



newsletter

Wishing all New Mills & District u3a Members

A Very Happy & Active 2022



In this Issue . . .

Hello from the Chair
Membership Renewal
Meet the Committee
Coffee Mornings
Activity Groups
u3a Members Forum
Dates for your Diary

January 2022

Hello from Chair, Sue Rivers

Dear All

First may I introduce myself for those of you who do not know me.

My name is Sue Rivers and I have been a member of New Mills and District u3a for the past eleven years, previously holding a Committee role for four years.

I have taken over from Lesley Mason, who was our Chair for five years, and I hope I can do as good a job – big shoes to fill!

Our groups continue to get back to near normal and let us hope it can continue into 2022. We all need the stimulus the groups and meetings bring to our lives.

We have a very varied calendar for our general meetings this year (see list featured in this Newsletter) and I hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend, and I look forward to getting to know you all.

My best wishes for the New Year.



Sue Rivers, in the Chair for the first meeting of the 2021/2022 Committee (December 2021)

An Important Renewal Reminder from Treasurer, Margaret Weaver

You will receive shortly my annual notice about renewing your membership for the coming year to 31st March 2023. Full details are given in the notification but just to note the fee remains at £10 and can be paid by BACS online, by cheque (sent to me in the post or brought to a monthly meeting) or by cash handed to me at a meeting. To ensure u3a insurance cover is not invalidated for you and others in the group all renewals must be made please by latest 30th June 2022. If you have a query either catch me at a meeting or email treasurer@newmillsu3a.org.uk



Coffee Mornings



Our Drop-In Coffee Mornings, usually held on the last Tuesday in the month, are from 10:30am-12noon and held at the Providence United Reformed Church, Mellor Road in New Mills.

Everyone is welcome including new and

prospective members.

We ask for just 50p per person for as much tea, coffee, and biscuits as you can manage!

Look forward to welcoming you to the first one of this year on 25th January 2022.

Meet the 2021/2022 Committee

~ putting a face to the name

At the AGM in November the 2021/2022 Committee was endorsed and members welcomed to the team. New elects were Pat Stanway, Clem Taylor and Catherine Ager. Also, Carol Wright taking on the role of Speaker Organiser. For their hard work and commitment thanks went to those stepping down - Lesley Mason from the Chair, Christine Wass as Business Secretary and previous Speaker Organiser Mavis Worthington.



Sue Rivers, Chair
& Book Exchange



Ann Apps, Deputy
Chair & Webmaster



Margaret Weaver
Treasurer



Pat Stanway
Business Secretary



Wendy Cheshire
Membership Secretary



Jean Windsor
Groups Coordinator



Pam Baker
Committee Member



Catherine Ager
Newsletter Editor



Sue Colston
Committee Member



Clem Taylor
Committee Member



Kath Garside
Committee Member

Marian Parker
Committee Member

And the Committee continues to be very well supported by the Almoner and Accessibility Officer Hazel Perry; Website Editors Ann Apps, Hilary Harmer and Eileen Gilligan; plus the all important organiser of Refreshments at meetings Lesley Mason.

Activity Groups

Coordinator: Jean Windsor

groupscoordinator@newmillsu3a.org.uk

Find a full list of Activity Groups on the website

<http://www.newmillsu3a.org.uk/>

Group Leader contact details are not given online because of data protection, but you should have a paper copy which includes this information.

If you have mislaid your leaflet, get in touch with Wendy Cheshire, Membership Secretary, to request a replacement.

To join a group, contact the relevant Group Leader and if the one you want to join is full, let us know as we keep waiting and wish lists. And, if you do want to start a new group Jean will be more than happy to hear from you!



Science and Technology

Ann Apps gives details of the national u3a online Zoom sessions:

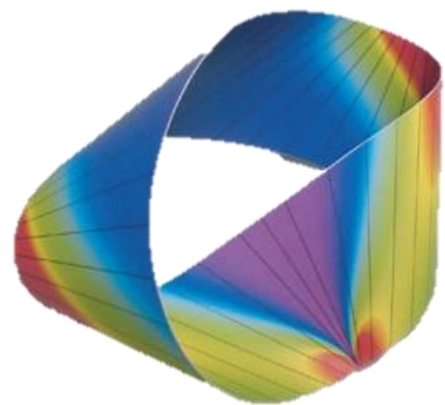
"Science and Technology" is a national u3a group, which operates via Zoom, broadcasting talks once a month on a Wednesday morning.

The meetings are fairly informal, with time for questions and discussion.

For more details, including how to sign up for emailed Zoom joining instructions, visit <https://u3acommunities.org/science/>

The next talk will be on:

19th January 2022



The topic is "Cracking Cholera – a Victorian Detective Story"

There are also two more science community groups:

(i) Climate Crisis

<https://u3acommunities.org/climate/>

(ii) Rocket Science

<https://u3acommunities.org/rockets.htm>

Outings and Holidays

Group Leaders: Pat Cooper & Barbara Matthews

outings@newmillsu3a.org.uk

Outings and Holidays are open to all members and Pat and Barbara are happy to help with any queries.

The schedule of events is on the website, in the Newsletter under Dates for your Diary, and displayed on the Information Board at meetings.

Members are asked to join trips at the New Mills Bus Station unless a prior arrangement has been made for pick up in your area.

Events are always popular, so the advice is to book early!



A summary by Barbara Matthews of last year's events and those to come

Another year has passed and what a year it has been. After our holiday was cancelled in 2020, we were relieved to find we could go ahead with our visit to Northumberland in 2021. Those at the January meeting will see and hear how it went.

In September we were able to resume our monthly outings. Fifty-three members were relieved to be back meeting up with friends and enjoying a visit to Nostell Priory. The year was completed with a visit to windswept Blackpool to enjoy the lights.

