

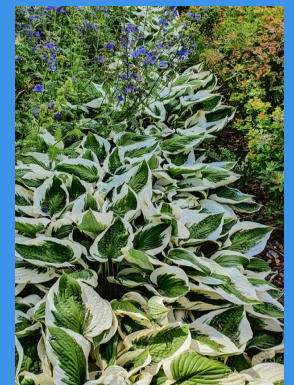
GARDENS OF CONTRAST – more information inside.



BREEZY KNEES



THORNTON HALL



Our New Committee

Chair	Diana Clark
Secretary	Sandra Cullen
Treasurer	Keith Allison
Vice Chair & Membership Secretary	Jim Redden
Assistant Treasurer & Groups' Co-ordinator	Anne Moffatt
Newsletter & Website Editor	Linda Carr
Welfare Secretary	Joan Morgan
Assistant Welfare Secretary	Hazel Cappellar
Speaker Secretary	David James Taylor
Monthly Meeting Greeter	Jeni Anderson

There is still a vacancy for role of Minutes Secretary. We urgently need a volunteer for this role, which does not have to be filled by a committee member, although it clearly it does require attendance at committee meetings. These are currently held monthly by zoom on the last Friday at 9:30 a.m..

A NEW YEAR

As you see, I have taken on the role of Chair and I am very disappointed not to be able to be with you at this month's meeting. In his role as Deputy Chair, Jim Redden will be standing in for me to-day. Thank you Jim.

I am confident that we have a strong committee, who will work together to ensure we have an interesting and lively year ahead. I would like to say a big thank you to Keith Allison, on everyone's behalf, for being Chairman over the last four years. He had to grasp the helm and steer us through the stormy seas of lockdown. Keith sorted ways to keep members in contact, through Zoom and by the committee making personal phone calls to members. Now it is so good to be able to meet again. I would also like to say thank you to Kathleen Allison, who has done a great job for a full nine years as our Minutes Secretary, she is a huge miss. Thank you also to other retiring committee members; Ken Talbot, who at different times, has carried out the roles of Speaker Secretary and Treasurer, Pat Madden, the retiring Speaker Secretary, Tom Madden and Lynda Tremeer who has been Secretary. Thanks also to all the committee members who are continuing to work hard in the same roles or take on new positions. I'd also like to welcome new committee members.

Recently several members have enjoyed visits to lovely gardens and we have had a day trip to Piece Hall and Saltaire. The Walkers and Strollers are enjoying the great outdoors and Croquet is about to start again this month. So there have been lots of outdoor activities, but additionally a new Craft Group has started, currently having a two month summer break and recommencing in September. Whist and dominoes are also due to start again in September.

What other groups could we have? A principle of the u3a is: "Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire: by members, for the members." ***You do not have to be on the committee to start a group or contribute to our u3a in any way, such as planning an event.*** Speak to one of the committee about your ideas and interests. For our u3a to thrive we need your input, let's work together to enjoy the year ahead.

Diana

QUIZ answers

1 MOUSE 2 ELEPHANT 3 RABBIT 4 LYNX 5 OUNC 6 HORSE 7 FAWN 8 REINDEER 9 CAMEL 10 MULE 11 SEAL 12 MONKEY

Croquet – Last year several of us greatly enjoyed our croquet sessions at Boldon Croquet Club. Anne Thomley has once again organised three Tuesday afternoon sessions for us, 26th July, 30th August and 13th September. The cost will be £5 per session to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Please sign up at the back of the hall if you would like to be included and haven't already signed up.

Craft club – is taking a summer break. Next meeting September 21st. *Jeni*

Quiz – is cancelled for July – *Shirley*

Holiday Group – is cancelled for July – *Anne*

GARDENS OF CONTRAST (photos on the front page) – Two excellent day trips to visit gardens this month, one to Breezy Knees near York, and the other Thornton Hall near Darlington. Thornton Hall came first and we car-shared down in three cars. It was a beautiful day and the gardens were glorious. Whilst it is not a huge garden we had no problem spending a couple of hours there. The colours are astounding, beautifully sculptured beds, all filled with flowers in full colour. A lovely lake, seats carefully positioned to give the best possible views of the garden. If you would like to visit it's about 40 minutes drive but is only open Wednesdays until the 22nd July. No need to book.

