



SHERWOOD U3A

Learn Laugh Live NEWSLETTER January 2021

Hello to all Sherwood U3A members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to 2021 and the first edition of the year. Find out about the Zoom monthly meeting in January, using technology to access U3A, join the Trent Ageing Panel, discover the favourite photo of 2020 and reminisce about Christmas and winter. What can you remember about 2020? Try the Quiz of the Year. Enjoy!
Sue Robb (Editor) Contributions by Tuesday 26th January please.

If you have any questions about specific things please contact the following who will find out the answers to your concerns and try to come back to you with the answers:

Membership	Rita Foulkes
Groups and Postal Members	Terry Dillon
Welfare	Sandra Rogers
Holidays	Contact the holiday organizer whose contact details are in this newsletter.
Financial/General	Margaret Taylor
Newsletter/General	Sue Robb

NOTICES

TECHNOLOGY

Sherwood's Own Web Site.

The "new look" is not only aimed at our current members but also to prospective members. It is full of useful information explaining the origin of our own U3A and what can be gained by being a member. It introduces us to Groups, future social events and holidays and many other new features.

National Office

Last month we gave details on how to receive a regular newsletter. However you can receive a "bite-size" version of this and Claire Wilkie is willing to send this out to you by email. Please let her know if you would like a copy. Her contact email is shwdbussec@mail.com

Help!

Once the current restrictions ease Sherwood U3A is asking "Tech buddies" – members who have managed to grasp the basics and feel confident with technology – to support members who may still be experiencing difficulties especially if they do not have family or friends to help in getting to grips with their technology.

We would also appeal to any of our members who would like to be more involved in our Website and help the members of our current team.

If you are willing to volunteer please contact Claire Wilkie, Margaret Taylor or any other member of the committee.

Third Age Magazine

For those without a computer or smartphone, the Third Age Magazine may be the answer. This is sent through the post at regular intervals, giving great ideas for U3A's coping within the U3A organisation at the moment, and interesting articles from U3As both nationally and locally. At the moment it costs £2.90pa which covers postage. If you would like to receive a copy please contact Margaret Taylor on 01623 624266 or email cynthiamargarettaylor@gmail.com - with your request who will arrange for you to receive a future copy through the post.

Margaret Taylor

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT –Liz Wilson

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Let's hope it is a happy one and that we can all meet up again, all go on holiday again, all visit each other again, all get out and about again ---- in fact, all get back to life as we knew it in 2019, again!!!

Talking of meeting up and seeing each other, I would like to remind you about the ZOOM MEEETING, 10am, Thursday 14th January. Remember to check your emails that week as your invitation to join will be sent out then. It will also contain the ID number which you will need to join the meeting and the Password which you will need to get into the meeting!! Sounds complicated but it's as easy as using Face Time --- it must be because even I can use it!!!

Once you are into the meeting all your favourite stars will be there! Well actually just the committee and your other Sherwood u3a friends but they're well worth seeing and hearing!!

- I will be pretending that I'm at the front welcoming you and introducing everyone.
- Terry will be updating you about what groups have been doing and about suggestions for New Group (some members are optimistic!)
- Margaret will be telling you about our finances and asking what you think about subs for next year.
- Rita will be talking about Membership forms and how everyone is getting them by post with a stamped addressed envelope to return it and your cheques to her.
- Denise will be giving you an idiot's guide to the available technology.
- Claire will be telling you what you can access by that technology and what's available for free through your membership to the u3a.
- Jeremy and Dave will be telling you about some of the Speakers we have for you when we are back to our Monthly Meetings and asking if there are any requests for future speaker topics.
- Jenny will be telling you about the new Sherwood u3a Website – it's ten years since we set it up so definitely ready for a facelift!!
- Jane will be asking for volunteers to do refreshments when we meet again (some things never change)
- Ann will be getting some of you to tell us about your last year 2020 or your Christmas/Boxing Day/New Year's Eve/New Year's Day recollections!

Hey what a line up! Bet you can't wait! Well ZOOM waits for us to embrace it! However, if you can't or have no earthly desire to embrace it, don't worry because most of the information will be in February's Newsletter. Please don't worry about your subs or membership of Sherwood for, as long as you receive a Newsletter; you can rest assured we recognise you as a member.

