

WINGS, WHEELS & WATER

*Our meetings start at 10.30 am, 2nd Monday of the month,
in the Racing Centre.*

11 May. Alistair Nobbs, presents his first talk for us. His talk is entitled "Historic Aspects of Submarine Developments".

8 June. Clive Davies, makes his first presentation on "The Dennis Fire Engine": its origin, development and the Guildford Factory.

13 July. Tim Young wraps up the U3A year with a talk suggested by John Wallace, based around the book "Wing Leader" by Grp Capt J E Johnson, containing signatures of RAF Battle of Britain crews.

David Soanes, Tim Young

SPEAKER MEETINGS JUNE AND JULY

JUNE: Andy Stuart. Andy says that we all have family stories that permeate generations and the truth or otherwise gets lost in time. In this talk he takes a look into some of the 'Tall Tales' he's lived with, and how they look when compared to real history. He hopes to give the audience some pointers as to where they can look into their own family tales.



JULY: Newmarket U3A Annual General Meeting

CREATIVE WRITING

The Creative Writing group continues to grow and we will soon need to close to new members. So, if you have been thinking about joining us, please do so now!

We are all very different in our approach to the prompts each month and it is amazing to read the results we produce from the same starting point. Our short story for this edition is by one of our very new members, Willow Cornell.

You are most welcome to sit in on one of our meetings at Brampton Manor on the third Tuesday of each month

Sarah McManus

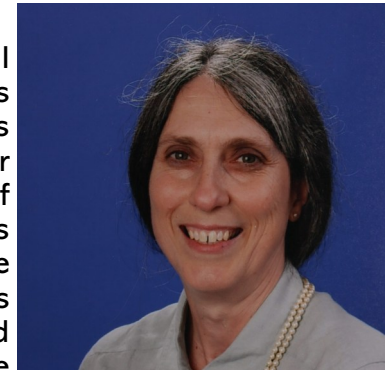
u3a NEWMARKET & DISTRICT

E-NEWS FOR JUNE & JULY 2026

From the Chair

Dear Members

I can't believe that it is nearly a year since I became chair. That inevitably means that this year's AGM is just around the corner and it is time for you to think seriously about whether you might be prepared to give up some of your time to join the committee. No previous experience is necessary but you would be expected to come to our monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month and hopefully contribute in some way to the general running of the Newmarket U3A. If you would also be prepared to take on one of the officer roles then this would be an added bonus as we have two officers who are not eligible to stand for re-election this year.



In an attempt to alleviate some of the problems with recruiting committee members there will be a vote at the AGM to adopt a new constitution. The main difference from our current one is that committee members would be allowed to serve for a longer term; more information will be sent out nearer the time. This makes it all the more important that we get the minimum of 20% of members attending on 27th July.

I fully appreciate that not everyone is comfortable in taking on this level of responsibility but ultimately the continuation of our U3A is dependent on there being a full complement of committee members. So let's hope that there are enough of you who would like to join the team then the activities committee can get cracking on planning our 40th anniversary celebrations next year!

Geraldine Cornwell, Chair

ART APPRECIATION

Our trip to the Henry Moore exhibition had to be cancelled due to lack of support and was replaced by a "Show & Tell" meeting on the theme of likes and dislikes. It is amazing how different people can view the same item! Our next activity is yet to be arranged.

Anna Smith



CREATIVE WRITING GROUP in full flow, exploring ideas. See this edition's story in our bi-monthly magazine.

IMPORTANT BANKING UPDATE

You may already know that the Newmarket branch of Lloyds Bank is closing on 24 June this year. That, together with the recent introduction of bank charges, means that it will be much more difficult and costly for us to pay in cheques. With the annual subscription approaching, as well as various trips and outings, it will help us greatly if you pay by bank transfer on your computer or mobile phone.

