

Dear All.

At our last Committee meeting it was brought to our attention that some members have not provided emergency contact details. Hopefully, we will never have to use these but it is important that yours are up to date. It is easy to do if you click here on this link to [u3a Members Portal](#) Once on the u3a Members Portal, log in to your account and check your personal details.

If your emergency contact is your spouse, it would be helpful if you could add a further contact please. I did this by adding the 2<sup>nd</sup> contact after the 1<sup>st</sup> contact on the same line.

Thanks for your help in this matter. 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 21<sup>st</sup> November 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.**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November Jane Clare Sherry, port, madeira...**

Be Christmas ready and discover more about these fortified wines.

**December No Meeting**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January Steve Barrett Unidentified Flying Objects**

Are there any images of UFOs that need an extra-terrestrial explanation? This talk looks at some images that may have more down-to-earth origins.

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February Malcolm Kindon Tales from a Toastmaster**

### Dates for your Diary

Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Heritage Centre Talk	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Members' Meeting	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Social	more details in due course
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> –Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Tree Festival	St. Mary's Church
December	No Members' Meeting	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Members' Meeting	

## Socials

**Come and Make a Wreath**  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2.00 p.m.**  
**at E Smith, Booth Lane WA13 OPF,**

This is now full and anyone who has signed up should have now received payment details. Any questions please email Christine

[speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)



### Christmas Tree Festival

**6<sup>th</sup> –8<sup>th</sup> December**

An early reminder that we are adding our tree to the Christmas Tree festival in St Mary's Church. It is a lovely occasion when many groups and organisations come together.

So, please add the dates to your diaries





## Christmas Santa Social

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

The Social is now fully booked.

If you booked to join us at the Christmas Social you will receive request for payment this week.

Please bring a small gift to the social (valued at no more than £5) wrapped as a Christmas present for a Christmas Secret Santa



## The Lion Salt Works

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 1.00 p.m.

A Guided Tour and Afternoon Tea

Cost £20

The Lion Salt Works is a restored historic open-pan salt making site in the village of Marston. It offers a fascinating journey through the life of the country's last open-pan salt making site.

We will have a guided tour followed by Afternoon Tea (All dietary needs catered for) cost is £20.

The Salt works is completely accessible.

Please contact [Christine](#) as A.S.A.P. as places are limited or by 30<sup>th</sup> November at the latest.

Let her know your dietary needs



## Group Leaders' Meeting and Brunch

Sixteen attended the latest meeting/brunch at High Legh Garden Centre. Sadly, others were otherwise engaged. A number of items were discussed. These enthusiastic and dedicated members are to be thanked for all they do. They are the heartbeat of our organisation, driving our activities forward and leading by example. Three group leaders were attending for the first time.



## The Reluctant Shepherdess –Rosie Lee by Sue Clarke

Rosie Lee grew up at Dairy House Farm in Winsford. Her initial career was with Barclays Bank. While working as a manager she had a life-changing interview with her mother, on a tractor. Rosie traded stilettos & a staff of 27 for wellies on the family farm. As well as establishing and maintaining a flock of sheep other roles emerged. A big commitment for a mum with teenage children.

Despite growing up on a farm and having her mother as

mentor

Rosie

needed to

acquire a whole new range of skills and knowledge. At

college she gained degree level qualifications in

Environmental and Conservation Studies. She

converted thistle scrub fields to good chemical free

pasture. The breeding programme from the flock helped

the survival of her chosen rare breed sheep. College

contacts provided practical help. Rosie took us through

the processes of setting up and breeding from her initial

flock of Shearlings–‘teenage girls’. She proudly showed us the photograph of her first ram – The Mighty Maestro selected for his handsome face, strong body and legs, sound feet and, of course, well-endowed for economic reasons – an irresistible Tinder profile. Rosie’s dextrous midwifery manoeuvres were eye-watering and leg crossing. Her first season was a steep learning curve but proved very rewarding and successful.

Rosie’s passion and emotional commitment has translated into her activities as a keen educator and ambassador for farming. She has worked with a variety of people including students, people of all ages with learning difficulties, inner-city schoolchildren and adult groups.

