

MANSFIELD & DISTRICT

u3a
learn, laugh, live

NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2021

Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/mansfield/home

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/mu3a2016

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/349190408987691/

Words from the Chairman: Yvonne Kennison

I am extremely pleased to be addressing you as Chairman of Mansfield & District u3a.

I am not sure if I call myself "Chairman" I am being woke or anti woke. I hope it's the latter. Just as we are beginning to open up after the awful eighteen months, we have all been through I am very optimistic about the future.

I will be working with a really dedicated Committee and we have some wonderful Group Leaders. We have already had some positive suggestions for new groups and confirmation of members wanting to re-open groups which have lapsed, so watch this space.

Zoom was an absolute godsend during lockdown and we have kept the licence going to enable us to add extra meetings during the winter months, such as Quiz Nights and we have arranged to hold one on 13 October at 7.30. Full details will be sent out to everyone in good time.

Group Leaders are welcome to arrange meetings, coffee mornings etc with their members. I am happy to set up details for anyone wishing to take advantage of Zoom for whatever reason. It is there to be used, so let's keep it going.

I promise to try my hardest to maintain the high standards my predecessors have set and I ask for your patience whilst I find my way. Stay safe everyone, we still need to be careful but don't be afraid to take those baby steps towards enjoying our wonderful meetings in person.

Just to clarify matters regarding subscriptions for 2021/2022.

**IF YOU PAID BEFORE NOVEMBER
2020 THEN THERE ARE NO
SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE UNTIL AUGUST
2022. IF YOU REJOINED AFTER
NOVEMBER YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS
FOR 2021/2022 ARE DUE NOW!**

Many thanks Yvonne



Words from the Editor: Bill Harrison

A warm welcome was had by all upon our return to the One Call Stadium. The best team at the Ground this season by far. It was so refreshing to be amongst our loyal members once again for the AGM. This was headed by Mike Allen (due to the absence of Madame Chair), who did a fantastic job in orchestrating this meeting in the manner he is accustomed to. I would like to thank Yvonne for her time as Treasurer and wish her every success as Chairman. The Mansfield u3a looks stronger now than ever, which is encouraging and rewarding to those past Committee Members whose commitment was also outstanding.

The cover photo shows a presentation by the previous Newsletter Editor, Mike Allen and present Editor, Bill Harrison of a beautiful hand-tied bouquet to our longstanding and still active proofreader Pearl Brown. Her services to the Newsletters are paramount.

I wish every success to our new Committee members: Graham Headworth - Vice Chair, Mick Kennison - Groups Coordinator, Gill Mallinder - Treasurer, Lynne Payne Committee Member.

A big welcome to all our new members, I wish you longevity with the Mansfield u3a.

Disclaimer

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

Please send contributions for the next issue to bill20newsletter@gmail.com or by hand to Bill Harrison as soon as you can and by the first of the month at the latest. Thanks!

Editor: Bill Harrison: 01623 462188 / 07849 966962

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DRAFT

22nd Annual General Meeting of the Mansfield & District u3a

**One Call Stadium, Quarry Lane, Mansfield, Notts. NG18 5DA
Tuesday 21 September 2021
11.00-11.40am**

MINUTES

1. Background:

A month prior to the meeting the Notice of the Meeting had been emailed out to all members. This was followed by the Agenda, Minutes from the previous meeting, Balance Sheet and reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Groups Coordinator, Web Administrator and Newsletter Editor. The draft Constitution was also emailed and all of the items were included in the Newsletter, the Website and Facebook.

The number of attendees present (70) and the proxy votes received (23) ensured that we had required quoracy of 20% of the paid-up membership (247).

The current Chair, Amanda Kingswell was standing down from her role and was not present at today's meeting due to family commitments. As per Section 15, paragraph 4 of the Constitution, a member of the Committee could be appointed to stand in as the Chair of the meeting. The Business Secretary Carole Harrison introduced Mike Allen as stand-in Chair to the meeting.

Mr Allen sent goodwill messages on behalf of himself, the Committee and members, to Amanda to wish her well supporting her son in Southampton.

