

July 2019

The next meeting will be on

TUESDAY 2ND JULY
10.00 am at The Arena

Our Speaker will be

ZOE GIBSON

who will talk to us about

**ANDREW CARNEGIE, INDUSTRIALIST,
BUSINESS MAGNATE AND PHILANTHROPIST**

Doors open at 9.40 am

***** IMPORTANT *****

Please note: All those attending the monthly meetings must sign in at either of the two desks at the entrance to the meeting hall of The Arena. This is necessary so that we know how many have attended and, even more important, **it is required to comply with fire regulations**. If you arrive early, before the signing-in sheet is available, please make sure you return to the desk later to sign in.

Notes from the Chair

July 2019

I would like to say a personal 'Thank you' to all the members who helped to make the June Social Open Meeting a success. I am not going to name individual names, so a big Thank You to everyone who helped on the Tuesday morning.

There were a couple of complaints, music too loud, too much food and a request for more fresh salad items on the table. We had catered for 120 members, but unfortunately quite a few Members decided Jazz was not the thing for them, but who could have failed to enjoy Roger Browne's performance, and Kevin's lively music as you left the Arena?

What is the saying? – You can't please

There is still time to book a place for the Christmas Lunch at Erewash Valley Golf Club on Monday 16th December 2019. (See the Menu below) The cost of the meal is £20.00. A £5.00 deposit will secure your place and the balance is payable in November.

Are you interested in starting a new Interest Group? If you have any ideas for a new Interest group now would be a good time to start, just in time to promote it at the October Interest Group Fair. If you need any help please contact Group Co-Ordinators Ann Riley or Andrew Wright.

The Coffee Morning to welcome new members is on Monday 8th July 10.30am at The Project, Bath Street Ilkeston (formerly the old Woolworths building). All Members are welcome to come and join in welcoming and sharing your experiences of Ilkeston U3A with our new members.

**Ann Riley
Chair**

CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU for Monday 16th December 2019

Welcome drink on arrival Sparkling White Wine or Fresh Orange Juice

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### **MAINS**

*Grilled Cod Loin with Hollandaise Sauce (GF)*

~ or ~

*Traditionally Served Roast Turkey, Christmas stuffing and Rich Gravy*

~ or ~

*Portobello Mushroom, Brie, Hazelnut & Cranberry Wellington (V)*

*Chef's Selection of Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Roast and New Potatoes*

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DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding Served with Brandy Sauce

~ or ~

Strawberry Swirl Cheesecake with Vanilla Ice Cream (GF)

~ or ~

Trio of Ice Cream

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*Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea and Mince Pies to Finish*

**£20.00pp**

# Groups Round Up

## Science for All

Members of the group brought along one or two questions for the rest of us to discuss and answer if possible. Samples of these questions were as follows:-

### **How fast are we really moving when it seems we are not moving at all?**

Our planet turns on its axis once a day and all of us who live on the Earth's surface are moving with it. To make one complete rotation in 24 hours, a point near the equator of the Earth must move at close to 1000 miles per hour (1600 km/hr)

### **What makes a vapour trail?**

Jets leave white trails, or contrails, in their wakes for the same reason you can sometimes see your breath. The hot, humid exhaust from jet engines mixes with the atmosphere, which at high altitude is of much lower vapour pressure and temperature than the exhaust gas.

### **Where does all the water from large falls such as Niagara come from?**

In the case of major rivers, they usually don't run out of water because they drain a very large area of land.

Niagara falls won't run dry anytime soon because it connects two of the Great Lakes, which contain a massive amount of water.

### **When metal heats up it expands and contracts on cooling. Why does water contract between 0 and 4 degrees?**

While heating, at 0–4 degree Celsius range, the volume of the water decreases

When ice is heated from 0 to 4 degrees C, it actually contracts. The hydrogen bonds are broken because of heat and as a result, water molecules can come near to one another and the water occupies less volume. However, above 4 degrees C water expands as it is heated like most other liquids

### **Has our universe a centre?**

By definition, nothing infinite can have a centre. The observable universe is the region of the universe we can observe, defined by how far

light has travelled since the Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago. But this does not mean that Earth is the centre of the universe. If you were to move to another star 10 billion light years away, you would still be the centre of your own, significantly different observable universe.

### **Can anything such as radiation travel faster than the speed of light?**

Nothing has ever been observed travelling faster than light but that does not mean it is not theoretically possible to break this speed limit in very special circumstances. Take, for instance, the expansion of the Universe itself. There are galaxies in the Universe moving away from one another at a velocity greater than the speed of light.

