



ISSUE NO. 251

Days out

I have booked a trip to Burghley House Christmas Fair for Thursday November 23rd. There will be 150 stalls and three covered spaces: the Orangery, Marquee and Brewhouse Pavilion. We shall stop in Stamford before we arrive at Burghley House to browse and have lunch although there will also be food available at the Christmas Fair. The House will not be open at this time.

We shall leave from outside the Wycliffe Rooms at 10 am and arrive back in Lutterworth between 7 and 7.30 pm. The cost to include the coach and entry to the Christmas Fair will be £25. Linda

Don't forget that we are **"going to the dogs"** on Monday November 20th leaving from outside the Wycliffe Rooms at 4.30 pm. The cost of this trip to include the coach, entry and a three-course meal will be £35. Linda

NHS Consultation

Don't forget that you now have the opportunity to tell the NHS what you think about the proposals for Feilding Palmer Hospital at <u>www.haveyoursaylutterworth.co.uk</u>

If you would prefer not to complete the form online you can go to one of the Open Days at Lutterworth Library on Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm except 9th November, 28th December or 4th January or at the Wycliffe Rooms on 7th December from 10 am to 2 pm where there will be someone on hand to help you. Linda

A date for your diaries:

I have booked our Anniversary lunch for Wednesday March 13th at the Wycliffe Rooms. We shall be entertained by a trio, Los Amigos, which consists of a classical guitar, clarinet and percussion which will take us on a foot-tapping, scintillating and enlightening musical journey through the music of South America. Music will include dances such as the Tango, Rumba, Mambo and Samba and we shall experience live performances of many rhythmic and engaging dance styles with the story behind these dances explained with many humorous anecdotes. If you know how to do any of the dances, you can dance along. We shall have a three-course meal and this should be an enjoyable event. Linda

Brian Fowler



Brian Fowler pictured "Passing time" on his way down from the top of Derby Cathedral on October 7th extends thanks to all who sponsored this challenge enabling him to pass more than £600 to Rainbows Hospice for children and young people. **Pauline**

U3A Holiday 2024

The holiday will take place from 13th to 17th May 2024 inclusive. We shall be based in a very nice hotel just two miles from Chester's City centre with a swimming pool and gym. We shall have breakfast there and a three-course meal with three choices for each course. On the way to Chester, we shall visit Trentham Gardens, on Tuesday we shall go to The Albert Dock at Liverpool where we have a booked time to go into the Slavery Museum and booked tickets for the Beatles Story. There are lots of things to do at Albert Dock so you can choose one or two of these rather than the Slavery Museum if you prefer. Afterwards we shall go to Port Sunlight where we shall a guided coach trip and then a chance to explore the museum, an Edwardian Worker's cottage, the Soap works and more.

On Wednesday we shall travel to Llangollen via the Horseshoe Pass where we shall take a boat trip over the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct during which we shall have afternoon tea served. This may be a more relaxing day leaving some time to enjoy the hotel's facilities or visit Chester.

On Thursday we shall visit Salford Quays where we can visit the Lowry Museum and/or the Imperial War Museum and have lunch before we visit RHS Bridgewater.

On Friday, after checking out of the hotel, we shall have time to visit Chester before we set off to Stoke on Trent for a guided tour of the World of Wedgwood where we shall see the famous Jasperware being cast, glazed, decorated and gilded and a museum of some of Wedgwood's famous pieces before we return to Lutterworth.

I shall have brochures and booking forms at the November meeting. Linda

INTEREST GROUPS AND EVENT REPORTS

Always check online for possible timing variations. Check with the group leader if you are not sure. A number of groups have room for more members. If you wish to join any of them, please contact the Group Coordinator

Table Games – Co-ordinator Linda Patton

We meet at 2pm on the third Monday of each month in the Wellbeing Hub in the Leisure Centre. All are welcome Linda

Music for Fun – Ukulele – Co-ordinators – Barbara Wilkinson and Peter Sneath

We meet at 10.00 in Bitteswell Village Hall on 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. We are currently full but if anyone wishes to join us in the future, please contact us and we will start a waiting list. **Barbara**

Table Tennis – Co-ordinator Carole Harrington

We meet every Monday (except Bank Holidays) together with Wycliffe U3A from 2pm to 4pm at Walcote Village Hall. This group is not accepting new members at present. **Carole**

Buffet Supper Group 1 – Co-ordinator Gwenda Jones

Shaun and Linda Griffin hosted their first supper in October and certainly passed first class. There were eleven guests and as usual the food was excellent with very yummy desserts. We had some dingbats to solve whilst we were sitting with our drinks after the meal and then some extremely funny stories from a couple of the 'wits' who like to entertain.

