
North Walsham u3a Newsletter January 2025



The u3a completely relies on volunteers for its running. Some groups have been run by the same people for nearly twenty years, and we are now at the point where we need new blood to take over. So please give some thought to helping to run groups in this fantastic organisation.

This month's photo of Cromer Pier at sunset is by Len Casey of the digital photography group.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter. We are always looking for ways to improve. Please email your comments or suggestions to me at the address below.

Thanks to all you who have contributed to this month's issue. It's nice to receive everybody's contributions, particularly from those who have not previously sent articles. The copy deadline for next month is **Thursday January 30thth**.

Please send any comments or articles to me at ralph4ed@hotmail.com.

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Thoughts From the Chair

This has been a busy month for the u3a with a Christmas Special featuring Chanters Jigge, who played an amazing range of instruments, ditties and songs. It certainly set the start of the festive season for me!

I would like to extend a warm thank you to those Group Leaders who have decided to resign after many years from leading groups and would encourage other members, if at all possible, to take on this role. The committee and I would be really keen to hear what support you might require or thoughts you have about this.

Committee Meetings: as discussed in the last newsletter, we are inviting members to join us for discussion and feedback. For the January Meeting we would like to look at Groups and Publicity. The venue and time for the committee meeting topic discussion is St Nicholas Hall at 2.30pm and it is held bimonthly on the 3rd Monday of the month, and we will be keen to hear your thoughts, views and ideas, which we can develop with all members.

The Committee dates are as follows:

January the 20th 2025

March the 17th 2025

May the 19th 2025 July the 21st 2025

September the 15th 2025

November the 17th 2025

Other opportunities for feedback are after the monthly meeting if people want to stay back and the Suggestion Box which will be on the tea table (or nearby) As a Chair I was able to attend the "Chairs Forum Meeting", and by chance they were discussing some of the difficulties and successes of running Groups. I will happily share these ideas in 2025, some may work for us and may well be worth trying. Volunteers:

I would like to make a request for members who are willing to welcome new members and sit with them initially at monthly meetings to contact me or a member of the Committee.

Participating In the community. I would be grateful if people could identify for the Committee local groups that they attend or know about who may be interested in finding out about the opportunities that the u3a can offer. I believe it would be worthwhile and beneficial to visit such groups or share information with them.

National Events: I have discovered that there are National Subject Advisers who may be able to advise us, the committee and I will follow this up, alongside looking at potential national courses.

I would like to thank you all for making the North Walsham u3a a wonderful and welcoming place to be and I look forward to an interesting 2025. Very Best Wishes for a Peaceful and Happy Festive Season and New Year.

Maureen Cavanagh

Chair

North Walsham u3a

NW u3a Groups and Days

Week	Day	Morning	Afternoon
1	Mon	Coffee Morning <i>Richard Nevill</i>	JazzAppreciation <i>Jim Costello</i>
	Tue		
	Wed		Mac Users <i>Richard Nevill</i>
	Thur		Digital Photography <i>Richard Nevill</i> Mind, Body, Spirit <i>Chrissie Kimber</i>
	Fri		Monthly meeting
	Sun	Sundy Lunch <i>Jazz Waspe</i>	
Week	Day	Morning	Afternoon
2	Mon	Coffee Morning <i>Richard Nevill</i>	Classical Music <i>Jean Simpson</i>
	Tue		
	Wed		
	Thur	Ten Pin Bowling <i>Diane Mulligan</i>	Book Group <i>Yvonne Dickinson</i> U3Sings <i>Patsy Tomlinson</i> Wine Appreciation <i>Roy Tuff</i>
	Fri	Walking <i>Chrissie Kimber</i> Please check beforehand	History <i>Brenda Tibbles</i> Life Story <i>Maureen Cavanagh</i>
Week	Day	Morning	Afternoon
3	Mon	Coffee Morning <i>Richard Nevill</i>	Committee Meeting
	Tue		Gardening <i>Ronnie Cooke</i>
	Wed		Rock & Pop <i>Marilyn Nevill</i>
	Thur	Current Affairs <i>Steve Guratsky</i>	Computer Group <i>Richard Nevill</i>
	Fri	The Big Question <i>Steve Guratsky</i>	Brain Games <i>Janet Head</i> Scrabble <i>Jane Harris-Hall</i> Mah Jong <i>Ralph Edwards</i>
Week	Day	Morning	Afternoon
4	Mon	Coffee Morning <i>Richard Nevill</i>	Folk Music <i>Jean Simpson</i>
	Tue	Walking <i>Chrissie Kimber</i>	
	Wed		Knit & Stitch* <i>Brenda Tibbles</i>
	Thur	Cryptic Crosswords <i>John Harris-Hall</i>	
	Fri	Family History** <i>Marilyn Nevill</i>	

* Last Wednesday of the month

ad hoc: Theatre Group

** Last Friday of the month

News from the Groups

Art Appreciation

This month the Art Appreciation group held their Christmas Lunch at the Dales – nice food, good company.

