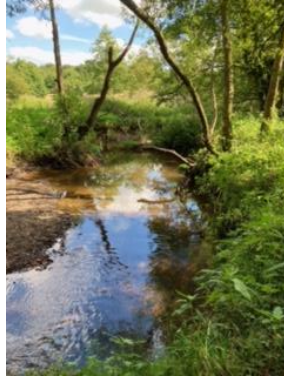


## Skelmersdale u3a September 2023 Newsletter



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### River Tawd

u3a is a UK wide, cooperative movement of people no longer in full time work who come together to continue their educational, social and creative interests. Our branch of the nationwide U3A is now in its twelfth successful year. If you are interested, you are most welcome to join us for **a free taster visit to one of our activities**. Details of our activity programme are given in this Newsletter or **Telephone Elaine 01695 526660**

Joining us in Skelmersdale u3a is a great way to find and develop new interests and make great friends in a relaxed environment. Membership fee is only £12 a year.

Covid restrictions, enforceable by law, have been lifted and we now have ADVICE. However, when in the Ecumenical Centre we must comply with the Centre's requirements. These are that we sanitise, wear face masks and socially distance. These can be found on the redesigned Ecumenical Centre website <https://the-eccy.co.uk>

### Thai Meal

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August, Ramlah is organising a Thai Meal.

### Book Club

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 10.30-noon at Pimbo Garden Centre Cafe

Our July book was 'Trust Me' by T M Logan, a thriller of a baby in danger. Ellen was asked by a stranger to hold her baby and then disappeared leaving a note saying do not trust anyone even the police. Ellen had to keep the baby safe, discover who the baby was and why it was in danger. It was an easy read and quite intriguing

The August book is 'The House We Grow Up In' by Lisa Jewell Something happened in the home that shattered the family. [JW]

### Walking Group

#### Tawd Valley Walk successfully started

Due to be led by Neill, our walk along the Tawd valley on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> August, was in jeopardy of being cancelled. Neill had gone down with a chest infection and was unable to attend. David, just back from holiday, suffering from a sudden summer cold valiantly stepped in.

Consequently, he went to the library and met Dave Gibson, and introduced him to our nine members who had turned up. A very good turnout for the holiday season.

Dave, a committee member of Friends of Tawd Valley, and wild life photographer had volunteered and prepared a most interesting talk as we walked.



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Starting from the back of the library we headed off towards Devil's Steps. Along the route Dave told us, with the aid of maps and pictures, the history of the Tawd. We found the site of the Old Corn Mill which was originally operated by a sluice from the river. An 1839 Tithing map showed that the owner was James Lyons and the occupier, the miller, was James Ambrose. Throughout the walk we were shown the best places to observe different species of wild life.



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We went as far as the bridge, where the weir used to be and met an artist painting pictures on the bridge.



We never did reach Devil's Steps but if you go to the Mario Map link on LCC red rose collections 'River Tawd' there is much more information regarding the forgotten sites, photos and history of the river. Dave is a truly fascinating guide and we have provisionally booked him for next May to do a Wild Life topic.

We finished our walk, enjoyed by all, at the 'Miner's Peg' for a good meal and a natter.

## Dates for your diary

### Group Activities August – December 2023

#### Sundays

**Book Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month 10.30 – noon at Pimbo Garden Café [Jenny]**

Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday Lunch 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday each month, various venues**

Sept 24<sup>th</sup>, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, Nov 26<sup>th</sup> [Sally] **See late news**

#### Mondays

**Coffee Afternoon 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month at Siesta Coffee in the Concourse**

Aug 21<sup>st</sup>, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>

**Yoga 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month 2-3pm upstairs in Skelmersdale Library**

Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>,

Dec 11<sup>th</sup> [Ramlah]

#### Tuesdays

**Gardening 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday**

Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, [Sally], various venues **See late news**

**Singing For Fun 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month 2-4pm upstairs in Skelmersdale Library**

Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, Dec 5<sup>th</sup> [Neill]

#### Wednesdays

**Bowls usually very Wednesday 2-4pm in the main hall at the Ecumenical Centre [Ann]**

**There will be no bowls from the week starting 7th Aug for about 6 weeks. The hall is having a makeover at long last.**

**Normal timetable will be resumed as soon as possible.**

#### Thursdays

**Walking 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month**

Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

**Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month 2-4pm in the library**

**Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, possible Picnic in Beacon Park**, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

**Debating Society 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month, 2-4pm at the library [Neill and David]**

Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August Ramlah is doing a Thai Meal to see how it goes**

**Curry Club, [Elaine], Cinema Club [Margaret], and Pickleball, to be announced.**

**Bank Holidays Monday August 27<sup>th</sup>, December Xmas Monday and Tuesday, and New Year Monday.**

## Late News

**Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**, Picnic in the Park (Beacon) for our **monthly meeting**, also celebrating our (Skelmersdale u3a) birthday and national u3a week, see national web site for various activities.

**Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**, we have a stand on the first floor of the concourse in conjunction with Upholland u3a, courtesy of Julian Finch, vice chair of Upholland u3a. Members are invited to join us and offer their time.

Julian has also invited us to join their **Pickleball** meetings which are held every Wednesday, 5-6pm in Orrell.

**Anne Smith** has stepped down from organising the **Christmas Party Dinner** after many successful years. **Alan Speers** is taking over. Our Christmas Party will be at Briars Hall, Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 11.30 - 4.00pm. £27.50 pp. Alan has started taking deposits for £7.50, with the balance to be paid by 1<sup>st</sup> October.

At the AGM, **Sally**, is stepping down from organising the **Sunday Lunches and Gardening Club meetings**, so we are looking for volunteers to take over these two roles. Sally has put in many years organising these since our u3a inception.

Fiona Tucker from Formby u3a runs a recorder Group and is hosting a day of recorder playing at the Quaker House in Liverpool next February, ( where we attended the big sing) the cost should be £15 - 20. Anyone interested email Fiona at "[Fiona.tucker@talktalk.net](mailto:Fiona.tucker@talktalk.net)"

**Neill and David** look forward to hosting the debating and discussion Group on the first Monday of every month.

**Ramlah** still has a few places left in the Yoga Group which meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. No Yoga on 28th August as it is bank holiday.