It was an excellent evening; our hosts were well prepared and looked after their guests excellently. **Gwenda**

Buffet Supper Group 2 – Co-ordinator Gwenda Jones

As the second Buffet Group was a select trio, we decided to abandon the usual protocol and dined in courtesy of M &S. We enjoyed the meal and had a very enjoyable evening. Alan Shean

Reading Group - Co-ordinator Joyce Cairney

At our October meeting we discussed "The Gathering" by Anne Enright. This book created the longest discussion in a while. It was based on the story of an Irish Catholic family of nine and traces the aftermath of a tragedy which claimed the life of a family member. We found it was pointlessly disjointed and although it got slightly better towards its ending, we felt that the main character was actually a very lucky woman in many ways in her own life, marriage etc, but could not cope with her own parents and siblings and their problems. This made for unpleasant reading with far too much irrelevant/unnecessary sexual description. The overall view seemed to be that it was a confusing book on a very unpleasant area of life and nearly all disliked the book intensely and would not recommend it.

We will hope to be better satisfied with our next read to be discussed in November which is "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver. Our Read to be discussed in December will be "Marriage Portrait" by Maggie O'Farrell and finally as a lighter read over Christmas we will be reading "Spies" by Michael Frayn to be discussed in January. **Joyce Cairney**

History Group – Co-ordinator Linda Patton

Tony Bailey gave a very interesting talk at our History Group meeting in October. His talk was "Civil Defence in Lutterworth during WWII" and we had a good turnout who appreciated the talk and also the chance to tell us about their wartime experiences.

Next month we shall continue with our study of the reign of George VI before we return to the distant past to look at the social history of Britain from feudal times. **Linda**

Music and Memories Group 1 – Co-ordinator Gwenda Jones

We were once again a few members short due to other commitments but that always means we have more chances of having our own favourites played. We had one or two hiccups with the equipment and I think that I as host, was almost declared redundant by some of the members. We managed to sort it out and had the usual good and varied selection along with many memories.

The next meeting on Tuesday 7th November will be at the home of Ann Gibson in Broughton Astley. Please let Ann know if you will be attending. **Gwenda**

Poetry Group - Coordinator Elizabeth Wilson

This month's title: Love Poems.

A word to Husbands To keep your marriage brimming, With love in the loving cup, Whenever you're wrong, admit it; Whenever you're right shut up. By Ogden Nash.

We found dozens of love poems from rather flippant ones, like the one above to really serious ones that are touching, full of emotion, and often sad. Some were amusing like Yes, I'll Marry You My Dear, by Pam Ayres. More serious ones like Shakespeare's sonnet:

Let me not to the marriage of true minded

Admit impediments, love is not love

Which alters when it alteration finds

Another enjoyable meeting. Novembers meeting's topic is 'Remembrance' and refreshments - - Peter. 2pm. Nov 1st at Betty's. **Betty**

Strolling Groups 1 and 2 - Co-ordinators Gwenda Jones and John Lee

As Gwenda and John were away there were no Strolls in October.

Short Walks Group – Co-ordinators Fay Goodwin/Lyn Foxwell

The shorter walkers made their way to Bradgate Park as we thought there would be pathways after the drenching we'd had on a few days before. Quite a few people had the same idea and a few cyclists and joggers. It was a dullish day and a bit cool but it really is a lovely place to stroll through. Lots of deer and swan families plus a few peacocks and their hens. Elevenses was had at the little cafe. We went our separate ways afterwards but it was good to get out and have a good natter.