Transferable skills from banking may have helped her cope with ever-increasing bureaucracy including rules, regulations and inspections by dubious agency staff. On the plus side, Rosie is physically fit and strong thus saving gym fees and Lycra gear, no need to join Weight Watchers as she went from size 14 to 10 in her first lambing season. Her experiences are more Clarkson’s Farm highlighting the true situation of undervalued and often misunderstood farmers as opposed to the more sanitised and cosier Countryfile. Tim Old gave the vote of thanks.



## The Clink Restaurant



Forty-seven members enjoyed a splendid three course lunch in the Clink Restaurant at Styal Prison. The setting of a converted chapel added to the occasion and afterwards we were treated to an interesting short talk about how the operation helps prisoner rehabilitation. Christine’s organisation was second to none.



# The Advanced French Group's Trip to the South of France

## Fun in October for the Advanced French group

A group of eighteen, members of this group, plus partners, spent four splendid days in the south of France. On arrival, Dinah got off to a great start by picking up the wrong case from the airport and left to



get the tram. Fortunately, realising this error before the tram set off for the town centre, she hared back, and managed to persuade officials to let her into the baggage area where a family who had her case were mightily relieved.

The group gathered at a lovely local restaurant that evening and the next day expert guided tours led by Carol and her husband Rob took us to fascinating places in Nice and Antibes. (At one point two members of the public asked if they could join the tour!)



We enjoyed the local speciality socca – a chickpea flour pancake which is what you need after going up and down the old town steps! People also visited beautiful places such as Cap Ferrat, Villefranche and Eze and a small subgroup enjoyed fantastic swimming in the Mediterranean. Photos of this are not provided as it was tricky getting over the shingle and we might not have always looked very elegant...but it was worth it!



## Groups' Coordinator

[groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)

If anyone has any ideas about starting a new club please get in contact with me, Muriel, as we can help you to find other people interested and a venue to meet in and support you during set up and beyond! **Muriel.**

## Groups' Gossip

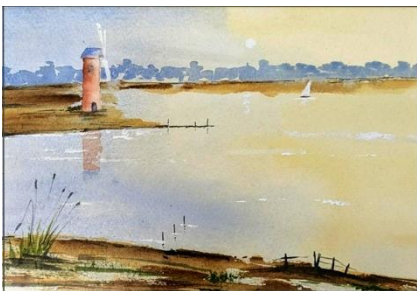
### Art Group

The autumn term sees the art group getting to grips with our inspiration list for the

year. Cocktails proved to be a popular choice and Marje created some rather splendid collages. Mine's a pina colada, thank you very much!



There are such talented people in our Art group. You could have heard a pin drop as the art group followed Mike's outstanding workshop on watercolour landscapes. Our next workshop 'Silk Painting' is led by Jackie, and we are looking forward to it and the Macintosh theme.



### Badminton

Two Badminton Groups are now in action every Wednesday morning between 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. at Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall.

The 9.00 a.m. Group is full, but we now have a second session each week, starting at 10.00 a.m., at which new faces will be very welcome, so please email Geoff Stocker at: [Geoff](mailto:Geoff) if you want to join this session, noting that you do need to have played Badminton previously.

### Bowling

The 2025 U3A Outdoor Crown Green Bowling season will start around the beginning of April next year. Although not a U3A activity, for those interested, indoor bowling sessions are run by High Legh Bowling Club in High Legh village hall on Monday and Wednesday Afternoons from 1.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Winter Membership & Session fees are modest.

### French -Advanced

After our return to Lymm from France we had the treat of a session led by Paul Thompson, a writer, singer



and performer who lives locally - he got us thinking about the joys and challenges of translating songs and poetry, focusing on Jacques Brel, and Jake Thackray. Paul sang a few songs to illustrate matters. It really was a delight for everyone. Many thanks to Carol for arranging this.

### Genealogy

We had such an interesting meeting. Tim gave us a presentation on a One Name Study on the surname Old, showing us that it was a Saxon name. He took us through a well-illustrated story of early England and used census data, birth country details and statistics to show us how the name "Old" was distributed across Dorset and the Southwest. There were 760 Olds recorded in the 1841 census, 60% of whom lived in the south-west of England which was the Saxon heartland.

