



Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org

Deadline Monday 21st March



Message from the Chairman

Dear Members

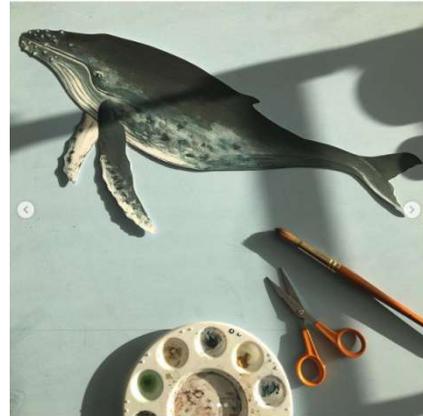
I am sat writing this as the last blast of the recent storms retreats. As it's almost two years since our world was turned upside down it seems quite biblical that we ended on three storms. Let's hope we can now look forward to spring emerging. The snowdrops are peeping through and nights are getting lighter.

We are hoping that we will be back in the church soon too. We have had a few technical hitches which fingers crossed will be ironed out soon so that by April we will be ready to roll. I will of course keep you informed of developments.

Stay safe everyone
Chris

March Monthly Meeting on Zoom

**March 2nd – Beatrice Von Preussen
Artwork**



Last year Beatrice spoke to us about her work and adventures as artist on board a science ship in the Arctic and Antarctica. This month we welcome her back to show us her art – as requested by members.

Beatrice is inspired by the natural world: trees, tides, rocks, and tadpoles - all hold a special fascination.

Using a variety of processes including printmaking and collage Beatrice's detailed work shows a sensitivity to nature and a strong sense of narrative.

Beatrice works with Battersea Park Children's Zoo, The Natural History Museum, and The Sussex Wildlife Trust, exploring science and nature with children and families and inspiring people to go out and explore the world around them.

COFFEE MATES @ DAMSON, BREADSALL



Oneliners:

"How to Write Big Books" ... by Warren Peace
"The Art of Archery" ... by Beau N Arrow

MONTHLY MEETING UPDATE

Our March 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 March please email admin@eastwoodu3a.org

March Monthly Meeting on Zoom

The speaker will be on Zoom in March

Mar 2 nd	Beatrice Von Preussen - Artwork
April 6 th	Hazel Griffiths - Grace Kelly - Perfect Princess or Amazing Actor?

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

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.



Membership Secretary membership@eastwoodu3a.org
Executive Committee Members:
eastwoodu3a@gmail.com
Website: www.eastwoodu3a.org

BRENDA'S RETURN VISIT

We were delighted to welcome back Brenda Ainsley after her well received talk to u3a to give us her feedback on her experience at Cop26 in Glasgow. This was her first feedback session to any group, and we were impressed with her informative account of her trip to this important climate event. She started by reminding us about her original talk to u3a. The planet was overheating due to the release of 152 million tons of CO₂ every 24 hours, but there were hopeful signs - by 2019 Scotland's wind turbines could supply the energy needs of all households twice over. April 2020 marked the greenest day when renewables beat fossil fuels in supplying energy needs - 41% as against 40%. The energy from the Sun produced enough power in 1 hour to satisfy energy needs for a full year. But an important issue was the effect on indigenous populations and poorer nations.

And so she moved on to the conference itself - again presenting us with a multitude of facts and figures. Interestingly, the members of u3a could play an important role in representing a diverse age range in the debate. John Kerry called Cop 26 the planet's "last best chance". The legacy from 2015 was the aim to keep global warming below 2.00 C. and ideally no more than 1.5 C. We were introduced to the term Nationally Determined Contributions { NDAs}, where different nations worked out the extent of the contribution they could make.

10 main points emerged, namely:

The term "fossil fuel" (amazingly) was used for the first time.

The US and China as major economies play a vital part.

40 countries (but to our shame not the UK) pledged to end coal production.

Over 130 countries pledged to end deforestation.

At the next Cop meeting in Egypt the theme chosen was Biodiversity.

