

Newsroundup

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sandwell u3a

Learn, laugh, live

Registered Charity 1116810

Website: u3asites.org.uk/Sandwell

SPEAKER TODAY: ROB BROADBENT will be telling us about 'Reaching the Summit and Exploring the Depths of Galton Valley'. David Clark was originally booked to speak today, but is unable to come along due to him being involved in a car accident.

Welcome everyone and we hope you enjoy the afternoon. For any visitors today, all our activities are detailed in Newsroundup, and on line. Please take a look and come along again, you will be very welcome. Phil and Irene are on holiday so we will have a new MC today taking us through the meeting. **Sandwell u3a Committee send best wishes to you all.**

- **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP £15 per person.** Application forms are available from Mike at the Reception desk, and 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 also refrain from talking to each other during presentations. Thank you.**
- **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES BETWEEN TODAY AND OUR NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER** – 12th Chris Burgess and Paul Medhurst, 21st Ann Medhurst. Congratulations to them all. Let us know if there are any events you would like us to publicise in future editions of Newsroundup.
- **LOTTERY**
Congratulations August winners Sue Clothier, Ian Roberts, and random draw winners Phil Page, Chris Prior and Dennis Webb. **Next payment at OCTOBER meeting £5.00** covers 10 weeks [50p per week]. More information from Brenda or Janet.
- **RAFFLE and JIGSAWS**
***Raffle** – tickets 50p from Mavis or Ann Medhurst. Congratulations to our August winners: Jackie Coleman, Doreen Cooper, Janet Dearn, Linda Price and Pat Stevens.
***Jigsaws** – our stocks have been replenished, so no more donations for the moment. Thank you.
- **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
- **SCAM AWARENESS** – information will be shown on the overhead at the beginning of the meeting telling you about SCAMS, and there is also a link to the Sandwell MBC Scam Awareness site on our website <https://sandwell.gov.uk/scams>
- **SINCE OUR LAST MEETING** twenty-eight of our members went on a lovely day trip to the seaside, Weston-Super-Mare. We actually managed to see the sea and enjoy the lovely warm sunshine. The town doesn't change much, and there are a lot of eating/drinking places. A fish and chip lunch, and a lovely whippy ice cream was enjoyed by a lot of the group, following a walk around the town, along the sea front and the pier. Very nice day out, enjoyed by everyone.
- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE ANY USED POSTAGE STAMPS OR SPECTACLES?** Janet Bailey is collecting spectacles for The Lions and stamps for Little People UK, a charity for people with dwarfism – email info@littlepeopleuk.org Paul Medhurst is also collecting postage stamps for the Bumble Hole Nature Conservation in Dudley. **All donations welcome and gratefully received.**
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED AT THE AGM ON 13 FEBRUARY 2023**
Chairman - Ann Hobson
Secretary - Ann Wyle
Membership Secretary - Mike Matthews
Communications Officer - Sue Clothier
Other Committee Members: Mavis Catchpowle, Phil Page
Vice Chairman - Ivan Wyle
Treasurer - Brenda Evans
Speakers' Secretary - Alan Hobson
Group Liaison Officer - Pat Stevens

INTEREST GROUPS – group leader contact details given below, but if you require more information, please speak to our Group Liaison Officer, Pat Stevens, who will be able to help you. Group Leaders will be available today if you wish to speak to them. We also welcome anyone willing to either lead or facilitate a new group, so if you are interested, please see Pat.

ART Next meeting [Wednesday 20 September 10.30-12.30pm](#) at The Oak House for sketching. From October onwards we will meet at 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 4 October 10am](#) 104 Stanton Rd, Gt Barr. If you need any help with your laptop, tablet or 'phone, please come along and we will try to help you.

CROWN GREEN BOWLING **Ann Hobson 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974**
Next meeting [Thursday 28 September 2-4pm](#) Dartmouth Links Bowling Club, near WBA ground, no charge. Tea/coffee available. This will be the last meeting this year, starts again April 2024. You can also go along on **Tuesdays between 10-12noon, cost £2.50, until the end of September.**

GERMAN **Judith Ridgway** 0121 360 6152 / 07490 488144
Next meeting [Thursday 28 September 10am](#) Central Library, West Bromwich
Why not come along and try out a little German, you are all very welcome.

GREEK **Chris Prior** 07816 059527 chriscoce@hotmail.co.uk
Next meeting [Monday 18 September 10am](#) Central Library, West Bromwich. You are welcome to come along and learn a little Greek, perhaps for your next holiday!

ITALIAN **Norma Priest** 0121 588 7716 / 07342 240715
No meeting in September, and Norma will keep in contact with group members about future meetings.

LATIN **Sue Clothier** 0121 588 4164
Next meeting [Monday 25 September 10-12pm](#) Central Library, West Bromwich.

MUSIC **Phil Page** 0121 682 5249
Next meeting [Wednesday 18 October 2-4pm](#) No meeting in September, and as you read this I hope to be on a sunbed in Ibiza, listening to my I-pod in order to plan next month's programme. Phil.

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

****Thursday 9 November Chatsworth House/Gardens/Christmas Market.** Cost £45pp covers timed entrance to Chatsworth House, gardens, Christmas market and coach fare. **£5 deposit today. Full payment in October.**

****Thursday 7 December Christmas Lunch at Marsh Farm.** Includes short stop in Lichfield. Please put your name down if interested. **Cost to be advised, £5 deposit will secure your place.**

**** Thursday 22 February 2024 3-course lunch. at Birmingham College of Food.** Cost £20pp. If interested, please put your name on the list. **£5 deposit to secure your place.** Transport NOT provided.

[HOLIDAY - hoping to arrange a holiday in 2024 and may have more news next month.](#)

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.

SWIMMING **Ann Hobson** 0121 358 1662 / 07595 987974
[Wednesdays 8.30-9.30](#) West Bromwich Leisure Centre, small pool. **Do try and come along and join us, nothing formal, just easy exercise.** Drinks available from Reception and car park fee refunded at Reception. Sandwell residents free with proof of residency [council tax bill, utility bill].

THEATRE **Peggy Desorgher** 0121 358 5093 / 07929 932362
****Saturday 30 September, 3pm. 'The Witching Hour' at the Blue Orange Theatre.** Tickets £11.00.
Please give your name to Peggy if interested.

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 2 October 2-4pm](#) Central Library, West Bromwich. All welcome to come along.

- **Meetings held at West Bromwich Community Centre, Gayton Road, West Bromwich B71 1QS**
- **There will be a £2 charge at each meeting to cover additional room hire charges.**
- **NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 9 October 1.30 for 2pm start, and Phil has organised a fun musical quiz for us. There will also be tea/coffee and cakes. PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BALLROOM, SO PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR DIRECTION SIGNS.**