

Editor: [Sue Anderson](#)

A word from the Chair

Well – what an absolutely lovely time we had at our u3a 40th Anniversary event last Saturday. The weather was good, the displays fantastic, the refreshments wonderful and the atmosphere absolutely amazing. Our entertainment was just right and The Pavilion was exactly the right place for such an event. It went better, I think, than we had dared to hope when the planning was being done and on behalf of the committee can I give a huge thank you to everyone who contributed either on the day itself or at the planning stages.

We welcomed lots of potential new members so over the next few weeks we will be getting in touch with them to make sure that they have plenty of information about joining and about the groups in which they were interested. As well as our existing groups we have several ideas for new

groups – either long term or for a fixed period of time (we're calling these 'pop up groups') and we're really excited at the prospect of developing our u3a over the coming months.

Our next Open Meeting is being held at Minsterley Parish Hall on Wednesday 19 October 2022 – at 2.00pm. Amanda Perkins who is overseeing the Curlew project in the Stiperstones will be updating us with the progress of the project. I have heard Amanda speak about this before and it is fascinating as well as uplifting in terms of the work that is being done – one not to miss.

In the meantime as the nights draw in and that lovely summer seems so long ago make sure to appreciate the autumn colours and start planning for Christmas!!!

With best wishes

[Janet Walsh](#) (Chair)

Inside

Diary	2
40th anniversary	3
u3a national	4
Interest Group news	5-7
Interest Groups	8

Special Events



19 October 2022
Open meeting

The Curlews are back!

Not really ... but our talk is. On the 19th October Open Meeting, the long awaited talk by Amanda Perkins on the Curlews will take place.

Members and non-members alike are welcome, so make a note for your diary and bring along a friend.

Members and non-members Welcome!



"Curlew Country"

Speaker Amanda Perkins,
Curlew Country
Date Wed 19 October 2022
Time 14h00
Place Minsterley Parish Hall



u3a
Pontesbury
& Rea Valley



Mon	3	Table Tennis Pontesbury 1:30pm—3:30pm Congregational Church	Tue	11	Geology 2pm—4pm Pavilion, Pontesbury	Thu	20	Walking (Long) 10:am As announced
		Folk Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall	Wed	12	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:am—12:noon Minsterley Parish Hall			Creative writing 10:am —12: noon Pavilion/Zoom hybrid
		u3a Committee meeting 4pm Pavilion, Pontesbury			Italian 10:30am—12: noon Coordinator's house			Pickle Ball 4:30pm—6pm Mary Webb School, Pontesbury
Tue	4	Cycling 10am—12 noon Pontesbury School Green			Literature 2pm—4pm Pavilion, Pontesbury	Fri	21	Cinema & Social 7:30pm Marton Village Hall "The Duke"
Wed	5	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:am—12:noon Minsterley Parish Hall			Photography 2pm—4pm Shrewsbury field trip	Mon	24	Walking (Short) 10 am Pontesbury School Green
		Italian 10:30am—12: noon Coordinator's house	Thu	13	Pickle Ball 4:30pm—6pm Mary Webb School, Pontesbury			Table Tennis Pontesbury 1:30pm—3:30pm Congregational Church
		Recorded Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall	Mon	17	History 10:30am—12:30pm Pavilion, Pontesbury			Folk Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall
Thu	6	Walking (Long) 10:am As announced			Table Tennis Pontesbury 1:30pm—3:30pm Congregational Church	Tue	25	Cycling 10am—12 noon Pontesbury School Green
		Creative writing 10:am —12: noon Pavilion/Zoom hybrid			Art History 2pm—4pm Venue to be advised	Wed	26	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:am—12:noon Minsterley Parish Hall
		Pickle Ball 4:30pm—6pm Mary Webb School, Pontesbury			Folk Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall			Italian 10:30am — 12: noon Coordinator's house
Mon	10	Walking (Short) 10:am—12 noon Pontesbury School Green	Tue	18	Cycling 10am—12 noon Pontesbury School Green	Thu	27	Pickle Ball 4:30pm—6pm Mary Webb School, Pontesbury
		Family History 10:15am—12:15pm Pavilion, Pontesbury			Local History 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall	Mon	31	Table Tennis Pontesbury 1:30pm—3:30pm Congregational Church
		Table Tennis Pontesbury 1:30pm—3:30pm Congregational Church	Wed	19	Table Tennis Minsterley 10:am—12:noon Minsterley Parish Hall			Folk Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall
Mon	10	Folk Music 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall			Italian 10:30am —12: noon Coordinator's house			
Tue	11	Cycling 10am—12 noon Pontesbury School Green			Open meeting: "Curlew County" 2pm—4pm Minsterley Parish Hall			