The US would cut methane emissions by 30% by 2030.

The main aim was to look beyond the old sources of energy like oil and gas {BOGA}.

The notion of Carbon Hoarding would become important.

Indigenous populations and poorer countries would need help from richer nations.

200 countries called for the end to fossil fuels.

In summary the key issues would be the continuing progress in the battle against temperature rise, (the current estimate was 2.4 C), mitigation, compromise and the ability to scrutinise, and islands under threat.

In Cop 27 Egypt would assume the presidency, exploring the theme of biodiversity which would embrace plants and animals. With global warming predicted at over 2.00 C there were implications for extinction of species, food production and also political implications.

The HQ for u3a delegates was Glasgow bus station. Talks were delivered in specially adapted electric vehicles (better than it sounds). Brenda even met the well briefed Al Gore. She stressed the importance of the role of the u3a in taking part in intergenerational debate, especially talking to children on the subject.

Brenda famously made an appearance on Midlands Today, and was involved in a promotional film. The countdown to Cop 27 had already begun. Many important questions needed covering such as the development of electric vehicles, farming subsidies for rewilding schemes and heating and insulating homes.

A lot to take in but such an important issue. Hopefully Brenda can keep us all up to date and involved in the changing world of climate change.

David Hale

YOUR u3a NEEDS YOU

Eastwood & District u3a needs Committee Members .

The following members of the current committee are to continue next year: Barry Doran, Keith Sherwood (treasurer) and Janet Lander.

We can have up to 12 committee members and we **must** fill all the vacant officer roles: Chairman, Vice Chairman and Business Secretary in order to continue.

It would be good to have a full committee of 12 so that the work can be shared out, making it easier for everyone.

Newer members are very welcome to join us to bring in new ideas. You can find information about the current roles on the webpage under **ADMIN**. Please get in touch with any Committee member to find out more.

What does being on the committee involve?

Eastwood & District u3a Committee Members are Charity Trustees. Charity Trustees are the people responsible for governing a charity and directing how it is managed and run. They have overall responsibility for overseeing and leading the charity, ensuring it is solvent and well run. In particular Trustees are expected to know, follow and promote the Principles of the u3a movement at every opportunity. Trustees serve as volunteers and receive no payment other than out of pocket expenses. They must put the interests of their charity first, work together as a team and assume collective responsibility. If you would like to be nominated for the committee please contact us @ eastwoodu3a@gmail.com or speak to any committee member. All questions welcome.

GROUP INFORMATION

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

groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org

All Things Environment: meet on the 3rd Wednesday @ 2.00 – 3.30 pm Sun Inn dining room. Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

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

Bird Watching & Wildlife: meet on 3rd Thursday @ 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 10.00 - 12.00 Noon. 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: **New members welcome.** Contact Chris 07891 032 300

Family History: meet at The Sun Inn on the 4th Monday @ 11.00 am. Contact Diana 0115 9 169 343

French Conversation: meet in the Sun Inn, 2nd & 4th Tuesday 11.00 – 12.30 pm. 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 Sun Inn dining room, 1st Thursday 11.00 – 13.00 pm. Contact Janet 01773 770 183

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

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

Poetry: Contact Chris 07891 032 300

Psychology: meet in The Sun Inn third Wednesday at 1.30pm **New members Welcome!** Contact Jim Stirland 07977 415 072 or Diana Pidgeon 0115 9 169 343.

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.

Walks, 5 miles: 1st March, 10.00 am - meet bottom of Newtons Lane, approached from Awsorth Lane (opposite Gardners Inn). Contact Roger 01773 788169

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

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

BIRDWATCHERS & WILDLIFE GROUP

The Bird Watchers and Wildlife group visited Shipley Country Park in January. As can be seen it was a grey day but stayed dry. The photo shows our group for the day outside Derby Lodge, which is a grade 2 listed building. They serve coffee and tea with a selection of food and cakes. We thought it was only polite to participate in the food and beverage on offer!!! A little further on from the lodge are the ruins of the old manor where we hoped to see Hawfinch, but not this time. We saw a variety of birds along with the many different ducks on the lake. A very enjoyable morning.



