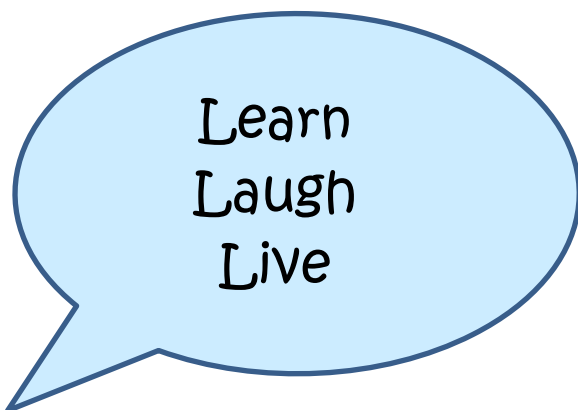


Hickling Broad u3a October 2024 Newsletter



Diary Dates: October 2024

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Tue 01 Oct | Croquet/Games |
| Wed 02 Oct | Walking |
| Wed 02 Oct | Bookworms |
| Thu 03 Oct | Creative Arts and Craft |
| Thu 03 Oct | Blurr on location |
| Mon 07 Oct | Country Dancing |
| Tues 08 Oct | Croquet/Games |
| Thu 10 Oct | Crib |
| Fri 11 Oct | Members Meeting |
| Mon 14 Oct | Country Dancing |
| Tue 15 Oct | Croquet/Games |
| Wed 16 Oct | Dining Club |
| Thu 17 Oct | Wildlife |
| Thu 17 Oct | British History |
| Mon 21 Oct | Blurr |
| Tue 22 Oct | Croquet/Games |
| Mon 28 Oct | Gourmet Diggers |
| Tue 29 Oct | Croquet/Games |
| Mon 04 Nov | Country Dancing |
| Tue 05 Nov | Croquet/Games |
| Wed 06 Nov | Walking |
| Wed 06 Nov | Bookworms |
| Thu 07 Nov | Creative Arts and Craft |
| Thur 07 Nov | Blurr on location |
| Please see Group reports below for details of meetings | |
| For sailing dates please see Sailing report | |



HBU3a Committee Monthly Update

At our next meeting at Hickling Barn (NR12 0YU) 2pm on Friday 11th of October, we will welcome Wally Webb who will present "Wally Webb - Forty Years of BBC Radio Norfolk"

This is an illustrated presentation showing what led up to a career in radio which focusses mainly on his forty years with BBC Radio Norfolk as a presenter and roving reporter. With many amusing stories and some that touch the heart, he describes how radio began to change and what led to his surprise retirement.

Wally was a founder member of the team that launched the first of a new wave of BBC local radio stations in 1980. Through his time there he presented a whole range of programmes and became involved with many activities including wrestling, banger racing and a re-enactment group. He was the main live reporter with the radio car at many incidents in Norfolk and the National Press asked "is Wally Webb the real Alan Partridge?" With a wealth of amusing anecdotes - in his time he met many famous personalities and listeners came from around the world to meet him.

At our September meeting Jane Brooker kindly presented her table quiz - to say we were both entertained and bamboozled is an understatement. A fabulous afternoon of quizzing, fun and laughter, followed by our usual home made tea and cakes. A huge thank you goes out to Jane for putting the quiz together, and to our stalwart tea and cakes team for another memorable u3a afternoon together.

By the time you read this we will have had the inaugural meeting of our IT learning group. If you were unable to attend, don't worry, we will update you with full details of the group and its monthly meeting slot once its all been set up.

News from our Interest Groups

Group Contact Co-ordinator

Helen Foster:



BLURR – The Photography Group: 3rd Monday (2:00-4:00pm) at Hickling Barn

Contact: hicklingu3aphotos@gmail.com

Long exposure and drag shots presented something for our fellow Bluristas to chew on.

On Thursday, the practical session at Cart Gap was well attended given the harsh conditions that met them. Despite frost bite and wet feet everyone had a go at trying to salvage a useful image. Mike had a better idea though, sitting in a warm gallery watching the world walk by!

A bit of a mixed bunch for next month. Autumn colours is the main theme but if the leaves don't turn colour in time the standby topic is black and white. Let's hope nobody mixes them up!



Country Dancing: 1st and 2nd Mondays (2:00 – 4:00 pm) in Hickling Barn

Dinah Slatter:

Please contact Dinah if you are interested in joining.

