

Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org

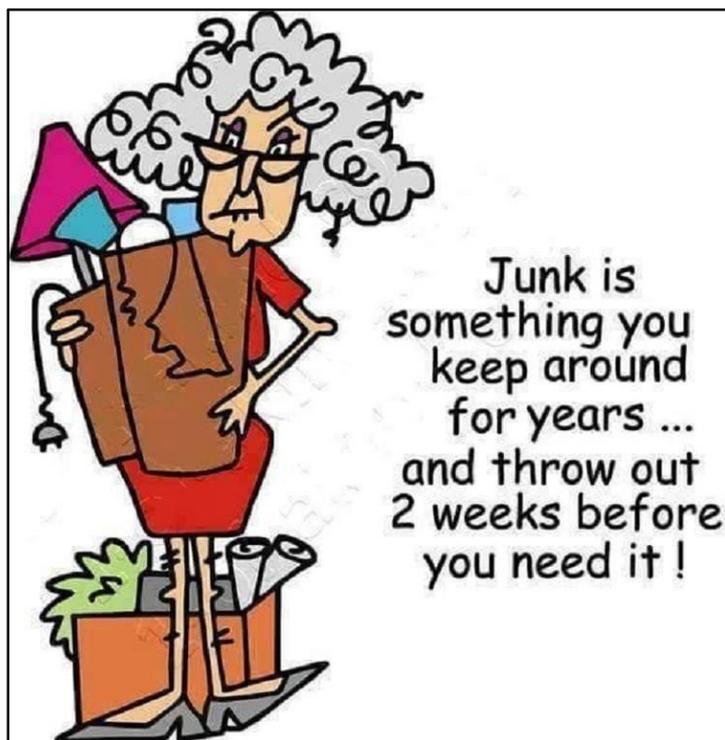
Deadline Monday 21st June

Message from the Vice-Chairman

I'm writing this on the 17th May, an ordinary Monday morning most years but this year it heralds lockdown easing. Pubs, restaurants, sports stadiums, galleries, theatres and cinemas re open and overseas travel to limited areas is allowed. We can hug again and meet in houses and even stay overnight. I am ridiculously excited as I have friends coming to stay for the first time in over a year. The house has been given a spring clean, food prepared and wine ready to open but the best thing will be that big hug when we first see each other. I can't wait. Enjoy your hugs everyone.

Best wishes

Chris



Monthly Meetings on Zoom

June	2 nd	Tony Brewer (Photographer) – People
July	7 th	Professor Jim Turner - Einstein for us

Look out for the email invitation. If you're not online and want telephone access so that you can listen in to the meeting, contact any committee member or tel 07565 928 992.

More information on the Eastwood & District u3a website.

Membership Secretary membership@eastwoodu3a.org

Executive Committee Members:

eastwoodu3a@gmail.com

Website: www.eastwoodu3a.org

MONTHLY MEETING WEDNESDAY 2ND JUNE to be held on Zoom

EASTWOOD & DISTRICT u3a 7th AGM

All members have been notified formally and those members who wish to take part in the Zoom meeting must inform the committee when requested to do so. They will then be invited.

On the day of the meeting, if the meeting is not quorate it will be adjourned to another day and time.

All members will be given 21 days' notice of any future meeting. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.

The AGM will be followed by:

PEOPLE – A Presentation by Tony Brewer



Tony hails from Forest Town. He has been taking photographs for over 40 years and has gained wide-ranging experience on how pictures work.

This talk is about people: all the photographs shown have been taken in public places; with the exception of some candid shots I had the permission of the people to take their images. This talk shows some of the different people I have photographed over the years, ranging from homeless people, people who dress up at re-enactment displays to some interesting portraits.

ACCESSING THE AGM

If you are available on the day and are able to sign in with Zoom, please do so. If we do not have 65 members at the meeting it cannot proceed.

At the last Zoom AGM in September some members invited others into their houses so that they could attend the meeting. This swelled numbers enough to **just** make the meeting quorate. Please consider whether you could open your house to u3a friends who aren't able to use Zoom (within max 6 people guidelines).

