



Registered Charity No. 1137780

May 2019 Newsletter Melton Mowbray U3A

Item	Page	Item	Page
This Month's Meeting	1	Walking Groups	6
Committee Notices	1	Annual Group Reports	6
General Notices	2	Final Notices	8
Group Activities	2		

At the meeting this month on Thursday 16th May 2019

Speaker	"Edith Piaf" by Julie Ede
Display	Art Gallery
Catering	Janet and Derek Larder, Edwina Lewis, Jean Ladkin, Lynnette Wareing
Meet/Greet	Sue Wright, Rosemary Barton, Jennifer Gregory
Jigsaws	Please note: Jigsaws will not be available to borrow or return.

Committee Notices

Please note: There is a typo in the Pink Speaker Diary - the date of the next AGM is Thursday 19th March 2020 (not 18th March). Please amend your Pink Speaker Diary. A revised electronic version of the Speaker Diary is circulated along with this Newsletter.

EMAIL OF NEWSLETTER

Each month a few emailed newsletters are returned as undeliverable and we receive a few complaints from members who have not received their copy. If the Newsletter does not arrive in your inbox, please check your spam in the first instance. Should you fail to find it there, please email editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk from the account you would like your Newsletter to go to. Members who share an email should check that both parties are happy before unsubscribing or changing the email address. Thankyou.

MEET AND GREET TEAM

Many new members have expressed their appreciation of our new Meet and Greet Team who are located by the entrance at the Thursday meetings. The team provide new members and visitors with the information they need to access all that our U3A offers and answer questions they may have. We have a small group of volunteers who are timetabled to help and guide new members and visitors during their first meeting and generally promote our U3A. We now need more volunteers to help us continue this vital welcoming role. I have produced a checklist/ advice sheet to help our Meet and Greet Team and new team members would have the support of our existing team. If any existing members feel they could join our team, please email me –or talk to me at the next meeting.

Sue Wright, Vice-Chair: vchair@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

NEXT OF KIN CARDS and ICE NUMBERS

A recent incident has highlighted the benefits of Next of Kin cards and ICE numbers. Next of Kin cards are available at the monthly meeting. These are useful credit-card sized cards designed for your purse or wallet on which you can write emergency information. They are free to Melton Mowbray U3A members. All members are encouraged to carry one. Group leaders can take a supply for their members if required. Stocks are held by the Groups Co-ordinator.

Members are also encouraged to programme ICE numbers into their phones. In the event of an emergency the emergency services will contact ICE 1 initially. If they are not available, they will then try ICE2, ICE 3 etc. If your phone is locked, you are advised to check if your phone company has provided a means of making ICE numbers accessible; many have but they vary between providers and models.

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.

General Notices

MELTON MOWBRAY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Members are advised that the Melton Mowbray & District Historical Society will be undertaking the following Outings during the summer.

Wednesday 12th of June - Western Park and Gardens (HHA).

Saturday 6th of July - Newby Hall and Gardens (HHA).

Saturday 14th of September - Saint Albans Cathedral and Tring Natural History Museum.

All trips set off from the Indoor Bowls Club and pick up at Wilton Road car park. Would anyone requiring more information about costs, timings etc. and what is included at each of the venues please contact me.

Vaughan Gregory.



Group Activities



POTENTIAL "STROLLING" GROUP

Talking with many U3A members it is apparent there are many members who would like to join a group that includes some strolling but the actual walking groups are not suitable because they go too far and are for more active people. I intend setting up a group that is suitable for ALL abilities, including those with mobility, sight, hearing issues and any other limiting conditions that can prevent us from getting out into the fresh air in a social setting. The intention is to go to places where there is very easy terrain but is also of interest, especially in fine weather. We would not walk too far or too fast and the emphasis would be on getting outside, moving a little and meeting people. It would also be suitable for those with mobility scooters (as long as you choose the "tortoise" setting rather than the "hare"!) And there would always be a refreshment stop included. I have identified some other members who would act as joint leaders. The intention would be to meet once a

month and see how it goes. We would agree the venues beforehand but I am thinking Melton Country Park or the Town Park would be a good one to start with. We would try and arrange lifts for those with transport issues. If you feel this is something that would be of interest to you please do let me know asap as I would like to get this off the ground quickly if possible.

