

Castle Bromwich u3a
January 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Committee Notices

AGM

Advance notice that our AGM will be taking place on 27th March.

If you are willing to stand for election to our committee please let me know, or if you are thinking about joining the committee but would like more information please speak to me.

Fire Drill Reminder

We will be carrying out a full fire drill and evacuation during one of our future meetings.

When the fire alarm sounds you will be required to exit the building as quickly as possible. The fire evacuation assembly point is at the rear of the hall by the tennis courts. A roll call will take place.

The fire drill will be managed by Arden Hall staff and by members of your committee.

If you leave a general meeting early you MUST inform the ladies with the register who are located at the tables as you come in.

Dave Abbott
Chairman

Festival Update – 18th 19th – 20th July 2023

Our offer to participate in the Festival by giving a presentation workshop and a separate display was declined. It seems that activities are already in place according to the reply mail I received after offering our expertise! Disappointing, as the quote from a bulletin I had from the trust earlier indicates differently: -

*“Even though we are not yet in a position to release details of the programme for the Festival in July 2024, a number of members have been anxious to book accommodation. At this early stage, we are still in the process of **attracting activities and working out how those activities can be fitted into a programme.**”*

The programme is very much dependent on the mammoth task of allocating these activities to time slots and preferences, and this detail will not be available until probably February next year”. No information has been released on what those activities and exhibitions are to date, so we have not been able to pass on that information to members as yet.

Festival ticket prices

Tickets are not yet available to buy but the cost of the attending festival will be as follows:

- Day 1, Thursday 18 July - £25 including buffet supper
- Day 2, Friday 19 July - £10 for the full day
- Day 3, Saturday 20 July - £5 for a half day
- Full festival to include all 3 days and a buffet supper on Day 1 - £35

Accommodation Rooms on campus will be £61.80pp for bed and breakfast. They are all en-suite single rooms with tea and coffee making. There are no larger rooms available on site. Some are accessible on the ground floor.

Book Accommodation

From mid-December, we will release registration for the festival dates. You will be able to register to attend the festival on any or all of the days between 18 and 20 July as follows:

- Thursday 18 July – programme will most probably start mid-way through the afternoon to be followed by buffet dinner and musical entertainment and an alternative after dinner activity. £25 inclusive of buffet
- Friday 19 July – full day programme of activities £10 pp not including meals or refreshments (a restaurant will be available for our sole use)
- Saturday 20 July – half day programme £5 pp not including meals or refreshments
- OR, inclusive rate to book for all 3 days £35pp

We can't be clearer at the moment about what will happen on each day but be assured that there will be a good mix of activities throughout.

In February 2024, the completed programme will be published, and members will be able to book the specific sessions they wish to take part in.

Open Day 2024

Castle Bromwich u3a are planning an 'Open Day' in mid-2024, where you can show off your skills and expertise, or just come and join in. Workshops are also proposed to show members 'How to' try out different interests. More later.

Frank Hill

Group Information

Art and Craft Circle

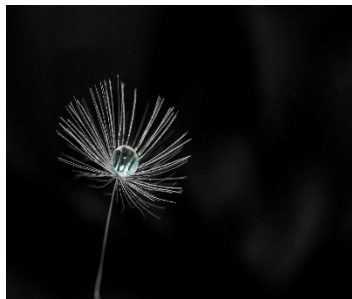
There is no meeting in January
Aylesford Hall

Facilitator: Elaine Johnson

Digital Photography

Date to be confirmed

Our recent proposed session was postponed and we are considering the date of our next get together. However, we have been busy with individual projects: -



The 'Dandymond' John May



The 'Little Man' Dawn Passant



'Oh! Deer!' John Witten



'Waiting' Frank Hill

If you would like to join us then let me (Frank Hill) know via our email at:
castleu3a7@gmail.com

Facilitator: Frank Hill

Poetry Group

The poetry group will not be meeting in January.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday, 1st February at 2.00pm, usual venue.

The theme next time will be 'Families'.

We find poems on a selected theme and read them out to the group.

Please contact Dave & Helen Abbott on 770 1538 if you are interested in joining the group. You will be more than welcome.

Facilitators: Dave and Helen Abbott

Yompers Walking Group

Thursday 25 January

Walk details to be confirmed

Facilitator Bob Dadd Mob.07711608591

Scrabble Group

There is no meeting in January

Castle Bromwich Library

Hurst Lane North, B36 0EY

There is no charge but tea/ coffee biscuits provided for a donation.

All welcome. Beginners and experts alike.

Facilitator: Margaret Riordan

Book Club No 4 at Shard End Library

Wednesday, 3 January , 10:00 am.

Facilitator: Marion Ridsdill

Castle Bromwich Local History Group

Monday 8 January, 2 pm,

Timberley Baptist Church

Facilitators: Barbara Durrant and Paulette Burkill

Art Appreciation

Tuesday 9 January at 1:15

Timberley Lane Baptist Church

Facilitator: Elaine Johnson

BSL (British Sign Language) Group

Thursday 11 January.10:00 till 12:00

Aylesford Hall Shard End

Tea, Coffee and Bikkies (maybe a mince pie or two)

For more info' email: castleu3a7@gmail.com

Thursday Reading Group

Thursday 11 January

Facilitator: June Conley

Table Tennis

Thursday 11 January, 2 pm

Timberley Baptist Church

Facilitator: Diana Price

u3a Strummers

Friday, 12 and 26 January, 10 am for 10:30 start till 11:45.

