

News & Views


 Newsletter

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Interest Groups

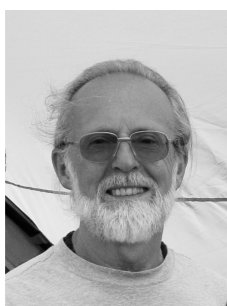
Details of Groups can be found on the Charnwood u3a website:
www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk
 under 'Our Groups' menu.

Welcome

Welcome to the February edition of News & Views, the newsletter of Charnwood u3a. We hope you'll find it both entertaining and informative. The content is written by members, and details for sending contributions can be found at the end of this newsletter.



A Message from the Chair



It is 5.30 on a cold dark January morning, and the alarm has just gone off! Thankfully it is to the (relatively) soothing tones of radio 4 rather than other more cacophonous possibilities.

I get up, go the bathroom (no details required) then head to the kitchen for breakfast, and to prepare my packed lunch – yes, just another working day. Then I open the curtains and, oh b**ger, 150mm of snow has fallen over night!

Yes, the council gritted the roads yesterday evening but, hardly surprisingly, you would not now have known it. So, big decision, do I spend 15 minutes clearing the snow from the car and then, risking life and limb, head out for the office? If so, I know the roads will be like ice rinks, and most other drivers, also 'going for it' will be creeping along slower than walking pace.....

Well, that would have been me five years ago. But now, happily settled into retirement, a snowy landscape is greeted with much more enthusiasm. So, last Monday, it was on with the winter togs and snow chains (courtesy of our northern lights trip to Norway) and out for an invigorating walk.

It was a lovely sunny day with very light breeze, so we were not alone. Everyone was, of course, dutifully maintaining social distancing but, that apart, everything felt quite normal.

There were the usual dog walkers, but also lots of young families, many of whom were building snowmen – and a snow cat, a snow rabbit and a pair (shouldn't there have been three?) of snow bears! For an hour or two we were able to forget all about the current troubles, and take pleasure in the beautiful scenery.

But now the temperature has risen a few degrees and all, but the last vestiges, of the snow has melted, revealing a myriad of early flowering plants – snow drops, crocuses and primulas amongst them.

This reminds us that spring is not so far away. I feel confident that better times are now just over the horizon.

Mike Hood

Our Monthly Meetings

In January, we welcomed the Bishop of Leicester, the Rt. Reverend Martyn Snow, who talked to us about some key events in his life, with some fascinating stories highlighting the importance of gifts, both giving and receiving. There then followed a lively and informative question and answer session with our members offering a wide variety of questions, which Bishop Martyn was happy to answer fully and honestly. An interesting and enjoyable meeting.

Helen Reid

Monthly Meeting Speakers February - April 2021

(always the afternoon of the second Wednesday, starting at 2:30 pm)

- **February 10th: “Sustaining the Planet” - Brian Waters**
- **March 10th: “Around the Round” - Malcolm Otter**
- **April 14th: “The Many Behind the Few” - David Skillen**

Meetings beyond April are not yet agreed.

Our Next Speaker, Brian Waters

This month our speaker is one of our own members, Brian Waters, who has been a member of our u3a for nine years.

For most of his professional life Brian was in the water and related industries. The water industry is, these days, very much focused on our environment and the sustaining of the world around us.

Brian's educational background is in chemistry and biochemistry and he has worked in London, the west country and, latterly, the Midlands.

He is keen to get a **Sustainability Group underway in Charnwood U3A**, but at our monthly meeting this month he will talk about the vital importance sustaining our planet must play in our lives, each in our own modest ways but collectively making an impact.



Graham Cooper, Programme Secretary

tel: 01509 213675, email: programmesecc@charnwoodu3a.org.uk



IMPORTANT: Places in Zoom sessions are limited, so to ensure your place, **pre-registration is required by Monday 8th February.**

To book your place, please go to the February Monthly meeting page on our website at

<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/MonthlyMeetingFeb2021.html> and complete the registration form before the deadline.

For couples planning to attend the presentation using a single computer, tablet or smartphone, only one of you should submit the form. You will receive an email confirming your booking.

