

Leicester Newsletter

January 2021

u3asites.org.uk/leicester



'Fungi Birds Nest' by Steph Smith

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is usual around now to wish everybody a Happy New Year but this year the phrase has a special resonance. 2021 surely can't be as bad as 2020 even if, as seems likely at the time of writing, we start it in yet another total lockdown. We may still be in a tunnel but there is more than a glimmer of light at the end of it. There is already one vaccination programme in action and it is likely to be joined by at least one other in the next few weeks. So, maybe we shall be able to get back to having group meetings and all our other u3a activities before too long. It has been interesting to see how technology has developed in response to the crisis. At the beginning of the year we were used to having one to one Skype meetings with family members around the world but since then Zoom has come along enabling people in a variety of locations to hold virtual meetings. Many u3a members have taken part in the weekly Mirthy talks, which have been not dissimilar to our monthly meetings. Zoom and the like do seem to have the potential to be useful to organisations such as ours in the future. Of course, as with all new and developing technologies, making good use of them can be a challenge for the uninitiated which, in the case of Zoom, included all the members of the Committee. As has been pointed out elsewhere, your Committee has been short-handed ever since the last AGM. Fortunately, we have managed to strengthen it by co-opting two new members, Keith Pyne and Henry Paulinski. As you may know, Keith has been the speaker finder for some time and has a list of potential speakers to draw on once we are able to start monthly meetings again. Henry, who has agreed to be Vice Chair, also has the expertise in Zoom-related matters that we have been missing. It is good to be able to finish on an optimistic note. So, once again and with feeling, have a Happy New Year!



Tony Davison (*Chair, Leicester u3a*)

NEWS FROM THE THIRD AGE TRUST

National u3a Monthly Newsletter

This newsletter is produced monthly by National Office and is packed with news from around the UK and loads of great ideas for activities while face-to-face meetings are not possible. See what other u3as are doing to keep their members informed and actively involved in u3a activities.

Registering for this is very straightforward, yet to date less than 10% of members have registered to receive it by email on a regular basis. The link for registering is: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/find>

In the December issue: Winter Learning Programme

As 2020 draws to a close we are scheduling in more learning events and activities for 2021. Have a look at [our online events](#) and [national programmes pages](#) to get involved.

Festive Broadcast of u3a Radio:

Our u3a podcast team have created a special festive episode which will be available to listen to from 25 December. This is in addition to our regular December episode which you can hear on our YouTube Channel. If you have a story that you would like to share with the team, please get in touch.

Third Age Matters

Do you want to help make TAM happen?

We are looking for a volunteer with administrative skills to support the TAM editor. The volunteer needs to be a strong communicator with a friendly telephone manner and a good listener. As part of the role, you will be replying to emails as directed by the editor, mainly communicating with contributors. You will need to have experience in organising and taking minutes of meetings, as part of the role involves attending five editorial board meetings a year, scheduling meetings and doing the agenda.

The role is home-based.

For an informal discussion, contact the Volunteering Officer at NOVolunteer@u3a.org.uk

Join 'Our 1901 Postal Pensioners' Project

Under the guidance of researchers from King's College London, u3a members in England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland are tracking down the life histories of pensioners who retired from the Post Office in 1901.

To help with this, we're currently scouting for u3a family history enthusiasts who would be willing to help out with short Zoom sessions giving tips and advice for our researchers. We're particularly interested in hearing from those with experience researching hospital records, school records, parish registers or postal directories. If you want to get involved, please email u3aslp@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE REGIONAL TRUSTEE – Jean Hogg.

November 2020

So, here we are, back in lockdown and still unable to meet one another as we would like. If this is not to be a pretty miserable winter, somehow we all need to make renewed efforts to keep things going.



Going Forward Together event

On 28th October over 80 u3a members from across the East Midlands attended our virtual event. It went extremely well and I am enormously grateful to all those who helped to bring it together. A link to the recording of the event is available on the East Midlands website.

<http://www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk> I was sorry that not all those who had booked actually attended as there were quite a few people who would have liked to attend but were too late to book. I hope that everyone who did attend found it interesting and worthwhile.

