

SPEAKER TODAY: Max Keen – ‘King Richard, the Murderer or Loyal Brother’

HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone and welcome to our first meeting of 2024. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and we are looking forward to seeing you at our future meetings. For any visitors with us today, lovely to see you, and we hope you enjoy our meeting and become members of our very friendly group. **Best wishes to you all from the Sandwell u3a Committee.**

- **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £15 per person, is due TODAY and application forms are available from Mike at the Reception desk. Full membership information is detailed on the form.**
- **PLEASE REMEMBER to switch off, or put your mobile phone on ‘silent’ mode during the meeting, and PLEASE refrain from talking to each other during presentations. Thank you.**
- **OUR DECEMBER MEETING**
We hope you all enjoyed our Christmas party meeting. The entertainment by Tom Heyes, and the food provided by SIPS, were very good. Congratulations if you were lucky enough to win a prize in our Lucky Draw. All prizes were donated, and a big thank you must go to Mavis and her family for their very generous ‘bottle’ donations which were gratefully received. Also, thanks to all our volunteers who helped out on the day. A big THANK YOU too from Sandwell Young Carers for our gift donations.
- **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS BETWEEN TODAY AND OUR NEXT MEETING ON 13 FEBRUARY 2024**
January - 15th Dennis Webb, 19th Brenda Evans. **February** - 3rd February Pat Neale, 10th Doreen Cooper, plus Joan Richardson. Remember, if you would like us to print birthdays or any other celebration in Newsroundup, please let Ann Wyle know.
- **LOTTERY**
Congratulations to our December winners: Jackie Coleman and Dennis Webb, plus random draw winners Joan Richardson and Martin Roebuck. **Next payment due MARCH £5.00** covers 10 weeks (£0.50 per week). Please see Brenda or Janet at the lottery table.
- **RAFFLE, JIGSAWS and LUCKY DRAW WINNERS**
***Raffle tickets** can be purchased from Mavis or Ann Medhurst, 50p each. Our lucky draw in December was very successful, too many winners to put here, but congratulations to you all.
***Jigsaws** we do not need any jigsaws at the moment, but **thank you** for donating them previously.
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2024.** The current Su3a Committee members are shown below. If you are interested in putting your name forward to join, please advise a current Committee member **by Monday 1 February, prior to the AGM on 12th.** Elections for all Committee members will take place at the AGM so please try to attend and give them your support.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER TO** check out the national site for information and newsletters, plus the West Midlands site. Both sites can be accessed through our website u3asites.org.uk/Sandwell
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED AT THE 2023 AGM.**

Chairman, Ann Hobson	Vice Chairman, Ivan Wyle
Secretary, Ann Wyle	Treasurer, Brenda Evans
Membership Secretary, Mike Matthews	Speakers’ Secretary, Alan Hobson
Communications Officer, Sue Clothier	Group Liaison, Pat Stevens
Other Committee Members:	Mavis Catchpole, Phil Page

INTEREST GROUPS – group leader contact details are given below. If you would like more information about any of our groups, or you are interested in starting or facilitating a new group, please speak to Pat Stevens, our Group Liaison Office, who will be able to help you. Group Leaders will also be available today if you wish to speak to them direct.

ART Next meeting [Wednesday 17 January 10.30-12.30pm](#) The Pavilion, Dartmouth Park. The group is not facilitator led, but for more information please ring **Janet Linney** 0121 588 3543 / 07710 921375.

COMPUTERS

Ann Hobson 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974

Next meeting [Monday 5 February 10am](#) 104 Stanton Rd, Great Barr. If you need any help with your laptop, tablet or 'phone, please come along and we will try to help you.

GERMAN

Judith Ridgway 0121 360 6152 / 07490 488144

Next meeting [Thursday 25 January 10am](#) Central Library, West Bromwich

GREEK

Chris Prior 07816 059527 chriscoce@hotmail.co.uk

Next meeting [Monday 15 January 10am](#) Central Library, West Bromwich. You are welcome to come along and learn a little Greek, perhaps for your holiday this year!

ITALIAN

Norma Priest 0121 588 7716 / 07342 240715

Next meeting [Wednesday 10 January 10am](#) The Pavilion Dartmouth Park

More information from Norma at today's meeting.

LATIN

Sue Clothier 0121 588 4164

Next meeting [Monday 29 January 10-12pm](#) Central Library, West Bromwich

MUSIC

Phil Page 0121 682 5249

Next meeting [Wednesday 17 January 2-4pm](#) Café, Gayton Road Community Centre, West Bromwich.

In keeping with the arrival of 2024, many of the items in the programme are new recordings. Some from films, classics, and musical theatre, together with some old favourites, and finishing with a prediction from Cher "This will be our year". Why not make a resolution to join us to celebrate it?

OUTINGS **Ann Wyle** 0121 553 0183 / 07789 776441

On all outings/holidays, members take priority. Non-members may come along, subject to availability.

**** Thursday 22 February 3-course lunch. at Birmingham College of Food. Cost £20. £5 deposit today, full payment February. Transport not provided. Waiting list now in place for lunch.**

**** Thursday 18 April Shakespeare Distillery, Stratford on Avon.** Guided Distillery tour/sampling then free time in Stratford. Cost includes transport and tour £35pp. **£5 deposit.** See Ann or Pat if interested.

STROLLERS

Mike Matthews 0121 357 9018 / 07710 170099

Thursdays at 10.30am. Meet at RSPB entrance Tanhouse Ave, Great Barr. Nothing strenuous or difficult, no hills, and we finish with a nice drink at the RSPB coffee shop. **There will be no organised walk**

Thursday 22 February due to our visit to the Birmingham College of Food.

SWIMMING

Ann Hobson 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974

[Wednesdays 8.30-9.30](#) West Bromwich Leisure Centre, small pool. Come along and join the sessions.

Café not open but drinks are available from Reception. For free entry, Sandwell residents should take proof of residency [council tax bill, utility bill]. The car park fee will be refunded at Reception.

THEATRE

Peggy Desorgher 0121 358 5093 / 07929 932362

No theatre dates arranged at the moment.

TRUSTED TRADERS

Sue Clothier 0121 588 4164

If you have tried to contact a trader on the list and they have retired/aren't available, or to recommend a trader, please let me know. Happy to pass on contact details for traders if you give me a ring. Sue.

UKULELE

Linda Price 0121 532 6115 / 07849 900198

Next meeting [Monday 5 February 11am](#) Central Library, West Bromwich.

- **NEXT MEETING - AGM Monday 12 February 2024, 1.30 for 2pm start. Please try to come along when current members will be able to elect the 2024 Committee. There will also be light refreshments and a little music quiz from Phil.**
- **There will be a £2 charge at each meeting to cover additional room hire charges.**