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A word from the Chair ...

It's officially summer now so fingers crossed for some lovely weather. I hope that you are getting out and about a bit more now – certainly our interest groups are going strong and we had a very large turn out for our last Open Meeting on 15 June.

We welcomed Natalie Cummings who told us the story of her Aunt's, then Grandfather's violin. I won't do the story justice trying to summarise it here, suffice to say that Natalie's presentation was inspiring and moving – and possibly one of the best we have had.

Our next Open Meeting is our Annual General Meeting – see below>

We are not having an Open Meeting in August as we are saving ourselves for our big celebration in September. The

u3a movement will be 40 years old this year and our own u3a will be 5. Cake will definitely be on the agenda when we have our celebration on Saturday 24 September at 2.00pm in The Pavilion.

We will be showcasing our u3a, welcoming current and potential members and generally having a lovely time – please put the date in your diary now.

In the meantime – keep an eye on the website for information about events and interest group activities. If you have any queries about u3a goings on you can contact the relevant person via the website.

Best wishes to you all

Chair: [Janet Walsh](#)

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be conducted via Zoom at 2.00pm on Wednesday 20 July.

The information for this meeting has been sent out to members and is also available on our [website](#). It would be very much appreciated if you could make the effort to join us.

We will be voting in the committee for next year and reviewing our previous year.

There is also the opportunity to make amendments to our constitution and more general resolutions.

Special Events

**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING**

**20 July
2022**
14h
Via Zoom



**24 Sept
2022**
14h
The Pavilion



Mon 4	Walking (Short) 10:00 Pontesbury School Green	Wed 13	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:00—12:00 Minsterley Parish Hall	Thu 21	Creative writing 10:00—12:00 Pavilion/Zoom hybrid
	Table Tennis Pontesbury 13:30—15:30 Congregational Church		Italian 10:30—12:00 Coordinator's house		Pickle Ball/Soft Tennis 16:30—18:00 Mary Webb School, Pontesbury
	Folk Music 14:00—16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Literature 14:00—16:00 Pavilion, Pontesbury		Table Tennis Pontesbury 13:30—15:30 Congregational Church
	u3a Committee meeting 14:00 Pavilion, Pontesbury	Thu 14	Walking (Long) 10:00 As announced	Mon 25	Folk Music 14:00—16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall
Tue 5	Cycling 10:00 Pontesbury School Green		Pickle Ball/Soft Tennis 16:30—18:00 Mary Webb School, Pontesbury		History 10:30—12:30 via Zoom
Wed 6	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:00—12:00 Minsterley Parish Hall	Mon 18	Walking (Short) 10:00 Pontesbury School Green	Tue 26	Cycling 10:00 Pontesbury School Green
	Italian 10:30—12:00 Coordinator's house		Table Tennis Pontesbury 13:30—15:30 Congregational Church	Wed 27	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:00—12:00 Minsterley Parish Hall
	Recorded Music 14:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Art appreciation 14:00—16:00 To be advised		Italian 10:30—12:00 Coordinator's house
Thu 7	Creative writing 10:00—12:00 Pavilion/Zoom hybrid		Folk Music 14:00—16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Café Society Time 14:00—16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall CANCELLED
	Pickle Ball/Soft Tennis 16:30—18:00 Mary Webb School, Pontesbury	Tue 19	Cycling 10:00 Pontesbury School Green	Thu 28	Walking (Long) 10:00 As announced
Mon 11	Family History 10:15—12:15 Pavilion, Pontesbury		Local History 14:00—16:00 Holy Trinity Minsterley		Pickle Ball/Soft Tennis 16:30—18:00 Mary Webb School, Pontesbury
	Table Tennis Pontesbury 13:30—15:30 Congregational Church	Wed 20	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:00—12:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		
	Folk Music 14:00—16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Italian 10:30—12:00 Coordinator's house		
Tue 12	Cycling 10:00 Pontesbury School Green		Annual General Meeting 14:00 By Zoom		
	Geology 14:00—16:00 Pavilion, Pontesbury				

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u3a News

15 June Open meeting: "The Fiddle" by Natalie Cumming

A big thank you to Natalie Cumming for a hugely moving talk about the history of her family's violin and how it saved the lives of her family fleeing Russia and her aunt to survive the concentration camps of Germany in WWII.