VOICE is an organisation based in Newcastle and part of the National Innovation Centre for Ageing. It has a large number of members who contribute their insights and ideas to improve health research and drive new innovations. They are keen to work with other organisations who contribute to healthy ageing, the Third Age Trust being one of them. They have agreed to set up a discussion tab on their Groups section, which will be a private group for the sole use of u3a members. Questions or statements will be posted with the idea of generating a discussion which will contribute to ongoing u3a research projects or Shared Learning Projects. The first discussion was about Ageism. The instructions for joining the Group are below. I do hope that many of you will sign up and join the discussion!

To request to be a member of the group, click on the link:

<https://www.voice-global.org/>

- To ensure the group is only used by u3a members, you will be asked to fill in your name and the u3a you are a member of. After you click to join the group, a box will appear for you to fill in these details.

- After you click submit, your request to join the group will be reviewed. You will then receive an email to let you know you have been given access to the group page. You will usually be given access to the group by the next working day.

- Once you are a member of the group you will be able to see the full

contents of the group page, including discussions.

- To take part in a discussion, click on the title of discussion topic you would like to contribute to.

NEWS FROM THE NETWORK A date for your diary

Monday 22nd February 7:00pm Network 'Pub Quiz' This will be the next in the series of Network Quizzes open to all members of all u3as in our Network. Put the date in your diary now – more details in due course.

The AGM of the Leicestershire & Rutland Network of u3as was held on 30th October 2020. Please contact the Secretary or the Membership Secretary if you would like a copy of the minutes.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS COORDINATOR

Happy New Year! And I really hope it is, with the great news about the vaccination.

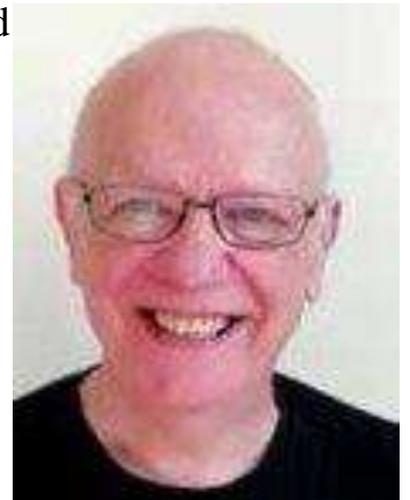
If we can't meet physically, we can meet virtually – that is the next best thing. Thank you once more to all of you who responded brilliantly to my initial call back in April (where has all the time gone?), and regularly over the months, to try to meet on Zoom, WhatsApp, and the other platforms that are available.

It is totally understandable though if you haven't been able to continue your activity, for whatever reason. In this event the original social media, phoning each other, or writing to each other, is great, and valuable.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with news of what you're doing and to ask questions about any problems you may be having. I personally enjoy hearing from you, and I need to know of any issues in order to advise on different learning strategies and approaches; and also, if any of our members are feeling down or isolated.

Below is a list of all our groups who are meeting on Zoom and or other platforms, either regularly or as often as they can; all are open to new members, and they will contact me if there are possibilities of new groups starting. See your contact leaflet for convenors and contact details.

And of course, if anyone has an idea for a new activity group, then do get in touch with me.



Groups meeting by Zoom - Architecture and Design; Bridge 1; Bridge 2; Creative Writing + (email); Cryptic Crosswords 2; Current Affairs; Digital Photography (+Flickr); Discussion 1; Discussion 2; History 1; French Advanced 1; French Intermediate Conversation (+Booklet & email); How Hard Can It Be (+email); Philosophy 1; Needlework and Knitting (+Email & Telephone); Science and Technology; Welsh Improvers.

Groups meeting or keeping in touch by other methods

History 2 BLOG; Natural History (WhatsApp and Email); Craft (Email & Telephone); Bookworms (Email & WhatsApp); Reading for Pleasure (Email only);

And...

Computer Help, Andy Williams, is open for business despite ill health, to advise anyone on how to get onto Zoom, “No Job Too Small”. Do email him: he is more than happy to help with any computer problem from getting us started to more complex issues. Apologies in advance to anyone I have missed out. Do get in touch and I will add information to the list for future newsletters.

