



Coming up



**13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party!**

50s, 60s, 70s MUSIC

Melody Flyte is going to take us back to our youth singing all the songs you will remember so well, 'It's My Party' and 'Bobby's Girl' to name just a couple.

Dressed in a mini dress and white kinky boots she will be very pleasing on the eye and has a great voice. It will be a fabulous Christmas party and after a good sing-along with Melody there will be some lovely food on offer.

**10<sup>th</sup> January – from rocking in the cradle to rocking on television**

Do you remember television programmes back in the day 'Oh Boy' and 'Six-Five Special' and the name Vince Eager? Well Vince is going to tell us about his part in the birth of the British rock and roll dynasty alongside Tommy Steele, Billy Fury, Cliff Richard, Adam Faith and Marty Wilde. He will reveal the mischief and mayhem created behind the scenes whilst touring with pals Joe Brown and Billy Fury. I guess he's got some tales to tell, so hang on to your hats guys and gals and make sure you're in attendance at this meeting.

**14<sup>th</sup> February – A little bit of Borneo**

Because the Annual General Meeting takes up some considerable time and so as not to eat into the speaker's presentation time, it has been decided, going forward, to dispense with a speaker for February and we shall hold an auction instead.

If you have anything you have not used for a long time and are unlikely, realistically, to ever use it again, please label it with your name and



# The Cliff Newsletter

## Winter 2024, Issue 69

Hi everyone, **Merry Christmas** and welcome to the Winter Newsletter.

[Coulson59@gmail.com](mailto:Coulson59@gmail.com)

Marion Coulson – Editor



### Notes from the Chair

Dear Cliff Villages u3a members,

As I sit down on this frosty November morning to write the next installation of 'Notes from the Chair' I find myself wondering where the year has gone and how it 'went' so quickly...

The committee have spent the year working on several issues such as membership numbers and claiming 'gift aid' from the government in an attempt to further secure the future of our group. These are both ongoing uphill battles, but we are a very tenacious group and will continue our efforts to achieve success.

You can still contribute to our success and I once again encourage everyone to invite friends to come along and join the group.

Our Christmas Party is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, and we have been working hard to make sure this is a great event, I hope to see you there for some festivities.

I will take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Regards Rob, your Chairman.



## Coming up cont'd

bring it along to the February meeting in 2025 and it can be auctioned off, all proceeds going to the Cliff Villages u3a. Cliff Villages do not wish to be responsible for disposing of any unsold items so please make sure you collect anything that belongs to you which has not sold. So, have a look in the loft, clear out the garage and the shed and anything you don't need any more which is in reasonable condition (no rubbish please) bring it along. Don't forget to label it with your name and then we know who to return it to if it doesn't sell. In case you are wondering, the speaker we had arranged is being re-booked for a later date and he

is quite happy that his presentation time will not be cut short so let's make this a fun occasion, just something a little bit different.

### 14<sup>th</sup> March – Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals is a charity that provides life-changing school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest communities. The promise of a good meal brings hungry children into the classroom, the meals giving them the energy they need to concentrate and where they can gain an education and better opportunities for the future.

## Cliff Villages U3A Groups Details 2024

Group	Convenor	Tel No	e-mail	Venue
Armchair Travel	Stan Leithead & Pat Rampton	01522 722618 01522 874746	<a href="mailto:stanleithead@googlemail.com">stanleithead@googlemail.com</a> <a href="mailto:prampton1803@gmail.com">prampton1803@gmail.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed @ 10:00 am. Harmston Village Hall
Art	David Raines	01522 810843	<a href="mailto:davidraines290@btinternet.com">davidraines290@btinternet.com</a>	Monday @ 10:00 am. The Hub Waddington.
Bird Watching	June Austin	07723 928110	<a href="mailto:June516@live.com">June516@live.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed @ various times/places
Book Review	Judith Horsfall	01522 789485	<a href="mailto:Judithanhorsfall53@gmail.com">Judithanhorsfall53@gmail.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue @ 2:00 pm. Various.
Bridge	Meg Norman	01522 410511	<a href="mailto:margaret-norman@sky.com">margaret-norman@sky.com</a>	Wed @ 2:00pm. Various
Church Architecture	Bob Alder	01522 723038	<a href="mailto:robertjamesderekalder@hotmail.com">robertjamesderekalder@hotmail.com</a>	Various
Computer Security	Rob Hadfield	07858 606202	<a href="mailto:robert.1.hadfield@talk21.com">robert.1.hadfield@talk21.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thu @ Redwood Community Centre. 10:00 am
Craft Afternoon	Angela Sheasby	01522 853877	<a href="mailto:Angelasheasby55@virginmedia.com">Angelasheasby55@virginmedia.com</a>	4 <sup>th</sup> Fri @ 2:00 pm. Waddington.
Creative Writing	Maureen Sutton	01522 723496		TBA. Fair View, Far Lane, Waddington.
Food Glorious Food	Pat Rampton	01522 874746	<a href="mailto:prampton1803@gmail.com">prampton1803@gmail.com</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Fri @ 10:00 am. Various
French Conversation	Adrian Piell	01522 821729		1 <sup>st</sup> Tue @ 65 Redwood Drive Waddington. 10:00 am

