



# SHERWOOD U3A

## Learn Laugh Live NEWSLETTER September 2021

*Hello to all Sherwood U3A members,*

*There is lots of information in this edition about groups restarting. Also included are reports for the October AGM that you can read in advance, and information about attending. Finally there are reports of holidays throughout the British Isles. Thank you to those who contributed. Contributions by 28<sup>th</sup> September 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:

Chairman	Liz Wilson
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

### **U3A** NOTICES

**IMPORTANT ADVICE FOR MEETINGS:** Please wear a mask until seated. Use the usual entrance from the car park for going in, and the door close to the stage, leading to Welbeck Street, on exiting. There will be hand sanitiser on the spaced out tables. Please read the Personal Risk Assessment below and we **ask you not to attend if you have any symptoms**. We would prefer attending members have received both of their vaccinations and also recommend taking a Lateral Flow Test, these are available from all pharmacies and are free. **Your safety is our prime concern.** It is important for all U3A members planning to participate in an activity or interest group to consider their own personal health circumstances before taking part. Please note the guidance below:

1. All participants to review their own personal health and circumstances and refer to the NHS Website in England, Wales or Scotland for further information if you are at higher risk of getting seriously ill from coronavirus.
2. Consider the health risk category of anyone else you are living with in your household.
3. Review the risk check list for the activity you intend to take part in - completed by your U3A group organiser and consider if it is the right decision for you to take part without adverse risk to yourself or household at this time.
4. Do not take part if you or someone else from your household has covid-19 symptoms – these include a high temperature, a new continuous cough and the loss, or a change to your sense of smell or taste.

It sadness that we inform you that long time member **Margaret Spencer** has died. She had been ill for some time.

John Leniston and Judy Openshaw married at Mansfield Register Office on Saturday August 14th at 11.30am. This was followed by a champagne reception and an afternoon tea at Tom Browns in Gunthorpe.

Everything went well until the sixteen seater limousine decided to catch fire. Smoke poured out the side as we all made a quick exit onto the dual carriageway. Fortunately passers-by helped by taking the bridesmaids to the venue, and guests with cars also helped. We then had to organise taxis home for the guests. However the limo company have paid us for the taxis and told us it cost them a loss of £4000 that day. So all was well at the end of the day.

Judy and John



**SHERWOOD COMMITTEE**  
**DO YOU have skills you aren't using?**

**CAN YOU contribute in different ways?**

**WOULD YOU like to make a difference?**

**IF your answer is YES to any of these questions, there are places on the SHERWOOD COMMITTEE available for you!!**

**Sit in on a Committee Meeting to get the idea.**

**You will be welcome to come to our meeting in September to show you what is involved.**

**YOU CAN DISCUSS THE IDEA with Claire Wilkie, or any other Committee member, by ringing Claire on 0115 962 4401.**

**YOU COULD HELP TAKE SHERWOOD INTO POST COVID OPERATION!**

**MEMBERSHIP FEE to 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022**

Just a polite reminder to those members who have not yet paid their membership subscription, and a thank you to those that have paid.

The membership fees are:-

**£12.50 for full members, £12.50 for postal members and £8.50 for all affiliated members.**

Ways to pay:-

- By cheque made payable to Sherwood u3a at the October general meeting,
- By sending a cheque made payable to Sherwood u3a to me, Margaret Taylor at 1 Main Bright Walk, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts. NG19 7GL
- By sending a payment through your bank's BAC system if you use on-line banking. The Bank details you will need are NatWest, Sort Code 60.14.03. Account No. 52933296.

As I advised, we are not sending out the usual renewal forms for you to complete but will be basing our information on the last renewal form you completed. If however you have changed any details e.g. address, telephone number, email address or will be doing so in the future, please let me know when sending your membership fee. We will also be claiming gift aid from members who agreed to this last year but again if you no longer pay tax or are no longer willing to agree to Gift Aid, please let me know.