### **Why do snails not eat weeds?**

Weeds **are** less attractive to slugs & snails due to them having a built in chemical in them that tastes nasty. Other plants are sweet.

Snails don't do a lot of damage at ground level, but they are strong climbers. They find their way up flowering plants to eat flower buds, succulent leaves and vegetables.

### **How do induction hobs work?**

The induction hob does not produce any heat itself. Induction creates a magnetic field between the pan and a copper coil beneath the glass top transferring the energy only to the surface of your pan, turning it into heat. This only works if your pan is made of ferrous metal (stainless steel or cast iron).

### **How much can an in utero foetus hear and even understand?**

Around week 25 or 26, babies in the womb have been shown to respond to voices and noise. Recordings taken in the uterus reveal that noises from outside of the womb are muted by about half. That's because there's no open air in the uterus. The baby is surrounded by amniotic fluid and wrapped in the layers of the mother's body. That means all noises from outside your body will be muffled.

The most significant sound your baby hears in the womb is your voice. In the third trimester, your baby can already recognize it. They will

## Groups Round Up continued

respond with an increased heart rate that suggests they are more alert when you're speaking.

As for classical music, there's no evidence that it will improve a baby's IQ. But there's no harm in playing music for your baby and it might serve to calm the mother.

### **What is the speed of Gravity?**

We know how fast light travels, and if the Sun were to suddenly wink out of existence, we'd still receive light from it for just over 8 minutes after it disappeared!

But what about gravity and the Earth's orbit? Would the Earth simply fly off in a straight line, like a twirled Maori poi ball the instant a string broke?

This is a difficult question that many eminent scientists are trying to solve and there are three arguments to that show that the speed of gravity is much faster than light. However none of these are currently universally accepted so Einstein still rules!

### **Can trees communicate with each other?**

Trees share water and nutrients through root networks and also use them to communicate. They send distress signals about drought and disease, for example, or insect attack and other trees alter their behaviour when they receive these messages. Scientists call these mycorrhizal networks.

### **Can a worm survive if it is chopped in half?**

If an earthworm is split in two, it will not become two new worms. The head of the worm may survive and regenerate its tail if the animal is cut behind the clitellum. The original tail of the worm will not be able to grow a new head (or the rest of its vital organs), and will instead die.

### **Black holes**

Discussion around this subject produced more questions than answers and we realised that this is a whole new area of science needing further explanation.

This is just a representation of the discussions which took place, and it was pleasing to note that a wide variety of subjects were covered.

We ended the session by watching a video provided by Veolia our local recycling and waste collectors.

We were able to see how the recycled products were separated and then baled to deliver to companies involved in producing items for reuse.

**Janet Joy**

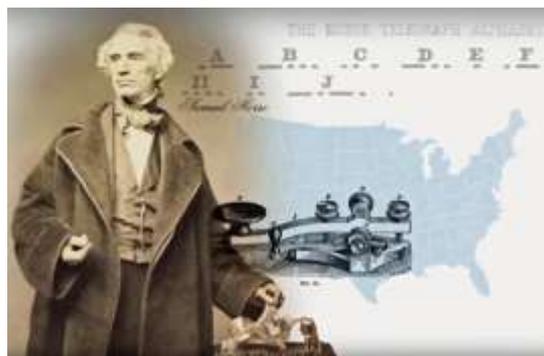
### **History 2**

Sadly, our speaker for the June meeting was unexpectedly admitted to hospital a short time before he was due to speak to us. We hope he returns to good health quickly and we have sent him our best wishes.

Within 24 hours it was necessary to communicate with expected attendees either by telephone or email regarding the change of programme. A new programme was compiled with the aid of the internet and the result downloaded onto a laptop in a form suitable for transmitting via a TV to our audience.

We commenced our meeting discussing how this would not have been possible to achieve in 24 hours in the not too distant past.

This was followed by a short video looking at the progress in communication since 1832 when Alessandro Volta was responsible for introducing the world to electricity and thus powering a huge revolution with information being transmitted over wires.



In 1866 Samuel Morse developed the Morse Code.

In 1876 Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas A. Watson exhibited an electric telephone in Boston.

## Groups Round Up continued

In 1925 John Logie Baird transmitted the first television signal.



*Jackie the Lion recording the MGM Roar in 1928*

In 2002 Charles Babbage's scientific ideas were finally translated into a functioning computer—153 years after he designed it.

