



Wroxham and District  
Membership Number: 962/940/13

Chairman: John Long, 01603 7822254 Secretary: Sue Badger 01603 737572

Membership Secretary: Marlene Corke 01603 781012

## Newsletter for September 2016

### Wroxham and District's 2016 Summer Party



To the backdrop of passing cruisers, herons and the occasional wherry, several members, partners and friends of the Wroxham U3A came together on Friday evening on the Prior Thatch 'peninsula' at the bottom of Brian's garden, and relaxed, chatted and shared a supper provided by the committee, and generally seemed to have a lovely time.

Unfortunately, Brian himself was not there to host the event, having suffered a serious accident 2 days' earlier, as a result of falling off his motor mower on a slope while getting the garden perfect for our party, and sadly was detained in the N&N. Eunice Keane however, made us extremely welcome. We are happy to report that Brian is now recovering well from a hip ball replacement, and is back to hosting the Music group.



U3A clearly offers more than activity groups: friendships can also flourish - Gloria and Mike were eager to tell everyone about their new boat, and under Mike's experienced hand, they hope to sail around the coast.

Thank you to all who came, and to members of the committee who organised the affair. *(Please visit the website – [www.u3awroxham.co.uk](http://www.u3awroxham.co.uk)*

*for more photographs.)*

### Visit to The Globe and Elizabethan Experience

Aylsham and Hickling U3A's are combining for a day visit to London, and at present have some spare seats left on the coach, leaving Bure Valley car park in Aylsham at 8.30 am, cost £45 (over 60's), or £47.00. If you are interested contact Pam Skillings on 01263 735864 or Sue Badger 01603 737572.

**Norfolk U3A Network** is holding a day with speakers at Garveston Village Hall (NR9 4AD) 10.30am – 3.30pm, £12 including buffet lunch on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October**. Speakers on 'East Anglian Families of Influence', Tips on Speaking in Public, and Peter Lawrence (whom we have heard speaking about London) on 'This Policeman's Lot'. Please let Sue Badger (above) know if you wish to go.

**General Meeting** on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 pm. Our booked speaker cannot come, and hopefully we will have a replacement, so come and find out or you may miss something really good! We are looking forward to all meeting up again after a break in August.

**Committee Meeting** on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 3 pm at The Hub.

## And the winner is .....

Promoted by the Norfolk magazine 'Let's Talk' and inspired by an article in TAM, **Liz Smith's** short story 'The Heist' was awarded first place in this year's Short Story competition.

From a wide field of over 200 entries, 12 stories were selected to be published monthly over the coming year, with Liz's entry topping the publications. Liz cites her inspiration coming from a short article in the 20th Issue of Third Age Matters, where a letter writer expressed

her desire to make an Ealing Comedy-style film involving 3 U3A would-be criminals zip-wiring down a building to rob a bank. Liz developed this idea, and her story's protagonists were 3 U3A men who carry out a heist on a jewellers (timing their snatch so they didn't miss their bus home), with a delicious twist in the tail.



Liz is a keen amateur writer of fiction, who by her own admission, is best suited to the short story medium: she has started countless novels but consistently run out of steam half way through! Endlessly creative, she has a lively sense of humour, which shines through in everything she undertakes. For many years she attended the creative writing course run by our own **Di Stagg**, but has been putting pen to paper- and keeping her teachers amused - since her early teens.

She received her winner's prize (£250 vouchers from the supporting store) when she attended the ceremony in Jarrolds' book section of the department store. She bought an "attractive, smart suit", never having previously owned one. Now no doubt she will enjoy choosing events in which to wear it!

Di Stagg still runs her creative writing course: if you are interested in joining her, please contact her on 01603 784214. Her course commences in mid-September.

## Activities

Please send details of anything out of normal routine for the October newsletter by 20<sup>th</sup> September to the editor, Corrie Mould [candrm@staitheaway.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:candrm@staitheaway.orangehome.co.uk) 01603 782755

**Walking:** The September walk on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** will be around Honing and Crostwright, about 4.5 miles. We can park at Honing Village Hall, starting at 10 am. Please let Maggie Lomax know if you are coming 01603 783870.

