

This month join us at our

Open Meeting

on

Tuesday 3rd March

10.00 am–12 noon at

The Arena, Ilkeston

Starting with:

Ilkeston u3a Annual General Meeting

Followed by our Speaker:

Carol Brooks

“Burma and the Karen People”

A detailed history and current situation of the wonderful Karen people Carol has worked with over the years.

Refreshments available

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Coming soon to our Open Meetings

7th April: “My Derbyshire Journey” by Ashley Franklyn. Ashley illustrates his work as a writer and photographer. Packed with historical titbits and fascinating facts.

5th May: “Teacher, Trader, Lion Tamer and Spy” by Ian Green. The story of the Wheeldon family, who were at the centre of a political storm of feminism, socialism and pacifism during the First World War.

2nd June: “Getting crabs, throwing stones and other offences” by Jane Whitaker. Night-watchmen’s notebook in the 1830’s led to this talk of a detailed picture of a different side of life.

7th July: “Film Musicals of the Swinging 60’s” by Mary de Ville. Clips of songs of the 60’s from notable films interspersed with fashions, adverts, news, etc.

***** 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



Hello Members,

We certainly have had the rain over the last couple of months and, as my wife looked at the weather up in Northern Scotland and Orkney, we saw that they really have had no shortage of snow. I do wonder where this year is going (already two months through).

We have invitations and thanks this month. March open meeting will start with the A.G.M., an opportunity to review the last year of continued growth and financial stability, and to thank all the volunteers who make Ilkeston U3A possible, who help in so many different ways (selling the raffle tickets, serving coffees and teas, being on the welcome desk and being part of the welcoming team at open meetings and leading/co-ordinating the many interest groups that we are so lucky to have meeting during the month, also in the preparation and editing of the newsletter and maintenance of the website and Facebook page). It would also be remiss to not thank those who have been willing to be on the committee over the last year.

Could you help in any way? To maintain the variety of interest groups we do need members who are willing to lead them. If you think you could help in that way please speak to Lynne or any member of the committee. Volunteers who help at open meetings also have occasions when they are unable to attend, and we do need those who are willing to help, in any way, to cover the tasks that need to be done for smooth running of the meetings. If you are able to help, please speak to any member of the committee.

The Scala Cinema now being open again, we have been able to have a word with the new manager and we are hoping to have a performance of Wuthering Heights on the 4th of March at 2.30 pm. The cost will be £6 including a hot drink. Are you interested? If so please contact Alyson.

Lastly we have a change to the programme. At April's meeting we will be welcoming Ashley Franklin, who will be giving one of his excellent illustrated talks on Derbyshire.

Trusting that everyone has a good month, I'll see you on 3rd March

Andrew

WANTED: Management Committee Members!

**Please consider joining Ilkeston u3a's
Management Committee**

**Make a Real Difference in Your
Community**

Our charity is growing, and we're looking for caring, committed people to help guide our future.

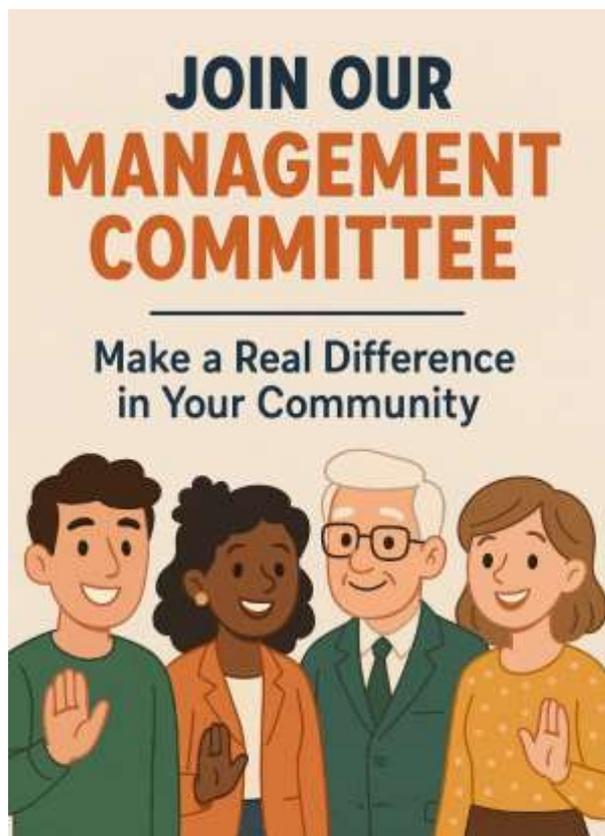
We're looking for people who can:

- Bring fresh ideas and positive energy
- Support good governance and decision-making
- Champion our mission and help shape our strategy
- Offer skills in areas like finance, HR, fundraising, marketing, or community engagement

What you'll gain:

- A chance to create meaningful impact
- Experience in leadership and charity governance
- New connections with like-minded people
- The satisfaction of helping a cause that matters

If you care about making change happen, we'd love to hear from you.