We then looked at some historical photos and enjoyed discussing ones that were of significance to us.

Photographs included Helen Keller meeting Charlie Chaplin - Helen acquired an excellent education, in spite of being blind and deaf since infancy and went on to become an important influence on the treatment of the blind and deaf.

Niagara Falls were completely frozen in the winter of 1911.

The remains of Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov who fell from space in 1967.

Drivers in Sweden confused after switching from driving on the left to the right-hand side of the road in 1967

Nazis stopping citizens from entering a Woolworths In 1933 because it was a Jewish shop

The real-life Christopher Robin holding Winnie the Pooh.

The first McDonalds in 1948

Fidel Castro and Che Guevara on a fishing trip in 1960.

The first photograph of Machu Picchu in 1912.

Elvis Presley in the Army in 1958.

Katherine Switzer, the first woman to run the Boston Marathon in 1967 although men attempted to stop her!

There was also a topical one of American soldiers approaching a Normandy beach on D Day June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944.

Altogether we viewed 75 photos and it was interesting and often amusing to hear the many comments made by our members.

**Janet Joy**

### Gardening

The May meeting of the Garden Group was held at the Fire Station, where we were given an illustrated talk by returning speaker Jeff Bate, about the history of the development of the garden.

This interesting talk featured various examples of how gardens had evolved from the early times of the chase for hunting, to the manipulation of the countryside to create stunning vistas by designers such as Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton.

The development of the gardens at Chatsworth was a good example of how a garden has evolved and is still changing and adapting to the trends of the time.

**Anne Wood**

### Bowls—What a Washout!

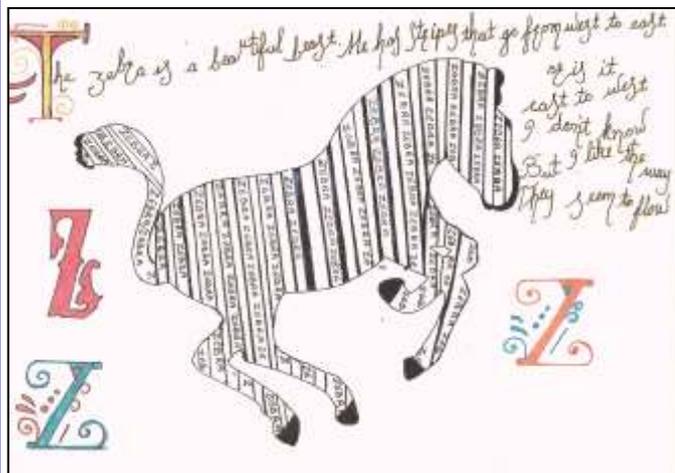
Unfortunately we have been unable to play this month as the green was too slippery. However compared to how some areas of the country have been affected that's only a small inconvenience! We are hoping good weather is around the corner and play will resume for us on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of July. Anyone interested in joining us please contact me on 07795 191347 or turn up at one of the sessions. We play at The Stute Bowls Club, Ilkeston Rugby Ground, Hallam Fields Road 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month 1-3 pm. Wear flat soled shoes or trainers. Training given and other equipment provided.