Next walk will be Coombe Abbey weather permitting Meet at Coventry Rd 10am Nov 28th Fay

Jazz Group – Co-ordinator James Davey

We had , as usual, a successful meeting with a wide-ranging selection of old favourites and were introduced to some new (to us) artists. Our November meeting will be at Geoff Dean's. **Jim Davey**

Topical Discussion Group - Co-ordinator: Richard Whittington

1.Food production and five a day.

A recent programme discussed the number of farmers who have stopped producing crops such as apples and strawberries. Why – climate, supermarkets and fees to farmers, lack of staff since Brexit. Perhaps we should grow different crops? How will this change our five a day? This is exacerbated by the vague labelling on some food products.

During the war we were encouraged to dig for victory. Should more of us grow some of our own crops? What effect are fertilisers and insecticides having. We already have a problem with the numbers of honeybees and other pollinators.

There should be more education about foods and how to serve them. Perhaps there should be stricter and enforced legislation on food products to make them healthier.

2. 2050 eco targets, yes, or no?

We agreed that this was desirable both for the climate and to hopefully reduce fuel bills. All new houses must be net zero. Have less cars and more public transport. The drive for electric will be driven by the car manufactures, Improve insulation on all houses, with grants if necessary. More solar panels and wind farms?

The next meeting will be on November 1st at 10.00 am. Richard

1st Wednesday Walking Group – Co-Ordinator tba

Cancelled until further notice.

4th Wednesday Walking Group – Co-ordinators Sue and Peter Creedon

An excellent turnout of 25 walkers set off for Lesley and Mike Chapman's walk from The Chequers at Swinford. Looking through my records I have found that the group last did this walk in November 2016 led by George Robertson. I was tempted to just do some minor changes and submit that report for this walk. However, the story about a dog on the walk that disappeared into a wood chasing some pheasants didn't happen this time and I wasn't quite sure if it was the same route. So, I decided to continue writing this report.

It was quite misty as we drove to Swinford, and a bit on the chilly side, but the mist quickly lifted and it eventually turned out to be a bright morning. Importantly, it wasn't raining. Mike and Lesley totally confused me by starting the walk in the reverse direction to that detailed in the notice for the walk. We headed off towards the A14 across field paths. Reaching the A14 we walked parallel with it on a footpath across fields that hadn't seen many walkers recently. Thankfully the recent heavy rain had not made it soggy and also, 7 years on, the trees and bushes had grown to give some screening from the road noise. Gradually we moved away from the road and we soon lost the road roar to eventually reach a lane to join the Shakespeare's Avon Way. We walked along the lane before turning off the Way onto a path to reach a dismantled railway line where we stopped for a break. Fortified we headed off along a path towards Stanford Hall that, luckily, was not closed because a notice advised

that a few days later it was going to be for 2 days for coppicing (for the horse riders and not for walkers I am sure). Soon we could see in the distance, across the field, the monument to remember the ill-fated aviator, Percy Pilcher.

In 1899, Pilcher had produced a motor-driven triplane, which he planned to test at Stanford Hall. However, the attempt was delayed by mechanical problems. Not to disappoint the invited audience he substituted the flight with his unpowered flying machine, the Hawk. Unfortunately, it suffered structural failure in mid-air and he was fatally injured when it crashed to the ground. Sadly, leaving his powered aircraft untested.

We then continued on along a lane before leaving it to take the footpath which went behind Stanford Hall across several fields to arrive back in Swinford. It was a very enjoyable walk and we thank Lesley and Mike for all their efforts in planning, reccing and leading it and also for organising the lunch that quite a few of the walkers stayed for afterwards at The Chequers. **Peter Creedon**

Wednesday 22 November 2023

Carvery is available starting at £8.29.

