

## MARTOCK & DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER NO 49, AUGUST 2022

Welcome to your August Newsletter. Apologies that it is rather later than usual but there is plenty to tell you...

### Monthly Meetings

Our next monthly meeting is **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September** with a talk on The Geological Background to the Island of Tenerife, Mount Teide and its surrounding area of Los Canedas. The speaker Ian Winkle invites you to look at a video of the eruption of Mount Kilauea in Hawaii as an introduction to the talk. The link to the video is [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_zeUdtx\\_KAI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zeUdtx_KAI)

The meetings are at Martock Parish Hall and the aim is for speakers to start shortly after 2.30pm and you are welcome to come from 2.15pm.

Future talks are:

**12<sup>th</sup> October** - Service Dogs UK with Nigel Rousell

**9<sup>th</sup> November** - What can we do about climate change?

You are also welcome to attend the meetings of other local u3a groups with whom we are linked. Please remember to take your u3a membership card with you so that you can confirm that you are a u3a member.

Crewkerne - Monday 5 September 2pm George Reynolds Centre

The History of Jazz - descriptions of incredible characters encountered during his wonderful life in the musical theatre

Chard & Ilminster - Monday 19 September 2pm The Guildhall

One Gun: Two Dead - The Hastings Murder of 1911, an illustrated musical talk by Miranda Pender

Somerton - Friday 23 September 2022 10.30 Edgar Hall

Glass Wonderful World - with glass expert Dr. Francis Burroughs

Camelot - Friday 30 September 2.30pm Caryford Hall Ansford

Posted in the Past - the true stories behind postcards sent in the early years of the 20th century

If you know of anyone who could give an interesting talk at one of our monthly meetings, please contact one of the members of the Committee (details at the end of this Newsletter).

### Come along to our Open Afternoon

u3a Week, celebrating the u3a and its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is the 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September and you may see national publicity. So many people have not heard about the u3a or, if they have heard, do not know the opportunities that it offers, so we will be taking part by holding an Open Afternoon on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2.30pm at Martock Parish Hall - and with free tea coffee and cake!

Do come along - and let your friends know and bring them along so that they can find out more.

Most of the interest groups will have members with information about the group so it the ideal opportunity to find out more and to sign up.

To continuing publicising our u3a we would like to have posters for our Monthly Meetings round the area, so could you help by putting up posters? Posters are needed in Ash, Stoke and Norton Sub

Hamdon, Long Load, Over Stratton and other villages. Please contact a Committee member if you can help.

## Committee News

We are pleased to welcome Alison Bleasdale to the Committee. Alison will be Web Manager and will be keeping our new website up to date.

We still have a vacancy for a Publicity Secretary as we need a full Committee. Please do consider volunteering, and contact Diana, Chair if you are interested or would like more information.

In October all committee members have to be re-elected and all members of our u3a are invited to stand for any of the Committee posts they are interested in. The list of Committee posts is at the end of the Newsletter. I hope that you will stand as a member of the Committee so that we can fill all the posts and you can help keep our u3a strong and growing.

## u3a Newsletter

The u3a Trust issues a monthly Newsletter with stories from other u3a groups round the country. If you like to read the latest copy, the link is below:

<https://mailchi.mp/u3a/your-u3a-national-newsletter-august-2022?e=25e5d39d84>

If you would like to receive direct email copies of the Newsletter, click the link below:

[sign up directly to the newsletter](#)

## u3a Online Events

The u3a Trust has an events page where you can join in and listen to talks or learn in interactive sessions. You can get involved with the many [online talks & workshops](#) which are open for all members including logic challenges, a weekly maths quiz, painting and drawing - a themed monthly art gallery, extreme knitting and crotchet and sharing book group reviews.

The u3a Trust is inviting members to share their ideas, stories, photos and recipes on the u3a website. To see ideas from other u3a members and add yours the link is: [our learning pages](#).

## A Day Out

If anyone else would like to join the Science Group on their trip to Kimmeridge on 7th September, please contact Greg Atkins ([martocku3atreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:martocku3atreasurer@gmail.com)). This will include a visit to the Fossil Museum, lunch at Clavell's Restaurant and a visit to Kimmeridge Bay. The costs will be £9 entrance fee, plus lunch and whatever you agree with your driver for parking and petrol.

## Groups News

We're hoping to give news of some of our groups in each of our newsletters from here on in. Here's a start:

**Book Club** - we are hoping to get the Book Club kicked off again and would very much like to hear from any of you who might be interested in such a group. We do need to hear from you before getting it going again so that we can gauge if there is sufficient interest. Contact our Groups Secretary, Mary Marshall, whose details are at the end of the newsletter.

**Birdingwatching** - this group seems to have lapsed over the Covid pandemic and one or two members have indicated that they'd like it to start up again. Again, please contact Mary Marshall if you're interested.

