



What's New for March 2024

This is officially my last edition of our Worcester u3a newsletter, although I may be persuaded to do one final one to let everyone know about the results of our AGM. Unless someone comes forward and volunteers to undertake this role, there will be no more newsletters after April. You will, of course, be kept up-to-date of events through emails, Facebook and our website <https://u3asites.org.uk/worcester>.

An Online Talk – Thursday 7th March at 7pm Edward Elgar – The Man and His Music

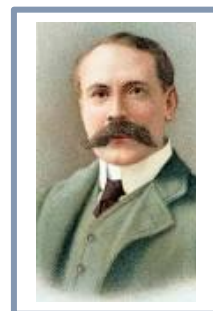
Most of us know Elgar's wonderful Nimrod from the Enigma Variations, the beautiful Salut d'Amour and of course Land of Hope and Glory. But do we know about his many hobbies and interests that could distract him from his work, and many other aspects of his fascinating life?

Our speaker is Sam Dobson of the Elgar Society who will tell the story of Worcester's famous composer, with plenty of music and illustrations.

Sam has been connected with the Leicester Symphony Orchestra for many years.

He is a great admirer of Sir Edward Elgar, as a man who rose from relative obscurity to the top of his profession, becoming a national hero with an international following.

Pat Davis, our Social Secretary, will email you with joining instructions a couple of days prior to the talk.



An Open Meeting **PLUS** our **AGM** – Wednesday 20th March St Peter's Baptist Church, Eden Close, WR5 3TZ – **with lunch**

12.30pm	Registration and lunch with a variety of sandwiches and soft drinks
1.15pm	Annual General Meeting followed by a short break before our talk
2–3.30pm	Ladies of the Porcelain and refreshments after the talk

2–3.30pm Ladies of the Porcelain



Our speaker, Colin, tells the remarkable stories of the women of Worcester Porcelain. It is based on extensive research and firsthand accounts about the ladies of the Porcelain who worked hard, were talented, funny and clever and who made a significant contribution to the international success of Royal Worcester. Our speaker is Colin Millett, an historian, a collector of Worcester Porcelain for over 40 years, and a Friend of the Porcelain Museum.

Colin has written several highly acclaimed books on this subject.

Our Worcester u3a Committee

Three members of our committee will be stepping down from their roles at the Annual General Meeting on 20th March: our Chair, Laurence, our Groups' Coordinator Adie, and me. So far no-one has volunteered for any of these roles. If you are even vaguely thinking one of these posts might be something you would be interested in, please drop an email to any committee member, or ring Laurence on **07753 746092**. Being a member of our committee has been so rewarding, and we are a super supportive and fun bunch. I don't think you would regret your decision; I certainly haven't.

Coffee at the Café – Friday 1st and 15th March



Our coffee meet ups are proving to be very popular. Please come along and join in the chat, partners and friends are welcome. We meet on the first and third Friday of the month at Café Piano (formerly Café Rouge) at the back of the café. There will always be someone there to welcome you.

Unveiling of the Coxon Memorial Bench Tuesday 5th March at 2.30pm

The Memorial Bench, which celebrates the life and generosity of Elizabeth Coxon, and is for everyone to enjoy on their walks down on the river side of the cathedral, is being unveiled by the Mayor of Worcester on **Tuesday 5th March at 2.30pm**. Our bench is situated very close to where the Worcester ferry leaves. Everyone is welcome to come and watch the unveiling.



A Date for your Diary – Wednesday 15th May at 10am Bromyard Road Church Hall, St Johns WR2 5DL

Those of us who went last year will remember what a joyous morning we had when our Worcester u3a choir invited us along for the morning. Well, they have kindly invited us along for another morning's musical entertainment. So go along on **Wednesday 15th May at 10am** to join in with some of the songs we will know. Everyone is welcome and there will be some delicious refreshments.



Choir leader Liz, conductor David, Geoff our accompanist and all the choir members look forward to seeing you.

Any queries, please contact **Liz 07749 087535** lizmarywhitehouse@gmail.com

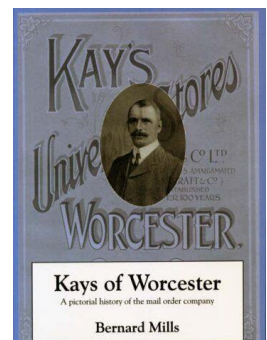
Perhaps You May be Interested

We have been contacted by Sophie Anscombe, who works for the Ministry of Justice. She writes: 'I work for the Ministry of Justice and am looking for help reaching out to people regarding a volunteering opportunity. The role is for members of the independent monitoring boards (IMB) who monitor prisons for fair and humane treatment. The role often attracts those who are retired or semi-retired and still looking to develop their skills, make social connections and help impact their communities. Which is why I am reaching out to multiple u3a branches in the surrounding area as I believe this lines up well with the demographics that the u3a tends to attract. I was wondering if it may be possible to share the role in a newsletter or via social media with your members? It's a very unique opportunity and it may be of interest to someone in the group? Thank you and I look forward to your response.' sophie.anscombe@justice.gov.uk

Please Could You Help Bernard Mills?

Many of us enjoyed Bernard's fascinating talk on Kays in January. As he mentioned during the talk, he is desperate to find a storage facility for his Kays Heritage Collection. It would be devastating if this collection, which Bernard has built up over many years, has to be laid to waste. If any of you know of anywhere that might be suitable, please get in touch with him at bernard_mills@sky.com.

Bernard has also generously donated a few books for us to sell in aid of Worcester u3a. If you would like a copy (£2), please contact Pat Davis social@worcesteru3a.org.



Any updates for What's New by 16th March please for the April edition.

Email: 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.