

Winter Newsletter

March 2022



The Lockdown Band, featuring David and Lesley Foster, play at the Much Wenlock u3a Afternoon Tea event on 25th August 2021

Chairman's Report

Dear Members

Much Wenlock and District u3a has been running successfully for 9 years and it has been 3 years since I became Chairman of our u3a, and what a roller coaster of events have overtaken us since I took up this position. Who would have imagined that we would have a pandemic, various lockdowns, and then the joy last year when the brilliant work by our scientists gave us a vaccine to combat this

pandemic.

However, these events have emphasised what a wonderful place Much Wenlock is, with our beautiful countryside and our friendly supportive community. I would like to say a huge thank you to our local retailers and also volunteers and our neighbours who have looked out for each other and especially the more vulnerable in our area.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

This has definitely been shown in our local u3a, and some of our Group Leaders transferred their activities onto Zoom so that people could keep in touch, and in the last six months some leaders have restarted their groups so members can meet in person. What a delight to get back to some normality! We resumed our monthly Wednesday meetings in September and Jean Buswell has organised some excellent speakers for the coming year. Jean has also organised our outing to Kilworth House Theatre on 29 June to see Carousel. This theatre trip has been cancelled for the last two years due to the pandemic, so it is all the more exciting that we can go this year, and we just hope for good weather to accompany the trip. Thanks Jean for your hard work.

At the moment we have 25 active groups in our u3a and we are trying to introduce new groups and initiatives that will be interesting for our members. If you think of any other interest groups that we should be running, please tell us so we can look at the possibility of starting these new activities.

This year is the 40th anniversary of the u3a movement nationally and, as I said in my very first newsletter three years ago, "Learning never stops, no matter what our age, and we all benefit from the fun of taking up new activities, whether it is bowls, creative writing, ukulele,

art, philosophy etc. Through Much Wenlock u3a we have the opportunity to share interests, both educational and social; exchange and discuss a variety of views on all aspects of our world; widen our circle of acquaintances and form new and lasting friendships." We will keep you informed of activities this year that celebrate the u3a 40th anniversary

I know that some people are still wary after the restrictions of the last two years, but we have 228 members at the moment, and numbers are increasing, so the future looks very bright for Much Wenlock and District u3a.

I will be stepping down as Chairman at the AGM in May, as the Constitution only allows the Chairman to stand for a maximum of three years. I know that whoever takes over as Chairman will continue to make Much Wenlock u3a an exciting and vibrant organisation.

I would like to say a huge thanks to all our members who have supported us during the restrictions, and I would also like to welcome new members who have decided to join us.

My very special thanks also goes to the Much Wenlock u3a Committee who has given me so much support over the last three years and made the job of Chairman so much easier.

Thanks everyone.

Linda Wallace, Chairman

Now that we are free of restrictions on meetings, we are hoping to start several new interest groups

including:

Beginners Bridge This group is aimed at those with no or little experience of playing bridge. If you are interested please contact Linda Davies.

Table Tennis Arrangements regarding venue and leader for the group have not been finalised but, if you are interested, please contact Linda Wallace, our Groups Co-ordinator.

Psychology - This will be a wide-ranging group looking at all aspects of who we are, how we behave and what we can conclude from this (or not!). No previous knowledge of psychology is needed and the programme will be very much determined by group members' wishes. If you



New Groups

are interested or would like to know more, please contact Robert Toft.

Beginners Ukulele After the successful graduation of many of the first beginners group to Uke3a, Glynn is offering another beginners group. For further details please contact Glynn Emery .

Guitar Group 2 As the first guitar group is currently full, Glynn is considering starting a second group if there is enough interest. For further details please contact Glynn Emery .

If you have an interest for which we don't currently have a group, please contact our Groups Co-ordinator Linda Wallace .We can then find out if others are interested. You don't need to lead the group, although offers to lead groups would be very welcome.