Please can you pay your membership by:- **21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Business Secretary is giving notice that the Annual General Meeting will take place on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 as 2 sessions, from 9.45-10.45, then 11am-12noon**, at Turner Hall, Mansfield Woodhouse. Any apologies for absence should be sent to the Business Secretary. There are vacancies on the committee and anyone wishing to volunteer should inform the Business Secretary or any other Committee member by **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.** If there are more applicants than vacancies, then a vote will take place at the AGM. If you have **Any Other Business** that you wish to bring up at the AGM, please put this in writing to be received by the Business Secretary by **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.** Please note that any items submitted after this date will not be considered at the AGM. The agenda, last year's minutes and reports are printed below. Contact **Claire Wilkie, Business Secretary**

## **BOOKING A PLACE AT THE GENERAL & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2021**

Until Turner Hall is back to working at full capacity, which unfortunately may not be until the beginning of next year, the Committee will continue to hold **2 x one hour meetings starting at 9.45am to 10.45am and 11am to 12noon**. Members wishing to attend the above meeting please contact me by phone

As this meeting is also including our Annual General Meeting all members, including postal members, are invited. Please contact me as soon as possible to book your place as we will be restricting numbers to 50 members only.

### **The closing date for October will be Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

The advice for meetings set out at the start of this newsletter will apply to the AGM meeting. We would ask that for this meeting you also bring your own refreshments as we are still not able to use the kitchen facilities. **We emphasise that you do not attend if you are experiencing any Covid symptoms.** If there is time please let me know before your allotted time on the day as I may be able to offer your spot to another member.

## **INFORMATION FOR AGM 2021**

### **SHERWOOD U3A AGM AGENDA**

For the meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 At Turner Hall, Mansfield Woodhouse.

1	<b>WELCOME</b> by the Chair
2	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>
3	<b>APPROVAL</b> of the Minutes of the 2020 AGM
4	<b>CHAIR'S REPORT</b>
5	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b>
6	<b>GROUP CO-ORDINATORS REPORT</b>
7	<b>SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE'S REPORT</b>
8	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>
9	<b>PROPOSED NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE</b>
10	<b>MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE 2021 TO 2022</b>
11	<b>DATE OF THE NEXT AGM</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (TBC)</b>