**Deb Bond**

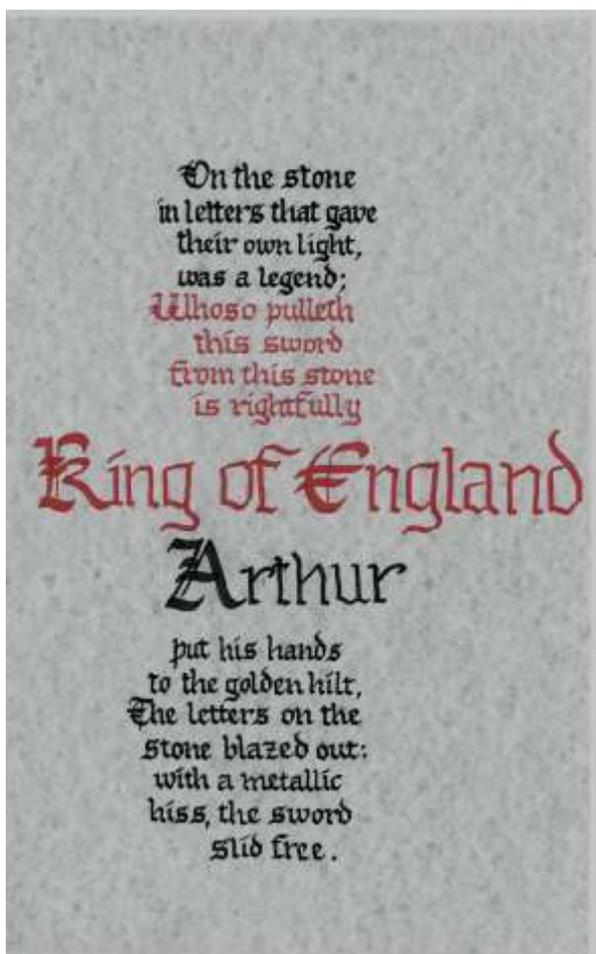
## Groups Round Up Continued

### Calligraphy

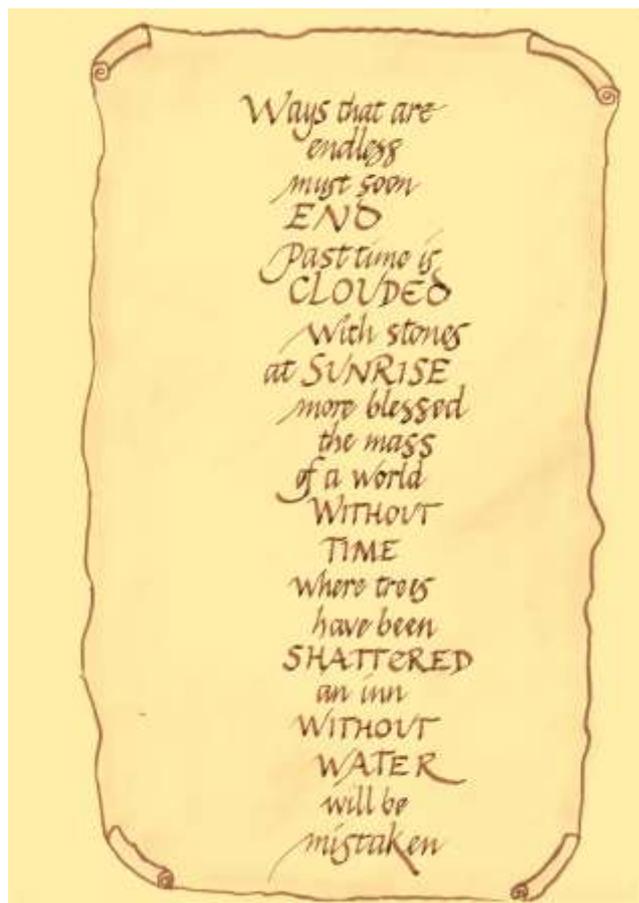
This month's contributions are three different styles of the art of calligraphy:



**Z is for Zebra** is by Val H. The stripes are made up of the word 'zebra'. The rhyme is written in modern calligraphy.



**Arthur, King of England** by June is in Gothic, also called Black Hand.



**The Sepia Scroll**, also by June, is in Pointed Italic.

Linda McKay

### History 1

At our June meeting we were entertained by an excellent speaker, Graham Hayes, regarding Leonardo da Vinci and his inventions. It was a fascinating insight into a remarkable man, who was far in advance of his time. He was born in 1452 and died in 1519. His inventions were far advanced but his early version of a helicopter literally never got off the ground! However, his version of a hang glider was remarkably similar to the modern day version we see frequently in our skies. One of his inventions that has been developed over time was the parachute. Apparently it did work.

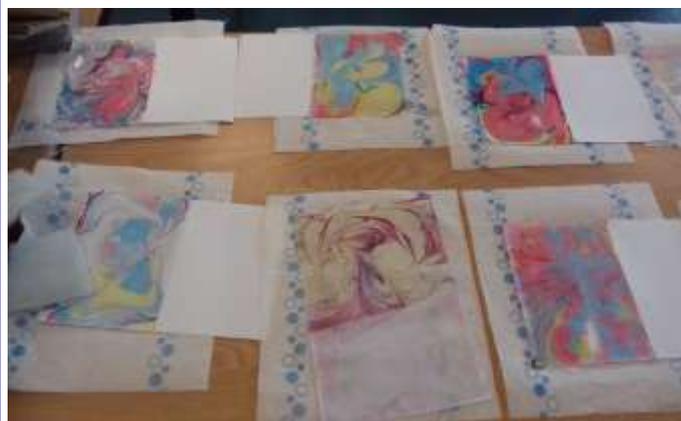
Our July meeting will be a visit to Pickford's House and Derby Museum.

