

West Cheshire Rural u3a Bulletin – 10/10/2021



From the beginning of November, the Bulletin will revert to a monthly publication. It will be a similar format and will be emailed to you on the first of the month.

Email group news and items of interest using the Newsletter Editor button on the contact page of our website or using WCRu3a@hotmail.com

WCRu3a Open Day - October 2021

Celebrating 11 years
of activity & friendship

u3a
West Cheshire Rural
learn, laugh, live

You are invited to an
OPEN DAY
on
Thursday 21st October, 2021
from 11.00am – 3.00pm

The Barbour Institute, Tattenhall CH3 9PX
FREE ADMISSION & AMPLE PARKING

• See what u3a offers to members
• Meet our interest group leaders
• Enjoy a Talk by the North West Air Ambulance
• Relax with refreshments

West Cheshire Rural u3a Open Day will take place on 21st of October at the Barbour Institute from 11am-3pm.

Members & visitors are invited to join us and celebrate 11 years of activity & friendship. We hope to showcase the growing numbers of Interest groups we have and there will be a speaker from the Northwest Air Ambulance Service.

Please invite any friends or neighbours who might be interested in joining us.

Join us for the whole event or just part of it:

- Doors open at 11 am
- Coffee, tea & biscuits will be served from 11.30am
- Light lunch refreshments between 12.30pm and 1.30pm
- Our speaker slot will start at 2pm.

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Speaker Schedule 2021/22

We have a full programme of speakers for our monthly meetings.

Date of Meeting	Speaker	Title of the Presentation
18 November	Barry Humphries	Stories behind the Beatles songs
16 th December	<i>Christmas Lunch</i>	<i>Gifford Lea</i>
20 January 2022	Julie Smalley	Place Names in Landscapes Pleasure Pitfalls and Puzzles.
17 February 2022	Bryan Anderson	Images from the edge
17 March 2022	Carolyn Hicks	The Roundhouse Project
21 April 2022	David McCaddon	Costa del Crime
19 May 2022	Tony Bostock	Pub names and pub signs
16 June 2022	Gill Russell	Japanese culture

New Members



A warm welcome to Christine Jackson who has joined West Cheshire Rural u3a and the ukulele group.

Apologies to new member Deborah Moloney, who I referred to as Dorothy in the last bulletin.

Christmas Lunch The u3a Christmas Lunch this year is booked for the December 16th at the restaurant at Gifford Lea in Tattenhall. There is a limit of 40 places available, bookings will be on a first come, first served basis.

To ensure fairness this information about booking a place will be emailed to all members at the same time from Beacon.

Cost of the lunch is £25 for two courses, £30 for three courses. Please confirm that you would like to attend by emailing Isobel Wakefield at isarecreation@btinternet.com.

Once you confirm, a menu choice form will be ready for you to collect from the Open Day Meeting at the Barbour Institute on Thursday 21 October 2021.

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If you cannot attend on that day, please state so in your email and we will arrange for a form to be given to you. Details of how to pay and next steps will be on the form.



Gifford Lea
Inspired in Cheshire

Festive Menu

Available from 2nd of December
(not including Sunday's and 25th of December, subject to change)

£25 2 Courses / £30 3 Courses

STARTERS

SOUP
Creamed celeriac, crisp pancetta, chestnuts

PARFAIT
Smooth chicken liver, red onion preserved, crisp sourdough

MUSHROOM
Foraged mushroom, truffle set cream, parmesan,

MACKEREL
Peppered mackerel, scorched mandarin, crème fraiche, watercress

MAINS

TURKEY
Bronze roast turkey, seasonal vegetables, rosemary garlic potatoes, chipolata, gravy

BEEF
Sticky treacle blade of beef, baby onions, chive potato puree, carrot fondant

HADDOCK
Herb crust haddock, bubble n squeak, poached free range egg, crayfish beurre blanc

GNOCCHI
Parmesan gnocchi, roast chestnuts, sweet potato, sage

SWEETS

PUDDING
Traditional Christmas pudding, brandy sauce

TART
Caramelised lemon, butter pastry, raspberry ripple ice cream

BANOFFEE
Dark chocolate, torched banana, toffee, banana cake, toffee ice cream

JAFFA
Moist orange polenta cake, 65% bitter chocolate, blood orange sorbet

Allergen information for all dishes is available upon request or
please ask a member of our team for details

For reservation please call 01829 773 557 or visit us at www.giffordlea.co.uk



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Interest groups - Website events diary updates

A reminder for group leaders to update their meeting information so we can keep the website diary current. The diary serves as an aide memoir for members of groups but also it is a public record of our activities and shows visitors and potential members what a vibrant organisation we are.

