

Dear All,

It has been another busy month. We had a full house at the last Members' Meeting with 101 members and 5 guests, two of whom joined at the meeting. The atmosphere in the hall felt so friendly. Thank you all for making our new members and visitors feel welcome.

The Victoria Baths and Whitworth Art Gallery trip was a lovely outing with 24 members enjoying the interesting talk by our guide at the Baths. Then we had the superb Art and Mosaic display where so much talented work was on display, followed by another full house at the Summer Social!

Please do not forget that we have no Members' Meeting in August. After the meeting in September you are welcome to join us on the grass outside the Thelwall Parish Hall for our lunch time picnic. Don't forget your deckchair! Sue, Chair

Members' Meetings - Christine Ballance

*Our Members' Meetings are normally held in Thelwall Parish Hall on the **third Thursday** of the month.*

Visitors are welcome to attend two meetings before joining. The next meeting will be on Thursday 19th September at 10.00 a.m. for a 10.30 a.m. start. Do come along early for a drink and a chat.

Refreshments will be served from 10.00 a.m. until 10.15 a.m.

August

No Members' Meeting

Thursday 19th September

Fran Raftery

Tales from the Crypt

The history of cemeteries - from Ancient Egypt to present times - reflects the social attitudes and customs regarding the way the departed are remembered. There are also unusual - and sometimes spectacular - gravestones. Cemeteries often invoke sadness, but this presentation is interesting and informative and deals with a part of history which is not often discussed. Many interesting anecdotes, too.

Thursday 17th October

Rosie Lee

The Reluctant Shepherdess

Rosie had a successful career in banking, then her mum challenged her to do something with her parents' farm - and so her adventures began...

Thursday 21st November

Jane Clare

Sherry, port, madeira...

Be Christmas ready and discover more about these fortified wines.

Dated for your Diary

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Wednesday 14 th August | Blue Bell Cottage Nursery | see below |
| Thursday 19 th September | Members' Meeting/Autumn Alfresco | |
| Thursday 26 th September | Drop In | Lymm Village Hall |
| Thursday 17 th October | Members' Meeting | |
| Friday 18 th October | The Clink | more details below |
| Thursday 21 st November | Members' Meeting | |
| Thursday 5 th December | Christmas Social | more details in due course |

July Members' Meeting

On a beautiful morning, something of a rarity this summer, 101 members and five guests gathered at Thelwall Village Hall for our monthly meeting. There was plenty of time for refreshments and chat before the notices and the guest speaker. This time we listened to Tony Bostock's presentation entitled 'Cheshire Pubs and Pub Signs'. Tony, an ex-policeman, began with a historical overview of the rise of pubs and their names before focusing on pubs within the county which were familiar to many of us. We heard some fascinating back stories of local well-known hostleries like 'The Spinner and Bergamot' at Comberbach (race horse names) and 'The Swan with Two Nicks' near Dunham (connections with the Vintners). Jim gave an entertaining and humorous vote of thanks which took us back to the days of pub cricket car games involving the names of pubs we passed.

Social and Events

Summer Fun on Wednesday 14th August at 2.00 p.m. Blue Bell Cottage Gardens, Dutton WA4 4HP

This trip is now full.

Any member who applied to go on the list will be asked shortly for payment.

Please consider car sharing as parking is limited.

Please let Linda know if you can take someone!

[Linda](#)

Lymm and Thelwall u3a Social Team invite you to The Clink Restaurant for Lunch Friday 18th October 12.30 p.m.

The delicious high-quality meals at The Clink restaurant at HMP Styal are cooked and served by the students in training who are working towards City and Guilds qualifications in Professional Cookery and Food Hygiene. Situated in a converted chapel the restaurant allows students to learn and engage with the public and take their first steps to a new life.

If you would like to join us please contact

[Christine](#) by clicking on her name.

Menu choices will be forwarded to you nearer the time..

Alfresco in Autumn Thursday 19th September, midday until 2.00 p.m.

Following our successful Alfresco in Autumn picnic last September we intend to hold another straight after our September Members' Meeting. There is no need to book!! Just bring your **deckchair**, your **lunch** and a **drink** along to the meeting and, weather permitting, we will eat together outside on the grass!!! Of course, we have booked the weather to be sunny like last year!