Take care!

(Neil Taylor – Groups Coordinator)

Meet Your Committee

The current committee was elected at the AGM in March. Immediately afterwards a short committee meeting was held to appoint the officers. They were: Tony Davison (Chair), Ros Devine (Secretary), Bob Holness (Treasurer) Neil Taylor (Groups Coordinator), Sandra Barker (Wellbeing & Hospitality), Elisabeth Somogyi, Robin Bowler and Margaret Potter (Membership Secretary). It was also agreed to co-opt Colin Derrick who had volunteered as a committee member but was out of the country and not able to submit a nomination form. In his absence the co-option was never confirmed and he is now moving out of Leicester and will not be renewing his membership. Under our constitution we are allowed 12 trustees and can co-opt another 3 until the following AGM. As you can see, this means we were running a u3a of over 400 members with a very small committee and four vacancies. Since then we have recently also co-opted Henry Paulinski and Keith Pyne. Since that initial meeting we have only been able to meet once in Elisabeth’s garden (socially distanced & masked) on 25th June to decide on the banking arrangements caused by the change of officers, and therefore bank signatories. Since that time all

decisions of the committee have been by email and telephone contact. Anything requiring documenting will be submitted for approval as a composite minute when we are all able to meet again. Until minutes are officially agreed and signed they cannot be posted to our web site so you may be forgiven for thinking we are not doing anything! Quite to the contrary, here are just a few of the things we are and have been doing whilst under Covid restrictions in no particular order of importance. We have used email and telephone calls between ourselves to ensure all our activities are known to and approved by all the committee.

- Adaptation of the newsletter. Since our editor stepped down the committee have had to take on this role and have maintained the high standard set previously. Thank you to all who contribute. Suggestions to: newsletter@leicesteru3a.org.uk. This covers our local u3a news as well as significant information from Network Region and National.
- The weekly newssheet was introduced to alert members to on line resources and important updates. It has been very well received. Suggestions to newssheet@leicesteru3a.org.uk
- A Zoom coffee morning was started with the blessing of the convenor of the usual coffee mornings to keep members in touch.
- Shared Learning Projects were started through our Committee Member Elisabeth Somogyi who is also our Research Ambassador: one with the University of Leicester; and the National u3a High Street Project
- The Groups Coordinator, Neil, has encouraged groups to continue to meet safely in whatever way possible, whether it be socially through email or phone, or to continue their activities through Zoom, WhatsApp, Flickr or a combination of all.
- Our Secretary has reported back regularly from the Leicestershire and Rutland u3a Network and significant reports have appeared in either the newsletter or a newssheet.
- We have (virtually) attended the National u3a AGM, and reported back in previous editions of the newsletter, plus reported on Building the Brand, plans for the future.
- Members continue to receive Third Age Matters (TAM) regularly.
- We are considering Zoom meetings if the Covid restrictions are not lifted before the AGM in March. A poll of Zoom users has been sent out and collated by the Membership Secretary.

- For those members not on email, the Membership Secretary initially telephoned them all to ensure they knew they could contact us if they needed help. Since then at least three mail shots have been sent out when important information needed circulating.
- A survey was sent out asking if any member felt isolated and would like to keep in touch by telephone. It also asked for volunteers of which we had a few, but, so far no one asking for regular contact. If you feel it would help you please contact Ros (Secretary).

So, as you can see we have not been idle. In addition since November the Membership Secretary and Treasurer have been occupied with the complexities of the renewals process. So, please do consider lightening our load by offering your services at the next AGM. We need a full committee of willing hands to make our u3a work properly without over burdening any one committee member.

Margaret Potter (Membership Secretary)

REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Creative Writing – Further Competition Entries

LOCKDOWN

We have all become Anchorites.

Reluctant Julians anchored in our cells.

The screen replaces the squint,
the babble of news the Latin prayers.

Children or good neighbours deliver supplies and we hope there is gin with
the cornflakes

or at least a bottle of white.

