

November 2019

The next meeting will be on
TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER
10.00 am at The Arena

Our Speaker

GARETH HOWELL

will pose the question

**THE GUNPOWDER PLOT—A TERRORIST PLOT
OR GOVERNMENT CONSPIRACY?**

***** CAR PARKING AT THE ARENA *****

Due to limited car parking spaces at The Arena and the surrounding area can we remind our Members we do have an arrangement with Dunelm, where our Members have unlimited free car parking on their car park.

Please note: Tesco Car parking is restricted to a maximum of 2 hours for customers only.

***** 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.

Messages from the Committee

Renewal of Membership 2020

The £15 Membership fees for 2020 are due by the 31st December 2019. Renewal forms are available from my table in the Arena during the monthly meetings or you can download them from the website. Please complete both sides of the new form. You can pay by cheque or cash bank transfer, but it would be appreciated that the correct cash is tendered as this helps to make things a little speedier for us all.

Marian Stopper
Membership Secretary

To All Group Leaders and Helpers

I would like to say 'Thank You' to everyone who helped to make the Interest Group Fair a success. We had a hundred members and sixteen visitors to the meeting, which is good considering the awful weather of late. The vibes that have come back from the meeting have been very positive.

On a bit more of a sombre note, we look as if we may be losing the Photography group due to the lack of a Group Leader. This year, we have not started any new groups, so maybe you or your groups can help with some suggestions (preferably polite ones).

I realise it is not easy to run a Group, the need to organise your meetings, finding new interesting ideas but maybe there are some active members within your group who are willing to come forward to help. If so please make either myself, Andrew or a Committee Member aware. Our membership is slowly increasing and it would be nice to have the number of Interest Groups increasing as well.

So once again, thank you to you and your helpers for making this year's event a success.

Kind regards

Ann Riley

The Project

A reminder there is a welcome meeting for new members at The Project, Bath Street, Ilkeston on Monday October 28th 2019 at 2.30pm for afternoon tea or coffee.

It would be very nice if any of our members could come along and join us in welcoming and getting to know our newly joined members for a chat and help them to find out more about Ilkeston U3A's activities.

All members are welcome

Ann Riley
Chair Ilkeston U3A 2019



Messages from the Committee

This is a reminder of the Menu for
ILKESTON U3A CHRISTMAS LUNCH
at
EREWASH VALLEY GOLF CLUB ON MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2019
12.00 NOON FOR 12.30PM



*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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DESSERT

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*

**The balance of £15.00 is due for payment at the November Open Meeting. Cash or cheque payable to Ilkeston U3A Secondary a/c.**

**Please make sure you visit the desk to pay the balance and make your choices from the menu.**

# Groups Round Up

## Photography

The Photography Interest Group run by Philip Francomb looks as if it will be closing.

Sadly, Philip has come to the conclusion the group did not function well since it was moved from the Ilkeston Fire Station to his Newthorpe home. Many of the members have found it difficult to travel to the new venue and Philip feels it had almost come to a natural conclusion.

We have been trying to see if there was any way the Members could run it but without a knowledgeable Group Leader this is not really feasible. The other option was to join with other established photography groups within the cluster and there still is the possibility some members may join the Stapleford group.

If there is any Ilkeston U3A member who feels they can help to keep this group running, please contact Ann Riley or Andrew Wright, Joint Interest Group Co-Ordinators.

**Ann Riley**

## Gardening September Meeting

The Secret Walled Garden at Wollaton Park was built by the fifth Lord Middleton between 1783-88, and maintained by the estate until 1924 when the Hall and the Park were sold to the City Council. The garden was used by the Council until 1991 when it was closed and was abandoned and forgotten. In 2013 the Wollaton Historical and Conservation Society, together with the Friends of Wollaton Park, demanded that the Council should take action to prevent further deterioration, which resulted in a report and plan being published to identify reparatory work.

Work began in January 2019 to start clearing the site. For our September meeting twenty members



of the Gardening Group visited the garden. Pete Forster, from the Friends of Wollaton Park, led us on an interesting and informative tour of the garden. Work has commenced on repairing parts of the wall, which involved clearing brambles and ivy in order to gain access. There is also a local company removing graffiti from the walls in order for work to progress. Trees need to be felled but the necessary equipment cannot be used until training and protective clothing are given, for which funding is required. The Gardener's cottage and adjacent buildings are still in reasonably good condition and it is hoped that eventually these may be restored and converted to a visitors centre, farm shop and activities centre. The original greenhouses were demolished and there are now new buildings occupied by the Council. A six acre area, originally divided into four sections for growing vegetables, etc. has, in recent years, been used for summer school activities and archery. A heated fire wall divided and surrounded the sections, which it is hoped can be restored to illustrate its original function. On leaving the enclosed area there are smaller buildings in disrepair, some of which were potting sheds and others provided accommodation for park staff. Funding for the work so far has come from the Council, local societies and donations. There is a tremendous amount of work to be done, which is carried out voluntarily and they would welcome anyone who wishes to help.

