



## **FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to the February 2022 edition of the Cheswick Green and District U3A Newsletter. Future newsletters will be issued quarterly.

Please forward any items to Sue Winwood [suewin2002@gmail.com](mailto:suewin2002@gmail.com).

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

This year is the 40th anniversary of the founding of the U3A, apparently at the end of September. Coincidentally that is the month of the 10th anniversary of our own Cheswick Green branch.

To celebrate these events we are going to hold a Salmon and Strawberries dinner on Friday, 30th September at Fulford Heath Golf Club, Tanners Green Lane, Wythall, B47 6BH. There is ample parking.

Beginning with a welcome drink at 6.30pm, dinner will commence at 7pm, with light entertainment to follow by our guest Margot McCleary.

It will be a simple meal of salmon, new potatoes, salad and various dressings: Strawberries with cream and ice cream followed by coffee and mints. A fully licenced bar is available.. Please note: this is a set menu unless for exceptional reasons.

The cost of the event will be £22.

#### **GROUP FOCUS**

##### **CINEMA CLUB**

The next cinema club will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm for refreshments. The film **The Time of Their Lives** starts at 2:00 pm

## **BOOK CLUBS**

We have two book clubs. Book club 1 meet the first Thursday of the month but this one is full. Book club 2 meet on the first Tuesday of the month and we do have a couple of spaces. We are NOT overly serious! We generally discuss the book first then end up putting the world to rights. If anyone is interested e mail me at [burt48@live.co.uk](mailto:burt48@live.co.uk)

## **BRIDGE CLUB**

In each Sport, there is a pinnacle or highest objective towards which we strive to attain. With the card game of bridge, it is rare to score over 420 points in one game.

However last Monday our normal four players began what became a memorable session of cards. A session begins by dividing into two pairs who are effectively two teams. Each player can only see their own hand. The game proceeds along roughly prescribed lines which pit the wits of one team against the other. The art is to ascertain the content of each of the other three's cards (without seeing them). Then during the subsequent playing of the cards, memory is of primary importance.

So psychology, memory, gamesmanship are some of the best assets. Patience too. All of these attributes were involved in our Monday game when Julian called seven no trumps - the opposition doubled because they were reasonably certain that this would NOT be achieved - then most unusually I redoubled as a statement that success could be achieved - and it was achieved - which equated to the maximum possible score of 2,980 points

From this memorable game we wish to indicate how much fun can be had. We welcome all ages, currently one over 90 & another who began aged 14. I.e. we welcome all ages - learners to experienced.  
Don't be shy - come & try. Denise, Anne. & Julian

## **CURRY CLUB**

For the first Curry Club of the year, we went to a new venue for us, DAAWAT in Knowle.

We all rated this very highly. There was added excitement because ex boxer Chris Ewbank was there. He was staying locally and had had takeaway from there for the preceding 4 consecutive nights. He had turned up in person to say thank you to the staff. The obligatory selfies were taken by those who were there at the time and he was happy to sit and chat while waiting for his multiple lamb dishes.

In the next few months, we are returning to some old familiars and some favourites including Ginger Blue (Cranmore) Zengz(Old Lode Lane) and Rajnagar (Lyndon Rd)

## **THEATRE GROUP**

Theatre group has had a slow start back as generally there is still low confidence in being in crowded Theatre venues, but as the covid rates fall locally, we will be back to full schedules soon I am sure.

If you are new to our U3A and would like to join us on any theatre outings you are welcome to receive our group news, or better still, join us for our meetings and contribute to choosing and planning our schedule. If you want to join us, email Ruth on [rhubble8@gmail.com](mailto:rhubble8@gmail.com)

## **GOING PLACES**

Going Places hosted a Beetle Drive at The Village Hall recently. A lot of fun was had. There was much shaking, rattling and rolling. Various techniques were being employed. Our host shared some beetle facts and a few beetle jokes. The first game winner was our very own Chairman -Di Howe. Everyone voted for extra games at the end - well it was raining outside! Come and join us when, by popular request, the Going Places team run another one.

## **CANASTA GROUP**

This is held in the Saxon Inn on the Second and Fourth Monday afternoons of each month  
I am changing the start time of this group to 2pm instead of the current 2.30pm  
For further information contact Mary on 0121 744 7035.

## **CRIBBAGE GROUP**

This group is held in the Saxon Inn on the second Thursday afternoon of each month  
This group's start time will also be changed to 2pm from the current 2.30pm with immediate effect

For the next Cribbage meeting in March only this will move forward a week and be held on 3rd March instead of the 10th. All following meetings will revert back to second Thursday afternoon. Again any further information please contact Mary on 0121 744 7035.

