



Registered Charity No. 1137780

March 2020 Newsletter Melton Mowbray U3A

Item	Page	Item	Page
This Month's Meeting	1	Group Notices	5
Committee Notices	1	Walking Groups	6
General Notices	3	Annual Group Reports	7
Group News	3	Final Notices	8

At the meeting this month on Thursday 19th March 2020

Speaker	AGM. Graham Cherryman- Now Could You Fool the FBI?
Display	Maths for Fun
Catering	Sue and Peter Morris, Cecil Robinson, Shirley Tomblinson, Ann Scillitoe
Meet/Greet	Vaughan Gregory, Rosemary Barton

CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC ADVICE

How to avoid catching or spreading germs?

- Do:** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
Put used tissues in the bin straight away.
Wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.
- Don't:** Touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

Committee Notices

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

The Twenty Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Melton Mowbray U3A will be held at the Melton Baptist Church, Leicester Road Melton Mowbray LE13 0FA on Thursday 19 March 2020 at 10.00 am.

Morag Timbrell, Business Secretary, secretary@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

Please note- the minutes of the 2019 AGM, the agenda (including the nominations to the Committee) and the summary of the accounts will be emailed as attachments with the newsletter and displayed on the notice board at the monthly meeting in March.

SPEAKERS' DIARY MISPRINT

Please note that there is a misprint on the 2019-20 Speakers' Diary: the March Monthly Meeting and AGM is on Thursday 19 March, not 18 March as printed.

The 2020-21 Diary will be printed after the AGM, circulated with the April newsletter and available at the April meeting.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you are one of the 135 members who have not yet rejoined for 2020, you should no longer be attending groups or meetings. You will also shortly be deleted from the Newsletter mailing list. Group Leaders may ask to see members' new cards to confirm that they have been renewed. When downloading a membership form, please use the 2020 version attached and on our webpage. It seems that some old forms from 2019 and 2018 are hiding in dark corners of the web; please ensure that you have the current year's form.

NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION LISTS

This issue we welcome 45 new readers to the circulation list. We hope that you will find the Newsletter informative.

Keeping the email circulation list up to date is a constant battle. If you, or other members you are aware of, are not receiving the newsletter to your desired email account, please email editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk, ideally from your preferred account. This address should also be used to send copy for the Newsletter.

U3A DAY

Reminder: Wednesday 3rd June 2020 will be the first National U3A Day. We are planning to arrange activities to promote our U3A and groups locally. Let us know how your groups might contribute to the day. The Committee is keen to hear your suggestions.

Email: editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

MEET THE GROUPS

Our 'Meet the Groups' session gets better and better each year. The number, variety and quality of our groups and displays is very impressive. Yet we have no cause for complacency. As our members, new members and prospective members thronged the hall, eager to sign up to new activities, all too often the desired group was unable to create room for them. This will be for the best of reasons - for example, space, safety, capability - but it is frustrating.

So, on one hand we are a successful U3A with many of our groups full, but on the other hand, not everyone can be accommodated in all groups they would like to join. Well there is a solution - **start another group.**

Starting a group is not daunting. The responsibilities (and the fun) can be shared between members. If you are frustrated you cannot get into the group(s) of your choice, contact Christine Bluett, our groups co-ordinator, either at the groups stand at the monthly meeting or via email at groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk. We will help you find like-minded members, set up a meeting of the prospective group, and share with you the little you will need to know before you get started. You will find group leaders from similar groups are also very helpful and supportive.

So, don't frustrate, communicate and create.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you become aware of a member becoming seriously ill or experiencing other life changing events please do let Winifred Maine know, even if you think someone else may have notified her. We would rather be notified more than once than not at all. Winifred organises the sending of one of the lovely cards produced by the Parchment Craft group to

let them know we are thinking of them. Winifred can be contacted by telephone or by email.

General Notices

INTER U3A QUIZ NIGHT

Kibworth and District U3A, have invited us to participate in the Inter U3A Quiz night on Thursday March 26th 2020, 6.45 for 7pm at Kibworth Golf Club.

They can accommodate 15 teams of 4, up to 2 teams per U3A branch, and additional spectators. Cost is £8 per team. Supper can be pre-ordered for 8pm at £5 per meal. Full details on request from chair@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk.