The details you require are as follows:-

Account Name: Newmarket U3A (*The word 'Events' is not used*)

Sort Code: 30-95-96

Account NO. 01368345

Reference The reason for the payment, (*eg 'subscription' and your name, if it will fit.*)

Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

Di Angus-Smith, Treasurer

MUSIC APPRECIATION

May 15, Music from the **BBC Promenade Concerts.** Highlights from this world famous, annual music festival.

June 19, "The music of France": a selection of popular 19th century classical compositions.

July 17. "Beethoven": an overture, (Leonora No. 3), a piano sonata, (the Moonlight), and a symphony, (No. 7) by this famous German composer.

Please keep an eye on the Newmarket U3A website for any change

Richard Unwin

GARDEN GROUP

Just when "April Showers" should have been helping our plants to grow strongly, many of ours aren't looking "happy" as they are under stress from lack of rain. So we are looking forward to our next meeting on **Wednesday, 20th May at 2.30** in the Racing Centre, when **Andrew Sankey** will talk to the group about '**Dry Gardens**'. Andrew is a well known garden designer, author of the 'English Cottage Garden' and the right person to help us cope with our increasingly dry gardens.

Our second garden visit takes place on July 8th when we enjoy a **guided tour of the Downing College gardens and afternoon tea in the college.** The visit is organised by the Garden Group but welcomes other U3A members to join us, the charge is £24. Contact the Garden Group for a booking form and information. There are only two spare places.

Our recent plant sale was very successful. Members kindly donated spare plants and generously bought plants too, the money raised supports the cost of our speakers, so a big thank you is due to our members.

Margaret & Richard Webb

U3A SUMMER COACH TRIP KING'S LYNN

There are a few places remaining
Coach price will be £15 per person

If you would like a guided tour of landmarks in the town this is available at a cost of £5 per person payable in advance.

For members who wish to strike out on their own, a map will be provided. There will be ample time for lunch and some retail therapy in the independent shops and familiar High Street stores.

Booking forms available now and printed copies at Speaker Meetings

OPEN COFFEE MORNING - 15 SEPTEMBER
In Newmarket Memorial Hall

WINTER OUTING

Holkham Hall by Candlelight

3 December 2026 £56 per person

The price includes coach fare, admission to the Hall, Holkham Stories Exhibition, a mince pie and a glass of fizz! The hall is decorated differently each year and lit by candlelight for the festive season.

Our arrival is estimated at 11.45, so there will be time for lunch and a visit to the Holkham Stories exhibition before our timed entrance to the hall at 2.00pm. The self-guided tour is at your leisure but remember to allow time for your mince pie and glass of bubbly before we leave at 4.30pm.

Booking forms are available on-line, at Speaker Meetings and on request. Only a deposit is required to secure your place.

HISTORY

The May meeting of the History group saw the welcome return, after her accident, of Niddy Walpole, who presented a fascinating talk on historic Bridges.

In June, Denise will talk about tiaras, concentrating on those worn by royalty. Details of further meetings will be circulated later.

Denise Cioffi, Di Angus-Smith and Tim Young

FLOWER ARRANGING AT BRAMPTON MANOR



What a lovely way to spend an afternoon, creating flower arrangements alongside some of the residents of Brampton Manor care home.

Loads of foliage courtesy of the gardener plus some seasonal flowers.

Help and advice from fellow creators, plenty of chat and a sense of achievement at the end of the session especially

for those who had not attempted an arrangement for a while, if at all. Here's to the next time!

PORTRAIT GROUP

Unfortunately we have had to move our regular venue from Ashley Pavilion to the Moller Room at the Racing Centre due to water damage. We shall continue to meet at 2.00pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month, (but not in July or August.)

So far we have had volunteer models to sit for us but we have now run out of volunteers. Any volunteers will be enthusiastically welcomed! Susan, (pictured here) came in full Tudor dress and in addition to her modelling provided a most interesting and entertaining background to Elizabethan dress and culture.



David Watson

Brampton Manor Care Home

1:30-4pm
Adult adm £4



Free refreshments
for u3a members!

