

# News & Views


 Newsletter

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## Interest Groups

Details of Groups can be found on the Charnwood u3a website:

[www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk)  
under 'Our Groups' menu.

## Other web addresses

Association of E Mids u3as:  
[www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk](http://www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk)

Leics & Rutland Network:  
[www.landru3a.org.uk](http://www.landru3a.org.uk)

Beacon system:

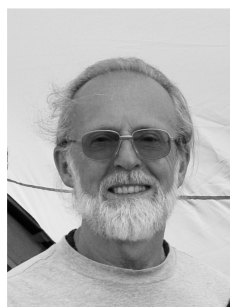
<https://beacon.u3a.org.uk>

## Welcome

Welcome to the July 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 no wonder we Brits are always talking about the weather. There was a heatwave at the beginning of June and now today it is cool and wet! Well, it is the start of the Wimbledon fortnight, so I suppose this was only to be expected. Despite these conditions, things are generally looking up for Charnwood u3a members. 36 of our 92 groups are now meeting – whether it be outdoors, indoors or by Zoom. Just think, this time last year there was widespread resistance to meeting via Zoom. Now some of our groups are planning on staying with virtual meetings regardless of lockdown restrictions!

It is apparent that many of us are once again feeling able to take short (UK) holidays and visit family. This demonstrates an increasing level of confidence – tempered, I am sure, by sensible safety precautions being applied. We are no exception. Eleanor and I recently attended a family gathering, where we were able to see in the flesh (and physically touch!) loved ones for the first time in 18 months. And next week we will be going to a two day Singing Camp in the beautiful Forest of Dean. We have been attending this annual camp for over ten years, as have many others, so it will be good to meet up with old friends. Of course, both of these are outdoor events, so enjoyment levels are very much in the hands of the weather gods. The sun shone on the family and, fingers crossed, the singers will be equally fortunate.

It does now look like 19th July will see lifting of the remaining coronavirus restrictions which, I am sure, will be a great relief to many of us. After this date it should be legal for all of our groups to meet without having to limit numbers. There is a possibility that we will still be expected to wear masks (indoors) and apply social distancing. If so we, the Committee, will ensure you all receive appropriate guidance. Do, however, check with your venues. Some of them may decide to 'play it safe' for a little longer.

As you will have read in my last Mid-Monthly, the 4 week lockdown extension meant we had to cancel the Relaunch Event on July 8th. We are now making plans for this to take place in early October, which will tie in nicely with our return to Emmanuel for monthly meetings on October 13th. Hopefully by then ALL of our groups will be up and running again, so offering plenty of 'goodies' to entice both new and existing Charnwood u3a members!

Finally, a very warm welcome to Margaret Kelvey who has now joined the Committee as a co-opted member.

It does look like the worst of the pandemic is now behind us. But we still need to be on our guard. Look after yourselves, your families and your friends.

Mike Hood, Chair, Charnwood u3a, [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

## Our Monthly Meetings

Last month, we were treated to a very enjoyable presentation by Mary Smith, former headteacher of a girls' grammar school in Kent, who told us of the experiences of pupils at the school during the Second World War, as recorded through the drawings and paintings of their art mistress at the time, and as recollected by Old Girls who lived through it. A fascinating insight into how they coped with the adversities of those times.

### Monthly Meeting Speakers July - Sept 2021

(all via Zoom, on the second Wednesday of the month, starting at 2:30 pm)

- **July 14th: "Living the African Dream" - Alison Mees**
- **Aug 11th: "From Leicester to the World via Loughborough" (Thomas Cook's story) - Robin Jenkins & Jenny Moran, Leics Record Office**
- **Sept 8th: "Time Through the Ages" - John Hope**

### Our Next Meeting: Wednesday 14th July at 2:30 pm

#### Living the African Dream - Alison Mees

For this month's meeting, we have what promises to be another fascinating and well-illustrated talk on the wildlife of Africa by Alison Mees. She will use her own wildlife photographs to share her experiences.

As an introduction to her talk, Alison has kindly written an article for this newsletter which you can read on page 7 of this issue.