Walk Organiser: George Robertson. Meeting Point For Lifts:- Meet at the start Walk Meet and Departure Point and time: The Elms, Lutterworth LE17 4HB Walk start 10.00am. Toilets will not be available. Route and Distance:- :- Walk starts from The Elms and goes up through the town and then under the motorway to Walcote via Misterton. We will return to Misterton and then across field paths to return to The Elms. Less than 5 miles and 2 stiles Lunch Arrangements: We will eat in The Elms. I will give them an approx. number of diners, and if you let me know in advance that you intend to come my approx. number will be more accurate. They do a Lunch Menu with dishes at under £9.00 with a dessert for an additional £2.25.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF A DECEMBER WALK FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 13 December 2023 The walk, is NOT on the normally scheduled 4th Wednesday of the month. We thought it might clash with your Christmas arrangements, So, to avoid you getting walk withdrawal symptoms as the next scheduled walk would not be until the End of January 24, we have slipped this walk in to Bradgate Park. Further details in the December newsletter. **Peter Creedon**

Scrabble Group - Co-ordinator Glenys Peverley

We welcomed a new member, Sue, to our group and played on three boards. Our overall champion with two wins was Linda, so congratulations to her. We will play again on Wednesday November 15th at 2:30pm at Glenys' **Glenys**

New Age Kurling Group - Co-ordinators, Trish and Alan Green, Maggie, Sue, Lynne and Kathy

New Age Kurling group runs the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at Ullesthorpe village hall. New members always welcome – come along for an afternoon of fun. **Margaret**

Canasta Groups 1 and 2 – Co-ordinator June Hartopp

Both Groups now meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, Canasta 1 from 10am-12noon, Canasta 2 from 2-4pm both at June's house. **June**

Petanque – Co-ordinators Sue Sharp and Rae Flowerday

The Petanque session attracted full attendance and it was on a dry morning, which was unexpected. We finished our last game of the year with a Pesto special lunch. We shall be together again on 20th December for lunch and, if by chance it is a dry morning, we can get a game in. **Sue**

Art Appreciation – Co-ordinators Rae Flowerday and Sue Woodhead

Sienese Art of the 14c

One of the most important Sienese artists, following in the footsteps of Duccio, was Simone Martini (1284-1344) His "Annunciation" was a famous altarpiece, painted for a chapel in the Siena Cathedral. Simone's masterpiece is nearly two dimensional in effect, with the emphasis on contour and line. Pietro Lorezetti and his brother Ambrogio dominated Sienese painting after Simone Martini left the city to paint and work in Naples and later Avignon, which was the seat of the papacy during much of the 14C. The brother's mural "Effect of Good and Bad Government in the City and the Country" is a continuous, wall-length painting, about 46 feet long, surely the most important monumental civic image in Italy during the 14C. This was completed before the plague of 1348, an overwhelming crisis in Europe. Both Ambrogio and Pietro Lorezetti are presumed to have died in the plague.

After coffee we delved into the Sistine Chapel in Rome. The lecturer, interestingly, dissected two of the ceiling pieces painted by Michelangelo. As a bonus, to the morning, our host Sue, shared an interesting history about a painting of "Kitty Fisher" (yes folks, she was a real person) and her story. The meeting on 7th December will cover Early Renaissance Sculpture in Florence. Apologies to Glenys. **Rae**

Music Appreciation Group - Co-ordinators John Peverley and Tony MacDonald

Appropriately this month, with war raging in the Middle East, Ken's theme was "War and Peace". We were treated to a TV performance of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony in its entirety. Those four resounding notes with which this powerful work begins and which were later used in WWII, broadcast worldwide and to all occupied countries, have been forever associated with war. Premiered in Vienna and conducted by himself, it was initially ill-receive. Perhaps the arctic conditions inside the venue which the audience endured was reason enough! Eighteen months later it was a success.

After the break, with Linda's always excellent cake, we heard music of a more peaceful nature from the film scores of John Williams, including Schindler's List and A Prayer for Peace from "Munich."

We ended, thoughtfully, with a protest song, over fifty years old, by Manfred Mann, with very thoughtprovoking words. Finally, John Lennon sang Imagine, dreaming of a world which would "live as one"-Imagine – if only. Thank you very much Ken. Then next meeting will be on 16th November at Alan's. **Doe Hall**

Quiz Group – Co-ordinator Glenys Peverley

Nohline set October's quiz with interesting rounds including parks, food and a miscellaneous round. Ongoing rounds included titles of works by Dickens and Shakespeare and identifying hats. Quite challenging!