THE PATH TO THE SEA

In memory I walk the path
across the links to reach the sea.
It's August and the weather's warm.
Uneven flagstones paved the way
to where all year I'd longed to be.

At first a well worn wooden bridge
had to be dared, so close and narrow.
It crossed a roadside water dyke
such as you find in Lincolnshire.
The path ahead straight as a furrow.

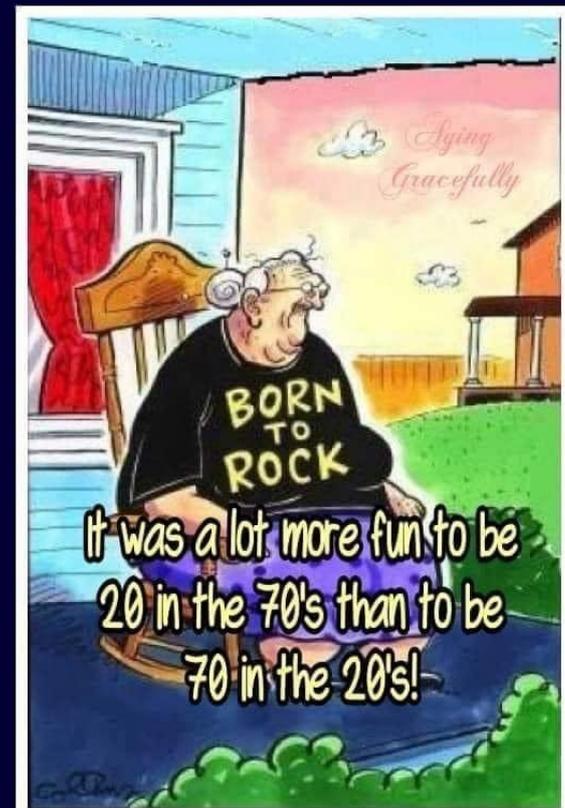
Heged on each side with ancient fence
where summer grasses swayed and blew,
the path compelled us forward, on
a sandy sun-blessed summer trek
to gain our goal this year anew.

The sea- grassed sand dunes up ahead
concealed the beach until the last.
And on the green a golfer stood
poised for a shot in silhouette.
His mighty swing, powerful and fast.

Further on blackberry brambles
in the same spot every year were
blessed by sun and balmy breezes.
Just a few were ripe for picking;
juicy delicious purplish spheres.

And now, at last, the path inclined
and topped the dune next to the shore.
My favoured view of sand and sea
unfolded to my eager eyes.
I'll cherish this for evermore.

Pat Potter

**MORE LEXOPHILES**

Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off?
He's all right now.

A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.

He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.

When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye.

Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

When chemists die, they barium.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

Those who get too big for their pants will be totally exposed in the end.

Sue Rowlett

THE PE TEACHER

You'd never seen a more pathetic bunch of wimps
prancing around like animated chimps.

P E lessons were never much fun but they were part of the
1960's school curriculum and had to be done.

Spotty young teenagers in singlets and regulation shorts
and we were soon to have very different thoughts.

It was all because of our new P E teacher

The most divine, delectable, heavenly creature.

Miss Jennifer Longbottom was her name

and things were never going to be the same.

Skimpy navy shorts and little white socks

Hourglass figure and long golden locks.

Vigorous and healthy - oh what a sight

Guess what went through our heads night after night!

On the vaulting horse I just couldn't vault

I had very short legs - it wasn't my fault.

She took me in hand and showed me how to do it

And lo and behold before I knew it

I was raring to go and up on my feet

performing like a proper athlete

We'd all got the 'hots' for her and that's for sure

But she wouldn't fancy any of us

uncouthed, smelly, spotty and poor.

I had to try and impress her - I had to look my best

So I got me mam to wash me socks and iron me vest.

But it didn't work, it wasn't to be

There wasn't going to be a Miss Longbottom and me.