*Alison and her dog Mabel  
photo © Alison Mees*



**IMPORTANT:** Places in Zoom sessions are limited, so to ensure your place, **pre-registration is required by Monday 12th July.**

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

<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/MonthlyMeetingJuly2021.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:

Following Zoom meetings in August and September, we are planning to return to Emmanuel Church in October, with at least one speaker, but it may be two or even three! Something a *bit different* is promised for this our first face-to-face meeting since the pandemic began. It is hoped this meeting will be a hybrid i.e. face-to-face AND Zoom.

Further details of each monthly meeting will be in *News & Views* immediately preceding the meeting, and details will also appear on our website. All meetings, in whatever format, are free to members and non members who are always welcome. There is a cup of tea and a natter after face-to-face meetings of course. All such meetings are in Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough, 2.15 for 2.30. This church has good, free parking and is close to public transport.

Graham Cooper, Programme Secretary

## Group News

### ★ Places Available on July and August Days of Interest Trips ★

We have some spare places on our July and August Days of Interest trips.

Our first trip, on **Saturday 24th July 2021**, will be to **Buxton and Bakewell**. Pickup time at Nanpantan Sports Ground is 9 am and we leave Bakewell at 4:30 pm. The cost is £12 per person.



Rutland Belle on Rutland Water

Our second trip, on **Saturday 28th August**, begins with a **short cruise on Rutland Water** in the Rutland Belle, followed by a visit to the nearby **Gates Nursery**. Pickup time at Nanpantan Sports Ground is at 9:30 am and we leave Gates Nursery at 4:30 pm. The cost of the Rutland Belle and Gates Nursery trip is £21.50 per person.



Bakewell Bridge

If you are interested in joining us on either of the trips, please contact Pauline May at [ppc.wat@ntlworld.com](mailto:ppc.wat@ntlworld.com) or 01509 552834 for details.

### Ethel Puts Her Posh Hat On

Now lockdown is easing, Ethel is thinking about resurrecting her social life. But she's been learning about U and non-U words and is awfully afraid of breaching the rules of linguistic etiquette:

*If (when permitted) you have company for tea,  
Sit them on your sofa, never your settee.  
Certain rules you must never forget,  
Like offering a napkin not a serviette.  
And if you don't hear, then better not  
Respond with "Pardon" but always with "What?"  
Should you want to enhance your social cred,  
It's not just the word, but how it's said:  
The posher guests will all be gone,  
If you give them a scone and not a scon.  
Then there's lavatory, toilet, khazi or loo -  
Whatever is a gal to do?  
But think on, Ethel, what does it matter?  
It's not how you say it, but what you say,  
When all you want is a jolly good natter,  
Who wants to talk like Hyacinth Bouquet?*

On July 27th Ethel will be packing her (metaphorical) bags and hopping across the Atlantic to tackle American English.

Pam Upton

### Family History

Enormous thanks go to Brian and Janet for welcoming the group into their garden for tea and cakes on a gorgeous, sunny afternoon in June. It was great to meet up again face-to-face for the first time in well over a year, and the weather and beautiful setting – not to mention the delicious walnut cake I enjoyed – made this a lovely social occasion. We even managed some limited discussion of family history!



This month we are back to Zoom, on **21st July at 2 pm**, when we will be discussing 'A Criminal in the Family', which should make for an interesting meeting.

We will then have a summer break before meeting again, hopefully face-to-face, in September.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Brian Waters on [FamilyHistory@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:FamilyHistory@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

Helen Reid

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## More Group News

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### Yoga is on the move – Come and join us



From July, the Yoga Group will be meeting at a new venue – Greenfields Sports and Social Club, Holt Drive, Loughborough.

We will have exclusive use of the clubhouse function room. This is a larger space than our current venue, so I am now able to invite more u3a members to join us.

In addition to the function room we will have access to a grassed area, meaning outdoor practice (depending on the weather!) will be an option.

If you would like to join the group, or if you need more information about us, please contact me at [yoga@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:yoga@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or 07703 785832

Mike Hood

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## Archaeology

I regret that there are to be no meetings of the Archaeology group over the summer as I can't really run coach visits and there is no student dig in Bradgate Park either this year.

However, the **Festival of Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeology** will be running throughout July this year, **from July 3rd to August 1st**. The county festival is part of the UK's biggest archaeological event, the national Festival of Archaeology, but Leicestershire, as ever, has the largest number of events thanks to the hard work of Peter Liddle, the former County Archaeologist. The national festival is to be launched in the Abbey Pumping Station in Leicester on Saturday 17th July.

