



Mansfield & District u3a

Newsletter November 2023

Registered Charity No 116417

Learn, Laugh, Live

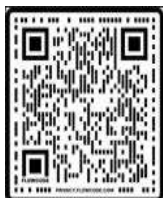
The Talented Mr Harrison



Marilyn Dibble photographed with James Ellson, Guest Speaker at the Gardening Club Meeting on Tuesday 3 October. Full report inside.



Models and poppies, all created by our own hero, Bill Harrison are on display at Pleasley Church.



U3a QR code

MONTH	Members' Meetings are held in the 1861 Suite, Mansfield Town Football Club, One Call Stadium, Quarry Lane, Mansfield, NG18 5DA commencing at 10.00am
Tuesday November 21	Co-op – Legal Issues
Tuesday December 12	Christmas Lunch to be held at The Hostess Restaurant, Sookholme, NG19 8LL. 12 noon – 3 course lunch + coffee and mince pies.

*Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/Mansfield/home
Facebook page : Mansfield u3a*

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Many thanks for members' continual support of events the Social Committee organise – the more the merrier, lots of laughter, fun and new friendships forged.

The Lunch Time Quiz on Friday 13 October 2023 was an excellent event enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to Jacqueline and Jane for their hard work in creating such diverse and interesting questions.

NOVEMBER MAIN MEETING – Tuesday 21 November 9.30am

Please note November's Main Meeting will start earlier at 9.30am because of the Christmas stalls. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning rather than a mid-break. We will be selling tea/coffee and biscuits + mince pies and cake. There will be stalls with books, beadwork, handmade greetings cards, crafts and jigsaws. Notices will begin at 10.45am, followed by the speaker – Co-op - Legal Issues. The morning will end at 12.30pm

DUKERIES u3a ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 24 November 6.30pm, Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton, NG22 9AP Doors Open 6.30pm Quiz starts 7.00pm Supper 7.45 pm Supper - Chicken and vegetable casserole with mash, bread roll, tea and coffee Vegetarian and gluten free options available. Bring your own drinks and glasses, and a pen!

REFINED RESTAURANT - Thursday 30 November 1pm.

37 places have been booked at the restaurant. A deposit of £10 has been collected, the balance is paid at the restaurant. Main Course £8.95, 2 courses £12.50, 3 courses £15.

Please note there are no more places available.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Tuesday 12 December 12pm

The Hostess Restaurant, Sookholme Road, NG19 8LL 12.00pm – 3 course lunch + coffee and mince pies – the total cost is a non-refundable £19. Please note there are no more places available.

BURNS NIGHT/REFINED RESTAURANT – Wednesday 24 January 6.30pm

20 places have been booked at the restaurant. A deposit of £10 will be collected at the Main Meeting on Tuesday 21 November, the balance is paid at the restaurant. 3 courses £22.50.

CHINESE NEW YEAR – Thursday 8 February 7pm

Springwater Restaurant, Calverton -12 places have been booked at the restaurant. Entertainment starts at 9:30 pm and ends about midnight, this includes a lion dance, disco and fireworks display. A non-refundable deposit of £5 has been collected. The total cost is £30 per person. The balance is payable on the night. Please note there are no more places available.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Murder Mystery Event The Olde Barn Hotel, Retford February, 2024

Treasure Hunt Wednesday April 10 2024 starting at The Mansfield Bowling Club.

North Notts. Day Wednesday 12 June 2024 John Fretwell Centre

River Trent boat trip – Friday 10 July 2024

-o0o-

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR - ELAINE HUCKERBY



How long will it be before you start wearing gloves and scarves? There is a definite nip in the air and the turning leaves underfoot remind us that it's most definitely autumn. Fortunately, we don't have to hibernate over the winter months – the activity groups continue to meet, and we already have a couple of successful events under our belts. The Quiz was a great success, with thanks to Jane and Jackie for stimulating the old grey matter again and, of course, to the Social Committee for pulling the event together. The Hallowe'en Party was our second joint venture with Forest

Town and Dukeries u3as and featured some of our members donning interesting costumes! It was a fun night and there will certainly be more to come. Watch this space!

Our October Members' meeting was extremely well attended, with 130 members coming along. That is a record for our meetings. Even the guest speaker, who delivered a fascinating talk about life in Russia across several centuries right up to the present day, said that she was amazed by the attendance. It would be good to see another record-breaking turn-out at the November meeting as it will be an extended pre-Christmas event as well as the usual meeting and a speaker. Several groups will be selling the things they have made - Beadwork, Cards, and Crafts. Doors open at 9.30 am and we will finish around 12.30pm. Please come along, even if you prefer to stay for the usual length of time.

