



Registered Charity No. 1137780

# November 2021 Newsletter

## Melton Mowbray U3A

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### At the meeting this month on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021

<b>Speaker</b>	Julie Ede- Marilyn Monroe
<b>Display</b>	None
<b>Catering</b>	Awaiting volunteers
<b>Meet/Greet</b>	Linda Roberts

## Committee Notices

### A NEW VERSION OF THE MELTON MOWBRAY U3A WEBSITE

From the beginning of November, a completely new edition of our website will be released. This has been re-implemented using the U3A Site Builder framework, which is designed to support U3A websites, and is used by over 400 U3A groups.

The path for the new website will not change: <http://www.u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk/> Rather, the path will be redirected to the location of the new website. The reasons and effects of this relaunch are explored more fully, in a supplementary article: **Relaunch of the Melton U3A Website**, by C.J. Rupp, our IT Advisor. Please, visit the new site, use it to remain informed about the ongoing work of our U3A, and report any comments as feedback. Thank you.

### CATERING AT MONTHLY MEETING

As you will know from previous Newsletters, until we have someone to supervise the service and run the rota, we are unable to provide the refreshments regularly and no-one has yet come forward.

However, we have had a small number volunteer to help us out for the Christmas meeting only. This is good news and very welcome although, to be able to do this, we will need another 3 volunteers.

If you would be prepared to help out with refreshments at the Christmas meeting this year, please could you let one of the Committee know as soon as possible.

In addition, if you feel you could organise the refreshments team in 2022 so we can offer tea and coffee at every meeting, do please let us know also.

**Kathlyn Slack**, Vice-Chairman, [vchair@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk](mailto:vchair@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk)

### **NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

November sees the launch of our membership renewal campaign.

It is particularly important this year that you complete your membership form carefully as all details will be stored on the Beacon system and this will be used, from the February issue onwards, to send out all u3a communications **including your newsletter**. You will only continue to receive your newsletter if you have accurately supplied your email address and indicated on the renewal form that you wish to be sent an emailed newsletter. I strongly recommend that you do this even if you pay extra for a posted copy as printing and postage delays can mean that the hard copy arrives over a week after the digital version and we do not print the other associated attachments.

**Diane Cherryman**, Editor

### **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

If you become aware of a member becoming seriously ill or experiencing other life changing events please do let a member of the Committee know, even if you think someone else may have notified us. We would rather be notified more than once than not at all. Email [chairman@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk](mailto:chairman@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk) or telephone.

## **General Notices**

### **NETWORK AUTUMN ZOOM QUIZ – Thursday 18th November @ 7:00pm**

Open To: Teams of up to 4 members, Couples or Singles. Maximum of 90 logins.

To Register send: Your name, Name of your u3a and Team name/leader (if appropriate) to: [coordinator@landru3a.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@landru3a.org.uk). Zoom details emailed Monday 15th Nov.

Find out more about your u3a Network on the website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/landr>.

### **MUSICIANS WANTED!**

Do you, or someone you know, play past or present, a wind instrument?

Would you like to play with a small, friendly all ages group?

We would love to see you. Rustiness no problem. We are Tornado wind band.

We rehearse in **Melton** on **Wednesdays at 7.30 pm**

Beginners or intermediate players of all ages welcome.

Please contact John or Helen

### **COVID VACCINE POP-UP CLINIC SURVEY**

To meet demand for Covid-19 vaccinations, temporary pop-up vaccination clinics have been opened-up alongside more permanent vaccination sites. To help us decide where to locate additional pop-up clinics across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, we have created a survey to give you the opportunity to help decide this. To have your say, you can access the survey **until Friday 19 November** by clicking this link:

<https://llrpopupvaccinationclinics.questionpro.eu>.

[Samantha.Keating@LeicesterCityCCG.nhs.uk](mailto:Samantha.Keating@LeicesterCityCCG.nhs.uk)



### BRIDGE 1

Bridge 1 Group meetings resumed in September. The meetings failed to attract a viable number of participants and there are no indications that matters will improve in the short term.

Bridge 1 group meetings have therefore been suspended until further notice.