The link to local events is <https://leicsfieldworkers.org/festival-of-archaeology/>.

Peter says:

*The Festival brings together local archaeological organisations to showcase all that is great about our local archaeological heritage and we want you to help us celebrate local sites, stories and the people who lived and shaped our local places.*

Over 40 guided walks are organised with more being confirmed daily. These cover a huge range of sites from prehistoric to industrial.

- Live digital talks by some of the counties' leading heritage experts.
- Self-guided walks to enjoy at your own pace.
- Online archives of past talks.

...and many more family friendly activities, exhibitions and hands on events.



**Many events need you to book in advance so please do go on the website and book ASAP!**

Marilyn Palmer

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## Walking Groups



Starting with the Little Extras group, as reported in May's *News & Views*, other walking groups - 6+, 10+, Les Sportives - have been enjoying getting back to regular walks, and the Saturday Walking group have walks planned for the first and third Saturdays in July. For details of these walks, and who to contact, see the Calendar and Walking Groups pages on the website:

<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/WalkingGroup.html>

## July 2021 Meetings

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1 Jul 10:00 Spanish Conv 14:00 Bowls Outdoor 14:00 French Conv	2 Jul 10:00 German Adv 10:00 Mah Jong 2 10:30 Tai Chi 13:30 Pilates 1
5 Jul 09:30 Yoga 14:00 Chess	6 Jul 09:30 Pilates 2 10:00 10+ Walks 10:45 Gym Fitness 10:00 Spanish 14:00 Philosophy 1 14:00 Sing-Pleasure	7 Jul 10:00 Classical Greek 10:00 German 10:00 Golf 14:00 SustainPlanet	8 Jul 10:00 Committee 10:00 Les Sportives 10:00 Little Extras 14:00 Bowls Outdoor	9 Jul 10:00 Mah Jong 2 10:30 Tai Chi 10:30 Travel Group 13:30 Pilates 1
12 Jul	13 Jul 09:30 Pilates 2 10:45 Gym Fitness 11:00 Parlate Italiano	14 Jul 10:00 Golf 14:30 MonthlyMeet	15 Jul 14:00 Bowls Outdoor 14:00 French Conv	16 Jul 10:00 German Adv 10:00 Mah Jong 2 10:30 Tai Chi 15:00 Mac Users
19 Jul 09:30 Yoga 14:00 Chess 14:00 Gardening	20 Jul 10:00 6+ Walks 10:45 Gym Fitness 10:00 Spanish 14:00 Philosophy 2	21 Jul 10:00 German 10:00 Golf 14:00 Family History	22 Jul 10:00 Les Sportives 10:00 Little Extras 14:00 Bowls Outdoor	23 Jul 10:00 Mah Jong 2 10:30 Tai Chi
26 Jul 09:30 Yoga	27 Jul 10:00 ETHEL 10:45 Gym Fitness 11:00 Parlate Italiano	28 Jul 10:00 Golf 10:00 History 3 14:00 Classical Music	29 Jul 14:00 Bowls Outdoor	30 Jul 10:00 Mah Jong 2 10:30 Tai Chi

### SAT

3 Jul  
10:00 Saturday Walks

10 Jul

17 Jul  
10:00 Saturday Walks

24 Jul  
09:00 Days of Interest

31 Jul

#### **Please Note:**

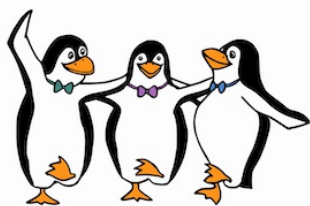
Some of these meetings *may* be open to non-members of the group. Please check with the Group Leader if interested. For more information about these meetings, please see the Group News and Our Monthly Meetings sections of this newsletter.

Also visit our **website** (<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk>) for the interactive calendar which is regularly updated, with direct links to the group pages for more details. *Note:* you can access the latest calendar of meetings direct from the Home page without needing to log in.

**If Group Leaders would like to send dates/times of their planned meetings in August to the Editor at [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk), these will be included in next month's calendar** both in *News & Views* and on the website.

If there are any errors in the above calendar, or if you are **not** planning to meet over the summer, please also let us know. The calendar includes both face-to-face and Zoom meetings, with more details available on the group pages of the website.

