

**This month join us at our
Monthly Open Meeting**

on

**Tuesday 4th November
10.00 am–12 noon at
The Arena
Ilkeston**

Our Speaker this month is

Steven Schmidt

On

**A Brief History of Hospitals in
Ilkeston and the charities
supporting them**

Refreshments available

Inside this issue:

- Chairman's Corner, p.2
- Christmas Open Meeting, p.3
- Raffle prize request, p.4
- Interest Groups round-up, p.5
- What you wanted to share, p.10

Coming soon to our Open Meetings

1st Dec: "Boarding Schools for girls in Victorian Derbyshire" by Liz Keeley. Where were they, what were they like and who went to them? Historical detective work with photos and documents.

6th January: "Experiencing Africa" by Paul Sturges. After accepting an invitation to teach at the University of Botswana, Paul spent many years travelling Africa.

3rd February: "Waterman to Waterperry" by Angela Nightingale. A look into the family life of Joseph Warner Henley MP. From humble beginnings to Westminster alongside Disraeli.

***** 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.

Find us on

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1226535837801301> Tel: 07760 966325

Chairman's Corner



It's remarkable how quickly time passes. I had to bite the bullet and replace my mobile last month, as the battery, after four years, decided to not hold its charge any longer (well it was 3-4 years old I suppose). So this month has been spent trying to work out how the new iPhone 16 operates and how it is different to the SEI had before! One of things I have to master is how to turn it to silent and how to turn on/off (luckily if I have my 'ear trumpets' in it rings directly into my ear—or should). New technology can be tricky can't it? But if you have mastered the controls on your mobile, and if you could remember to turn to silent—or off—during meetings, it would be appreciated and I will try to not forget myself.

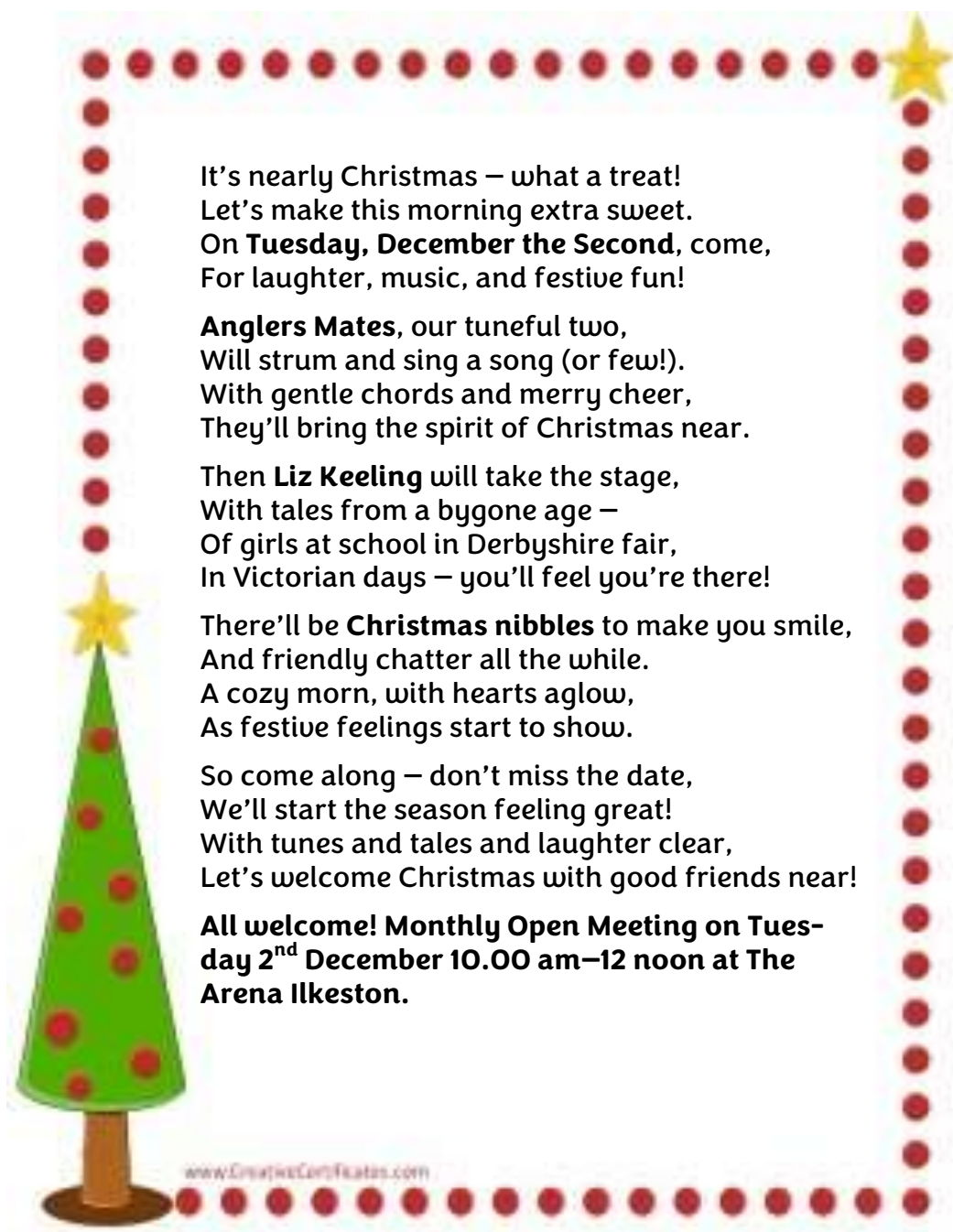
Talking about how time flies, the December meeting will be the Christmas meeting and for that one we have various things planned—more details in the December newsletter—but enough to say that the meeting will include, as well as a speaker, some musical entertainment by the Anglers' Mates, some extra refreshments and a bumper raffle. (If you have anything you feel you could contribute to the raffle, if you could bring the items to the November Open meeting and pass onto Margarete, we would be very grateful). It's worth noting that the meeting will finish a little later at about 12:30 pm.