All that remains is for me to THANK everyone who has enabled us to keep Sherwood u3a alive and all members for sticking with us!! See you in 2021!!!

CHRISTMAS - PAST AND PRESENT



My parents married in 1935 and "Santa" was one of the decorations they bought to decorate their first Christmas tree. The tree and decorations were fetched out of hibernation each year, but in time the tree became held together with Sellotape, although Santa survived. Mother was widowed in 1966 and when I became a widow she came to live with and Santa came too (but not the tree).
Molly Wright

Being a flower arranging teacher for many years Winter to me always meant planning something different for the students to do for Christmas? Many didn't want tinsel and glitter, so some designs were always fresh ones.



I have always loved going overboard with the Christmas decorations, which is probably due to my parents, who made our house look very bright and colourful. I would go to bed one night and when I got up the next morning, there were garlands in the living room and the parlour. The next few days Mum and I would decorate the tree and Dad put tinsel over the pictures.

I did the same when I had my own home, and now, at this ripe old age, I'm still enthusiastic about Christmas decorations. One or two friends have said they are not bothering with decorations this year as no one will see them, well I will see mine, and I do it for my own pleasure, and enjoy the bright shiny things that light up my sitting room. Happy New Year everyone.

Sandra Evans



This is me being absolutely privileged to play Santa at a local School for ages 3 to 7 consisting of some 250 children. Thanks to the meticulous planning from the Staff we managed to social-distance all the children whilst giving them the near normal experience of seeing Santa.

I cannot tell you how enjoyable an experience it was. I have done it for a few years now where the hall is dressed up and the children come in class by class. Of course we could not do that this year so the staff came up with something different. Santa was in the outside area and the kids came out in their various bubbles. The only thing was that Santa had lost his sack of presents --- so Golden Tickets were hidden around the area and the kids had to search and find them. The tickets were exchanged for presents from Santa when they got back to the classroom.

It was absolutely magical to see their worried faces when they came into the area changed into smiling faces and bubbly

conversation when they went out.

If we could have bottled the enthusiasm and excitement of the children it would keep everybody going through these strange times.

Dave Clarke

the December photography winner was

.....

Eileen Wass

Theme: Sparkle

Title: Sparkly Reindeer



.....and the favourite photo from 2020

June winner: Trevor Hughes

Theme: Clouds and Skies

Title: Cottam Power Station



Winter is.....putting an extra layer into your rucksack, along with a flask full of Bovril and a spade, just in case we get lost and the unthinkable happens and I have to dig a couple of igloos! Before a good ramble in the hills of Derbyshire begins you have to shovel the snow off your drive, just to get the car out.



Then, after meeting up with your walking buddies, into the hills and dales we go on a coach. Every rest time is time for fun and games, like making snow

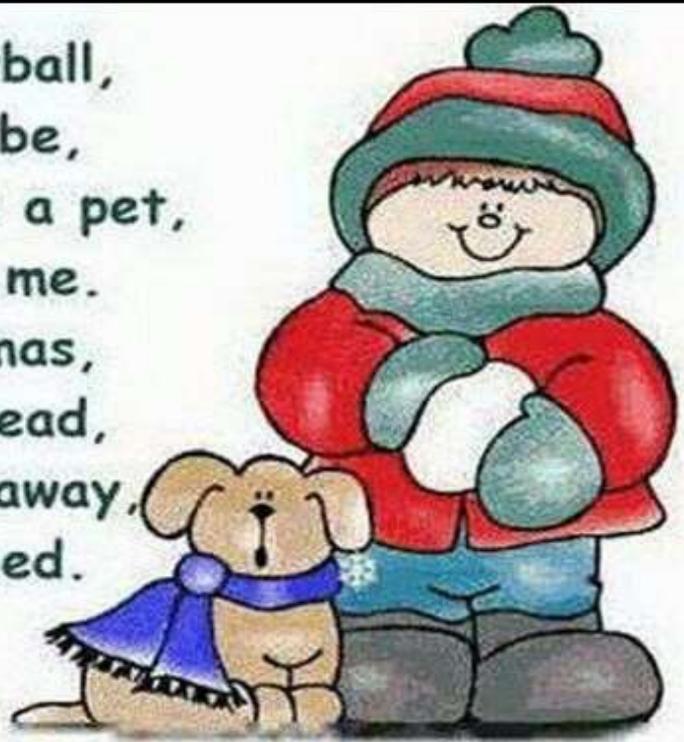


angels and throwing snow balls at each other. It is so nice to see the snowdrops coming out. You think of the better days to come, and warmer days ahead when I can leave the spade at home. After every amble we have a warm drink (or several pints of strong ale) in a local pub, before heading back to Mansfield and shovelling the drive again

to put the car back.