Timberley Lane Baptist Church, £3.

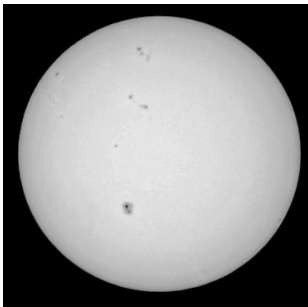
You will need your own instrument and music stand.

Group Facilitator: Graham Ridsdill

Astronuts

Sunday 14 January 19:00 till 21:00

The Astronuts are holding another observing session at Babs Mill Recreation Ground where we will be visiting some of the celestial objects visible in our skies, weather permitting of course! If the skies are not kind to us then we will meet up at the church community rooms on the corner of Cats Lane Shard End from 10.00 till 12.00 noon on the 15th January with tea and biscuits of



course. There is a charge that goes towards the hire of the room and (depending on members) and is about £2.00.

We not only look at the night sky of course, but the daylight one too. Here we see the members of the group preparing to view our own star (with suitably filtered 'scopes of course!) and see what can be 'spotted'



Facilitators: Dawn Passant, Frank Hill

Coffee Mornings

Wednesday 17 January 10 am

Orchard Nursery

Elaine Johnson, CBU3A Interest Groups Coordinator

u3a Committee Meeting

Wednesday 24 January, 10 am

Members welcome to attend

Arden Hall

General Meeting

Wednesday, 31 January, 1:30
Arden Hall

31 January: Roger Brown On this occasion we shall have live piano entertainment. Remember to pay your £1 extra charge per member on entry and please be seated by 1.30pm.

Refreshment Volunteers:

January Meeting: Angela Roberts and Barbara Jenkins
February Meeting: Sue and Carol

Volunteers are needed for tea rota, please contact a committee member if you are able to help. There are some guidelines/tips for the tea rota which is on the committee webpage [Castle Bromwich U3A: Committee Members and Reports \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Do you have books/magazines you would like to swop? If so bring them to the General Meeting.
Michael Buckley

Railway and Railway Model Club

Thursdays 10:00 am until 1:00pm at Model club Cadbury Drive, Castle Vale,
B35 7JE £3 to cover room rent and refreshments.

NEW live steam loco 5 inch gauge. Several models under construction. Come and have a look. You can choose which one(s) you would like to help with. We go out to exhibitions and hold our own exhibition at Arden Hall in January as well as have lots of other activities, outings etc. No charge this year! Come and have a look. Ladies welcome especially with craft and art skills to work on scenic (you might also want to play trains)

Group Facilitator Bob Brueton 07766923361.

Jotters Corner

Find members short stories on the Jotters Corner page on our website:

[Castle Bromwich u3a: Jotters Corner \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Latest short piece: Sailing into the New Year by Ray Pearce

Lunartics

This is a website based group and you will find lots of information on our u3a website page [Castle Bromwich U3A: The Lunartics \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Quizzes

New quizzes from Roger this month (number 24-01 and 24-02). They can be found on the quiz page on the website: [Castle Bromwich u3a: Quizzes \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

U3a Members welcome at these other Community Groups

Young at Heart Dancing

1.30 - 3.30 pm £3.00

At The Remembrance Club. U3A members are always made welcome

Organised by: Bob Brueton

Generations Choir

No auditions just enthusiasm and wanting to meet like-minded people and have lots of fun! Choir meets for rehearsals Thursdays 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm at the Sanctuary Community Centre, Tangmere Drive, Castle Vale. Sing Gary Barlow's song plus Sea Shanties, plus more new songs. Several performances being planned. We also sing popular songs of the decades and from musicals. If you can talk you can sing!

Generations Choir have increased their repertoire to include 'these boots are made for walking' 'Under the Boardwalk' 'Oh what a beautiful morning' 'Skye Boat song' 'Da Doo Ron Ron' and more! Come and join us - great fun- make new friends - NO AUDITIONS! Pop in Thursday s at 5.30pm at the Sanctuary Tangmere drive Castle Vale B35 7PX you will be very welcome.

For details talk to Bob at the General Meeting or call 07766923361. U3A Members very welcome.

Organiser: Bob Brueton

Litter Pick

Mondays 1:30 – 3:00 pm approx. (Weather Permitting)

Meet at Hickories car park (we pick up for about a one and half hours session)

We have a coffee and chat at The Crafty Cow afterwards. All welcome!

Organiser: Mike Davey

Colehill Country Dancing

U3a Coleshill invites CB members to join this group that takes place every 2nd and 4th Tues in Old Courtroom, Coleshill Town Hall, Coleshill. Further details from u3a Coleshill website

General Notices

Newsletters that are printed out for members who are not on email will be brought to general meetings for collection and not mailed out. Unfortunately this has been found necessary due to the increased cost of postage.

The CBU3a calendar can now be found on the calendar page of the website. Please follow this link: [Castle Bromwich u3a: Calendar \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Please forward any information to share or group updates to Marion Ridsdill at mridsdill@hotmail.co.uk or use the group email castleu3a7@gmail.com