds. It was based on mounds planted around by blossom trees and surrounded by moats where the water had been coloured black. Very spectacular, as shown in the photo herein.

We all agreed that it was a really enjoyable day, just one hour away on a coach. If you have an opportunity to visit, you will not be disappointed. Check out more photos on our Brixworth u3a Facebook page.

The next visit will be to the Botanic Gardens in Leicester on Wednesday 20th May. Details for Gardening Group members will follow shortly. Happy gardening and happy watering everyone. **Annie and Sue.**



***More photos at the end of the newsletter.***

## KNIT & NATTER – report from Sarah Nelson



This month's meeting started with us celebrating our Knit n Natter 1st year anniversary, which we celebrated with some delicious homemade cakes from Jane. We have completed our blanket project and have presented this to the volunteers at the beehive centre in Kingsthorpe a charity for young people. They are using the blanket as a raffle prize and were delighted with the donation.

I'm also very pleased to announce we have made over 120 poppies to contribute to the poppy display on The Pound in Brixworth. The ladies have worked hard to achieve this and we're proud to have given to a very worthy cause.

We are starting a new project this month and are knitting blankets for a local doggy charity.



Our group continues to grow as we welcome 'Karen' our new member this month.

## WRITING FOR FUN – by Jackie Bird



The April meeting was full of laughter and fun; it's always a cheery group but this month we went the extra mile. Unusually all ten of us were present and as it was a member's birthday, we of course had cake, well actually two different birthday cakes. Colin made a delicious chocolate coated tiffin complete with a candle in celebration of Pauline's birthday and we all sang 'Happy Birthday'. This was with our first coffee of the meeting, with a later drink we had a slice of Pauline's Caterpillar cake. Both were delicious.

It was lovely to welcome Sarah back to the group with her amazing poems, you can read this month's poem about an octogenarian on the website. The stories this month had a 'raunchy' theme following a discussion we had at Christmas about writing themes and genres. The stories varied considerably. At the March meeting we were given a fiction square whereby there was six columns and six rows and with a roll of the dice whichever word was landed on in each column had to be included in your story. We had stories about drag queens, a modern day Adam and Eve, a talent competition, a camping weekend, a party, rosy cheeks and 'the thing' where the writer managed to cleverly include every word from the fiction square into her story. The story about Chocoholics in a camper van is also on this month's website and well worth a read especially for chocolate lovers.

If you want to have a go at a short story or a poem the fiction square is below just one roll of the dice for each column to give you the characters, traits, objects etc.

Roll of dice	Character 1	Character 2	feelings	trait	object	place
1	woman	Man	Joy	Bawdy	uniform	Bedroom
2	Man	Woman	Butterflies	Flirty	Invitation	Camper van
3	Drag artist	Teenager	Beating heart	Romantic	Red rose	Party
4	Musician	Fan	Happy	Amorous	Chocolates	Car
5	Octogenarian	Therapist	Sad	passionate	Nightwear	Garden shed
6	comedian	Model	anger	excitable	ring	Cloak room

## BRIDGE REPORTS – from Brian Collett

### March results

Here are the results for the two duplicate bridge sessions in March this year.

If any of our members are interested in taking up the game as beginners, please get in touch with Brian Collett via the u3a website group page. There are already some names on the list for a new course which, it is hoped, will start soon.

FINAL RESULTS TABLE for THURSDAY 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026					
	IMPS	%	Players	Tops	Joint Tops
1 <sup>st</sup>	56	66.7	Roger Atterwill & Tony Nixon	5	3
2 <sup>nd</sup>	48	57.1	Simon & Sally Bevan	3	3
3 <sup>rd</sup>	45	53.6	Lynda Stevenson & Chris Williams	2	3
4 <sup>th</sup>	43	51.2	Paul Jarvis & Brian Collett	4	0
5 <sup>th</sup>	42	50.0	Rosemary Heaver & Jill Snedker	2	0
6 <sup>th</sup>	41	48.8	Chris Hill & Belinda Collett	2	3
7 <sup>th</sup>	38	45.2	Denise Cowling & Karen Brown	3	1
8 <sup>th</sup>	23	27.4	Richard Hartley & Bea Bennett	0	1