## Line Dance



As we have been unable to obtain any assurance from Tesco that the Community room will re-open, we have decided to move our sessions to the Brush Bowls Club Pavilion, Watermead Lane (off Nanpantan Rd), Loughborough. It is a larger room so we can accommodate social distancing if necessary. There is a large, free car park next to the club, and it is on a bus route. Unfortunately, to pay for the room I have to introduce a small charge of £3. As we will meet for 2 hours from 10 am till noon - with a refreshment break - I hope this will not deter anyone from joining us.

No prior knowledge of Line dancing is necessary. There are only two requirements: to be able to walk, and to be able to laugh when you go wrong! This is a very friendly group and you will be made very welcome! Sadly, the only thing I cannot tell you at the moment is when we will be allowed to re-start. It will be asap!

If you would like to join our group, you can either send a message to [DanceLine@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:DanceLine@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or leave a message on my home phone 01509 264593 and I will get back to you.

Bev Gillman

## Friends of Charnwood u3a

Hello! Is there anyone out there who is feeling fed up, bored, or in other words, cheesed off....like us....or wondering how to find their way out of lockdown?

If so, then why not phone one of these kind, considerate, and of course, charming people below for a chat.

Sue Unsworth 07772717711 or 01509 856446  
 Pauline May 01509 552834  
 Yvonne Casswell 01509 550960 or 07879200771  
 Suzanne Parkinson 01509 236481  
 Diane Harper 07854155583  
 Brenda Cox 01509 237771



How about giving one of us a call and perhaps we can meet up for a cuppa?

We are not a group in the usual 'interest group' sense, but we are happy for other Cu3a members to join us as 'Friends'.

Sue Unsworth



## Poetry Corner

### A VISIT TO THE DREAM FACTORY

Edie, so tired she could have wept,  
 Laid her head on her pillow and slept.  
 Who could have heard her sadly say  
 'How I wish' ... just as she drifted away?

Edie went straight to the factory of dreams  
 And began to explore the various schemes.  
 Declining a guide, she browsed alone  
 And wandered into the **Partnerships** zone.  
 It was well laid out, and she was able  
 At a glance to read each label:  
**Business; Relationships; Dates and Wedlock,**  
 And a section labelled **Deadlock!**  
 Eyes opened wide, she felt the force  
 Of a huge section headed **Divorce.**  
 Edie began to feel dismayed  
 By the plans so smartly displayed.  
 When she reached the **Husbands** section

She found it offered a wide selection,  
 And, on looking through the range,  
 Was shocked to discover **Part Exchange!**

*This won't do! I've got my Willie;  
 Stubborn, overweight and silly.  
 We've had our days of grace and glory,  
 Yes, ours was a romantic story;  
 How this nearly bankrupt farmer  
 Was once my knight in shining armour.  
 "Willie The Great" we called him then.  
 To me he was a king among men.  
 I would not change him for another.  
 "Willie The Great Escape - from Mother!"*

Copyright Louie Carr, 1998.  
 Published in *Shades of Harmony*, Triumph House,  
 2000. HB ISBN 186161 7534, SB ISBN 186161 7585

## Living the African Dream

Since a child I have had a great interest and love for Africa. At the age of 5 years I watched Born Free with George & Joy Adamson and thought it would be amazing to bring up a lion cub. I never got a lion cub!

However, my interest in Africa continued to grow. 16 years ago I got the opportunity to live and work in Africa - my dream came true. What is it about Africa? The wide open plains that go on forever, and my fascination with cheetahs: they are the smallest of the big cats in Africa; a female raises her family all by herself and those amber eyes, when the sun lights them they melt your heart.

During my time in Africa, I have been running safari camps with my husband. I also spent time working and supporting the local communities, especially with Primary Schools and Health Clinics and purchasing locally grown and made products to support the community. The local communities were so welcoming and friendly, they have very little but always wanting to share and make time for you.



*Cheetahs in Africa. Photo © Alison Mees*

During my time in the Serengeti & Mara, my love and fascination with cheetahs was fulfilled by spending time in the field with researchers. The researchers taught me so much about cheetahs: how to identify them, behaviour, hunting and communication. I then started to photograph them and keep valuable research information i.e. date, time, locations - and what was that cheetah doing? All of this was then passed onto the cheetah researchers.