Breezy Knees couldn't be more different. We went on a JH Coaches day trip and stopped for a couple of hours in Thirsk before going to the garden for 2:00. This covers 20 acres it is one of the largest gardens in the North of England and has over 7,000 different varieties of plant. There was much more greenery here and the gardens are landscaped into very different areas with plants to mature in different seasons. Each separate area had it's own theme. It is a garden where there will always be plants for the current season whenever you visit.

Strollers

After last month's meeting and lunch at K9, 14 Strollers walked to Washington Art's Centre, some included a section of Princess Anne Park. The following week, 13 of us met at the Victoria Inn and walked, via Brady Square and along a pathway near Teal Farm, to Cox Green, where we took refreshments at The New Plough. Then it was a stroll back along the river to Fatfield and return by bus.



Refreshment at the Arts Centre



On route to Cox Green



South Shields

On the last stroll of the month we visited 'The land of Oak and Iron, in the Derwent valley—about 25 minutes from St. Andrews by car. After refreshment at the café we walked along well-defined paths, stopping to look at 'The Butterfly Bridge', the remains of the dam created for the former iron works, and the views from the viaduct. The weather was nice and it's a lovely place to walk. We returned along the Derwent Walk taking some fairly steep steps back down to the Butterfly Bridge, and then returned to the Centre.

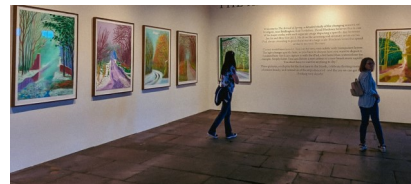


Trip to Piece Hall and Saltaire

For this trip we had a full coach for our U3A and after a journey of about two hours we arrived at Piece Hall near Halifax, the only survivor of the 18th Century Northern cloth halls, built for the trading of 'pieces of cloth'. Now these spaces have been turned into a host of small shops selling many wares (but not cloths!). After a relaxing snack we wandered around the shops but were a little disappointed that the view of the building was spoiled by the preparations for a forthcoming event in the otherwise splendid central area.



After this off to Saltaire where we were able to wander round the Salt Mill, including Hockney Galleries, a very impressive antiques area, cafe etc.. Saltaire is on the Unesco World Heritage List for its international influence on town planning. We were able to wander round the 19th century town seeing how the people lived there and also enjoy the attractive riverside with refreshment at the pub if you wished. There was a touch of drama at the end when one of our party realised they had lost a backpack and camera. Fortunately this was recovered from the pub where it had been accidentally left!



Walking Group



6 of us set off on the walk, catching the 50 bus to Waldrige Park and walking through the woods to the Congburn Garden Centre and café at Edmondsley for the usual refreshments and a visit to the rather unusual gift shop. We then retraced our way back to Waldrige Park for the bus home. The weather was better than forecast making it a most enjoyable walk, if not challenging at times. **Ken and Shirley**
(There was some discussion as to what the rather strange plant was – apparently it is “spent rapeseed” – if you’ve any other suggestions let us know.)



Quiz – All answers are animals

1. COMPUTER ACCESSORY
2. CAN PACK A TRUNK
3. BEATRIX POTTER'S PETER
4. THEY FORM A CHAIN
5. ONE SIXTEENTH OF A POUND
6. HUSKY VOICE
7. LIGHT BROWN
8. EXPENSIVE BRIDLE STRAP
9. LESS OF KING ARTHUR'S COURT VENUE
10. ARTICLE OF FOOTWEAR
11. FASTEN AND WATER TIGHT
12. A KIND OF WRENCH OR NUT

Catch-up on current activities.

Monthly Meeting: At St. Andrews, 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am for 10:15 start.

Walking Group – walk once a month on the last Wednesday, distance about 5 miles. Meet at 10:00 in St Andrews car park

Strolling group – Meets weekly usually at St. Andrews at 12:00 on Tuesday. Contact:

Photography Group – First Thursday of the month at the Millenium Centre. Meets 10:00 am unless going out on a photo-shoot.

Holiday Group – Meets monthly at Woodridge Gardens at 10:30 am last Thursday of the month. Contact **Quiz** – 2nd Thursday of the month 2–4 pm in the Millenium Centre. Contact **Craft Group** – Next meeting Sep 21st

Return of Dominoes and Whist. This will return as soon as there is an indication of demand.