FINAL RESULTS TABLE - FRIDAY 20 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026					
	IMPS	%	Players	Tops	Joint Tops
1 <sup>st</sup>	95	74.2	Brian Collett & Roger Atterwill	5	4
2 <sup>nd</sup>	90	70.3	Katie Lindenbaum & Tony Nixon	3	2
3 <sup>rd</sup>	75	58.6	Lynda Stevenson & Paula Jones	4	3
4 <sup>th</sup>	67	52.3	Hazel Barr & Chris Williams	4	1
5 <sup>th</sup>	60	46.9	Judy Peck & Fay Duckmanton	2	2
6 <sup>th</sup>	58	45.3	Mary Parker & Helen Coghill	3	1
7 <sup>th</sup>	51	39.8	Chris Russell & Anne Weddle	0	3
8 <sup>th</sup>	50	39.1	Jane Davis & Del Smith	2	1
9 <sup>th</sup>	48	37.5	Fiona Cox & Jules Rudkin	1	3
10 <sup>th</sup>	46	35.9	Sheila Jones & Tim Smith	2	2

## BRIDGE EASTER EGG CHALLENGE



The Thursday bridge group celebrated Easter early with chocolate eggs for the highest score, and the “nearest-to-zero” on the evening of 2nd April. The eventual winners, with a top score of 2,310, were Bea Bennett & Richard Hartley, snatching victory from Jim Wardle & Roger Atterwill who had 1,690. Taking the second prize for the score nearest to zero, with plus 20, were Gila Gwinn & Del Smith - holding aloft her prize. The photograph was taken by Gareth Cox, who kindly donated and presented the prizes.

## WALKING & STROLLERS GROUPS – The Peter Martin memorial walk



Sadly, Peter Martin (long-time leader of the Walking Group) passed away some weeks ago; however, on the 10th March U3A Ramblers and Strollers joined forces at The Stag in Maidwell for a special walk to scatter Peter’s ashes. He led the walks for so many years and will be sadly missed.

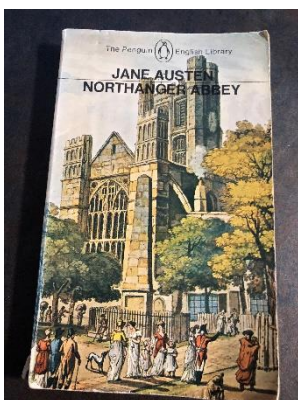
Walking past the waterfall and up past the farm, the walkers reached a high point with fantastic views to the West. It was here, at a memorial area laid to previous walkers, that

Peter wished his ashes to be scattered: his favourite spot. After a brief pause to remember him, the Ramblers went on to complete the circuit, whilst the Strollers headed back to The Stag for a well-deserved pub lunch before heading home.



**Keith Dobell**

## BOOK WORMS – Northanger Abbey, by Jane Austen



At our March meeting we discussed ‘Northanger Abbey’ by Jane Austen. This novel was completed in 1799 and published posthumously in 1817. It is generally considered the least popular of her novels and is her earliest major work. The novel satirises the popular Gothic literature of its time. It is also a coming-of-age story where the main protagonist Catherine Moreland learns to value common sense and reality rather than Romantic fiction.

It’s true to say that none of us loved the book although it produced a highly spirited and lively discussion! Some of us were more enamoured with it than others but in general we agreed it lacked structure. There were pockets of excellence particularly, for example, with the characterisations of Catherine and Isabella. Some of the gentle irony regarding Gothic

Literature was also well done. Some of us, however, found it very tedious and long drawn out.

It’s probably best to read some of her masterpieces first before attempting this one!

**Celia Moss**

## WALKING & STROLLING GROUPS

The rambling group had a lovely walk today (14<sup>TH</sup> April) starting at The Wheatsheaf in Crick. The weather was really kind to us, a beautiful sunny day. We placed orders for our lunch then set off through the village. There were two groups, the walkers and the strollers.