In March 2020 the pandemic hit the world and safari camps closed as no one could travel, so I returned back to the UK. Even now I continue to work on supporting cheetah conservation in Africa through my photography ([www.alisonmeesphotography.com](http://www.alisonmeesphotography.com)) and talks.

They say Africa gets into your soul and I can confirm it really does.

Alison Mees

## Wanted - New Musical Director

The Ratcliffe Chorale is looking for a new Musical Director as our current director is stepping down.



Throughout lockdown, the choir has used Zoom to rehearse and is looking forward to being able to get back to normal in the near future. The Chorale is a non-auditioning and friendly mixed SATB voice choir of about 50 singers, and with the easing of restrictions post-Covid, hopes to hold rehearsals as previously on Monday evenings at Ratcliffe College near Leicester.

The choir was formed 27 years ago and has performed concerts every year for charities and local churches, always giving its services without charging and greatly enjoying a varied repertoire.

Anyone interested in applying for the post of Musical Director, which includes remuneration, should look for further information on our website ([www.ratcliffe-chorale.org.uk](http://www.ratcliffe-chorale.org.uk)) or contact our chair Sue Roberts ([susanmroberts@gmail.com](mailto:susanmroberts@gmail.com)).

Ruth Milner

## Members' Memories

### When Shakespeare Yielded the Stage

One wonderful afternoon in Spring 1959, anticipation ran like an electric current through the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre as a performance of Othello began.

Act 1 revealed the tensions of the plot as Rodrigo (Peter Woodthorpe) provoked Iago (Sam Wanamaker) to reveal his jealous hatred and evil intentions. Shakespeare's words came pure crystal from the famous American actor, as he revealed the beauty of English.

Act 2 Iago entered, speaking to Othello. The instant the star came forward, the audience broke into tumultuous applause, the background lights faded and Shakespeare ran into the wings. The ovation did not subside until the late, great Paul Robeson gestured for quiet. Then he spoke softly his oft repeated thanks for the warm welcome which Mrs Robeson and he had received in England. More applause followed which he acknowledged with a smile, saying "but now we must continue with the play." The long magic moment ended and Shakespeare returned.

Fifty seven years later, I cannot remember speaking to anyone in the next seat, although the theatre was full. Details of the journey to Stratford have faded. Was I with friends or family? At the time it seemed as if the whole performance was just for me! I was enthralled by the joy of a dream come true and Paul Robeson seemed to be speaking directly to me.

I grew up admiring the young black lawyer who worked tirelessly for civil rights. Once I knew he could sing, I sought his recordings, cassette tapes at first, and discovered the beauty of his voice. When he became successful in films, I could not keep up. For so many years he was inaccessible when his passport was withheld by the American government. I waited a long time, hoping to see and hear him in the flesh and my dream had come true. Of course, he did not sing on this occasion, but here he was: the older, wiser, gentle giant.

The play proved equally thrilling, with a distinguished cast. The lovely Mary Ure was Desdemona; Angela Baddeley was Iago's wife, Emilia; Albert Finney was Cassio; Ian Holm the Duke of Venice, and a strong supporting cast included Roy Dotrice. Iago's cruel, contrived and constant tale about Desdemona's infidelity inflamed the Moor to desperation. Paul Robeson's Othello was passionate yet vulnerable as the torments of doubt tore him apart before he killed her. Emilia proved Desdemona's innocence before Iago killed her and the tragic play ended with the arrest and condemnation of Iago and Othello's penitent suicide.

It was a happy release when the whole cast took a curtain call, all well and smiling. It was a memorable performance of Shakespeare, but the magic of that afternoon was the long moment when the great man of the 20th century suspended time and place to express his pleasure at being there.



*Paul Robeson with Uta Hagen in the Theatre Guild production of Othello (1943-44)*



## Oops, there go my A Levels!

You'll be used to my "writing style", from previous newsletters, but I can't miss the chance to try a different approach this time.

[I call it a style as if there's a solid structure but really it's all just finger meanderings - it's my Parkinson's which is determined to lead the fingers escape committee (FEC, see later), especially with unguarded keys on the keyboard, like that nice big Del key just itching to be pressed at the end of an elegant section I was just about to save!]

OK, here we go...

It is 1971 and I am trying to get my head around something my school Headmaster had just said, something like "...I think you've forfeited the right to attend this school..." WAIT, what was that he said? Surely a slip of the tongue as we sixth formers were just about to break up before returning to the school to sit our A Level exams.