Elaine.

-oOo-

Board Games/Card Games Group – Sheila Pegg Group Leader

Another enjoyable evening was spent at The Rushley in October with some new members joining us. New people and some different games to keep our brains active! Thank you to the people who contacted me to say they were unavailable for the last session and thanks to all for your continued support. Likewise the meeting on 28 October saw six members enjoying Double Nines Dominoes followed by several enjoyable games of Uno. There's plenty of room for new members to join in the fun.

Solo Dining

Fifteen Solo Diners enjoyed an evening meal at The Foxglove for the first meal of October. We were pleased to welcome two new members and hope they will join us again.

The Red Gate was the venue for our October Sunday lunch - one of our favourite places; always good food and good service.

We can now accept more members into the group. I try to include members for at least one of the meals a month. We generally have up to sixteen people at each meal; more than that can be a problem for the venues and can mean a long wait to be served by the staff.



Carole, Bill, Mick and Yvonne toasted Mansfield u3a with the glass of Prosecco that was bought for them along with the afternoon tea at the Forever Green Restaurant. A lovely afternoon enjoyed by all. Thank you all very much. Yvonne & Mick



Message from Bill & Carole

We would like to convey our thanks for the wonderful gesture bestowed upon Carole and myself of the afternoon tea, for services rendered. We were joined by our outgoing Chair Yvonne and Mick Kennison, who also received the same gesture. The tea was incredible and very good service. A beautiful afternoon shared with two amazing friends. Thank you Mansfield u3a for the very kind gesture.

The Odd One Out Poem by Billy Harrison

I started life as a pair
Made from Cotton or Woollen yarn
But as I grew older, and I got worn
I was restored with a needle to darn.

Being as ambidextrous as I
Really is a treat
Because it doesn't really matter
How you put me on your feet.

But sadly when the time it comes
Into the washer I go.

Like the Bermuda Triangle
Whilst the motor is hissing
There's one thing for sure
My partner goes missing.

The unexplained phenomenon
Like a prisoner in the dock
When that door it opens
Where's the missing sock?

The Closed Door by Hilary Miller

The beginnings came then
quickly went

I wrote a line and then a
few more
Words used before from my
memory sent
I stared at the ceiling, the walls
then the floor.

I tried so hard and searched my
mind
Inspiration had deserted me
Another line but not the right
kind
Into the sunshine I needed to
be.

Why can't I get the words from
my pen
More concentration made my
brain sore
Rip out the page and start
again
It's no good my friends, my
homework is a closed door.

Our House, Our Lives

Poem by Billy Harrison

[Number 3 Mayhall Avenue](#) [Mansfield Woodhouse](#)

World War Two ended in 45
But thankfully my parents were still alive
To embark on a world with different looks
A world that gave them rationing books.

A new life together was about to start
Devoted parents so full of heart
Unknown to us the hardships endured
A new home deserved, no time to get bored.

No 3 Mayhall Avenue, a home where they stay
To watch over their children
As they worked, while their children play.

Though times ahead, they were very hard
But together they'd stay, wi mangle In back yard
The families on Mayhall they bonded so true
Mrs Crowder would ask, to borrow some dolly blue.

Wi dolly tub in outhouse wi gas ring in bottom
Wash day was hard, but life wasn't rotten
The families around us, families of four
Watched out for each other, with an open door.

Always a meal Mother put on a plate
Made with love on the black Yorkist grate
Always a fire banked up, burning bright
A shovel of cinders in the lounge for the night.

In a home that was so full of love
In a village, we'd hear, church bell chimes
And a home that they constantly rented
A house that our parents, paid for three times.

We would go down vale, and catch some tiddlers
Our Mum's would send us to Benny Fiddler's
They gave us our freedom to play afar
And go to Benny's for a penny Arrow Bar.

On the street we're we played every night
No cares in the world, never a fright
Children would gather, to play with their balls
Football for boys, girls bounced them on walls.

With respect for our neighbours
Never the phrase, "I beg your pardon"
When our ball it bounced over
Into Mrs Wain's garden.

Pea shooters and gadders for boys
Hopscotch, the girls would skip with a rope
Our days full of happiness
Trust, enjoyment and hope.

We had long walks to and from school
With holes in the shoes on our feet
Only to walk up Mayhall Avenue
And a ton of coal on our street.

No time to rest, and no time to shirk
Mum shouted, "Get that coal in"
For ya dad get home from work.