**Christine Bluett, Groups Co-ordinator,
groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk.**

NEW FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP

I apologise to those on the Flower Arranging group waiting list, I had hoped to get another group up and running earlier but was unable to. I will contact you soon to get this off the ground. If any other members are interested in joining a flower arranging group please do let me know.

**Christine Bluett, Groups Co-Ordinator,
groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk**

AMERICAN STUDIES

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 16 May at Tesco

New members welcome

Subjects:

Natures Nation – a briefing by Penny Tomie on an exhibition of paintings at the Peabody Museum in Salem interpreting the views and social circumstances over the last 200 years in the USA. If there is sufficient time, we will also continue our judicial theme – interesting legal cases.

Contact: Chris Lawman

COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

Meetings of the group:

22nd May McDowall 5th June Liadov

Contact John Playfer

Email: composer@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

CROQUET

Our new season starts on Thursday, May 2nd at 2:30pm and we will meet weekly, weather permitting, until the end of September. We are a very friendly group who make new members very welcome. All equipment is provided and we are happy to offer instruction to beginners.

We meet at the Saxby Road Cricket Ground where there is ample free parking adjacent to the pitch and plenty of space for as many matches as we wish. We have access to the clubhouse facilities which have been refurbished over the winter. The Club are keen to let out the clubhouse to other groups or for private functions.

Come and join us on May 2nd.

**Diane Cherryman. Joint group Leader.
Email: croquet@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk**

HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of the History Group will be on May 17th at Sage Cross Church. The speaker will be Tim Wander and his subject will be The Birth of British Broadcasting.

All are welcome. You do not have to belong to the History Group, as long as you are a paid-up member of the U3A

Anne Purvis, Committee member

LUNCHEON GROUP GK

Our next lunch will be on Thursday May 16th at the Royal Oak Great Dalby. Please arrive by 12.15. If you have any queries or cancellations, could you please contact Penny Housden on 01664 480495

Gillian Kilpatrick, Group Leader.
Email: luncheongk@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

OUTDOOR BOWLS WILL START ON MONDAY MAY 13th AT HOLWELL SPORTS BOWLS CLUB

Format will be as last year i.e. arrive at approximately 1.45 for a 2pm start. The session is for 2 hours with a break halfway for tea and biscuits. Cost will be £3.00 unless you are a member of Holwell Sports Bowls Club who will pay 50p towards tea/coffee and biscuits. Dress code is casual, but flat soled shoes must be worn on the green

Cliff Thompson, Group Leader

OUTINGS FOR 2019

LICHFIELD - Wednesday 8th May

Please arrive in plenty of time, as the coach will be LEAVING the Baptist Church at 9.00 a.m. Parking is available in the section of the Bowling Club car park near to the railway. DO NOT park on the approach road or in the Baptist Church car park.

SHERINGHAM & SHERINGHAM FLOWER FESTIVAL - Friday 5th July

Departs Melton: 8.00 a.m. Departs Sheringham: 5.00 p.m. Price: £24 per person. We have two coaches booked for this outing and there are just a few places left. Anyone wishing to go on this trip who has not yet paid should aim to do so at the May meeting (16th May) and not leave it to the deadline of 20th June.

IRONBRIDGE and BLISTS HILL VICTORIAN VILLAGE - Wednesday 9th October

Departs Melton: 8.00 a.m. Departs Blists Hill: 4.00 p.m. Price: £23 per person. Although the deadline for payment is 19th September, we strongly recommend you pay as soon as possible as this is another very popular outing.

The Outing Leaders will be available in the foyer on 16th May to process your payments which can be in cash or by cheque made payable to Melton Mowbray U3A. Anyone wishing to pay for the Sheringham outing who is unable to attend the May U3A meeting is advised to email the Organisers to make alternative payment arrangements.