I quickly tried to play back the headmaster's words "...your irresponsible pranks mean that I've no choice but to suspend you from this school..."

Now hang on, they may have been pranks but they weren't irresponsible; they were the result of very detailed planning including the tacit support of the sixth form master.

A bit of history...

Over recent years (by that I mean recent to the 1960s / early 70s) the school had adopted the policy of releasing the sixth form from normal school timetables such that pupils could study at home, coming into school only to sit exams. This meant there was a "last day" at school.

Naturally, this watershed day presented the sixth form with the opportunity for some harmless pranks as a semi-final farewell to the rest of the school body of pupils and the collected staff.

Over the years there had been some impressive pranks. However, the previous year came close to disaster when the furniture they'd moved onto the roof nearly got soaked by the rain.

Enter the SPC (Student Pranks Committee) - come on you'll need to keep up with the TLAs (Three Letter Acronyms). As an IT bloke (or is it "nerd"?)

I'm obliged to chuck into conversation a handful of these each day in order to maintain my "Consultant" status! Anyway, the SPC noted the school's reaction to predecessors' attempted pranks, and adjusted our plans accordingly.

We planned everything very carefully; our revised school schedule was going to be as follows:

*Revised assembly:*

- the bible reading would be heavy on begetting
  - the hymn: Monty Python's Lumberjack song
- The school would become Stalag Upper 6th for the morning:*

- two sixth formers would wear pseudo-PoW camp guard uniforms, with the school sign covered by the replacement "Stalag U6"
- all staff (except the Headmaster and Deputy Head of course) would be stopped at the gate by the "guards" and asked to produce some form of identification, or risk being sent home to get some!

*Other sixth formers would marshal the other years to their classrooms.*

*We had met the sixth form master and got his approval for our plans.*



Fortunately the sixth form master came to find me and my assistant "guard" standing in front of the Headmaster's desk. He confirmed that we had discussed our plans with him and he'd given the go-ahead.

Gradually the Headmaster calmed down, with the following words "...you'll be suspended for the morning when you'll go home and get changed into normal clothes..."

"But Sir, we have a change of clothes with us," we pleaded. "Can't we get changed here?"

After some private discussion between the Headmaster and the SFM (sorry, remember I have to make my daily TLA quota) - Sixth Form Master, they agreed that we could get changed on the premises, which we duly did.

For obvious reasons, the school decided not to risk anything happening in Assembly; we had a kind of "lockdown" instead!

One useful outcome was the list I gathered at the school gate, a list of all the staff members who pleaded to be sent home! You never know when such knowledge will be useful!

Peter Reid

## Answers to Last Month's Quiz:

- 1) Which three US Presidents were born in 1946?  
**Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Donald Trump**
- 2) The marriage broker, Goro, arranges a sham wedding for the title character of which Puccini opera?  
**Madama Butterfly**
- 3) What is the job of someone who regularly drops and raises his/her pants?  
**An electric train driver where the engine takes power from above the train using pantographs. "Pants" is a driver's abbreviation. Sorry to disappoint !**
- 4) Which famous London street is named after a diplomat born in Dublin in 1623?  
**Downing Street named after Sir George Downing**
- 5) Name the only island nation in Europe not in the European Union.  
**Iceland**
- 6) In 1992 which Ethiopian runner became the first black African woman to win Olympic gold?  
**Derartu Tulu. She won the 10,000 m.**
- 7) What is the name of Andrew Neil's new television channel?  
**GB News**
- 8) Which two British Crown Dependencies celebrate Liberation Day on May 9th?  
**Jersey and Guernsey**
- 9) Which king wrote the treatise "*The Defence of the Seven Sacraments*"?  
**Henry VIII**
- 10) David Ben-Gurion called which Israeli politician "The Best Man" in government?  
**Golda Meir, one time and only female prime minister of Israel**
- 11) The dessert *samoan poi* blends coconut milk with which mashed ripe fruit?  
**Bananas**
- 12) Which infantry unit is commanded by a lieutenant or second lieutenant?  
**Platoon**
- 13) The meaning of which of these words is the odd one out?  
**REGENERATE, REGURGITATE, REVITALIZE, REANIMATE**  
**REGURGITATE. The others mean to restore or revive**
- 14) "The Blue Danube" is a waltz written by which composer named "Strauss"?  
**Johann Strauss junior. There are several composers called Strauss, not all related.**
- 15) If one letter from each word below is changed and the order retained, which often used phrase results? **AN SHE ODE LAND**  
**On the one hand**
- 16) The only one of his own paintings sold by Vincent Van Gogh is called what?  
**Vineyard At Arles**
- 17) Endocrinology is the study of which group of organic chemicals?  
**Hormones**
- 18) The coat of arms of the Holy See features a pair of crossed what?  
**Keys**
- 19) What is the collective noun for bakers?  
**Tabernacle**
- 20) Name all the cities in Northern Ireland.  
**Armagh, Belfast, Derry (you can call it Londonderry if you wish, no locals do!), Lisburn, Newry**