Old films with obvious backdrops,
last summer's thriller sugary with Cinzano stains,

Cluedo with Miss Scarlet missing
replace the rosary beads told by the hermit.

We are incarcerated. Waiting a release as the news tolls.

For the solitary in the past a quick entry to Heaven was the hope.

For us Heaven would be coffee with a friend,
a grandchild's embrace. Heaven enough for tomorrow.

Peter Kilty

FACING UP

I tell of a lady who reached middle years,
When the sight in her mirror reduced her to tears.
The sagging and bagging gave a look of depravity,
Tho' the cause of her wrinkles was quite simply – **gravity**.
At a nuptial breakfast, she happened to meet
A lady called Sue, whilst very discreet,
Engaged the whole table, without fear of perjury,
With tales of the famous who'd undergone surgery –
The cosmetic kind – 'cos if you're a celeb,
You mustn't look old, or you're labelled a pleb.
The clinic Sue managed was not far away
This was the answer! You just had to pay.
She booked an appointment. She was ready to spend.
Then met the consultant - a person named 'Friend'.
He looked at her wrinkles and cooed straight away,
'I can solve all your problems, as long as you pay'.
Outstanding credentials and recommendations
Convinced her to book him without reservation.
Her family was tearful, her friends, full of dismay,
But she'd saved up her shekels and wanted to pay.
The papers were signed and she shook off her fears;
She most desperately wanted to take off the years.
Mr Friend snipped and stitched and suctioned away,
As he hummed to himself, 'She is ready to pay'.
It all went like clockwork! Delighted; in tears!
He had wound back her features at least 20 years.
She came out of purdah to a fast social whirl.
Now the men quite adored her –she felt like a girl!
Her distant friends gazed on with admiration,
But her closer ones left her in isolation.
For they all shopped at Waitrose for organic farmed
And never used products where beasts had been harmed;
Lentils and soya and seeded wholemeal –
Only food passed their lips where the colour was real.
Now she had flouted their values in life
In altering Nature by means of a knife.
She had gone far beyond their expected way;
Artificial, contrived. *She would just have to pay.* *Cherry Stephenson*

Architecture & Design – Planning White Paper

In mid-October thirteen members attended a Zoom meeting of the Architecture and Design Group. The theme for the meeting was: *The Planning White Paper, Planning for the Future*. The group convenor introduced the topic by quoting from the introduction to the White Paper where it says that the government intends to “tear down the current planning system and start again”.

Members of the Group led on presenting aspects of the White Paper for discussion.

The first presentation set the context for us all by briefly describing the current planning system - one where developers and individuals are required to submit their planning applications for council officer scrutiny and public comment before a decision can be made and approval granted. Applications must show how they fit within parameters set within the local authority’s existing Local Plan. Confusingly, Local Authorities are currently finalising the next version of their Local Plans, while a White Paper proposing a future different model for them is out for consultation.

The country undeniably has a shortage of housing. The key questions are: what kind of housing is needed; where is it needed; what proportions of it should it be for private ownership and for social rent; should it be created through new build or conversion; and to what quality standards.

Our second presenter spoke about the house building targets proposed in the White Paper – the government wants a national annual target of 300,000 new homes. These are primarily to be houses for first time buyers rather than social housing for rent, which, it could be argued is more needed. The national target will be divided up among Local Authorities according to a formula and the targets given to local authorities will be legally binding.

A third member spoke about where it is intended these houses should be built. The White Paper proposes that new Local Plans will identify land within a local authority area as being in one of three bands – Growth, Renewal or Protection. Once areas have been identified in a new Local Plan, developers and others can proceed to development with much less involvement from the local authority or opportunity for comment by local citizens.