The strollers enjoyed a walk around the village. The walkers enjoyed a more challenging walk across the fields which involved climbing over at least eleven stiles. Some of us needed more help than others with many willing hands to see us safely over these. We were rewarded with the sight of a herd of deer in the deer park there.



We finished back at The Wheatsheaf, met up with the strollers and all enjoyed a very good well-earned lunch.

**Joan Edney**

## BRIDGE GROUPS – April results

### DUPLICATE CHALLENGE RESULTS FOR THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026

FINAL RESULTS TABLE					
	IMPS	%	Players	Tops	Joint Top
1 <sup>st</sup>	85	66.4	Richard Hartley & Bea Bennett	6	1
2 <sup>nd</sup>	75	58.6	Del Smith & Gila Gwinn	4	0
3 <sup>rd</sup>	73	57.0	Tony Nixon & Katie Lindenbaum	1	4
4 <sup>th</sup>	70	54.7	Jill Snedker & Rosemary Heaver	3	5
5 <sup>th</sup>	68	53.1	Lynda Stevenson & Denise Cowling	0	3
6 <sup>th</sup>	60	46.9	Gareth Cox & Steve Sercombe	1	1
7 <sup>th</sup>	57	44.5	Paul Jarvis & Brian Collett	3	1
8 <sup>th</sup>	56	43.8	Karen Brown & Chris Williams	3	1
9 <sup>th</sup>	50	39.1	Belinda Collett & Chris Hill	3	1
10 <sup>th</sup>	46	35.9	Jim Wardle & John Palmer	0	3

### DUPLICATE CHALLENGE RESULTS FOR FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026

FINAL RESULTS TABLE					
	IMPS	%	Players	Tops	Joint Top
1 <sup>st</sup>	57	67.9	Paul Jarvis & Brian Collett	5	3
2 <sup>nd</sup>	52	61.9	Jane Davis & Del Smith	5	1
3 <sup>rd</sup>	51	60.7	Ann Maynard & Judy Peck	4	0
4 <sup>th</sup>	45	53.6	Helen Coghill & Mary Parker	5	2
5 <sup>th</sup>	44	52.4	Roger Atterwill & Sheila Jones	2	3
6 <sup>th</sup>	39	46.4	Paula Jones & Lynda Stevenson	0	5
7 <sup>th</sup>	30	35.7	Fiona Cox & Jules Judkin	1	0
8 <sup>th</sup>	18	21.4	Mavis Sturgess & Fay Duckmanton	1	0

## LOCAL HISTORY GROUP – “Chuck out the Chintz” with Wendy Raybould

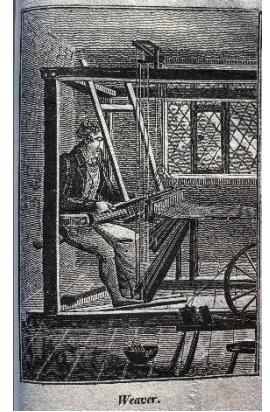
Members attending the March group meeting were introduced to an industry in our local villages that very few of us had heard of – that of worsted production and cloth weaving. Wendy discovered, through looking through the Northamptonshire Militia Records that many men (only men!) were listed in the villages as being weavers. This piqued her interest and subsequent research. Her presentation charted the spread of the new draperies fabrics



made of combed, rather than carded wool, from East Anglia to Northamptonshire. As well as the processes involved and fabric types (such as Moreen (or morine) which you can see as hangings at Canons Ashby house), Wendy also talked about the lives of some of the people involved in the trade. The trade declined in the country around 1800 due to competition from mechanised cotton production in the newly industrial cities of the Midlands and North.

### Photo of the Moreen bed hangings as Canons Ashby, taken by Wendy

One interesting fact (amongst many!) was that in local Wills, the weaving frame was left to the son as the “Frame in which he was used to work” – literally sitting inside the frame, rather than standing in front of it. The image is of such a weaver, taken from an out-of-print book (The Book of English Trades, Richard Phillips, 1818).