Outing leaders: Frances Waite, Debbie Adams, Jean Pearson
Email: outings@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

SUMMER INDOOR BOWLS

Summer indoor bowls will start Monday 13th May at the usual time of 4:10pm

Contact : Chris Lawman

THEATRE GROUP email: theatre@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

Wednesday 5th June, Kilworth House. Tickets are £47.00 per person (to include coach travel). Please collect your tickets from the Theatre Desk. There is still some money outstanding for the coach. The coach will depart from the Baptist Church car park at 18.30, **please arrive by 18.15.** The performance starts at 19.45 so there will not be time to picnic on this occasion

BLYTHE SPIRIT

Wednesday 14 August, 7:45 Tolethorpe (Stamford) Tickets are £13.00 each. We will probably be using private cars for this production. Please let us know at the time of booking if you are willing to drive to Stamford. *Last date to apply 16th May*

CATS

Wednesday 28th August, Kilworth House. A coach has been booked and the cost is £16.00. When I receive the full money, the ticket is available at the Theatre Desk. The coach will leave Wilton Road Car Park at 6.00 p.m. We will not be picnicking on this occasion. Angela Fielding

CABARET

Wednesday, 11th September 2019, Theatre Royal, Nottingham at 2.00 pm. Tickets £48.80 (Stalls) including transport. Coach departing 11.00 am allowing time for lunch/shopping. Full payment no later than 16th May 2019.

MUSIC OF THE NIGHT, ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, 6th November 2019, Royal Albert Hall at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £38.25 (Choir) including transport. Coach departing 12.45 pm, allowing time for shopping at Brent Cross. Deposit £10.00 with booking, balance to be paid by 18th July 2019.

MATTHEW BOURNE BALLET 'ROMEO AND JULIET', Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

Music by Prokofiev. Thursday 3rd October. Matthew Bourne ballet – 'Romeo and Juliet'. Music by Prokofiev. Theatre Royal, Nottingham. Matinee performance Thursday 3rd October tickets are £30.80. Please collect your tickets from the Theatre Desk. All tickets have been sold but there is a waiting list

WEST SIDE STORY at Curve on Wednesday, 8th January 2020, Matinee performance. 20 tickets have been booked. The price of tickets is £32.00, provided we get the discount for 20 tickets. Full payment is to be received by 15th August at the latest. Enquiries to Colette Marshall.



Walking Groups



1st THURSDAY WALKING GROUP – Thursday 6th June, 2019, Old Dalby

Please meet at The Crown PH, Old Dalby, LE14 3LF. Food can be ordered before the walk. Be ready to walk for 10am, distance approximately 6 miles.

Walk Leaders: Barbara and Jon Cresswell
Group Co-ordinators: Wendy & Stuart Posnett
walkingthursday1@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

2nd MONDAY WALKING GROUP. 10th June 2019

Meet at the "Sugar Loaf" Inn, Ab Kettleby. 10-15 for 10-30 start

Group Co-ordinator: Geoff Harris

3rd WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP 19th JUNE 2019 - 5 miles

The June walk will be from Gaddesby on the 19th. Meet at the Cheney Arms, Gaddesby (LE7 4XE) 10:15am for a 10:30 start. Lunch will be at the Cheney Arms.

Group Co-ordinator Rob Issitt
walkingwednesday3@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

4th MONDAY WALKING GROUP 20th May 2019

As Spring Bank Holiday falls on the 4th Monday in May, the next walk will be on 20th May. Please meet at 10 am for a 10.15 am start. Park and meet at The Green, Exton, park around The Green or in Stamford Road to the north of The Green. The walk will be approx. five and a half miles, with 2 stiles. Lunch, if required will be at Barnsdale Gardens and this needs to be pre-booked.

Walk Leader: Lesley Dyason
Group Co-ordinator: Jennifer Gregory
walkingmonday4@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk



Annual Group Reports



GUITAR & BEGINNER'S GUITAR

This year we have clarified the main focus of the group, its composition and the individual roles within it.

The **GUITAR GROUP** is made up of two sections: *practice & performance*. Any Branch member who already plays guitar is welcome to join in the weekly 'practice sessions' where numbers are not limited by space. However, the performance group members are limited (by the venues we attend) and form the *performance section* '**The Generation Gap**'.

Another related group is the **Beginner's Guitar Group**. Here branch members can start from scratch or revive latent guitar skills. We have five active members and have the capacity for about seven. The pace is very gentle, meeting just once a month (Samworth Centre - 3rd Wednesday of each month 2-4pm). This seems to fit in well with the 'pressures that retired life can bring' and the gradual erosion of the finger-tips!

Once members of the Beginners Guitar Group feel sufficiently confident, they can progress to join the weekly *practice group* sessions (Burton Lazars Village Hall - Tuesdays 9-11am).

