

Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

[newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org)

**Deadline Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

## Message from the Chairman

Hello everyone and Happy New Year,

I hope you all had a fun filled holiday and were able to catch up with family and friends. It's now back to business and the committee have met recently. One of the topics we discussed was the plan for future meetings. Should we meet in the church or continue with zoom or a combination of both? We realise that some people do not like or have the technology to use zoom. However, we are mindful that many of us are wary of meeting inside at the moment. We have therefore decided to hold the February and March meetings via Zoom and we will review the situation regularly.

One of the other topics we discussed was the AGM which takes place in June. A number of committee members, myself included, will be standing down. In order for our u3a to thrive and develop we need new blood on the committee. There are a number of key roles that will need filling and I am positive that we have many members with the skills we need to go forward. If you want to contribute to our u3a family by standing for committee please feel free to chat to me or any of the current committee about the roles. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes  
Chris

## FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING - ON ZOOM

**The spy who solved his own murder**

**- Alexander Litvinenko**

**Presented by Paul Barwick**



Copyright Barfield Capital Tours

"In 'The Spy Who Solved His Own Murder' we recount the 2006 assassination of ex-Soviet spy Alexander Litvinenko with a rare radioactive poison, Polonium 210.

We look at his life as a Russian intelligence agent and the reasons why a vengeful president wanted him silenced.

In my Polonium briefing we find out about the deadly nerve agent. We examine the mission of the 2 Russian agents sent from Moscow and the Police operation to track down his killers.

Finally, we ask if Mr Litvinenko's family will ever see proper justice for this hideous crime."

## NOTIFICATION OF EASTWOOD & DISTRICT U3A AGM

The 8th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood & District U3A will be held on 8th June 2022. Please consider whether you are able to put your name forward to be on the committee. This year we have had only 8 committee members which has been a difficult struggle at times.

Descriptions of all committee roles can be found on the website

<http://eastwoodu3a.org/newsite/committee/descriptions-of-committee-roles/>

If you want more information, please talk to any member of the committee.

As you get older, you've got to stay positive.

For example, the other day I fell down the stairs.

Instead of getting upset, I just thought, "Wow, that's the fastest I've moved in years!"

Membership Secretary [membership@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:membership@eastwoodu3a.org)

Executive Committee Members:

[eastwoodu3a@gmail.com](mailto:eastwoodu3a@gmail.com)

Website: [www.eastwoodu3a.org](http://www.eastwoodu3a.org)



"Oh I could tell you where self-help is, but that'd sort of defeat the purpose, wouldn't it."

## February Monthly Meeting on Zoom

**The speaker will be on Zoom in February.**

Feb 2nd Paul Barwick - The spy who solved his own murder - Alexander Litvinenko

Mar 2nd tba

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

**I WONDER**

I wonder who paints the sky so blue  
 Who paints the snowflakes white  
 Who wakes the sun up every day  
 Who lights the stars at night  
 Who perfumes all the roses  
 Early in the Spring  
 And tells each little robin  
 Just what melody to sing  
 I wonder how each mother knows  
 What babies try to say  
 How little children learn to walk  
 And one day walk away.  
 I wonder why the rainbow  
 Follows rain and thunder  
 I wish that I could tell you why  
 But I can only wonder

*Unknown**Read out at Christmas Coffee Mates by Howard Walters***MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION**

Membership subscriptions are due before the 1st April 2022. Renewal forms are available on the website [www.eastwoodu3a.org/newsite/forms](http://www.eastwoodu3a.org/newsite/forms)

**Whichever method you use to pay your subscription you MUST fill in a renewal form.**

If there are no changes to your details, fill in your name, membership number and date and sign the top section of the form. You must then complete the Privacy Statement to confirm your consent to the storage and use of your data.

The current subscription is £20 for the year, £17 for Associate Members.

**WAYS TO PAY**

If possible please pay your subscription by Bank transfer - a one off- bank payment. You must also complete a renewal form and email the treasurer to confirm payment.