## SINGING FOR PLEASURE GROUP

The Singing For Pleasure Group have decided for the new term to revisit some of their earlier songs, with each member voting for their own particular favourite. So for this week’s first session - after the normal warm-up, we sang Speed Your Journey, Will You Love Me Tomorrow, Psalm 23 (Vicar of Dibley theme music) and Rhythm Of Life - a real eclectic mix, but great fun to sing along to. Other songs scheduled for next week include You Raise Me Up, and Cabaret.

We meet each Tuesday morning from 10.00am to midday, with a coffee break giving the group time to socialise. We are always looking for new members so do feel free to come along and join us - it really is very uplifting to sing within a group.

**For more further information please contact Tim Smith via the Singing for Pleasure group on the website.**

## BRIDGE GROUP – “News of a new Beginners Course”

After the success of the Bridge for Beginners Course in 2025, I have received another batch of requests to repeat it again this year. Once again it will be held at the Heritage Centre on Wednesday evenings from 7.00 to 9.00 pm, starting on 20th May through to August. However, with the passing of the years, and acknowledging that I have provided the course many times over the past 16 years, here in Brixworth for u3a, in Northampton for Age Concern, and at Ravensthorpe on the establishment of a bridge club there, this may well be the last course that I am able run.

So if you enjoy playing a game of whist etc, why not come along and give bridge a chance to keep your mind in good order, in addition to which there is the social aspect of getting together with like-minded people in a friendly atmosphere. You might enjoy it! The only financial consideration is the more people who sign-up will reduce the individual cost, since the only overhead is the hire of the Heritage Centre. Everything else will be provided by me using the equipment belonging to the two u3a bridge groups.

If you are interested, or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me via the Brixworth & District u3a Bridge group pages on the website.

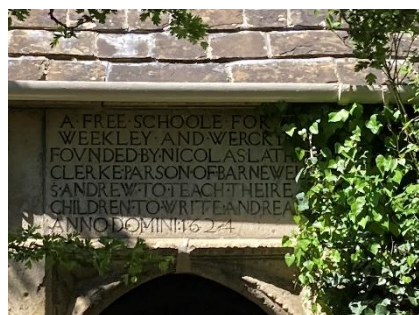
**Brian Collett**

## LOCAL HISTORY GROUP – visit to Weekley Church and village

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, nearly 30 Local History group members met with Hilary Aslett at St Mary's Church, Weekley to have a guided talk about the church and its connections with the Boughton Estate and the Montagu family. With two of the splendid alabaster memorial tombs in the church of Sir Edward Montagu, Chief Justice of the Kings Bench, who died in 1557 – and his son, also Sir Edward Montagu (died 1601) and his wife, Elizabeth, whose effigies lie in an altar tomb looking very much like a four-poster bed.



The church itself is from the Perpendicular period (1350-1500) with parts remaining from an earlier 13<sup>th</sup> century church. Next door is the former Almshouse, Montagu's Hospital, with the date slab of 1611. Although now a private house, it is a beautiful



example of Tudor/Stuart "small" country houses. It reminded several of us of Sulgrave Manor. There is also the old school in Church Lane, dating back to 1624 with an inscription over the doorway, saying "A Free School for Weekley and Warkton founded by Nicholas Tatham, Clerke, Parson of Barnwall Saint Andrew to Teach Their Children to Write and Reade Anno Domini 1624".

As there was so many of us, we split into two groups for the church visit and stroll around the village – inevitably ending up in the "Lavender Bee" tearoom – which is absolutely delightful. Some of us even went back there for lunch! With superb weather and good company and lots of local history to enjoy – it was an excellent morning out. A big Thank You to Hilary for organising it. **(Photos by Chris of the church, Hilary with the Montagu tomb, Almshouse, School and Tea Room)**



## THEATRE GROUP

Seats have been provisionally booked for the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2026 2.30 pm performance of "Blood Brothers". Ticket price £32.50. If you would like to book seats please contact Sue Dodds Smith or Margaret Griffiths via the website.

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new (or returning) members to B&D u3a. We look forward to getting to know you and meeting you at the monthly or interest group meetings.

