



Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org

Deadline Monday 13th December



Message from the Chairman

Dear Members,

Well, we did it!

For those of you that didn't join us for the monthly meeting either in person or on zoom we managed to hold our first hybrid meeting. We had some members join us in the church and others on zoom. Thanks to lots of preparation and practise from our technical team everything proceeded well at our end with the only hitch coming from our speaker.

We have had some useful feedback, some of which we can address, other issues such as the temperature in the church we can't change as we need maximum ventilation. So wrap up warm.

Our next speaker will be joining us in the church. I look forward to seeing you then either in person or on zoom.

Stay safe everyone.

Best wishes

Chris



December Monthly Meeting in St Mary's Church and on Zoom

Phil Rylance – A Christmas Presentation

At the tender age of 13 Phil Rylance acquired his first guitar. Self taught, Lonnie Donegan's skiffle hits were avidly learned and copied! His first gig at the Co-op Youth Club in 1959 paid £1.10 – split 5 ways.

Phil's pop career progressed through BBC Radio broadcasts, the launch of his professional group which were signed up by EMI, culminating in a top 40 hit.

He retired from the pro scene in 1966 to return to education, becoming a teacher of English, Music and Drama.

Phil still has a love of playing and singing which he combines with songs and stories from his past to bring together an interesting and informative presentation.

Amusing tales from his time on the road in the sixties and from his wealth of teaching experience Phil will keep you entertained, informed and amused. For Christmas you can also expect a Christmas quiz, a medley of Christmas songs and Christmas Carols .

(see Eastwood & District website for more information).

Phil will be in the Church.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING THE MONTHLY MEETING IN CHURCH

- ✓ Sanitise hands on entering
- ✓ Wear a mask when moving around
- ✓ Observe the socially distanced seating - no moving of chairs
- ✓ Stay home on the day of the meeting if you have any symptoms, such as cough, sore throat, sneezing.

My mate's been teaching his dog to learn to play the trumpet on the tube ... he's gone from Barking to Tooting in under an hour

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.



PLANT A TREE



As part of the celebrations for the u3a's 40th birthday anniversary next year it has been suggested that groups nationwide plant trees. At our recent committee meeting it was proposed that we ask members to plant a tree in their garden. We are hoping we can get 40 volunteers to do this. If you would like to participate please let me know and if possible send us a photo of your tree for our Newsletter. Hopefully we can collate our endeavors into an article for the Third Age Matters magazine.

This would be a grand effort if we can achieve this, both as a celebration and to help our local environment.

Chris



All of my childhood punishments have become my adult goals: eating vegetables, staying home, having a nap, going to bed early.

December Monthly Meeting in St Mary's Church and on Zoom

The speaker and some members will be in the church in December. Some members will be on Zoom.

Dec 1st Phil Rylance – Christmas Presentation

If you want to Zoom look out for the email invitation.



Membership Secretary membership@eastwoodu3a.org

Executive Committee Members:

eastwoodu3a@gmail.com

Website: www.eastwoodu3a.org

A WINTER GARDEN?



The Christmas cards are in the shops with snowy sparkly fireside scenes and Santas toting toy filled bags and Christmas trees decked red and green.

That special Christmas feeling's here. But in the garden, what's amiss? The global warming temperatures help red geraniums persist.

They should be surely wilting now. November's here and nights draw in. But still those pesky little flowers keep blooming. It's a flipping sin!

A nice hard frost would do the trick but all that toxic engine smoke means all the world is hotting up. Bright blooms in winter? It's no joke.

An English winter needs the cold. A little bit of frost and snow. Needs gardens that are dank and dead. But still geraniums grow and grow.

So come north winds and do your worst with icy blasts so cold and chill. Descend on gardens everywhere those red geraniums to kill.

String up the lights, bring in the holly. Dismiss geraniums. They must go. A last resort we must employ; a can of artificial snow! Oh No!

Pat Potter

MONTHLY MEETING UPDATE

Our December meeting is going to be a hybrid meeting. This means that we will be able to have some members in the church and some on Zoom.

Last month there were approximately 35 people in church, so well short of our limit of 100.

To reserve a place you must request an invitation **by Friday 26th November**. You can give 2 names so that if successful you can come with your partner/friend.

Please email Admin@Eastwoodu3a.org or if you don't have email telephone 07828 155 086 and leave a message saying that you want a place in the church.

If you are not successful you will need to let us know if you wish to attend via Zoom in order for us to send you a link.

This will be another learning curve for us as **the speaker will be in the church**, so do bear with us as we trial the technology.