Postponement of April Interest Groups Fair

Due to the Easter and Spring bank holidays it is not possible to have a Spring Interest Groups Fair.

To help new and existing members keep up to date with interest groups, we are going to have little presentations by group leaders or a group member at monthly meetings.

This will be an opportunity to promote your group for new members or show what you do. I will be at the table on the right side of stage on 3rd March to organise a rota and generally help if I can. It's a great chance to set up and promote new ideas and groups .

Thanks in anticipation.

Lynne Thorpe
Groups coordinator.

Attention All Group Leaders

From March onwards most members should have their new badges with the red stripe. As quite a few have not renewed this year, Group Leaders should check that their group members are still members of u3a. You can also check with me by emailing membership@ilkestonu3a.org.uk.

Jacky
Membership

Interest Groups Round-up

UPDATE: Scala Cinema Interest Group

Let's help support our local cinema,
now under new ownership



The Scala Cinema group needs a new Group Leader so if you are interested, please contact Lynne Thorpe, the Interest Group Co-ordinator.

Currently I am liaising with the new manager. He has offered a special screening on **Wednesday, the 4th of March at 2:30pm of the latest Wuthering Heights film, the cost will be £6 including a hot drink.**

If you are interested, please let me know so I have an idea of numbers. He has also suggested the new Elvis film—no date yet, and if there are any particular films that you would like please contact me Alyson Marriott or email me, businesssecretaryilkestonu3a@outlook.com

Line Dancing Line dancing will be on **Tuesday the 9th March** instead of the 17th.

We will be back to normal in April, the third Tuesday in the month, the **21st April**.



Ann Wheatley

Interest Groups Round-up

Craft The craft ladies have been doing one of their favourite activities, Silk Painting, and as usual, some beautiful results.



Barbara, Val and Deb

Interest Groups Round-up

Patchwork & Quilting Patchwork and Quilting's lovely photos for this month.

The first is a group of four blocks in blue from Val. I believe that she has now finished them all and I look forward to seeing the quilt come together. Well done Val.



Left are two lovely blocks from Sue, I am very envious of her fabric.

On the right is a hand sewn one from Marion. This one is quite challenging but she tells me that she enjoyed making it.



The next four pictures are all blocks made by Kathy, one of which is another hand sewn one. I don't think Kathy has many more to make before she has completed them all. Looking forward to seeing it completed!



Last but not least are two blocks from Elaine, lovely and bright colours, your quilt will look superb.

