

20<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

Dear Member,

I hope that 2020 is proving to be a good year for you all. Personally, I'm very relieved that the wet, windy weather has come to an end for the time being. No doubt there will be more at some stage in the future. However, for now, let's enjoy the relatively calm weather. (That's a cue for the weather to turn really nasty!!)

## Monthly meeting.

On 16<sup>th</sup> January, **Ken Cockburn**, gave an illustrated talk and reading on "Poems on Edinburgh's Royal Mile". Even I found it really interesting, even though I really don't have a literary brain! The turnout for the meeting seemed to be one of the largest that we have ever had.

These are the other meetings that we have coming up. They all take place in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Fullarton Street, Ayr. KS7 1UB – at 2pm on at Thursday.

20 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	The Work of The Samaritans – <i>Mungo Tulloch</i>
19 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Boswell Book Festival – <i>Daphne Parlour</i>
16 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Men's Sheds
21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2020	The Amazon – A personal journey – <i>Eddie Philips</i> <b>(AGM)</b>

You are welcome to bring along friends.

## Quiz Night.

The next one is **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February.**

As usual, our Quizmaster is Ian Matheson, and he seems to have an endless assortment of questions.

The venue is currently **The Waterfront Restaurant**, South Harbour Street, Ayr at 7pm. Ian and Linda are usually there about 6pm for a pre-quiz dinner. They would be delighted for you to join them. To be on the safe side, if you plan to join them it would be worth booking, just to give the restaurant an idea about how many staff to have available.



The winners of the last quiz were the team called TJK – at least I think that is what they were called! Above is a picture of last week's brain boxes!  
They are Tim Downie, John Shevlin and Kenny Maclsaac.

## **News from the Groups.**

### **Lunch Club - A reminder – Names for the Burns' Lunch required by 30<sup>th</sup> January!**

The group will be going for a Themed **"SCOTTISH LUNCH"** at the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Murdoch's Loan, Alloway, Ayrshire KA7 4PQ on **Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm.** Meet at the venue at 12.30pm.]

Here is the menu.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCOTTISH LUNCH - Menu 6th February 2020</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Soup of the Day Or The Burns Chicken Liver Paté With Spiced Pear Chutney, Mixed Salad Leaves, House Dressing And Arran Oaties ***</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Haggis, Neeps &amp; Tatties With A Whisky Sauce And Toasted Oatmeal Or Mushroom And Roasted Vegetable Wellington ***</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cranachan Honey Whipped Cream, Raspberries And Toasted Oats Or Cloutie Dumpling</p>
<p>2 courses - £12.00 per person 3 courses - £15.00 per person Tea, Coffee &amp; Shortbread - £2.00 per person</p>

If you are interested in joining the group, then please let Violet know, either by email, clicking on the envelope icon on the Group page on the Ayr U3A webpage, or by letting me know - and I will then pass your message on.

### **Outings Group – (but everyone is welcome to join in!)**

\*\*\* Enquiries about any of the Outings should be addressed to Helena or phone the U3A phone 07434 747807 to leave a message.

### **Les Miserables.**

Tickets are still available for "**Les Miserables**" at the Theatre Royal on **Thursday 18 June at 2.30pm.** Dress Circle seating (first level up by lift), tickets in price band A

discounted to £60 (usual price £85). Final payment date **27 January**, after which any spare tickets will be released for general sale.

For more info see: <https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/les-miserables/theatre-royal-glasgow/>

Please confirm your interest as soon as possible!

### **Glasgow Central Station Tour**

We are also aiming to arrange a guided tour of **Glasgow Central Station**, with a date in the near future to be agreed by interested participants. Your responses are eagerly awaited!

The cost per person is £13 (no discounts) with a maximum of 18 people per tour and duration about 1 hour 15 minutes.

Please be aware that there is no disabled access and some historic basement areas involve a number of stairs.

See: <https://www.glasgowcentraltours.co.uk/>

### **Clay Pigeon Shooting.**

Ritchie has been investigating **Clay Pigeon Shooting** at the range in Dalry, and it would be great to get your feedback on this idea so that we can fix a date for a group outing. Typical individual pricing is £34.99 for 25 clay shoots.

### **"9 to 5" - Palace Theatre, Kilmarnock.**

And the next theatre outing.....tickets are now reserved to see the musical **"9 to 5" at the Palace Theatre**, performed by Kilmarnock Amateur Operatic Society. **Saturday 14 March**, 2.30pm performance, tickets £18, payment due early March.

### **'The UK Monsters of Rock Show'**

Peter Fay has highlighted a classic rock production at the Gaiety: 'The UK Monsters of Rock Show' on Friday 31 January at 7.30pm, tickets £18 - £26. More details from Peter, tickets still available."

If you are interested in joining the party, then let either me ([ayru3a@gmail.com](mailto:ayru3a@gmail.com)) or Helena know via the envelope icon on the Outings page on the Ayr U3a website. ([ayru3a.com](http://ayru3a.com))

### **Social and Family History.**

The next meeting of the Social and Family History group is at **2pm on Thursday, 30th January**.

The theme is **"All about me"** and participants are invited to bring a photo or object which triggers a childhood memory.

**NB** - We have a new venue - upstairs in a meeting room at the former BHS store now known as 1517. It's at 88b, High Street, Ayr.

### **Walking Group.**

Marion's proposed walk is through the **Craigengillan Estate** in Dalmellington on **Thursday, 23rd January**.

The walk is on a laid out pathway though there are a few spots quite muddy so appropriate footwear please. It's an approximate 4 mile circuit.

A number 52 bus leaves Ayr for Dalmellington at 9.40 and arrives in Dalmellington at approx. 10.30. The entrance to the estate is opposite the bus stop for the Doon Valley Leisure Centre. Ask the bus driver to let you off at this stop. For Satnav users the postcode is KA6 7PZ.

There is car parking opposite the entrance to Craigengillan. The toilets in the leisure centre can be used by the public. The forecast looks fairly dry, a 20% chance of rain.

Meet at the parking lot for a 10.45am start.

Coffee can be had after the walk in Dalmellington, just a short walk from the estate. If you are interested in going along, please contact Marion or phone the U3A phone 07434 747807 to leave a message.

## **Book Group News**

February's read is "**Dear Mrs Bird**" by **A.J. Pearce** . Set in London in 1941. Emmeline dreams of becoming a Lady War Correspondent but when she spots a job advertisement she finds herself, by mistake, typing letters for an agony aunt. Irresistibly funny and enormously moving, this book is a love letter to the enduring power of friendship, the kindness of strangers and the courage of ordinary people in extraordinary times.

If you are interested in coming along, please do get in touch with Catherine or phone the U3A phone 07434 747807 to leave a message.

## **Games for Fun.**

We have had great fun learning new games including Carcassonne, Ticket to Ride and Card dominoes. Why not come and join us. We meet on Wednesday evenings.

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## **Facebook Group.**

I think most of you are aware that we have a group on Facebook for members to discuss things U3A related. Examples are suggestions for new groups, new outings, events that are yet to happen, or events that have already happened. What the Facebook group isn't intended for is advertising. There have been some instances recently of business advertising. I'm afraid that the Group Administrators are going to have to get heavy handed if these items turn up. So, in future, if you see advertising before we do, then tag it so that we are made aware of it.

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I think that is all the news for the time being. I hope that you have found at least some of it interesting. Remember - if you want me to pass on your news, then **LET ME KNOW!**

Best wishes to you all,

Muriel Downie,  
Membership Secretary,  
AYR U3A.