**Mindfulness** - this group gives us the tools to help us through stressful and trying times. It runs on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 1500 - 1700 hours, usually at a member's house. Why not give it a try? Again, Mary Marshall is your contact here, although she is also the facilitator of this group.

**Photography** - this group is another that has also somewhat lapsed over the last couple of years; it was a thriving group but now needs a facilitator to get it going again. Anyone interested? Contact Mary Marshall if you are!

**Mah Jong** - this group is also looking for a few new members to make sure that there are the number needed to play at each meeting. If you would like to join please contact Mary Marshall.

**Walking Netball** - We are still very much hoping to get this group up and running but have run into some difficulties in getting a location for it. We'll be hoping to have more news on this subject next month.

## **Members News**

We heard some fantastic news from one of our members, Christabel Atkins, who has had a piece of her artwork accepted for display at the prestigious Bristol Royal West Academy. Here's picture of it:



This piece of work, called Feral Woman's Shoes, has been made entirely of pheasant feathers, shaped round a mould and the work itself took Chris around two months to complete, although the concept itself took considerably longer to work out.

The display in Bristol will start in October; the exact date is not yet confirmed, but will last around three months.

If you're interested in seeing more of Chris's artistic work and paintings, have a look on her website: [christabelatkinsvisualartist.co.uk](http://christabelatkinsvisualartist.co.uk). If you are interested in seeing some of her work in person, Chris welcomes visitors to her studio in East Street, Martock.

## **You May Like.....**

To have information about other local events or online talks that you might enjoy:

Keep fit classes at Norton Sub Hamdon village hall - Thursday 10am - 11am (term time)  
Nicky Barker has been running Keep Fit classes locally for many years for the 'over 50s'! It is a fun class, gentle, no major aerobic exercises. Currently £5 per week. Classes will be starting again on Thursday, 8th September. Anyone interested, please contact Diana, Chair.

There will be a 'Come for Coffee' session on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September in Martock Parish Hall from 10.00 - 12.00 hours. Cafetière coffee and pots of tea £1 pp, and home-made cakes 50p - £1 will be served, and there will also be a raffle. Profits support local and international charities. All are

warmly invited, please bring friends and neighbours and well-behaved dogs on leads are happily admitted.

The Ilminster Thursday Group is holding a series of talks. The talks are at the Warehouse | Theatre, Brewery Lane, Ilminster TA19 9AD. Talks start at 10.15am with tea and coffee from 9.15am.  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September - Trick or Treat Richard Kay Fakes and forgeries in the Art Market.  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October - The West Country's Last Line of Defence - The Taunton Stop Line a 50-mile defensive wall spanning Somerset, Devon and Dorset created by 1940 as the threat of invasion grew  
Thursday October 13<sup>th</sup> - John Edward Taylor, founder of the Manchester Guardian and born in Ilminster  
Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup> - Blood, Earth & Medicine , a study of agricultural labour and farm work in Dorset with anecdotes about farming and working conditions in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.  
Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup> - Out of Africa with Nomad (our trusty motorhome), adventures from Tanzania through Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, coping with endless bureaucracy and appalling roads, but with stunning scenery, and amazing cultures.

Somerton u3a are organising a coach tour of the Historic Houses and Heritage of Suffolk. The five day tour in October will include all excursion travel, guided tours and half board accommodation. For more information contact Jane Redgrove on 01458 899962 or redgrove@btinternet.com

## **Finally....**

Do you have any ideas for the Newsletter, know of any speakers that you think would be of interest to members, or ideas for our u3a? If you do, please get in touch with one of the Committee.

## **Members Birthdays**

Members who have birthdays this month have been:

- Dallas Harris
- Jan Hawes
- Anne Paske
- Jeff Harris

Our very best wishes go to them all, somewhat belatedly!

A quick reminder that if you would like a birthday mention in our Newsletter, please let us know your month of birth (to any of the Committee members mentioned below).

### **Contact Details:**

Telephone 01460 240788 email [martocku3amembership@gmail.com](mailto:martocku3amembership@gmail.com), through Facebook Martock & District U3A.

### **Committee**

Position	Name	Email
Chair	Diana Davies	<a href="mailto:martocku3achair@gmail.com">martocku3achair@gmail.com</a>
Vice Chair		
Secretary	Sue Roberts	<a href="mailto:martocku3asecretary@gmail.com">martocku3asecretary@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Greg Atkins	<a href="mailto:martocku3atreasurer@gmail.com">martocku3atreasurer@gmail.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Susie Stakes	<a href="mailto:martocku3amembership@gmail.com">martocku3amembership@gmail.com</a>

Groups Secretary	Mary Marshall	<a href="mailto:martocku3agroupssec1@gmail.com">martocku3agroupssec1@gmail.com</a>
Events	Mal Nelson-Hedge	<a href="mailto:martocku3aevents1@gmail.com">martocku3aevents1@gmail.com</a>
Publicity Secretary		
Web Manager	Alison Bleasdale	
Committee Member	Barbara Gomm	
President	Sue MacLean	