Games/Social Afternoon	Kenny & Yvonne Moir	01522 720770	goldmoir@aol.com	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed @ 2pm. Harmston Village Hall
Gardening	TBA			1 <sup>st</sup> Tue @ 10:00 am. Various
Industrial Heritage	Pat Thomas	01522 887546	Pat.thomas1@ntlworld.com	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday @9:45 am. Redwood Community Centre.
Kurling	Allen Lacey	01522 813601	allenviv@yahoo.com	Alternate Tue @ 10:00 am Wellingore Village Hall.
Learn to Crochet	Annie Bird	0779 691 1450	normaabird@hotmail.com	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon @ 2:00 pm. 16 Rowen Road Waddington
Longer Walks	Pat Rampton	01522 874746	prampton1803@gmail.com	1 <sup>st</sup> Thu. Various @ 10:00 am
Mahjong	Rosemary King	01522 721187	rosemary82king@gmail.com	Thu @ 2@00 pm. Various.
Music	Arthur Hazeldine	01522 720387	arthurhazeldine@gmail.com	Monthly. Church Lane Waddington
Parchment	Jill Alder	01522 723038	jillalder@hotmail.com	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed @ 10:00 am. The Hub Waddington.
Play Reading	Meg Norman	01522 410511	margaret-norman@sky.com	TBA
Pub Lunches	Barbara York	01522 720633	Barbaray1939@gmail.com	4 <sup>th</sup> Thu @ various times/ places.
Quiz Group	Keith Stocks	01522 682489		1 <sup>st</sup> Mon @ 10:00 am. Bracebridge Community Centre Maple St.
Scrabble	Rosemary King	01522 721187	rosemary82king@gmail.com	1 <sup>st</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed @ 10:00 am. Various
Short (Village) Walks	Pat Rampton	01522 874746	prampton1803@gmail.com	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed. Various @ 10:00 am
Spanish	David Shaddick	01522 802128	david.shaddick@live.co.uk	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tue @ 10:30am. Waddington.
Sugarcraft For Beginners	Pat Rampton	01522 874746	prampton1803@gmail.com	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed @ 10:00 am Waddington
Ten Pin Bowling	David Raines	01522 810843	davidraines290@btinternet.com	Alternate Tue @ 1:30 pm. Washingborough

### The Lifeline of our U3A

Yes, its me, Rosemary King, banging on again about trying to keep our 23 year old U3A operational. As a Founder member, one of only two people left from the original committee and as a past Chairman several times over, I am once again appealing to members to help save our lovely, friendly U3A from collapse.

Voluntary institutions only run with volunteers.

U3A's only flourish if the Groups flourish.

New blood with new ideas is essential to keep the momentum going.

If Members think the 'same old, same old' interest groups are boring and old fashioned, please think up new and vibrant ones to entice people to join.

Everyone has a skill or experience or hobby/interest and could perhaps form a group to share with others. Over the past 23 years interest groups have come and gone.

Discussion/debating.  
Complimentary therapies.  
Flower arranging.  
Antiques and Collectibles.

And these are only the ones I ran for years. Others that I started have morphed into another form and been taken over by new conveners. (The Garden Group, the Food Group, the Writing Group.)

Diana Oldfield invented a lovely "Remembering our Childhood Group." Reminiscing, bringing artifacts, for show, etc.