MAKE IT HAPPEN

Members will be aware that applications for funding from the 2020 'Make it Happen' fund are currently being invited. Charities like ours can apply for cash funding, with grants ranging from around £100 up to £1,000 available to enable events to take place in and around the borough, and to help with communal projects. In two of the last three years the U3A has been successful and has been awarded £1000 for our own sound and sporting equipment. Group leaders and members are invited to suggest to the committee what the U3A might apply for this year. Please email your ideas to editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk before 19 March 2020.

KINGFISHER CHORALE: Pange Lingua, St Mary's Church, 25th April 2020, 7:30pm

Kingfisher Chorale explore the words of the 'Pange Lingua' that inspired so many composers. With early settings from Josquin, Byrd and Victoria through to works by Bruckner, Durufle and Todd. Tickets £5-12. Further details see website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kingfisher-chorale-pange-lingua-st-marys-church-melton-25th-april-2020-tickets-93150998143>



Group News



JOIN A NEW GROUP!

The U3A is all about its groups. Many of us gravitate towards those subject areas we are most familiar and comfortable with and may not ever step outside our comfort zone. Melton U3A has a wide variety of groups so I am going to feature some each month that may encourage members to dip their toes into new waters and try something different! All groups featured have capacity for new members and you would be made very welcome so why not really embrace the U3A and explore new territory?

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Perhaps Scottish Country Dancing is not something you've considered trying before but it's great fun and this is a friendly, inviting group. They learn and practise the dances of Scotland, reels, jigs and Strathspeys. Not only is this a very sociable, fun pastime, there are also exercise benefits too. They don't work to a set programme so new members are always encouraged and would be given a warm welcome. Meetings are at Burton Lazars

Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 2pm. Why not give it a go, you've nothing to lose and much to gain? For more information contact **Paul Woolston**,

SCRABBLE GROUP

Do you enjoy a game of Scrabble? Many people do, it's a great game and as well as being fun it helps keep the brain ticking over. The Scrabble Group is very friendly and welcomes players of all abilities and would welcome some more members. Why not go along and have a game or two in a convivial, informal setting. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 2pm at the Hamilton Tennis Club. Tea and coffee are provided and you would be made very welcome. For more information contact **Anne Richards**
scrabble@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

SECOND STROLLING GROUP

Due to demand we have now setup a second Strolling Group which will meet on the **Second Tuesday of the month, 2pm**. The group will be led by Janice and Ken Palmer. The first meeting of this new group will take place on **Tuesday 10th March**, meeting at Melton Country Park (main car park, near the café) at 2pm. This group is for members of ALL ABILITIES. Our first group includes members who use mobility scooters, walking aids, have sight or hearing impairments or just find walking very challenging for whatever reason. It enables members to meet up to get out into the fresh air, stroll at their own pace and chat (and enjoy some refreshments afterwards of course). No-one walks alone. If you are interested in joining us or would like to chat about it please contact the leaders.
Janice and Ken Palmer email: Strolling2@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

SCIENCE MATTERS

U3A Science Matters Group meets monthly to discuss topics of a scientific / technological / engineering nature. Although most members have some expertise in science the group welcomes others who are "just interested" in matters scientific. Although not compulsory members often make some sort of presentation to the group. We've had talks, amongst many others, on computing, history of science and famous scientists; genetics and biochemistry, evolution, aspects of astronomy, pharmaceuticals and sleep. Discussions have been on topics such as climate change and who should feature on the new £50 note. Currently meetings are held on the 4th Friday afternoon of each month at 2.30pm in the café in the Country Park.

We are friendly and always welcome "new blood" to stimulate our meetings further.

For further information contact **Linda Foulston**, **science@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk**

SILVER TONES

The Silver Tones Singing Group took part in the Lion's Club Special Variety Concert (which was the brainchild of the late Ben Barretto) on Saturday 22 February in front of a packed Melton Theatre, alongside Trevonne Stage School, Flo Ruskin, David Newton, Melstrum Ukelele Orchestra and Ben Barretto's daughters, Myra and Tina. This concert was to raise funds for the Lion's charities, such as Underprivileged Children, Youth Projects, Senior Citizens, the Mayor's Appeal, Caring Organisations and Overseas Support.

The Silver Tones have worked very hard in order to put on a great performance where we sang some of our favourite songs including Memory, Top of the World, Bring Me Sunshine. We also had a beautiful solo from Alan Barton singing Oh, Danny Boy and a solo from

myself, You Raise Me Up. We all enjoyed the concert experience and are looking forward to the next.

Jenny Poulson, group leader



Group Notices



AMERICAN STUDIES

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 19 March 2020 at Tesco.
New members welcome. Please bring your own topic.