**John Playfer**

### BURTON ETHICS DISCUSSION GROUP

We reconvened in June and thoroughly enjoyed our first gathering in fifteen months to catch up on how each of us had each coped with the isolation forced up on us during the height of the pandemic. At our following meeting we discussed how we as a society should deal with the impact of mental illness that has been inadequately managed over many years and because of social isolation during the lockdowns has become more prevalent and pressing. The subject for our August meeting was the likely effect of the continuing presence of Covid 19 and how we personally, and the government should deal with the situation both at home and abroad. We carried on with another topical subject at the next meeting, debating how we individually, nationally, and internationally should respond to the escalating loss of species in Britain and throughout the world. For our 13th October meeting we have opted to discuss how the government should respond to the ever increasing expense of running a national health service. Our numbers are now a little depleted and there is room for one or two newcomers. If you are interested in joining this small friendly group that generally meets at 10am on the second Wednesday of each month, please contact me by phone on 01664569960 or by email.

**Malcolm Halford**, group leader

### COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the month at 2:30 pm. at 1 Faldo Drive

3<sup>rd</sup> November Nepomuceno

24<sup>th</sup> November Sgambati

1<sup>st</sup> December Chopin

Contact **John Playfer** Tel or email

### GUITAR

From our Website Groups list, you may have noticed that the 'Guitar Group' has two sub-elements; the **Beginner's Group** & the **'Generation Gap'**.

The **'Generation Gap'** is the performance element of the Guitar Group. It meets every Tuesday (9-11am) to practice in Burton Lazars Village Hall. Members play and sing music from the 60s, 70s & 80s.

2021 was to be one of the 'Generation Gap's busiest years. Plans were drawn up and booking agreed for twelve performances ('gigs') one during each month. Covid19 put paid to all these arrangements, and also to our weekly practice sessions.

We did continue with Zoom meetings and it kept us together as a group but did little to hone our musical ability! We do, however have two 'gigs' that remain on our calendar this

year – Melton's Widows Group and the Christmas U3A Meeting. After the long period of enforced latency we have a lot of practice ahead.

Looking forward to 2022, we already have one booking (Melton Mowbray Bowls Club) and once our regular hosts realise we are 'back in business', we expect our calendar to fill up rapidly.

**The Beginner's Guitar Group** sessions are designed to help members either start from scratch or revive latent guitar skills. Post the Covid19 restrictions, we have fallen from four to one active member and, as we have the capacity for six, we are looking for new members to join.

The pace is very gentle, meeting twice a month (usually at 'Mary's Place' in the centre of Town) and at a time to suit the majority.

The regular use of hands, fingers & mind is an excellent way to improve physical and mental agility.

Once members of the Beginners Guitar Group feel sufficiently confident, they can continue to improve by joining the weekly *practice* sessions (Burton Lazars Village Hall - Tuesdays 9-11am).

If you want to know more about either element, please contact **Pete Matthews**:  
'guitar@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk'

## HISTORY

It is with regret that we have to announce that the History Group has folded as no-one came forward to be its new leader.

**Joan Dawson**

## LUNCHEON GROUP (GK)

We meet at Sysonby Knoll for lunch on Wednesday November 3rd, please arrive by 12.15. May I please remind everyone, I will need payment for our Christmas meal, which is on Wednesday December 1st. at the November meeting. Any queries please contact me.

**Gillian Kilpatrick, group leader**

## MAHJONG 2

On 1st November we are restarting our mahjong group in the newly refurbished RAFA Club on Asfordby Road. New members very welcome.

Dates:- 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month; Time:- 1400-1600

**Sue Davies and Margaret Hackney**

## OUTINGS

In order to reserve a place on any of the following outings, full payment should be made up front either in cash or a cheque.

**Springfields Outlet Shopping and Garden Centre – Wed. 6th April 2022 - £18pp**

Depart Tesco 0900hrs, depart Springfields 15:30hrs.

**Cambridge – Wednesday 11th May 2022 - £20pp.** Depart Tesco 0900hrs, depart Cambridge 1500hrs. Phone Jean on 01664 562180 to make your reservations and arrange payment. Alternatively, we have our usual table at the monthly meetings (don't forget to bring some money with you!). You will need to give your 2021 membership number, contact number, and email address.

**Other outings for 2022 to include Hunstanton, Black Country Museum and Chatsworth at Christmas.** Details on these will follow in due course.

**Debbie Adams, Jean Pearson and Ruth Rigby, Group Leaders**

## **PATCHWORK 2**

The members of Patchwork group 2 are looking forward to meeting again after a 19 month gap. We are moving to a new venue, Burton Lazars village hall and changing our meeting day to the second Monday of each month. Times are still 9.30 am to 12.00.