Anne Dearden

Meg Timlin

Robert l'Anson

Rosalind Grant

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

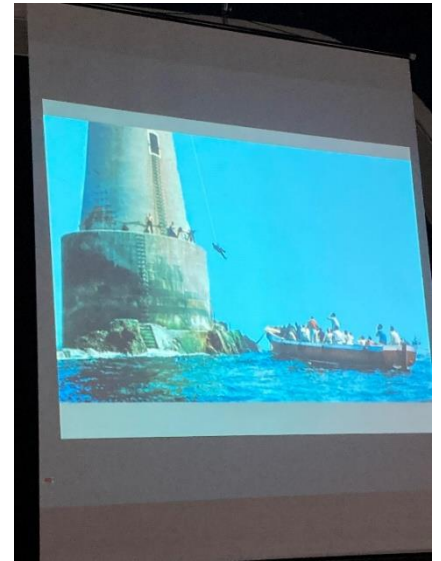
### March – “My Year as a Lighthouse Keeper” with Normal Wilson



A very smart Norman, in his Lighthouse Keepers' uniform, entertained us on 4<sup>th</sup> March with his exploits as a trainee lighthouse keeper when he was 20 years old. Having completed his initial training in Harwich, he was posted to the Lizard lighthouse then off to Berry Head near Brixham, which was very small and quite isolated – the only way to get to the nearest village was to borrow a bike.

He was then off to the Bishops Rock tower a few miles off the west coast of the Scillies, where keepers had to be winched across from a small boat (see photo of Norman's presentation. I think you can just see the small figure being winched across). The rock lighthouses were all very

primitive with no flushing toilets, having to wind up the lens every hour and if it was foggy to drop two sticks of a dynamite type substance into the foghorn mechanism. On his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday Norman was on duty, and while several boatloads of well-wishers came out to help him celebrate, he had to stay sober to undertake all his duties! Nowadays all the British lighthouses are automatic, unmanned so not open to the public (health & safety!) but you may catch an engineer or electrician on site who may give you some information. Norman ended his year as a lighthouse keeper at the Eddystone lighthouse – where to get on board, he had to jump from the boat onto the rocks. But he did say they caught a lot of sea bass off the rocks for dinner. I think he enjoyed his time, although nearly lost his life a couple of times. What an experience!

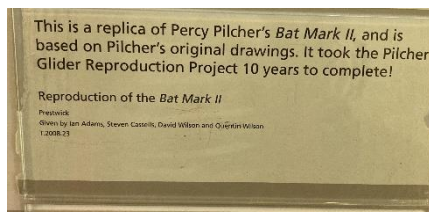
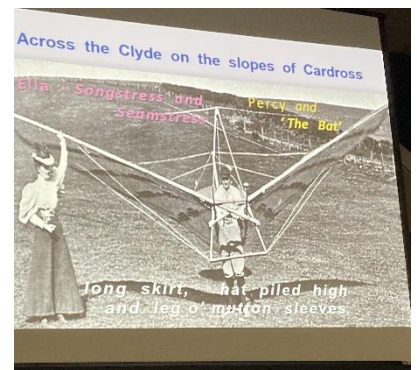


### April – “Unknown Icarus” with Roy Smart

At our April meeting, Roy Smart (who had previously entertained us with the



story of “That Woman” – Mrs Simpson) gave us a history of the early days of flight, including the exploits of Percy Pilcher – who crash-landed at nearby Stanford Hall – and how his sister supported him in many ways, including sewing the fabric wings of “The Bat” and helping to launch Percy and the Bat.



Photos (by Chris Rowe) of “Bat Mark II” at Glasgow Riverside Museum and one of Roy's slides showing Percy and his sister launching the Bat along the River Clyde.