Chris Lawman

COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

Meetings of the group-

4th March- No meeting; 25th March- Castelnuovo-Tedesco; 1st April- Benoit

Contact John Playfer: email composer@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

HISTORY

The next meeting of the History Group will be on Friday 20th March 2020 at Sage Cross Church at 2pm. The speaker will be Graham Allen and his subject will be "The Naming of Our Preserves".

Anne Purvis, Committee Member

LUNCHEON GROUP GK

The venue for our next lunch on Thursday, March 19th, will be at Jasmin House.
Please arrive by 12.15.

Gillian Kilpatrick, Group Leader

email: luncheongk@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

OUTINGS GROUP

***** IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT *****

Please note that from now on the pick-up and set-down point for all outings will be the Tesco store car park on Thorpe Road. Cars can park at the garage end of the large car park. The coach will pick up in the small car park adjacent to the Tesco garage.

22nd April - Cotswolds (Bourton-on-the-Water and Burford) - fully booked

13th May - National Memorial Arboretum - £30 (inc lunch) - 11 seats left

12th June - RHS Chatsworth Flower Show - fully booked

2nd September - Elton Hall near Peterborough - £24 - 28 seats left

13th November - Ely and Ely Cathedral Christmas Gift and Food Fair - price to be confirmed.

We welcome members' feedback from the trips done so far and suggestions for future outings. Email outings@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk with your comments or come and speak to us in the foyer before the monthly meeting. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend the monthly meetings and do not have access to the internet, you can telephone.

Frances Waite, Debbie Adams, Jean Pearson, Ruth Rigby, Outings Organisers

THEATRE GROUP Contact: theatre@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

Trip to Shakespeare's Globe

Tickets have been reserved for **Wednesday, 20th May 2020**. Due to the short turn around, it is urgent to confirm your booking, as we only had three weeks to hold these tickets.
Coach from Melton Mowbray 8.00 a.m.
Tour of the Globe Theatre at 12.15 p.m., lasting 40 minutes.
Performance of Twelfth Night at 2.00 p.m.
Cost of Tour and Performance = £60.00. Cost of Coach anticipated to be approx. £20.00.
We have to decide **by 4th March** and payment of £60.00 has to be made by that date.
It may be interesting to members of History Groups, in addition to the Theatre Group.
There would be seats on the coach available for other members to spend time in London.
All enquiries to Angela Fielding by the above e mail.

Saturday Matinees at the Little Theatre: The Spring/Summer '20 programme is now available on the Theatre Desk

Rogers and Hammerstein's Carousel: Kilworth House Theatre; **Wednesday 17th June** at 7.30pm. Tickets (including coach fare) are £53.00 and are ready for collection from the Theatre Desk. There are 4 tickets left.

Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Sorcerer"- Buxton Opera House, Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

The cost of this production including tickets, transport, car parking and gratuities will be approximately £55, but less if we can fill the coach. We will depart Melton at 9.30 am which should give you time in Buxton. A deposit of £10 will secure your seat and final payment will be due at the May meeting.
Contact Anne Dyster for further information.

Half a Sixpence-Kilworth House Theatre: Tuesday, 25th August 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

Two tickets left. Tickets are £40.00. The coach will leave from the Baptist Church and members need to be there by 5.45 p.m. Travel costs will be £12.00 each, payable by 31st July 2020.
Angela Fielding

The Nutcracker: Birmingham Hippodrome, 2.00pm on **Thursday 26th November**

Birmingham Royal Ballet's evergreen production of this traditional ballet. Tickets for circle seats are **£36.80** and must be paid for by the **May** meeting. Only 3 tickets left

Some seats will be available on the coach for those wishing to visit Birmingham for a half day. Final transport costs TBC but expected to be about £11.00 depending on the uptake. Please see the Theatre Desk if you do wish to take up this offer.



Walking Groups



1st THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

Thursday 5th March, 2020, Greetham approx. 6 miles.

Please meet at Greetham Valley Golf Club car park, Wood Lane, Greetham, Oakham, LE15 7SN ready to walk for 10am.

A provisional lunch booking has been made. Food can be ordered if required prior to the walk.

Walk Leaders: Wendy & Stuart Posnett

Thursday 2nd April, 2020, Hoby, approx. 6 miles.

Please meet at the Blue Bell PH, LE14 3DT. Ready to walk at 10 am.

A provisional lunch booking has been made.

Walk Leader: Frances Waite

Group Co-ordinators: Wendy & Stuart Posnett

2nd MONDAY WALKING GROUP

9th March- Meet at the "Plough Inn" Hickling. 10-15 for 10-30 start.