Bookworms – Reading Group: 1st Wednesday (2:00 – 4:00 pm) Hickling Barn

Kathy Cooper:

Bookworms meet up at Hickling Barn on the first Wednesday of the month 2-4pm. Members choose their own book from the list supplied by the library and the member who chooses the book to be discussed that month will lead the meeting.

We took a break for August and resumed on 4 September when we discussed Jeanne's book choice, 'Lady in Waiting' by Lady Anne Glenconner. This is Jeanne's review:

"'Lady in Waiting' by Lady Anne Tennant, Dowager Baroness Glenconner is the daughter of the 5th Earl of Leicester. The book is largely about her time as a member of the royal household. She was a Maid of Honour at the Coronation of Elizabeth II. She later became Lady in Waiting to Princess Margaret from 1971 until 2002. In 1956 she married The Hon Colin Tennant, son of the 2nd Baron Glenconner which was the start of her extraordinary life.

After being asked to relive her memories for the 3rd series of "The Crown" she was persuaded to write this book. It is not the best literary piece we have read, having been written almost in the form of a diary.

Growing up she lived at Holkham Hall with no heating, freezing conditions at boarding school and a cruel governess. Many other extremes followed, mainly as a result of marrying Colin Tennant whose personality was complex and irrational.

She spent long periods apart from her children and when her twins were just 12 months old she accepted the position of Lady in Waiting to Princess Margaret. More extremes are documented between her life of royal duties and the tragedies she endured regarding her children. She soon decided to be a parent first and wife second.

I felt she has written with honesty whilst protecting others she could have named. Overall, the group enjoyed this book which created a good discussion. Collectively, we gave it 8/10. Next month we will be discussing 'One Day' by David Nicholls which is Katy's choice. Please contact me if you are interested in joining our group.

British History

Steve Whitby:

Unfortunately our September meeting had to be cancelled but we will be back at the Barn on Thursday 17th October at 2 p.m. when Steve will present "Unusual Taxes" - you will probably know one or two of them but there are plenty of more obscure ones throughout the years.. All are welcome.

Crib: 2nd Thursday, Hickling Barn (2:00 – 4:00 pm)

Roy Smith:

Crib meet second Thursday of the month at the Barn 2-4 pm. All welcome. Tuition given.

Contact Roy at roysidmith@yahoo.co.uk Beginners welcome.

Creative Arts and Crafts: 1st Thursday (2:00 – 4:00 pm)

Rose Pigula:

We are a small, friendly group who enjoy a range of different art and crafts. If you would like to join us just contact Rose on the above email.

Croquet/Games Group

Diana or Keith

We were pleased to see that summer had returned but unfortunately not for every Tuesday! Two out of the four were affected. One was a complete washout and we all played games in the Barn. But on the other morning, when it was drizzling initially, four intrepid members enjoyed three games which were played very competitively but with lots of laughter! The remaining members stayed dry and played games. We have a few more weeks for the Croquet season and are hoping that the weather will be kind. If you would like to join us, please contact

keith_burton@hotmail.com or dianafossett1@gmail.com

Discovering the Broads/Norwich

Chris Foster:

The idea is, to once a month, meet up in Norwich and discover some of the amazing history of the city. Some of the visits will be self guided but some we will have a professional guide. To get us started we are going to enjoy a professionally guided walk (90 minutes) by Paul Dickson titled "Medieval Norwich" on Friday October the 4th 2024. The starting point is at Erpingham Gate, 10 Tombland. If this trip proves successful, we may try other similar explorations of Norwich during the 'winter season'.



Gourmet Diggers: 4th Monday (2:00-4:00 pm) at Hickling Barn

Jane Brooker: Kate Fletcher:

Autumn has arrived with lots of gardening jobs to be tackled in the garden this month. We all talked about the ways in which we approached the tasks. Some of us cut down everything, some of us leave the seed heads on for the frosty displays. By the time we had plodded out way through the work to be done we were all exhausted, even though we had just sat and talked about it all.

We finished with "how gardening has evolved through the years". The advancement of the lawnmowers, opening of garden centres, buying on line, etc, etc.

This month we arrived at the letter P for our cooking through the alphabet and our Molly provided what you could only do with the letter P. She gave us a Picnic. We had sausage rolls, cheese scones, mini quiches, fruit bread slice, chocolate cake and chocolate mousse. On a Monday afternoon what more could you ask for. Thank you Molly.