Chris will set November's quiz on Thursday 9th at Bitteswell Village Hall at 2:00pm. If you like quizzes and haven't been before, just turn up. We welcome new members. **Glenys**

Music and Memories 2 - Co-ordinator Eve Jackson - no report

Wine appreciation – Co-ordinator Nicholas Harrington

We met on 12 Oct and had the following wines:

- A J Adam 'Im Pfarrgarten' Riesling Feinherb 2017
- Pewsey Vale Eden Valley Single Vineyard Riesling 2021

- 2021Crozes-Hermitage Les Meysonniers Rouge, M Chapoutier
- Torbreck Woodcutters Shiraz 2020, Torbreck

The idea behind the evening was to taste wines that, although made of the same grape variety, were made in a different style and the members of the group could easily appreciate this. The wines were all very good and they were enjoyed by all. The next meeting will be on 9 Nov when I will be talking about the effects of oak on the flavour of wine **Nick**

Photography Group – Co-ordinator Alan Shean



We visited Stoke Bruerne for our October meeting. The village is well known for its attractive canal side location with a museum, cafe and public houses. There's plenty of scope there, both inside and out, for taking photos.

Three examples from Alan, Mick and Sue are attached. **Alan**





Ten pin bowling - Co-ordinator: Richard Whittington

The next session at Nuneaton Bowl will be at 10.00am on November 10th. Richard

Bridge – Co-ordinator Kathy Scott-Simons

Bridge Group meets each Friday at June Hartopp's home at 2 pm to play. If members need to know the address, they should contact Linda Patton via the website. **Kathy**

Birdwatching Group - (Co-ordinator Ann Fletcher)

A foggy damp start to our day at Brandon Marsh ,but once the fog had cleared, we saw 34 species including Jays , Little Grebe, Nuthatch. The most spectacular bird we spotted was a Swan Goose who's natural breeding range is Mongolia ,North east China and Russian Far East , we can't be sure where this one originated probably an escapee from a private collection.

The next meeting will be on Friday 24 November, we meet at the Recreation ground car park at 9.30 with your pack up . Unfortunately, the cafe is closed now until December. New members are always very welcome. **Ann**

Singles Takeaway Supper Group – Co-ordinator June Clayton

We enjoyed a curry and puds hosted by Sue Sharpe - another good evening. June

Singles Lunchtime Dining Group – Co-ordinator Brian Fowler

A visit to The Pheasant Pub Restaurant in the sleepy village of Withybrooke is always a delight. The staff are so welcoming and the food choices, at very reasonable prices, are quite amazing. There was a happy buzz of friendly conversation from the 12 members in attendance and Group Leader Brian was quizzed on his recent exploits with abseiling and a challenge mud run. Drinks were consumed and there was scarcely a scrap of food left on plates when the dining was done, maybe just enough space for a few hearty souls to order desserts.

In November the venue is The Hollybush in Ashby Parva and firm orders now being taken for the Christmas lunch at Ullesthorpe Court. New members always welcome, see Brian at The Wycliffe Rooms monthly meeting. **Brian**

NOTICES AND MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

HOPING TO JOIN LUTTERWORTH U3A?

If any members have friends who are interested in joining us, please give details of their address, telephone number and email address to our membership secretary, Liz Ayre

CURRENT COMMITTEE				
Post	Name			
Chair	Brian Poulter			
Vice-chair	Glenys Peverley			
Secretary/ Minutes Secretary				
Treasurer/ Membership Secretary	Liz Ayre			
Social Account Treasurer	Shirley Tegg			
Newsletter Editor	Pauline Elliott			
Online Coordinator	Roy Maiden			
Programme Secretary	Linda Patton			
Groups Coordinator	Linda Patton			
Committee Member	Lynne Grindlay			
Committee Member	Frances Blythe			
Committee Member	Caren Simpson			
Co-opted member	Mick Barrows (Equipment Organiser)			
Co-opted member	June Clayton			

MONTHLY MEETINGS AT WYCLIFFE ROOMS - 2nd Tuesday of the month at 09.45

FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS

November: Bats are Amazing - a talk by Ann Gleave December: In house entertainment

NEWSLETTER BY POST; E-MAIL or ONLINE

If you change your e-mail address, please let me know so that you do not miss out on your newsletter.