2. Chairman's Welcome:

Acting Chairman, Mike Allen welcomed members to the 22nd AGM of the Mansfield and District u3a. He thanked everyone for attending.

Mike also thanked the Committee and Group Leaders for their hard work and commitment over the previous year. Groups were starting to meet in person rather than on Zoom as previously.

3. **Apologies and their Proxy Votes had been received from:**
Alan Hind, Alan and Hiliary Miller, Amanda Kingswell, Andrea Thompson, Barbara Hough, Brian and Patricia Gaunt, Carol Renshaw & David Evans, Derek and Ruth Colley, Doreen Storer, Geoff Watkins, Gilly Hagen, Glenis Carr, Jean Hinds, Joy Crowe, Joyce Hazledine, June Fell, Ian Donald, Linda Leivers, Linda Rodgers, Louisa Watkins, Marion Thornton, Marlene Limb, Ron Hill, Richard White, Sue Ford, Sue and Graham Kirk. Sylvia and Colin Slack.

Peter and Brenda Thurkettle – Thank you to the outgoing Committee for their efforts in keeping the Mansfield u3a 'afloat' during the very unusual and testing times of the Covid Pandemic and we offer our best wishes to the incoming Committee members for 2021/22.

Ron Tansley – Thank you to the Committee for your continued work and support, without them there would be no u3a.

Sarah Spurry – Thank you to all for your hard work and commitment to Mansfield u3a. It is much appreciated.

We have received 36 apologies and 23 of these had provided the Committee with their proxy vote.

4. **Approval of the Saturday 12 September 2020 AGM Minutes:**
The Minutes were approved after being **PROPOSED** by Graham Headworth and **SECONDED** by Bill Harrison.

5. **Treasurer's Report:**
Yvonne Kennison presented her report, a summary of which was contained within the September Newsletter and on the website.

Yvonne thanked Sheila Pegg, the Group Treasurer for all her hard work, particularly in relation to all the changes caused by Covid.

The Financial Report was approved unanimously after first being **PROPOSED** by Jill Pullan and **SECONDED** by Barbara Dixon.

Danuta Allsop had audited the books this year and she was thanked for undertaking this role. The successful audit of the books was proposed by Marie Barrow and seconded by Mick Kennison.

6. **Nominations for the Committee:**

Members standing down from the Committee were Amanda Kingswell (Chair), Yvonne Kennison (Treasurer) and Lynne Payne (Groups Co-ordinator).

Mike Allen explained that due to family commitments Stephen Cross would be moving to Berwick on Tweed so could only take on the role of Treasurer for a short time. Mike explained that the three officer posts of the Chair, Treasurer and Business Secretary were necessary for the u3a to continue. So, he made a plea that he hoped that someone would volunteer for this very important role of Treasurer. Yvonne would be able to provide help and support to the successful applicant. A knowledge of book keeping and spreadsheets would be useful but not essential. This would be a good time to learn the role, as only new starters were paying membership fees this year.

As a u3a we have been very lucky with the Treasurers of Yvonne and Pauline Boucher who between them have ensured our u3a has remained financially sound.

New members seeking election to the Committee are:

- Yvonne Kennison (Chair)
- Graham Headworth (Vice Chair)
- Stephen Cross (Treasurer – pro tem)
- Sheila Pegg (Group Treasurer)
- Carole Harrison (Business/Minutes Secretary)
- Philip Tucker (Speaker Finder)
- Jean Hatton (Membership Secretary)
- Lynne Payne (Committee Member)
- Mick Kennison (Groups Co-ordinator/Safeguarding Lead)

Members with Special Expertise are:

- Bob Longden (Website Administrator)
- Mike Allen (Website Editor)
- Bill Harrison (Newsletter Editor)
- Sarah Spurry (Facebook Officer)

It was **PROPOSED** by Pauline Boucher and **SECONDED** by Marie Barrow that the Committee be re-elected en bloc. This was unanimously **APPROVED**.

Sheila Pegg presented flowers and a gift card to Yvonne Kennison with grateful thanks for all her hard work with our Finances, plus keeping the u3a running during the lockdown by getting the Zoom licence which enabled us to hold meetings and the monthly Quiz. A gift of wine was presented to Lynne Payne who was standing down as Groups Co-ordinator.

