



Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org

Deadline for July newsletter - Monday 20th June



Message from the Chairman

Well dear u3a friends this is my last Newsletter piece as chair. On the 8th June I will be standing down from the committee after five years. As you probably know I should have retired after three years but that thing called a pandemic hit and all normal life and plans went out of the window.

It has been a pleasure to be part of such a friendly, welcoming group with so many of you willing to go the extra mile to support our monthly meetings and all our groups. We have several new volunteers to be on the committee and I know they will do an excellent job.

I am going to continue to be Eastwood & District link person for the Nottinghamshire Network and I will report back to the committee when necessary; apart from that I am putting my feet up and savoring the chance to do some different things.

Thank you all for your support over the years and to those of you who have said some very kind things to myself and the committee regarding our efforts to 'keep things going'.

All the best to you all, Chris

NOTIFICATION OF EASTWOOD & DISTRICT U3A AGM

The 8th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood & District u3a will be held on

8th June 2022

**NB. This is the 2nd Wednesday in June
– not our usual 1st Wednesday.**

The AGM and the speaker will be in the church. However, we will still live stream the meeting on Zoom for those who cannot or prefer not to come into church.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

June 8 th	AGM + Andrew Smart - History of Nottingham Theatres
July 6 th	Anne Steele – Scams, Fraud & Cyber Awareness

If you want to join in on Zoom, please let me know before Monday 6th June 2022; I will then send the link out. If you haven't received the link by Tuesday 7th June please email.

admin@eastwoodu3a.org

Monthly Meeting June 8th

8th Annual General Meeting

+

Andrew Smart presents

History of Nottingham Theatres

Nottingham's theatre history goes back more than 150 years. Hear stories about stars, scandals, ghosts and gremlins from the stage and behind the scenes.

Lots of fascinating facts and photographs complete this fascinating talk.

SCAMS, FRAUD + CYBER AWARENESS presentation on the 6th July

How members can protect themselves online and on the telephone, detect scams and fraud and be generally better prepared on the internet.

This is to be a question and answer presentation. Anne would like your questions in advance if possible so that she can be prepared for the range of topics, though she will answer questions asked on the day.

Send your questions to admin@eastwoodu3a.org

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

As most of you are aware we send our Newsletter out via email. We have a few members who are not on email and throughout lockdown we have posted the newsletter out to them free of charge.

The cost of printing and postage is significant and from July we will return to making a printed copy of the newsletter available at the monthly meeting for those members who are not on email.

Anyone who wishes to have the newsletter posted to their home will need to inform the membership secretary. A donation of £1 will be required per newsletter to cover postage etc.

Many thanks, Chris

Membership Secretary membership@eastwoodu3a.org

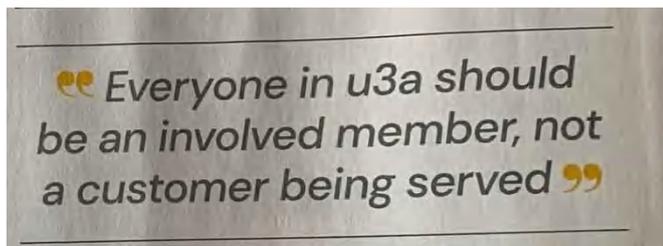
Tel 07565 928 992

Executive Committee Members:

eastwoodu3a@gmail.com

Website: www.eastwoodu3a.org

I'll call it a smartphone
the day I yell
"Where's my phone?!"
and it yells
"Down here! In the
couch cushions!"

SELF-HELP IS AT U3A'S CORE AND MUST BE PRESERVED

Did you read the article by Eric Midwinter in the Third Age Matters magazine?

Eric was the founder of the u3a and his article makes for very interesting reading.

He outlines the Mutual Aid principles of the u3a; members taking an active part.

This is a self-help charity, run by the members for the members.