- Designated Growth areas will be areas deemed to be automatically suitable for substantial development, such as, new settlements; urban extension; urban regeneration; areas around universities (specifically for growth focussed businesses). No further planning permission will be required in these areas.
- Designated Renewal areas will be deemed suitable for development, such as, existing built up areas; gentle densification; infill in residential areas, including in gardens; small sites on the edges of villages. The statutory presumption in planning law in areas designated as for Renewal will be in favour of development.
- Designated Protection areas include Green Belt; Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; conservation areas; local wildlife sites; flood risk areas where the flood risk cannot be mitigated; areas of countryside just next to Growth and Renewal areas. These are the only areas that will be subject to a local planning application process

What about the look and the standard of the houses built? The final presenter spoke about the White Paper proposals on what it refers to as Design Codes and on Permitted Development. Design Codes would cover issues such as: proportion of streets to green space, street trees, parking plans, cycling and walking strategies etc. Where a local authority is not able to finalise its own local Design Code in time, then a national Design Code will be imposed. The White Paper mentions reviving a former Pattern Book approach in some bigger developments, rather than requiring individually architect designed development. She also explained that Permitted Development is already a concept in existing planning regulation, where for example people can build an extension without needing planning permission if it is less than a certain size in proportion to the main building. In recent years, Permitted Development and Change of Use have been liberalised. The White Paper wants this to continue and may seek further liberalisation.

There was discussion between each presentation as we went along with a variety of views expressed. Most, though not all, of the group present, concluded that the proposals outlined in the White Paper seem to strengthen central government powers to determine local house building while reducing the powers of local authorities to rule on individual projects, and make it easier for developers to build faster and without challenge while only allowing local people to express views at initial

overarching Local Plan and Design Code stages. We also could not see how this will increase the supply of affordable housing for those who most need it.

The final date for responding to the consultation on this White Paper has passed, but if you are interested in how your neighbourhood and its surrounding area are developed in future, and what kind of housing stock we need in this country there is clearly much to keep an eye on as government policy in this area unfolds.

(Annie Merton – member of Architecture & Design Group)

Natural History Group report by Steph Smith – Fungus Foray

On the morning of Tuesday 3rd November, the Natural History group had a socially-distanced fungus hunt at Shady Lane Arboretum. This isn't our regular day for meeting up, but the usual meeting day the previous week was very rainy, so being wimps, we put it forward a week. Correctly so, as it turned out, for the day was dry and not cold. Unfortunately, though we were keen to show our faces, the fungi were less so, proving to be rather elusive on the day. The visit was not fruitless, though, and began with a foray into the wooded area so our Convenor, Richard Edwards, could show us 'the largest fungus in the world'. It turned out not to be a giant toadstool or a massive bracket fungus on the side of a tree, as we'd been expecting, but a few dark, fine strands not unlike long, black bootlaces growing up the side of a dead pine tree. These turned out to be the rhizomorphs of the Honey Fungus, *Armillaria* sp, (there are several species), which seek out and infect healthy trees, killing them and then feeding on the dead remains. The rhizomorphs spread through the soil, from tree to tree, and can cover huge areas, hence it being the 'largest fungus in the world'!

Finding the usual toadstools on the ground was very difficult, as the ground was covered in several layers of variously decayed leaf litter. The fungi we did find were all growing on dead branches so were doing their bit for recycling of natural materials. The ones we found and were able to identify were Turkey Tail, *Trames versicolor*, and Jelly Ear, *Auricularia auricula-judae*. This last one lives up to its name and looks just like an ear made of jelly! We also found some Birds Nest Fungi, though I've not been able to identify the species. If you look carefully at the photo, you can see inside the little cups of the fungus, small round structures called peridioles, which contain the spores. These are dispersed by raindrops falling on them

and splashing them out of the cup. We also found some very pretty Flat Oysterling fungus, *Crepidotus applanatus*, massed on a dead log. They look tasty, but are definitely inedible! The meeting concluded with a socially distanced visit to The Cow and Plough for a cuppa and chat to decide our next move. Reluctantly, we agreed to suspend further meetings until the New Year and review the situation then.

(Photos and article by Steph Smith – Member of Natural History Group)

Unidentified Fungi



Fungi Jelly ear



Fungi Turkey Tail



Fungi Honey Fungus



Written on the return – Autumn *Barbara Russell*
(member of the Natural History Group)

The leaves are falling,
Autumn's here.
The skies are darkening,
Winter's near.

But just today the sun shines bright,
Our spirits soar in such delight,
Walking together amongst the trees.
Give thanks for moments such as these.

