

# Lymm and Thelwall u3a

## Newsletter

June 2023

Registered Charity Number 1182457

Dear All,

This is my first newsletter since becoming Chair and I am looking forward to the year ahead with a great team on the new Committee. We will do our very best for you all.

I am delighted that Marcia Dale has agreed to become Vice-Chair. Marcia is a very active member of u3a. She runs the Striders Walking Group as well as enjoying Ukulele and Wellbeing Birdwatching, amongst other groups. Marcia has been a committee Trustee for three years, as Venues Secretary. Rod King is our new Treasurer. He leads the Ukulele Group. Pauline Holloway has become our new Secretary. She is relatively new to the organisation and has been part of the Meet and Greet team for the last few Members' Meetings.

I am pleased that John and Catherine Bower, with all their extensive experience of u3a, have agreed to continue as Trustees, looking after Publicity and, in John's case, keeping our IT in order. Lynn Bryant returns to co-ordinate social and other events. Muriel Howarth will continue as Interest Groups Co-ordinator. Allan Sealby and Geoff Kelly are new faces who will provide valuable support and Christine Ballance will continue in her non-committee role as Speakers' Secretary.

We are very lucky to have such a thriving u3a. Not all areas do! We have so many people who volunteer their time to make it so. There are our ever-important Interest Group Leaders, our Committee members, our friendly Meet and Greet volunteers and Refreshment team at our Members' Meetings, our Social team who organise events, general volunteers who help at meetings and socials with chairs etc. and also all of you who offer friendly words and encouragement to newcomers. Thankyou. I am lucky to be part of you and aim to work tirelessly to feed your interests to provide fun and develop friendships. Susan - Chair

### Members' Meetings - Christine Ballance

*Our Members' Meetings are held at Thelwall Parish Hall on the **third Thursday** of the month.*

***Visitors** are welcome to attend two meetings before joining.*

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June** from 10.00 a.m. for a 10.30 a.m. start. Refreshments will be served from 10.00 a.m. Do come along early for a drink and chat.

#### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

**Kevin & Joy Siddall A Musical Meander Around Britain**

Highly recommended by Sandbach u3a and Oldham u3a, this "Show-Talk" will be a musical tour of the British Isles, with stops at towns & cities to share stories, facts and songs from a variety of musical genres.

#### **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

**Josephine Gosling Travel talk "Strolls Past Structures"**

An illustrated talk with a digital photograph show, looking at the various structures passed on walks in Britain and Europe. For example: How was a real tiny man served in a pie? What are the seven wonders of the waterways? Where is the Druid's Temple? And many more.

#### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

**No meeting**

#### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**Anna Alexander**

**Child Labour in Warrington**

Anna's talk will look at the industries in Warrington in the first half of the nineteenth century and the types of jobs in which children, as young as six years old, would be employed.

Events and Social – Any ideas for events please contact [events@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:events@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk).

## **Stop Press Stop Press Stop Press** **We do have a few places available**

**Come Cruise With Us** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June

The take up has been great, we now have more than 40 members who will be sailing with us on the City Centre Cruise with Lunch on the waterways of Manchester and Salford

The cost is £24.99 and includes a 3 course lunch.

We do have a few places left, for more information and how to pay email Lynn

**before Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June at [lynnbryantu3a@outlook.com](mailto:lynnbryantu3a@outlook.com)**

Next week final information will be emailed to members who are joining us.

**New  
Event**

### **Summer Jolly : Laskey Farm**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 2.00 p.m.

Join us for a Summer Jolly at Laskey Farm Gardens.  
We will be able to admire the beautiful gardens and then enjoy refreshments with fresh scones and cream or cake.  
This will be outside weather permitting but if the weather is inclement we will retire to a barn.



If you would like to join us please email Yvonne at [yvonneclayton2@talktalk.net](mailto:yvonneclayton2@talktalk.net)

Please book your place as soon as possible as places are limited

The cost will be £12.

Payment details will be sent to you in due course!