### Future monthly meetings:

6<sup>th</sup> May

“Behind the Scenes of Who do you think you are?” with Nick Barrett

3<sup>rd</sup> June

“Mary's Medals” by Trishia Robinson

1<sup>st</sup> July

“Stamford and the Cecil Family” by Mike Burton

## **B&D U3A NEWS:**

### **GROUP LEADERS' MEETING**

A group leaders meeting took place between 12 and 2.00pm on the 9<sup>th</sup> April at Brixworth Sports Club, St Davids Recreation ground. Fifteen group leaders attended covering 21 of the Brixworth and District U3A groups. As this took place over lunch time sandwiches, fruit and cake was included with tea or coffee.

The meeting started with introductions and a brief update on each leader's group. During the sharing of information one of the topics raised included the lack of men in the groups which prompted a discussion on setting up new groups which might encourage more men to become involved, this will be passed on to the committee to consider the options. Costs were also discussed as venue hourly rates are increasing and weekend, lunch and evening meal groups are becoming more difficult to book due to most restaurants and pubs now requiring actual numbers and substantial individual deposits. This is now also a problem for the ramblers who have groups of up to forty people. Further discussion also raised the issue of transport costs making it more difficult for some groups like the gardening group to arrange coach visits to local gardens and some weekend trips for the weekend group. There was further discussion regarding car shares which is not always possible.

On a very positive note, the numbers of members is around the 300 mark and some of the groups are full with either a second group planned or a waiting list. Several groups now have in excess of 30 members.

There was a supported request for another open day, not necessarily to encourage new members but for the present members to chat to group leaders and members about their groups, what they do, where they meet etc. There was a good discussion about first aid for everyone, but it was believed the cost would be too high therefore maybe a first aid refresher for group leaders. The group co-ordinator will look into this with regard to cost and feasibility. It was suggested that more group information is shared at the monthly meeting especially regarding new groups and groups with low numbers.

The agenda items included Tim Smith talking about completion of this year's financial returns and even nil returns must be completed, signed and returned to him. The yellow ICA cards can be collected at the monthly meeting; Joan has them on the signing in desk please just take one. Joan also would like more support on the desk at the monthly meeting especially when there are new people arriving so that they can be introduced to others.

Update on venue risk assessments: For groups running from private homes, the group leaders must complete a risk assessment which can be found on the website or via the group co-ordinator and once completed sent to Keith Dobell. All the other Venue assessments have been completed.

During the lunch break there was an opportunity for everyone to chat and catch up with other group news and ideas. Overall, it was considered to be a useful and successful meeting.

**Jackie Bird**

**Interest Groups Co-ordinator**

### **AUGUST RIVER TRIP**

With over 80 members already having booked, there are still approx. 20+ places available on our August 5<sup>th</sup> Thames River Trip from Oxford to Abingdon return. If you have not yet booked a place, please get in touch via the website or see Keith Dobell at the May monthly meeting. The trip includes coach travel, a private cruise on the River Thames with a Fish & Chip lunch. Price is £40 pp for B&D u3a members, £50 for guests.



## **OTHER NEWS**

### **VISIT TO CROMFORD MILL BY THE BRIXWORTH HISTORY GROUP**

The Brixworth History Group (not our u3a Local History Group) are arranging a visit to Cromford Mill in Derbyshire on 11<sup>th</sup> July. If you would like to take part, please contact the organisers.

### **SAXON SPIRES SURGERY**

The Brixworth medical centre would like new members for their Patient Participation Group. Please contact the surgery for more information.

### **STAMPS FOR CHARITY**



Can you please let members know that I have sent out 4 x 1/2 kilo envelopes of used stamps for Charity this week, the Charities are Macmillan Cancer Support, Barn Owl Trust, British Hedgehog Preservation Society and Against Breast Cancer. All donations are greatly appreciated and provide much needed funds for the charities to continue their work, any stamps old, new, foreign or commemorative are welcome.

We have received thanks from Dogs for Good, Macmillan Cancer Support, Retina UK, Stamp Out Motor Neuron Disease and

Against Breast Cancer. Thanks again for all the support

**Keith Featley**

### **A FEW MORE PHOTOS FROM THE GARDENING GROUP VISIT TO ASCOTT HOUSE**



**AND FINALLY .....**

***Benjamin Franklin said it best: "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest. Always strive to learn, grow, and improve yourself every day!"***