Name of payee: Eastwood & District u3a

Sort code: 60-07-28

Account no: 456 35 714

Reference: Your name & membership no (this is essential for the treasurer to pick out who has paid)

Amount: £20

**You can pay by Bank transfer through your local post office if you don't bank online.**

If you want to pay by cash or cheque please contact Barry Doran [membership@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:membership@eastwoodu3a.org)

tel: 07565 928 992

**JOINT GIFT AID**

If you have signed a gift aid form for yourself and others in your household, the person who completed the gift aid form must pay the full joint amount and sign the renewal form.

**MONTHLY MEETING UPDATE**

Our February 2022 meeting is going to be on Zoom only.

**We will not be in the church.**

The Zoom invitation will be forwarded to everyone who has an email. If you want to join via Zoom and have not received the link by Tuesday 1st February please email [admin@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:admin@eastwoodu3a.org)

**January 2022 Monthly Meeting Report**

**Knitters, Nailers and Traitors  
 Belper in the Industrial Revolution.**

The new year started with the January monthly meeting on Zoom and an illustrated talk with an intriguing title by David Skillen from Belper. It was to go on to explain how the small town in Derbyshire had an influence on changes not only in England but around the world.

David began by talking about the nail makers in the town from early times, with many small forges. It was a family affair with women and children fetching and carrying. The nailers were to be superseded by machinery. The practical work force in Belper together with the water for power was ready for the changes during the industrial revolution.

David next talked about knitters, starting with Rev William Lee's stocking frame knitting machine, and how this led on to Jedediah Strutt developing the Derby rib machine. David outlined further developments of well-known historical machines and their inventors, with illustrations, that came to the time that Strutt builds the first mill in Belper. This was unfortunately to burn down in 1803, as David explained, due to wooden machines, oil and cotton dust. At this point William Strutt takes over to build one of the earliest fireproof mills with a steel frame. This was to set the trend for skyscrapers of the future. William was to prove to be an innovator of his time David explained, with many developments for the business and his workers.

The concluding part of the talk came to Samuel Slater, known as 'Slater the traitor' who went to America and passed on all he had learned from Strutt and led to the building of the first cotton mills there.

David highlighted many things still to be found at Belper and members said they would be visiting with renewed interest in the town. His talk had been extremely informative and was very well received with many interesting facts and details.

*Caroline Winfield*

*See the Monthly Meeting webpage for the full report.*

What if I told you

You've read the first line wrong

Same with the second

And also the third!

**GROUP INFORMATION**

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

[groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org)

**All Things Environment:** meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 2.00 pm. Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

**Art Appreciation:** meet at St Mary's Church Lounge 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 10.30 am. Contact Helen 01773 710 743

**Bird Watching & Wildlife:** meet at the site on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 10.30 am. Contact Paul 07986 037 871

**Book Group:** meet 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. Contact Nina 01773 717 770

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

**Coffee & Co:** meets in various venues on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 1-2.30 pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 10.00 – 12.00 noon. Contact Jackie 07580 340 014

**Creative Writing: New members welcome.** Contact Chris 07891 032 300

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

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

**Gogglebox:** meeting postponed – if you are interested in this group please contact Janet 07889 976 342

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

**Micro Brewery/Pub Pals:** Suspended. Watch this space.

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

**Poetry:** Contact Chris 07891 032 300

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

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

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

**Walks, 5 miles:** February meeting cancelled. Contact Roger 01773 788169

**War Babies & Boomers:** meet at Kimberley Cricket Club on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 11.00 am. Contact Ann warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org

**Wine Appreciation:** meet in the Sun Inn on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday @ 7.00 pm. Contact Tom 01773 762333

**5 MILE WALKERS**

With the Omicron variant of Covid-19 becoming so prevalent we have decided to postpone the February walk. We will monitor the situation and look forward to carrying on walking when it feels safer.

*Roger Reynolds*

**THEATRE GROUP  
Beauty and the Beast**

Our group felt this was a sparkly piece of Christmas magic, sure to captivate and delight everyone over the festive period.