VEGETABLE GARDENING

Open Garden Visit, 17 June

The vegetable gardening group has decided to make the June meeting a group visit to one of the local open gardens. The garden is at **334, Belper Road, Stanley Common**. It is open to the public on Sunday 19th June, but the owners have confirmed they will open the garden for a group of up to twenty of us on **Friday afternoon, 17th June**. The cost to us is £8, which includes refreshments. As we are a small group, we are inviting members of the U3A who would like to be part of the visit to contact me on candamcg@gmail.com to make up the numbers.

The owners have made a beautiful garden, including an organic vegetable garden, from what was once a 10 acre open-cast mine. Its many features include a laburnum tunnel, rose and wisteria domes, old workman's hut, wildlife pond and much more.

Please email me if you would like to join us on the visit. I can organise car share so if you want a lift, or can offer one, please let me know in your email. *Ann McGillivray*

FLASH MOB

As part of the u3a's 40th anniversary celebration there are going to be a number of events happening across the county. These will culminate in a Flash Mob in Nottingham Market Square on Saturday September 24th.

The Dukeries u3a are organizing this as they have a member with dance experience who is willing to organize it. It will be a simple routine which will be recorded in order to give us chance to practise. There will also be 'live' sessions available nearer the time.

If any members are interested in participating please contact me and I can give you the details. It should be really good fun and finish off the week with a surprise.

If you aren't sure what a Flash Mob is click on the link below. Don't be put off by the age and athleticism of the participants in this clip. Flash Mob is for everyone.

<https://youtu.be/ROPesXv2z1U>

Looking forward to hearing from those of you wanting to try something new.

Chris Niven

May Monthly Meeting Report

A chance discovery of a book - an art teachers memoir of life in an English girl's school found in the back of a cupboard - led to some amazing and quite unique revelations about life on the Home Front during the Second World War. Mary Smith former head of Maidstone Grammar School for Girls did just that and could hardly contain her enthusiasm in telling us about it. The year was 2013 when the discovery was made. It contained the delightful drawings by Helen King art teacher at the school of life as she experienced throughout the length of the war and what a life they led. The main discovery were the Tunnels dug out beneath the grounds of the school where school life was carried out. Lessons took place with girls sitting in long rows on benches - extremely difficult teaching and learning conditions by today's standards, but they coped. When the teacher wished to get to the far end the instruction went up "knees left" so the manoeuvre could be achieved. The drawings showed a variety of school scenes - girls in gas masks playing netball, girls running everywhere - when the sirens went you had to move quickly - putting up the netting at windows to protect against flying glass and the sheer joy of taking it down when it was all over.

The Imperial War museum is keen to get its hands on the original art work, but Mary is keeping it for the time being as further tunnels or "Trenches" as the girls called them are still being discovered. It was a delightful and unique find and Mary reflected this in her talk.

The book containing all the art work is available by contacting MarySmithJones@hotmail.com or www.mags.org/war It costs £12.

David Hale

A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING

I was sitting in the waiting room of our doctors' surgery the other day when an Eastern European looking gentleman entered and walked over to speak to our rather formidable receptionist.

'Name?' bellowed the dragon. 'Ivor Chestikov' the stranger meekly replied.

'Name please?' she asked again but louder and more demanding this time. 'Ivor Chestikov' he politely replied a second time.

'Didn't you hear me, sir? I asked you for your name' she roared becoming more agitated by the second.

'Ivor Chestikov' he replied for the third time

By this time the poor receptionist was breathing fire and about to lose control.

'I have no desire to know what's wrong with you - that's the doctor's job so for the last time will you please just give me your name if it's not too much trouble'.

'My name is Ivor Chestikov'

'Well why didn't you say so in the first place?' asked the dragon.

'I did but you must have misunderstood me'

'So Mr Chestikov, what do you want? Are you ill?'

'No I'm quite well-thank you. I just came here to register with the practice'.