An invitation to join the meeting will then be emailed the day before the meeting to all those who have pre-registered. Late registrations will be accepted only if there are places still available.

Looking Further Ahead:

Further information about our meetings in March and April 2021 is available on our website under 'Our Meetings' for the relevant month. Registration forms will appear on these pages shortly after the previous month's meeting has passed.

Group News

Travel Group On-Line



Atlantic Sunset over Hotel Pool

Those who had been on the trip sent photos to Group Leader Ann Maddocks, who created a colourful slide show of the places they had visited. Food and drink featured strongly, also beautiful sunsets - not to mention camels on the beach!

The group was there a month before the 60th anniversary of a massive earthquake which killed 15,000 people and all but flattened the city of Agadir. It has been totally rebuilt, including a smart marina and reputedly the largest sardine fishing fleet in the world. Remains of 16th century Kasbah look down from the hill above.



Camels at Kasbah



Various trips were taken, including an ancient Berber city, Taroudant, full of craftsmanship including carpets and turning argan nuts into oil. This made way for the fertile greenery of Paradise Valley, a banana village and a mini safari. Then - of course - there had to be Marrakech. It was a three-hour drive each way, but "well worth it" said Ann, with palaces, fascinating souks and much exhortation to buy.

When Ann was thanked for the show, she said the hardest part was talking to the screen and not knowing if anyone was listening. But all 52 participants were still there at the end.

Ann also ran through future trips that are already planned and still in place. The May Puglia trip is still on at time of writing, although a lot will depend on the speed of vaccines and the situation in Italy. It is hoped the July holiday to North Wales can still go ahead and Southern Ireland is even more optimistic for October.



Taroudant



Travel Group in the Atlas Mountains, Morocco

For next year, the Travel Group is currently looking at Lanzarote, Dorset and Orkney with a definite Roger Willson Yorkshire itinerary in September.

Kate Watson

More Group News

Singing for Pleasure

When things get you down, as they have done for a lot of people over the last year, there is nothing like a good sing. The Singing for Pleasure group has kept in touch as best we can thanks to the wonders of technology. Instead of meeting we have been sharing YouTube links of all sorts of music – Frank Sinatra, ABBA, folk songs, Judy Garland, John Rutter – anything that will give us a good sing.



Once a month some of us have joined together on Zoom for our singing. It is an unusual experience singing on Zoom but it does mean we can have completely different arrangements of songs. We have joined massed voices at the Royal Albert Hall and been accompanied by brass bands and full orchestras, as well as simply singing along with The Beatles or Judy Garland. And in the comfort of your own home nobody knows whether you hit the right notes.

Anybody is welcome to join us. If you want any more information please contact Brenda Cox, SingingforPleasure@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Brenda Cox, Group Leader

Photography



The Photography Group is starting to hold their monthly meeting on Zoom. This is the first Friday of each month, and the next meeting is on **February 5th at 11.00**. If any new members wish to join, please contact Malcolm Coulton – Group Leader, email Photography@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Spanish

Sue Pennykid has recently taken over as leader of the Cu3a Spanish Group, and they held their first Zoom class on 19 January. She will now be holding Zoom classes on the same dates as the in-person classes would have been: **1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, 10.00am to 12.00 noon**, although Zoom classes may be slightly shorter.



They are starting again from the beginning, so new members are (and always will be) very welcome. Anyone interested in joining, please contact Sue at Spanish@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

English Parish Churches

The two EPC groups both have Zoom meetings on the **second Tuesday of the month**, EPC1 starting at 10 am, and EPC2 starting at 2 pm. In both cases, other members of u3a would be welcome. Forthcoming meetings are as follows:



EPC1 (10 am):

February 9th: Church history: The Pilgrim Fathers 1620-2020

March 9th: The arts in our churches: The empty centuries 1600-1800?