## **SHERWOOD U3A MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020**

1	<p>In the light of the Covid19 Pandemic a full Annual General Meeting could not be held in May 2020. Therefore the Committee made a decision that the membership would meet in smaller groups at a local venue in October or would submit their approval to the previous AGM Minutes, reports, accounts and nominations of David Clarke, Ann Madden, Margaret Taylor, Jenny Weaver and Denise Whitshed by email, post or telephone. <b>247</b> members were sent the AGM paperwork 30 days prior to the return date of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. However on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 due to further Covid19 problems the Committee made the decision that the meetings could not take place and that all responses would be emailed, posted or telephoned. In agreement with our Constitution, a quorum of 20% (50 members) of the membership had to respond by the return date</p> <p><b>126</b> members did not reply, <b>31</b> members sent apologies and <b>90</b> members agreed to the AGM documents. (Lists of members are attached to the Minutes on file).</p>								
2	<p><b>MINUTES</b> of the last AGM dated 13.06.19. were approved and signed by the Chairman, Liz Wilson.</p>								
3	<p><b>CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT</b></p> <p>This year's Report deals with the period May 2019 to May 2020 and the Theme is "Do You Remember When?"</p> <p>Last May we started the year with a wonderful walking/sightseeing holiday in the Yorkshire Dales. Thanks Irene! We joined with Forest Town and had a fascinating two days in Oxford and Windsor. Thanks Denise!</p> <p>In June we revisited Sand Bay and enjoyed it all over again. Thanks Rita and Pat! We also had a day out to Saltaire arranged for us by Denim and Co – or Jean and Jean. It was brilliant so thanks you two!!</p> <p>In July we had London; August Mansfield U3A's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party; September Bletchley Park and the Cruise around Ireland; October Sheila's 80<sup>th</sup> Party and the amazing bring and buy Coffee Morning; November the Neil Hurst Afternoon Tea,</p> <p>In December we had lots of Group Christmas lunches, Carol Concert, School Choir at our Meeting and finally the Christmas Dinner at Portland which was an amazing success – thanks Jeremy! Little did we know that, though we had lots more holidays, social events and Trips out planned, 2020 would be null and void! We would be "Locked Down"!</p> <p>Thanks to everyone who made 2019 memorable. Now thanks to all those who are trying to raise the phoenix from the ashes in 2020. Our Sherwood U3A is still alive and ready for action when the fetters of Covid 19 have been vanquished and I, for one, cannot wait to meet up with you all again!</p>								
4	<p><b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b></p> <p>I did publish the Annual Accounts for 2019/2020 in the September 2020 Newsletter which had been approved by the Committee. I also listed the recommendations which had been highlighted by the "Examiner" C. Thomson which have now been reviewed by the Finance Sub-Committee and updated as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unfortunately the training cannot take place until an appropriate appointment has been made when restrictions have eased.</li> <li>• The Expenses Form has been amended with an appropriate signature counter-signing all claims. A full list of monthly expenses is given to the Committee.</li> <li>• The cost of ink cartridges unfortunately is still increasing from the 2019/2020 figures due to more people using them for home printing and lack of cartridges being obtained from external UK sources. <i>This may have an impact on the Admin. Figures for the 2020/2021 Accounts.</i></li> </ul> <p>May I now take this opportunity to publically thank C. Thomson for "examining" our accounts over recent years and I will be arranging a suitably qualified person to "examine" our accounts for the future.</p> <p>I trust that members will accept the 2019/2020 accounts. However, If anyone wishes to discuss these accounts in more detail please contact me on 01623 624266 or email <a href="mailto:treasurersherwoodU3a@gmail.com">treasurersherwoodU3a@gmail.com</a></p> <p>In the newsletter I did state that the Finance Sub-Committee will be reviewing the expenditure budget up to March 2021 and further information on any decisions taken will be published in the newsletter.</p> <p>I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the Finance Sub-Committee who have supported me in my role as Treasurer during the past year and those who are continuing to guide the future finances of Sherwood U3A.</p> <p><b>Margaret Taylor</b></p>								
5	<p><b>GROUP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p><b>AGM GROUP CO-ORDINATORS REPORT</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">New Groups opening:</td> <td>Poetry</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Keep Fit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closures:</td> <td>Heritage</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Poetry (after nearly a year)</td> </tr> </table> <p>After several attempts to try and get Singing in the Afternoon up and running failed through lack of interest.</p>	New Groups opening:	Poetry		Keep Fit	Closures:	Heritage		Poetry (after nearly a year)
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	<p>Very difficult time for us all over the last 6 months where the priority has been to keep safe and protect ourselves from Covid 19. Group Leaders have chosen a variety of ways to keep in touch with their particular group including Whatsapp, email, informal meetings and phone. Many of the Groups have set tasks to complete during this time in order to keep people motivated and alleviate isolation. Despite efforts to try to get some Groups open the recent restrictions have put those in abeyance apart from the Walking Group which is due to formally start again this month.</p> <p>Moving forward:</p> <p>National Trust Trips have always been a highlight in the monthly newsletter and very popular with all our membership and many thanks go out to Julie and Irene for all the hard work and organisation they have put into arranging these events over the last 9 years. It is essential this valuable and much supported activity continues once we get back to something like normal and anyone interested in taking this forward can always talk to either Terry or myself.</p> <p>IT has been a boon over these last 6 months and has highlighted our need for this knowledge as our environments have changed, and we will be looking to develop some courses based on needs of individuals in our next operational year. Anyone interested in developing any other activities can of course put their interest down in the red book and hopefully when we get sufficient numbers can try to start a new activity. Jenny Weaver/Terry Dillon</p>
6	<p><b>SOCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Jeremy Lloyd thanked the Social Committee members and the many other helpers for all their hard work and for the range of enjoyable events organised throughout the year. Particular thanks to Sue Cox for hosting the Committee Meetings and Chris Robb for music and projection at social events. Between March and December 2019, the social committee held a range of evening and afternoon activities including Sing-Along Mama Mia 2, Games Galore, Quiz Evening, Bowling, Afternoon Tea with Neil Hurst and Christmas at Portland with an amazing singer. The afternoon events and Bowling proved particularly popular with members. Unfortunately, COVID 19 overtook us in early 2020 and all subsequent events had to be cancelled. The Social Sub-committee are still working behind the scenes and will rebook events when it is safe to do so.</p>
7	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> – None</p>
8	<p><b>PROPOSED NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Nominations have been received as follows:- David Clarke, Ann Madden, Margaret Taylor, Jenny Weaver and Denise Whitsed. These nominations were unanimously voted onto the committee by the membership.</p>
9	<p><b>DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021</p>