David Willey

GROUP INFORMATION

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

groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org

All Things Environment: meet in Sun Inn dining room on the 3rd Wednesday, 2.00 – 3.30 pm. 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: Change of meeting place: 16th June as Carsington Water Sheep Wash. Contact Colin 01773 715 493

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 2nd Thursday 11.00 – 13.00 pm in The Sun Inn. Contact Nina 01773 717 770

Church History: 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. **New Members Welcome!** 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. **New members welcome!** Contact Pauline 01773 788366

Gogglebox: meet in the Sun Inn on the 3rd Tuesday @ 11.00 am. **New members welcome!** Contact Janet 07889 976 342

History of England: meet in The Sun Inn lounge, 1st Thursday 11.00 – 13.00 pm. Contact Janet 01773 770 183

National Trust: meet in the Dog & Parrot on the 6th June, 10.00 am. Contact Yvonne 01773 712 530

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 third Wednesday at 1.30 pm. Contact Jim 07977 415 072 or Diana 0115 9 169 343

Pub Pals: Contact Janet 07961 832 864 or Rob 07845 177500

Spanish: meet in The Sun Inn on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday 1100 - 12.30 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: meet in the lay-by at St Mary's Church, Greasley on Tuesday 7th June at 10.00 am. **There is now a waiting list to join the group.** Contact Roger 01773 788169 for further information

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

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

FRENCH CONVERSATION

The French Group is struggling with low numbers, due to the illness of some of our regular members and we would welcome more people.

We are a small friendly group and you would be made very welcome. It would be helpful if you know a little French already.

The group meets at the Sun Inn on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, at 11.00 a.m.

Pauline Clayton

ALL THINGS ENVIRONMENT (ATE)

We asked "What is a green wardrobe?"



This is Audrey's answer

**IN THE CHURCHYARD IN JUNE**

The towering churchyard trees are summer heavy, and pregnant with their pendant, fertile seeds which cluster close on every branch, a bevy which will provide for next years fecund need.

The seeds are nature's embryos and waiting for snow and ice to pass. Then spring awakes and seasons form anew, each year creating a continuity for our soul's sake.

The waiting earth will open for their bounty
When it shall nurture seed and sapling green.
Like to an open womb in nature, flouting
the harshest winters, still fresh life appears.

And shall there come a time when, one day waking,
we sense the ending of returning life?
When furies are unleashed beyond our knowing.
When nations call dissent and rage is rife.

I pray the gods of nature and of reason
may always then prevail to conquer strife;
to let th'unceasing flow of every season
stream on, to nurture and enrich our lives

For how can we begin to face a future
that's desolate of hope and of belief?
It's my heart seeks communion with nature.
My soul yearns for the splendour of the trees.

Pat Potter

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Membership subscriptions were due by the 1st April 2022.

At the end of May any members who haven't renewed will be **lapsed automatically** and will need to reapply if they want to continue their membership.

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.

If you haven't yet signed up for GIFT AID, please do - it adds another £5 donation to your subscription and it doesn't cost you anything. Forms available at the Monthly Meeting and on the website:

<http://eastwoodu3a.org/newsite/forms/membershiprenewal/>

Technically if you don't cut a cake and just eat the whole thing with a fork, you still only had one piece.

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



CELEBRATING u3a WEEK

This year u3a week is celebrated between 17 - 26th September.

2022 is the 40th anniversary of the u3a movement in the UK and some events are being set up nationally:

- Picnic in the Park on Wednesday 1 June;
- reveal of the Anniversary Quilt later in June with displays in each of the devolved countries in the UK
- a meeting of the u3a science network in July which will include an eminent scientist;
- a one day conference on Research and shared Learning carried out
- u3a members will also be offered the opportunity to attend an afternoon of lectures at the Royal Institution on 31 October;
- in December we'll discover how many trees have been planted in the u3a Wood.

Make sure you get involved!

A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus spilled its load leaving New York. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, stupefied, confused, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, surprised, dumbfounded, flabbergasted, confounded, astonished, and numbed.

