

HANDS ACROSS THE “C”

Hello Members

Here we are on the 7th fortnightly Newsletter, we are getting used to our new/different routines.

There are changes none of us could have imagined a year ago, but everyone is working hard to keep our spirits up and our brains and bodies fit!

We are now able to start, very carefully, meeting in small groups – outdoors to start with - we have to be guided by the National U3A and the Government advice. It will be a case of always keep your safety as the most important priority and we will slowly be able to do more.

Our U3A garden competition is nearly ‘time-up’, if you would like to send in a photo this will be your last opportunity. The photos can be sent to me by email or put on our main Stourbridge U3A Facebook page (see page 2). Deadline is 14th July. We will then send an email to all members with 2 pages of photos with numbers. (I have reduced entries to 2 per person maximum) If you would like to have a look and reply with the number of your choice your votes will be added up and the winners announced and put on our Website. Thank you to everyone who has sent in an entry.

The jig-saw swap has resulted in some good puzzles coming in to my garage, they are 1000 piece ones, let me know if you would like them and I will make arrangements with you.

A big thank you to the Committee and Group Leaders who are working away to arrange things for us all.

Best wishes

Brenda Stevenson



NATIONAL U3A FACEBOOK GROUP

This Facebook group is for U3A members to stay in contact with each other and also a place to share the ideas U3As are using to maintain learning and interests and to keep in touch.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2833125070105668>

To keep updated about their advice for U3As, they are posting regular bulletins on their website, <https://www.u3a.org.uk/> and they will be sending more regular mailings to committees.

Please sign up to the National Newsletter and encourage your colleagues and other members to do the same as this is a great way for the movement to stay in touch with each other. <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>.

OTHER NEWS

STOURBRIDGE U3A FACEBOOK GROUPS

The main Stourbridge U3A Facebook page is for general information about our U3A, and where you can share your U3A in Bloom photographs in the Visitors pages on the right hand side of the screen. Don't forget to say who you are and where the picture was taken. The best photos could be put on our Website Gallery Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Stourbridge-U3A-1346526112121975>

The Stourbridge U3A in Touch page is a Closed group for our members to share what they have been doing during lockdown, i.e. crafting, local walks, wildlife pictures, etc. (Click on Join.)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/548973319074793>

If you are not able to access Facebook, or feel unsure of how to do it, we might be able to upload on your behalf. We hope you will feel you would like to join in.

Middle age is when a narrow waist and a Broad mind begin to change places.

E. Joseph Cossman

TRAIN YOUR BRAIN SOLUTIONS:

1. An anchor; 2. A nettle; 3. Charcoal.
4. He started as a billionaire.
5. They were grandfather, father and son.
6. It was the same man.
7. The Mayor is a woman.
8. They were on opposite banks of the river.
9. He is a barber.
10. When we tell the time.
11. 'Today' is January 1st. James' birthday is December 31st. The day before yesterday (December 30th), he was 17 and is now 18. He will be 19 on December 31st 'this' year and 'next year' he will be 20 on December 31st.

How well did you do?

WHAT'S THE RECIPE TODAY JIM?

It's not been easy to buy flour during the lockdown but, If you like baking and have flour in the cupboard do try these delicious scones.

Cheese and Walnut Scones (Makes 9.)

40g chopped walnuts
125g grated cheddar cheese
50g diced butter
200g self raising flour
150ml milk

Preheat the oven to 220 degrees C.

In a large bowl rub the butter into the flour. Add 25g of the chopped walnuts, and 110g of the grated cheese.

Mix to a soft dough with the milk.

Turn onto a floured surface and quickly and lightly knead until smooth.

Roll out to 2.5cm thick and cut into rounds using a 5cm cutter.

Place on a greased baking sheet.

Mix the remaining walnuts and cheese together.

Brush the tops of the scones with milk and sprinkle the cheese and walnut mixture over the top. Bake for approx. 10 mins.

These are delicious eaten warm or cold with lots of butter!

Pat Orme



Female members may have spotted these lovely tiles in the Ladies toilets on Platform 2 of Stourbridge Junction railway station.

I have not checked to see whether they also Have them in the Mens.

Ed.

INTEREST GROUPS

WALKING GROUPS

Summer walk - Wyre Forest Butterfly Trail.

I recommend this walk because the paths are wide and social distancing should be easily maintained. The outward leg is along a disused railway line and the return along a stoney track wide enough for vehicular access. There is one fairly steep but short descent from the railway line down to the Dowles Brook valley. During the summer months it is a haven for butterflies. The walk is about 4 miles.