Mum, ironing in kitchen
Plugged into the bulb socket
And always and apron
Wi, hanky in pocket.

Scarf on her head, to keep hair out o way
Not knowing how hard
She had worked all that day
A drawing pin in the ceiling
We're the flypaper hung
And mangle int corner
We're washing was rung.

They sacrificed much, to make us happy
As kids we dint understand.
Until we grew up, and now there not here,
How much our childhoods were grand.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is
licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

GARDENERS' CORNER

Gardening Group: Marilyn Dibble

Our guest speaker James Ellson, gave us a very interesting talk on his wide variety of Apples. He was a police officer for 15 years, starting in London and finishing as a Detective Inspector at Moss Side in Manchester.

"When I left the police I started writing, and have been writing ever since. My debut novel The Trail was published in 2020, and the sequel Cold Dawn in August 2022.

I live in the Peak District with my wife, and manage our smallholding, which includes bees and an orchard.

My passion on our smallholding is apple trees, and I am aiming for 100 varieties. Currently, 64! I propagate all my trees by whip and tongue grafting or budding, and I am experimenting with apple breeding (developing a new variety). This talk looks at the history and geography of the apple tree, how to grow them, propagation, and breeding. Includes the story behind the naming of the Bloody Ploughman apple. And a demonstration in whip and tongue grafting."

Website: jamesellson.com

Hello everyone,

Hope you are all well and enjoying your garden?

Well, it definitely feels like autumn is with us now, with some cooler mornings and heavy dews. Having said that, we have also had some warm days and many plants are still growing, especially the lawns which I'm still having to mow on a weekly basis. Next year I'll have the robotic mower fitted to keep the back lawn trimmed! There's still plenty of colour in the borders, but gradually plants are now starting to slow down and before you know it, we'll have some wonderful autumn foliage to admire.

Jill and I have almost finished for the year with the Potting Shed stage. The Harrogate and Malvern Autumn shows were the last two shows of the season, and both were very good and felt like giant harvest festivals, celebrating the end of the gardening season.

Our final outing of the year with the Potting Shed will be to the RHS Harlow Carr Autumn Gardening Weekend on 21-22 October where Jill will be cooking seasonal fruit & veg, I'll be talking gardening and Jonathan Moseley will be creating some stunning flower arrangements. There's a selection of specialist nurseries, RHS talks and Paula Routledge from Floral Media will be there helping visitors to create their own buttonhole for free!

Of course, life continues after the Potting Shed with the development and planting of our own garden and we'll both be on the road giving talks and demos to gardening clubs, U3A's, WI's and flower clubs through autumn, winter and spring, where I'm sure we'll see many of you.

With our best wishes *Martin & Jill*



Jobs for October

Air temperatures might be cooling down, but the soil is still very warm, making it ideal for autumn planting of trees, shrubs, fruit bushes, roses and perennials. Planted now, the roots will soon start to grow out into the moist, warm soil helping the plants to settle in and establish before winter.

There is still time to plant spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, crocus, camassia, iris and snowdrops and the golden rule is plant three times their depth. If you have tulip bulbs, wait until November or early December to plant when the soil is cooler.

Summer bedding and annuals can be removed from the garden as they finish flowering and replaced with wallflowers, polyanthus and violas for a spring display.

Now is also a great time to plant up a container or two for autumn, winter and spring interest. Evergreen shrubs, berrying plants, ornamental grasses and ivy are all good plants to use. They can be interplanted with bulbs and spring flowering bedding.

Get the compost heap ready for the influx of autumn garden waste such as old veg plants, leaves, grass clippings and stems of herbaceous plants that are being cut down. Mixed together it will form compost for the garden next spring.

If your lawn needs some care and attention, October is a good time to aerate compacted areas to improve winter drainage, scarify to remove thatch and moss and to over seed to help thicken up a thin lawn. Ideally try to complete lawn maintenance by the end of the month to give the grass time to recover before winter.

If toadstools and fairy rings are a problem on your lawn, brush them off with a stiff broom.

Bring tender perennials such as pelargonium, fuchsias and cannas undercover for winter. For now, a cold greenhouse is sufficient, but when temperatures drop, a little frost protection will be needed.

Lift maincrop potatoes, allow the tubers to dry for a few hours before storing in paper or hessian sacks in a cool, dry, dark shed.

Plant spring cabbage plants and over-wintering onion sets into prepared ground.

Keep picking apples and pears as the fruits start to ripen on the tree. If storing them, place sounds fruits in trays in a cold, airy shed.