Bob Goodman ran the History Group, with the members researching a topic to present to everyone.

David Raines started Pub Lunches, A Discussion Group, Archaeology, Ten Pin Bowling and the Art Group.

Both these last two he still convenes 23 years later!

I still run Mahjong after 23 years.... EVERY THURSDAY! and the Scrabble Group every Wednesday.

So, my plea to you is, please put on your thinking caps and come up with some new ideas. Also PLEASE join groups or they will wither and die from lack of interest..... Rosemary.

(Written and sent in by Rosemary King)

On Friday 8 November 2024 we had two members of the Lincolnshire Emergency Blood Bikes Service who gave a first-class presentation on the vital role they perform in saving lives. I think it's true to say that we were all astounded at the mileage these guys travel each month, week, *day*, and indeed just what they transport. It could be blood, of course, but they also take plasma, breast milk for premature babies, or surgical instruments. In fact, anything that needs to get from one place to another, very often travelling through the night. These guys give their time freely and voluntarily. They receive no payment whatsoever, but their reward is being able to ride a big BMW motorbike, and they just love it. All of them are, of course, motorbike enthusiasts and one of the speakers brought his bike round to the Venue which generated a great deal of interest after the presentation when members were invited to 'go and have a look and ask questions' and, as you can see, one of our members took up the invitation to sit astride one.

We paid them a donation and they had a donations canister on the table in which members kindly contributed after the meeting and altogether we raised the brilliant sum of £183.30 which the speaker advised would buy two tyres for the bikes, pay for a couple of services at the garage or fill the tanks of eight bikes enabling 1300 miles of travel.

Well done everyone who contributed and well done to these great guys of both sexes who perform a life-saving service for anyone who requires it.



Vivienne Lacey



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## News from the Groups

### Kurling Group

#### **Convenors – Allan and Vivienne Lacey**

The kurling group is now going great guns after our summer break, everyone is back and raring to go. We have had two kurlers who cannot come any more and have had to drop out of the group and not everyone comes every single time so we have capacity for four more members, if anyone would like to join us. It's only £2 per session and we meet every fortnight on a Tuesday morning in the Wellingore Memorial Hall from 10am to 12 noon. We have a break at 10.45am for tea, coffee and biscuits and a catch up with everybody and then at 11am off we go again, finishing at 11.45am. If we score a bull's eye we can have a chocolate from the Celebrations tin!

Why not come along for a taster session? You'll have a good laugh and make some very nice friends, and you might even master the game of kurling, although it has to be said nobody has yet. There is absolutely no skill attached to this game whatsoever, it's all in the lap of the gods or, as we always say, fully dependent on the phase the moon happens to be in.

If you fancy a go, contact us on [vivlacey11@gmail.com](mailto:vivlacey11@gmail.com) or 07580 220330. You don't have to sign up or enter into a contract, neither are you obligated to come every fortnight, and if it's not for you then there's no compulsion to stay but how do you know you won't like it if you never try? We'd love to see you.

Allen and Vivienne Lacey

### The book group

#### **Convenor – Judith Horsfal**

The book group is a well-established group and continues to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 2pm. We meet in each other's houses and take turns to choose a book. We currently have 6 members and have room for one or two new people. The format of the meetings is for the person who has chosen the book to present it and explain why they chose it. Each member of the group is invited to give their views and then we have a general discussion. The meetings are lively, informal and no one claims to be a literary expert! The discussion is always followed by tea and biscuits and social catch ups.

The year started with *The Gardener* by Sally Vickers and will end with *One Day* by David Nicholls. Other authors chosen have included Anne Enright, Colm Toibin, Maggie O'Farrell and Rachel Joyce. Everyone in the group agrees that the book group encourages us to read books we may not have chosen ourselves. If you feel that you would like to know more about the group do contact me on [judithanhorsfall53@gmail.com](mailto:judithanhorsfall53@gmail.com) or 07508695213.

Writers Group

**Convenor – Maureen Sutton**

We meet on a monthly basis. We are a small but enthusiastic group who take turns to choose a subject to write about, sometimes we each suggest a word and the chosen words must be included in the next piece. Sometimes we write a poem or an exercise.