National u3a News



Communications. The national magazine *Third Age Matters* drops through your letterbox five times a year. However, there are several other ways of finding about all that's happening nationally and across other u3as:

- **Sources.** This used to be a separate newsletter on subject groups and is now included in reduced form in *Third Age Matters* but more extensively on its website at <https://sources.u3a.org.uk/>. There's a large variety of articles on different subjects, many written by National Subject Advisers.
- **Podcasts.** A radio podcast created by a team of u3a members with radio experience, and hosted by Classic FM's Nick Bailey, comes out on the 17th of each month. It showcases the variety of events across the u3a movement. The whole series can be found on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsB2t41TNozHSJ4fvod_yjxrUJDzqbDD and on podcast platforms.
- **Newsletter.** The National Office produces a monthly newsletter with information, stories and advice from across the u3a movement. You can sign up to receive monthly email copies or access the full archive at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>

u3a Day. Last year, a national u3a Day was held for the first time, with Much Wenlock u3a taking part by running a stall in the Square. This year, u3a groups are celebrating the movement between **18th and 26th September**. A major feature will be the celebration of 40 years of u3a in the UK for which there will also

be a programme of events running all year - for more details see <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/40th-anniversary>

National Learning Events and Competitions.

These expanded considerably during the first lockdown in 2020 and are becoming increasingly popular. Current learning events include Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners, Laughter Yoga Workshops and Rembrandt & the Third Age - see more information at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

This year's competitions and challenges include Poetry (<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/poetry-competition-2022>), Run for the World (<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/run-for-the-world>) and Extreme Crochet! (<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/extreme-crochet>)

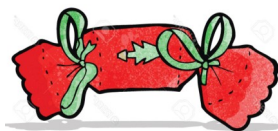
Online u3as. There are now two groups operating across the UK which are particularly valuable for those unable to attend face-to-face events or who do not have currently have an interest group for their favourite subject.

Virtual u3a has existed since 2002 and functions like a local u3a and Trust u3a was set up by the Third Age Trust in 2020 to help members during lockdown. You can join both of these whilst continuing as a Much Wenlock u3a member. The annual membership fee for Virtual u3a is £8 (see <https://vu3a.org.uk/>) and for Trust u3a £5 for members of other u3as.see <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/welcome>)

Ho Ho Ho !

According to the Gold TV Channel these were the top 10 Christmas cracker jokes in 2021:

1. Why are people cutting back on Brussels sprouts this Christmas? *The cost of gas is too high.*
2. Why is Christmas dinner vegan this year? *Because Turkey is on the red list, but vegetables are all green.*
3. Why won't Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk and Richard Branson see each other this Christmas? *They all want space.*
4. What's Piers Morgan's favourite Christmas song? *Walking Off On Air.*



5. Which relative will not be at Chris Whitty's Christmas dinner? *Aunty Vaxxer.*

6. Which vaccine did Father Christmas get? *Mince Pfizer.*

7. Why did Rudolph's nose have to self-isolate? *It failed the lateral glow test.*

8. Why didn't Santa replace Comet and Cupid when they left to become HGV drivers? *It was just two deer.*

9. How do you know the heating bill for December is too high? *Dad won't even let you open the windows on your advent calendar.*