Summer Copacabana Social

Lymm Village Hall was transformed into a Hawaiian Explosion of colour as 67 members gathered to celebrate at our summer social. The sumptuous buffet went down well and a toast was made to Lymm and Thelwall u3a, This was followed by the return of Kevin and Joy Siddall who brought tears to eyes with their wonderful presentation in word and song about the DNA of Musicals. David provided us with another of his quizzes, this time with a summer theme, which was won by Linda Jim, Jan, Nigel, Pauline and David. Thanks to Lynn and the social team for organising such a fun -filled happy occasion.



Art and Mosaic Group Exhibition

What a wonderful display of Art and Mosaic was available at the end of year exhibition, held at St Mary's Church last Friday. There are so many talented members in these groups using so many different media, from silk fabric painting to water colours to the many different creations made from mosaic, like a house for a hedgehog to a lovely planter. Thankyou to Jenn and Trish for leading



the groups and organising the morning. Thankyou for the refreshments and cakes and also to the ukulele group for helping things going with a swing.



Victoria Baths

24 members visited the Victoria Baths in Manchester and had a very informative and extensive tour of the building which was built in 1906 and when opened it was described as "the most splendid bathing institution in the country". The building provided extensive facilities for bathing and leisure with three swimming pools, slipper baths and Turkish baths. It cost £59,000 to build. Starting from the most lavish the pools were classified in three ways. First Class Males had the wonderfully



opulent tiles and floors and fine facilities. It cost 4d for a First Class Male to swim. Then there was the pool for Second Class Males. Not decorated as finely! This area is now used as an events hall. The third pool was for the females and was smaller. The cost to bathe in these two pools was 2d. We learned that the water in the pools was changed twice a week with the water from the First Class pool being filtered through sand beds and reused again in the Second Class pool then it was recycled again and used in the women's pool.



The baths had wonderful stained glass windows which we marvelled at. After coffee and scones with cream which some of us indulged in about twelve of us walked down to the Whitworth Art Gallery. Thanks so much to Margaret for arranging the trip! Very nostalgic and some remember going to baths like it (but not so grand) in other towns in their youth!



Coach Holiday to Kent

Tuesday 20th May to Friday 24th May

By now you should have received the exciting news about our Coach trip to Kent, visiting Hever Castle, Penshurst Place and the Historic Royal Dockyard at Chatham with a tour of the area where Call the Midwife was filmed.

If you have booked or require more information please contact [Linda](#)



Groups' Gossip

Muriel, Groups' Coordinator

groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk

Anyone interested in Tennis please give your name to me, Muriel, as we have a member who would like to form a group to play at the Manor Road Tennis Courts which are now new courts in the Old Walled Garden at the Rugby Club, If you have any ideas for new groups please also contact me .

Art and Mosaic Group

Art and Mosaic are now beginning our summer break following our fabulous end of term art and mosaic exhibition.

Live music from our ukelele group adds a celebratory feel to our event. Many thanks for coming and playing. It all starts again on Friday 13th September 10.00 a.m. -12.00 at St Mary's Church Hall. We currently have space for new group members. Isn't this group endeavour of Klimt's 'The Kiss' stunning?



Poetry Group

We started with a fascinating appreciation from Nina of Alfred, Lord Tennyson. We then read out our self-penned poems under the title 'Hobbies'. As ever, there was a healthy exchange of ideas and views with poetry subjects ranging from campanology to Trial Bikes. At the next meeting Jill



will give a presentation on the Poet Laureates, **Sketching Out**

Badminton

The Badminton Group is in action every Wednesday morning from 9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. at Grappenhall Community Centre, however, this group is now at capacity, so a "Waiting List" is open for any future interested members.

We now only need one more interested member to begin a second session each week, so please email [Geoff](#) for addition to the list, noting that you do need to have played Badminton previously.

Crown Green Bowling

Crown Green Bowling sessions are still in progress at High Legh Bowling Club on Monday afternoons from 1.30 p.m.