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

October 2020-September 2021- what a year! This time last year we had booked three sessions at Vale Road Centre so we could have a face to face AGM for as many as possible (25 per session). The committee were so optimistic and excited but—what happened? That's right full lockdown!

However, in true U3A spirit not everything ground to a halt. Some groups kept in contact either by zoom, post or phone and my thanks go to the Group Leaders who enabled this. We started having ZOOM monthly meetings and I would like to thank Claire for arranging this and all those members who joined in.

Our newsletter developed and became a source of contact and information to us all and, in fact, a lifeline to many. Thank you Sue who developed it all so well and to Margaret and Terry who deputised for her.

Our website got a much needed and revitalised face and contact lift and has continued to be an immediate and up to date source of information thanks to Robert and Marilyn.

We owe great thanks to the members of the Committee, Social Committee, Holiday group, Fundraising Group, Finance Committee who have continued to meet up and plan so that when we could meet we hit the ground running. Committee- Zoom and AGM arrangements. Finance- Reduced Subscriptions. Social Committee- Quiz, Afternoon Tea and Christmas Meal. Holiday-Scotland, Thursford and all the holidays for next year. Fundraising – Games Coffee Morning.

Yes, I am looking forward to seeing and sharing more memorable times with you BUT my only regret is that too many familiar faces will be missing and I will never see them again—what a year!

Liz Wilson

#### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Unfortunately, due to lockdown and the ensuing COVID restrictions, all the planned social events of the past year have had to be postponed. The Social Committee has continued to work in the background to ensure that as soon as restrictions are lifted members can take part in a range of social activities – quiz, afternoon tea, Christmas meal are all planned. These events may be restricted in numbers due to the venues COVID risk assessments but will be just as much fun and a great opportunity to meet up again!

**Jeremy Lloyd**

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

As you are all aware the past 18 months has proved a very hard time for us all and at Sherwood u3a unfortunately our funds have become extremely tight. The Committee are aware that whilst being in lock-down Sherwood u3a's overheads appear to have reduced and are sympathetic to concerns raised by some members that they think that as venues and speakers would not be paid for that the funds saved would cover all future expenditure. Unfortunately this has not proved to be the case and some of the expenditure, previously agreed to be spent in 2021/22 still had to be paid out.

The Finance Sub-Committee and I have worked very hard to keep expenses as low as we could bearing in mind that we did not intend to ask for subscriptions for the first 6 months of the financial year from April to September and had to rely on what cash availability there was in the bank which was seriously depleted by having to make refunds to members who had previously booked and paid for trips and events in the previous year but were subsequently cancelled due to Covid in the year 2020/2021.

You should all be aware that we have now sent out information on how to pay your half yearly subscriptions but again we need to act prudently with the funds available after October as we will now have to pay the increased price of £4 per member to National Office – an increase of 50p per member from last year – before we even start looking at our own expenditure.

We were hoping that funds would be swelled by some fund-raising activities but again due to restrictions on numbers being put upon us by the various venues, they may not meet our expectations.

Therefore we have now had to review many of the previous expenditures that we had allocated against what our anticipated income would be. Part of this has been to review how we have kept in touch with all of our members during this pandemic which regretfully now means that we have to cancel the monthly newsletters and replace with quarterly issues. Also instead of paying postage to deliver some of the newsletters which has previously happened, we will now be asking members to hand deliver newsletters to those members who do not have technology and therefore need to have a printed copy to keep them informed on what is happening with Sherwood u3a. We know that many of you have received your newsletter via the e-mail system which will still continue and of course there is a copy of all newsletters on our web site should you wish to print your own copies. I and the Committee will be reviewing the situation in the new financial year along with other proposed savings, especially on the administration side, that we are hoping to achieve.