I look forward to seeing you either in person or via Zoom at the meeting.
Chris Niven

IT'S CHRISTMAS SO LET'S ENJOY OURSELVES!!!

Crazy as it seems, it's Christmas again. Don't forget to wear your **Christmas jumper, posh frock, fancy earrings, Santa hat** etc etc – both in the Church and on Zoom.

THE SPEAKER IS IN CHURCH

This month the speaker is coming to us. Amongst other things we are expecting Christmas songs, quizzes and carols so bring your singing voice.

IT'S COLD IN CHURCH

If you are coming into church it is quite cold so remember to also wear a vest/scarf/hat, maybe bring a blanket – not kidding! We need to keep the church ventilated for our safety.

REFRESHMENTS

Tea/coffee etc will not be available. You are welcome to bring your own flask (and mince pie?).

MOVING AROUND

If you want to move around to stretch your legs, please do but if possible wear a mask.

"I have been in many places, but I've rarely been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone. I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there. I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work. I live close so it's a short drive. I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore. I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often. I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm. Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older. One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get! And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not. People keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive I've never been there before! I have been in Deepshit many times; the older I get, the easier it is to get there. I actually kind of enjoy it there. So far, I haven't been in Continent; but my travel agent says I'll be going soon."

Unknown



Time flies like an arrow.
Fruit flies like a banana.

GROUP INFORMATION

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

groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org

All Things Environment: Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

Art Appreciation: meet at St Mary's Church Lounge 3rd Monday @ 10.30 am beginning January 2022. Contact Helen 01773 710 743

Bird Watching & Wildlife: meet at the site on 3rd Thursday at 10.30 am. Contact Paul 07986 037 871

Book Group: meet 1st Monday 11.00 am at Eastwood Library. Contact Sue 01773 717 676 or Pauline 01773 788 366

Bridge: meet upstairs at the Horse & Groom every Monday @ 2.00 pm. **New members welcome!** Contact Maureen 07968 121 246

Canasta: meet in Rumbletums 2nd Thursday. Contact Nina 01773 717 770

Church History: now meeting at Rumbletums. Kimberley 2nd Friday @ 1.30 pm. Contact Marianne 01159 134 077

Coffee & Co: meets in various venues on the 4th Wednesday, 11.00 am. Contact Barbara 01159 468 721

Coffee Mates: members have a choice of 2 dates each month. Contact Andrea 07927 660 408

Creative Crafts: meet in Rumbletums 2nd Wednesday 1-2.30 pm and 3rd Thursday 10.00 – 12.00 noon. Contact Jackie 07580 340 014

Creative Writing: meet at The Great Northern, Langley Mill on 2nd Wednesday, 4.00 pm. **New members welcome.** Contact Chris 07891 032 300

Family History: meet at The Sun Inn on the 4th Monday @ 10.00 am. Contact Diana 0115 9 169 343

French Conversation: meet in the Sun Inn. Contact Pauline 01773 788366

History of England: meet in The Great Northern 1st Thursday 2.00 – 4.00 pm. Contact Janet 01773 770 183

Micro Brewery/Pub Pals: meet @ 7.00 pm 2nd + 4th Thursday at agreed venues. Contact Barry 07452 812 758

MOTO: cancelled because of illness. Contact Jayne 07895 431 814

Pétanque: meet at The Foresters, Newthorpe on the 2nd Thursday and 3rd Wednesday @ 2.00 pm. Contact Colin 01773 715 493

Psychology: meet in The Sun Inn. **New members Welcome!** Contact Peter 01159 384 033

Spanish: meet in The Sun Inn on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday 10.00 - 11.30 am. Contact Paul 01159 133 449

Theatre Group: meet at Dora Phillips Hall, Eastwood on 2nd Tuesday 1.00 – 3.00 pm. Contact Marianne 01773 717 500

Ukulele: cancelled because of illness.

Walks, 5 miles: Meet on Tuesday 7th December 10.00 am, @ Beauvale Priory. Contact Roger 01773 788 169

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

Wine Appreciation: meet in the Sun Inn on the 1st Monday @ 7.00 pm. **New members welcome.** Contact Tom 01773 762333

ART APPRECIATION

For our September meeting we went on our first gallery visit since lockdown. We visited the Harley Gallery at Welbeck which was hosting an exhibition entitled 'Coast, Country and City'. There were works from over 50 landscape artists in a variety of media including Paul Nash, LS Lowry, and Walter Sickert. We were delighted to recognise a work by Alfred Wallis having learned about him in one of our zoom meetings earlier this year. A work by Hockney surprised us as it was not the usual painting that we might have associated with him. It was an etching entitled Wooded Landscape and not all of us knew about this area of his art.