10. Why can Netflix afford calamari at Christmas? *They're Squids in.*



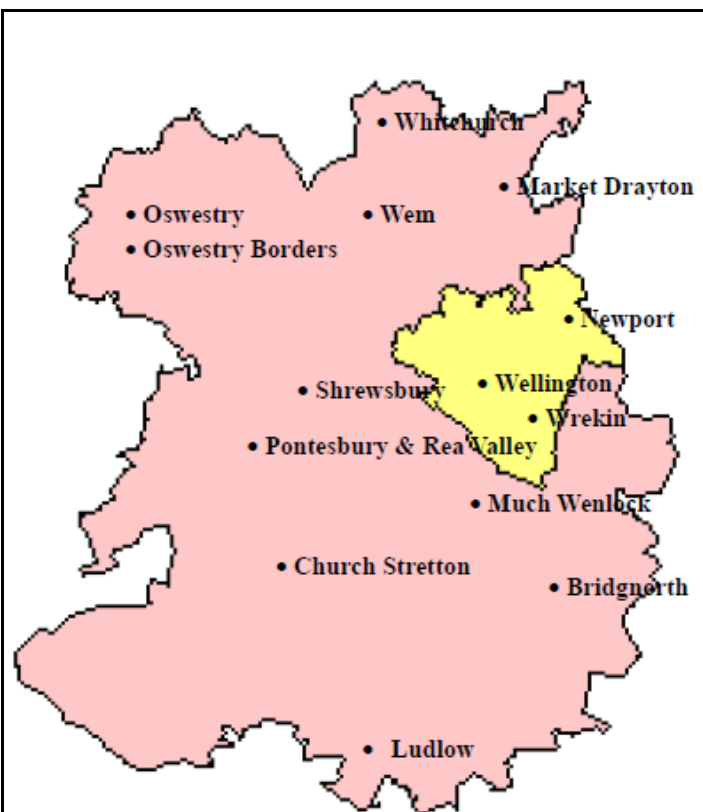
West Midlands u3a Region

The West Midlands Region of u3a covers the counties of Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire and West Midlands and has 350,000 members in its 85 u3as. The region is represented on the national u3a organisation, by a Regional Trustee who is currently Allan Walmsley. Since his election in 2020, Allan has done a lot to develop regional support and communications, including a series of “fireside chats” with u3a Chairs.

Two successful regional study weeks were held online last year, on Exploring World Faiths and Philosophy. These were facilitated by u3a National Subjects Advisers Peter Rookes (World faiths) and Shri Sharma (Philosophy) who both

live in the region. All of the presentations and most of the recordings from both weeks are available on the events page of the u3a West Midlands website at <https://u3asites.org.uk/west-midlands/events>

This year, a different sort of Regional Conference will be held on **Tuesday 22nd March** from **10am to 2.30pm** and will be open to all members via Zoom. This will focus on *Inspiring Lives*. The aim of the day is to celebrate the aspirations and achievements of people in later life and to inspire others to achieve their potential. There will be a variety of speakers from both the u3a and celebrity worlds, on a range of subjects explaining and promoting positive living in older age, plus a look into the history of well-known people achieving great success in their later years. There will also be entertainment and exercise, all designed to show that life needn't end with retirement! For further details see <https://u3asites.org.uk/west-midlands/events>



u3a Groups in Shropshire

Shropshire currently has 14 u3a groups, nearly all of which belong to the u3a Shropshire Network which meets several times a year. All u3a's operate independently but many have discounted subscription fees for those who are also members of other u3as.

Much Wenlock u3a AGM 2022



This year our AGM will be held on **Wednesday 11th May** starting at **2pm** in the Priory Hall. This will be followed by a talk by Alison Utting on Eglantyne Jebb, the founder of Save the Children.

Our membership year now runs from May 1st to April 30th, so subs for 2022/23 will be due from 1st May, except for those who join between January 1st and April 30th this year.

As usual, all the officers and executive committee will be elected at the meeting. We very much welcome expressions of interest in standing for any of these posts. If you would like to know more, please contact any of the officers/committee members whose contact details are given on the back page.

Groups News

Art Group

The Art Group has restarted and returned to the Pinefields Community Centre where we meet on Tuesday afternoons, from 2 to 4 pm. The session fee is just £2.

Jo Revell is now the group organiser but Catherine Downes is still very much in evidence giving us the benefit of her experience and artistic direction.

We had great fun in the autumn trying out experimental landscapes using all sorts of techniques but with no preconceived ideas about the end result.

The photo opposite is of just one of the pictures; this one is by David Armistead.

We intend to put together a programme of activities to suit all abilities and interests. If you'd like to join us we'd be delighted to welcome new members. No experience is necessary.

Jo Revell



Experimental Landscape by David Armistead

Beginners Ukulele

This is your chance to have great fun playing and singing along in a Ukulele club.

The group is aimed at complete beginners. It requires no prior musical knowledge, and no need to read music. The aim of the group is to develop playing skills to a level that will allow members to move on to the main u3a ukulele group. Of course, there is also the opportunity to join the numerous local clubs outside u3a, e.g. Cool and Uke in Ironbridge, Shifnal Strumpets, Bridgnorth at the All Forces Club, and AB Bridgnorth at the Bell and Talbot.