Digital Photography

The Digital Photography Group has continued to meet monthly by Zoom. Members have logged in punctually and, despite the limitations of the Covid regulations, we have just gained a new member. The October meeting was on the theme of creating a narrative in just a few images.

Amongst others, we were entertained by the mysterious adventures of an old-fashioned flatiron, the life of a plant, and a Bank Robbery that wasn't. November saw a variety of takes on the topic of feet. Furniture feet, statuary, feet in boots, and bare feet, corns and all and, of course, one and two foot rulers, were amongst the presentations. Even in lockdown, the group continues to surprise itself with the many ways an idea can be interpreted. *Richard Taylor (Convenor Digital Photography Group)*

AND - Some photos by -

Tony Locke (Member)

As the weather has changed to gloomy and damp, I looked through the photographs I had taken in the autumn. There were more butterflies than I'd noticed in previous years. I was surprised by how much territory they covered and their speed. So, they presented a challenge to photograph them in the brief moments they settled to feed on the nectar.



I used a mobile phone to photograph them. Focussing in the few seconds was chance and hampered by sunlight on the screen. As I reflect on the experience, I realise what a relaxing, but concentrating experience it was. Trying to anticipate where the butterfly would land, getting close in an

instant and trying to avoid being spotted. The moth in bright daylight, without benefit of camouflage, was much more accommodating. I was surprised at the different spot patterns on white butterflies. One photograph also shows malformation or damage to the wing.



It would probably have been much easier with a zoom lens on a digital camera, but trying to get sharp images with the mobile phone became part of the excitement of the chase. I had seen blue butterflies in the early summer, but in the autumn the elusive one was so tiny - smaller than my little fingernail, fast and unpredictable in flight. The unusual experience of just watching what appeared to be territorial patrols showed the considerable distances they covered.



Brief Encounter *by Mike Westmoreland (Member)*

In the summer of 1965 I spent a couple of months driving across the United States. My companion was doing some research into art collections, and one of these was at the Chicago Art Museum.

The Museum is situated right on the lakeshore in downtown Chicago, so I took the opportunity to do some exploring while Bruce took himself around the gallery. One day I heard that the small park next to the museum was scheduled to stage a protest meeting about school segregation in the city; not something I would have bothered with except that the speaker was someone I had heard of as a leader in the Southern Civil Rights movement in the previous year or two. He had made a rousing speech during a march on Washington beginning with the words “I have a dream” which epitomises his life’s work.

His name was Martin Luther King; in 1965 not quite yet the legend of world history that he is now: perhaps it takes something spectacular like getting yourself assassinated to make you one of those. America is the place where people with guns try to become world famous themselves simply by assassinating already famous people such as pop singer John Lennon.

The open air meeting was attended by a small crowd, perhaps a dozen of us, and he was only a yard or so away. I would love to say that it was a seminal moment in my life but I have to confess that I can remember it only as a parochial affair. It seemed like the kind of local committee meeting so familiar I guess to politicians the world over. It left me wondering why I had bothered after all. Speakers Corner at London’s Hyde Park on a Sunday afternoon seemed much more atmospheric.

Three years later of course, King himself paid the penalty for being too famous.

PUZZLE CORNER

Cryptic Crossword (created by Cryptic Crossword 2 Group) This crossword has also been submitted to TAM. I think this one is somewhat harder than the ones usually in the Newsletter, but still worth trying.

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	
9			10											
	■		■		■		■		■		■	■	■	
11								■	12			13		
	■	■	■		■		■	14	■		■		■	
15		16		■	17									
	■	■		18	■		■		■		■		■	■
19										■	20			21
	■		■		■		■		■	22	■	■	■	
23						■	24					25		
	■	■	■		■	26	■		■		■		■	
27		28										■	29	
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	
30								■	31					

CLUES ‘1 across and 17 across’, 5 across, 10 across, 6 down, 19 down, and 21 down 6 down are of a kind relevant to the u3a and 18 down alludes to another of that kind.