## Mosaic Group

Over the summer Lynne Hopwood turned her creativity to a unique outdoor project, turning a



wall into a fabulous piece of mosaic artwork about 12 feet by six feet. I'm sure you'll agree this is an amazing piece of work. Bravo Lynne!

## Poetry Group

Fiona gave a most interesting appreciation of Les Barker who combined comedic pieces with more serious poems. Following this we recited and discussed our own poems on the subject of 'Peace' as well as looking at a number of other pieces on the same subject. Next meeting: Thursday 28th November, 12.30 p.m.

## Sketching Out

Our October meeting was in the Dog and Partridge pub in Warrington, with complimentary coffees and teas provided by Helen, the manager, who we have previously seen at the Pickering Arms. All members opted for the cosiness of the bar area and enjoyed a very relaxing morning. Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November Golden Square Warrington, 10.15 a.m.

## Theatre

What a wonderful experience it was going to see War Horse at the Lowry. 10 members met in the Foyer Café with eager anticipation, and they were not disappointed! The production was mesmerising. The horses became real and there was not a dry eye as the first half ended! The second half also highly charged our emotions and as the performers took their bow there was a standing ovation. I know a number of you will have seen the film but if you haven't seen the stage production we can highly recommend it. Our next outing is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November to the Garrick Theatre to see 'Vicar of Dibley Christmas; The Second Coming.'

## Walking Groups

### Striders



Mam Tor was the plan but I should have known better! Forecast was a choice between heavy rain and fog so a hasty change of plan on Tuesday and 14 of us enjoyed a 9 + mile walk round Chelford and I believe we had better weather than Lymm. It didn't rain all the time! As I write this the day after the sun is shining. Very annoying! Mam Tor will have to keep until the summer. Next walk. Marple Ridge. 8.5 miles Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### 4-6ers

Seventeen members gathered in a field at the Ice Cream Factory near Great Budworth (sadly, only open Thursday to Sunday). However much you prepare for a walk our leader could not have expected a seemingly never-ending line of cows walking as cows do (taking their time) from farm to field across our route. We are only five minutes in. Herd through we take a pleasant route across fields towards Arley Hall and through Great Budworth, finishing with lunch at the Cock O' Budworth pub. Thanks Barbara and Elaine for receiving the walk for us.



## Ukulele

You may wonder what the link is between George Ezra and Judy Garland. Well, these are just two of the artists included in a raft of new songs which were played for the first time by the Ukulele 4 Fun Interest Group on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Over the Summer members of the group were asked to nominate brand new songs to be added to our playlist and 9 new songs were selected. It included some songs that were not only from this century, but also this decade! Songs from Bruno Mars, Bob Dylan, Melanie, Sting, Ewan McColl, Dolly Parton, Jason Donovan, George Ezra and Judy Garland were all played for the first time. It was quite a challenge to have a session completely focused on new songs, but it was great fun. And fun is what the group is all about. If you would like to join our group, then please remember that "musical experience is NOT necessary" and you don't need to "read music". You can learn to play a ukulele "one chord (finger pattern) at a time" and then just play the chords you know and sing along to the rest. It's a great way to spend a winter Tuesday evening. Group

## Friday Rambles

It was a perfect Autumn Day for a walk in Delamere Forest. Our climb up to Old Pale Hill gave 360-degree views across the county and beyond. Fired on by the promise of lunch we climbed up Eddisbury Hill, the site of the largest of Cheshire's hilltop enclosures, defended by one race or another since the Bronze Age. Sandwiches are consumed with the most peaceful and stunning landscape in front of us. Then it was back to the cars along the Sandstone Trail. Thanks to Kath for leading a super walk.



### 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.

### 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 Interest Groups. This is for normal entry. Contact Sue Mitchell [chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk) and I will arrange for you to collect it from me.