u3a News

u3a 40th Anniversary Celebrations

Saturday's 40th anniversary celebration on the 24th September at the Pavilion in Pontesbury went better than we could have hoped for, with an exceptional turn-out; excellent singing by the incredible jazz-blue's singer, Val Sinclair, supported by Clive on guitar and great music from the Folk Music Group.

The interest groups put together remarkable displays and many of us learned a lot more about Shropshire than we ever thought possible.

The baking prowess of the u3a was spot on – with a special celebratory cake from June Tunes. And I'm sure we didn't need the celebratory free glass of bubbles to help make this a lively, fun and friendly event – but it seemed to be appreciated!



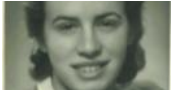






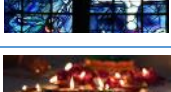




Thanks to everyone for attending and so many people for all their hard work and donations – including the Crown & Sceptre Inn in Minsterley for the £25 food and drink voucher and Susan Lockwood for her excellent quilted bags – and the help from the Pavilion and St George's Church – without you all this just wouldn't have been possible.



National u3a Online learning events

August's free online courses are now available:

[Click here for this months events:](#)

	Mindfulness & Meditation	Every Tue 4th Oct—8th Nov 10am
	Driving tips with IAM RoadSmart	Wed 5th Oct 10am
	Holocaust Survivor—Eva Cato	Thur 6th Oct 10am
	Laughter Yoga	Wed 12th Oct 10am
	Andrew Wilde at the Piano	Mon 17th Oct 10am
	Radio Podcast of the month	Mon 17th Oct
	The Artist who made a very clever move	Thur 18th Oct 10am
	Tai Chi Series	Thur from 20th Oct for 6 weeks
	March Chagall—Yiddish theatre	Fri 21st Oct 2pm
	Exploring World Faiths—Diwali	Mon 24th Oct 10am
	The Arrow of Time	Thur 27th Oct 3pm
	The swan—its life, its nature and its future	Fri 28th Oct 2pm
	Secrets of the Human Brain	Mon 31st Oct 2pm
	Royal Institute talks—£8.50	Mon 31st Oct 1.45pm

Found in Nature

The National Programme “Found in Nature” is asking members to share any photos which are wild and interesting – anything out of the ordinary or which challenges your perception of nature and the world. Here is a small sample of some fantastic photos already submitted.

Click here for more information and photos:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes/found-in-nature>



'Annoyed Fox'

Leigh on Sea, "How dare you walk across my grass!"

Graham Mee
Leigh Estuary u3a



'Why Are We Waiting?'

This group of adult and young herring gulls was spotted standing on the breakwater wall in Peel harbour in the Isle of Man

Jim Melville
Balsall Common u3a



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.

Veronica Simms
7 September at 19:58 · 

Life is about perspective and how you look at something..... ultimately, you have to zoom out. (Whitney Wolf Herd)



Sue Hansen Anderson
Admin · 3 d · 

Saturday 24th September is fast approaching and there is lots to be excited about - Pontesbury & Rea Valley u3a are having their 40th anniversary celebration at the Pavilion Library in Pontesbury from 2pm to 4pm.

Entrance is FREE and open to both members and non-members.

There will be live music performed by our folk music group and a special performance by Val Sinclair - so if you wish a taster for Val's forthcoming Christmas show on the 17th December this is for you!

There are refreshments and a FREE raffle, which includes a £25 food and drink voucher from the Crown & Sceptre in Minsterley and 4 beautiful, quilted bags.

There will be displays from all our groups with some groups doing special displays on Shropshire - so you can find out about what our u3a has to offer as well as a bit more about our special county of Shropshire.

Looking forward to seeing you there.



u3a
40th Anniversary

Saturday 24 September
14h00 - 16h00
The Pavilion, Pontesbury
£ Free entrance

learn, laugh, live

Join us for the u3a's 40th anniversary
Members and non-members alike are welcome
Come and see what the u3a can do for you!