Thought-provoking, a lengthy debate arose afterwards amongst the well-attended event about the necessity to ensure these stories and lessons are never forgotten.

Natalie's book can be purchased on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1527004444) and at the moment there is the possibility of the book being turned into a TV series.

Thanks must also go to Bob Boden for kindly arranging the talk and the other committee members who helped.



Concert for Ukraine

Sometimes we feel we can't do much when earth shattering events like the war in Ukraine happen, but several of our u3a members are involved in the worthy cause of raising funds via a Concert to convert Stiperstones church into a home for a Ukrainian family.

The concert is in the Pontesbury Public Hall on Saturday 2 July at 7.30pm and three of our members will also be performing.

There is still a chance to purchase tickets before the event. There will also be some tickets available on the door on the night.

CONCERT
for Ukraine

Rea Valley Methodist Churches

Raising funds to
convert Stiperstones
church into a home for
a Ukrainian family

Saturday 2 July 2022

7.30pm
Pontesbury Public Hall
£10 admission



Sadie-Beth Holder

Sadie-Beth has a unique voice that is rich and soulful, performing a range of genres including Jazz, Acoustic, Lounge, Musical Theatre and Classical.



Andy & Nancy Ketchen

This amazing folk music duo are singers of traditional and original songs and poems, from Andy's own compositions.



Of One Accord

Of One Accord is a mixed voice choir based in Shrewsbury, with a wide repertoire presented in a professional yet light-hearted manner.



"We can change the world and
make it a better place. It is in our
hands to make a difference" -
Nelson Mandela










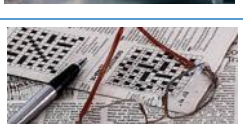
TICKET SALES

Sue Priddey
01743 790913



National u3a online learning events

July's free online courses through the national u3a are now available: [Click here for this months events:](#)

	Artificial Intelligence	Fri 1st July 10am
	Mindfulness & Meditation	Thurs in July 10am
	Derek Jarman's Garden	Fri 8th July 2pm
	Laughter Yoga	Wed 13th July 10am
	Secret History: Deciphering Disinformation	Thur 14th July 2pm
	Paulette Szklarz: Young Survivor	Fri 15th July 10am
	Radio Podcast of the month	Sun 17th July
	Live cookery demo: Summer recipes	Thur 21st July 10:30am
	40th anniversary Science network: 3 presentations	Tue 26th July 10:30am
	Cryptic crosswords explained	Thur 28th July 10am

Welcome!

This month we would like to give a warm welcome to our new members;

Pauline Price

Joan Lee

Membership secretary:

[Peter Traves](#)

Library Service Strategy

Have your say, make your opinion count!
Follow the link here:

SHROPSHIRE.GOV.UK

[Draft Library Service Strategy | Shropshire Council](#)

Logic puzzles for fun

June's Logic puzzles for Fun are published by the u3a National programmes, For more puzzles (and their solutions) can be found at this link:

[Logic puzzles for fun | u3a](#)

Safety Code

To open this safe you must press all the buttons in the correct order. The number on each button tells you how many squares you move and the letters tell you the direction (U = up, D = down, L = left and R = right). Which is the first button you must press to open this safe?

3R	3D	2D	1D	3L
1U	1D	2R	3D	1D
1U	2R	OPEN	1D	4L
1D	1R	1D	1R	4L
4R	3U	4U	2L	4U



Interest Groups

Folk Music

We are exceptionally lucky in our u3a to have a wonderful active folk music group, co-ordinated by Mal Brown.

New to the village and the u3a, my husband Steve joined early this year and has been warmly welcomed. Ever since, our mailbox has overflowed with friendly banter!

In Mal's own words in one such e-mail he describes how he feels about the group:

“ I cannot imagine ever being a part of such a talented, humorous, supportive, lively group of kindly individuals as these. ”

The folk music group has been meeting for five years. From small beginnings, they started with four members, meeting in each others houses until the membership grew and a room was hired in the Congregational Church.