The October meeting will be the Fire Station for a general discussion and quiz.

**Barbara Bailey**

## History 2—Walk around Ilkeston

Colin Lee from History 1 group gave an interesting and informative walk and talk to members of History 2 group on one of the finest sunny mornings of that week. The following is a description of the walk as related by John Stocks. (Janet Joy)

We started our walk on Wharncliffe Road at the Old Police Station, where we left off from our walk on a previous occasion. We then went through the footpath, ginnel or jitty to Pimlico where he showed us the site of the old Ilkeston Swimming Baths and the Town Reservoir (still in use).

## Groups Round Up continued

### *History 2 continued*

Next we went to the Scala Cinema and observed the ornate architecture. Colin informed us that it was purpose built in 1913 on the site of an old graveyard and is the oldest continually running cinema in the country. We then walked down Burns St. and stopped to look at the old chapel which is now converted into flats.



On St. Mary's Street we looked at the large houses which were originally the residences of some of the many wealthy lace factory owners of Ilkeston.

From there we went across the Gregory St. car park, down the short Mount St. on to Bath St. where we observed some of the older buildings and the sites of some of the more important buildings e.g. the Kings Cinema, now demolished and replaced by less aesthetically pleasing modern shops.

We looked into Carrier's Yard, the site of another lace factory then went through the soulless Albion Centre to Burr Lane where we stopped outside the premises of Baltex. This business was founded by the Ball family in 1805 and remains in the ownership of the same family today. They have made many different fabrics and have adapted according to the demands of the time. They were originally framework knitters, later lace glove makers (black lace gloves to satisfy the huge mourning market generated by the Great War). Amongst the current products that they produce is webbing for military uniforms.

Along East Street we looked at Captain Gregory's (now quite dilapidated) and looked at some of the well-preserved residential properties at the top opposite the old Wine Vaults. We then went to the Museum but were unable to enter (closed on Wednesdays) then along Anchor Row to the Market Place where we looked at the Town Hall and St. Mary's Church.

The U3A is a mutual aid organisation and this was a good example of experience and information being passed on by a member for the members.

**John Stocks**

### **Calligraphy**

Halloween always gives the Calligraphers the opportunity to practise Gothic style. These are two excellent examples.



***The Pumpkin—Trick or Treat***  
**By Wendy**



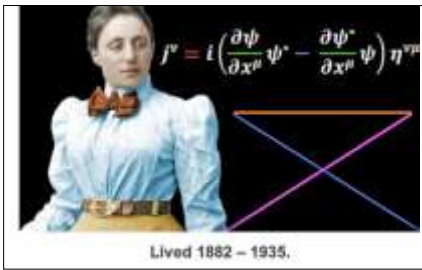
***Ghosties***  
**By June**

# Groups Round Up continued

## Science

Members of the group prepared a short talk on a scientific subject of their choice and I am pleased to report that the presentations were all diverse and well presented.

### Emmy Noether



Amalie Emmy Noether was a German mathematician who made important contributions to abstract algebra

and theoretical physics. Her innovations in higher algebra gained her recognition as the most creative abstract algebraist of modern times. Emmy Noether's 1918 theorems have become a pillar of modern-day physics

At the University of Erlangen, where her father taught, women weren't officially allowed as students, though they could audit classes with the permission of the professor. When the rule changed in 1904, Emmy Noether was quick to take advantage. She enrolled and earned her PhD in 1907.

As a woman, Noether struggled to find a paid academic position, even after being recruited to the University of Göttingen.

In 1915 Einstein said, "Fräulein Noether was the most significant creative mathematical genius thus far produced since the higher education of women began".

She died in 1935 at the age of 53.

### Age of Surveillance Capitalism

Shoshana Zuboff is the author of a book called "The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power".

Her book documents a journey to encounter what is strange, original, and even unimaginable in surveillance capitalism. She examines several major organizations—notably Amazon, Apple, Facebook, Google, and Microsoft—that are in various stages of developing a technologically

advanced and increasingly inescapable raw-material-extraction-operation.

We felt that having no control over our data was a frightening thought.

### The Phlogiston Theory

The ancient Greeks believed that there were four elements that everything was made up of—*earth, water, air, and fire*. This theory was suggested around 450 BC, and it was later supported and added to by Aristotle.

The Phlogiston theory stated that when a substance is burned, phlogiston was supposedly added from the air to the flame of the burning object.

This is a now-discredited 17th century hypothesis regarding combustion.

It was Antoine Lavoisier who disproved the Phlogiston Theory. He renamed the "dephlogisticated air" oxygen when he realized that the oxygen was the part of air that combines with substances as they burn.

British scientist Joseph Priestley independently discovered the element Oxygen in 1774.

### Bee Family Tree

In every bee hive there is one female queen bee who lays all the eggs. If an egg is not fertilised it eventually hatches into a male bee, called a drone.

If an egg is fertilised by a male bee, then the egg produces a female worker bee, who doesn't lay any eggs herself.



It follows that female bees have a mother and father, male bees or drones only have a mother.