Members of the group will be taken, very slowly, through strum patterns, chords, tuning, songsheet interpretation etc. A range of simple songs will be played, with gradual development to more complex songs. Some more advanced techniques will be developed as the group progresses.

Based on the experience of the two prior beginners' groups, then the group will most likely run for about six months. But it's really when members are ready to move on.

Go on, give it a go, you will not regret it.

Here's a picture of our first group – pretending to pay attention!

Glynn Emery



Creative Writing - Wenlock Writers on the Edge

The writing group continues to thrive and to welcome new members.

We have had several successes this year including two of our members, Brenda Carter and Gillian Griffiths both publishing novels. One is a poignant story set mostly in France, the other a comical observation of everyday life through the eyes of two loveable characters, Fergus and Lavinia. Our flash fiction queen, Denise Telford has either won or been placed in a plethora of competitions. We always celebrate achievement with Prosecco which means it's becoming a bit of a habit!

Of note also is the audio play written at the request of Wenlock u3a by four of the writing group. The play highlights scams and the audio version will complement a talk by Barclay's Bank at a u3a monthly meeting later in the year. The play was made available to other u3a's and was performed by Looe u3a who reported that it was enthusiastically received.

For the second year running we were asked by the Wenlock Olympian Society to run their annual short story competition. A record



number of entries were received. Eighteen readers whittled the numbers to thirty-four then three judges drew up a shortlist of six. The three top entries will be selected by Char March, a multi award winning short fiction writer, playwright and poet. The results will be published in March.

Amongst our members it seems that writing novels is popular at present. Each session our flights of fancy take us to Wales, to India, to mediaeval England and the plague, to love on a canal. There are tales of drovers, of fantasy, murder, intrigue and other dark places. Light relief is provided by our newest member and the delightful children's story she has written.

Whether you like to write short stories, flash fiction or longer pieces you will find the group supportive and encouraging, offering honest and constructive feedback.

We meet fortnightly from 10 – 12.30 on a Friday morning in each other's houses.

Oh, and we have lots of fun too.

Jo Jackson

German

We are a small group, currently six, who enjoy reading German. We meet every Wednesday at one another's houses except on those days when there is a u3a meeting in the afternoon.

Our main reading matter is a series of short stories put together by Lingo Mastery which cover a wide range of subjects. Nothing too serious, but sufficient to keep us on our toes and to dive for the dictionary as the occasion demands.



Linda Francis joins us once a month to explain the mysteries of German grammar so we do not overlook the essentials.

The group acts as a refresher course for those of us who were first introduced to the language during their early years at school or elsewhere. Our aim is to enjoy ourselves and hopefully to become a little more proficient.

Do please come and join us - you will be most welcome.

Roland Bream

Guitar Group

The guitar group is now in its 4th year and it's still going well, with at least four original members. We meet at the Birchmeadow Centre in Broseley on the 2nd and 4th Thursday morning of each month, between 10 and 12, and we currently have 12 active members.

The group is open to all levels of experience, and has fun playing and singing along to a range of popular songs, mainly 60's pop and folk and whatever group members choose to contribute. Song-sheets are chord representations only, so there is no requirement to read music. Individual performances are not encouraged as it is a group participation event – perhaps that's the attraction.

In addition to our bi-weekly meetings we also perform local gigs for charity. We currently have regular slots at The Maws Centre, Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre, Haycop Nature Reserve Open Day and Much Wenlock Square.

The current group is full, as 10 acoustic guitars, a bass and electric guitar (and occasional guest drummer) is just about the sensible limit, but we do have a waiting list open. We will form a second group and meet weekly if we can get a few more members.



Go on, dust off your guitar and give it a go!!

Above are a few pictures of our recent gigs. A good mixture of nice and warm (happy), indoor but cold (pretending to be happy), outdoor and freezing (more a case of whose idea was this). A passing flautist once joined us in the Square!

Glynn Emery

Out with Friends Groups

Group 1

We are all looking forward to the decline of this dreadful virus and our return to normal life. However, throughout this difficult time we have supported each other with regular contact. Thankfully we have all remained virus free.

