

October 2020



## ASHBOURNE & DISTRICT U3A

Registered charity no. 119048

It may become necessary to update some of the information that follows. Please check the Ashbourne & District section of the [u3asites.org.uk](http://u3asites.org.uk) website to check whether changes have been made to dates, times and meeting places.

## Monthly Meetings

Details of how to join these events will be sent out, by our secretary, a few days before they are due to take place.

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> via Zoom at 2.30pm: A grandmother's legacy: my travels around India.**



This is described by its presenter, **Jenny Mallin**, as: 'An intriguing and entertaining vignette of some of my travels around India (of which there have been over twenty-five trips during the past thirty years). This talk is filled with amusing anecdotes from the arduous task of just purchasing a train ticket to stories which have demonstrated the kindness of a stranger, the superstitious side to a nation and an insight into how much India has changed since 1990 with the progression of technology.'

**November 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 2.30pm: Nick Lockett "From Newspapers to Art Galleries."**

Derbyshire-based Nick Lovett describes his presentation '*From Newspapers to Art Galleries*' as an eye-catching talk about his own journey. It includes interesting photographs of news events, lots of famous faces from TV and film, and some thoughtful personal work.

He has been a professional photographer for 45 years. He started as an editorial photographer in newspapers and magazines, then he became Chief Photographer and Head of Pictures at ITV in London.

He left ITV after 25 years to do an MA in photography, and now has a busy commercial photography practice (often contributing to TV and film sets). He also makes and exhibits photographs for his own personal projects. He is a university lecturer and academic as well, lecturing in photography to undergraduate and postgraduate students. He runs photography workshops for the Royal Photographic Society. His personal photographs explore the history



The Bronze Age burial chamber at Minninglow in the Derbyshire Peak District at night, from '*Ancient Stones and Sacred Places*' by photographer Nick Lockett.

of Derbyshire (his last project *'Hoards - Stories Of Buried Treasure in the Peak District'* was made in conjunction with the British Museum). Most recently he has been photographing the effect of the Covid-19 Lockdown on the small Derbyshire village where he lives. Expect lots of eye-catching pictures and some good stories too.

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## Group News

### CURRENT AFFAIRS

Sue Damesin led the discussion at our September Zoom meeting. Her excellent Powerpoint presentation illustrated how Covid-19 (of which Sue herself is a survivor) has changed society.

Next month, on **Thursday 8th October**, the topic will be *"How to complain effectively - and get a result"* This will be delivered by Zoom by a special guest, the Head of the Complaints Department of a large international finance company.

David Holt

### CRAFT

It looks like it is going to be some time before we can meet as a group face-to-face. I wondered if anyone had any ideas for a simple Christmas craft item that we could share as this is the time of year we are usually doing something Christmassy. If you have perhaps you could let me or Mavis have the details. Also let's have some photos of your projects - I am showing you my cushion - remember Barbara showed us how to use hessian to stitch - if I wait until we are able to meet up it may be past its best !

All the best Jill Smith



### FAMILY HISTORY

We are having Zoom meetings once a month, with more than a dozen members taking part. I am so sorry that the other half of the group hasn't adopted modern technology and isn't joining in.

Our September meeting was very interesting and very busy with Sheila giving a presentation on how to research Irish ancestors and Peter showing us how to search for War Diaries on the National Archives' website, where currently, due to the coronavirus pandemic, downloads are free of charge.

Our October meeting will be on **8th October at 2.30pm on Zoom** and Sheila will be showing us what we can find on the British Newspaper Archive website, plus we hope to answer any members' current queries.

Sheila is also going to run some DNA workshops again on Zoom on the **4th Thursday** of the month.

Anyone wishing to join the group should contact me : email to [tiano121@btinternet.com](mailto:tiano121@btinternet.com) or leave a voice message on 079 9981 7759. Vivien Tiano

### FRENCH

We are continuing with our Zoom meetings, both with the improvers and the advanced group, meeting as usual on the **1st and 3rd Mondays** of the month for the improvers and the **2nd and 4th Mondays** of the month for the advanced group. Most members now seem to have got used to using Zoom. We even have members who are still able to join in our meetings on Zoom from their second homes in France, whereas normally they wouldn't have been with us during their time away!

The advanced group members seem to be enjoying the new book we're reading *"L'Héritier des Beaulieu"* by Françoise Giroud, and some have already read on right to the end, even though we have "officially" only read to the end of Chapter 3! I am very impressed.