The accounts have been examined by David Bradley, who although a member of Sherwood u3a had been given a dispensation by National Office similar to other u3as that due to Covid we could do this "in-house". I and members of the Committee thank David for coming forward to help during this difficult year. Next year we are hoping that Mr. Matthew Weaver will be "examining" our accounts.

Accounts for the year 01.04.20. – 31.03.21.- The Total Income is **£7,044.15p** and the total Expenditure for the year is **£8,348.42p** which has resulted in a debit figure of **-£1,304.27p**. The Committee hope that members will understand why we have had to show a loss for the year and if any member should wish to see the full accounts prior to the AGM, please contact me or indeed if you have any query on the finances.

In the meantime the Committee would like the membership to approve the accounts and examiner.

I would also like to thank the members of the Finance Sub-Committee, Liz, Rita, Ann, Jenny and Jeremy who have had to make some tough decisions with me during this past year and the full Committee for accepting some of our more severe proposals.

MARGARET TAYLOR, SHERWOOD u3a TREASURER

## GROUP CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

It has been a difficult year with all group activities cancelled and all venues closed. We did try to start up some groups last year but unfortunately there was another lockdown so this didn't happen.

As restrictions began to be lifted some groups met informally outside.

Although our normal venues were still not open when restrictions were lifted in June some groups were meeting in other ways. Rambling is always outside so they had been meeting for a while, and now Photography, Gardening and Wine Appreciation groups have also been meeting outside. Family History has been meeting via Zoom, Boards Games have been given monthly tasks and the Oriental and Continental Dining Group have met to enjoy a nice meal. Days Out, Heritage and National Trust are busy planning their calendar and there are several holidays to look forward to.

Groups who use Park Road Resource Centre and the Library are looking to resume in September and The Stables are ready to take bookings for the room upstairs. We are still waiting to hear from Sherwood Welfare.

We have lost Gentle Keep Fit and Harmony Choir as the qualified people leading them are unable to carry on doing so.

The two art groups have been amalgamated and will be led by Jeremy Lloyd. Scrabble will now be led by Angela Forster. It is hoped that the strolling and walking groups will be led by Liz Wilson and Jane Lowe. We are now looking for leaders for Eclectic Music and Current Affairs and these groups will unfortunately close if no one comes forward.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to Group Leaders who have supported their members and kept them up to date during the last 18 months. You are the people who have kept our u3a going in the most difficult circumstances. Terry Dillon and Jenny Weaver Group Coordinators

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT –Liz Wilson

The Committee members have been working hard to get us going again!! September it is for our first (albeit number restricted) Monthly Meeting – our last was EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO!! I am really looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible – there is always a buzz at Sherwood's Meetings but this time it should be amazing!!

Not wanting to put a damper on the occasion but please bear in mind the following: -

Please do not arrive too early for either session as we need to set up the room. Please follow advice given at start of newsletter. Please have cheques made out correctly ready for collection.

After a brief introduction and explanation people collecting money and names will move from table to table.

There won't be any refreshments (kitchen out of bounds) but if you would like a drink please feel free to bring your own (I will have my flask – coffee unfortunately not laced with Brandy or Baileys!!)

On leaving please be prompt.

Monies to be paid:

Subscription - £12.50 or £8.50 Sherwood U3A, Quiz - £10 Sherwood U3A, Christmas Dinner - £25 Sherwood U3A

Timekeeping Museum - £12.50 Sherwood U3A, Kent Holiday Deposit - £50 Skills **See you at the Meeting!!-**

**QUIZ NIGHT** It's that time of year again! Change from normal venue as this year it is at Turner Hall rather than Sherwood Welfare. The price is still the same £10 to include a fish and chip supper with mushy peas if we're lucky! There will be the six serious rounds, table puzzle, picture quiz and the fun round.

All to play for on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 --- just come along and enjoy!

Numbers limited to 60, Teams of 6.