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## Obituary

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### In Memory of Eleanor Cullen



Eleanor Cullen, who passed away on June 11th, in Morecambe, was a founder member of Charnwood u3a. Eleanor had moved to a care home in Morecambe to be closer to her family.

She was full of energy, and was a member of many u3a groups, including Local History and Archaeology. In addition to being a member of some groups, Eleanor led a craft group and was a joint leader of the History 1 and Swimming groups. She was a well qualified swimming teacher and used her teaching experience effectively.

As a joint leader of History 1 for some 18 years, Eleanor organised many visits as well as ensuring that teas and coffees were available for members at home meetings. She also offered invaluable support for our residential visits.

On our coach trips, none of us will ever forget her counting of numbers. She would start at the front, start counting, then chat and forget the numbers and have to start all over again. I do believe that some members deliberately interrupted her. She always saw the funny side of this. Having completed a final check, on the return journey, she would then head to the back of the coach to enjoy a g & t.

She threw everything into all that she did - always full of fun and enthusiasm. Eleanor will be sorely missed and our thoughts are with her family.

Chris Brown

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### In Memory of Rachael Saunders

Many of you will be sad to hear of the death of Rachael Saunders, from Burton on the Wolds, on 31 May 2021. Rachael had been an active member of Charnwood u3a since joining in 2007. She was a regular at the Wednesday monthly meetings, a member of Bridge, Golf, Tai Chi, Ukulele and was a member of the Travel Group from its outset.

Rachael's funeral was at St. Andrew's Church Prestwold and interment at the Natural Burial ground at Prestwold on 24 June 2021.

Heather Bailey

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### *Friends of Charnwood Museum*

The Friends of Charnwood Museum's next talk is **on Thursday 22 July at 7.30pm**, delivered via Zoom. In a late change to the programme, the speaker will be Julian Richards (known for Meet the Ancestors and other TV programmes) who will give a talk entitled '**Inspired by Stonehenge**'. For more details and booking information, visit the museum website: <https://www.charnwoodmuseum.co.uk>

These talks are free, but places are limited, so you will need to book, and having booked on to the talk, you will be emailed a secure link to the event a few days beforehand.



### *A Request for Help/Advice from our Web Manager...*

Unfortunately the company that hosts our website will be ceasing business in December and we have to find a new company to host our website. If there's anyone who can recommend a reliable and easy to use web hosting service provider then please let our Web Manager Tony Westaway know at [webmanager@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:webmanager@charnwoodu3a.org.uk). Thanks.

## News from the National u3a



### On-Line Events this Month:

Various free on-line events are on offer in July. These include:

- **'Introduction to Laughter Yoga'** with Judith Walker, Edinburgh u3a (Tue 20th July, 10 am)
- **'How to Crochet a Flower!'** - interactive crochet workshop with Chris Winner (Mon 12th July, 2 pm)
- **'What philosophers say about life and how to live it well'** with Shri Sharma, u3a Subject Advisor for Philosophy (series of talks on Fridays at 2 pm)

For details of these and other upcoming on-line events offered by the National u3a, including how to book, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

### National u3a Newsletter and More:

To register to receive the National u3a newsletter, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter> where you will find a link to previous issues (including the latest one).

Also check out the u3a journal **Sources** at <https://sources.u3a.org.uk/> and the u3a National programmes page at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes> for more news and ideas.

### 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 **August** issue of **News & Views** will be **Friday 30th July (12 noon)**.



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto: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) before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood u3a website each month at [www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://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.

*Note: Where personal contact details appear in News & Views, these are included with permission.*