Young strawberry plants raised from runners in late summer can be potted or planted out into the garden to establish their roots before winter.

Remove the last of the leaves from tomato plants to aid fruit ripening and cut back the amount of water you give the plants. Close the greenhouse doors and windows mid-afternoon to help retain warmth overnight, which will help the ripening process.

For more weekly gardening tips and advice from Martin visit "Pots & Trowels" on Facebook or subscribe on YouTube for free.

Happy gardening www.martinfish.com

HOLIDAYS AND DAYS OUT

**Coming to a u3a near you
(and it will be here before you know it!)
Mini Break for 2024
Thursford Christmas Spectacular
LINKS Hotel and COUNTRY CLUB
B.B. and Evening meal.
Thursford Show, trips to Norwich and
Holt - December 2024.**

Sutton-in-Ashfield u3a have a day trip to the Victorian Christmas Market, Stratford Upon Avon on the 7th December the coach cost is £15.00 it will leave the Lammas Centre in Sutton the time will be 10.00am and will return from Stratford at 6.00pm. We have 9 seats left on the coach. Please contact June Hall on 07976 637601 or 01623 559808.

For everyone going on the Potters trip on 20 November, the coach will leave Forest Town Arena at 7.00am

Four-day Tour 12 July 2024 – Dunkirk and Fortress Europe. Three or four nights at 3* Oude Abdij in historic town of Lo - Reninge. Contact David Drew 01623 655012 if you are interested.

MANSFIELD PALACE THEATRE GROUP

Our first outing, as a group, to the Mansfield Palace Theatre on 14 October, saw eleven members being royally entertained by four young men Keith Jack, Mike Holloway, Sam Cassidy and Graham Tudor, who have all played Joseph in the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. They all have beautiful voices and sang songs from all the different Musicals. They included children from Mansfield's Stagecoach Performing Arts, at All Saints' school.

A great night was enjoyed by all. Thank you Julia, for arranging it.
-ooo-

Just to promote Robin Hood Pantomime. Tickets are going fast so please let me know if you would like any. Payable at next meeting please £10 each. Matinee performance February 3rd 2024!

Any special requests please let me know. Julia Hyde, Group Leader.



Gentle reminder to Soft Tennis members, subs are due at 14 November Meeting - £10 for four months.

THE QUIZ HELD AT THE ONE CALL STADIUM



Jane & Jacqueline making final touches to their questions.

TEAM NAME	ROUNDS					TABLE TOP QUIZ				TOTAL	POSITION
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4		
Forlorn Hope	5	8	9	9	5	9	2	10	8	65	1
Magnificent 7	5	8	7	6	6	7	4	10	10	63	2
Aye Up Me Duke!	4	6	7	8	4	9	4	9	9	60	3
Mansfield Melee	7	10	3	6	4	7	2	10	10	59	4
Horrible Histories	5	5	7	12	2	7	3	9	8	58	5
The Know Hoppers	5	0	7	5	4	7	1	10	10	49	6
The Antiquities	6	4	2	10	4	5	0	9	3	43	7
Merry Women Plus 1	2	2	0	3	1	6	0	7	2	23	8

THE WINNING TEAM – FORLORN HOPE



From Russia With Love -Phillp Tucker



At the October monthly meeting we had a magnificent talk about Russia from Cathy McAteer a Post Doctoral Research Fellow (Russia) at Exeter University. It quickly became clear that she knew her stuff, packing more than 500 years of very eventful history into a talk of an hour, all delivered with grace and charm. The Russian people have endured the indifference and hostility of their rulers for centuries. When Peter the Great built the spectacularly beautiful wibecame known as the city of bones. The Tsars maintained for centuries a system of serfdom – a form of slavery until its abolition in 1861. Stalin was even worse deliberately causing famine in the Ukraine in the early 1930's. and arresting millions in the purges during the late 1930s' being arrested and either executed or despatched to the Gulag – labour camps deep in Siberia . In the Soviet era most families lived in just one room. That has changed for some in the Putin age with the development of mortgages, available for a new middle class defined by whether they have 12 electronic gadgets. All this might seem depressing but members were taken by Cathy's love of all things Russian since the age of 13. She had more questions than usual at the

end, running over time. She has been invited to come back. I am sure she will be welcome.

