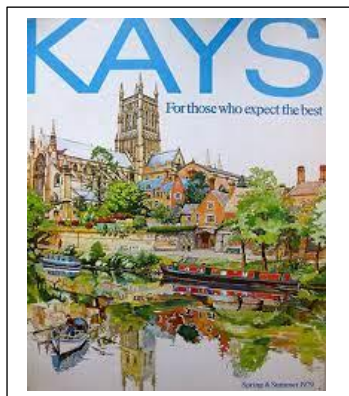


A Happy New Year  
to all our Members

## And What's New for January 2024



**Shop in a Book – A History of Kay's**  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January An Open Meeting**  
with refreshments at 1.30pm – the talk is from  
2–3.30pm – friends welcome  
**Warndon Hub, Shap Drive, Warndon,**  
**WR4 9NX**

Besides influencing our nation's lifestyle and clothing choices, Kay's was a major employer in Worcester until it closed in 2004. Now we just have their annual pantomime to remind us of their heyday. Don't miss this fascinating talk by Bernard Mills who worked at Kay's for many years and is chair of the Kay's Heritage Group.

### **Coffee at the Café – Fridays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February** **Café Piano, Friar Street, Worcester, 10.30am–12noon**

We had the first of our coffee mornings at Café Piano in November and it proved to be a very popular venue. So, we are going to make it a twice-monthly chance to meet up for u3a members. If you are in town on the **first or third Friday of the month**, just pop into Café Piano for a coffee and a chat. We shall meet in the area at the **back of the café** and there will always be someone from the committee there to welcome you.



### **A Great Opportunity – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am**

Worcester's Mayor, Louis Stephen, has invited members of our u3a to join him for a tour and tea at the Guild Hall on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February. He can only invite a maximum of 30 members, so it really will be a matter of 'first come, first served'. You will learn some very interesting facts about the Guild Hall of which you were perhaps unaware, and visit parts that are not generally open to the public. If you would like to go, please email Fern O'Brien on [publicity@worcesteru3a.org](mailto:publicity@worcesteru3a.org) or leave a message on 01905 887579.

### **Wednesday 21st February from 2–4pm** **A Beetle Drive Social Afternoon** **Woodgreen Church, Warndon Villages, WR4 OSR**

I haven't played Beetle since our family Christmas gatherings, and I am sure this is going to be a really fun afternoon. There will, of course, be refreshments, and perhaps prizes for the most attractive beetle.

## Short Mat Bowling

Bill Holliday has been in touch to ask if some of you may be interested in joining their Short Mat Bowling Group. They meet at **Perdiswell Leisure Centre** on alternate Mondays, at 2.00pm. Their first meeting for 2024 is on **Monday 15th January**.

If you would like to join in, please could you contact Bill at [william\\_holliday@sky.com](mailto:william_holliday@sky.com) or phone **01905 769985** before coming along, so that he can explain the set-up.

## Film Appreciation Group – Change of Venue

From 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, the Film Appreciation group is moving to a new venue:

**Perdiswell Young People's Club in Droitwich Rd, Worcester, WR3 7SN**

Meetings are fortnightly, at 1pm on Mondays.

Each term we show a range of films within a different cinematic theme. In January we are looking at "German Expressionism and its later influence." This sounds heavy duty, but you can rest assured of an informal, interesting and friendly time. No special knowledge required.

Each film is preceded by a brief introduction, and after watching the film, we have a broad-ranging and relaxed chat about it.

The group is well-attended and thriving, but we are always happy to welcome new faces.

Email [fenhelen@btinternet.com](mailto:fenhelen@btinternet.com)

## Newsletter Editor

It is my turn to tell you a bit about my role as Newsletter Editor, which ends in March. Please consider if you might enjoy any of the Committee positions that are up for renewal – Chair, Groups' Coordinator and Newsletter Editor. It will be difficult to run our u3a if these posts don't get filled.