It is good that Ilkeston U3A continues to thrive but this has meant that a number of the special interest groups are now getting rather full (and some have had to open waiting lists!!). Could you help? Is there a group you would like? Or have you have found the group you would like to join is full? Would you be interested, either individually or as a small group of individuals, in leading a group? If so have a word with Lynne or any of the committee.

Finally, my apologies, as I will be missing—off on holiday—for the November open meeting, but have a good meeting on 4th November.

Andrew

Ilkeston u3a Christmas Open Meeting



Christmas Raffle donation request

If candles, mugs, or scarves abound,
That never leave the box they found,
Please pass them on – don't let them stay,
They'll shine as raffle prizes one day!

Your "unwanted" gifts could bring delight,
And make our raffle season bright!
So drop them in – both big and small,
To share the joy with one and all!

Thank you for supporting Ilkeston U3A!
Raffle donations welcome – please hand to
Barabra Green at November's meeting.



Interest Groups Round-up

Line Dancing

The 3rd Tuesday at Trefoil House

Every third Tuesday, from two until three,
At Trefoil House — oh, what a sight to see!
A clatter of boots and a shuffle of feet,
And hats with more flair than the Texas heat.

They line up in rows, all proper and proud,
Adjusting their brims — “No floppies
allowed!”
With cowboy, bowler, trilby, and cap,
They start their routine with a synchronized
clap.

They grapevine and kick to a country tune,
While someone shouts, “Left foot!” (a second too soon).
The hats bounce and bob in a rhythmic trance —
It’s less of a dance, more a hat romance!

At three o’clock sharp, they tip and they cheer,
“Same time next month — we’ll see you right here!”
For no finer sight could ever be seen,
Than dancing hats at Trefoil — crisp and keen.



Yee ha!

For further information please contact Ann Wheatley Interest group leader.

Brush Strokes

New Leader Required, as unfortunately our current leader has had to retire.

There are six of us who wish to continue and would welcome any new members who enjoy painting. We are a small friendly group but there is room for a few more to join us at Ilkeston fire station on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

There would be no tuition unless a leader can join us, but we are able to help each other if needed.

If this is of interest to you please contact me.

Glen Pickering
glenpickering88@hotmail.co.uk

Interest Groups Round-up

Craft This month we have had another activity using books.

In the past we have made hedgehogs which were popular so this month we have reduced the size and made mice. We have decorated a trinket box and topped it with the mouse to make it more useful



Barbara Deb and Val

Knit & Stitch

MAGGIE POLYDORE has knitted many jumpers and hats for babies and toddlers, and we went last week to deliver them to a charity called Intercare. They send medicines and medical equipment to various places in Africa currently Malawi. They like knitted goods for the children as they help fill the Containers that they send out twice a year.