Our coffee mornings resumed as soon as six people could meet outside. We split into two groups and had coffee and chat in members gardens. It was lovely to meet each other in the flesh after such a long time. As restrictions have eased, our full coffee mornings and social activities have emerged and taken shape.

These have included a Bluebell Walk in Brockton during May and in July a visit to Berrington Hall, a National Trust property near to Leominster; the weather was perfect. We explored the beautiful grounds and enjoyed warm sunshine as we picnicked in the apple orchard.

We visited Wightwick Manor and Gardens in October, another National Trust property. We admired the amazing architecture of this Victorian Arts and Crafts property, enjoying a coffee and snack in the Stable Café and stopping for a delicious lunch at 'The Inn at Shipley' on the way home.

The Huntsman at Little Wenlock was the venue for our Christmas outing and we celebrated the 8th Anniversary of the beginning of our group by lunching at The Pottery in Much Wenlock (see photo) – it was delicious!

We have a number of planned activities to look forward to this year which include: a snowdrop walk around the grounds of Attingham Park, a visit to Theatre Severn in February for the performance of 'Burn the Floor' featuring Strictly Come Dancing star Kevin Clifton, no doubt preceded by lunch at a convenient hostelry. And,



8th Anniversary Lunch at Wenlock Pottery

of course, in June our visit to that magical Kilworth House Theatre to see the award-winning performance of 'Carousel'

Jean Buswell

Group 2

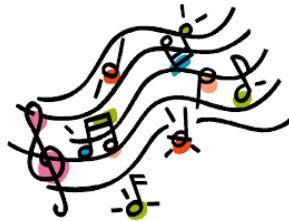
After a break for Covid we started again with a trip to Arley Arboretum in November – weather was good and we had a lovely light lunch out of doors. We meet monthly on a Tuesday lunchtime to discuss future trips and are currently arranging one per month. In February this will be to the British Ironworks centre near Oswestry. In addition to the daytime trips, we hope to add theatre and concerts once we have no Covid concerns.

Jane Lee

Music Appreciation

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month in members' homes. The first task is setting up the hi-fi equipment kindly transported each time by our group leader, Trevor Halsey, which includes several speakers and TV connection to allow YouTube and other videos to be shown.

Members take it in turn to choose the programme, enjoying a total free choice in doing so and thus the range of music played has been very broad. Fortunately, we have quite eclectic



tastes so recent programmes have included a history of country music, 1966 or 1967? (which was the best year for pop?), favourite female singers and an A to Z of names. We don't always own the tracks played but can generally find a recording on YouTube,

often with interesting and sometimes amusing archive videos!

The group is currently full but if you are interested please contact Trevor Halsey (see back page) who can include you on the reserve list.

Philosophy

We have been grateful to resume face-to-face meetings after lockdown restrictions lessened.

For several months we've been listening to the BBC Radio 4 series A History of Ideas (see

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04bwydw>). This is a fascinating set of short programmes in which four speakers from different backgrounds present their views on topics such as How Can I Know Anything at All?, What Does it Mean to be Human?, What Does it Mean to be Me? and many others.

All this provokes lively and animated discussions but we are a very friendly group and respect each other's views and convictions.

New members are always welcome.



Robert Toft

Spanish Groups

Spanish Conversation

Spanish 1 no longer exists, but has morphed into a Spanish Conversation Group with 6-8 active participants.

It is a small friendly group consisting of people with varying levels of basic Spanish. However all the members share an interest in practising the language, making large errors and helping each other to get better - we enjoy it.



Peter Houlder

Spanish Improvers

Spanish 2 reformed in the autumn, once we could meet again face to face, as a Spanish Improvers Group. We are following the Spanish Pasos course with its audio and video recordings. It started again at the beginning but we are adding in more grammar and conversation practice as we go along. The group has a healthy 8 members at present which is just about maximum as we meet in one another's houses and so space is sometimes limited.

Jane Hague

Uke3A Ukulele Group

Before the group restarted weekly meetings last summer, we performed a short set for the "u3a Day" in the square at Much Wenlock. It was a very pleasant early June day and although we don't usually like playing in the open (the small sound of ukes is easily lost) we were happy to support this event. Even so, the group had not met together for ages and had had no rehearsal, so I selected easy standard songs from our song books. I'm glad to say the performance went well and we had a very appreciative audience.