Looking fondly back it was only teenage infatuation

But it worked for us - she was our motivation.

David Willey

Group Information

New Groups

If you have ideas for new groups or need further information contact:

groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org

Group News

The following groups are currently meeting on Zoom or face to face, within government guidelines:

Art Appreciation: meeting on Zoom on the usual date and time. Contact Helen 01773 710 743

Bird Watching & Wildlife: meeting at the venues. Contact Paul 07986 037 871

Book Group: This group continues to share its views and opinions by email and Zoom meetings held on the first Monday of the month. Contact Sue 01773 717 676 or Pauline 01773 788 366

Church History: meeting on Zoom. Contact Marianne 01159 134 077

Coffee & Co: Contact Barbara 01159 468 721

Coffee Mates: Contact Andrea 07927 660 408

Computer Drop in/IT help: meeting on Zoom @ 2.00 pm 4th Thursday. Contact: Bob Chairman@eastwoodu3a.org

Creative Writing: Contact Chris 07891 032 300

Discussion Group: meeting on Zoom on agreed dates. Contact: Bob - Chairman@eastwoodu3a.org

Family History: meeting on Zoom on the usual date and time. Contact Diana 0115 9169343

French Conversation: meeting on Zoom on the usual date and time. Contact Peter 01159 384 033

History of England: meeting on Zoom on the usual date and time. Contact Janet 01773 770 183

Micro Brewery/Pub Pals: Contact Barry 07452 812 758

Open Coffee Morning: on Zoom 3rd Tuesday at 11.00 am Contact: newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org for the link

Pétanque: Meetings will be 2nd Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.00 pm for two hours. All members present at future meetings must abide by all current Covid restrictions including social distancing and masks to be worn where appropriate. Contact Colin 07813 785 528

Psychology: meeting on Zoom on the usual date and time. Contact Peter 01159 384 033

Radio Waves: meeting on Zoom at 10.00 am on the 4th Friday. Contact: Ray 01773 770 138

Veg Gardening: meeting on Zoom. Contact Ann 01773 767 686

War Babies & Boomers: meeting on Zoom. Contact Ann warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org

What new groups would you like?

Suggestions: Lunchalot?

If interested contact:

groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org

COFFEE MATES

Over the last few weeks, the Coffee Mates group have been meeting every week – 6 at a time, outside – in line with current COVID guidelines.

This is a large group which has become difficult to accommodate in many of the places we would like to visit. In view of this, when we open up completely, members of the group will be able to choose from a couple of dates each month, with a limit on numbers each time.

Previous outings:



Six Coffee Mates meet for a chat at Basilia, Langley Mill. All enjoyed it.



We met at Felley Priory and although a bit chilly the rain stayed away. We all had a good time chatting face to face which is good for morale.

Andrea Sadler

IN FOCUS

A photo from our IN FOCUS photography webpage:



A late sunny May evening by Derwent Water, Keswick, after a lovely day walking in the Lake District.

Caroline Winfield

No theme now, just your favourite photos. Send photo(s) to webeditor@eastwoodu3a.org, with a note and description - what it is or where it was taken, plus your name. If you haven't looked at the photos yet, you'll find them in **MEMBERS, IN FOCUS** on the website.

www.eastwoodu3a.org

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

Steve Herra – Cunard History & Glamorous Stars

The May monthly meeting had members watching on Zoom for a talk titled Cunard History & Glamorous Stars. Steve was a third generation Cunard employee, following his father and grandmother who had sailed with Cunard. His last ship was the QE2 where he worked as a Purser and had also met his wife. His talk was based on the history of Cunard from 1840 to the present day, during which time they had had nearly 250 liners.

The Cunard story began in 1840 when Samuel Cunard applied to take on the British Government contract to provide the first regular transatlantic steam mail service. At this time, they carried live cows and chickens for fresh foods.