Tickets on sale at the September and October Meetings or ring Liz and reserve yours



All members including Postal Members are invited to a

**COFFEE MORNING AND CHAT** on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Turner Hall. Tickets £1 will need to be collected at the September/October Meetings or on the actual morning. This ticket will be used for 1 drink of your choice plus entry into the Raffle. To book a ticket please contact Liz Wilson.

Unfortunately this meeting will have to be split into 2 separate times 9.45am to 10.45am and 11am to 12 noon with the usual advice on keeping members safe at meetings. To book in a particular time please contact Margaret Taylor.

Liz is in charge of a bottle stall. Please bring your donated bottles to the September/October meetings. Also there will be our usual cake stall selling "home-made pastries and cakes". Please bring on the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> November.

If you are not attending but would like to donate please contact Liz for alternative arrangements.

# *Sherwood U3A Christmas Dinner*

*At Portland College on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Meet 7pm for 7.30p*

*£23 pp*

*Please see Menu for your choices and contact Jeremy Lloyd at the meetings or by*

*email [lloyd.jeremy@sky.com](mailto:lloyd.jeremy@sky.com) or mobile 07778395291*

*You can pay by cheque made out to Sherwood u3a or by BACS sort code 60.14.03 account no 52933296 ref: xmas dinner*

*We shall have a very enjoyable evening and a chance celebrate together for Christmas after all this time*

*Roasted Onion Soup or Ham Hock and Pistachio Terrine  
Gruyere and Chive Croutons Toasted Ciabatta and House Pickles*

*\*\*\**

*Traditional Roast Breast of English Turkey and cranberry sauce  
Lemon and Thyme Stuffing  
Chipolata Sausage and Bacon Roll,  
Rich Roast Gravy*

*Or*

*Beetroot and Butternut Squash Wellington  
Peppercorn sauce  
Brussel Sprouts, Honey Roasted Carrots and Parsnips  
Rosemary and Garlic Roast Potatoes  
Mashed Potatoes*

*\*\*\**

*Traditional Christmas pudding Or Warm Chocolate Brownie  
With Brandy Butter Espresso Martini Sauce*

*Plus Coffee and Warm Mince Pies*



## **GROUP NEWS**

Groups **starting in September** are listed below. Some groups are planning to restart in October and updated information will be in the next newsletter. If you are interested in joining a group and need a contact number please contact Terry Dillon 01623 610790 [tdillon2205@gmail.com](mailto:tdillon2205@gmail.com)

**ART** Starting Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2 – 4pm. Park Road Resource Centre. Contact: Jeremy Lloyd.

**BOARD GAMES** Starting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 10.15-12.15pm Members' homes. (Trivial Pursuit).

**BOOK GROUP** Book Group will be restarting on September 24th at 10.30am then the next meetings will be October 29th and November 26th. The library would like people to wear masks in the main building. Jenny Sadler

**CRAFT 2** Starting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 10 – 12noon in the Library. Good ventilation, one way in and out but well-spaced. Sanitiser in craft room. Can use coffee and toilet facilities.

**FAMILY HISTORY** Starting 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 10.00-12.00noon at Park Road Resource Centre.

**GARDEN GROUP** Starting at Park Road Resource Centre Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 10.30-12.30pm.





### HERITAGE -NOTTINGHAM ROCK CEMETERY VISIT

This visit will now be taking place at **1pm on TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER**, not on 14<sup>th</sup> as previously stated.

As it is the first tour of the year for the organisers only **10** people will be able to participate. I'm afraid we only have room for **3** more to take advantage of this first event. The Cemetery Service Manager has stated that there will be **NO FEE** involved on this occasion. He has also sent the following information.

Meet at the Lodge at the Mansfield Road entrance to the Cemetery. There will be an introduction and overview of the tour. The tour will take about an hour. It is requested that masks are worn in enclosed areas of the tour. Please note that Allan, the tour guide, will not be wearing a mask as this hinders the ability to

communicate, but he has been double jabbed.

There is very little parking space at the Site, but Pronto buses stop almost opposite the Cemetery, meaning that if you have a bus pass, the whole afternoon is free!!

