

u3a Sutton Bridge
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This Photo was taken by Terry Derbyson in October of the sunrise over Holbeach. Terry is a member of the u3a photographic group.

From the Chair

Dear Members,
Our u3a Christmas Social is fast approaching on **Tuesday 1st December 2026** at The Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge.

Tickets are still available, so if you haven't booked yours yet, please see the poster on the next page for details on how to secure your place!

Dietary Requirements
If you have already purchased your ticket, please let us know as soon as possible if you or your guests have any specific dietary needs or allergies (by the 20th November 2026)

Please pass these details directly to Glynis, Kim or myself at our next General Meeting on **Tuesday 3rd November 2026** at St Mary's Church Hall. If you are unable to attend please email one of us via u3a Sutton Bridge website https://suttonbridge.u3asite.uk/

We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the festive season together!
Warm regards,

Suzanne
Chair, u3a Sutton Bridge

A Grand Afternoon Out

The Yuletide Glitz & Glamour Social!

We are absolutely delighted to invite you to our premier social event of the winter season! On **Tuesday, 1st December 2026**, Sutton Bridge u3a is kicking off the festive month in true style with a sparkling afternoon soirée. Come and join us for a delightful few hours of wonderful music, fabulous food, and great company.

Whether you want to dress up to the nines, hit the dance floor, or simply sit back, socialise, and enjoy a glass of wine (non-alcoholic available), this afternoon is all about enjoying the finer things in life.

What's in store for you?

Music from Every Era: Our playlist spans all genres. Expect to hear your favourite timeless tracks, classic dance floor melodies, and nostalgic hits that will have you tapping your toes.

Table-Top Dining: No standing in queues! Every table will have a delicious selection of both savoury and sweet platters for you to enjoy at your leisure throughout the afternoon.

Wine & Refreshments: You can choose from sparkling red / white wines, non-alcoholic white wine, fruit juice, or tea/coffee if preferred.

Dress Code: A touch of glitz and glamour is highly encouraged (but not essential)! Dust off your sparkles, smart outfits, or favourite party wear to match the festive mood

Event Details:

When: Tuesday, 1st December 2026

Time: 1:30 pm until 3.30pm

Venue: The Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge

Tickets: Members: £5.00 (Includes all table food and refreshments)

Non-Members: £10.00 (Partners/Guests of members only)

How to book:
Tickets will be available to purchase at our next monthly meeting on Tuesday 3rd November, or you can secure your place today by contacting Membership Secretary, Jim Stalley on 01406 350526

Come along and sparkle with us for a spectacular afternoon. We can't wait to see you there!

Dates for your Diary

Meetings start at 2pm and doors open at 1.30pm.

1st December 2026
2:00 pm **Christmas Social**
Venue: The Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge

5th January 2027
2:00 pm Monthly General Meeting
Speaker: Emma Paddock, Age UK - What It Is!
Venue: St Mary's Church Hall, Long Sutton

2nd February 2027
2:00 pm Monthly General Meeting
Speaker: Sophie Hannah-Jones, The Official Author of the New Hercules Poirot Novels
Venue: The Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge

2nd March 2027
2:00 pm Monthly General Meeting
Speaker: Graham Simpson, Lincolnshire County Council – Roads Division
Venue: St Mary's Church Hall, Long Sutton

Please let me know if there are any issues with the attachments as I know that they can sometimes be tricky.

Member Suggestion and Committee Response (6th October 2026)

Q1. **Tea on arrival please**
Response: Thank you so much for your suggestion about serving tea on arrival. The committee did look into this, but because our General Meetings must start promptly at 2:00pm, a 1:30pm arrival drink would cut it too close. It would unfortunately lead to a rush of orders right before the prompt start, and would require our volunteers to miss the guest speaker to wash up.

Q2. **Why No Proxy Votes?**
Response: Unfortunately this is something we will not be able to offer and is not recommended by u3a National Office as it is complicated and would involve changes to the Constitution.

The photographic group

On the 29th October the Photo Group had a very pleasant trip to Anglesey Abbey, Gardens and Lode Mill near Cambridge.
The day started very misty but shortly after passing Ely the sun broke through and upon arrival we had glorious sun and warm weather throughout our visit.
Whilst somewhat disappointing that parts of the house were off limits due to ongoing restoration works the group enjoyed a tour of areas of the ground floor followed by a stroll to Lode Mill, a water powered mill still in operation although sadly not on our visit. Walking through the Dahlia Garden and along the river the glorious weather provided ample opportunity for a good selection of images to be taken.
After lunch the group enjoyed a walk through the various gardens and grounds, taking numerous photos of the roses and sculptures therein.
Although a full day an enjoyable time was had by all and we look forward to our next trip to Walsingham"

















A message from Katie Hunt, the RNLI presenter at our general meeting held on the 6th October at the Curlew Centre
Thank you so much for the welcome at Sutton Bridge U3A today. I really enjoyed my visit.

I just want to say a huge thank you to the group and to the members for their very generous donation today. I have just counted it up and the total was £150.49. (Your Treasurer was spot on!) This will be used to support the work of the Lifeboats around the country. I am attaching our official Thank You Certificate. It was a pleasure to meet you all and I wish you well in the future.

Best wishes Katie Hunt



The Lunch group

This month we enjoyed returning to The Horse and Groom in Holbeach. Once again we were unanimous with our praise of our meals. We had quite a wait this time to be served but it was worth it and gave us a chance to catch up. We will make sure we return next year.



As requested by some members, all wine tasting reports are cut back on technical information. The group participants still recieve all the required tasting data, however, if you are interested and need more details, this can be providied by the group leaders.