At the end of July last year, we resumed our weekly meetings. It was great to be able to finally meet up again and it was good that many of the members were confident enough to meet face-to-face after the multiple lockdowns and restrictions.

After such a long break, the uke playing as a group was a tad "slack" to start with but is improving as the weeks pass and we had the incentive of a gig to rehearse towards - the Much Wenlock Christmas Fayre. We were invited to do our usual half-hour slot under the arches at the Corn Exchange. This year the day was cold and clear, and we got our biggest audience to date, which was a real boost. You can see us performing *Rawhide* at the Fayre at <https://youtu.be/bBROU8yFaik>

We are currently meeting in the Priory Hall, rather than Pinefields Community Room. This gives us much more space, which many members feel is better in the current pandemic. The larger amount of space, even in the small hall, does mean that restrictions on group numbers are no longer in place, so any new members are welcome. I am happy to report that we have had new members join us this year. They have transferred from Glynn's beginners uke group, and all appear to be settling in (despite the banter and sometimes awful noise we make!)

Let us hope the coming year brings a more relaxed social environment for us all to enjoy and we can get back to performing at some of the local old people's homes and other charity organisations. These were such an enjoyable and rewarding part of being in the Uke3A, providing a focus for practice and giving a point to the weekly sessions apart from bashing out a few songs.

Neil Lloyd

Shrewsbury Flax Mill Maltings

At January's monthly meeting, Peter Dunhill gave a very interesting talk on the History and Renovation of Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings which is pictured below. Our creative writing group was inspired to produce a poem commemorating the building of the mill.



Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings, Shropshire.

General view of the Main Mill from the south-east, May 2021. c Historic England

The Mill

In Salopia's county town
 Trade from wool was going down
 Merchants sought to save their skin
 Flax had put them in a spin
 Marshall met with Benyon Brothers
 Necessity invention's mother
 Making linen was their goal
 The Cut from Newport would bring coal
 Site selected, surveyor told
 Design the building and be bold
 But, the owners made it plain,
 Our factory must not burn again
 Mister Bage applied his skill
 To construct a fire-proof mill
 Decided to eschew wood
 Used as little as he could
 Instead, it had an iron-frame
 "The First", its claim to fame
 But who could cast all the beams
 To realise Charles' dreams?
 A local man, Hazeldine
 Seized upon his chance to shine
 For entrepreneurs and engineers
 The project plan was crystal clear
 To build up, up, five storeys high
 Let Shrewsbury Flaxmill scrape the sky!

Writers on The Edge

Master or Mistress of Wine Wanted!



The Wine Tasting group has had a waiting list for some time and we would very much like to start a second group.

You don't need to know a lot about wines, just to be enthusiastic - there is plenty of information available on the Internet and from wine sellers. If you would be interested in helping to start another group, please contact me - I'd be most willing to help you get started.

Robert Toft - Wine Tasting organiser

Shropshire Quiz

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Which town was nicknamed Little Switzerland in the late Victorian period for its landscape?</p> <p>2. Which well known flowering plant was cultivated and developed in the small market town of Wem by Henry Eckford in the 1880s?</p> <p>3. Which market town in the northern part of the county is the oldest continuously inhabited town in Shropshire and has its own arm of the Llangollen Canal?</p> <p>4. In 1501, Prince Arthur arrived in Ludlow for his honeymoon with which bride?</p> <p>5. Which of the following are other names for Shrewsbury? Pengwern, Scrobberburh or Amwythig?</p> <p>6. Where is the tallest Doric column in England located?</p> <p>7. Where can you find England's only community-owned castle?</p> <p>8. Where is the highest point in Shropshire?</p> <p>9. Poet Wilfred Owen and novelist Barbara Pym were born in which Shropshire town?</p> <p>10. In the event of a successful invasion, which town do some experts consider that Hitler planned to make his personal headquarters?</p> | <p>11. In which Shropshire town was the youngest known girl legally executed in Great Britain?</p> <p>12. Which Shropshire town was described by Sir John Betjeman as "probably the loveliest town in England"?</p> <p>13. Which Shropshire town holds the record for the lowest-ever temperature recorded in England?</p> <p>14. What species are the three cats featured on Shropshire's emblem?</p> <p>15. Which poet's first job was as librarian at Wellington Library?</p> <p>16. When did Shropshire "disappear"?</p> <p>17. The reef that constitutes Wenlock Edge was formed in subtropical seas how long ago?</p> <p>18. Which four Shropshire settlements did A E Housman think were "the quietest places under the sun"?</p> <p>19. Which children's author set several of his books, featuring the members of the Lone Pine Club, in Shropshire?</p> <p>20. Which famous Salopian cited as reasons not to marry "freedom to go where one likes" and "conversation of clever men at clubs"?</p> |
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- (Answers on back page)*