Family History Group – Val Wood

Our visit to the Nottingham Archives was amazing, as well as the weather being warm we had a lovely stroll alongside the canal. We were made to feel very welcome and wouldn't hesitate to go back to do research if it was needed. The tour started off with an introduction of the different documents stored; The NA currently hold 5 million documents . There was a display of some original documents, one going back to the 1100s. Charters and Borough records are the oldest records held at NA from 1155/6. They also have estate records as well as Parish, Non Conformist, Probate, School, Local Authority, Poor Law, Diaries plus Maps and Plans. There was an old map of Mansfield dated 1917, photos, wills, old school photos one was of young girls doing a 'high jump' in long skirts, amazing. We were told about preservation and conservation of everything that come in to be archived, how they sometimes have to be put in a freezer to kill off any insects that may be within the item.



After the introduction we then went on a tour of the building showing us how the items were logged then indexed and stored in a room which is kept at a certain humidity and temperature. We then went into the Conservation Unit and were shown examples of the different types of damage done and what they do to help preserve each item, whatever it is made of. Then we were given a demonstration of how they rebind books how the pages were sewn together and rebound in leather and re-gilded. It was all very interesting and well worth a visit.

An old lady goes into the chemist shop and asks for the contraceptive pill. The pharmacists looks at her and says "Can I ask why you would want this pill." The old lady replied that it helped her to sleep. "But that is not what its for" the pharmacist replied. "Oh I know that" says the old lady, " I crush them up and put them into my granddaughter's tea – that way I get a good night's sleep."



Ken has forwarded recommendation that we all log onto the above website to access information on how to keep your birds well fed and healthy this winter. It gives information about the kinds of food that different species like, where to put bird feeders and tables and how to keep the beautiful birds that visit your garden healthy. The website is definitely worth a visit. Discover the three new species of spider discovered too.

HALLOWEEN CLIPSTONE WELFARE 27 OCTOBER



The successful amalgamation of three u3as proved that this is the way forward for events such as last night's amazing Halloween Party, even the full moon was prominent in the night sky, what more could you wish for? Well, upon entry into the Clipstone Welfare Crypt it was evident the Ghosts, Ghouls, Vampire's and an abundance of Witches straight from the Cauldrons, we're here to make this a night to remember.

And what a night it was, thanks to the amazing work by our three Social Leaders, pulling together and arranging a truly value for money event. The Moonshiners Duo (an appropriate name), treated us to some incredible music, keeping the dance floor alive on both sets. The hard work and dedication of the catering staff serving up a delicious Pie and Peas, the staff at Clipstone Welfare were very accommodating. A massive thank you to all Halloween party goers for making the effort with some fantastic outfits on show, you all made this was a huge success. Bill Harrison.



Irena Dubowski – Mansfield, Leslye Henstock - Dukeries, Irene Brooks - Forest Town.







No prizes for guessing who this is with
Leslye.















The only way to LEARN, LAUGH and LIVE, is to get involved in the following groups.







The tables on the following pages show the Interest Groups. Please check the Mansfield u3a website for up-to-date information of your group/groups.



Could all group leaders please inform the Newsletter Editor of any alternations.

November 2023							<	>	December 2023							<	>
S	M	T	W	T	F	S			S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
29	30	31	1	2	3	4			26	27	28	29	30	1	2		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11			3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18			10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25			17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
26	27	28	29	30	1	2			24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			31	1	2	3	4	5	6		


<p>AFTERNOON TEAS</p> <p>Second Saturday of every month 2pm – 4pm</p>	<p>Sheila Whalley 01623 453908</p> 	<p>Meets in pubs, garden centres and other places of interest locally. The aim is to develop friendships informally while exploring new venues and sometimes indulging in some retail therapy. However sometimes the dates have to change so keep looking.</p>
<p>ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES</p> <p>Second Tuesday of every month 10 am – 12 noon</p> <p>St Peter's Centre</p>	<p>Patricia Blackwell</p>  <p>01623 481745</p>	<p>There is a different topic at each meeting. Members bring along an item relating to the subject. It is helpful if they have done some research on the item and can tell the rest of the group about it. That way we all learn something. If you haven't got anything that month it doesn't matter because you will learn from what others have brought. (Group Full with a waiting list)</p>
<p>BEADWORK Marilyn's home, Hillcote. Every Wednesday 10am-12noon. Overflow group Every Monday at the same time.</p>	<p>Marilyn Jones</p>  <p>01773 819155 Mobile : 07803 244841</p>	<p>Often we are all working on a single project, or, at times, members may be making different items.</p> <p>Members can source their own materials singly, collectively, or can buy from Marilyn from her stock at cost price. (Group on Wednesday is currently full).</p>
<p>BIRD WATCHING & WILDLIFE</p> <p>Times and meeting places vary</p>	<p>Val Hart & Ken White</p>   <p>Valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk 07745 208248 ken@atrain.org.uk</p>	<p>Visits to various places of interest in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. Plus occasional overseas visits. Members are asked to bring their own first aid kits. Suitable footwear and clothing to be worn. Food and drink for picnics as required and binoculars or telescopes if required. "In case of emergency card" should be with you at all times.</p>
<p>BOARD GAMES</p> <p>Fourth Saturday in month. 7pm - 9.30pm The Rushley, Nottingham Road, Mansfield</p>	<p>Sheila Pegg</p>  <p>07883720657</p>	<p>Just come along to enjoy a pleasant evening playing board games. Cost of a drink for yourself</p>