Roger Wood

I made myself a snowball,
As perfect as could be,
I thought I'd keep it as a pet,
And let it sleep with me.
I made it some pajamas,
And a pillow for its head,
Then last night it ran away,
But first-- it wet the bed.





JOIN THE TRENT AGEING PANEL AND CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL RESEARCH

The panel is seeking older adults aged 60+ to join our **community** of participants in Psychology research.

If you become a panel member, you will be invited to participate in Psychology research conducted at **Nottingham Trent University**. You will be notified about studies for which you are eligible, and your participation will be entirely voluntary and at your convenience.

The Trent Ageing Panel also hosts **Open Day events** where members, families and friends are invited to see our laboratories, hear about current research and meet researchers and ask questions.

To **join the Panel**, please fill in the form online: <http://bit.ly/2FzEiQQ> or contact us using the details below.

You can participate in studies using:

- Surveys and questionnaires
- Psychological assessments
- Attention and memory tasks
- Neurological research

Contact the Trent Ageing Panel

Telephone: **0115 848 4319** or Email: trentageingpanel@ntu.ac.uk



QUIZ OF THE YEAR 2020

JANUARY TO MARCH

1. In early **January**, which country's south coast was battling against large fires?
2. Which city in China was the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak?
3. Which basketball legend lost his life when his helicopter departed from John Wayne Airport and crashed into a mountain with nine people aboard?
4. A new polymer twenty pound banknote entered circulation; it featured the face of which famous historical figure?
5. Which member of the royal family announced that they had contracted the virus and was self-isolating in Scotland?

APRIL TO JUNE

6. In **April**, the contactless payment limit for in-store spending is raised from 30 pounds to how much?
7. The results of the 2020 Labour Party leadership election sees Keir Starmer elected as leader, what is the new Labour leader's middle name?
8. Thousands of people protest against the death of a man arrested by police in the USA, what was his name? In which city did this happen?
9. In June, the UK's national debt exceeds 100% of GDP for the first time since which year: (a) 1963, (b) 1973, or (c) 1983?
10. Which footballer wrote an open letter to the government calling on them to end child poverty in the UK?

JULY TO SEPTEMBER

11. Footballer Jack Charlton passed away in July; he played for just one club, making 629 appearances for them - which club?
12. Who does Joe Biden select as his running mate for the 2020 presidential election?
13. Where exactly would you find a dollop of whipped cream with a cherry, a fly, and a drone topping?
14. Why was history teacher Donald Fear from Telford in the news?
15. In the USA, a Supreme Court's Feminist Icon died aged 87; do you know her first name?

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

16. In **October**, the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded to Roger Penrose, Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez for their work on what?
17. On Saturday 17th October a 50p coin release made the headlines, what three word slogan was on it?
18. On **November** 9, which company announced that their vaccine appeared to be over 90% effective?
19. Which company announced it will stop printing its annual catalogue?
20. What was the name of the gentleman from Warwickshire who was the second British person to get the Covid vaccine?

ANSWERS: (don't cheat!!)

1. Australia 2. Wuhan 3. Kobe Bryant, Los Angeles Lakers 4. JM Turner 5. Prince Charles 6. £45 7. Rodney 8. George Floyd, Minneapolis 9. a) 1963 10. Marcus Rashford 11. Leeds United 12. Kamala Harris 13. The 4th plinth, Trafalgar Square 14. Won a million on Who wants to be millionaire 15. Ruth (Bader Ginsburg) 16. Black holes 17. Diversity Built Britain 18. Pfizer 19. IKEA 20. William Shakespeare (honestly!)