### **Beyond All Things Creative Exhibition**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June St Mary's Church Hall 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m.**

We are excited about our exhibition, part of the Lymm Festival. It is a super way of showing the wonderful things that our creative groups produce and also what other groups have to offer all our members. It is a lovely u3a event. The Art, Stitch and Natter, Mosaics, Flower Arranging and Sketching Groups will be showing their work and there will be other groups represented such as Cycling and Walking. The Ukulele group will be strumming for us!

Please try and support this event. The exhibition will be open from 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m. - **refreshments available too!**

## Spotlight on...the Red, White and Blue Social

Fifty eight Members gathered at the Village Hall on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May in high spirits and bedecked in some wonderful red, white and blue outfits. The hall was festooned with bunting and the tables had been decorated with wonderful flower arrangements designed by Christine and Margaret.



Once everyone had gathered, the afternoon got off to a great start as our very own Ukulele group played a number of songs that we all sang along to and, as one member remarked, it was a fun way to start as it set a happy tone for the afternoon.

Whilst waiting for the drinks to be dispensed for the toast to the King we played a game of Sit Down Bingo which Jenn

won after a tight finish!! Gordon then proposed the toast to our new King Charles III after which the buffet was served.



The food was provided by an outside caterer. It looked lovely with a good spread of different food and it tasted wonderful.



A survey after the meal showed the buffet to have been a great success and there was a nice touch near the end of the party when Julie, the caterer, popped back in to tidy away the buffet and we were all able to thank her

(and present her with a chocolate medal)!

The Red, White and Blue quiz provide by David in his Union Jack t-shirt was well-received and had our brains thinking. It was won by the super brains on this table!!



The Best Crown of the day is worth mentioning. It was brought by Pam and had been worn by her mother when she was Lymm May Queen in 1928!!



Thank you to all who came and made it such fun, to the team who helped arrange the event and set if all up and also to all the tidy up-ers!



Thank you to the Ukulele group for the music, David for the quiz, Christine and Margaret for the flowers, and to everyone who provided raffle prizes. It was a lovely afternoon.



## Lymm May Queen 1928

As mentioned in the last article here is Pamela Earnshaw with the beautiful crown that her mother wore at the 1928 Lymm May Queen. The crown is tiny and very intricate. It was a worthy winner of our crown competition.



## A trip to Windsor Castle to visit Prince William

As mentioned in the February Newsletter, our u3a member Margaret King, after over 50 years of working in education, was awarded an M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours list (2023) for Services to Education and the Community in Cheshire. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Margaret and her family travelled to Windsor Castle where she received her M.B.E from HRH Prince William, the Prince of Wales.

Margaret said, "I was delighted to receive this award.

It was quite unexpected. Over the years I have simply done what I thought was the right thing to do and am proud to have been helped by so many excellent staff and colleagues along the way."

Since establishing Lymm Dance in 1987 Margaret has worked tirelessly to create opportunities for children in the Warrington area. Four years later she set up the Rosebank Centre on Pepper Street in Lymm, initially as a Nursery School before expanding to wrap around care either side of the primary school day.

The Lakes Centre Nursery in Orford followed in 2004, a joint initiative with Warrington Borough Council. In 2008, she created 'Naturegarten' nursery, one of the first 'forest schools', in the grounds of Ravenbank Community Primary School. This provided a link between Rosebank and primary education.

Margaret's unstinting work over many years has provided excellence and opportunity for thousands of children in Lymm and Warrington.



New  
Group

## News from our Interest Groups - Muriel Howarth [groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)

Please let me know if you have any ideas for new clubs. You don't have to be an expert in a subject, just share an interest with others as the idea is that we all learn together.

We have news of a proposal for a new French Conversation group for members who have a grasp of French and wish to indulge in chatting in French. Alison Beattie and Christine Ballance are collecting a list of members who are interested in this. For more information please contact me and I will send your request to Alison.

## Group Gossip

If Group Leaders would like information adding to the next newsletter please send a few words or pictures direct to me, Sue Mitchell, at [newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk) by **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June** due to holiday commitments!!!!

### Badminton Group

We meet weekly at Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane (off the car park at the rear) at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings.

We currently have a total of nine players, but any who have played previously are welcome to join us. The subscription to cover rental and equipment is around £10 per month, but variable depending on playing numbers, etc.

