

u3a

Learn Laugh Live

Registered Charity No. 288007
<https://u3asites.org.uk/shottery/home>
www.u3a.org.uk

SHOTTERY u3a

NEWSLETTER: September 2023

Tuesday October 3rd 2023

That's the Way to Do It

Nigel Metcalfe

DESK AND REFRESHMENT ROTA:

October – Lunch Club

November - Photography

Duties include checking members in at the entrance desk and serving tea and coffee and washing up afterwards (dishwasher available). Generally 4 members are required. Where groups have difficulty in raising the necessary 4 members, please get in touch with Jan Grant– Group Coordinator. (01789 417721)

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

November 7th – AGM. ‘The Journey of a Paralympic’, Jamie Harris

December 5th – Christmas Fun

NATIONAL NEWS

U3a is excited to announce the premiere of two new u3a films exploring positive ageing.

These two conversations feature prominent figures and academics, Susan Murray, Dr Melanie Lovatt, Dr Dwight Tse, Dr Alan Gow and Shelagh Young, discussing what it means to age well and the barriers that might stop that happening. Adding to the conversation are u3a members including the Trustee for the North East, Sandi Rickerby, and the Trustee for Scotland, Liz Ervine.

These films will be launching at 11am on Monday. [Subscribe to our channel](#) on YouTube to be the first to see them once they are live.

Getting to Know Members

This is almost the last in this series of life histories, at least for the present, though we may return to it later. We will be starting a new feature in the new year. Here, Jackie Daniels, our membership secretary, tells us about her life to date.

Jackie tells us:

‘ I was born in Runcorn, Cheshire but moved to Bath when I was five years old.’

She went on,

‘I was educated at Oldfield Girls School until I was 15, then trained to be a Comptometer Operator and worked in the office of a large building firm.

After two years, I moved to the headquarters of the South Western Gas Board where I was in charge of a team who were inputting the Fixed Monthly Payments for customers in the Southwest of England. This was very early computer work.

Here in Stratford. I spent 33 years working in administration at the college before retiring in 2007.

The last 15 years I was the college Timetabler, a position I really loved for the challenge and fulfilment it provided.’

In reply to ‘What are your interests now?’, Jackie answered,

‘Nowadays, I am an active member of Saint Andrews Church. I enjoy holidays, abroad and also in our own wonderful country.

I enjoy reading, and presently I am enjoying The Chadwick Family Chronicles , a trilogy by Maria Willett.

Before Covid came along, I belonged to the U3A Art Appreciation group, but unfortunately we didn’t start again, because the leader had picked up some health issues.

>However, during a visit to Amsterdam, the painting that has left an impression on me was The Night Watch by Rembrandt (1642) in the Rijksmuseum. Its colossal size, 363×437 cm, the use of light and shadow and the perception of motion, makes it the amazing “must see“ painting!’

INTEREST GROUPS

We are always interested in expanding the number and range of interest groups that are on offer. If you would be interested in developing a new group, please get in touch with the Secretary via the website group

<https://u3asites.org.uk/shottery/home> .

Group Reports

Gardening Group

If you are interested in this group please contact Jan Grant

Ambling Group

If you are interested in this group please contact Margaret Harris for details of the next amble

Rambling Group

Future Ramble dates are;

22nd August 26th September 24th October and 28th November

If you wish to join the group, please write to Martin Young at xh558@yahoo.co.uk.

Local History Group

The History Group are looking forward to the visit of Val Horton, author of "It's Not About Shakespeare". The Guardian described it as "bristling with the chaotic energy of riots, strikes and bacchanalia by a witty and diligent guide. We wait with bated breath. Later in the month several members of the Group are visiting The Shakespeare Birthplace Trusts Reading Room to discover how this local archive can help us learn more about Shotton and Stratford.

The next meeting will be on the 14th of September. At the following meeting 12 October we hope to welcome Val Horton, author of "It's Not About Shakespeare" to the Group.

Keep Fit

The Shotton and Heart of England Keep Fit Group meets on Thursday mornings, 10am to 11am at St. Andrew's Church Hall. There is a waiting list so if interested in being added to the list, please contact Robyn Nicoll.

please contact Robyn Nicoll via the web site or the shotton email (shottonyu3a@gmail.com)

Lunch Club

Lunch club on 2nd Thursday after Tuesday U3A meeting at 1pm. at different venues. Signing-up lists are put on the table at the Tuesday monthly meeting. Contact Joan Newton for more details.

Digital Photography

Unfortunately not many members could attend the meeting in September, so it has been now rescheduled for Friday October 20th at 2.30 at Rickie's. After 3 months waiting to see 'Transport' photographs we hope to finally see them. We now have spaces for 2 more members, please contact Frances via the Shotton website for more information. Frances Freeman

Play Reading

The group didn't meet in August due to holidays etc.. We will be meeting on September 29th when we will be starting a new play. Chris Buchanan.

Book Group

Our choice for September was "Let Me Tell You About a Man I Knew" by Susan Fletcher, a Stratford on Avon author. In the historical fiction genre, the book centres on Vincent van Gough's time in an asylum at St Remy and his relationship with Jeanne, wife of the asylum head and the relationship between Jeanne (the real focus of the book) and her husband, Charles. There were mixed views about the book: most people enjoyed it and we all enjoyed learning about and looking up the paintings Van Gough did during this very productive, if manic, time, including the ones of Jeanne and her husband Charles. The group is currently full, but if anyone

would like to start a second group, advice on how to do this is available – Contact Kate Shilvock

Quick Quiz

- 1 Which Venetian island is famous for its glass?
- 2 Who wrote the novel The Snow Goose?
- 3 In which musical was the song Love changes, Everything first heard?
- 4 Which countries signed the Paris Peace Accord in 1973?
- 5 What did troops in World War I call the area between the opposing battle lines?
- 6 In which country is the source of the Amazon river?
- 7 Which insect found in Britain is the heaviest.?
- 8 Who wrote the opera Cosi Fan Tutti?
- 9 Where do key limes, come from and what colour is their juice?
- 10 What is the common name for the trachea?

Answers next month!

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter to Kate Shilvock or enquiries regarding interest groups or membership leaders via the email shotteryu3a@gmail.com