7. Draft Constitution:

Mrs Yvonne Kennison, newly appointed Chair took over at this point.

The draft Constitution had been adapted from the one provided by the Third Age Trust. Changes to our original Constitution had been highlighted in red and these approved.

The adoption of the new Constitution was **PROPOSED** by Jean Hatton and **SECONDED** by Gill Pullen.

8. Subscriptions

People who had been members from before November 2020 would not be paying subscriptions this year. New members would be paying £17.00 and Associate Members £8.50. A subscription of £3.50 is paid on behalf of each member to the Third Age Trust each year. This would be rising to £4.00 next financial year.

9. Any other Business

Bob Longden congratulated Group Leaders and encouraged other members to set up new groups or reinstate groups that have disbanded. Help and financial support (£50.00) is available to set up new groups.

Bill Harrison and Mike Allen presented a bouquet of flowers to Pearl Brown for her continued assistance over the years as Proofreader for the Newsletter.

(Post Meeting note: Gill Mallinder volunteered to take on the role of Treasurer from Stephen Cross. She would be meeting with Yvonne Kennison shortly for a handover).

10. Date and Time of next Meeting:

The next AGM would take place on Tuesday 20 September 2022.

Mansfield & District u3a Committee 2021/22



Yvonne Kennison
Chairman



Gill Mallinder
Treasurer



Carole Harrison
Business/Minutes Secretary



Graham Headworth
Vice Chair



Sheila Pegg
Groups Treasurer



Mick Kennison
Groups Coordinator



Philp Tucker
Speaker Finder



Jean Hatton
Membership Secretary



Lynne Paytee
Committee

Mansfield u3a Christmas Lunch; Hostess on Friday 10 December 2021

Please note there are only 39 places left, at the time of going to print.

A £3 deposit will be required. The cost is £18 for three courses at the Hostess Restaurant and will include a tip.

Please let Yvonne & Mick know if you would like one of the remaining places.

Get well soon:

We would like to send our best wishes to those members who are not well at the moment. We wish you all a speedy recovery.



If anyone is struggling or needing help in anyway, please don't hesitate to let me or any of the Committee know. We will do our best to help in any way we can.

Key to Meetings details:

The tables on the following pages show:

The Interest Group Hyperlink for each Group, hold Ctrl and double click to follow the link to the chosen Group on the Mansfield u3a website for up-to-date information of your group.

The Asterisk denotes that the Group is full.

Some outdoor activities will be indicated by various meetings/meeting places.

Meeting Places: various Groups will be meeting as indicated in the meetings column, please check with your Group Leaders or u3a website if any amendments have been made.

Leader/Contact, Group Leader's names and contact details: please make a note of the contact details for your chosen Group.

All members are asked to contact the relevant Group Leader beforehand if they would like to participate in any interest group or attend an event

Disclaimer: All details are correct at time of going to print. Could all Group Leaders please inform the Newsletter Editor of any alterations, contact Bill Harrison at bill20newsletter@gmail.com .

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
<u>Afternoon Teas</u>	2 nd Sat, Monthly 3.00 – 5.00	Various	Sheila Whalley 01623 453908
<u>Antiques and Collectables</u>	2 nd Tue, Monthly 10.00 – 12.00	St Peter's Centre Mansfield	Pat Blackwell 01623 481745
<u>Beadwork *</u>	1 st Wed, Monthly 10.00 – 12.00	Leader's Home	Marilyn Jones 01773 819155 0780324484
<u>Birdwatching Wildlife</u>	Various	Various	Ken White 07973315050
<u>Bridge</u>	TO	BE	CONFIRMED
<u>Bowls</u>	Tues, Weekly 2.30 - 4.00	Mans, Bowls club Summer/Lammas Centre Winter	Dave Drew 01623 555012
Bowls: Due to construction work the winter Lammas Centre to be announced			
<u>Calligraphy</u>	2 nd & 4 th Wed, Monthly 1.00 - 3.00	Leader's Home	Marilyn Jones 01773 819155 0780324484
<u>Chat and Stitch</u>	3 rd Mon, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Doreen Storer 01623 407731
Cinema Group			Betty Robinson 07717 855070
<u>Family History</u>	4 th Tue, Monthly 10.00 12.00	Via Zoom	Valerie Wood 07989695773 Ken Gilbert
<u>Film Studies</u>	1 st Wed, Monthly 1.30	Joy's home	Joy Crowe 01623 645400

Speaker Finder: Philip Tucker

Our speaker for the next Meeting 19 October 2021
Martin Lloyd- Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies.