April 13th: The arts in our churches: Victorian rediscovery and abundance

EPC2 (2 pm):

February 9th: Church history: Becket 1170/1220-2020, the pilgrimage to Canterbury

March 9th: Church history: the conversion of our area, Mercia

April 13th: Church history: the conversion of the North of England

Enquiries to: Roger Willson, EngParishChurches2@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Further Group News

Science & Technology 2

Science & Technology 2 group have the following Zoom talks coming up:

11 February at 2.00 pm: 'Radar' - Paul Fileman

8 April at 10.00 am: 'Forgotten Engineers of the 19th Century' - Richard Harries

9 September at 10.00 am: 'Human Genome Projects: Hope, Hype, and Reality' - Sarabjit Mastana

All are welcome. If you are interested in attending any of these talks, please contact Roy Faulkner, SciTech2@charnwoodu3a.org.uk



Local History

The Local History group are continuing with Zoom meetings on the **4th Monday of the month at 2 pm**. Below are details of forthcoming meetings - including an extra joint meeting with the Architecture group.

Monday 22nd February: Charnwood Forest Canal - speaker Mike Gillingham

Thursday 25th February: Chesterton House, Rectory Place - speaker Andy Jervis.

Chesterton House (*pictured right*) is one of Loughborough's most iconic buildings and famous as the site of the first Grammar School for Girls in England. Andy will explain the history of this fascinating property and take us on a virtual tour of the building to bring to life the many different people who have lived there, and the work that continues to keep it in good shape for the centuries to come.
Note: this is a joint meeting with the Architecture Group, starting at 2pm.



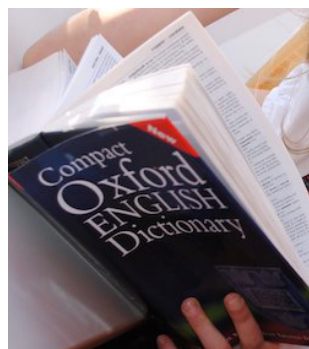
Monday 22nd March - Tucker's Brickworks - speaker Martyn Speight

Monday 26th April - The Green Man pub - speaker Melinda Ingram

The story of this old pub, now under Tyler's in the town centre.

These are 'open' meetings, and both longstanding members and new friends are most welcome. If you have not attended a local history Zoom meeting before, but would like to do so, please contact Anne Speight, LocalHistory@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Exploring the English Language (ETHEL)



Zooming for Ethel can seem more like a roller coaster than a learning curve. She knows a lot of words for ineptitude and Zoom lets her practise a lot! Notwithstanding the glitches, Ethel members who managed to fight their way past the Zoomguards looked and laughed at some interesting examples of language from 2020.

Inevitably a whole lexicon has developed around the pandemic, which is why the Oxford Languages (OED) lexicographers didn't select just one 'Word of the Year', but several. '**Covidiot**' was a new coinage, while '**Blursday**' (when every day seems the same) arrived back in the 80s.

Ethel's own favourite was '**anthropause**': when lockdown gives the environment a respite from pollution caused by human activity. Ethel herself will take a pause till February 23rd, when the group will be looking and laughing and probably groaning at examples of official gobbledygook, aka: gibberish, claptrap, bilge, bosh and baloney.

Further Group News

Pilates 2

When, back in early March last year our group teacher suggested we might like to try Zoom for our next class – something I don't think any of us had even heard of – we all agreed to give it a try and little did we know how long for!

Since then, with only brief respite when restrictions were relaxed - when armed with our own group specific risk assessment, anti bac spray and mask, we each returned to our Covid safe 2 metre square at Gorse Covert CC - we, through necessity, have become very comfortable with Zoom!

We had a few initial teething problems, but we survived – it's not perfect but in the main it has worked well and it has enabled us to continue with a regular class every week which for every one of us has been really beneficial.



We chat before the group starts, then husbands, partners and pets are banished and our class runs at the same time and for the same length as before Covid. The group is still full with everyone attending regularly. We are all looking forward to physically meeting up again as before but for now we are OK. Hoping we don't have to wait too long before we receive the vaccination.

Lynne Peebles and Steph Eggleston

Archaeology

The next meeting of the Archaeology group will be at **2pm on Monday 8th February**. The talk will be entitled '**The Grandeur that was Rome**', following on from '**The Glory that was Greece**'. These titles are both from a poem by Edgar Allen about Helen of Troy, as follows:



*On desperate seas long wont to roam,
Thy hyacinth hair, thy classic face,
Thy Naiad airs have brought me home
To the glory that was Greece.
And the grandeur that was Rome.*

It will be about the origins of Rome and its architecture and archaeology, contrasting this with Greece – briefly!!!!