BOWLS Mansfield Bowling Club (Summer). Lammis Centre Sutton (Winter)	Paul Sanderson Paulsanderson168@gmail.com  07592016691	Outdoor coaching will take place every week for 5 weeks. Every session will be organised by DBS checked, registered coaches. The outdoor bowls coaching starts on Tuesday 2 May. 12.15 – 1.45
BRIDGE First and Third Mondays 6.30 – 9 pm. The Rushley, Nottingham Rd. Mansfield.	Sheila Pegg  07883720657	Just turn up. We can sort out a partner if you come alone. We are a friendly group, playing for fun. Equipment provided. No fee charged by venue – we just buy a drink (or two)
CALIGRAPHY Second and Fourth Wednesday Monthly 1-3.00pm Leader's home	Marilyn Jones  01773 819155 Mobile : 07803 244841	Course led by video tuition and lots of practice. Members will need to source their own pens and paper although they will be provided at the beginning until they know what they need.
CARD CRAFTING Last Tuesday monthly 1pm – 3pm at Friends Meeting House Rosemary St, Mansfield NG19 6AB	Jill West  07554012769 jwpttts@hotmail.co.uk	All materials are provided and included in the cost of £5 per session, which includes room hire and refreshments. Members, as well as learning card making skills, have a lovely card to take home. Contact Jill to find out if there are spaces.
CLASSICAL MUSIC 1 Group Leader's home Fourth Monday monthly 2-4pm	Michael Allen Michaelallen446@gmail.com  01623 653345 07565 936859	Music is played and discussed.
CRAFTY CHAT Group is run during term time only at the Quaker Room, 124 Rosemary St On 3 rd Monday 2-4pm	Stephen & Stella Hall hall.s@hotmail.co.uk  07940460250	Just bring along something you want to be creative with or just come along for a chat. A charge of £12 is made per term to cover room hire and refreshments. New members welcome.


<p>CURRENT AFFAIRS</p> <p>Mansfield Bowling Club NG18 7AP</p> <p>First Friday of the month. 10 am – 12 noon</p>	<p>Graham Headworth</p>  <p>01623 468883</p>	<p>We have some very interesting discussions which can be quite lively, especially when we are discussing Westminster matters. We are always friendly. Members of Mansfield u3a welcome but restricting to 15 guests. Contact Graham on above number for availability. Charge to cover cost of room hire & refreshments.</p>
<p>FAMILY HISTORY</p> <p>Members' homes Fourth Tuesday monthly Except for August & Dec 10 am – 12noon</p>	<p>Valerie Wood & Ken Gilbert v.a.l.woody11@gmail.com</p>  <p>kattaria@gmail.com</p>	<p>The group enjoys researching family histories and welcomes new members with similar interests. Members share their family history research, photographs, maps and artefacts. We also guide members to which websites to use for their research.</p> <p>New members welcome</p>
<p>GARDENING AND GARDEN VISITS</p> <p>St Peter's Centre NG18 1AP. First Tuesday monthly. 10 am – 12 noon</p>	<p>Marylin Dibble dandmdibble@gmail.com</p>  <p>01623 634805</p>	<p>Garden Group Members pay £16 twice a year to cover room rent fees.</p> <p>Guests most welcome at £5 per session. Cash or cheque payable to Mansfield & District u3a.</p>
<p>HISTORY GROUP</p> <p>Mansfield Bowling Club Third Wednesday monthly 10am – 12 noon</p> <p>£2 per session</p>	<p>Philip Tucker</p>  <p>01623 437516 Philip.tucker1@ntlworld.com</p>	<p>If you have a particular passion for some historical event, by all means bring it forward. All our meetings are friendly, with tea and coffee and sometimes home-made cakes. Funds permitting, we may hire an external speaker at least once during the year.</p>
<p>MANSFIELD PALACE THEATRE GROUP</p>	<p>Julia Hyde</p>  <p>01623 514806</p>	<p>Details of the shows on offer will be advertised at the meetings and on the website.</p>
<p>MINI BREAKS</p> <p>Various</p>	<p>Jacqui Hampshire</p>  <p>01623 239210 Jhampshire09@talktalk.net</p>	<p>Details of breaks on offer will be advertised at the meetings and on the website.</p>