Thursday 25th June 2026



REALM OF BOOKS

Being part of the The Realm of Books group offers a compelling mix of social connection, intellectual stimulation, and fun. Every 4th Friday of the month, group members meet to discuss the book of the month. Reading a book is a very personal activity, but having the opportunity to share with others our points of views and comments on a book, never fails to take us on an interesting journey. Our book reviews are accessible on the Realm of Books pages of the website.

Sabine Deering



Martin turns onto his side and looks at me. I mirror him.

I've never noticed the gold flecks in his eyes before. I stare so hard I begin to squint as I try to count them.

"You look like your mum when you do that." He says.

I jab him in the ribs. "Bugger off."

Like a magnet, his smile pulls my lips into a curve.

"That's better." He chuckles.

We lie for hours and talk. We talk about the future and our plans. The big house we'll live in, what we'll name our three children, and the garden I'll keep — with my Grandad's help. He tells me about his dad's depression. I recite him a poem I wrote when I was eleven. I've never shared my poetry before.

For almost four hours we lie and chat before we realise the rain has ceased and the smell of barbecues being lit back on the estate is penetrating the air. We grab our now dry clothing and emerge from our nest into the real world. He pulls my dress down over me, his grin greeting mine as my head expels itself out of the top.

"So, are you gonna grow some proper boobs in the future too?"

I snort, and he swerves to avoid the kick I try to deliver to his shins.

A rainbow spews across the sky in a glorious show of colour. I want to grab his hand and run off again, in search of the pot of gold, and live out all those dreamy plans we had spoken of.

He drops a kiss on the top of my head and takes my hand. "Come on. Let's get you back to mine so Nanna can fix that tear before peanut head sees it."

A cackle of laughter tumbles out of me. I never get tired of hearing Martin call my stepdad names.

We were twenty when we parted ways. It wasn't on good terms. I've not seen Martin for twenty years now. No one has. He's not on social media. He doesn't live at the house he grew up in; the family moved out after his dad's suicide. I worry that he's developed his dad's affliction. I still think about him sometimes. I hope he's out there somewhere, and he got the future he wanted, with someone who loves him. Because I have.

Willow Cornell

CREATIVE WRITING: STORY OF THIS EDITION

MARTIN AND ME

An original story by

Willow Cornell

We are fourteen, Martin and I, and the only couple in our friend group.

It's a pleasant summer day, and our friend's exuberance is overwhelming me. Knowing I'm adverse to excess noise and heat, Martin suggests we sneak off. I give him a subtle nod. We weave our fingers together and discreetly dissolve into the copse of pine trees that separates the estate from the wheat field.

We pick up pace as a drizzle begins dappling our faces. The hem of my dress snags on a nearby branch. There's a small rip, and I know my stepdad will be furious when he sees it. Our friends' voices have now faded, and the wheat field is sprawled out before us. Yet to be harvested, it is as tall as we are.



Martin has a plan to keep us out of the rain, and without question, I follow him into the golden battlefield. We part hands to fight the wheat back. Slowly we weave our way through to a harvested patch of field.

A large, hollow metal tube lays lonesome, and we take it up as a temporary residence to wait out the rain.

My dress is now soaked, clinging to my narrow hips. His white t-shirt clings to his skin, revealing train track ribs. We strip off our outer garments and spread

them out to dry. Stooped like a pair of ancient grandmas, we go further into the tube and rest ourselves side by side. I breathe a sigh of relief as the cool metal presses against my hot skin. We lay in silence for a while and listen to the rain. It reminds me of caravan holidays with my grandparents.

(continued over)

BOOKING FORM FOR:
MARKSHALL ESTATE
AND

GREEN ISLAND GARDENS – RHS PARTNER GARDEN WINNER 2024

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE

These two outstanding gardens are in the Colchester area and will both be visited by coach on the same day. The visit is organised by the Garden Group but we welcome all U3A members to join us.

LAST FEW PLACES AVAILABLE

TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THE BOOKING FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND RETURN IT, WITH FULL PAYMENT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

This trip is only for current u3a members

Please reserve place/s @ £38 p.p.