All members of Charnwood u3a are welcome - please contact the Group Leader if interested (contact details below).

Marilyn Palmer,
Archaeology@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Other groups meeting via Zoom

As can be seen from the calendar on the next page, some 25 of our groups are now meeting regularly by Zoom, and it is good to see that there is at least one meeting happening on every weekday during the month. It is nice to know that even in these difficult times, we can manage to stay connected.



However, don't forget those of our members who are unable to join these on-line meetings. We must make every effort to stay in touch with them, and look forward to the day when we can meet together face-to-face once more.

Helen Reid

February 2021 Meetings via Zoom

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 Latin, 10 am	2 Spanish, 10 am Pilates 2, 9:30 am Philosophy, 2 pm Singing for Pleasure, 2 pm	3 Classical Greek, 10 am German, 10 am	4 Spanish Convers- ation, 10 am French Convers- ation, 2pm	5 German Advanced 10 am Photography, 11 am
8 Archaeology, 2 pm	9 English Parish Churches 1 & 2, 10 am & 2 pm Pilates 2, 9:30 am Parlate Italiano, 11 am	10 Monthly General Meeting, 2.30pm	11 Committee Meeting, 10 am SciTech 2, 2 pm	12 Classical Civilisation, 10 am
15 Gardening, 2 pm	16 Pilates 2, 9:30 am Spanish, 10 am Philosophy, 2 pm	17 German, 10 am Family History, 2 pm	18 French Conversation, 2 pm	19 German Advanced 10 am
22 Local History, 2 pm	23 Pilates 2, 9:30 am ETHEL, 10 am Parlate Italiano, 11 am	24 History 3, 10 am Classical Music, 2 pm	25 Architecture and Local History (joint meeting), 2 pm	26 Mac Users Forum, 3 pm

Note: Saturday and Sunday have been omitted from the above calendar for reasons of space; there are currently no groups meeting at weekends. Some of the above meetings may be open to non-members of the group. Please check with the group leader if interested. For more information about these meetings, please see the Group News and Our Monthly Meetings sections of this newsletter and the Our Groups-What's Zooming? page on our website at <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/WhatsZooming.html>

If Group Leaders would like to send dates/times of their planned meetings in March to the Editor at newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk, these will be included in next month's calendar. We hope you find this feature useful, both now and in the future when we return to normal meetings.

Welcome	Our Groups	News
Home Page		
About Us		
Subscription & Benefits		
Joining and Membership		
About U3As		
About Charnwood		
Privacy Policy + Data Protection		

Website Updates

If you've visited our website recently, you'll have noticed that we have a monthly calendar showing our meetings, which is updated between newsletters for up-to-date information. This is easily accessible from the Home page (<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk>). If you haven't visited the website recently, why not give it a look? The wealth of useful information there may surprise you.

We have also published **Data Protection** and **Privacy** policies - accessible from the Welcome menu (bottom item) - and recently added a **Code of Conduct**, which can be viewed from the Welcome menu by clicking on Joining and Membership to reveal the sub-menu (as shown left and below)

Home	Welcome	Our Groups	News	Our Meetings	On-line Ents	On-line Info
Membership	How to Join	Associate Membership	Code of Conduct	Local Policies		

Group Leaders Meeting



Has anyone else noticed how often the term “Groundhog Day” has started slipping into conversation? Not in its traditional sense of the day groundhogs are meant to emerge from hibernation, but in its modern meaning of a day when the same thing is repeated over and over again. Lockdown can definitely lead to a lack of variety in our lives, meaning we are thankful for a little something different to enjoy – so what better than a Group Leaders meeting! (Question for all you quiz buffs – where and on what date is Groundhog Day celebrated? Answer at the end of this article.)

Early last summer, I floated the idea of a possible Group Leaders meeting via Zoom. At the time, Covid numbers were falling and most people were pretty sure we would soon be able to meet again face-to-face, so the general feeling was that we should hold on and wait until we could hold a ‘proper’ meeting. Who could have imagined that we would still be waiting in 2021? With still no prospect of being able to meet face-to-face in the foreseeable future, we decided to go ahead with a Zoom meeting on 28th January.