No one is pressurised and we have a lot of fun. After we have listened and commented on each other's work we share biscuits, coffee and sometimes cake.

Anyone who would like to join us is most welcome. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at; Fair View, Far Lane, Waddington, LN59QG. There is space to park outside of my house. There are steep steps up to the property.

Maureen Sutton

01522 723496

Email, [maureenjsutton@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenjsutton@yahoo.com)

Short walks/Longer walks

**Convenor – Pat Rampton**

#### **Short Walks – 2 – 3 miles**

These walks are generally village walks and will start again in March. Would anyone out there like to join us? Wherever we walk we treat ourselves to some sort of refreshment at the end., probably in a local cafe. I find that is an incentive to walk!!

These walks are on the **fourth** Wed morning of each month.

#### **Long Walks 5 – 6 miles**

This group is desperately short of members. We used to number approx., 17 but now we struggle to reach 5. Do you know of anyone in the u3a who might like to join this group.

The shortage of numbers also means we are short of people who can lead the walks. I have at least 20 walks from which you could lead a walk if you would like some help.

The leader always does a recce to make sure the route is passable and not impossible. These walks are on the first Thursday of each month and again finish at a cafe or pub for a drink and snack.



## Armchair Travel/Cake Icing Convenor – Pat Rampton

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month, 10.30 to 12.00 at Harmston Memorial Hall. We watch a power point presentation of a place or country someone has visited. It is a lovely way of travelling without the hassle of airports etc. You also get a feel of where you would like to visit, or not. The presentations usually last an hour.

From January, our meetings will be held in Redwood Community Centre – 11.30 – 1.00pm.

Does anyone know of anyone who would like to show an hours worth of adventure? We are so short of speakers that at the moment it looks as if we might have to close the group in July unless we get some more speakers.

## Sugarcraft Convenor – Pat Rampton

We have been busy making “Christmas” rabbits, which isn't easy as they are quite rare and we had difficulty catching a role model!!! As you can see they group members managed it and their cakes show what they have done.

We meet on the 1st Wed in each month 10.00 – 12.00 Let me know if you would like to join us.



## Food Glorious Food

We meet on the first Friday of each month and the person who is hosting, picks a subject and does some research to present to the group and also prepares food to reflect the subject. This is a most enjoyable group and until the day no-one knows which food item will be involved.

The last two presentations have been entirely different and very interesting. One was from the times of Shakespeare, and one was sweet potatoes!! Every day is a school day!

If you would like to know more about any of these groups, please contact me on 01522 874746 – Pat Rampton



Parchment  
**Convenor – Jill Alder**

Here are three of the fantastic efforts made by the group for Christmas this year, well done ladies!



Birdwatching Group  
**Convenors – June Austin and Kay Parker**

Our Bird Watching group has had a superb year. We have seen about 90 different species of birds since January.

Our highlights have been the Osprey at Rutland Water that we saw pick a fish out of the water but after several attempts to rise, had to drop the fish; also a Great Crested Grebe at Clumber Park that tried to swallow a large fish. We watched it for a while but its struggles were unpleasant to watch so we moved on



and did not see the end of the action. At Gibraltar Point the number of geese and the noise at one of the fresh water lakes was incredible and the large number of Spoonbills quite amazing.

Happy Christmas to all,  
June and Kay

Industrial Heritage  
**Convenor – Pat Thomas**

During the winter months we meet on the morning of the third Friday of the Month at Redwood Drive Community Centre off Brant Road in Lower Waddington. There is plenty of parking and the Number 13 Waddington – Lincoln bus stops are nearby.

This is a very friendly group and new members are welcome.

Coffee is served until 10.15 am for a 10.30am start. The films last for approximately one hour.

Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Impossible Engineering - The World's Largest Floating Oil Rig
21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Building the First Forth Road Bridge An amateur film with some hair-raising scenes
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	British Planes that won World War I - the Sopwith Camel Over 1 000 were built in Lincoln by Ruston

Co-ordinator Pat Thomas 07914 524261 / 01522 88754  
pat.m.thomas24@gmail.com

**In a final note, the committee and I would like to wish you all**

**a very happy Christmas and an exciting and joyful New Year!**



## Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting

Held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 in the Venue, Navenby

**Apologies**      No Apologies

### **Chairmans's report**

**Bob thanked the members for attending the meeting. He continued by saying that the committee go to great lengths to make the meetings interesting and it would be good to see more members attending.**

**We have enjoyed some very interesting talks this last year and hope to continue (thank you to Vivienne for organising all the speakers, not an easy task).**

**Particular thanks go to all who help to set up and clear up after each meeting and we musn't forget the Tea and Coffee Team, and thanks go to Penny for organising. Bob added that the donations to the tea and coffee enables us to continue to provide this, so your contributions were much appreciated.**

**With one or two exceptions the group meetings are well attended, but some groups would like to see more participating, because unless they are well attended they could fold, so perhaps you can get friends within U3a to join you, and don't forget they don't have to be u3a members of Cliff Villages.**

**Our thanks go to Clive for his IT contributions to the website, the newsletters and the Annual Programme. Our thanks also to Marion for the production of the Newsletters.**

**Bob also thanked personally all members of the committee for their contributions and in some cases, guidance to him, as to how to proceed correctly.**

**Bob encouraged evryone to invite friends and neighbours who are not in u3a to come along and try it. Explain it is not a University and we put in what we want to, to make it work.**

**Finally Bob has enjoyed his year as chairman and will be stepping back from this role. And asked that everyone continue to give support to the new Chairman and he will still continue to be a member of the committee.**

**Finally Bob asked, if anyone feels they have something to contribute to the u3a, why not volunteer to join the Committee. Any member is welcome to join, those who have been with us for a while and also new members. We meet once a month and we are a very sociable bunch.**

### **Business Secetary's report**

**Rob reported that Central u3a are beginning a consultation process this year to ensure they hear from the various local u3a's to help them with their restructuring plans.**

## Treasurer's Report

Alan reported that the figures were for the last year. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023. They have been audited once again by Hazel Exton so a big thank you on behalf of the u3a. The figures have also been forwarded to the charity commission.

At the start of the year the balance was £2436.62 It was £2424.43 at the end, which was a loss of £2.21.

Income for the year was £2598.89 and expenditure was £2601.10

Approximate breakdown :-

40% membership	£1017.64
31% Speakers	788.67
18% hall hire	457.94
7% stationery	235.08
4% Refreshments	101.77

All the voluntary contributions for refreshments are gratefully received and he felt sure the members would agree that 50p for a cuppa and a biscuit was good value.

The costs for the coming year were expected to rise, with increases in Hall Hire, Speakers, Head Office and some Major purchases plus advertising for new members.

## Membership Secretary's Report

At the last AGM Pat reported a membership of 152. To date 124 have renewed but the renewals were still coming in so it was hoped that this figure would rise to approx. 140. Cliff Villages still need more members, so if any members have a friend or friends who might be interested in joining Pat asked that they give them her details or bring them along to the next monthly meeting for a "trial run".

## Election of Officers,

Chairman - Rob Hadfield. Proposed by Bob Alder and seconded by Pat Rampton

Vice chair - Kay Parker. Proposed by Vivienne Lacey and Seconded by Norman Groom

Business Secretary - Marie Purdy. Proposed by Kay Parker and seconded by Pat Rampton

Treasurer - Alan May. Proposed by Pat Rampton and seconded by Bob Alder

Committee - June Austin, Bob Alder, Pat Rampton, Vivienne Lacey, Mike Willerton, Terri Roche and Marion Coulson. Rob asked the members to accept the committee en bloc and this was carried out.

**Cliff Villages (Lincoln) u3a notice of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, February 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, 10.30 at The Venue, Navenby**

Any member wishing to put forward an item for discussion in 'Any Other Business', should submit it to the Business Secretary, Marie Purdy at [mariepurdyuk@gmail.com](mailto:mariepurdyuk@gmail.com) by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 2024 AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Business Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Membership Secretary's Report
8. Election of Chairman
9. Election of Vice-Chairman
10. Election of Business Secretary
11. Election of Treasurer
12. Election of Committee Members
13. Any other business

Nomination form for posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Business Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Members

Please complete and return to the Business Secretary, Marie Purdy by January 31<sup>st</sup> 2025

I propose \_\_\_\_\_

For the post of \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to my name being put forward for election.

Signature of nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer \_\_\_\_\_

Secunder \_\_\_\_\_