It was also the last meeting of the Art Appreciation group.

This interest group started about 6 months after the establishment of the North Walsham u3a, and I have been the group leader since it started. It's been a really good group and I would like to thank all members for their support.

If anybody would like to take over the leadership of the group, that would be great.

Mave Edwards

Book Group

We had our last meeting of the year at the library. We discussed "The Marlow Murder Club" by Robert Thorogood. We all enjoyed the book and marked it seven and a half out of ten, a very respectable score! We felt the humour was engaging and also the characters, particularly the vicar's wife, who had a busy home life to juggle with her adventures. The author has written several books, including more in this series and also created the "Death in Paradise" series which was aired on television. "The Marlow Murder Club" was also serialised and several of us had seen this and thought it reflected the book well.

We have taken "39 Steps" , by John Buchan, home for Christmas in case we need a little "me" time after the festivities! We wish everyone at the u3a a very happy Christmas and health, happiness and peace for 2025.

Yvonne Dickinson

Coffee Mornings

Richard Neville is still holding coffee mornings on Zoom every Monday between 10 and 12. If you are interested in joining the fun, get in touch with Richard via the website.

Richard Nevill

Current Affairs

This month's discussion started with the refusal of the Government to pay compensation to the women who were affected by the raising of the state pension age.



Then we went on to inheritance tax, not just for farmers; then discussed the government's attitude to growth, the rules regarding the right to buy, and the parliamentary vote on electoral reform.

After a coffee break, we were all asked to state our predictions for 2025 which were:-

- Elon Musk would give a large amount of money to the Reform Party
- Donald Trump will reach a deal with Putin (over the head of Zelensky) giving the Donbas region to Russia
- Donald Trump will attempt to be made President for Life or make sure that one of his sons succeeded him

- At the local elections in May, Reform will do well in Labour areas, and the Lib Dems will do well in traditional Conservative areas
- The C of E will start to become disestablished

You heard it here first, so keep this newsletter to check whether we were right!

Ralph Edwards

Ten Pin Bowling



We had a good meeting with friendly competition, I think everybody managed a strike, some got a few. Stella kindly bought in mince pies and other goodies which were enjoyed. The next session will be in the New Year 9.1.25 at 10.00am; the list will be at the monthly meeting, or contact me on Email diane_mulligan@yahoo.co.uk
I wish you all a Happy Christmas and good health for 2025

Diane Mulligan

U3Sings



We all enjoyed our festive singing session in December. We sang two different versions of The Holly and the Ivy and In the Deep Mid Winter, Gaudete and Santa Lucia an Italian Folk Song. After a coffee/tea break with mince pies we sang O Little Town of Bethlehem, Joy to the World and We Wish you a Merry Christmas.

We are a friendly group who would love to welcome new members. Come and join us on the 9th January at 1.45pm at The Sacred Heart Church Room, North Walsham. The first session is free of charge.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Patsy Tomlinson and Margaret Jeppesen

January Walks 2024

Walking Group Coordinator

Chrissie Kimber at rebnikc@btinternet.com



Please note that the dates for walks in 2025 are on the North Walsham u3a website under the link for the walking group

Friday January 10th 10:00 am start approx. 3.6 miles

Leader Chrissie Kimber

This walk will start at Briggate car park on the Weavers way

Nearest postcode: NR28 9QX. what3words: gadgets.mentioned.uniform

Tuesday 28th January 9:30 am approx. 5.5 miles

Leader Maureen Cavanaugh

Ebridge Mill car park NR28 9QG

The walk includes a stop at the pop-up cafe approx. half way at Honing village hall Tea/Coffee and cake for £1. Cash only

Please note that January can be affected by the weather so if there are adverse weather conditions. Often an email will be sent out the day before a walk if the predicted weather is bad

If the weather on the day is too bad for a walk then an email will be sent out before 9am stating this (to those people who are on the walking group email list). If no email has been sent then and only then contact the walk leader directly to see if the walk is going ahead

Walking conditions can be muddy and the path sometimes flooded so you may wish to use a walking stick to aid stability and please wear appropriate boots.