'I think this role is slightly different from any others on the Executive Committee. There are rules to be followed, of course. u3a brand guidelines and general data protection and copyright regulations have to be adhered to, but apart from that, style and content are pretty much up to you. I have a very chatty style – the word 'super' probably gets overused, and I like to include lots of photos, but the incoming newsletter editor can choose their own style.

Providing 'what's happening in Worcester u3a' is always included and if something is happening within the Third Age Trust that is relevant this should be mentioned, but the rest is very much left to your discretion.

It is difficult to put a time estimate on how long I spend writing the newsletter. As soon as the previous newsletter has been sent out (**1<sup>st</sup> of every month**) I spend an evening preparing for the next, including all the forthcoming events that I know about. When I receive an email from members, or the Committee, I copy it into my draft to ensure nothing is forgotten. Any information is supposed to be received by the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month. This doesn't always happen, and some last-minute items can come through in the days before the newsletter goes to committee members for approval. The deadline is to allow enough time for the printed copies to be posted to arrive by the beginning of the month.

You have to be confident in the use of Microsoft Word (other packages are available) and it helps to be a proficient typist, but other than that, provided the guidelines are followed, and advice is sought when you are unsure if the content should be used, you pretty much have free reign to set out your style.' I'd love to tell you more if you are interested – Tricia Currie at [newsletter@worcesteru3a.org](mailto:newsletter@worcesteru3a.org) or phone **07974 307053**.

## Worcester u3a Membership from January–September 2024

Still time to join and enjoy all our u3a has to offer from January until September for £25 for a Standard membership and £34 for a Standard Plus membership. Contact our Membership Secretary Beryl Curtis on [membership@worcesteru3a.org](mailto:membership@worcesteru3a.org) for advice on which membership subscription you need.

This beautifully atmospheric photo of Pitchcroft in the mist was sent by Elisabeth Ford. Thank you, Lis.



## A Wonderful Chance to Update your Technology Skills

Worcester and Malvern Hills Age UK have been in touch to offer only Worcester u3a members a great opportunity to update their technological skills. They are holding 2 sessions at **2pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at their Worcester offices in Bank House, 7 Shaw Street, WR1 3QQ, which is just off the Butts.**

There will be space for 6 members on each session, which you must **book by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January** with Ruth Saunders on 07795 075987 or [ruth.r.saunders@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.r.saunders@gmail.com). You can bring your own iPad or tablet, or you can borrow one for the session. If you are unable to attend one of our u3a sessions, you can book directly with Age UK on the number below (**but please do not use this to book on 25<sup>th</sup> January or 6<sup>th</sup> February, just get in touch with Ruth**).

**Are you struggling with technology?**

*You are not alone in being 'offline', as latest figures show that 35% of adults aged between 50 and 70 and 70% of over 70s are in the same boat. Being excluded can often lead to feelings of isolation and loneliness.*

However, now you too can enjoy the benefits of being online, including:

- Sending and receiving emails
- Sharing photos and videos
- Watching your favourite films
- Joining in family video calls
- Filling in online forms and claims
- Online shopping and banking

We use volunteer tutors to deliver support and get you 'online' through:

- Individual sessions at our Worcester and Malvern offices
- Group sessions in local community spaces.
- If necessary, we can also lend you a device to use.

For more information or to get connected, please contact Art:

**01905 724294 | 01684 560666**

[art@ageukwmh.org](mailto:art@ageukwmh.org)  
[www.ageukwmh.org](http://www.ageukwmh.org)

Age UK Worcester & Malvern Hills is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales  
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Company number: 5488674  
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Any updates for What's New by 16<sup>th</sup> January for the February 2024 edition, please. Email: [newsletter@worcesteru3a.org](mailto:newsletter@worcesteru3a.org) or leave an answerphone message on **01905 887579**.

The Worcester u3a website can be found by clicking <https://u3asites.org.uk/worcester>. Under 'Groups' there is up-to-date news and a list of the groups you can join with the Worcester u3a. You can also contact individual Committee members by clicking on the 'Contacts' heading. Here you can leave your email address and your comments.