Includes

- Live music by our Folk music group
- Special presentations on Shropshire
- Displays
- Tombola
- Free raffle
- Refreshments

u3a
Pontesbury & Rea Valley

Contact
David Taylor
01743 792 347

Learning for fun and friendship, for the retired and semi-retired

Cinema & Social



The next Friday film at Marton Village Hall will be **"The Duke"** on the 21st October.

After this, the next viewings will be:

18th Nov. Phantom of the Open
16th Dec. West Side Story (new version)

Sadly, due to changes in the way that Arts Alive will operate from 2023, Marton Village Hall will no longer be able to have films nights. Unfortunately this means that our Cinema and Social Group will not be able to meet in Marton after our December film West Side Story on the 16th December.

Please contact Judith for further details.

Coordinator:

[Judith Rice](#)

01743 792 790

Short Tennis



Short Tennis has started as its own individual Interest Group and the Set-up meeting and first session was on Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 16h30 -18h at the Mary Webb School in Pontesbury.

It was a well attended event with 13 members on court. Huge thanks go to Jane Simms and Carol Leighton who have agreed to be Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator respectively.

It will appeal to those of us who haven't played any sport in a long while as well as established players.

It's an easy game to learn and great fun, played at a much slower pace than lawn tennis on a badminton court. You can play it in a gentle manner with a soft foam ball or you can play at a faster pace with a harder foam ball.

Taster sessions and instruction will be given to newcomers to the game.

[Click here for more information on short tennis.](#)

If any one is interested, please let contact Jane.

Coordinator:

[Jane Simms](#)



Interest Groups

Photography

The next meeting of the photography group is postponed to the 12th October.

This will be a field trip to Shrewsbury, meeting at the Market Hall. Weather-permitting is Plan A – a churches and graveyards photoshoot. Plan B in the event of rain, will be the Market Hall. The “meeting” afterwards for a round-up of the days events (and coffee and cake of course) will be held at the **Old** Market Hall, not to be confused with the Market Hall.

We normally meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 14h–16h either at a members house or a field trip.

Please click here to go to our website for more information:

u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley/page/117558

If you have any queries or would like to join the group, please contact me.

Coordinator:
[Steve Anderson](#)
07861 531 186



Interest Groups

We have lots of new ideas for interests groups that we will be assessing if there is sufficient interest to see if these can be started.

Please keep an eye out for any news over the coming months and until Merle is able to re-join us, Doreen will be assisting Merle on any assistance the Interest Groups require. Please pass on any queries to Doreen.

**Group coordinator support
(Temp):**
[Doreen Thomas](#)

New members

We are fortunate to have 4 new members this month.

Please could you extend a warm welcome to our new members, if they attend any of your interest groups:

Abi Myatt

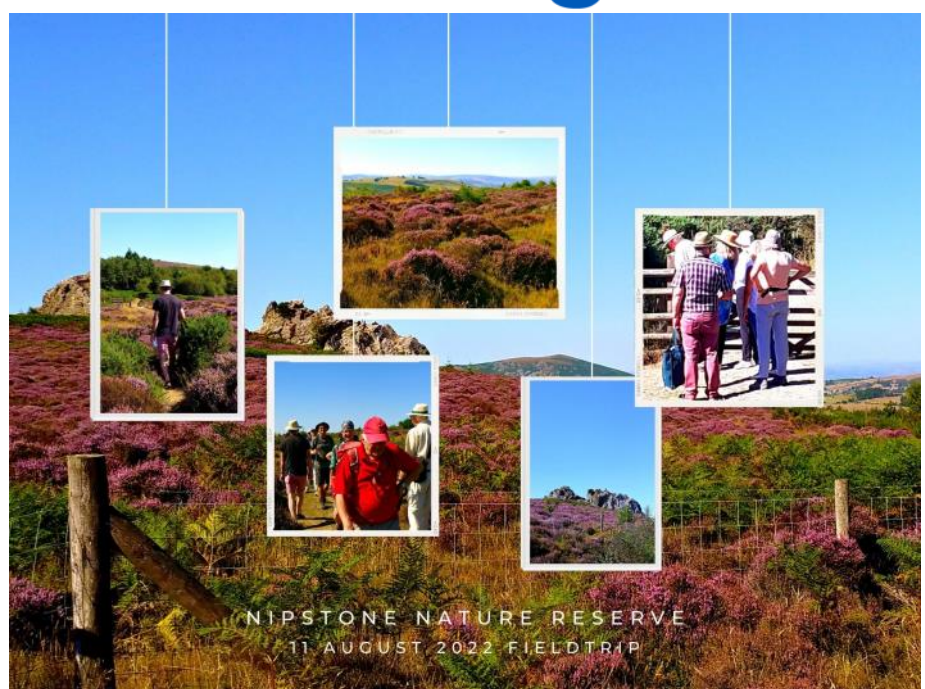
Jane Parker

Laurie Evans

Jan Potter

New Membership:
[Steve Anderson](#)
07861 531 186

learn, laugh, live



Interest Groups

Art History



We resume our Art History meetings at 2pm on Monday October 17th with a review of our findings on Shropshire Artists and a further look at Picasso's mid-life career.

The venue to be confirmed, but probably in Westbury.

Coordinator:
[Mary Lovegrove](#)

Recorded Music



This month bring along a record/CD of a piece played in this year's Promenade concerts. Alternatively, bring along something that the BBC should have included but didn't! The next meeting is in Minsterley at 2:00p.m. on the 5th October.

Coordinator:
[John Rice](#)

Family History



The next Family History Group meeting is on Monday 10th October at 10.15 am, to be held in the meeting room at the Pavilion, Pontesbury.

All those attending are invited to give a short five minute talk on any one chosen ancestor. This could be from their own personal memories of a parent/grandparent, information passed down through the family or from genealogical investigation. The idea will be to provide an insight of this person through their occupation, location, education, character or any other details of their lives you may have.

Guests and potential new group members are very welcome to attend.

Temporary Coordinator:
[David Taylor](#)

History



The next History Group meeting is on Monday 17th October at 10.30am, to be held in the meeting room at the Pavilion, Pontesbury. The main focus of the meeting will be to hear Sue's presentation on 'The Black Death', which promises to be most interesting.

We will then spend a little time deciding what future topics we wish to pursue.

Guests and potential new group members are very welcome to attend.

Temporary Coordinator:
[David Taylor](#)

Local History



On 18 October we will be planning the year ahead, prospective trips and themes.

Coordinator:
[Susan Lockwood](#)

u3a
Pontesbury
& Rea Valley



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 History	3rd Mon of month 2pm–4pm Venue to be advised		Local History	3rd Tue of month 2pm–4pm Minsterley Parish Hall	
Bridge	Under relaunch		Painting & Drawing	Under relaunch	
Café Society	Last Wed of month 2pm–4pm Minsterley Parish Hall		Pickle Ball	Every Thu 4:30pm–6pm Mary Webb, Pontesbury	
Cinema & Social	As announced		Photography	First Wed of month 2pm–4pm Venue to be advised	
Creative writing	1st & 3rd Thu 10am–12 noon Pavilion/Zoom hybrid		Play Reading	Under relaunch	
Cycling	Every Tue 10am–12 noon Pontesbury School Green		Recorded Music	1st Wed of month 2pm–4pm Minsterley Parish Hall	
Family History	2nd Mon of month 10:15am–12h15pm Pavilion, Pontesbury		Short Tennis	Every Thu 4:30pm–6pm Mary Webb, Pontesbury	
Folk Music	Every Mon 2pm–4pm Minsterley Parish Hall		Table Tennis Minsterley	Every Wed 10am–12 noon Minsterley Parish Hall	
Gardening	Under relaunch		Table Tennis Pontesbury	Every Mon 1:30pm–3:30pm Congregational Church	
Geology	2nd Tue of month 2pm–4pm Pavilion, Pontesbury		Walking (long)	Alternate Thu 10am–12 noon Venue to be advised	
History	3rd Mon of month 10:30am–12:30pm Pavilion, Pontesbury		Walking (short)	Alternate Mon 10am–12 noon Pontesbury School Green	
Italian	Every Wed 10:30am–12: noon Coordinator's house		Potential new groups under investigation		
Literature	2nd Wed in month 2pm–4pm Pavilion, Pontesbury				

- Pilates
- Scrabble
- Sunday lunch
- Astronomy
- Seated Yoga
- Short Tennis