If you would like to be the person to make up the numbers for this event, please contact me as soon as possible.  
Claire Wilkie

**MUSEUM OF TIMEKEEPING at Upton.** Because of COVID group bookings are only available from November. Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 10.30am to 12.30pm is the new date



**The price is £12.50** which will include tea/coffee and biscuits on arrival and a personally conducted tour (which comes highly recommended). After making the most of the museum and grounds we can move next door to the **Clock House Café** (again highly recommended) but this is optional.

Most members will want to make their own way, but **lifts can be arranged** and will pick up at Morrisons, Woodhouse at 9.30am.

Bookings can be made at the September or October Meetings, or contact Liz Wilson from 9<sup>th</sup> September, numbers are limited!

### HOLIDAYS Lochs and Glens 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September

We will be departing Johnsons depot at The Sidings, off Debdale Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse at 8.00am prompt. I will be handing out holiday itinerary packs at both meetings at Turner Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Any queries please contact me. Pat Magness

### Thursford 16<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> November £289

1 single room now available. All balances to be paid by 5th September please.

### Potters Resort 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

5 star all-inclusive holiday, limited places available due to popular demand.

Twins and doubles available in bungalow plus or hotel (supplements apply for hotel).

This family owned holiday resort boasts 5\* Holiday all inclusive, 4 meals a day, all drinks, branded spirits, wine etc plus full daytime programme, spa facilities, West End evening entertainment.

This is booked with Potters so the full discount is passed on to all our members and bus booked with Skills Travel. Price will be approx. £410 depending on discount numbers and bus approx. £30 return.

A holiday not to be missed.

Contact Denise via [deewhits@aol.com](mailto:deewhits@aol.com) or 07791941502 Mon to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

### Isle of Wight Holiday 23rd-30th July, 2022

I will be taking deposits at the November 2021 Meeting. It is £50 with cheques made payable to Just for Groups. The cost is £769 for 8 days (7 nights).

Rita Foulkes, 5 Durham Close, Mansfield Woodhouse, NG19 8LB. Phone: 01623 623582  
Email: rita.foulkes@gmail.com

### INTERNATIONAL DINING

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September **Moda, Hucknall** Meet 6.30pm for seating at 7.00pm.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October **The Lion at Farnsfield**. Meet 6.30pm for 7pm. Jeremy Lloyd Contact: 07778395291

**LUNCH GROUP** September 29<sup>th</sup> **Carnarvon Arms, Teversal**. Lunch start at 12.30pm. Queries or last minute cancellations contact: Pat Tomsett, Sue Timmons.

### ORIENTAL AND CONTINENTAL DINING

16<sup>th</sup> September **Porterhouse**, Annesley NG17 9JB 6.30 for 7pm. Contact: Jenny Weaver 07753190135

**PHOTOGRAPHY** As Sherwood Welfare has not yet reopened the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September is at the Cafe on Carr Bank.

**RAMBLING** Meet in Morrison's Carpark, Woodhouse, at 10am,  
September 8th Blidworth Bottoms (6 miles -easy) September 16th Newstead (6 miles – easy)

**TEN PIN BOWLING** The first game will be on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September. The start time will be 11am (not 10.30 as previously). If group members bring their expired Superbowl membership card this will be renewed free. Still £5 for the session with free coffee. Superbowl advise mask wearing and social distancing.

**WRITING FOR FUN** Starting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2-4pm. Mansfield Woodhouse library.

The Writing for Fun group is meeting again next month. We are a small friendly group. We write on a chosen subject each month. We enjoy the writing process and sharing what we write. There's nothing academic about this, it's not like school. We get pleasure from what we do and from each other's company. Why not join us, you might like it. Contact Sylvia Pearson

## HOLIDAYS 2021

### A Tale of Two Ports - Phil Wright

Seeking a change of scene after lockdown, we headed for the ports of Hartlepool and Hull. They have something in common - both have marinas and are active working ports. Not only do both of them have an interesting historic past but they also have their unique stories!