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Gardening and Gardening visits	1 st Tues, Monthly 10.00 – 12.00 Visits Various	St Peter's Centre Mansfield	Marilyn Dibble 01623 634805
October's speaker is Colin Hickman with Agapanthus and Nerines.			
Golf	Last Friday Monthly	Various	Paul Mann 01623 615416
History	3 rd Wed, Monthly 10.00 - 12.00	Mansfield Bowling Club	Philip Tucker 01623 437516
Mini Breaks	Various	See table at meetings	Jacqui Hampshire 01623 239210
Please see under Mini Breaks in the Group News			
Classical Music	4 th Mon, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	Leader's house	Mike Allen 01623 653345
Popular Music Appreciation	4 th Tues, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	St John's Centre, Mansfield	Elizabeth Ellis 01623 644429
Pudding Club	1 st Tues, Monthly 4.00 - 6.00	Members' homes	Sylvia Slack 01623 633981
Read a Little Aloud	2 nd Fri, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	Members' homes	Sue Howlett 01623 627423
Reading 1	3 rd Thur, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	Peter Dawson's home	Peter Dawson 01623 882191
Reading 2	3 rd Tues, Monthly 2.00 - 4.00	Ravenshead Library	Joan Hufton 01623 557488
Soft Tennis/Table Tennis/ Indoor Curling	2 nd & 4 th Thurs, Weekly 2.00 - 3.00 3.00 -4.00	River Maun Recreation Centre	Yvonne and Mick Kennison 01623 481721
Solo Dining	1 st Thurs, Monthly Times Vary	Various	Sheila Pegg 07883720657

Interest Group	Meetings	Meeting Places	Leader/Contact
Tai Chi	Mon, Weekly 10.30 - 11.30	Bethel Chapel Nottingham Road	Lorna Pye 01623 636060 07712 029262
Theatre Visits	Various	See table at meetings	Sheila Whalley 01623 453908
See Theatre table at meetings, Newsletter or website pages for full details.			
Hikers (all-day, 6 – 8 miles)	3 rd Mon, 9.30 Monthly, finish times variable	Various	Tim Spurry 01623 647961
Next Meetings:			
Shufflers (short & gentle)	4 th Thurs, Monthly 12.00 variable finish times	Various-short + gentle	Sylvia Newlyn 01623 655893
Strollers (a leisurely 2 miles)	2 nd Wed, Monthly 10.30	Various	Val Hart 07745208248 Sue Howlett 01623 627423
Strollers: November 10 we will walk along the Hermitage Trail. Starting from Kings Mill Reservoir car park. NG17 4PA.			
Pathfinders Walking Group	4 th Wed, 10.30 Monthly 1 st Mon, 10.30 Monthly	Various 4/6 miles	Ken White 01623 617136 Val Hart 07745208248
Wine Appreciation 2	3 rd Wed, Monthly 7.30	Members' homes	Mike Allen 01623 653345
Wine Appreciation 3	4 th Tues, Monthly 7.30	Members' homes	Graham Allin 01623 473662
Writing for Pleasure	2 nd Mon, Monthly 14.00-16.00	Mansfield Bowls Club. Chesterfield Road, Mansfield	Hilary Miller 01623 620067 Sue Ford 01623 844286

Solo Dining Group: Sheila Pegg

The Solo Diners had their September meal at The Carnarvon, Teversal, where they were served delicious meals by friendly staff and enjoyed the company of two new members.

We are still keeping to twelve people at present.

The Solo Diners enjoyed their first ever Sunday Lunch at The Lion, Farnsfield.