Much Wenlock u3a Officers and Committee 2021-2022

Elected Officers

Chairman, Groups Co-ordinator	Linda Wallace
Secretary, Beacon Administrator, New Members, Social Events	Alison Richards
Treasurer, Website Co-ordinator	Glynn Emery
Vice Chair	David Foster
Vice-Chair, External Liaison, Newsletter Editor	Robert Toft

Committee Members

Minutes Secretary, Talks	Jean Buswell
Refreshments	Linda Davies
Publicity	Bill Hague
Communications Lead, Website Co-ordinator	Jane Hague
Membership Secretary	Michael Theobalds

Much Wenlock U3A Group Leaders as at February 2022

Group	Group Contact	Email address	Phone
Art and Watercolour	Jo Revell		
Bridge (Beginners)	Linda Davies		
Classics	Linda Francis		
Craft and Chat	Anna Moore		
Creative Writing	Jo Jackson		
Crown Green Bowling	Michael Theobalds		
German	Roland Bream		
Guitar (Play Guitar)	Glynn Emery		
Italian 1	Andy Jackson		
Italian 3	David Foster		
Italian 4	Hugh Devlin		
Italian 5 (Beginners)	Wendy Emery		
Music Appreciation	Trevor Halsey		
Out with Friends	Jean Buswell		
Out with Friends 2	Jane Lee		
Philosophy	Robert Toft		
Play Reading	Christina Gore		
Political Studies	Malcolm Gribbin		
Psychology	Robert Toft		
Spanish Beginners	Michael Theobalds		
Spanish Conversation	Peter Houlder		
Spanish Improvers	Jane Hague		
Ukulele (Uke3A)	Neil Lloyd		
Ukulele (Beginners)	Glynn Emery		
Walking for All	Bob van Mook		
Wine Tasting	Robert Toft		

Quiz Answers: 1. Church Stretton, 2. Sweet pea, 3. Whitchurch, 4. Catherine of Aragon, 5. All of them - Pengwern (by the ancient Britons), Scrobberburh (by the Saxons), Amwythig (by the Welsh), 6. Lord Hill's column (133 ft 6 in) can be found outside Shirehall in Shrewsbury, 7. Whittington, 8. At Abdon Burf on Brown Clee - 1772 feet high, 9. Oswestry, 10. Bridgnorth, 11. Much Wenlock - Alice Glaston, aged 11, from Little Wenlock was hanged in 1546 for an unknown crime, 12. Ludlow, 13. Newport (Edgmond), -26.1 °C on 11 January 1982, 14. Leopards, 15. Philip Larkin, 16. Between 1974 and 1980 when the county was officially known as Salop, 17. About 425 million years, 18. Clunton and Clunbury, Clungunford and Clun, 19. Malcolm Saville, 20. Charles Darwin - he did, however, marry his cousin Emma Wedgwood in 1839.

Newsletter compiled and edited by Robert Toft. With grateful thanks to all contributors and photographers, including Linda Wallace, Jo Jackson, Alison Richards, Glynn Emery, Jean Buswell, Jane Lee, Neil Lloyd, Jo Revell, Trevor Halsey, Peter Houlder, Jane Hague, Linda Davies, Roland Bream, David Armistead, Writers on the Edge and Historic England.