**Jackie McMillan**, group leader

## **THEATRE GROUP**, [theatre@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk](mailto:theatre@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk)

### **The Nutcracker, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Birmingham Hippodrome, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm.**

The minibus will leave the Baptist Church car park at 9.30am. Journey time should be about 90mins. We should arrive back in Melton about 6.00pm. There are plenty of places for snacks/lunch in close proximity to the Hippodrome which is also a 10 min walk from the city centre

**Theatre tickets will be handed out on the 'bus.**

- Please bring your emergency contact card with you
- Be prepared to wear masks in the theatre if this is recommended.
- There will most likely be bag searches on entry to the theatre and we are asked **not to bring large bags**. The cloakroom may still be unavailable due to Covid restrictions so **bags should be small enough to fit under your seat**
- All payments throughout the theatre will be contactless

Lynda's mobile number: - please use this on the day

### **Little Theatre Leicester**

Please let Lynda know if you are interested in seeing a matinee performance of 'Handbagged' on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February. *What really happened in the private meetings between Margaret Thatcher and the Queen?*

### **Best of Broadway -2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022, 7:30pm, Royal Albert Hall**

**LAST CHANCE!!!**

There are still seats available for this show which I would like to fill to ensure the trip goes ahead. The cost is £50 including seat, transport, parking and gratuities.

I will require full payment at the November meeting or by arrangement if you are not going to be there. You can contact me by telephone or email. Those who have paid a deposit may pay their balance at the November meeting but **NO LATER** than the December meeting.

**Anne Dyster**

### **Kilworth House Theatre**

'Carousel' 24<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 'Half a Sixpence' 19<sup>th</sup> July -28<sup>th</sup> August. Please register your interest by email or visiting the Theatre Desk at the monthly meeting

### **PAYMENTS**

Banks are changing their system for dealing with charities (as mentioned in the newsletter) and, as from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021, we will be charged 40 pence for every cheque that they deal with. Therefore, we will have to add on 40 pence for every payment you make by cheque. However, if you are going to two productions, you could just use one cheque, but you must ensure that both of the organisers are aware that you have paid and give the details.

## **PROPOSED NEW PLANE >TRAIN >AUTOMOBILE GROUP**

There will be Outings to Museums of Interest and Places of Interest. The Group will cover the following – Trains> Plane> Road Transport> Automobile> Motor Sport and Classic Vehicles. So those of you who are interested, please get in touch with Mr Martin Bishop. I

am trying to put on a Group to cover all forms of transport so please email or phone. I am keen to hear from like-minded people.



## Walking Groups



### **2ND MONDAY WALKING GROUP**- 8th November

Meet at the "Hope and Anchor" Inn , Wanlip. LE7 1PD. 10-15 for 10-30 start

Walk Leader ;Rob Issitt

REMINDER. Payment is required on this walk from all members who are attending the Christmas lunch in December

**Group Co-ordinator Geoff Harris**

### **4th TUESDAY WALKING GROUP**

Our walk on 23 November will be from the Cheney Arms at Gaddesby – meet at 10am.

Leaders will be Rebecca and Mike Smith

An update to walking group members will be emailed during two weeks preceding the walk  
It is unlikely that there will be a walk in December as it would fall between Christmas and New Year

Please consider volunteering to lead one of the walks in 2022

**Chris Lawman,**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP** – approx. 5 miles

Next walk 17 November 2021. Meet at the The Malt Shovel, 27 Main St, Barkby, Leics. LE7 3QG, 10.00 for 10.15 start.

A table, for lunch, has been booked. Food to be ordered prior to walking.

We will be walking over some fields and it could be muddy if there has been recent rain.

Many thanks

**Terry Hopper,** Group leader/Co-ordinator,

### **1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY WALKING GROUP**, Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup>- Woodhouse Eaves.

Please park at the village hall car park, Main Street, LE12 8RZ, (there are toilet facilities), ready to walk for 10am. The walk includes Beacon Hill and the Outwoods and is hilly with pleasant views, (weather permitting) approximately 6 miles.

A provisional booking has been made lunch at the Manor PH, Woodhouse Road, Quorn, LE12 8AL, **numbers will be required prior to the walk date if you wish to stay.**

(PS Please bring an Emergency Contact Card with you or collect one on the day)

The **December 2<sup>nd</sup>** walk will be from The Stilton Cheese, Somerby, LE14 2QB.