Genealogy

The genealogy group met on Tuesday 9th July, and welcomed two new members, Anne and Julie. It was quite a lively session. Shirley gave a short presentation on the history of surnames, and then set group members a challenge connected with deciphering some of the appalling handwriting in censuses.



After our brush with the law at the last meeting we moved a mile or so downstream to Thelwall Ferry where a very obliging ferryman gave us some great opportunities for sketching. Some chose to draw the ferry itself, others were intrigued by the small building which is his base. The next "Sketching Out" visit is to NT Dunham Massey from 10.15 a.m up to and including lunchtime on Monday 19th August, More details from Ray via the website,

Walking Groups Striders

Well it was Striders but the sun was shining!!! A rare



occurrence. Originally 15 signed up but due to diary clashes and illness 9 of us set out on the day to tackle a 10 mile walk from Bugsworth Basin to Combs reservoir with lunch on Chapel en le Frith station and back along the old High Peak Tramway to the start which happened to be at a pub and as it was a hot day, a cool beer was called for to finish off the walk. Well it would have been rude not to!!! Next walk – Wednesday 14th August, Holcombe Moor and Peel Tower

Strollers

The Strollers walk in July started in Grappenhall village. We paid an impromptu visit to St Wilfrid's church where there are many interesting and ancient artefacts. We were able to spot the Cheshire Cat on the church tower. A walk of two and a half miles followed, through Grappenhall Wood and over country paths and lanes. Lunch at the Ram's Head in Grappenhall village was enjoyed at the end of the walk.

4-6ers

Pam and Pete led us on an interesting and enjoyable walk in Lyme Park, Poynton. We walked up to The Cage, a former hunting lodge where the ladies of the estate were able to watch the hunts.



As we climbed, the view became ever more impressive, across Manchester and as far as north Wales. Lunch was taken near Lyme Hall and we quenched our thirst in the nearby Boars Head afterwards.

4-6ers Friday Ramble

We walked in the steps of the young Charles Dodgson on the Lewis Carroll Walk from Daresbury. There was time beforehand to look at the Lewis Carroll Centre in the church as well as the stained glass window with images from his work. Lunch was taken at the idyllic glade which marks his birthplace and we learnt about the early life of a writer whose work would be read by millions and transferred to the big screen.

Ukulele 4 Fun

The Ukulele 4 performed for the residents of Keate House in their marquee on Tuesday 2nd July. Approximately 20 residents enjoyed the songs we performed which were a mixture of 50's and 60's music. Most residents sang along and a couple even danced.



Wellbeing/Birdwatching

For our July meetings we visited Marbury Park and Dunham Massey, both on welcome sunny days. The highlight of the Marbury visit was the sighting of a kingfisher on the edge of Budworth Mere. Here is a picture taken by a twitcher in the hide!! At Dunham the Merlin app recorded a bird found only in Central America!



Jigsaws

Thank you to all those members who kindly donated their jigsaws. Members are welcome to borrow the jigsaws on display at monthly meetings. Any further donations of 500 or 1000-piece puzzles will be gratefully received.

u3a – Online Learning Events

As well as joining our groups you can subscribe to Interest Groups Online (formerly called Trust u3a). Interest Groups Online is a platform for collaborative learning. It is an online community, bringing people together from across the u3a movement and beyond. There are around 70 different groups that meet online across a wide range of subjects. Groups are interactive and vary depending on the needs of the participants. Find out more on our [Interest Groups Online page](#).

From Monet to Modern: Exploring 'The Water Lily Pond' 1899 and Beyond

Thursday 15th August 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

We visit York Art Gallery's 'Monet in York' exhibition which features the National Gallery treasure, 'The Water – Lily Pond' by Monet. The exhibition continues until 8th September 2024 .

From the exhibition, we will discover some of the captivating art by various artists who influenced Monet then focus on the centrepiece, Monet's iconic 'The Water – Lily Pond' 1899.

Let's explore the cultural exchange between East and West and the enduring legacy of Monet's masterpiece which transcends boundaries and resonates with and inspires modern artistic expressions.

Please note this presentation is animated. Catherine uses powerpoint animations to bring her words to life. If you do not like an animated presentation then this may not be to your taste.



Cryptic Crosswords in Context

Their history, how they work, who does them and why.