As the membership grew they moved to the present venue in Minsterley Parish Hall and meet every Monday (2pm - 4pm).

It is an inclusive group, with both singers and instrument players (guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, mountain dulcimer, concertina and diddy-bo), covering a wide range of traditional and modern folk songs and self penned pieces.

Several group members have joined and formed splinter liaisons, Tin Soldier, The Ketchen's Duo and a



seven member female group (name to be decided) who have recorded a traditional song (Bonnie Pit Laddie) available on mp3.

For more information, please contact Mal.

Coordinator:
[Mal Brown](#)
07582504058



Interest Groups

History



This month the history group continued its exploration of Japanese history. John Rice led the discussion and he provided a fascinating insight into not only the broad range of types of **Buddhism** but more specifically the place of Zen Buddhism and how it evolved in Japan. Follow this link for more information.

[Buddhism paper by John Rice](#)

The group is now moving on to a new topic – the role of disease and medicine in history. Sue Pigott-Forster will lead the next session at 10h30 on the 25th July on the **Black Death**, the plague that killed up to 50% of the population of Asia and Europe and had a huge impact on society, the arts and religion.

If you would like to join us just let me know and I will send a copy of Sue's paper and a link to join us via zoom.

Coordinator:
[Peter Traves](#)

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Recorded Music

The July meeting of the Recorded Music Group will meet again in the Committee Room of Minsterley Parish Hall on Wednesday 6th July

For this meeting the subject is TREES; (or any other plant if you can't think of any musical trees!)

Coordinator: [John Rice](#)
01743 792790



Café Society

We will have a break during the summer so our next Cafe Society session will be on Wednesday 28 September at 2.00pm. The venue will be confirmed.

Please contact Janet if you have any queries.

Coordinator:
[Janet Walsh](#)



Short Walking



Short walking: 20 June waterfall walk



Interest Groups

Pickleball

Pickleball is recommencing at Mary Webb School with effect from Thursday 30 June 2022. 16h30 to 18h00.

The cost for a session per person is £3, but will depend on the number of players. Two courts have currently been booked but if necessary this can be revisited if numbers dictate.

If you have any questions please contact Jane.



Coordinator:
[Jane Simms](#)



Local History

The Local History Group successfully met at Holy Trinity Church Minsterley last month, with nine attendees.

We are working towards assembling our exhibition piece for the 40th celebration in September. Anyone who's interested in coming, is very welcome. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month 2-4pm.



Coordinator:
[Susan Lockwood](#)

Interest groups

The work of the interest group coordinators is the backbone of our u3a.

As we approach the AGM I would like to thank the coordinators for their efforts, particularly under the very trying conditions of the last two years.

Can I also thank those coordinators who have offered to contribute to our forthcoming 40th Anniversary.

Hopefully in the autumn we can begin to expand the number of interest groups.

Coordinator Support
[Merle Traves](#)
01743 790 028

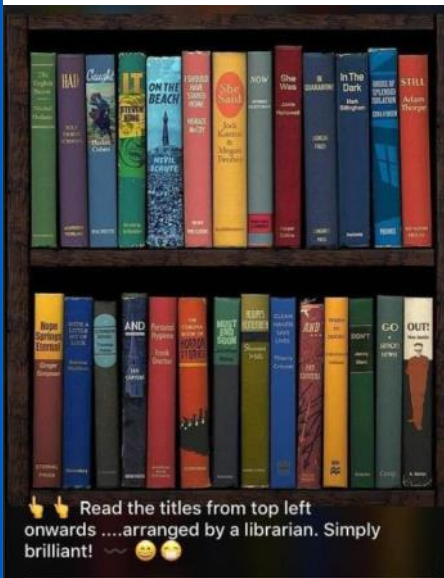


Interest Groups

A few snippets from our u3a page

If you are on Facebook, please follow or join our u3a Pontesbury and Rea Valley [Facebook page](#) for up-to-date news.

Also, if you feel inclined, like or share any posts, as this raises the profile of our group.