Dining Club: 3rd Wednesday (various locations)

Diana Fossett:

Our venue for the September lunch was the Vernon Arms, Southrepps; a traditional country pub converted from 3 cottages in the late 1800's which over the years has been developed, extended and refurbished. There were 18 of us seated on two tables in a separate room which was possibly too small as with all the chatting, we created our own 'noise'! There was quite a variation in the members' views of the pub but all seemed to enjoy themselves

The next venue is on Wednesday 16th October at The Swan Horning NR12 8AA. Meeting at 12.45 for 1 pm For more information or if you would like to join us, please contact me - dianafossett1@gmail.com-

Sailing: Every Tuesday and Friday

John Stacey: hbu3asailing@gmail.com

Voices of Hickling

Steve Whitby:

No meetings are currently planned.

Walking: 1st Wednesday (usually 10:00 am) Various locations

Roy Smith:

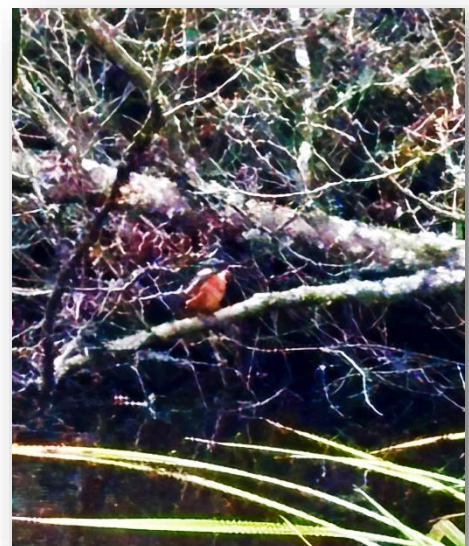
The September walk took our group along the river by Martham boat yard. As you can see, the sun shone for us all. If you would like to join our group contact Roy on the email above.



Wildlife Group: 3rd Thursday (10:00 am) Various locations

Chris Foster:

A small group of us met at Malthouse Broad this month on a crisp morning. Ducks and Egyptian Geese amused us on the grass in front of the motor cruisers before we headed to the boardwalk leading to the NWT Ranworth visitor centre. We were accompanied through the atmospheric woodland wet carr and reedbeds by the Cettis Warbler, although hard to spot, along with Chaffinch, Wren, Chiffchaff, Robin, Long tailed tit and Jay. Time was spent in the upper viewing area of the visitor centre watching Cormorants, Mallards, Great Crested Grebe in non breeding plumage and a Heron on the Broad. On our way back we stopped again at the Kingfisher hide, where after a short wait the Kingfisher appeared. It entertained us for what felt like 10 minutes, moving between perches with charm and beauty while the Mallards went about their business on the water. Lunch was enjoyed after at the Granary Cafe.



Members Corner

Do you have something of interest to our members? A local event perhaps. Space permitting I will post it here in the next newsletter. Please send your entry to the email address below.

What's on at our next meetings:

October 11th

“Wally Webb - Forty Years of BBC Radio Norfolk”

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With a wealth of amusing anecdotes - in his time he met many famous personalities and listeners came from around the world to meet him.

November 8th

Norfolk Wildlife Trust - A Hickling Update

Andrew Pettit from Norfolk Wildlife Trust will come to give us an update on progress for their plan and vision for Hickling Broad. This will be a unique opportunity to hear about how our local nature reserve is developing and thriving under the custodianship of the Trust

December 13th

Greg Powles Christmas Show

Get ready to party and prepare yourself for fun and bedazzlement as professional performer and entertainer Greg Powles comes along with his Christmas Show to kick off the festive season. As is customary at our December meeting, everyone is welcome to bring along some snacks or nibbles to share if they wish.

January 10th

Hickling Mills and Drainage Systems

In a further part of our exploration of local history. Maggie Prettyman will present an account of our local mills and drainage system. Without these structures the land could not have been drained and Hickling would have been a very different place - or maybe not here at all! Stories of storms and smuggling as well as some unseen family photographs of the restoration of Hickling Tower Mill will make this an afternoon of unique insights into our local landscape.

All items for the newsletter should be sent to hbu3anews@gmail.com