

**Committee Members**

Chairman - David Gilbert-Hill  
Secretary - Glyn Stokes  
Treasurer - Hazel McDowell  
Membership - Bruce McDowell  
Groups - Maureen Fletcher  
Speakers - Liz Elmore  
Catering - Ann Reynolds

**LIVE**  
**LAUGH**  
**LEARN**  
**(TOGETHER)**

**Ramsey U3A Officers**

Welfare Officer - Fran Holland  
Catering Assistant - Henry Shaw

**Publicity Officers**

Enid Hubbard: Aspire  
publicity@ramseyu3a.org.uk  
Jane Cusworth: Newsletter  
jcusworth@btinternet.com  
Sheila Gilbert-Hill: Website  
www.ramseyu3a.org.uk

**Please note there is no meeting in August**

**At the next General Meeting on Tuesday 13th September Roy Smart will talk to us on 'Wallis Simpson and the abdication crisis' 1936—Three Kings in One year**

**A Splendid Day Out**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> a motley party of u3a members climbed aboard the trusty Dews coach and made their way to Hampton Court Palace. We split into friendly groups and whilst some looked at the magnificent gardens others made straight for the café for refreshment.



Hampton Court was built by Thomas Cromwell and gifted to Henry VIII who made it a palace for Anne Boleyn and himself to live in. The building has undergone many changes through the years and half was pulled down and rebuilt by the Georgians.



In the outer court is the clock court where the magnificent wall clock is a wonder to behold. Over 500 years old it glistens with gold and lapis lazuli. Restored several times it is still painted exactly as it had been all those years ago.

We saw the kitchens, then into the palace itself. Each room more opulent than the one before and both the Grand Hall and the Chapel Royal outshine the rest of the building.



The ceiling of the Chapel Royal glows with gold and rich red paint fittings for where Henry worshipped daily. We did note that the Queen's rooms were far smaller than the King's rooms but I am sure this was an oversight.

Outside a meadow of flowers was humming with the sound of nectar drinking and pollen gathering bees and the gardens were a joy to behold. Sadly no time to get lost in the famous Hampton Court Maze — perhaps another time?

Back on the air-conditioned coach, time for a Terry Quiz and sweeties, and our return to Ramsey, tired and contented.



## General Meeting—Tuesday 12th July

Our July general meeting was opened by our Vice Chairman, Bruce McDowell, as our Chairman, Dave Gilbert-Hill, was still recovering from Covid. Bruce welcomed everyone on such a hot day and reminded us that the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Timeline, put together by Glyn Stokes, had again been erected in the foyer for members to look at. Our thanks to Glyn and Enid for such a wonderful piece of work.

Maureen advised members which activity groups would be meeting in August and she was also pleased to report that the walking group were having another meeting to try and revive it.

Bruce then handed over to Jane to update on travel. See travel article.

Sheila Ritchie was invited to put out an invitation for the Thespians who still required more members for the Christmas production.

It was then time to introduce our speaker, Amanda Bakewell from Recoup, talking about rubbish. It was interesting to hear about the journey of our plastic containers from purchase to recycling. Give containers a quick rinse, they don't need to be squeaky clean. Roll cling film together until the size of a tennis ball before recycling. Amanda thanked everyone for the lovely challenging questions that were put forward. She hoped the group will all Pledge to Recycle Plastics and remember to empty, squash and put the tops on all their bottles. If anyone has more questions about plastic recycling, feel free to message the Recoup team via [www.pledge2recycle.co.uk](http://www.pledge2recycle.co.uk) and they will answer back to you.

## ACTIVITY GROUP NEWS

Family History will be amalgamating both sub-groups from September and meeting on the second Monday of each month in the Community Centre.

## TRAVEL NEWS

A day trip has been arranged on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October to Burghley House and Garden**. The price will be £38 per person to include coach and admission to the house. Please let Jane know if you would like to put your name down on the sign-up sheet as soon as possible. Payment will be required at the September meeting. [jcusworth@btinternet.com](mailto:jcusworth@btinternet.com) or telephone **01487 814984**.

**Thursford Trip - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** – organised by Dews Coaches – this is now fully subscribed. I have a waiting list in case we have a cancellation at the last minute. Dews will advise when they require payment (probably October) and Jane will send out an email with full details.

Our holiday to **North Wales and Portmerion** at the end of September is almost full. Please note that our travel agents, Greatdays, have changed our hotel as feedback from the initial hotel had not been good. We are still on the promenade at Llandudno.

**For more information, visit our website: [www.ramseyu3a.org.uk](http://www.ramseyu3a.org.uk)**

## JOKES

Did you hear about the thief who stole a calendar? He got twelve months.

I woke up this morning and forgot which side the sun rises, then it dawned on me.

I ate a clock this morning, it was very time consuming.

The best thing about good old days is that we were neither good nor old.

A fire hydrant has H2O on the inside and K9P on the outside.

Editors Jane Cusworth and Enid Hubbard with Jokes submitted by Mike Lewis