Swig 2, September and october meetings

The September meeting took place at the home of Roger and Ingrid Jenning's. The October meeting was held at Tony and Wendy Dyer's house and featured *Côtes du Rhône* wine.







Swig 1 Wine tasting eveing was held in Paul Reeve's cabin on the 9th of October. The wine selection came from Aldis seasonal special selection.





Wine Appreciation Group Meeting (WAG)
5th October 2026 Hosted by Jim and Glynis at their home. Eight of us met and tasted Jim and Glynis's selection of five Wines. Themed Animal Labels.




Our next tasting will be on Monday 2nd of November when I will be hosting at my home.
Jim Stalley October 2026

Supper sharing group, October

Leader: Dianne Overend
We always say that this is not Masterchef, but some months the bar does get raised rather high!
This month Nanette was our host and we were greeted by the delightful smells of her tasty chicken curry. Paul's imaginative trio of gluten free starters tasted as good as it looked. Top marks for presentation. Sheila's take on Black Forest Gateau trifle was a great hit with the chocolate lovers. Richard and I thought it would be a good opportunity to sample wines from Shearers Butchers, which turned out to be as good as you'd expect from that establishment. Our next meeting will be on 3rd November





The Garden visiting group.

Members of the garden group joined a national trust visit to Felbrigg Hall near Cromer. The coach trip and enterance fee was very resonably priced. The picture below was taken in the the house Kitchen. All the produce in the photo came from the Hall's walled garden.



The Local history group.

A couple of months ago the History group received a presentation from the Spalding gentleman's society. The presenter gave us the following information which is open to all members should the wish to attend any of the lectures. Please note the £5 fee per person.

All lectures are held in Spalding's Broad Street Methodist Church at 7.30pm

Lectures 2026/27

Pay on the door. £5 admission
Free entry for full-time students

25th Sept - The Tavern Cook
In 1788, Richard Briggs, sometime cook at the Globe Tavern, Fleet Street in London, published his cookery book. Hear research about the man, the cook, and the taverns of London.
Speaker: Marc Meltonville, food and drink historian.

16th Oct - Science, Solutions and Schools
Discover how national education policy has changed to reflect young people's desire to learn more about climate change. See how a future with universal climate education provision might look.
Speaker: Andrew Charlton-Perez, Professor of Meteorology at the University of Reading.

30th Oct - The Archaeology of Ancaster
Explore an overview of the archaeology of Ancaster, in Lincolnshire, with an emphasis on the Romano-British period.
Speaker: Richard Tyndall, FARI Archaeology.

13th Nov - The Mystery of the Magna Carta
Learn about the discovery of new original Magna Cartas, which had previously been overlooked. Hear why some stories get star billing, while others attract less notice.
Speaker: Nicholas Vincent, Professor of Medieval History at the University of East Anglia.

27th Nov - Cromwell's First Campaign
In 1642, the Civil Wars erupted, and Cambridgeshire MP Oliver Cromwell found himself a junior cavalry officer. How did a man with no military experience become one of the greatest soldiers of his time?
Speaker: Stuart Orme, The Cromwell Museum.

11th Dec - Archaeology and the Origins of Music
This illustrated lecture will celebrate some of the highlights from archaeology's long engagement with music, supported by colour images and musical examples played on replicas and reconstructions.
Speaker: Dr Graeme Lawson, Member of SGS.

15th Jan - Out of the Cabinet, Onto the Bench
Hear more about the ongoing conservation of SGS's unique collection of artefacts. Find out about the processes preserving them for future generations.
Speaker: Mary Evans, Conservator at Cracks in Time Conservation.

29th Jan - The Secrets of Britain's Ancient Buildings
Find out how ancient buildings have been studied and conserved, the puzzling ways some became listed while others were overlooked, and how we can really understand the age and development of a structure.
Speaker: James Wright, Buildings Archaeologist at Triskele Heritage.

12th Feb - Lords in the Landscape
Discover insights from the Goxhill Leiger Book, an overlooked collection of charters and documents about the thriving east coast of Lincolnshire in the 12th to the 14th centuries.
Speaker: Philippa Hoskin, University of Cambridge.

26th Feb - St Guthlac of Peterborough... and NOT of Crowland
This lecture proposes that the early monastery at Medeshamstede (later Peterborough) was the sponsor and supporter of the hermit saint, Guthlac, on the fenland island of Crowland.
Speakers: Professor David Stocker and Professor Paul Everson.

12th Mar - Bernard Samuel Gilbert (1882-1927)
Author Bernard Samuel Gilbert's writings largely disappeared into obscurity. His rediscovered works provide a unique account of the Lincolnshire Fens.
Speaker: Professor Andrew Jackson, Lincoln Bishop University.

26th Mar - Wings of Survival
Hear more about protecting endangered birds of prey. You may even have the chance to meet some.
Speaker: Mark Birdsall, Baytree Owl and Raptor Centre.

Our Museum, the Grade II listed building on Broad Street, was constructed in 1911 to house the Society's collections. It is currently closed for refurbishment. Visitors can still see our exhibitions and join our wide range of events.

Current Exhibitions:
Until March 2027
At Ayscoughfee Hall Museum, find out about the early experiments and discoveries that helped shape our understanding of science and nature.

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SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL
Story Tellers

From Joan Ansell

We are putting together a community speed watch group in Sutton Bridge and need a few local people to get involved. It’s nothing complicated, you don’t need experience and training will be provided.

If you have some spare time and would like to help encourage drivers to slow down through the village then contact

E-mail; clerk@suttonbridge-pc.gov.uk or telephone 01406350802

Everyone says 'they' should do something. There was recently a fatality of a U3A member; although not caused by speeding; it does highlight that there are vulnerable people everywhere.

I say thank you in advance, but understand if it is a Sutton bridge too far.