<p>PATHFINDERS WALKING</p> <p>Times and dates vary</p> <p>The events are free except for cost of transport if required and any entry fees.</p>	<p>Val Hart and Ken White Valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk 07745 208248 ken@atrain.org.uk</p> <div data-bbox="579 232 719 392"></div> <div data-bbox="799 232 956 392"></div>	<p>Shorter walks of 3-5 miles, longer walks 5-7 miles</p> <p>Members should bring their own first aid kits and emergency contact cards at all times. Suitable footwear and clothing to be worn. Food and drinks for picnics as required. Please visit website or contact Valerie or Ken for details.</p>
---	---	---


<p>POPULAR MUSIC</p> <p>Members' homes</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday of each month. 2.00pm-4.00pm</p>	<p>Elizabeth Ellis</p> <div data-bbox="815 517 962 698"></div> <p>01623 644429</p>	<p>The Group has been running successfully for nine years. In March instead of our usual meeting, we have lunch and a music quiz at the Carnarvon Arms, Teversal.</p>
--	---	---

<p>READ A LITTLE ALOUD</p> <p>Members' homes</p> <p>Second Friday monthly 2.00pm – 4.00pm</p>	<p>Sue Howlett</p> <div data-bbox="823 846 970 1021"></div> <p>01623 627423</p>	<p>We read extracts from books, poems etc and then discuss. Books are provided which have been marked in sections so that each person reads aloud about two paragraphs each. The topics involved might be : friendship, love and marriage, indiscretion etc. The idea is to promote discussion about reactions to the subject. We don't delve into criticism or style of writing. We always fly off on a tangent and it's surprising where it leads us! If a member prefers to just listen and not read aloud that's fine. Currently the group is full.</p>
--	---	---

<p>READING GROUP 1</p> <p>Group Leader's home or Members' homes</p> <p>Third Thursday monthly 2.00pm – 4.00pm</p>	<p>Peter Dawson</p> <div data-bbox="778 1480 932 1594"></div> <p>01623 882191</p>	<p>At our friendly meetings, we have tea or coffee and then we discuss the book we have read the previous month; we are then given the book we will read in time for the next meeting.</p>
--	--	--

<p>READING GROUP 2</p> <p>Sylvia Slack's home 2.00pm-4.00pm Third Tuesday monthly</p>	<p>Sylvia Slack</p> <div data-bbox="831 1738 997 1872"></div> <p>01623 481721</p>	<p>Our members are supplied with the same book to read and then we meet for discussion.</p>
--	--	---


SCRABBLE Second Monday Monthly 2.00 – 4.00pm	Lynne Payne  01623 555738 lynne.payne1@ntlworld.com	What happens: We meet at my house on the second Monday of the month, where we enjoy 2/3 games of Scrabble with a break for coffee/tea and biscuits.
---	--	--


SHUFFLERS Fourth Thursday Monthly 12 noon finish times vary	Sylvia Newlyn and Ian Lakin  01623 655893 – 07989668275	Mansfield u3a's Shufflers hold social meetings for members who have problems that restrict their mobility. This has enabled members to continue enjoying friendships and outings with like-minded members. We meet for lunch at various venues that have flat grounds to enable as many as possible to enjoy a short "shuffle," Rufford Park, Vicar Water and Sutton Lawn have all proved very enjoyable . Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times.
--	--	--

STROLLERS GROUP Second Wednesday monthly 10.30 am Finish times vary	Sue Howlett, Valerie Hart and Ian Lakin   Sue 01623 627423 Valerie 07745 208248 Ian 07989668275	It is a good way to improve your health and to make new friends. At the end of the walk there will be opportunity to have refreshments. Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times
--	---	--

SOFT TENNIS Second Tuesday monthly 2.00pm – 3.00pm Oak Tree Lane Leisure Centre	Yvonne & Mick Kennison  01623 481721	Tennis is played on a badminton court and normal rules apply, but we play with soft tennis balls. £10 for four months paid in advance. Equipment provided. No black soled shoes please. Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times
--	---	--