In October we visited the Erewash Museum in Ilkeston which was showing the works of George Bissillan an exhibition entitled 'From the Pits to Paris'. George spent his early life down the pit in Langley Mill and he produced many pictures of miners at work. He exhibited at Ilkeston Art Club and studied at Nottingham School of Art. He moved to London where he came to notice drawing cartoons and caricatures as a pavement artist. In Paris he learned about wood engraving and painted many dancers and scenes of Parisian life. He produced advertising posters for such as LNER, and also designed furniture. He moved to Hampshire and became a landscape painter.

It was fascinating to see how his styles of painting changed with the various influences he came under. His works are on display in many galleries around the country.

Helen Baker

CAR INSURANCE - CARRYING PASSENGERS TO U3A EVENTS

Car insurers sometimes insert different clauses or omit some, so the cover may not be the same from every provider.

If you do use your car to provide transport to U3A events for other members, then it would be wise to contact your insurance company and just ask if you have cover to do this. You may wish to explain that you are simply giving a lift, these are friends and fellow members and that it is not business use.

Write down the name of the person you have spoken to, the date, and their reply, and keep the information with your policy for future reference.

*Jayne Holmes
Business Secretary*

Please remember if you're not going to attend a group meeting it is only polite to let the Group Contact know.

If you have signs of a cold, don't go - it could be COVID.

Here is the current ranking of COVID symptoms after 2 vaccinations:

After one dose of the vaccination:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Headache | 1. Headache |
| 2. Runny nose | 2. Runny nose |
| 3. Sneezing | 3. Sore throat |
| 4. Sore throat | 4. Sneezing |
| 5. Loss of smell | 5. Persistent cough |



ATTITUDES AND BIAS

All members are able to take part in our 'Attitudes and Bias Presentation', this session will include the presentation plus breakout room discussions. The date is 9th December 2021 between 10am and 12 noon.

This presentation is a good opportunity for members, group contacts, committees and networks to come together to discuss Diversity and Inclusion and how we can make our u3a movement fully inclusive.

Places can be booked by emailing the D&I Committee at: u3adandi@gmail.com

Thank you in anticipation for helping to spread the word that u3a is for everyone.

*Sue Southwell
Diversity and Inclusion Committee*

November Monthly Meeting Report

Paul Robbins – The 60's A decade of change.

The November meeting was a milestone for the group in that we successfully achieved our first hybrid meeting with members back in the church face to face and others on Zoom. Well done to the technical team for their hard work.

Paul Robbins was the speaker this month with an illustrated presentation outlining the events throughout the 60's decade. He began by explaining that the 1950s had been a golden age for Britain after the war years. Harold MacMillan's speech in 1957 summed things up by saying that Britain had never had it so good and there was a rosy future. People in 1960 were looking forward to an exciting future but there were poor areas, with children still playing on bomb sites.

Paul went on to outline events each year of the decade with nostalgic photographs which sparked memories for members. 1960 saw the birth of British pop groups who became the foremost in the world, the Beatles well remembered by everyone. There had been a big Royal wedding with Princess Margaret. Television also grew with more people having access to a TV set. Coronation Street became a revolutionary program which was supposed to be about real life. We started to get programmes from the USA and well known radio programs began to be made for the TV also, like Hancock's half hour.



Paul went on to further years and notable events: the invention of iconic cars like the E-type Jag and the mini; the first man in space; the start of James Bond movies; the cold snow of 62/63 which brought many things to a standstill; the big event of 1966 when England won the World Cup. Paul concluded the decade with the historic landing of men on the moon.

Caroline Winfield

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN FESTIVAL – 2022



Advance Main Programme Information.

28th International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival

Buxton Opera House: 30 July to 6 August 2022

Royal Hall, Harrogate: 10 August – 21 August 2022

Matinee performances: 2.30 pm Evening performances: 7.30pm

In addition, we will have a full Fringe programme for which we have further details later.

Also, our G&S Opera TV is available for you to enjoy at home at any time – www.gsopera.tv



GILLOTTS ANNUAL

Christmas Memorial Tree Fundraiser

Everyone is invited to remember a loved one by placing a tag on a Memorial Christmas Tree in one of Gillotts funeral homes during December. It is free to place a tag and for every tag placed Gillotts will donate £1 which will support the **Tin Hat Centre Food Bank**. There is no restriction on the number of tags that can be placed.

A wonderful way to celebrate a life.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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