Unfortunately, we do have this new variant hanging over us, but we are hopeful at the time of writing that our Annual Lunch will take place on 26th January where we will enjoy a meat and potato pie, sweet and a free raffle. Don't forget to bring your own cutlery, plate and drinks.

There is a list for a visit to Boundary Mills sometime in February. I will keep those interested informed of the details.

A number of members will be taking a short break to the Cotswolds in February and participating in the Pudding Club where we will sample seven traditional puddings and vote for our favourite.

There is also a list for any members interested in visiting the Buxton Crescent Experience. A new tour telling the story of Buxton and its famous water. The visit is in groups of eight. This is planned for March with more details and costs to follow.

The summer holiday to Somerset is fully booked. It sounds a long way off but the hotel in Great Yarmouth is booked for two nights on 24th November 2023 for a visit to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular.

Keep up to date with the Outings by visiting our page on the website or the Information Board at the Tuesday meetings.

The poem below submitted for the Members' Forum conveys the solace we might find in remembering – but asks is it a case of “the memory of playing tricks”?

We hope you are encouraged to send in your contributions for publication in the Newsletter. A photograph or a piece on any subject, related to u3a or not, something you wish to share with other members to reflect on, inform, entertain, stimulate, make them smile or even bring a lump to the throat.

Members' Forum
Newsletter Editor: Catherine Ager
newsletter@newmillsu3a.org.uk



NOSTALGIA

Nostalgia is nibbling away:
The rodent memory of
Good times passed –
And not so good.
All part of the ageing process.
My thoughts go back
To when my being
Was less imperfect;
Or is my recollection
Less than perfect?
Was I better
As a younger self?
I question - but suspect
The memory of playing tricks.
Life viewed through tinted lenses:
Romantic. Youthful. Vigorous.
A journey to be shared and
Only part completed;

Still to be looked forward to then:
Career. Family. Faith.
- Now waters which
Have flowed their course.
Does age not bring
A sense of achievement?
Yes – but frustrating too.
Surely it's time to sit back
In satisfaction.
But there's that rodent memory
Nibbling away again.
Nostalgia
“A sentimental longing
Or wistful affection for
A period in the past”

© P A K
September 2021

2022 Dates for your Diary

Meetings, Outings, Holidays



January

18th Monthly Meeting

2021 u3a Holiday to Northumberland with Barbara Matthews

An overview of places visited. Even if you did not join us, this presentation will give you a taste of what Northumberland has to offer.

26th Outing

Annual New Year Lunch at St George's Parish Hall, New Mills

Lunch at 1:00pm will be a meat and potato pie (veggie version cheese/onion pie available) followed by a choice of sweets.

March

15th Monthly Meeting

Imaging the Heart: from coronary heart disease to Covid-19

with Dr Josephine Naish

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) creates detailed pictures of the heart non-invasively and can also provide unique insights into the way the heart is functioning. In this talk, Dr Naish will introduce some of the new imaging techniques being developed at the Manchester Centre for Heart and Lung Magnetic Resonance Research, and how these are used to further understand a range of heart conditions and to develop and test new treatments.

May

17th Monthly Meeting

Come Fly with Me with John Hope

Previously we enjoyed a Zoom presentation by John on 'Time Through the Ages'. This time he will give an illustrated presentation of places where he has worked over the continents of Africa, America, Asia and Europe.

February

14th Outing

Boundary Mills (to be confirmed)

15th Monthly Meeting

The British Cave Rescue with Bill Whitehouse

The British Cave Rescue Services were called upon for the Thailand Cave Rescue.

22nd Holiday

Winter Short Break Three Ways House Hotel, Cotswold

Two nights accommodation with dinner and breakfast including a seven course Pudding Club on one night.

April

19th Monthly Meeting

The Potential of the Human Whistle with David Morris

David is the World's top Whistler and recently made an appearance on ITV's 'Game of Talents'. On the programme performers appear in front of a team made up of a member of the public and a celebrity. He has also featured on morning radio and an advertisement for Apple iPhone.

David likes to leave ten minutes at the end for question time.

June

21st Monthly Meeting

Passports, Assassins, Traitors & Spies with Martin Lloyd

A dramatic account of how a group of assassins brought about change in the passport regulations; how the unmasking of a spy caused a modification in passport design; and how for one man the passport itself turned into a killer.

July

5th – 7th Holiday

London Holiday

International Hotel, Canary Wharf

Members are invited to join a three nights break in London. Organised by Hazel Jones a contact of Barbara's and not the u3a, email barbaramatthews@hotmail.co.uk if interested.

Tickets for the Hampton Court Flower Shop optional.

19th Monthly Meeting

Fool's Gold

with Steve and Carol Robson

The duo gave a very entertaining show via Zoom but are now back with a live presentation. They are acoustic musicians who accompany their performance with stories and a history of their songs.

And just a few things to please note:

A full itinerary for the holiday in Somerset in July is given on the website. **However, this trip is now fully booked.**

Monthly Meetings are held at the New Mills Town Hall starting at 10:30am on the third Tuesday of each month. They are a regular forum for the group, include an invited speaker and traditionally start with u3a business. We welcome both existing and prospective members.

Refreshments are available at the monthly meetings but in the current situation we hope you understand why we ask that you bring along your own cup.

Full information on **Outings and Holidays** can be found on the website and displayed on the Information Board at monthly meetings. Places are limited so it is wise to check availability.



The Outings Group at Bamburgh during the 2021 holiday to Northumberland

Photograph courtesy B Matthews; cover photograph & original illustrations E Ager

NB: The Newsletter is available on the website <http://www.newmillsu3a.org.uk/> and a copy sent in the post to those registered without online access. If you have email but would like a printed document please contact Catherine Ager newslettereditor@u3anewmills.org.uk