When the invitation was circulated, acceptances and questions for the agenda arrived thick and fast. On the day, around fifty Group Leaders, Treasurers and Committee members (some of whom were also Group Leaders) zoomed together for over two hours. Cu3a Chair, Mike Hood, guided us through the agenda and excellent Zetiquette (my newly coined word for how to behave during Zoom meetings) was observed by all.



Mike started by giving a brief overview of how Cu3a had coped during the pandemic and then asked whether Leaders had managed to keep their groups in touch and active. As anticipated, Zoom has proved a boon to many groups, but there was concern that members without access to modern technology were unable to take part in Zoom meetings. Most of us were surprised to learn that it's possible to dial in to a Zoom meeting via a landline, so it was agreed that details of how to do this would be circulated.

The majority of questions submitted in advance related to the revised financial arrangements for groups who previously operated bank accounts. Bob Pyatt (Cu3a Treasurer) gave a short Powerpoint presentation and answered myriad questions about this subject. I shan't attempt to summarise these or the other issues that were discussed, as minutes of the meeting will be sent to all Group Leaders and also made available to all members on the Cu3a website.



On a personal note, I was really pleased to be able to match a few more names to faces. Since becoming Groups Co-ordinator last March, I've enjoyed numerous email exchanges and phone calls with Group Leaders I've yet to meet in person, so this provided a perfect opportunity for the next best thing – a virtual encounter!

(Answer - Groundhog Day is celebrated in the USA and Canada on 2nd February.)

Hilary Knowles Cu3a Groups' Co-ordinator
groupscoordinator@charnwoodu3a.org.uk



Leicestershire
Police
 Protecting our communities

Warning : Courier Fraud & Phone Scams

We have recently received a warning from Leicestershire Police, reminding us to be vigilant when answering phone calls from someone claiming to be a police officer or bank official who claims money has been fraudulently withdrawn from your account. **The police or banks would never contact people in this way. If you get such a call, hang up.** If you need to contact your bank to check, use a different line as fraudsters can stay on the line even after you have hung up. Other telephone fraudsters claim to be from your phone/internet company, threatening to cut you off due to an unpaid bill; or tell you that your computer has a virus and offer to fix it for you by providing software (itself containing a virus); or say you can claim a prize on payment of a 'small administration fee'. **All are scams. Remember, keep calm and hang up.**

Solitude - a New Music Video

If you remember, at the start of the pandemic, Charnwood u3a member Ian Maber wrote and played **'Earths Angels'** in memory of NHS staff who had lost their lives caring for others (as featured in *News & Views, August 2020, p.4*), and followed this up with another piece entitled **'Transformation'** about how he and his wife had transformed their garden during lockdown (see *News & Views, September 2020, p.8*).



Since we have had lockdown (again) he decided to compose a new piece of music - something to relax to. Because we cannot mix, he composed and played the orchestral backing for it as well as playing the main theme. Called **'Solitude'** it is full of beautiful music and beautiful pictures (taken by himself), and the sound of the sea featured throughout is especially relaxing.

See and hear Ian's piece at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GC8v76Sd9xk&t=34s>

Valentine's Day - a card would have sufficed!



Some years ago I was a lecturer in computer science at Strathclyde University in Glasgow. One day, I turned up at my usual lecture theatre to give a presentation about Operating Systems. My usual crowd of students would have been about 70 or so.

I did notice that there seemed to be a fuller attendance than usual with around 100 in total. I was just about to start the lecture when suddenly the doors to the room burst open and in came a rather scantily clad young lady with some helium filled balloons with writing on them, something along the lines of "Dr Reid please be our Valentine".

The young lady then proceeded to sing a little ditty about Valentines and she kept asking where she could tie the balloons. Magically a load of cameras appeared amongst the students and some of my colleagues who were in on the fun!

After a few minutes the young lady completed her task by tying the balloons to the blackboard and the hubbub started to die down.

So what was I to do at the end of such a performance faced with a crowd of 100 or so students? Well it seems the betting was split on whether I would be able to give a lecture or not after such a surprise. I'm pleased to say that the students had their lecture despite the unusual start.