### SENIOR MOMENTS LUNCH GROUP

Senior Moments' Lunch Group is going strong with a maximum of 13 members but we tend to have between 10 to 12 each time as events can conspire or family meals or celebrations can mean not everyone can attend. It is also means each member has the chance to book where our meals take place from a list of restaurants or pubs that have been agreed by the whole group. Almost all the months have been covered up to September. This is a happy group and all opinions are respected. Sadly we are not able to open the group up to more members because of the Covid difficulties which means the maximum number of people accepted at places restricts any more being included. We have also found that these numbers suit our members meaning we can get to know each other, celebrate birthdays together and speak more easily in a group this size.

### STRIDERS

The Cheswick Green Striders group is a walking group where we walk between 4 and 5 miles. We usually walk once or twice a month; with lunch afterwards sometimes and walks are led by our own members.

#### Striders Christmas walk and lunch

Our Christmas walk was from The Bell in Astwood Bank followed by Christmas dinner. The walk was undulating, muddy in places and there were a couple of very dodgy stiles too but the extra effort worked up our appetites for our excellent 4 course Christmas dinner at The Bell.



#### Striders January walk



Nineteen striders turned up for our first walk of the year on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January led by Peter and Delphine, a really good turn out. We all enjoyed this local walk along the roads, lanes, footpaths and parks around Solihull and Monkspath. Just over 4 miles, very flat and no stiles so it was a good gentle start to the year and it was helped by the lovely weather.



#### Striders February walk



The weather was lovely for our 4½ mile February walk on the 16<sup>th</sup> although the ground was a bit muddy and very soggy in places after all the rain we'd had but we all persevered and still had smiles on our tired faces.

## CORE MEETINGS 2022

January 20 <sup>th</sup>	Think like a Genius	Peter Walker
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	Contestants Inside View of British Game Show (what goes on behind the scenes)	
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	From Barrow to Baghdad and Back	Philip Caine
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Keeping Afloat	Jon & Judy Godson
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	History & Mystery of Punch and Judy	Mel Harvey
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	RMS Titanic – Then and Now	Sheila Parkes
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	Goose Grease & Brown Paper	Kath Reynolds
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	Fast Aid	Terry Flower
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	tbc	
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	RNLI – an Overview	Paul & Lorraine Hoskins
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	The Millennium Way	Barry Durman

## COMMITTEE

Executive Officers		
<b>Chair</b>	Dianne Howe	<a href="mailto:burt48@live.co.uk">burt48@live.co.uk</a>
<b>Vice Chair/Membership Secretary</b>	Jacky Nolan	<a href="mailto:Jacky.nolan@gmail.com">Jacky.nolan@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Trudie Cooper	<a href="mailto:trudieberry@hotmail.com">trudieberry@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Lynda Barnes	<a href="mailto:Lynbarnes44@gmail.com">Lynbarnes44@gmail.com</a>
Non-Executive Officers		
<b>Group Coordinator</b>	Monica Brown	<a href="mailto:Mobrow68@gmail.com">Mobrow68@gmail.com</a>
<b>Minutes</b>	Wendy McKenna	<a href="mailto:Wmbg19232@blueyonder.co.uk">Wmbg19232@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Sue Winwood	<a href="mailto:Suewin2002@gmail.com">Suewin2002@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tea Rota Organiser</b>	Margaret Thompson	<a href="mailto:Margt1949@yahoo.com">Margt1949@yahoo.com</a>
	Wendy Ball	
	Ruth Hubble	<a href="mailto:Rhubble8@gmail.com">Rhubble8@gmail.com</a>

**CHESWICK GREEN & DISTRICT u3a GROUPS**  
**Group Coordinator: Monica Brown – [mobrow68@gmail.com](mailto:mobrow68@gmail.com)**