Chrys & Paul Millington

A LIFE OF WORDS

Born in the 19th century,
my Dad's world was horses, carts and oil lamps.
It was Chapel on a Sunday and down the pit at 15.
It was finding your own amusement and making ends meet.
And I guess his educational sponge was sparsely sprinkled

BUT HE LIKED WORDS

Every week he'd do a word quiz called 'Bullets' which appeared in the John Bull magazine.
He kept minutes for the local Carnival Band committee.
He liked everything neat and proper.
On his bike, he collected insurance premiums for his job and kept the records.
And he wrote a poem or two.

Born in the 20th century,
my world was whip and top and Sunday pop.
It was swirly skirts and rock and roll .
It was going to the pictures twice a week and passing the eleven plus,
so my educational sponge was generously soaked.

AND I ALSO LIKE WORDS.

I like clever adverts and words with double meanings.
I enjoyed school essays and I took minutes for the local Scout Group committee.
I like neat hand written posters.
And I write a poem or two.

So strike your pen through the oil lamps and horses,
through the Sunday pop and rock and roll.

In spite of all that, my Dad and I come out the same within our lives of words.

Pat Potter

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Membership subscriptions are due before the 1st April 2022. Renewal forms are available on the website 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

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.

THE SUN INN

Please note the meeting time changes for the following groups:

- Family History:** 11.00 – 12.30 4th Monday
- French Conversation:** 11.00 – 12.30 2nd & 4th Tuesday
- History of England:** 11.00 – 13.00 1st Thursday

The following groups are to reopen – at the Sun Inn, possibly in April, when time slots have been agreed.

- Board Games:** Val Kennerrel 01773 712269
- Local History:** Eileen Benton 07812 93 -653

SPEAKER FINDER

I picked up the role of Speaker Finder **temporarily** in lockdown. I've really enjoyed doing it but I think it is time for someone else to take over – to bring in new ideas.

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

I have done all of the above on the internet/by email in the past 18 months.

There's lots of information available and I can give you ideas for how to find speakers if necessary.

The committee have agreed that you do not need to be a committee member to carry out this role.

If you are interested please contact me or one of the other committee members. Margaret Naylor
Speaker.finder@eastwoodu3a.org

A DOGGY TALE

A bachelor friend of mine, Gordon went to the Yorkshire Dales for a few days hiking and sightseeing and as he wandered through a sleepy little village he came across an old blacksmith's shop with a sign outside which read 'Good home wanted for a lovely old dog'.

This grabbed Gordon's attention as he'd been thinking about getting himself a dog for a while so he decided to enquire further. He knocked on the forge door and was greeted by the old blacksmith. 'I'm enquiring about the sign outside and wondered if I could have a look at the dog' asked Gordon. 'Certainly' said the blacksmith, 'here he is' pointing to the lovely old collie sitting in the corner of the shop. 'His name is George – George of the forge I call him. Been with me every day since he was a pup and knows every inch of the place. He's also very intelligent – typical collie. I don't want to part with him but I'm getting on a bit now and can't give him the exercise he needs anymore and it's not fair on the old lad so I need someone to look after him properly. He'll not want to leave me or the forge and I am going to really miss him but it's something that's got to be done'.

'Well I'd be happy to take George and promise to give him a good home with plenty of love and exercise. I live on my own so we will be good company for each other'.

'You seem a decent sort of fellow' said the blacksmith 'so I'm prepared to let you take old George'. Gordon left them alone for a while to say their tearful, gut-wrenching goodbyes to each other, then he wished them well and took George home with him who seemed a bit confused by it all wondering where his master was and why he wasn't in the forge as normal.

The two of them finally arrived home to Gordon's house in Nottingham and as soon as the dog arrived he made a bolt for the door!
David Willey



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