Group	Current Meeting Times	Group leader
Sunday Lunch Group	First Sunday in the month	Anne Bayliss
Solving Cryptic Crosswords	Alternate Mondays at 2pm outside at Mike Woollard's	Hilary Scarratt
Poetry	Meeting on the first Monday in the month at the church rooms	Gill Foster
Chapter Chats	Last Tuesday in the month 8pm	Barbara Garner
Pageturners	The third Friday in the month 11.00am	Linda Davenport
Ukulele	Alternate Wednesdays at 10.30 am in Farndon	Ken Wakefield
Walking	Walking groups schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short walk on 2nd Thursday• Long walk on 4th Thursday• Tuesday group on alternate weeks.• Other groups on ad-hoc basis	Jill Hughes
Drawing Group	Fortnightly meeting outside	Carolyn Vickers
Dining	Dining Group 1 is now meeting on the 4 th Friday of the Month Dining Group 2 meeting on the second Wednesday of the month	Marian Hagen Hazel George
Home Cinema	To be confirmed	Pam Baggott
Music appreciation	To be confirmed	David Thomson
Historic Houses	To be confirmed	Jill Worthington
Plants and Gardens	To be confirmed	Jean Hancox

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Group	Current Meeting Times	Group leader
Discussion	Alternate Tuesdays in Alison's in Tattenhall	Steven Prince
Art appreciation	Ad hoc meetings have restarted	Jean Mumford Vanessa Newman

Sunday Lunch Group

The Sunday lunch group met at The Lion in Malpas on 3rd October. The Lion has recently undergone major refurbishment and is definitely worth a visit.

Next lunch is on the 7th November at the Grosvenor at Pulford

We are looking to have a Christmas Lunch at the Alvanley Arms on the first Sunday in December.

Ukulele Group

Another excellent Ukulele session this week – it was a homage to Simon and Garfunkel and the Beatles as we played a number of songs by both.

Kim Connolly's daughter Sarah joined us for a "guest appearance" with her cello. She is an extremely accomplished musician and the cello meshed beautifully with the ukuleles particularly for The Sound of Silence, everyone really enjoyed it. Thank you for suggesting it, Kim.

A number of the group recently went to a concert by the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain at the Lowry in Manchester. It sounded an amazing evening.

Cryptic Crossword Group

Cryptic Crossword Group met on the 27th September at Mike Woollard's house. We went through the answers to an exceedingly difficult Telegraph crossword which I think everyone agreed wasn't the best we have attempted.

At the Open day we plan to have a cryptic crossword to complete – we will ask members to help us to complete it on the day.

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Drawing Group

The drawing group is now meeting alternate Monday afternoons in Hargrave Village Hall 2pm-4pm. We started with a still life of fruit & vegetables. Here is a photo of our first session. Carolyn Vickers



Poetry Group

We met this week in the Communal room at the St Albans in Tattenhall – Pauline led the session where we read poems about things of value to us. It's a wide subject and was interpreted in a number of different ways.

Jim read a poem by Robert Burns titled **The Inventory, in answer to a mandate by the surveyor of taxes** and Linda read a poem she had written **Calm before the Storm**, describing waiting in the wings to go on stage.

The other poems were

Amanda Dalton - Bird on a Wire

Helen Dunmore - Plain tree outside Ward 78

Eleanor Farjeon – It was long ago

John Masefield – Tewksbury Road

Walter De La Mere – The Listener

K C R Clarke - The Value of things

Dr John Celes - Things that are hard to find

A E Houseman – Loveliest of trees the cherry now.

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Dorothy Parker – The Choice

Pam Ayres - I wished I'd looked after my teeth

Robert Hastings - The Station

John Betjeman – A Sultans Love Song

Paul Reed - River Tyne

Treena Graves – A Handmade Gift

Anon - Precious Heirlooms

Walking Groups

Monday Group – Jill Hughes

This Monday the usual suspects met in the Orchard Carpark at Erdigg for a walk of around 4 miles. It was a beautiful day, in spite of the poor weather forecast, and Viv led us through woods and tracks around the estate.



The second walk by the Monday mini walk group was from Golden Nook Bridge. Five of us walked along the canal towards Waverton to the first bridge. We used this to cross the canal, and from there went through several fields, finding the path with difficulty at some points. Emerging onto Martin's Lane, we turned right along a quiet country lane then across more fields back to our starting point. Afterwards we went to Alison's Cafe for coffee or a light lunch. The rain at the start didn't last thankfully.

Short Walk in October

The next short walk will be on the 14th of October starting from the Fox and Barrel in Cotebrook.

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Third Age Trust Strategy from Sam Mauger, Chief Executive, and Liz Thackray, Chair of the Third Age Trust

This is an extract from the latest U3a national newsletter about the development of the u3a going forward. If you have time, I encourage you to look at and complete the survey mentioned below.

We'd really like you to have your say in helping the Third Age Trust develop a strategy to guide the future work of the u3a movement.

We want to hear from you about what you see as the priorities going forward and the targets we should be setting ourselves

This survey is part of a wider consultation process to ensure that a relevant and bold strategy is developed by u3a members for u3a members.

Your responses will be anonymous and the findings of the consultation process will be reviewed by the end of the year with firm proposals being developed early next year.

This short survey seeks your views on four initial aims and you can find it in the button below. *These are draft aims and reflect early thinking. You may not agree with these aims. You may have ideas for additional or substitute aims. Or you may think these are exactly what is needed.*

The survey can be found here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/u3aStrategySurvey>