The Sunday roasts were excellent and I can highly recommend this venue for anyone looking for a pleasant meal out. We were happy to welcome a new member too, who assured me she had enjoyed it and is looking forward to joining us again.

Two of our group managed a dessert for which they should be congratulated; the rest of us were so full, we couldn't manage one.

Thank you all for your continuing support

Sheila

Bowls Group: David Drew

Indoor Bowling at the Lammas Centre, Sutton in Ashfield is delayed until renovations are complete. The outdoor bowling season is now finished.

If you are interested, please contact Dave Drew on 01623 555012.

Antiques and Collectables Group: Pat Blackwell

Well at last we have resumed our meetings and how good it was to see the friendly familiar faces again after our enforced break.

We had a reduced number of people for our first meeting but even so there was a wide variety of objects. In some way they all related to the set topic which was something with a face.

Pottery items were the most numerous. They included a teapot in the shape of a clock, a pair of Chinese decorated dishes, a 1937 Coronation beaker and a Royal Doulton Toby Jug.

Other items included some carved chess pieces, toys, 1932 framed photographs, a watch, an African tribal mask and some framed silhouettes. It is always surprising to see what appears. I wonder what we shall see next month when the topic is Glass?

Many thanks

Pat

Golf Group: Paul Mann

Photo of Golf Group before the game at Tapton GC, Chesterfield.

This Group includes players from a number of local u3as.



Bridge Group:

The Bridge Group is looking for a new leader. It was held at The Rushley on Nottingham Road. They made no charge for this but the members all bought a drink and they are happy to welcome us back.

Thanks and appreciation should go to Joan Hufton who was the previous leader.

Anyone interested in taking this group forward should contact Mick Kennison (Group Coordinator).

Cinema Group: Betty Robinson

A welcomed return, please show your support.

Having run the Cinema Group prior to Covid, I'm happy to say that the Cinema Group will be starting up once again. If anyone is interested, **please see Betty at the monthly meeting or contact her on 07717 855070.**

Strollers Group: Susan Howlett

We had a very good turnout for our September Stroll around Burnstump Park.

We were once again blessed with wonderful weather. We were surprised that some of the group had never been to the area and some had not been since their children were young.

Much of the walk was through woodland which provided shade that was most welcome on such a hot day. Towards the end of the stroll there was open grassland but by keeping to the edge we managed to keep out of the very hot sun.

We passed the Nottinghamshire Police HQ and the Park Hospital.

The morning ended in the Burnt Stump pub where various snacks and meals were enjoyed both indoors and outdoors.

Our next stroll is at Edwinstowe on Wednesday 13 October when we meet at the RSPB Centre NG21 9RN. The car park is on the other side of the main road.

On 10 November we will walk along the Hermitage Trail, Starting from Kings Mill Reservoir car park. NG17 4PA.

Best wishes

Sue



Afternoon Tea Group: Sheila Whalley

We go to various venues on the second Saturday of each month, if you wish to join us, put your name on the list. Sometimes a £5 deposit is required which I will pay 10 days before the date.

Please let me have the money in plenty of time. If a deposit is not required once you have put your name on the list and cannot come you must tell me the morning before the tea otherwise you will have to pay for it. **Sheila Whalley 01623 453908**

Friday 8 October at 2.00pm, cost is £25 for two people, and requires a £5 deposit and is at Forever Green.

Saturday 13 October, at 3.00pm at the Dukeries Nottcuts Garden centre, £20 for two people. You can come as a single person.

Saturday 13 November 3pm at DUKERIES garden centre £10 per person.

Saturday 11 December 3pm at Private venue £10 per person.

January Special annual tea at St Peters Church Centre in Mansfield 3pm £10.

Please put your name on the list or telephone **Sheila Whalley 01623 453908**

Theatre Visits Group: Sheila Whalley

The Theatre Royal and the Royal Concert Hall Nottingham.

If ten seats are sold there is a discount on the ticket price, I usually book seats for the Wednesday matinee in the stalls. Cheques to be made out to Mansfield and District u3a.

Wednesday 7 November, School of Rock, £52, all prices before discount PAY at OCTOBER meeting.

Wed 13 October 2021, Hair Spray, £50. PAY at SEPTEMBER meeting.

