

## Website: u3asites.org.uk/coventry-spires/home

## Hot Off the Press January – March 2024

## **General Notices**

Chair: Rene Whitlock Secretary: Kay Gardner Treasurer: Roger Hewitt Membership: Roger Clark Almoner: Vivien Pulley

#### **General Meetings**

Meetings are held at St Barbara's Church, Rochester Road, Coventry, CV5 6AG on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 2:15pm.

#### **Speakers at the General Meeting**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January - Auction of unwanted presents. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Historic Coventry Trust, Charterhouse Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Victor Keene, Coventry Almshouses.

#### Tea Rotas at the General Meeting

January – Table Tennis February – Walking Group

March – Art and Craft Appreciation

### Notes from the Chair

First of all, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I don't know where the year has gone since the last Christmas, but it's here again, can you believe it! I only hope the winter isn't going to be bad.

#### **General Notes**

If you are experiencing difficulty in receiving Hot Off the Press, please contact our Membership Secretary, Roger Clark, who will do his best to sort it out for you, but please check your junk section first if you receive HOTP by email. Thanks

#### Subscription

For new members joining our u3a in January, February or March, the fee is £7, but will be £14 from April onwards. Subscriptions will become due for payment from April.

#### Groups

We need more people for the Walking Group, so please contact Rene or Janet if you would like to join.

## **Social Events**

The dates for day trips in 2024 are 25<sup>th</sup> April, 25th July and 26<sup>th</sup> September. If Rene puts your name on any of the lists for trips, please make a note in your diary to avoid confusion. Thanks.

Regarding the holiday to Holme Lacy House in the Wye Valley on 1<sup>st</sup> July for 5 nights, please note that there is a waiting list for single rooms, but there may be availability for twin rooms so let Rene know if you are interested in this.

# **Group Activities**

## Art & Craft Appreciation. Contact Margaret, Martin or David

Meetings: 12th January - Herbert Art Gallery Biennial Exhibition, meet in cafe from 10:00am 7<sup>th</sup> February - Wildlife Photographer of the Year at The Herbert Art Gallery, £4.00 with a GoCV card, 10:45am suggested time, can be booked in advance, coffee from 10:00am in the cafe. 8<sup>th</sup> March - provisional date for Wolverhampton, details later

### Book Club 1. Meet 10:00am. Contact Margaret.

Meetings: 18<sup>th</sup> January - The Perfect Golden Circle by Ben Myers 22<sup>nd</sup> February - As I walked out one morning by Laurie Lee

Book Club 2. Meet Tuesday morning every 4-6 weeks. Contact Sue. We have places if any members would like to join.

### Bowling. Meet 2:00pm. Contact Graham.

The Bowls Group meets on a Thursday at Nuneaton Bowl, Bermuda Park, St Davids Way, Nuneaton, CV10 7SD. Newcomers will be welcome. Meetings: January 11th, 25th; February 1st, 8th, 22nd, 29th; March 7th, 14th, 28th

### Club Games. Meet 10:30am. Contact Rene.

This group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Hearsall Golf Club, from 10.30 a.m. We can stay for lunch if we want to. The games are usually snooker, dominoes, triominoes, scrabble, card and board games etc., and we all have a bit of fun.

Meetings: 8<sup>th</sup> January; 12<sup>th</sup> February; 11<sup>th</sup> March

#### Craft. Meet 10:30am. Contact Sue

We meet on the second Monday of each month at The Memorial Park Visitor Centre. £2 per session to cover room hire. Tea and coffee included. We try a different craft each month and have done card making, quilling, printing, Tunisian crochet (which was new to all of us!), pottery and many other crafty makes. We are a friendly crowd and would warmly welcome any new members to our group. Meetings: 8<sup>th</sup> January; 12<sup>th</sup> February; 11<sup>th</sup> March

#### Current Affairs. Meet 2:00pm. Contact Irene or John

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday in the month at Hearsall Golf Club. We discuss anything that has been in the news in the past month. Please bring a controversial news item to discuss. New members are welcome. Meetings: 16<sup>th</sup> January; 20<sup>th</sup> February; 19<sup>th</sup> March

#### Film Club. Contact Rene

If I know of any good films at Warwick Arts Centre or the Odeon cinema, I will see who wants to go. Please contact me know if you know any good films you want to go to see.