6th April- Meet at "The Plough" Normanton on the Wolds. NG12 5NN. 10-15 for 10-30 start. Please note that this walk is a week earlier than normal because of Easter.

Walk leader; Ann Baihl

Group Co-ordinator: Geoff Harris

3RD WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP - 5 miles

The March walk will be from Normanton on the Wolds (5.5 miles) on the 18th 2020. Meet at the Plough Inn Normanton on the Wolds (NG12 5NN), 10:15 for a 10:30 start. Lunch at the Plough. Walkers please note that the Plough Inn has limited parking so it is best to park on the road across from the pub.

The April walk will be around Greetham (5.25 miles) in Rutland on the 15th April. Meet at Greetham Valley Golf Club (LE15 75N) Wood Lane, Greetham, Rutland. 10.15am for a 10.30 start. Lunch will be at the golf club.

Group Co-ordinator Rob Issitt,

walkingwednesday3@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

4th MONDAY WALKING GROUP

23rd March- Please meet at The Geese & Fountain, Croxton Kerrial (NG12 1 QR) at 10am for a 10.15 am start. Lunch, if required can be booked on the day.

Walk Leader: Andy Wade

Group co-ordinator: Jennifer Gregory



Annual Group Reports



FAMILY HISTORY

We have had a good year, attendances running at 6-12 despite competition with holidays and childcare. We have two very experienced members who are happy to help and advise when we are stuck with our searches. We had a very enjoyable Christmas lunch for 14 at Brooksby College.

After Meet the Groups, we had an influx of new members and so will be splitting in March to form two groups. One group will continue meeting on the first and third Wednesdays and the other will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays; both will meet 10:15 – 12:15 in Melton Library where there is free access to Ancestry and Find My Past.

This year we plan to visit Nottinghamshire Records Office and possibly Leicestershire Records Office. We are also considering a visit to the National Archives.

Geraldine Page, Group Leader

FLOWER ARRANGING

There are currently 2 flower arranging groups who each meet once a month in the community room at Tesco. Group 1 meet on the 2nd Thursday and Group 2 meet on the 4th Thursday of each month.

We arrange our flowers to a planned theme, learning from each other and trying new techniques.

Last year the joint leaders arranged a garden visit to Crossfell House in Great Dalby, which was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, especially as we were provided with tea and cakes in the Shepherds Hut - always popular!

Both groups were also involved in providing flower arrangements for the U3A July monthly meeting with the theme "Boats and the sea" to complement the speaker whose title was "My farcical career as a Ships Public Relations Officer"

Some members contributed the Welby Church flower festival in the summer by making floral pew ends.

We ended the year with a Christmas lunch at The Rural Catering Centre.

We look forward to an enjoyable 2020 programme which will also include a garden visit, a Spring workshop and hopefully a Christmas meal.

These events will allow us all to meet together to socialise throughout the year.

Both groups are currently full but we do operate a waiting list.

Should anyone want to start a third group we would be happy to assist in any way we could.

Rosie Gildove and Sue Marshall, Group Members.

FRENCH CONVERSATION

The French Conversation Group gives members with at least a basic knowledge of the language the opportunity to practice speaking it in the relaxed and friendly environment of a member's home.

This is a small group with space for three or four more members. In addition to general random conversation we usually do about twenty minutes of targeted oral translation from English into French of sentences specially compiled to illustrate aspects of French grammar. Sometimes, after advanced notice so that vocabulary can be researched beforehand, we discuss a member's particular topic of interest. For fun we have played Scrabble using the slightly different French version of the game.

If you would like to practice speaking French please do not feel intimidated but come and join us and have some light-hearted fun with the language. We meet in a member's home on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 10 am until 12 noon.

Paul Woolston, Group Leader



Final Notices

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FOR THE April 2020 NEWSLETTER:

German

Guitar and Guitar Beginners

History

Indoor/Outdoor Bowls

Italian

Latin

At the meeting next month on Thursday 16th April 2020

Speaker	Dr Ian Bedford- Companion Planting for a Balanced Garden
Display	Patchwork
Catering	Barbara Guntrip, Joan Jaggard, Betty Giddens, Josie Rudkin, Vera Mowbray
Meet/Greet	Pauline Posey, Geraldine Green

Contributions to the April 2020 newsletter to be received no later than

31st March. Items should be emailed to editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk or posted to 20 Gartree Drive, Melton Mowbray LE13 0AE