Drive to Bewdley and cross the river. Head up Welch Gate on the Cleobury road. Turn right at the Hop Pole Inn and follow straight ahead along the narrow road. At the end, bear left into Dry Mill Lane and then turn left onto the disused railway line and into a small car park. OS ref SO773764.

Follow the track along the old railway line. There are several information boards providing information about the butterfly species. At the end of the line by Park House, turn right down a fairly steep slope to cross Dowles Brook at the Mercian Warrior Bridge. Where a large track joins from the left, turn right following the Dowles path past Cooper's Mill and Knowles Mill back to Dry Mill Lane to be reunited with your car.

(For those who would prefer a longer walk you can park in central Bewdley by the Health Centre. Follow the Severn upstream turning left before the disused railway bridge across the river. Follow the path cross the 'B' road continuing along the path for a short distance before joining the railway line. This adds another 2+ miles/ one hour to the walk.)

Andrew Pardoe
Thursday Walk Leader

ASTRONOMY GROUP

Tess Wagstaff reports that some of the members had their first Zoom meeting in June which proved very successful.

GARDENING GROUP

Liz O'Mara is in regular email contact with her members, giving advice on seasonal jobs and pruning, etc. Here is her recipe for an environmentally friendly slug deterrent:

Organic Slug Control: The best way to control slug and snail problems in an organic way in the garden is to use garlic. Crush 1 whole garlic bulb in a pint of water, boil for 10-15 minutes, strain and top back up to a pint if necessary.

Reserve this garlic concentrate in a bottle, dilue 1 tablespoon to 1 gallon of water in a watering can and liberally apply over the foliage at monthly intervals. This can be used on vegetables as well as ornamentals.

Under normal circumstances, the group members make a monthly contribution towards talks by Samantha Hope, who is one of John Massey's gardeners at Ashwood Nurseries. Her husband Nigel works at the Botanical Gardens in Edgbaston and also has a wealth of horticultural knowledge. As they are unable to open their own garden under the National Garden Scheme this year, they have produced a virtual tour on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/216383082045583/posts/1174703356213546/>

Do let us know how your own groups are doing - Ed.

QUIZ CORNER

TOWNS & CITIES QUIZ

1	Tub full of Water	26	Bing's Town
2	Bottom of Ship	27	Student loan for over acting
3	Lock the Door	28	Industrial lift for Mrs. Rantzen
4	A complete bacon	29	Seated when life began
5	Push down heavy weight	30	An old car
6	Is this Piggott's town?	31	People's rock
7	One of the 3'R's	32	Needed for a new door
8	Searching for a professor	33	Keep and sell fortified wine
9	A wise partner	34	Jam maker's go swimming
10	The unmarried woman's skull	35	Single lady's voice pitch
11	Detectives need them	36	Modern fortified structure
12	Where offal might swim	37	Heavy river crossing
13	Tend fire	38	Bank
14	Sounds like a Vehicle is followed by a Scottish Golfer	39	Where the steer (bovine male) crossed the river
15	Latest fortified wine	40	A cook in pasture
16	Religious Skull	41	Opposite of Dull-Off
17	Mother's garden entrance	42	Witches have a go
18	Ships men	43	Timber crossing
19	A professor on wheels	44	Noah starts again
20	Racing driver Moss	45	1066 and all that
21	Male Meadow	46	Classic race
22	Sister was cannibalized	47	Place for a Tea Party
23	Dirty Water	48	Ball Game
24	Mr. Pitt's Car	49	Saucy City
25	Employed Weight	50	Sheep's Entrance

Answers to the picture quiz in Issue 6:
Victoria Passage
Lloyds Bank
Town Clock
DY8Desinz - Hairdressers in
Market Street

Answers to Ghosts, Ghouls & Witches Quiz

1. Banshee;
2. Macbeth;
3. Rolls Royce
4. Birch;
5. Nestle;
6. *The Woman in Black*;
7. *Things that go bump in the night*;
8. *The Wicked Witch of the East*;
9. Ghouls;
10. Whoopee Goldberg.

Chairman: Brenda Stevenson: (brendastevenson53@gmail.com)
Business Secretary: Mike Billings (ictmike@hotmail.com)
Membership Secretary: Pat Orme (plmorme@talktalk.net)
Website address: stourbridgeu3a.org.uk