Anyone wishing to join us for either group, please contact me : email to [tiano121@btinternet.com](mailto:tiano121@btinternet.com) or leave a voice message on 079 9981 7759. Vivien Tiano

### GARDEN GROUP OCTOBER

Our schedule is currently affected by Covid-19.

We are sorry to advise you that all planned events this year have been cancelled. If you have any requests for trips next year please do forward them to us – we will visit Wentworth Woodhouse and I will try for slots at Highgrove House again but I am very happy to consider other venues.

We very much hope to be back to normal next year. For those of you with cars there are Christmas Light shows at Belton House and Dunham Massey – both are National Trust locations, book via the website. Wollaton Hall and Deer park is also having a winter lights show from 27th November.

Patti Green 07720 812278 sidewaysw@aol.com and Sue Dandy 01335 345157.

### GERMAN

One of our groups is going online. From now on the Intermediate Group will meet via Zoom. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September and was very successful. Meetings will be held fortnightly - the next one will be on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 11am until 12.30**. If you would like to join the group, or if you need more information then contact Rhona via the Contact page of our website: [u3asites.org.uk](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Bis bald. Rhona Hunt

### LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE GROUP

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the guided tour of Leek planned for 16 October is postponed until 2021.

On **20th November at 10:15**, there will be a Zoom meeting with Faith Johnson from Friends of the Peak District on the [history and current work of this organisation](#).

Thank you, Pamela Boura

### ONLINE DANCING

With the advent of the Rule of 6 it looks as though Zoom is going to continue to be our best option for keeping dancing for the time being. Sessions run from **7:30 to 9:00 on Monday evenings**. If anyone would like to join us then email me via the website and I'll send an invitation.

Sue Edmonds

### PHOTOGRAPHY:

At the beginning of September, the Photography Group held another successful meeting via Zoom, the theme was '*Wildflowers*', a good selection of flowers were shown and members' photographs can now be seen on the website.

Next month's meeting will again be held via Zoom on **Thursday 1st October at 10:00** when the theme will be '*Two-thirds Sky*'.

A reminder will be e-mailed just before the next meeting. John and I hope you will join us for another fun packed meeting.

New members are always welcome.

John Green ([john.green122@outlook.com](mailto:john.green122@outlook.com))

Helen Bluff ([helenbluff@hotmail.com](mailto:helenbluff@hotmail.com))

### STROLLERS

We finally had the go ahead to start up the Strollers group again.

A walk along the Tissington Trail was suggested as a good way to get back into our walks. 16 Strollers turned up at the meeting point on Monday 7th September to begin the long awaited walk.

The weather was not brilliant but it did not dampen our spirits.

We all had an enjoyable walk and it was so good to meet up with friends again. More photographs can be seen on the website. Possibilities for the next walk were





discussed, a circular walk from M&S via the Clifton Shrovetide Goal was a favourite choice. Unfortunately, the Strollers Group has now been suspended again due to the latest Government Restrictions so please watch this space for when we can start up again.  
Karen Tallant and Helen Bluff



#### **TABLE TENNIS**

The table tennis group began playing again when the Leisure Centre opened. A risk assessment had to be handed which was quite substantial - but we are conscious of the rules and will abide by them. There is a limit on the numbers of 15 and no doubles matches can be played, except between couples who are married or in a partnership. There are already 3 people on the waiting list but unfortunately will not be able to join us unless the limited numbers change. Anyone else wishing to play can contact me, Wendy Goddard, on 01335 342532 just in case somebody may wish to start up another group.

Regards Wendy

#### **WALKING GROUP**

Third Age Trust has just issued revised advice on how walks can be organised so as to comply with the new Government Covid-19 regulations which took effect from 14 September. My initial impression is that we will be able to arrange walks which do comply. I hope shortly to publish detailed advice on our website about the conditions to be observed by members wishing to participate in any walk.

Our website will be the main source of information about plans for walks, & members should refer to it frequently to keep themselves informed.

The Group's next such walk is provisionally scheduled to take place during the morning of **Wednesday 30 September**. No arrangements will be made for members to eat or drink anywhere after the walk ends.

Peter Worboys

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Please send contributions for the November Newsletter to Mavis Lund by **October 18<sup>th</sup>**