



Swaffham & District u3a

NEWSLETTER

November 2024

Monthly Meeting:

Our next monthly meeting on
Thursday 5th December
will be our

Christmas Party

when we will be entertained by
Fine City Chorus
a close harmony (barber shop) choir.

As usual, we will meet in
The Pavilion at Holme Hale,
but please note that doors will
open at the later time of 10.00am
and the usual £2 entry charge will apply.

As well as catering for the correct number
of members attending, we need to set out
the correct number of tables and seating,
**so it is essential that you please let
me know that you intend to come.**

Please do this as soon as possible,
preferably by emailing me at
d.moncaster@btinternet.com
or (if you can't email me)
ring me on 01760 724755.

**Please note that there will not be a
monthly meeting in January 2025**
(because the 1st Thursday occurs on 2nd
January) but we look forward to welcoming
new members in 2025 so please talk to
your friends and neighbours about u3a and
encourage them to join us.

Last time:

At our last monthly meeting, on Thursday
7th November, our guest speaker was Pete
Goodrum, a local historian, writer and
broadcaster whose presentation called
'Gems of Norfolk' gave us a fascinating
view of this county's many and varied
places with interesting histories.

Activity Groups:

A 2nd Poetry Group is starting in
December. Many thanks to Mike Slater for
volunteering to organise and lead this.

In the new year, one of our recently joined
members, Sue Janes, will be starting a new
Activity Group similar to a Book Club,
based on her experience in the u3a where
she used to live. Details are to be worked
out, but if you think you could be
interested, please let me know and I will
pass your name to Sue.

The Garden Visit Group held their
annual Coffee Morning on 5th November.
This was a social occasion which gave
members an opportunity to discuss
possible venues for next year and partake
of tea, coffee and, of course, cake. A slide
show of all the gardens visited during the
year was viewed and enjoyed by all.



Members of the Garden Visits Group enjoying the lovely
gardens at 'Dunbheagan', Westfield, near Dereham.

Continued on page 2 ...

... continued from page 1

Music Appreciation Group:



At last month's Music Appreciation Group, members chose a wide variety of their favourite orchestral works to play and discuss. As usual, it was interesting to hear why people had selected a particular piece and what it meant to them.

Two of our members were celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary and chose Mendelssohn's wedding march. This was closely followed by Widor's Toccata – another wedding favourite. We calmed down with Schubert's Rosamunde, a violin and piano concerto from Bach and Vaughan Williams' Greensleeves. After tea and cake we rounded the afternoon off with Wagner's Tannhauser and Elgar's Nimrod, which never fails to get the bottom lip quivering.

A thoroughly enjoyable get together with great company all sharing a love of music of different genres. We meet in Swaffham on the third Thursday of each month and we would welcome new members. We are not highbrow – more Classic FM with a dollop of Radio 2, music from the movies or musicals and jazz from time to time.

You don't need to read music or play a musical instrument – just bring along your favourite tracks.

Please contact Jan Hayes-Griffin if you'd like to join us or for more information. We look forward to hearing your 'desert island' favourites! Contact details are on the attached Schedule of Activity Groups.

Please see the attached revised Schedule of Activity Groups.

This has now spread to two pages. Instead of trying to squeeze everything onto one page by reducing the font size, I have increased the font size and spacing to make it easier to read.

Terrified of Technology?

We will be organising a Workshop, as soon as possible, probably in the Tony Evans Centre (the smaller room at The Pavilion, Holme Hale). Watch this space!

I have an increasing list of folk who are interested and a couple of offers of help from competent technology users.

Please let me know if you would like to be added to the list of interested members.

Membership:

As there will be no meeting in January the Treasurer will be available at the monthly meetings in February, March and April to accept your renewal subscription for the u3a year 1st May 2025 to 31st March 2026.

As agreed at the AGM last May, the renewal subscription will be £10 (£6 if you are an Associate member).

You will also be able to pay by BACS using online banking. We are having trouble getting Barclays Bank to catch-up! At the moment this will only accept the old name – The Wissey U3A – but hopefully this will be sorted out by February!!

In the meantime, please remember to let us know if any of your contact details change. Thank you.

David Moncaster – Chairman
Swaffham & District u3a

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