### French Conversation. Meet 10:30am. Contact Rene

This group meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Visitors' Centre, War Memorial Park, for two hours. We are hopefully a very friendly and informal group, welcoming new members who are looking to practise and improve their French. Generally speaking, it is 'O' level French standard. Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> January; 7<sup>th</sup> February; 6<sup>th</sup> March

### Geography & History. Meet 10:00am. Contact Cathie

Meetings are on the 3rd Monday in the month at The Visitors Centre in the Coventry Memorial Park. There are now spaces in the group and anyone wishing to join please email Cathie. Meetings: January 15<sup>th</sup> - Guy of Warwick by James Rose February 19<sup>th</sup> - 'The rise and fall of the guarrying and mining industries of Warwickshire ' by Brian Ellis

March 18<sup>th</sup> – Mexico 1 John Allsop

## IT. Contact Martin

If you have any problems with your mobile phones and tablets, please contact Martin by either phone or email him and he will be happy to meet you on a one-to-one basis to talk it through.

**Italian for Beginners.** Meet 1:00pm. Contact Felicia This new group has now started and meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month in Room 71 at the Belgrade Theatre. Meetings: 10<sup>th</sup> January; 14<sup>th</sup> February; 13<sup>th</sup> March

## Music & Movement. Meet 2:15pm. Contact Rene

This relatively new group is very popular, so please come along if you want to see what we get up to. It is held at the Albany Social Club until about 3.30pm. Meetings: 17<sup>th</sup> January; 21<sup>st</sup> February; 20<sup>th</sup> March

**Painting and Drawing.** Meet 1:30pm. Contact Roger We meet on alternate Wednesdays at The Visitors Centre in the Coventry Memorial Park until 3:30pm. Meetings: January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>; February 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>; March 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>

### Poetry Appreciation. Meet 2:00pm at Margaret's house. Contact Margaret

Meetings: 16<sup>th</sup> January - Historical people, places and events 20<sup>th</sup> February - Occupations and Jobs March - tbc

### Psychology. Meet 11:00am. Contact Keith

We meet at Hearsall Golf Club in Earlsdon on the 4th Tuesday in the month for around two hours. This group remains very friendly despite differing opinions being aired. New members always very welcome. Meetings: 23<sup>rd</sup> January; 27<sup>th</sup> February; 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Quiz.** Meet 10:15am for 10:30am start. Contact Vivien We shall continue to meet on the 3rd Monday in the month at the United Reformed Church in Warwick Row. The cost is £2 per person and this includes refreshments. Meetings: 15<sup>th</sup> January; 19<sup>th</sup> February; 18<sup>th</sup> March

Rambling. Meet 10:00am. Contact John

You are welcome to join us on rambles (5-7 miles) which start at 10.00 am. Please phone the leader to confirm details. If you wish to lead a walk, please give details to John for inclusion in the next programme.

**Scrabble 1.** Contact: Lesley This group now needs more members.

### Scrabble 2. Meet 10:30am. Contact Vivien

This group now meets in Room 71 at the Belgrade Theatre (which is on the ground floor next to the café). New people wishing to join us would be made very welcome. Remember we play for enjoyment and fun. Meetings: 25<sup>th</sup> January; 29<sup>th</sup> February; 28<sup>th</sup> March

**Table Tennis.** Meet 10:15am for 10:30am start. Contact Rene We meet on the 2nd Thursday in the month in St Barbara's Church Hall at, for one hour. Afterwards we go to one of the cafes in Earlsdon Street for lunch. Meetings: 11<sup>th</sup> January; 8<sup>th</sup> February; 14<sup>th</sup> March

### Walking Group. Meet 10:00am. Contact Janet

We meet every other Thursday (unless there is a general meeting that week). We walk in the countryside around Coventry. Each walk will be about 4 to 4.5 miles long. New walkers are very welcome to join. Meetings: January 11<sup>th</sup> (meal), 25<sup>th</sup>; February 8<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>; March 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>.