Lythe Hill by Jane Simms

Cinema & Social



There will be no more Friday films at Marton Village Hall over summer but we return in September with 4 excellent films:

16th Sept. Spencer
21st Oct. The Duke
18th Nov. Phantom of the Open
16th Dec. West Side Story

Over the Summer months, we will visit other venues in Shropshire to see several interesting films:

4th July Summer Holiday
5th July Top Gun
14th July Road Dance

Please contact Judith for further details.

Coordinator

Judith Rice

01743 792 790

jebbrice@gmail.com

Art appreciation

In June, the Art Appreciation group met in Mary's lovely garden and continued its exploration of the work of Pablo Picasso.

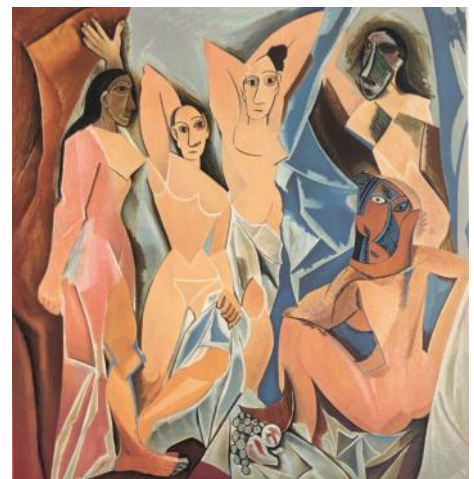
Merle presented her paper on Cubism. She looked at what led up to this movement including the influence of the work of artists such as Cezanne and the impact of Picasso's collaboration with fellow artist Braque.

Mary presented a paper on the involvement of Picasso with the Ballet Russes.

Next month the group will focus on Neo-Classicism and Surrealism and their influence on Picasso.

Coordinator:

[Mary Lovegrove](#)



Les Demoiselles d'Avignon



Interest Groups

There are a wide range of life-enhancing and life-changing friendly groups, run by the group coordinators.




















Please check out the activities available and if anything takes your interest or you wish to suggest a new activity, please contact the Support team. Some groups have returned to face-to-face meetings

but some are still being held on zoom. Things are changing daily as things get back to "normal". Please always check beforehand if the activity is being held and the venue before attending, as this could be subject to change.

Group Coordinator Support:

[Merle Traves](#) 01743 790 028

[Doreen Thomas](#) 01743 790 332

Art Appreciation	3rd Mon of month 14:00-16:00 To be confirmed		Local History	3rd Tue of month 14:00-16:00 Holy Trinity Minsterley	
Bridge	Under relaunch		Painting & Drawing	Under relaunch	
Café Society	Last Wed of month 14:00-16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Pickle Ball /Soft Tennis	Every Thu 16:30-18:00 Mary Webb School, Pontesbury	
Cinema & Social	As announced		Play Reading	Under relaunch	
Creative writing	1st & 3rd Thu 10:00-12:00 Pavilion/Zoom hybrid		Recorded Music	1st Wed of month 14:00 Minsterley Parish Hall	
Cycling	Every Tue 10:00 Pontesbury School Green		Table Tennis Minsterley	Every Wed 10:00-12:00 Minsterley Parish Hall	
Family History	2nd Mon of month 10h15-12h15 Pavilion, Pontesbury		Table Tennis Pontesbury	Every Mon 13:30-15:30 Congregational Church	
Folk Music	Every Mon 14:00-16:00 Minsterley Parish Hall		Walking (long)	Alternate Thu 10:00 As announced	
Gardening	Under relaunch		Walking (short)	Alternate Mon 10:00 Pontesbury School Green	
Geology	2nd Tue of month 14:00-16:00 Pavilion, Pontesbury		Potential new groups under investigation		
History	3rd Mon of month 10:30-12:30 Currently via Zoom				
Italian	Every Wed 10:30-12:00 Coordinator's house				
Literature	2nd Wed in month 14:00-16:00 Pavilion, Pontesbury				

- Pilates
- Scrabble
- Sunday lunch
- Seated Yoga
- Photography

**Please click this
link to Merle
if interested**