### Cinema

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May there were a number of u3a members spotted around the audience at the MISS SAIGON 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Theatrical Film Screening at the Altrincham Garrick. It was a wonderful production of a harrowing story!

After the finale we were about to leave when Eve said, "Don't go yet"! We then watched another fascinating twenty-five minutes when the original cast from the first production came on stage and sang their songs and danced alongside the second production! A number of us had seen it live on the stage in London. I wish I had!!



### Crown Green Bowling

The Crown Green Bowling Group meets at High Legh Bowling Green (adjacent to the Village Hall triangle, off A50) on Monday afternoons at 1.50 p.m. for a 2.00 p.m. start.

A tea break is taken around 3.00 p.m. and the sessions end around 4.00 p.m.

Any interested member is very welcome to join us and instruction can be provided for any novices.

The weekly charge is 50p to cover refreshments.



### Flower Arranging

In the last Flower Arranging workshop we created Countryside designs using jars and with support from a variety of plant materials. A warm welcome to Melanie who joined us.



### Genealogy

Thanks to Geoff who at our last meeting who gave us an excellent presentation and insight into the preservation of old photos and documents. He showed us that there is a need to handle things correctly to preserve stories and important links from our past because once they are damaged they cannot be replaced.

A reminder about the 11<sup>th</sup> u3a Peak District Family History Conference on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at the Palace Hotel in Buxton:

Mary Evans – 'Chasing those Brickwalls!'

Dave Annal – Death & Taxes

Jackie Depelle – "Digging into the Parish Chest"

Dr Penny Walters – "Why the Welsh left Wales"

Tickets: £30. Book early to avoid disappointment - it's always very popular. It includes talks, refreshments and a two-course finger buffet lunch. To book your place, please complete the booking form on this link:

<https://forms.gle/mXnsgpBhQpmafuNU6>

### Sketching Out

A decision has yet to be taken as to whether we will be able to have a Sketching Out session in June as we suspect that many people will be on holiday but I will let you know.

Our July session will be on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July between 10.00 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. when we have been invited to sketch the house & Gardens at THELWALL OLD HALL which is on Ferry Road in Thelwall (details to follow).

### Walking Groups:-

#### 4 to 6ers

We met at the Boars Head and the walk took us into Lyme Park, passed the Mansion House and the Cage where we enjoyed the views with a coffee break. The return was through fields to the Middlewich Way and back to Nelson Visitors Centre near the Boars Head. Thanks for organising a very enjoyable walk, John.

#### Striders

The Met office told us once again that we were going to get wet on a Striders walk and that wet weather gear would be required! The wonderful walk was led by Barbara through stunning scenery and wild life up through the atmospheric Macclesfield Forest to the summit of



Shutlingsloe then over moors and fields. Thanks Barbara for a superb walk!!

The June walk will be Moel Famau, near Mold.

#### Theatre

Fourteen members attended 'Witness for the Prosecution' by Agatha Christie at the Garrick on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 p.m., an impressive production of one of Agatha Christie's most accomplished mysteries. We were kept guessing to the very end!

#### Ukulele

Our new play list which we feature for three weeks includes old favourites 'Old Man's a Dustman', 'Ob-Bla-Di-Ob-Bla-Da', and 'Do Wah Diddy Diddy'!!

We then play our performance songs. We meet every Tuesday. If you fancy joining us contact Rod via the webpage.

#### Wellbeing Birdwatching

Our latest trip was to Grappenhall Woods and Canal. A pair of grey wagtails within yards of the car park set the tone. There was plenty to see and record on our Merlin apps. The weather was perfect.

## u3a – Online Learning Events

### LEO - the World's First Business Computer

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 16 2.00 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.

**From cakes to computers - LEO, the World's First Business Computer.**

The world's very first business computer was designed and manufactured, not by one of the electronics giants such as IBM, but by J Lyons & Co, better known for its Teashops and Corner House Restaurants, its Swiss Rolls and Fruit Pies.

After World War 2, the company realised that some form of automation was essential for processes such as stock control and pay-roll. There was nothing available at this time to meet their needs so they set about managing the design and manufacture of their own computer. After just 2 years' development, they produced an operational product in 1951, naming it LEO.

