

What's New for September 2023



Saturday 9th September, 10.30–12 noon

**Worcester u3a Group Fair at Nunnery Wood High School,
Spetchley Road, WR5 2LT – Please bring your friends too**

We are really looking forward to meeting you, and any friends who are interested in our u3a, during the morning of 9th September. We shall have a card machine, so you will be able to renew your membership, look if there is a new group you would like to join and have a chat whilst enjoying tea/coffee and biscuits. You will also be able to pick up a programme that gives details of Worcester u3a events during 2023–4.

Nunnery Wood High School is at the top of London Road, just carry straight on to Spetchley Road at the roundabout.

Last year we felt that it took quite a long time for members to register before they actually got into the hall to see everything they wanted to see. **So, on Page 3 there is a cut off slip.** Please could you complete this before coming, and then just post it in the registration box, which will be in the entrance hall, on your way into the main hall. This should help to alleviate too much queuing and allow swift entry for current members.

Trip to Guide Dog Centre – Tuesday 10th October

Just a few places left on the coach for this trip, so still time if you would like to go. Please let Liz Hill know on ehill473@gmail.com or ring **07812 039188** by **Monday 11th September**. The booking form is on our website <https://u3asites.org.uk/worcester> under Events.

Our 2023–4 Programme

Pat Davis, our Social Secretary, has pulled together a diverse and entertaining programme for our 2023–4 season, with a mixture of online talks, Open (face-to-face) meetings and social events. The newsletter and website will keep you up-to-date with these, starting with:–

Thursday 21st September – An Online Talk at 7pm

A Night at the Opera with Helen Astrid

Find out how opera evolved in Italy during the late Renaissance. Discover fascinating facts whilst Helen also dispels some of the misconceptions about opera! Learn about the most famous operas and their characters from handsome heroes to wise old women, sultry sopranos and villains to femmes fatales.



Helen is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music. She has performed as a soprano soloist at most of the major venues in the UK, including the ENO, Garsington Opera Festival and QE Hall, South Bank.

Laurence will email details of how to join this talk a few days beforehand.

Wednesday 4th October from 2–3.30pm – An Open Meeting Warndon Hub, Shap Drive, Warndon, WR4 9NX Butch and Sundance with Peter Gill

In 1969 Paul Newman and Robert Redford immortalised two of America's most notorious bank and train robbers of all time in the film 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid'. They were represented as two affable and likeable Robin Hood-style outlaws, but how accurate a reflection was this?



Peter is a full-time professional musician, actor, author and playwright. He has adapted many of his performances, books and passions into talks that he presents nationwide.

Secretary Needed – Please can you help?

We are so sad that our Secretary, Steph, has had to resign for health reasons. We really hope she will feel better soon, but this means, of course, that we are lacking a Secretary.

This is an interesting Committee role, working in conjunction with our Chair, contributing to setting the agenda and organising Committee meetings, then taking notes to produce the Minutes of the meetings. You would be responsible for setting up the AGM. It is not as time-consuming as it sounds and generally, a few hours per month will be enough to keep you on top of the administrative work. You would need computer skills, and competent typing would be an advantage. If you think you can help, please contact our Chair, Laurence at: chair@worcesteru3a.org or telephone **01905 887579** and leave a message.

Worcester u3a Bellydance Troupe

Carol Copson and her friendly group would love some new members to join them on a Monday afternoon from 2–3.30pm, starting on 11th September. They meet at Whittington Village Hall, Church Lane, WR5 2RQ every 2 weeks – there is car parking available.

This is a fun group of dancers, who dance at away events and charitable events to bring a little colour to peoples' lives. Bellydance is for everyone with so many styles and cultures to learn about. Contact Carol for more information: carolcopson@yahoo.co.uk or just pop along with some water and your soft, flat shoes plus your membership number and give it a go.



An Update on our Summer Events

Whilst it was an interesting experiment to attend the two summer fetes at Whittington and Warndon Villages, it was felt that perhaps this sort of event was not the best for promoting our u3a. Both were very family-orientated occasions, with lots of children and not so many people interested in our organisation. However, two people did join, so worth doing, but perhaps not another year.

The Chat and Coffee Mornings at Café Zest grew in popularity over the summer, and it was felt this is an event well worth repeating, perhaps at different venues within the city.

If you like the idea of the Chat and Coffee mornings (or afternoons) and would be happy to host one – or have ideas of where we should meet, we would love to hear from you. Please let Pat Davis know so that she can get in touch when she firms up dates and venues. social@worcesteru3a.org or phone 01905 887579.

The Worcester Show proved to be a very successful day, with our stand being busy throughout – not only welcoming lots of enquiries and current members but also holding our stand down in the very gusty wind. It was interesting to hear what groups people would be interested in – including a very niche learning Korean.

The photo shows our Chair, Laurence, our Web Editor Claire, with Stephen, our Vice-Chair hiding in the background.



Any updates for What's New by 16th September for the October edition, please.

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.

Advance Registration Form for Groups' Fair

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ARE YOU INTENDING TO COME TO THE GROUPS' FAIR ON SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023?

We need to register everyone as quickly as possible on entry to the event, so to speed things up, please complete the slip below and bring it with you on the day. Slip it into the box at the door.

Non-members and those without these slips will be able to complete them on the day.

Please write in block capitals:

FORENAME AND SURNAME	
MEMBERSHIP NUMBER (if known)	