Wed 27 October 2021, Dolly Parton £50. I will let you know this date when I get the invoice.

Wed 4 May 2022, Bring it On, the Musical £37. PAY at the MAY meeting.

If you have any disabilities, you can apply for a number which will enable you to get 2 tickets for the price of one. I have the forms for you to apply

Many thanks

Sheila

Calligraphy Group: Marilyn Jones

Restarting after lockdown - places available in the group.

The Calligraphy Group will meet at Marilyn Jones's home every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month from 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

Mansfield u3a's Calligraphy Group will enable members to share knowledge and learn new Calligraphy styles beginning with Foundational, and Italics Hands.

The more intermediate members will be working on Uncial and Gothic Hands, and one of the members will be researching Modern Calligraphy with a view to running a module later on.

Learn the art of beautiful writing, beginning with Foundational Hand. Learn through practice, videos, and more practice. To start with bring along an A4 ruled pad, or an A4 layout pad...either is fine.

Members can try out different pens, nibs, and inks initially that are in Marilyn's stash, until they find what is suitable for them.

The group is always open to new suggestions according to members' interests and provides the opportunity to try out something new. Beginners as well as experienced Calligraphers are welcome.

A Facebook Group Calligraphy Capers has been set up especially for the Calligraphy Group. This enables members to get access to practice and tracing sheets, help and support whenever they need it between Group meetings.

Links to a OneDrive (Cloud Storage) folder are available where there is much more documentation and practice sheets that can be downloaded and printed out as and when required.

Members can source their own pens and other materials and a Treasurer has been appointed to keep track of any money when the members want to order materials collectively to share the costs (P&P and sometimes reductions when you buy more than one).

£3 cost per session for refreshments tea/coffee and home-made cakes and usage of tools/handouts/supplies.

Contact the Group Leader Marilyn Jones via email: marilyn.jones1947@gmail.com or landline 01773 819155 for more information.

Beadwork Group: Marilyn Jones

The Beadwork Group resumed in May when the Government allowed 6 people to meet in your home. **The group is currently full.**

Everyone is busy making gifts for Christmas: Desk Pen Tidies, Tape Measure Covers and Stars.



Many thanks

Marilyn

Gardening Group: Marilyn Dibble

Hi All

Really enjoyed seeing everyone at the last Garden Group meeting.

Please find attached Martin's newsletter of jobs to do this month.

October's speaker is Colin Hickman with Agapanthus and Nerines.

Hope to see you all there.

Take care.

Marilyn



September 2021

Hello everyone and hope you are all keeping well?

Apologies for the lateness of the September newsletter. The past few weeks have been hectic and I'm afraid I got a little behind with office work!

Last week I was down at RHS Wisley judging at their Garden show and then I went straight on to the new RHS Bridgewater Garden near Manchester. I'm on the RHS Garden Committee so I've had the pleasure of seeing the garden develop over the past 4 years, but this was my first visit since the garden opened to the public.

A great deal of work has been done and the old walled gardens have been transformed with some excellent planting. If you get the chance to visit, I can highly recommend it.

Jill and I have also been busy giving 'Gardening on the Menu' talks at Harlow Carr and we've now started visiting groups to give talks and demonstrations in public.

After a year of Zoom talks, it's lovely to be back in front of an audience to get their reaction. Having said that, I'm still getting some Zoom bookings for groups that would be too far away to visit in person or for clubs that are not yet meeting in person!

The next three months on the run up to Christmas (sorry, I said the C word!) are very busy, with a mixture on me giving talks on my own and joint talks with Jill. Jill is also busy making lots of jams and chutneys from our garden produce for the talks.

It's not all work though as Jill, Molly and I are off to Perthshire for a few days R&R at the end of the month – and will no doubt be visiting a few gardens there!

Busy times ahead which we are really looking forward to especially after last year! If you're one of the groups we are booked in to see over the next few months we're looking forward to seeing you!

September jobs for the garden with Martin Fish

Pelargonium (geranium) cuttings can be taken now to produce strong new plants for next year. Select new shoots and trim to around 3 inches, just below a leaf joint. Remove the lower leaves and insert several into a 4-inch pot. Root them on a windowsill or frost-free greenhouse.