Neville Lyons, the Speaker, is a relative of the J Lyons company's co-founder, Sir Joseph Lyons. He introduces his illustrated presentation with a brief resume of the company's activities and achievements prior to LEO. He then explains how the LEO project was conceived and progressed, the personalities involved and some of its main features.

*This event is for u3a members only.*

### Expedition Cruising An Antarctic Adventure

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2.00 p.m.

Neil Stevenson speaks about visiting the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsular

**Neil Stevenson:** Neil has travelled to some of the least visited and most remote parts of the world. This series of talks are about visiting parts of the world with few or no inhabitants. Places that can best be accessed by small cruise ships. The talk features the fauna and historical background to the places visited.



#### How to join these events

These are free online events for members. Press the events link below and then click on Online learning events. You will find a selection of other free events.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events>

**Our Groups** Please **always** contact the Group leader via the group page on the website. Click the icon to email the Group Leader.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Regular Meeting Contact</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Art	Friday a.m.	St Mary's Church Hall
Badminton	Wednesday a.m.	Grappenhall Community Centre
Book Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday a.m.	The Spread Eagle, Lymm
Book Club 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday a.m.	The Little Manor, Thelwall
Crown Green Bowling	Monday p.m.	High Legh Bowling Club
Canoeing Water Safety	Occasional Sessions	
Climate and Environment	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday p.m.	
Cinema	Occasional Outings	Various
Cycle maintenance	As and when required	
Cycling	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	Various, see web site
Flower Arranging	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday p.m.	St. Mary's Church Hall
French (Advanced)	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday a.m.	The Sanctuary Hub
Genealogy	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday am	Lymm Village Hall
German	Monday	Private home and via zoom
The Lunch Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	Contact via website
The Lunch Bunch	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	Contact via website
Mosaic	Friday a.m.	St. Mary's Church Hall
Music Appreciation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday p.m.	Lymm Youth / Community Centre
Philosophy	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday a.m.	The Spread Eagle, Lymm
Sketching Out	Last Monday of the Month	Various
Storytellers	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	The Spread Eagle
Stitch 'n' Natter	Wednesday a.m.	The Little Manor, Thelwall
Theatre and Concert	See web site	Various
Ukulele	Tuesday evening	United Reform Church
Walking Strollers	See website	Various
Walking 4-6ers	See Website	Various
Walking Striders	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Various
Wellbeing Birdwatching	Friday a.m. fortnightly	Various Locations



### Important Notice about recycling Medicine Blister Packs



#### Please don't bring Medical Blister Packs to the Members Meetings!

As Superdrug will only take packs from individuals we can't collect these at the Members' Meetings. Instead please take them back to your own pharmacy.

We will **continue** to collect contact lenses and their blister packs, toothpaste tubes, spectacles (don't require glasses cases) and stamps.

For those members who have no online access this letter can be posted to them.

## Contact Us

Lymm and Thelwall u3a web site:

[Lymm & Thelwall u3a: Welcome To Lymm & Thelwall u3a \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk)

Lymm and Thelwall u3a Facebook page:

[Lymm & Thelwall u3a - Home | Facebook](#)

[enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)

## Committee Contact Details

<b>Chair</b>	Susan Mitchell	<a href="mailto:chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Marcia Dale	<a href="mailto:vicechair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">vicechair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Pauline Holloway	<a href="mailto:secretary@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">secretary@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rod King	<a href="mailto:treasurer@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">treasurer@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Membership</b>	John and Catherine Bower	<a href="mailto:membership@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">membership@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Venues</b>	Marcia Dale	<a href="mailto:venues@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">venues@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Group Coordinator</b>	Muriel Howarth	<a href="mailto:groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>IT Support</b>	John Bower	<a href="mailto:it@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">it@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Social</b>	Lynn Bryant	
<b>Committee member</b>	Geoff Kelly	
<b>Committee member</b>	Allan Sealby	

### Non Committee

<b>Speakers</b>	Christine Ballance	<a href="mailto:speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Publicity</b>	Catherine Bower	<a href="mailto:publicity@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">publicity@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Sue Mitchell	<a href="mailto:newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>