They have sent us a lovely email in thanks for this contribution (I only did the driving!)

If anyone else would like to send unwanted medical equipment such as crutches etc, I am more than happy to collect them from you. Or indeed if there are any other knitters out there, they practically will accept anything for children, even though it is hot in the day it does turn cold at night and they really have very little. They have a website if anyone would like to learn more and they are based in Leicestershire. They have sent us a lovely email in thanks for this contribution (I only did the driving!) (See overleaf)

Interest Groups Round-up



Dear Jenny,

Just a quick email to say thank you for your recent donation which was safely received in our warehouse on 22/10/2025.

We were very grateful to receive the device - knitted, hats and vests – all of which will be extremely useful to support our partner health units in Africa and have been set aside for the next 20ft container of medical supplies we will be sending to health units in Southern Malawi. I am sure your donation will bring comfort to many vulnerable children who will receive them in the coming months.

Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion.

Bella on behalf of

The Inter Care Team

P.S. Attached is a recent photo from one of our partner health units in Malawi and Tanzania

Bella Legesse- Program Support Officer

Tel: 0116 269 5925 | contactinfo@intercare.org.uk



Why not visit us at Inter Care - Medical Aid for Africa, 46 The Half Croft, Syston, Leicester LE7 1LD



Interest Groups Round-up

Knit & Stitch continued



The Christmas embroidery is the next in a series being made by Marion Stopper. Love this one, it makes you think of Christmas very soon.

Luna the felt rabbit and her gorgeous dress has been expertly made by Christine Keighley.

I have made the Christmas lantern. It will have little lights inside. I have also made the duck and duckling. They do need some clothes though!



Wanda has made a quilt for her cousin's granddaughter. I am sure the little girl will love it.

I have made another twister quilt for a future great grandchild, I must admit I love this so much. I don't know whether you can see the little rabbits and hedgehogs on it.

Anne Wood has made a 3 sided gift bag for a friend who is moving house. What a wonderful idea, I hope the recipient thinks it is as lovely as we in the group do.

Interest Groups Round-up

Patchwork & Quilting continued



Christine has made a poppy cushion to go with the wall hanging she made last year. You can just see it hanging on the wall.

Val has made some more blocks in blue to go into the latest group quilt.

Elaine has made some in red, black, green etc to go into hers.

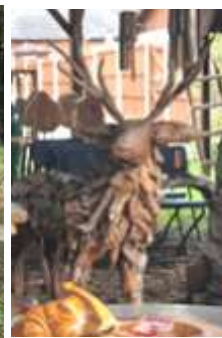


Finally, the Halloween witch was made by Kathy.

I hope you are enjoying seeing the progress of our group quilts and hope to be able to show you them complete at the next Interest Groups Fair.

Jenny Whittaker

Rambling Our October ramble was led by Jeremy and Sue Hickinbotham. We off from the Newdigate Pub in West Hallam for a five mile walk, taking in Mapperley Brook, Manor Floods, edge of Shipley Park and Swan Lake. It was a relatively easy walk, but after several stormy days, the firm footpaths were a sensible choice. After last month's wash-out, it was a lovely walk on an autumnal day with a bunch of friends.



The woodcarving shop in Shipley Park holds a fascination for some members of our group. The victuals at the Newdigate after the walk went down well with all of us!

Janis Henshaw

What you Wanted to Share



The Fun of the Fair **by** **Janet Reeve**

Ilson's Charter Fair is here again,
Taking over the centre of town,
On Thursday lunch on the strike of twelve,
Opened by Mayor in regalia and gown.

He has the first ride on the dodg'em cars
Cheered by crowds of excited people,
Milling around among rides and stalls,
Watched over by St. Mary's church steeple.

The Cakewalk, an old favourite of mine
Remembered from my childhood days,
Lurching forward and falling back
Screaming and laughing at our funny ways.

Sticky candyfloss in pink and white,
Giant lollipops and bright red dummies,
Hot dogs, burgers, tasty roast pork cobs,
All to feed us and fill our tummies!

Meeting friends not seen for a year
Who always come to this special fair,
Catching up as we chomp on our burgers,
Then onto the Mousetrap, just for a dare!

Ilkeston's Charter Fair. Over till next year
On the first Thursday, after the first Sunday
After the 11th of October.
See you there?!



Free image from Pixabay