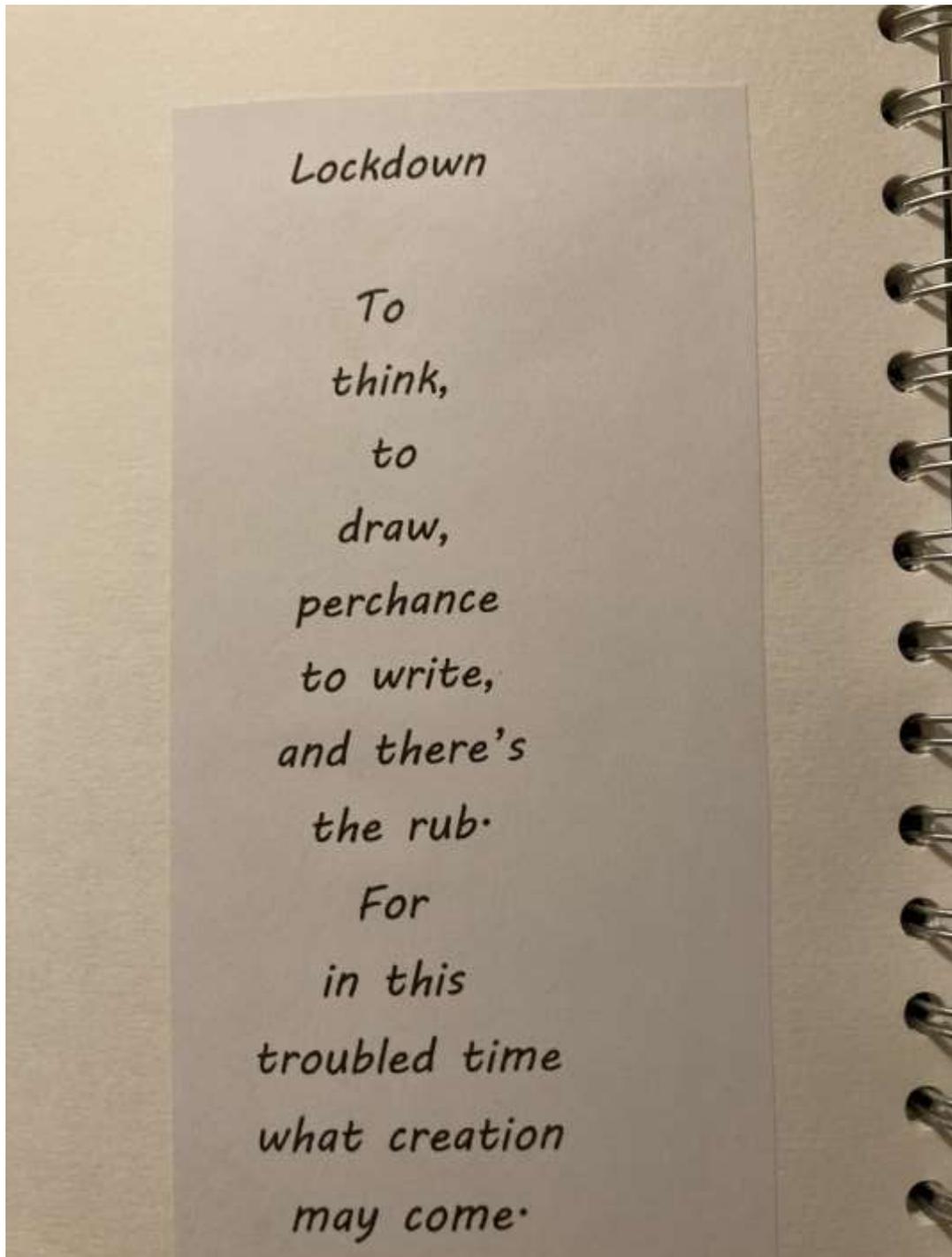
Wanda didn't make any blocks this month but she did make a little Japanese draw string bag. These are so cute, not quite big enough to go shopping with though!



Jenny Whittaker

Poets' Corner

Lockdown
by
Graham Peel



Poets' Corner

26.1.26
By
Janet Reeve

Eighty-one years ago today, a babe was born
To an unmarried mother, fearful and forlorn,
Really didn't know which way to turn,
Neighbours would see, neighbours would spurn.

If she knew the father, she never did tell,
If she said the name, it might ring a bell
With the tight-knit community in which she resided,
She couldn't keep this baby; already decided.

BUT NOT BY HER!

Sent away in such deep, deep disgrace
To an older brother in a far distant place,
A place where she'd definitely not be known,
Away from the place where she had grown.

Delivered of a bonny, healthy girl
With auburn hair, one little curl,
Lusty lungs, pitiful wailing cry,
As though she knew that by and by

HER FATE WAS SEALED!

Gently held in her young mum's arms,
Momentarily shielded from all life's harms,
Young mum, storing up memories so dear
To bring to mind year upon year, upon year!

NEVER SAW HER AGAIN!!



Poets' Corner

**Das Kapital
(with apologies to Herr Marx)**

**By
Graham Peel**

Capital is free to roam
and with it brings mixed blessings.
our labour is the source of such
as upwardly it ascends.
As money flows upwards, those
of whom reside there, take
a little for themselves, and
labour not, I'm guessing.

Folk who live up on the heights
lets call them rentiers
accumulate lots of wealth, and
buy up all the land. They
also buy up everything they can get
with their grubby hands. From thereon
Capital is sent to work, so
that rentiers don't have to.

I used to work and live in Cambridge and have had the privilege to associate and mix with a lot of very well educated people.

I am an autodidact and after a few years was able to hold my own.

I spoke to Lord Sainsbury, who was the minister of trade and industry, and I realised that he was clever but did not have a grasp of macro economics.

I wrote this after speaking to him.