Give formal hedges and topiary a final trim of the year to maintain a good shape through winter. Try to finish any trimming by the end of the month to give the wounds time to heal before winter.

Early flowering perennials such as *Astrantia* and *Geum* that have finished flowering can be tidied up by trimming the foliage down with shears.

To keep summer bedding plants and hanging baskets looking good for a few more weeks, pinch off old flowers, remove yellow leaves and give a weekly liquid feed to encourage a last flush of flowers. Just a little extra attention and some fine weather will mean they will carry on flowering for a while longer

Start planting spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, crocus, snowdrops, iris and alliums. As a guide plant all bulbs three times their depth. For example, if a bulb is 2 inches from top to bottom, dig a hole 6 inches deep. If you have tulip bulbs to plant, keep those dark and cool and hold back on planting until November at the earliest.

Keep harvesting Runner beans, French beans and courgettes while the fruits are small and tender.

As the tops of potatoes start to die down, carefully fork out the tubers, dry them for a few hours and store in paper or hessian sacks somewhere cool and dark.

Remove the lower leaves on tomato plants to allow more light and air to the ripening fruits. Keep the compost moist and carry on with a weekly high potash tomato fertiliser.

Pick apples from trees as and when they are ready. To test, cup the fruit in your hand and give a gentle twist. If it comes away from the tree easily it's ready to harvest. If not, leave it and try again in a week.

For fresh winter herbs, pot up a large pot with some hardy, evergreen herbs such as sage, rosemary and thyme and stand it by the house in a sunny position.

Keep trimming the lawn little and often and feed with an autumn lawn fertiliser, low in nitrogen and high in phosphate and potassium to encourage a strong root system and to induce winter hardiness and disease resistance.

Happy gardening

Martin Fish. www.martinfish.com

For more weekly gardening tips and advice from Martin visit.

**“Pots & Trowels”
on Facebook or subscribe on
YouTube for free.**



For now, best wishes and happy gardening.

Martin & Jill

Family History Group: Valerie Wood and Ken Gilbert

A big thank you to the members who joined our group this month, there were 9 of us in total, this included Ken who unfortunately had a few technical problems so could only listen to the meeting and not fully join in!

The topic was immigration and migration to and from Britain.

It was very interesting to see that everyone in the group had a relative that had emigrated, all for various reasons, such as being convicted for stealing in 1819 and being sent to Australia.

Then there was a pharmacist who in the 1870s joined the army as a Medical Officer and went to India. One member has gone back 10 generations to 1720 and had a relative who went to Australia.

Then another member had someone who went to Canada as a travel agent. Someone else had Irish ancestors who went to America. Not forgetting the great, great grandfather going to Australia around 1850, and the family which, over the years, has spread to America and New Zealand and the member is in contact with them. In 1960 one member's parents went to Australia through the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme commonly called the £10 Poms.

Finally, the trainee priest who fled to Tasmania in 1957 taking a sizable amount of money given to him by his parents. Born in 1922 he did his training at Kelham Hall in the 1940s. Unfortunately, they have not been able to trace him since.

The topic next time is '**you can choose**'. It could be notoriety, NHS, WW2, or rationing. You could let us know about an ancestor if they had anything to do with these topics or anything else of interest.

I hope you will join us at our next meeting, Take care Valerie Wood and Ken Gilbert.

Our next meeting via Zoom is 26 October 2021 at 10 am. Links will be sent out a week before by Yvonne.

Many thanks

Valerie Wood

MANSFIELD u3a CHRISTMAS LUNCH HOSTESS SUITE 10 DECEMBER

The holidays are here.



Happy Days are here again!

We are celebrating early with our Christmas Lunch on 10 December.