ACROSS

- 1 See C-in-C involved in Physics say (7)
- 5 Bridge-like language (7)
- 9 Teachers from Brazil? (3)
- 10 Game involving nine battles (5,6)
- 11 We all have an ID body (8)
- 12 Some of these ski mostly on a journey to the Inuit (6)
- 15 Good boy is pleased (4)
- 17 College once unknown with no record therein for application of 1 across (10)
- 19 Those going between to bury TV etc (10)
- 20 That man heard a song (4)
- 23 Checks German car on back street (6)
- 24 Evening suffered by Wagner's gods (8)
- 27 Child stationer as soldier (11)
- 29 A rower sits inboard (3)
- 30 They favour bearskins we hear (7)
- 31 Purported that lion played with man (7)

DOWN

- 1 Chant in key - squealing (7)
- 2 Fibre found in some thistles (5)
- 3 Record that gallery is closed (6)
- 4 Dissatisfied with beer in Eastern sea (10)
- 5 Dogs and cats move up a notch (4)
- 6 Dislike of one kind (8)
- 7 Charged particle - not a Scottish island (3)
- 8 The man's a conservative? - that was in the past (7)
- 13 Metal unknown, that's sarcastic (5)
- 14 Presidentess might one say? - female seat? - no the reverse of that (10)
- 16 Performed account by poet Hughes (5)
- 18 Scripts may be 'Creative' (8)
- 19 I chat endlessly with a Scotsman in this language (7)
- 21 Beat up a Russian mountain - that's simple (7)
- 22 Ample numbers will include a full assembly (6)
- 25 Queen in formal dress has become larger (5)
- 26 Supports - they're not wanted by 30 across (4)
- 28 Fashion and Design leaders create a short-lived enthusiasm (3)

Crossword Solution

¹ S	C	² I	E	³ N	C	⁴ E		⁵ S	P	⁶ A	N	⁷ I	S	⁸ H
I		S		O		M		T		V		O		I
⁹ N	U	T		¹⁰ T	A	B	L	E	T	E	N	N	I	S
G		L		A		I		P		R				T
¹¹ I	D	E	N	T	I	T	Y		¹² E	S	K	¹³ I	M	O
N				E		T		¹⁴ C		I		R		R
¹⁵ G	L	¹⁶ A	D		¹⁷ T	E	C	H	N	O	L	O	G	Y
		C		¹⁸ W		R		A		N		N		
¹⁹ I	N	T	E	R	M	E	D	I	A		²⁰ H	Y	M	²¹ N
T		E		I		D		R		²² P				A
²³ A	U	D	I	T	S		²⁴ T	W	I	L	I	²⁵ G	H	T
L				I		²⁶ B		O		E		R		U
²⁷ I	N	²⁸ F	A	N	T	R	Y	M	A	N		²⁹ O	A	R
A		A		G		A		A		U		W		A
³⁰ N	U	D	I	S	T	S		³¹ N	O	M	I	N	A	L

About the Newsletter

Can you hear me?

Is there no one out there willing to help produce the newsletter to ensure its continuation? It doesn't have to be a Committee post. Don't be shy. If you think you can offer to help in any capacity please ring me to discuss this. My details are in your contact list.

We already have two very able proof readers to whom a big vote of thanks is due.

(Margaret Potter – Temporary Editor)

Delivery

The newsletter is currently not being printed, and is only being delivered to members by email as a pdf file.

Contributions

The deadline for items to be included in the February Newsletter is Monday 25th January 2021. Contributions (from convenors and members) should be sent to the editor at: newsletter@leicesteru3a.org.uk

If you want to submit your entry as hard copy, please contact the Editor, or the Membership Secretary for the postal address.

We are always pleased to receive brief reports from groups about their recent activities and extend our thanks to all the authors who have done so. Please keep them coming. The occasional picture would be welcome as well. Please keep all articles to a maximum of about 350 words. If you have a story or a report that is considerably longer than that, we can edit it into two (or more if it's very long!) shorter articles to be published in subsequent newsletters if we are short of space.

When the current restrictions are lifted Leicester u3a will resume its meetings on the second Tuesday of each month (except August and December) at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road, LE2 3AH, and many special interest groups will then continue to meet regularly in members' homes and elsewhere.