Mike Stone (Joint Leader HG1)

## Groups Round Up Continued

### Craft

We had a brilliant time this month! Two activities for the price of one, and I do love a bargain! Barbara and Val organised us so that we could have a go at marbling, the first time we've tried it at the craft class. Some of us used the technique to ink wooden flowers to hang. Some covered pegs and put magnets on the back, for all those lists we like to make, to be attached to fridges or freezers. And some covered paper so we can use it to create cards when we get home. Val had the brilliant idea of using remaining liquid to cover paper and take it to the Calligraphy group to use. I wonder how they will use the sheets? While we took turns to "marble" items the rest of the group made an aperture card filled with beautifully printed silk. A very satisfying morning!



*Marbled Paper*



*Aperture Cards, Marbled Flowers and Pegs*

Deb Bond

## This affects us all, doesn't it?

### Dear Friends,

I just signed the petition "Stop NHS Cuts in Erewash" and wanted to ask if you could add your name too.

This campaign means a lot to me and the more support we can get behind it, the better chance we have of succeeding. You can read more and sign the petition here:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-nhs-cuts-in-erewash>

### Thank you!

Joyce Lewis

Ilkeston U3A member

P.S. Can you also take a moment to share the petition with others? It's really easy— all you need to do is just forward this email or share this link on Facebook or Twitter:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-nhs-cuts-in-erewash>

## Items of Further Interest



# Wednesday 10th July 2019

You are invited to a picnic in the historical grounds of Hardwick Hall.

There are entrance fees for non National Trust Members, as follows:

Car Park £5 per vehicle  
Gardens Only £7.50 per person  
House and Gardens £15.00 per person

Everyone to meet at 11.30am on the far side of the visitor centre, either on the grass or under the shelter, weather dependent.

Picnic area is found in front of the restaurant, where picnic tables are set out, or you may want to sit on the grass.

Gardens open at 9.00am  
House opens at 11.00am  
Please bring suitable clothing should it rain.

The restaurant will be open should we need shelter, however we are not allowed to eat our own food in there.

Satnav postcode S44 5RW



Artwork, Batsford District U3A

# Items of Further Interest

## **Beeston Civic Society - Heritage Walks 2019**

Once again these ever popular strolls around Beeston are to be led by Professor John V Beckett.

Open to all they provide insights into how the area once was - perhaps provoking how it might be in the future. They take place on Sunday afternoons; all begin at 2.30 and last between 2 and 2.5 hours:

**16 June 2019**

### **East Beeston**

Assemble at the entrance to Broadgate Park. We look at the Victorian suburb of East Beeston - the area that expanded in the later nineteenth century. Industrial premises included Humber works and Beeston Boilers. Rows of terraced houses still indicate where the workforce lived - and their leisure pursuits spent in pubs and churches

**28 July 2019**

### **The Freehold Land Estates**

Assemble at Wilmot Lane car park. Freehold Land Societies, not unlike modern Building Societies, were invented by the Victorians to try to enable middle class people to own their own home. The walk takes us through various estates - Park Road and Grove Avenue, Belle Vue Park, Imperial Park, St John's Grove, and Chilwell High Road - then back to the start.

**15 September 2019**

### **Beeston Heritage Trail**

This walk will begin and end in Beeston Square providing a brief introduction to the town's history. Walkers will circle the centre of Beeston to take in the remaining mills, the High Road, Middle Street, new developments and old Beeston. Come on the walk to learn something about Beeston and be challenged to find out more!



## **LAKESIDE FESTIVAL 2019**

**Sunday 7th July from 12 noon  
to 4.00 pm**

**At Kirk Hallam Lake  
Godfrey Drive**

**Organised by The Friends of  
Kirk Hallam Lake and  
Meadows**

The Festival highlight the many aspects of the rich wildlife of this site, and also includes other invited organisations with similar aims to help animals, wildlife and the natural world.

With many attractions, including ponies, parrots, exotic animals, food, crafts, performances by Derby Serenaders and the Studio Players and lots more.



## *Ilkeston Heritage and Classic Vehicle Show*

**Ilkeston Town Centre**

**Sunday 11th August**

**10 am to 4 pm**



## **WORDS OF WISDOM**

**FREE WRITING WORKSHOPS  
FOR PEOPLE 55+**

**EVERY MONDAY 12:30 - 2:30PM  
1ST - 29TH JULY 2019**

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