Parking is limited and the village hall car park is an alternative.

Be ready to walk for 10am.

The walk is approx. 6 miles with hills and views taking in Burrough and towards Little Dalby.

A provisional lunch booking has been made and food can be ordered before the walk if required.

**Stuart and Wendy Posnett, group leaders**

Email [walkingthursday1@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk](mailto:walkingthursday1@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk).



## Annual Group Reports



### SINGLES 1

During the first half of 2021, our regular meeting room had been unavailable due to covid but we continued our regular until 26th September. Although I organised these, from 6th August I was unable to attend as I was not driving after hip surgery. Therefore, at the end of September, I thought that as I still couldn't do as much as I would wish for the group as restrictions eased, it would be best if I stepped down. All members were advised but no new leader emerged so a collective decision was made to close Singles 1. **Michaela Kelly.**

### SINGLES GROUP 2

We kept in touch with each other throughout the lockdown and were able to have one meeting during that time.

Sadly Helen Abbott has passed away. Helen was one of the founder members of the group and although through ill health she was unable to attend meetings she liked to be kept up to date with what the group were doing.

The group met again at the beginning of October. Two new members were welcomed. Enthusiastic suggestions were put forward for our social calendar and it is hoped these will come to fruition. In the meantime we are getting together for lunch before Christmas. Our 'Christmas Lunch' has been booked and will, as usual, take place as our first meeting in the New Year. Meeting dates for 2022 are already in our diaries and I'm sure the group will go forward together as we have done in the past. **Ann Packwood**



## Final Notices

### ANNUAL REPORTS DUE FOR THE DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER:

Tai Chi  
Walking- all groups  
Wood Carving  
Words, Words, Words  
Writing for Pleasure

### At the meeting next month on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

<b>Speaker</b>	Christmas Entertainment by members
<b>Display</b>	None
<b>Catering</b>	Awaiting volunteers
<b>Meet/Greet</b>	Jackie McMillan, Vaughan Gregory

**Contributions to the December 2021 newsletter to be received no later than 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.** Items should be emailed to [editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk](mailto:editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk) or posted to 20 Gartree Drive, Melton Mowbray LE13 0AE

**And Now, Dr Pan d'Mick – Chairman and Chief Dotty of the Molten Mewbray U1D [University of the First Dotage] writes:**

I am reading a horror story in Braille. Something bad is going to happen, I can feel it.

Late one night a burglar broke into a house and, while he was sneaking around, he heard a voice say, "Fluffy is watching you".

He looked around, saw nothing, so he kept on creeping.

Again he hears, "Fluffy is watching you".

In a dark corner he sees a cage with a parrot in it.

He asks, "Was it you who said Fluffy is watching me?"

The parrot replies, "Yes".

Relieved, the burglar asks, "What is your name?"

The parrot says "Clarence".

The burglar says "That's a stupid name for a parrot. What idiot called you Clarence?"

The parrot answers "The same idiot that called the rottweiler Fluffy".

A spinster asks her doctor:

*"I have a strong desire to live to eternity. What am I supposed to do?"*

*"Get married,"* replies her doctor.

*"It's that simple? It would that allow me to live forever?"*

*"No, but the desire will disappear."*

An anti-vaxxer gets to the Pearly Gates. She asks *"Tell me who is behind the conspiracy to give people vaccines and make them mindless automata?"*

*"Nobody,"* comes the reply. *"There is no conspiracy. Vaccines do not turn people into machines."*

*"THEY GOT TO YOU TOO?! HOW FAR UP DOES THIS GO?!"*

Overhead in the queue for fuel:

*"What's the difference between Paraffin and Petrol?"*

*"There are two F's in paraffin, but no F in Petrol"*

Looking for two gallons of diesel. Will swop for a doctor's appointment.

What do you call a dog that does magic tricks? A Labracadabrador!

A policeman radios in, *"I have an interesting case here. An old lady has just shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped"*

*"Have you arrested her?"*

*"Not yet. The floor is still wet".*

So many people these days are too judgemental.

I can tell just by looking at them.

*"If the food runs out we'll still have each other"* - Hannibal Lector

So that's all Dotties. Well for a time at least. My memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

**Dr Pan d'Mick**