### Committee Contact Details

<b>Chair</b>	Susan Mitchell	<a href="mailto:chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">chair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Marcia Dale	<a href="mailto:vicechair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">vicechair@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Pauline Holloway	<a href="mailto:secretary@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">secretary@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rod King	<a href="mailto:treasurer@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">treasurer@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Allen Sealby	<a href="mailto:membership@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">membership@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Venues</b>	Marcia Dale	<a href="mailto:venues@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">venues@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Group Coordinator</b>	Muriel Howarth	<a href="mailto:groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Social</b>	Lynn Bryant	<a href="mailto:socialevents@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">socialevents@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>IT Support</b>	John Bower	<a href="mailto:it@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">it@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Publicity</b>	Catherine Bower	<a href="mailto:publicity@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">publicity@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Committee member</b>	Jim Owen	<a href="mailto:jim@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">jim@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Committee Member</b>	Barbara Price	<a href="mailto:barbara@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">barbara@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Non-Committee:</b>		
<b>Speakers</b>	Christine Ballance	<a href="mailto:speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">speakers@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Sue Mitchell	<a href="mailto:newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk">newsletter@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk</a>

## u3a – Online Learning Events

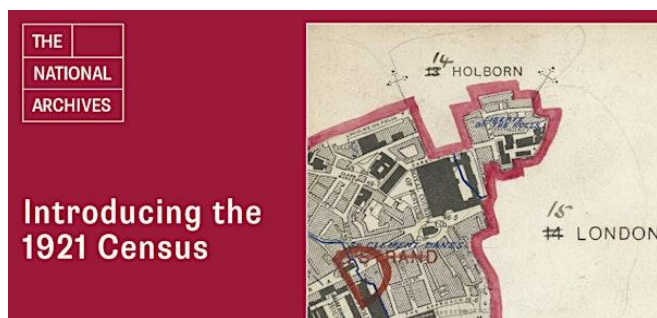
As well as joining our groups you can subscribe to Interest Groups Online (formerly called Trust u3a). Interest Groups Online is a platform for collaborative learning. It is an online community, bringing people together from across the u3a movement and beyond. There are around 70 different groups that 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](#).

### A Deep Dive into the 1921 Census

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 a.m. – 12. noon

This talk will cover one of The National Archives' most recent records releases, and explore how the census was taken, analysed and some of the stories which can be drawn from it. Released in 2022, the 1921 Census was one of the first "big data" releases and studying it reveals fascinating insights into the lives and experiences of our forebears.

**Dr Jessamy Carlson** Jessamy leads the Community & Transport team in the Collections Expertise & Engagement department at The National Archives. She is currently working on the re-cataloguing of WO 399, the records of pre-1939 military nurses, and on the history of the Home Office Research Unit, alongside other projects. Recently, she led public engagement for the release of the 1921 Census in 2022.



### Summing up the 19th Century

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

19th Century Britain was the time of Florence Nightingale, Ada Lovelace, Charles Dickens, the development of our railway network and London's sewers. In this session we will be illuminating the 19th Century through the eyes of a Historian (Ian) and a Mathematician (David).

We will be attempting to ask questions such as 'How safe was it to live in the 19th Century?', 'How did major changes in transportation change the life of ordinary Victorians?' 'What role did Mathematicians play in developments in the 19th Century?' The 19th Century was a time of political and social reform, the setting up of 2000 cycling clubs and the emergence of the petrol motor car. Join us to be transported back to the 19th Century.

#### 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](http://www.u3a.org.uk/events)

#### 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](mailto:enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)

**Our Groups** If you would like to join any of our groups, [groups@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto: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 <sup>st</sup> Thursday a.m.	The Spread Eagle, Lymm
Book Club 2	1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	Various, see web site
Flower Arranging	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday p.m.	St. Mary's Church Hall
French (Advanced)	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday a.m.	The Sanctuary Hub Lymm
French Conversation Advanced	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday p.m.	The Spread Eagle Lymm
Games Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday p.m.	Lymm Village Hall
Genealogy	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday am	Sanctuary Hub Lymm
German	Monday	Private home and via zoom
I.T. Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday a.m.	Lymm Baptist Church
The Lunch Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	Contact via website
Mosaic	Friday a.m.	St. Mary's Church Hall
Music Appreciation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday p.m.	Lymm Youth / Community Centre
Philosophy	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday a.m.	The Spread Eagle, Lymm
Poetry	4 <sup>th</sup> 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 Friday Rambles	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	Varous
Walking Striders	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Various
Wellbeing Birdwatching	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	Various Locations
Writing Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	The Spread Eagle

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