<p>SOLO DINING</p> <p>First Thursday in the month for evening meal.</p> <p>Third Sunday in the month .</p> <p>Times vary</p>	<p>Sheila Pegg</p>  <p>07883 720657</p>	<p>This group enjoys the company of other single people in a friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>An evening meal is arranged at various dining locations. Sunday lunches have also proved to be popular.</p> <p>It is with regret that due to the large number of diners on our list, we are unable to add any new members at the moment. If the situation changes we will certainly let you know through this newsletter. Many thanks to the loyal support of our existing members.</p>
---	--	--

<p>TAI CHI GROUP</p> <p>Monday weekly 10.30 am – 11.30 am</p> <p>£30 per term.</p> <p>Bethel Chapel, Nottm Rd.</p>	<p>Lorna Pye</p>  <p>01623 636060 07712 029262</p> <p>We do have two spaces at the moment</p>	<p>Within our group, you work amongst friends, within your own ability, standing or sitting and feeling that you have gently exercised every part of your body (even internal bits that you cannot see). Ken really understands how our bodies work. Tai Chi with its calm movements, focuses on deep breathing and is known to reduce chronic stress and improve health and emotional well-being. With all these benefits it comes to u3a members highly recommended.</p>
---	---	--

<p>WINE APPRECIATION GROUP 1</p> <p>Third Wednesday monthly 7.30 pm</p> <p>Members' Homes</p>	<p>Mike Allen Michaelallen446@gmail.com</p> <p>01623 653345 07565 936859</p> 	<p>We do have two spaces at the moment. If anyone would like to come and give it a try. Please contact Mike Allen on the above contact details.</p>
--	---	--

<p>WINE APPRECIATION 2</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday monthly 7.30pm</p>	<p>Graham Allin</p>  <p>01623 473662</p>	<p>Our meetings are essentially to give Mansfield u3a members friendly, relaxed evenings, whilst, at the same time, fostering a desire to know more about good wine. A number of wines will be tasted. This group is full.</p>
--	---	---

<p>WRITING FOR PLEASURE</p> <p>Second Monday monthly 2.00pm – 4.00pm.</p> <p>Friends Meeting House Rosemary St, Mansfield NG19 6AB</p> <p>We pay three times a year. Cost per session £3</p>	<p>Hilary Miller and Susan Ford</p>  <p>Hilary 01623 620067 Susan 01623 844286</p>	<p>Mansfield u3a members enjoy writing for the pleasure of it – simply that.</p> <p>Get your ideas and words flowing and share them with others in an entertaining and happy two-hour session.</p> <p>We write on a variety of subjects including found poetry, free verse, many different story titles and even the odd limerick.</p> <p>We currently have room for two more members.</p>
---	---	---

Please note the following telephone numbers are the correct ones which should appear on your Membership Cards : Val Hart - 07745 208248, Ian Lakin - 07989 668275, Lorna Pye - 01623 636060
-oOo-

IMPORTANT NOTICES - First of all, here's hoping everyone is keeping safe and well. If anyone is struggling or needing any help in any way, please don't hesitate to let any of the Committee know. We will do our best to help in

any way.  Bill's missing sock

Subscription costs for the current year have remained the same - £16. New members £18 and £12 for Associate Members. Cheques payable to Mansfield & District u3a. Online payments can be made. Contact the Treasurer, Gill Mallinder for bank details. Membership forms can be downloaded from the finance page on the Website. All current members must fill in all sections to comply with data protection laws when paying their subscriptions.

Events and Visit payments. Members are reminded that deposits and payments for events and visits organized by Mansfield u3a and its groups are non-refundable, but places may be offered to others.

Changes of address etc. Please let Jean Hatton, Membership Secretary know to keep our records up to date.

If you have any health issues that you think may affect your participation in, or enjoyment of, the activities of Mansfield u3a, you might wish to disclose them voluntarily to the Group Leaders of the groups you join, should it be helpful to do so. **Please have your "in case of emergency" card with you at all times.** If you do not have one, please obtain one at the next Members' meeting.

If you are concerned about accessing one of our venues, please talk to our Accessibility contact, Stella Hall (07717 297940).

If you have any concerns about another member who seems to be vulnerable, and you think they might be being taken advantage of by someone, you should tell our Safeguarding contact, Irena Dubowski (07549 409262) or one of the Committee.

Should you not wish to be included in any photographs taken whilst members are engaged in any activity, please let the photographer know as otherwise we will assume your consent has been given

Disclaimer – The views expressed here are those of the contributors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Committee of Mansfield & District u3a or the Third Age Trust. Nor can any responsibility be accepted for members' announcements or any errors that may occur.