**Music:** Despite his unexpected hip operation, Brian Keane is as keen as ever to provide music at his home, Prior Thatch, Beech Road, Wroxham at 2.30 pm on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**Mahjong:** Carol Hodgkiss has started instructing the first batch of people wishing to learn. If you would like to go on the waiting list ring Carol on 01603 929368, or [carol\\_hodgkiss@hotmail.com](mailto:carol_hodgkiss@hotmail.com)

**Painting for Pleasure** With summer activities, numbers have dropped lately. Please ring Bob McKee 01603 783639 if you would like to come on **14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Sep. at 2.30** in the Hub.

**Photographic/Camera Club** The group will recommence after the summer break on **Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2 – 4 pm** at The Hub, Wroxham. Please bring manuals, cameras and photographs: the subject is *Birds*. Mary Long 01603 7822254 [maryel@btinternet.com](mailto:maryel@btinternet.com)

**Lunch Out:** All welcome at The Pleasure Boat, Hickling, on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30 pm.** You must let Corrie know by 27<sup>th</sup> if you wish to come. Lifts could be arranged. 01603 782755

**Evening Dining:** The imminent meeting is on **Wed August 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm** at The White Horse in Upton. Ring Maggie Flatman 01603 783091. Presumably the September venue will be agreed then.

**Bird Watching:** Di Stagg will lead the group to a reserve in search of birds and butterflies on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**, meeting outside her home by the double roundabout in Hoveton at 10 am. Let her know if you are coming 01603 784214. 'Bird Banter', learning more about birds over a cup of coffee, will take place on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am** at Bijou ( which is what Bouchon has finally decided to call itself!)

**French Conversation** continues every Thursday afternoon at 3 pm at Bijou (alias Bouchon!). All levels of French speakers are welcome. Jane Monks 01603 782496

**History Group:** By all accounts the visit to Mendham Mill in Suffolk on the trail of Sir Alfred Munnings was most enjoyable. The group usually meets on the last Thursday of the month at 20, The Avenue, Wroxham., ie **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 2 pm.** Ann den Engelse 01603 782121.

**Play Reading:** meets the first Tuesday of the month, so it will be **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 2 pm** at the home of Ann Wilson, Carousel, Ashmanhaugh. Contact Jane Monks 01603 782496

**Petanque(or Boules):** The group meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the month from 2.30 pm, therefore this month on **September 12<sup>th</sup>.** The venue is Hoveton Village Hall car park, situated on the Stalham road (A1151) Hoveton. Players will eventually need to obtain their own boules (metal not plastic) but initially may borrow some to try out. Margaret and Dennis Cobbold 01603 784650



**Chess:** This is a new group which will start on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 10am and will run weekly for the first 2 months and will be held at Philip Hogbin's house in Beech Road. It is aimed at beginners, and an unorthodox method of teaching will be introduced, looking at strategy rather than simply rote-learning the moves. Let Philip know if you are interested. 01603 782496

**Gardens Group:** On 19<sup>th</sup> August 10 people paid a private visit to "Bird in Hand" in Blofield Heath, a private garden bursting with colour and many unfamiliar plant names were learned. The tea and cakes were good too!

Penny writes "As part of the Heritage Open Days there are two contrasting gardens in Norwich that will be open free of charge. I suggest **The Bishop's Garden – a four acre private garden** that has belonged to the Bishops of Norwich for over 900 years, and the **Bear Shop Garden in Elm Hill**, a small garden based on a design by Gertrude Jekyll. They are both open on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, and I suggest meeting at the Bishop's Garden at 11 am**, which will give people the opportunity to visit other Heritage Open Day sites afterwards if they wish." Please let Penny know if you wish to come. Penny Doe, 01603 783552 or [edward@teddoe.plus.com](mailto:edward@teddoe.plus.com)

Corrie Mould, editor