Even more pleasing is the fact that the students collected a reasonable amount of money to pay for the stunt and had a lot leftover - which they gave to a local charity.

My head of department knew of this event and insisted on having one or two of the photographs attached to my staff record!

Peter Reid

Royal National Institute for Deaf People: Information Pack

A new RNID information Pack on **Managing Hearing Loss and Tinnitus during COVID-19** can be downloaded from our website at: https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/pdfdocsMain/Covid-19_info_RNID.pdf This makes very interesting reading and contains some really useful tips and links to further information. It's vitally important, when on Zoom, to try to speak clearly and at a constant volume so that those with hearing impairments can hear you clearly and consistently. Also, remember that a lot more people lip-read than you would imagine so make sure you face the camera, not looking away or down at your notes!

Network Zoom Quiz

MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2021
starting at 7:00pm (login from 6:45pm)

OPEN TO ALL u3a MEMBERS IN
LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

BOOK EARLY
AS PLACES
ARE
LIMITED

To register:

Send an email with your name
and the name of your u3a to:

coordinator@landru3a.org.uk

by 5pm on Thursday 18th February

If successful, you'll receive an email confirming
your place in the quiz (normally within 24 hours)

Joining instructions will be emailed to you
a few days before the Quiz

You can also take part in the quiz using your phone*
In this case, call Roger on 07984 400605 to book your place

OPEN TO
INDIVIDUALS
AND COUPLES

Organised by:
u3a Leicestershire &
Rutland
Network of u3as

*Normal national-rate call charges will apply which may be included in your phone package,
but if not, it could prove rather expensive. Please check your rates before registering for the quiz.

Free On-Line Lectures from Gresham College

Gresham College - providers of free lectures in the City of London for over 400 years - are live-streaming all their lectures online in 2020-21. They are offering a whole series of fascinating on-line lectures in the near future, covering a wide range of subject areas including art, literature, history, law, mathematics, medicine, music and science. Visit <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/attend/> to see what is on offer.

Amongst the offerings for February is the following, which the u3a have been especially asked to promote:

Wednesday, 10 February 2021, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Vaccination - Professor Chris Whitty

In this event, Chris Whitty, Gresham Professor of Physic (the term for medicine when the post was created in 1597), will consider several aspects of the science and public debate about vaccines.

Chris Whitty is also Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for England, the UK Government's Chief Medical Adviser, Chief Scientific Adviser at the Department of Health and Social Care and head of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

To find out more about this event and to book your place, go to:
<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/vaccination>



News from the National u3a



Free On-Line Lecture:



Foe to Friend: The British Army in Germany since 1945 with the National Army Museum

on Thursday February 11th 2021 at 10:30am.

Join historian and curator, Dr Peter Johnston, as he discusses the changing relationship between Britain and Germany and charts the gradual transition from foe to friend in this exclusive talk for u3a members.

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yx92qaot> for further details and to book your place.

For details of further upcoming on-line events offered by the National u3a, go to their website at:
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

National u3a Newsletter:

To register to receive the National u3a newsletter, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>

The latest issue (January) is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/y5dyjhhs>

Previous issues can be accessed from the archive section at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/newsletter>

There is also a bitesize edition in PDF format which is easily printable; the latest one (January) can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/y25d2qso>

Radio Podcasts:

The latest episode of u3a radio is out on the u3a YouTube channel now. Interviews include a Barnet u3a member who featured in Britain's Got Talent, two members who created a course on how to retire with attitude, and a chef from Vegetarian for Life who has been doing virtual cookery demonstrations to u3a members. Listen to this and previous podcasts at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrqc8qYDZ4U24lq0J4qx0fQ>

Quiz Time: (answers in next month's News & Views)