We have only 39 places left

If you would like to reserve your place, a

**£3 deposit will be required. £18 for three courses at the Hostess
Restaurant will include a tip.**

**It will add to the enjoyment of the day if you remain behind after
your meal to enjoy the good company and the entertainment which
will be provided by the restaurant.**

Deposits will be collected at the next meeting

**Please let Yvonne & Mick know if you would like one of the
remaining places.**

-o0o-

Menu

Chef's Home-Made Soup served with bread roll

Or

Wings of Honeydew Melon with fruit coulis

Roast Beef served traditionally

**Served with Yorkshire Pudding roast potatoes & horseradish
sauce**

Scottish Salmon

**Lightly steamed & napped in a creamy white wine & parsley
sauce**

Turkey Crown

Accompanied with seasoning, bacon roll & cranberry sauce

Vegetarian & Vegan Choices

Christmas Pudding with rum sauce

Hostess Trifle

garnished with fresh cream

Raspberry Romanoff

Crushed meringue topped with raspberries & fresh cream

Ice Cream

COFFEE and mince pie

The Echo is a talking local news magazine for the blind and partially sighted people in Mansfield, Ashfield and the surrounding areas of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The magazine is recorded every fortnight and then distributed free of charge by Royal Mail. The recordings are sent out on CDs or USB memory sticks.



Each edition of The Echo lasts for about 60 minutes. The magazine is recorded in a small studio which is designed to enable multiple people to read individual articles. We can also insert pre-recorded features.

The editorial content of each edition consists of local news, articles of local interest, sports reports, and varied features about our locality. Articles are usually between 2 and 7 minutes each, ensuring variety and interest for everyone.

Our listeners are often vulnerable and lonely and are always very thankful to hear friendly voices and keep up to date with what's happening locally. Many particularly enjoy receiving a birthday or anniversary greeting from the recording team which is a special feature in all recordings.

The Echo has a small website, <https://www.mansfieldecho.co.uk/> where you can listen to the latest and some recent past editions.

The Echo is a registered charity and is operated by a very small group of volunteers. To enable us to keep the ship going we desperately need some more volunteers.

- We need people who are willing to read short articles.
- We need volunteers to find articles or even write them.
- We need articles that will keep our listeners informed and interested.
- We need people to put the CDs and USB sticks into pouches for posting to everyone.
- We need people who are interested and can help with the recording side of the operation.
- We also need a 'webmaster' as the website needs updating and maintaining.

Apart from seeking more volunteers, we are also pleased to welcome new listeners. If you know of anyone who is blind or partially sighted who might like to receive The Echo, please tell them about us.

If you are interested in helping, or just interested, please contact The Echo by email mansfieldecho@gmail.com, or by talking to a face you may recognise on the website or by contacting Tim Spurry through our U3A group, timspurry@hotmail.com. Someone will get back to you.

learn, laugh, live

I hate it when
people act all
intellectual and talk
about Mozart, while
they've never even
seen one of his
paintings...

**Because of Covid for the
first time since 1945 the
National Spelling Bee is
cancil... cancel... cansel...**

It's been called off.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

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

Just to clarify matters regarding subscriptions for 2021/2022.

IF YOU PAID BEFORE NOVEMBER 2020 THEN THERE ARE NO SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE UNTIL AUGUST 2022. IF YOU REJOINED AFTER NOVEMBER YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2021/2022 ARE DUE NOW!

Subscriptions 2021/2022 New members: £17. Associate members £8.50.
Cheques payable to *Mansfield and District u3a*

The Membership Renewal Form can be downloaded from the website or will be available from the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

Please Note: All current members must complete all sections of the Membership Renewal Form to comply with Data Protection laws when paying their subscriptions. Thank you.

Online Banking is now available to members to pay their subscriptions online. As publishing details for this facility has compromised its security, members are asked to apply to the Treasurer.
treasurer.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com


Event and Visit Payments

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

Please note: if you go on a trip/visit organised by a company, cheques for the event must be made out to the company, not Mansfield u3a.

Changes of Address, etc. Please contact the Membership Secretary, Jean Hatton on (0793 5707582) if you've changed your address, phone number or email recently so that she can update our records.

The Third Age Trust
Registered Charity No. 1164177



GIVE ♥ but don't allow yourself
to be used.

LOVE ♥ but don't allow your heart
to be abused.

TRUST ♥ but don't be naive.

LISTEN to others ♥ but don't
lose your own voice.

GlobalAwareness101.org