A drone's grandfather will only have one parent, while his grandmother will have two, so in total he will have three great-grandparents. One of

# Groups Round Up continued

## Science continued

those will be male and therefore have one parent, while the other two are female and therefore have a total of four parents.

So the original drone will have a total of five great-great grandparents.

The ancestor tree shows that the number of bees at each generation is in the Fibonacci sequence 1,1,2,3,5,8,13...

## Animal Sentience

Animals have shown exceptional signs of pain, sadness and anxiety as well as responding with love and respect especially to other species.

Several images were seen such as a baby deer and dog nuzzling together as well as a sheep lying against a baby elephant.

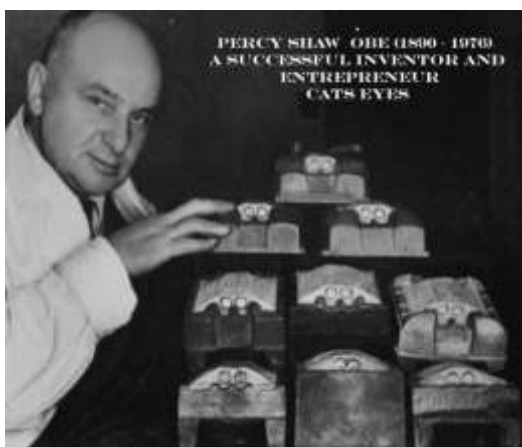


A photographer had taken a shot of a sleeping man of the street together with a Labrador in his arms.

We could see that even the homeless need friends too and it was obvious that there was love and comfort being exchanged.

We should remember that animals are here with us not for us.

## Cat's Eyes



We were introduced to Percy Shaw O.B.E., inventor of the cat's eye.

Percy Shaw, OBE was an English inventor and businessman. He patented the reflective road stud or "cat's eye" in 1934, and set up a company to manufacture his invention in 1935.

We looked at his early workshop, a lady inspecting the eyes and workmen installing the eyes into the road.

It was agreed that drivers would be very disadvantaged without this timely invention.

## Tardigrades

Although these fascinating creatures had been spoken about before, when an Israeli spaceship crashed onto the moon's surface releasing thousands of Tardigrades sent there for research, this time we looked at their structure.

Their tiny endearingly tubby bodies — about half a millimetre long — can dry out for years at a stretch and then revive with no damage. They can endure extreme heat and cold that would kill most other forms of life, and they can even withstand radiation in space.

They are as close to indestructible as it gets, according to researchers. We can therefore, all rest assured that even if a sequence of devastating events — or one enormous planet-killing disaster — manages to wipe out most species alive today, the tardigrades will still somehow manage to come out on top.

We will begin our next meeting with two more presentations of a similar nature before moving on to our scheduled programme.

**Janet Joy**

## **Discussion Group**

We had a very enjoyable and wide ranging discussion in September. We covered topics as varied as "Surveillance Capitalism", "When does fancy dress become non PC?", "Should Private Schools be abolished?" and more.

Our next two meetings are on Monday 28th October and 25th November, starting at 10.30. Feel free to join us at The Church of Christ, Adam Street.

**Robin Short**

## Groups Round Up continued

### Gardening October Meeting

The group met at the Fire Station (perhaps as well in view of the weather) to discuss ideas for meetings in 2020.

We had a good attendance of members and a lively discussion around putting together the programme. I am pleased to say this resulted in a provisional programme which, subject to contacting the appropriate people, will hopefully result in a full schedule of speakers and places of interest to visit. Thank you to the group for their input.

To round off the meeting the group took part in a quiz—just to test their horticultural knowledge!

The final meeting of the year on 29th November, is to Trowell Garden Centre for a demonstration of making Christmas table decorations and door wreaths, which I feel will round off the year very nicely. Any members of the group who wish to go and have not yet contacted me, I will be pleased to hear from them.

**Barbara Bailey**

### Crafts

This month saw the groups making wreaths. Many chose an Autumnal feel to their creations, but one or two went for the “C” word . . . Christmas.



**Deb Bond**



# What's happening in Ilkeston in November

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

10.00 am Service at St Mary's Church, followed by procession to the Cenotaph for the wreath laying and service at 10.50 am

10.35 am Parade will march from South Street car park to the Cenotaph, led by Ilkeston Brass



**ILKESTON  
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS  
SWITCH-ON  
Friday 29th November  
17.30—20.30**

### LETTERS OF HOPE EXHIBITION

The tale of an extraordinary local woman, Hope Robinson, who reported on the conditions of prisoner of war camps during WW2, will be featured in a new exhibition at Erewash Museum.

**The Exhibition opens on Thursday  
14th November and will run until April  
2020.**



**Christmas Wreath  
Decorating  
Saturday 16th November**

**2 Sessions at Victoria Park**

Come along to the Pavilion and decorate a Christmas wreath using natural products

Session 1: 10.30—12.00

Session 2: 13.00—14.30

Booking essential. Please contact your Park Ranger:

**[Debbie stayte@erewash.gov.uk](mailto:Debbie.stayte@erewash.gov.uk)**