Steve's talk went on to describe how over the years with new ships the facilities on board were improved to such an extent that many famous celebrities wanted to travel on them, some of whom he had met. Celebrities over the years included Bob Hope, The Dolly Sisters, Fred Perry, Anna Pavlova, Charlie Chaplin, Laurel & Hardy, Douglas Fairbanks, Liz Taylor, Richard Burton, the Kennedys, Cary Grant, Frances Day.

Steve had many details and interesting facts to pass on about life on board all the ships, plus a few secrets and incidents. Steve still continued his interest in ships and acted as a visitor escort conducting guided tours of the ships when they were in Southampton, until Coronavirus happened!



The three ships QM2, Victoria and Queen Elizabeth
Caroline Winfield



Wednesday 2nd June is also National u3a day. A day to challenge negative perceptions of older adults and invite other Third Agers in the community to learn about the contribution u3a makes to the quality of life of retired people.

FACEBOOK – u3a: Keeping in Touch

This Facebook group is for the u3a members to stay in contact with each other and also a place to share ideas that some u3as are using to maintain learning and interests and to keep in touch in the current situation.

RECYCLING

Toothbrushes

Philips recycle used electric toothbrushes and you get a discount on your next order.

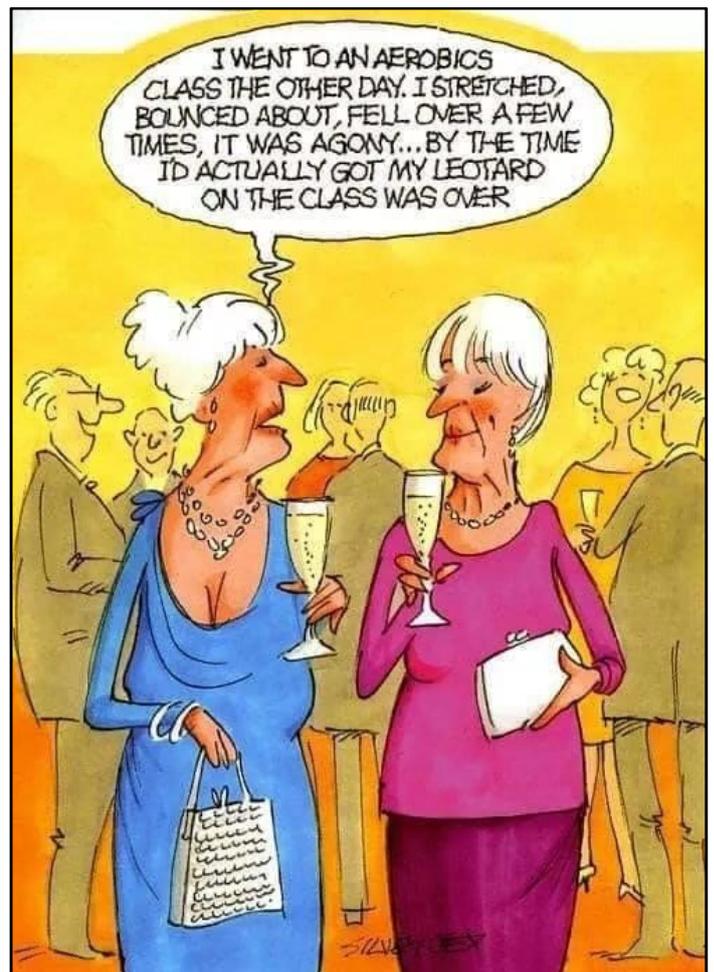
Mascara wands

Ladies, please do NOT throw away your mascara wands. Instead it would be fantastic if you could clean the wand with warm soapy water, place inside a Ziploc bag and post them to Linjoy Wildlife Sanctuary and Rescue (Midlands).

These little wands are able to be upcycled to clean away oil, larvae, fly eggs, mites, infections, mud and other contaminants from wildlife.

The postal address is: 15 Lincoln Road, Stapenhill, Burton on Trent, Staffs, DE15 9HP

All brushes will be gratefully received.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's newsletter. Please send your contributions for July to: newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org