Wednesday 7th August 10.00 a.m.- 11.00 a.m.

This talk tells the story of the cryptic crossword – a quintessentially British form of the written word that beguiles and delights puzzle fans every day. Find out how cryptic puzzles work, where they came from, who solves them, and how people learn this skill.

At the heart of the story is the development of the English language itself – rich and idiosyncratic, and ideally suited to the wordplay in cryptic clues. The talk lasts for 45 minutes and is followed by a Q&A session. You will need a device that has a fair-sized screen:



How to join these events

These online events are free for members. Use this link below to discover the online learning events www.u3a.org.uk/events

Recycling: A message from Eve

I have collected stamps for many years for the Royal National Institute of Blind People. Due to the significant decrease in letter post these days I will no longer be collecting stamps. I would like to thank everyone who brought stamps to the u3a meetings on a Thursday and an extra big thank you for several wonderful stamp albums that have been given to me to send to the RNIB.

We collect old glasses for recycling. Please bring your old glasses (without cases) to the Members' Meeting. Thanks.

National Trust: Dunham Massey Community Access Pass



Our Community Pass from Dunham Massey for Groups of up to 15 people to visit free without pre-booking (15 to a 30 have to pre-book.) is available for groups. This is for normal entry. Contact Sue Mitchell chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk and I will arrange for you to collect it from me.

National u3a News

If you would like to sign up for the National Newsletter or the North West Region Newsletter please use the links below

u3a National newsletter

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>

North West Region Newsletter

<https://u3asites.org.uk/north-west/page/25318>

Contact Us

Lymm and Thelwall u3a web site:

<https://lymm-thelwall.u3asite.uk/>

Lymm and Thelwall u3a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LymmThelwallu3ae>

enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk

Committee Contact Details

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
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| Non-Committee: | | |
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| Newsletter | Sue Mitchell | newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk |

Our Groups If you would like to join any of our groups, groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk always contact the Group leader via the group page on the website. Click the icon to email the Group Leader. They will reply to you!!

| Activity | Regular Meeting Day | Venue |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Art | Friday a.m. | St Mary's Church Hall |
| Badminton | Wednesday a.m. | Grappenhall Community Centre |
| Book Club | 1 st Thursday a.m. | The Spread Eagle, Lymm |
| Book Club 2 | 1 st Wednesday a.m. | The Little Manor, Thelwall |
| Crown Green Bowling | Monday p.m. | High Legh Bowling Club |
| Cinema | Occasional Outings | Various |
| Cycle maintenance | As and when required | |
| Cycling | 2 nd Tuesday and 4 th Thursday | Various, see web site |
| Flower Arranging | 2 nd Friday p.m. | St. Mary's Church Hall |
| French (Advanced) | 2 nd and 4 th Thursday a.m. | The Sanctuary Hub Lymm |
| French Conversation Advanced | 1 st Monday p.m. | The Spread Eagle Lymm |
| Games Group | 1 st Tuesday p.m. | Lymm Village Hall |
| Genealogy | 3 rd Tuesday am | Sanctuary Hub Lymm |
| German | Monday | Private home and via zoom |
| I.T. Group | 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday a.m. | Lymm Baptist Church |
| The Lunch Group | 3 rd Friday | Contact via website |
| Mosaic | Friday a.m. | St. Mary's Church Hall |
| Music Appreciation | 2 nd Thursday p.m. | Lymm Youth / Community Centre |
| Philosophy | 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday a.m. | The Spread Eagle, Lymm |
| Poetry | 4 th Thursday | Sanctuary Hub Lymm |
| Sketching Out | Last Monday of the Month | Various |
| Stitch 'n' Natter | Wednesday a.m. | The Little Manor, Thelwall |
| Theatre and Concert | See web site | Various |
| Ukulele 4 Fun | Tuesday evening | United Reform Church |
| Walking Strollers | See website | Various |
| Walking 4-6ers | See Website | Various |
| Walking Striders | 2 nd Wednesday | Various |
| Wellbeing Birdwatching | 1 st and 3 rd Friday | Various Locations |
| Writing Group | 1 st Friday | The Spread Eagle |

For those members who have no online access this letter can be posted to them.