The story of the Hartlepool Monkey dates from the early nineteenth century during the Napoleonic Wars. Legend has it that a ship wrecked monkey was hanged by the people of Hartlepool, believing him to be a French spy. Hence the name that the people from Hartlepool are affectionately known as "The Monkey Hangers".

Hull's unusual story is about the Dead Bod and it also has a painting to immortalise it! (Worth looking up... as the explanation is quite lengthy.)

Each port has its own distinctive maritime history. Through the port of Hull thousands of people journeyed as they emigrated from Europe, moving onward to Liverpool and then sailing to the United States of America and Canada. Such scenes are reflected in Hull's sculptures on its quayside.

Hartlepool's port is famed for its Royal Naval links and

is the home of Europe's oldest floating warship, the "Trincomalee". Built in 1817, it is one of Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson's last commissioned frigates. It is a Maritime Heritage Centre and the frigate can be explored, enabling visitors to see how the sailors of the day lived.



## **Scottish Birthday Adventure – Pat Smedley**

I usually travel abroad as much as possible, but due to the uncertainty this year I decided that I would visit the Shetland Islands for my birthday trip in July. Every time I watch the national weather forecast on the news, besides looking at Mansfield, my eye is always drawn to Lerwick and I have always wanted to visit so I decided to put my own trip together.

I took the train to Glasgow and spent three nights there. As I arrived early on day one, I spent the first afternoon and the following morning exploring the city. I walked the full length of Sauchiehall Street and also visited the Riverside Museum and the tall ship “Glenlee”. Even better is the free entry to both, the case with most museums in Scotland. I spent my second afternoon taking the train to Balloch on Loch Lomond. Unfortunately everyone else appeared to have the same idea due to the 28 degree heat, but I managed to do a walk along the shore!!! The following day I took the bus to Edinburgh and visited the Royal Yacht Britannia plus had time to walk the Royal Mile.

I then took the bus to Aberdeen, followed by the overnight ferry to Lerwick. I had found a small guest house online



which turned out to be excellent. The weather was really good for Lerwick (16-17 degrees) with only two short showers and some rain on my last day. I even took my coat off on the Sunday. I used the local buses to get about, visiting Sumburgh Cliffs to see the puffins (I was about 6 feet away from them), Scalloway and Mousa Island, which has the best preserved Broch (small fortress) in the world. On my birthday I took the bus to Toft at the top of the mainland and then the ferry to the island of Yell. I then took the bus back to

Brae to Frankie’s Fish and Chip shop, the most northerly fish and chip shop in the UK, for a brilliant birthday meal before returning to Lerwick. I saw so much wildlife - birds, seals and whales - during my trip.

I returned on the overnight ferry to Aberdeen and then caught the bus to Dundee for two nights as I wanted to visit the Discovery ship used by Scott on his first voyage to Antarctica. As some of you may know, when the lockdown started in the UK I was on an expedition cruise to the Antarctic and the Falkland Islands and spent an extra week getting back, which is why I was interested!!!! I also managed to walk across the Tay Bridge and back, visit Broughty Ferry and Dundee Law -an extinct volcano. I then took the train home.

I have to say that the Shetland Islands are the best place I have visited in the UK. Lerwick also has the best Tesco's in the UK because across the road is the sea and the seals sunbathe on the rocks. You don't get that at Oak Tree Lane!

## **Travelling back in Time - Pat Collins**

Fifty two years ago the motley crew below, including me on the left and the friend taking the photograph, invaded Didsbury College of Education to begin some of the best days of our lives!

We met in September 1969 at our student accommodation, four of us sharing a room for the coming year. Friendships were made then and are still as strong 52 years later. We had a reunion in Bridge of Alan near Stirling a few weeks ago. It was then that I decided to go back in time.

Des and I have just returned from finding the house where we lived (now a nursery for under 5's), seeing our former Hall of Residence in our 2nd year (now a primary school) and drinking in the local pub where we spent much of our time drinking half a cider. But the strangest thing of all was finding that the hotel we were staying in was on the site of an outdoor swimming lido called the Galleon where we had enjoyed many days, even in Manchester weather conditions! I did not know that when I booked our room. Fate or what? The visit stirred up long forgotten memories but well worth it.