The *performance* group play mainly at charity venues, typically local Care Homes, Church events, fetes and historically at our own December Meeting. However, we are open to invitations from any small, private or public venues. This section comprises one lead guitarist, two bass guitarists (one double + one electric), three backing vocalists, one percussionist and six acoustic rhythm guitarists - all providing vocals. While this does mean that some venues are a little packed, it does allow members the freedom to miss out on some venues (ie for the odd holiday, other U3A group events & a variety of family life responsibilities!). We also try to limit our performance venues to about one per month. Donations received are passed to our chosen Charity: The Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance. So far this year's performances have been at Egerton Lodge (Jan) and the Mencap Centre (Mar) and we look forward to Mowbray Court (12Apr); Age UK - Gloucester House (8May); Amwell Care Home (8Jun), Sysonby Knoll Hotel (30Jun); Egerton Lodge (11Aug), Holwell Bowls Club (20Sep) and venues planned at Frisby Church (Oct -TBC) and the December Branch meeting. So we've allowed ourselves the whole of Feb, Jul & Nov *off* - for good behaviour!

If you want to know more about the **Guitar Group** (*practice* or *performance* sections) or the **Beginner's Guitar Group** contact

Pete Matthews: 'guitar@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk'

FRENCH CONVERSATION

Our longstanding group has lost all its founder members but continues to meet twice a month on 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings in members' homes. We usually devote the first hour to unstructured conversation which ranges over a wide variety of topics. We all enjoy hearing each other's news. After a cuppa and a biscuit, we follow a more structured activity. This has can be reading and translating from French text (most recently a Michel Bussi novel and "Read and Think French") or attempting some exercises from an "A" Level text book. In the past we have also played word and number games and translated from English to French.

Our numbers are restricted by the nature of the Group and by our venues but we could accommodate, and would welcome, one or two additional members.

Diane Cherryman, Group Member

GERMAN

We continue to meet twice a month at Tesco on 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons. We are making good progress with our current book, Deutsch Express, preparing 4-6 pages each session. We usually each produce a few sentences about our other activities which often generate some interest and discussion. We have also tried games such as 20 questions and bingo. We are open and welcome new members but the group is no longer suitable for beginners.

Diane Cherryman, Joint Group Leader

HISTORY

The History group meets on the 3rd Friday of the month from October through to May, at the Sage Cross Methodist Church, to listen to talks on various subjects associated with history. We have over 100 members in our group but anyone is welcome to attend, as there is plenty of room in the church. We also have an annual coach outing; this year we are going to Kelmars Hall on July 17th and our annual village walk will this year be at Nether Broughton on June 21st.

For further information see the monthly U3A Newsletter and/or contact me at joanwdawson@gmail.com

Joan Dawson, Group Leader

INDOOR BOWLS

At the moment we have 48 members on the register with an average of 28 players bowling per session. We ended the winter indoor bowling on the 8th of April when we had a fish and chip supper after bowling. We have contributed in excess £2000 in rink fees to Melton Indoor Bowls Club. I have 5 people on a waiting list who will be accommodated as soon as spaces become available. As is our custom now, 44 of us enjoyed a Christmas meal in the Clubhouse restaurant after our final game in December.

OUTDOOR BOWLS

The outdoor bowling will start on May 13th at Holwell. Last year thanks to the glorious weather we had some great bowling when we were joined by Holwell Bowls Club members who made us feel most welcome

Cliff Thompson, Group Leader

SUMMER INDOOR BOWLS

The group was set up to enable those indoor bowlers from the winter group to continue playing indoors if they did not want to transfer to outdoors during the summer. We are only a small hard core but being there enables others to join us intermittently as well and anyone is welcome to join us at any time. The group also helps to bring additional revenue into the Melton and District Bowls Club and over our two-year existence we have paid over £500 in rink fees.

Chris Lawman, Group Leader



Final Notices

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FOR THE JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER:

Italian
Latin
Line Dancing
Luncheon Clubs GK and S
Mah Jong Groups 1 and 2

Contributions to the June 2019 newsletter to be received no later than 31st May 2019. Items should be emailed to editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

At the meeting next month on Thursday 20th June 2019

Speaker	"Concealed Objects and Written Charms" by Elaine Perkins
Display	Needlecraft
Catering	Jill Lambert, Jenny Lambert, Viv Pugh, Hilda Wiles, Barbara Guntrip
Meet/Greet	Jackie McMillan, Shirley Harris, Angela Fielding