- 1) The House of Norodom is the ruling dynasty in which country?
- 2) Which Welshman played the part of Tony Blair in the films *The Deal* and *The Queen*?
- 3) Wood Ranch is an anagram of what?
- 4) Which composer's name completes the title of Italian singer Gazebo's 1983 single "I like....." ?
- 5) The Jacobite rebellion of 1745 failed to depose which monarch?
- 6) What is the far more familiar name of *Temujin* or *Temuchin*?
- 7) Which pop singer returned his MBE in protest at British foreign affairs in 1969?
- 8) Who is the only British composer to be elevated to the peerage?
- 9) Carnivorous is an anagram of which two word topical phrase?
- 10) Which chess piece is typically lost in the "Greek gift sacrifice"?
- 11) What is the formula to achieve the sum of the angles in a regular polygon?
- 12) What is the inn, owned by Maurice Allington, after which the 1969 novel by Kingsley Amis is named?
- 13) Bill and Hilary Clinton Airport serves which US state capital?
- 14) Which company and brewer registered the first British trade mark?
- 15) In the church calendar, what is 1st November known as?
- 16) Which Fawlty Towers character named his pet Siberian hamster "Basil"?
- 17) A vain person may be likened to which animal?
- 18) Lucy Powell, Jeff Smith and Afzal Khan are MPs for constituencies in which city?
- 19) With whom is Desdemona romantically linked?
- 20) Who was the first Prime Minister of unified Italy?



Another Poem from one of our Members...

WINDS OF CHANGE

Folk who never go out at night,
And lock their doors and windows tight,
They look back to a better time
When life was not beset by crime.

I wonder, was it really so?
Or was it that they did not know
The news? It's everywhere these days,
Revealing all our wicked ways.

Bad news flies at the speed of light,
Disasters sending waves of fright
Around the globe. Ripples of fear
Make shattered places seem quite near.

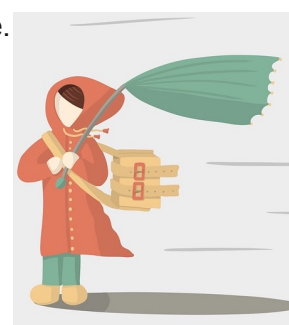
Good news lacks the awful impact
Of sudden shock and hard contact.
When did joyous celebrations
Set off such reverberations?

And so we hear an old refrain,
'Why can't things just stay the same?
Our values do not seem to last.
New ways of living are too fast!'

Onward, relentless, march the years,
Regardless of our smiles and tears.
We lack the power to arrange
The future. Many things will change.

For life is growth and growth brings change.
The Life Force ever seeks free range.
Change to life is fundamental.
Pray now 'May the winds be gentle.'

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Items for News & Views

Do you have an announcement, story, poem - or even a short comment - to share with your fellow Cu3a members? All contributions are very welcome, and we can preserve your anonymity if you prefer that your name does not appear in the newsletter.

There is a limit of around 500 words per item, and photos are very welcome.

To enable the newsletter to be compiled in time for delivery to members at the start of each month, the deadline for receiving items will normally be the last day but one of the previous month. The deadline for the March issue of **News & Views** will be **Saturday 27th February (12 noon)**.



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Please make sure you include your contact details with your item, and try not to leave it until the last minute if at all possible.

The Editor reserves full editorial rights as to length and suitability and the Editor's decision is final.

News & Views is sent to all Charnwood u3a members by email link (or, for those without email, by post in normal circumstances) before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood u3a website each month at www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk under the News menu.

Thank You!

Helen Reid
Newsletter Editor
Charnwood u3a

Contact Details for Committee and Group Leaders



Names and photographs of the Committee and their generic emails ending @charnwoodu3a.org.uk are available on our website under Contact Us - Committee Contacts.

The names and generic email addresses of Group Leaders for each group can be found on that group's dedicated website page, accessed via Our Groups - Groups Listed...

Telephone numbers of Group Leaders can be accessed from the Members area of the website, using login details previously supplied.

Some other useful u3a web addresses:

National u3a: <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

The Association of East Midlands u3as: www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk

Leicestershire and Rutland Network: www.landru3a.org.uk

Beacon system: <https://beacon.u3a.org.uk>

The logo for u3a, consisting of the letters 'u3a' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Welcome to Page 14

For those of you who are superstitious, you'll be relieved to see there is a page 14.

For those who are not superstitious.... enjoy the free space!

Editor's note: Blame my husband Peter for this silly idea - and no, he's not superstitious!