First NameSurname.....

Membership No if known

First NameSurname.....

Membership No if known

A Mobile Number

Email Address

Please pay by:

Cheque – Payable to NEWMARKET U3A WITH **GARDENS VISIT** ON THE BACK, OR

ONLINE BANK TRANSFER TO NEWMARKET U3A:

SORT CODE 30-95-96 ACCOUNT No. 01368345 REFERENCE **GARDENS VISIT**

Send your completed form to:

MARGARET WEBB by email: margaretkwebb8@gmail.com

Or by post to MARGARET WEBB, 33 CENTRE DRIVE, NEWMARKET. CB8 8AN

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Once the list is full you will be placed on a waiting list. Bookings will be acknowledged by email where possible and you will be notified if you are on the waiting list.

JUNE 2026			
GROUP MEETINGS			
DAY/DATE	TIME	GROUP	VENUE
Monday 1	14:30	Camera Group	The Racing Centre
Tuesday 2	14:30	Art Appreciation	The Racing Centre
Wednesday 3	10:30	Walking	See Website
	14:30	Antiques	The Racing Centre
Friday 5	14:30	History	The Racing Centre
Monday 8	10:30	Wings Wheels Water	The Racing Centre
	14:30	Scrabble	The Racing Centre
Tuesday 9	10:30	Model Making, Craft	The Racing Centre
	11:15	Coffee & Cook Off	The Racing Centre
	14:30	Discussion	The Racing Centre
Wednesday 10	12:00	Brunch Meeting	The Stable Cafe
Thursday 11	10:30	Carpet Bowls	The Racing Centre
Friday 12	10:30	Family History	The Racing Centre
Monday 15	10:00	Executive Committee	-
Tuesday 16	14:00	Creative Writing	Brampton Manor Care Hm
Wednesday 17	10:00	Mahjong	The Racing Centre
	?	Garden Group	Coach Trip
Friday 19	14:30	Music Appreciation	The Racing Centre
Monday 22	14:30	Speaker Meeting	Catholic Parish Hall
Tuesday 23	14:00	Portrait Group	The Racing Centre
	14:00	Rummikub	Brampton Manor Care Hm
Thursday 25	10:30	Carpet Bowls	The Racing Centre
Friday 26	14:30	Realm of Books	The Racing Centre
-	MOTO Group - See Website		

JULY 2026			
GROUP MEETINGS			
DAY/DATE	TIME	GROUP	VENUE
Wednesday 1	10:30	Walking	See Website
	14:30	Antiques	The Racing Centre
Thursday 2	?	Summer Outing	Coach Trip
Friday 3	14:30	History	The Racing Centre
Monday 6	14:30	Camera Group	The Racing Centre
Tuesday 7	14:30	Art Appreciation	The Racing Centre
Wednesday 8	12:00	Brunch Meeting	The Stable Cafe
Thursday 9	10:30	Carpet Bowls	The Racing Centre
Friday 10	10:30	Family History	The Racing Centre
Monday 13	10:30	Wings Wheels Water	The Racing Centre
	14:30	Scrabble	The Racing Centre
Tuesday 14	10:30	Model Making, Craft	The Racing Centre
	11:15	Coffee & Cook Off	The Racing Centre
	14:30	Discussion	The Racing Centre
Wednesday 15	10:00	Mahjong	The Racing Centre
	14:30	Garden Group	The Racing Centre
Friday 17	14:30	Music Appreciation	The Racing Centre
Monday 20	10:00	Executive Committee	-
Tuesday 21	14:00	Creative Writing	Brampton Manor Care Hm
Thursday 23	10:30	Carpet Bowls	The Racing Centre
Friday 24	14:30	Realm of Books	The Racing Centre
Monday 27	14:30	Annual General Mtg	Catholic Parish Hall
Tuesday 28	14:00	Portrait Group	No Meeting
	14:00	Rummikub	Brampton Manor Care Hm
-	MOTO Group - See Website		