The newsletter is now available on our new website: <u>https://www.lutterworthu3a.com</u> please click on the Newsletters tab at the top of the page. Roy would like you to check this out and give him any feedback on it. We still have copies on the old <u>https://u3asites.org.uk/lutterworth_at present</u>. Please contact Pauline if you need a newsletter posted or emailed on <u>Lutterworth.u3a@gmail.com</u>

NEWSLETTER ENTRIES

Please ensure group notices and any other news entries are submitted before the 29th of the month.

LUTTERWORTH U3A GROUP MEETNGS – TIMING GUIDE

GROUP	LEADER	FREQUENCY	TIME
MONDAY			•
Buffet Supper Groups	Gwenda Jones	1 st	From 7.00 pm
Table Tennis	Carole	Weekly	2.00-4.00
	Harrington		
Table Games	Linda Patton	3 rd	2.00-4.30
Music for Fun - Ukulele	Barbara Wilkinson Peter Sneath	2 nd & 4 th	10.00 – 12.00
History Group	Linda Patton	4th	2.15-4.15
TUESDAY			
Reading Group	Joyce Cairney	1 st	10.00-12.00
Music & Memories 1	Gwenda Jones	1st	2.00-4.00
Strolling Group 1	Gwenda Jones	3 rd	am - varies
Strolling Group 2	John Lee	3 rd	am - varies
Short Walks Group	Fay Goodwin Lyn Foxwell	4 th	10.00 onwards
Jazz Group		4 th	2.00-4.00
WEDNESDAY			
Poetry	Betty Wilson	1 st	2.00-4.00
Topical/Current Affairs Group	Richard Whittington	1 st	10.00 onward
1 st Wednesday Walking		1st	As arranged
New Age Kurling Group	Trish and Alan Green, Maggie Hiorns, Sue Dickerson, Lynne Grindlay and Kathy Mason	2 nd & 4 th	2.00-4.00
Scrabble	Glenys Peverley	3 rd	2.30-5.00
Canasta Groups	June Hartopp	3 rd	Group 1 10.00 - 12.00 noon Group 2 2-4pm
4 th Wednesday Walking	Sue & Peter Creeden	4 th	9.30 onward
Petanque	Sue Sharp Rae Flowerday	1 st & 3 rd	11.00 onward
THURSDAY			
Music and Memories 2	Eve Jackson	1st	2.00-4.00
Art Appreciation	Rae Flowerday Sue Woodhead	1st	10.00-12.00
Quiz Group	Glenys Peverley	2 nd	2.00-4.00
Wine Appreciation Group	Nicholas Harrison	2 nd	7pm onward
Music Appreciation	John Peverley Tony MacDonald	3 rd	10.00-1200
FRIDAY		·	•

Photography Group	Alan Shean	1st	10.00-12.00

Bridge	Kathy Scott- Simons	Weekly	2.00-5.00
Canasta Group 1	June Hartopp	1st	10.00-12.00
Ten Pin Bowling	Richard Whittington	2 nd	11.00-1.00
Bird Watching Group	Ann Fletcher	4 th	9.30 onward
VARIOUS			
New Adventure Group	Ken Patton	As arranged	Varies
Garden Visits	Linda Patton	Varies	Daytime
		-	-
Singles Takeaway Group	June Clayton	Varies	Evening
Singles Dining	Brian Fowler	Varies	Varies
Joint Golf Section	Mike Harrison Ken Patton	As arranged	Varies

Always check online for possible timing variations.

Please remember to update your online Group page in order to keep your group members and potential new members informed.

CONTACTING GROUP LEADERS

Group leaders have been asked to contact their current group members to provide contact details.

Please use the contact option button at the top of the website - <u>https://u3asites.org.uk/lutterworth</u> (COPY AND PASTE INTO YOUR BROWSER) to send a message to the Groups Coordinator or the Membership Secretary if you wish to contact a group leader as personal contact details are not being displayed in the newsletter in line with u3a Trust guidelines.