Costumes, songs, choreography, cheesy Dad jokes, audience participation, topical humour, innuendo and general silliness, are all led by the Dame John Elkington as Madam Fifi, who kept the audience entertained throughout.

The soundtrack of the show is peppered with mashups of upbeat contemporary music and works well; every single member of the cast has a strong voice and manoeuvres the choreography well. As a company, they have excellent chemistry, and all have exceptional comic timing.

All of the group made positive comments such as the pantomime was really first class.

*Marianne Sparrow*

**WAR BABIES & BOOMERS**

Next meet at Kimberley Cricket Club on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 11.00 am.

Contact Ann [warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org)

**ART APPRECIATION****Programme for 2022**

February	Edward Hopper
March	British Female Surrealists
May	Outing – Patchings?
June	Colliers' Wood picnic
July	tba
September	Pitman Painters
October	Photography
November	Clarice Cliff

**CREATIVE CRAFTS**

This Worry Monster was knitted by Mary Brown and sent to Knit-for-Nowt, a charitable service based in Yorkshire. This charity appeals to knitters for knitted, crocheted, or sewn hand puppets and worry monsters, which are used by therapists to help children suffering from abuse, neglect, bereavement or other serious problems. There is a huge need for these. They are donated to Social Work teams and Children's therapists right across the UK.



**BIRD WATCHING & WILDLIFE**

Dates	Venues
20/1/22	Shipleigh park
17/2/22	Rufford Park
17/03/22	Attenborough
21/4/22	Aldercar flashes
19/5/22	Newstead/Annesley country park
16/6/22	Attenborough Beeston end
21/7/22	Rutland water
18/8/22	Dearne valley Old Moor
15/9/22	Langford lowfields phase 3
20/10/22	Skylarks
17/11/22	Kingsmill Reservoir
15/12/22	Brinsley headstocks



Warsop & District u3a are holding a Barn Dance on Saturday 12th March 2022 and would like to invite members from all other groups in the area. For more information please contact Jennifer Thomson on 07762 476901 or email [jennifer568@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifer568@btinternet.com) Thank you

**Want to help out?**

Eastwood & District u3a is run by volunteers only. Do you have a valuable skill set and want to help?

Please send a message to: [volunteer.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org)

**WORKSHOPS TO SUPPORT YOUR U3A**

The Third Age Trust has developed a number of workshops for u3a committee members, potential committee members, Group Contacts and Group Coordinators. The online workshops have been designed to provide support, information and knowledge to the u3a movement. They have been developed in consultation with u3a members.

Following the ethos of the u3a movement, the workshops are delivered by Trust volunteers. They bring their background and experience as Trustees, u3a Chairs and Committee members, to make the online workshops informal and informative with a unique opportunity to meet u3a members from across the UK.

The workshops that are currently offered by the Trust include:

Running your u3a – Information for Trustees which explores Trusteeship, and to help you understand your role as a Trustee (committee member) and good governance

Finance Matters – budgeting, accounting and managing u3a monies.

Interest Groups Matter – to review the guiding principles, discuss the role and responsibilities of Group Coordinators and Group Contacts and to discuss challenges in running effective groups

We now have new workshop dates on the u3a website ready for members to book onto: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/online-events/upcoming-u3a-workshops>

**JOB ADVERT - Speaker Finder**

We will soon have a vacancy for a Speaker Finder.

The Speaker Finder ensures that the monthly meetings are provided with interesting and informative speakers. Responsibilities include:

- Researching and storing information on possible speakers
- Contacting suitable speakers, checking availability, resource requirements and agreeing charges/ expenses
- Liaising with the committee on future programme of speakers
- Confirming in writing to the speaker all the necessary information about venue, time and date of the meeting
- Ensuring that the speakers are given the resources they need and receive the agreed expenses
- Sending a personal letter of thanks to the speaker after the meeting

We have lots of information on speakers that we are able to use and full training will be given. If you are interested in this role please contact one of the committee members.

**GROUPS ON ZOOM**

**A few groups have chosen to meet on Zoom instead of face to face. If in doubt email/telephone the Group Contact.**

**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](mailto:newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org)