Group	Contact Person	Telephone	E mail address
Badminton	Mick Swain	01564 702500	<a href="mailto:dmswain272@gmail.com">dmswain272@gmail.com</a>
Book Club	Di Howe	0121 246 0595	<a href="mailto:burt48@live.co.uk">burt48@live.co.uk</a>
Bridge-Tuesday pm	Anne Williams	07775951068	<a href="mailto:annewilliams5372@gmail.com">annewilliams5372@gmail.com</a>
Bridge-Monday night	Julian Dimock	01564 824660	<a href="mailto:johnjulian@uwclub.net">johnjulian@uwclub.net</a>
Canasta	Mary Stokes	0121 744 7035	<a href="mailto:mary.stokes@live.co.uk">mary.stokes@live.co.uk</a>
Choir-with other U3A groups	Cathy Harris	0121 733 6310	<a href="mailto:catherine.harris47@btinternet.com">catherine.harris47@btinternet.com</a>
Cinema Group	Jacky Nolan	01564 702753	<a href="mailto:jacky.jnolan@gmail.com">jacky.jnolan@gmail.com</a>
Computer skills-all levels-with other	Bob Ireland	0121 745 6471	<a href="mailto:rjireland.ri@gmail.com">rjireland.ri@gmail.com</a>
Chair Yoga	Jacky Nolan	01564 702753	<a href="mailto:jacky.jnolan@gmail.com">jacky.jnolan@gmail.com</a>
Cribbage	Mary Stokes	0121 744 7035	<a href="mailto:mary.stokes@live.co.uk">mary.stokes@live.co.uk</a>
Curry Club	Ruth Hubble	01564 702910	<a href="mailto:cgu3acurryclub@yahoo.com">cgu3acurryclub@yahoo.com</a>
Dining Out Group	Barbara Hancock	0121 603 4064	<a href="mailto:barb21@live.co.uk">barb21@live.co.uk</a>
Enjoying Art	Lynne Bickerdike	0121 733 6310	<a href="mailto:harbic@btinternet.com">harbic@btinternet.com</a>
	Cathy Harris	0121 733 6310	<a href="mailto:catherine.harris47@btinternet.com">catherine.harris47@btinternet.com</a>
French (not beginners)	Linda Sommer	07752473308	<a href="mailto:lindasommer@hotmail.com">lindasommer@hotmail.com</a>
Family History	Pauline Pedersen	01564 703100	<a href="mailto:pauline.pedersen@btinternet.com">pauline.pedersen@btinternet.com</a>
Gardening	Bev Prater	0121 246 7166	<a href="mailto:bevprater@virginmedia.com">bevprater@virginmedia.com</a>
Going Places	Mary Stokes	0121 744 7035	<a href="mailto:mary.stokes@live.co.uk">mary.stokes@live.co.uk</a>
Origami	Dave Venables	01564 824255	<a href="mailto:davevenables@hotmail.com">davevenables@hotmail.com</a>
Outings	Pat Carr	01564 700039	<a href="mailto:patgcarr1973@gmail.com">patgcarr1973@gmail.com</a>
	Margaret Daniels	01564 703298	<a href="mailto:dan.line@virgin.net">dan.line@virgin.net</a>
Real Ale Tasting Group RATS	Piers Cockroft	01564 703091	<a href="mailto:jpcockroft@yahoo.co.uk">jpcockroft@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Rummikub	Brenda Brown	01564 702660	<a href="mailto:mj.brown520@btinternet.com">mj.brown520@btinternet.com</a>
Senior Moments	Una Townsend	07970393712	<a href="mailto:unamary.theresa@gmail.com">unamary.theresa@gmail.com</a>
Second Sunday Lunch Group			
Coffee on Sunday	Julia Battle	0121 745 1284	<a href="mailto:gbattle139@btinternet.com">gbattle139@btinternet.com</a>
Strollers (under 2 miles)	Jacky Nolan	01564 702753	<a href="mailto:jacky.jnolan@gmail.com">jacky.jnolan@gmail.com</a>
Sunday Lunch	Di Howe	0121 246 0595	<a href="mailto:burt48@live.co.uk">burt48@live.co.uk</a>
Table Tennis	Roy Holloway	01564 823959	<a href="mailto:royholloway@btinternet.com">royholloway@btinternet.com</a>
Theatre	Ruth Hubble	01564 702910	<a href="mailto:rhubble8@gmail.com">rhubble8@gmail.com</a>
Walking (4 miles and over)	Janet Clifford	01564 200222	<a href="mailto:jclifford@blueyonder.co.uk">jclifford@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Wine Tasting	Michelle Orson		<a href="mailto:micheleorson136@btinternet.com">micheleorson136@btinternet.com</a>

**ASSOCIATED GROUPS**

Group	Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Line Dancing	Di Howe	0121 246 0595	<a href="mailto:burt48@live.co.uk">burt48@live.co.uk</a>
Tai Chi	Judith Vernon	01564 702008	<a href="mailto:judith.vernon@btinternet.com">judith.vernon@btinternet.com</a>