



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

[mkhdu3a.org.uk](http://mkhdu3a.org.uk)



## NEWSLETTER

No. 75 September 2019

Dear Member

Welcome to your September Newsletter. Our August meeting was well attended, and we were *hanging* on every word of Andy Bishop's intriguing tale of murder at Weatheroak Hill.

Apologies for any confusion over the date of the October meeting. It is definitely confirmed as 8th of October.

If you have been out and about and taken photographs of a U3A activity, do please email [Ken Fisher](#) a copy of the best one with an appropriate caption. We can then include a couple in the interest group photo section.

Please note that you should be able to click on any of the contents items below to go directly to the relevant page.

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## September Monthly Meeting - Trending to Green

### About our speaker, Harriet Martin

Harriet Martin is well known locally for gradually developing with husband Chris a house in the Bournville Village Trust area which has a very low carbon footprint.

Harriet would rather we had called the meeting "Trending to Green" - so we will take that as our new title!

She tells us:

"I was born in 1943. Thinking back, the first half of my life was like stepping onto a magical escalator which was lifting the lot of us in the developed world effortlessly and joyfully up to higher and higher levels of comfort, mobility and power.

About 1980 reality replaced the magic. I discovered our magical escalator was powered by fossil fuels and its destination is not paradise. Forty years on I'm finally beginning to understand how we can hop off, breath deeply and enjoy a low carbon life style. Habits need changing, but, it's oh, so very worth it!"

We look forward to what promises to be a really interesting meeting.

The meeting will be at our usual time and place, the All Saints Centre at 2.00 on Tuesday September 10. We hope you can make it.

### Forthcoming Members' Meetings

Date	Time	Venue	Topic	Speaker
Tuesday September 10	2.00	All Saints Centre	Trending to Green	Harriet Martin
Tuesday October 8	2.00	All Saints Centre	The Coffin Works	Sarah Hayes
Tuesday November 12	2.00	All Saints Centre	Highbury Hall	Alison Millward
Tuesday December 10	2.00	All Saints Centre	Christmas festivities	
Tuesday January 14	2.00	All Saints Centre	Victorian and Edwardian Building in Birmingham	Tim Bridges

If members have any suggestions for future speakers, please contact Sylvia Butler at a monthly meeting.

## Social Programme

### Social Activities from September 2019

This is a summary of events in the coming month that are already planned. New arrangements are made frequently and if you want to be kept updated on any activities please contact the relevant group leader, (see the foot of this section.)

### Drop In Coffee Morning at Kings Heath Park, Victorian Tea Rooms

Our coffee mornings are open to all our members to enable new and existing members to meet more informally.

Drop in for a coffee or tea and a chat on Friday September 13th between 10.30 and 12.00. On arrival pay £2.50 at the café's counter and you can then drink unlimited tea or coffee which will be available for U3A members in the Conservatory. You can also purchase a lovely piece of cake in the café to go with your drink. The Conservatory will be reserved just for our U3A members. Parking is available, and it is fully accessible.

The September coffee and chat meeting will be on Friday September 13th.

Any questions please contact:

Tessa on [tessabidgood@btinternet.com](mailto:tessabidgood@btinternet.com)

or Val on [envybaxter@hotmail.com](mailto:envybaxter@hotmail.com)

If you are aware of any member who does not have access to the internet and may be interested in the coffee morning please let them know.

### Lunches

A visit to Palmyra (Syrian food) in Moseley is planned for late October/early November. If you are interested in this and not already on the lunches contact list please get in touch with Carey.

#### Christmas lunch.

Thank you to the 39 people who responded with their preferences for a venue. Bistrot Pierre was preferred by about 60% and this also has the advantage of allowing us to go on 2 dates so more can go. The lunch is 3 courses, with a choice from 6 starters and desserts and of 8 main courses, for £18.95 plus drinks and a discretionary (but when we've been before well deserved) 10% service charge.

Those with internet access can see the menu through this link:

<https://www.bistrotpierre.co.uk/propeller/uploads/2019/06/Christmas-Party-Lunch-Menu.pdf>

Reservations have been made for lunch at 12.30 pm on each of Wednesday 4 December and Friday 13 December. At present there is only one place left for 13th December, and there are 7 places left on 4th December. A deposit of £10.00 per person must be paid but is refunded if the place is cancelled at least 48 hours before the meal.

If you would like to join members for Christmas lunch at Bistrot Pierre, please contact Carey.

## Concerts

### Birmingham Conservatoire

Tickets will be purchased for 2 concerts by the Orchestra of The Swan at the Conservatoire, near Millennium Point.

Wednesday 9 October, 2.30pm (with a free pre-concert talk at 1.30pm).

We have been offered tickets on a 2 for 1 basis for this concert. Tickets on a 2 for 1 basis would range in price from £9.00 - £12.50, but if an odd number of people come the whole cost will be divided between those attending, so it may work out a little more than this.

The programme is:

Rossini The Barber of Seville, Overture

Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue

Copland Quiet City

Mozart Symphony No.38 'Prague'

If you want to come to this concert please contact Carey by the 15 September.

Wednesday 11 December, 2.30 pm.

Bookings are also being made for a concert with a female singing group, Papagena, performing with the Orchestra of the Swan.

Papagena recently performed at St. Mary's in Moseley: they then sang acapella, with a range of classical and folk songs. Tickets for this will be £20.00

All tickets for concerts at the Conservatoire have to be paid for at purchase, so you will need to arrange payment to Carey in advance. There is step-free access to the Conservatoire.

If you want tickets for either of these concerts or wish to be informed of future bookings please contact Carey.

## Theatre

We have one ticket left for the following production:

The Belgrade Theatre Coventry - The Entertainer on Thursday 17th October 2019 at 14.00hrs. Tickets will cost £16 each

Address: Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square, Coventry, CV1 1GS. The theatre is a 15-minute walk from the station. A senior travel-pass will get you to Coventry free of charge.

If you would like the last ticket, please contact Julie.

[Click this link for more details of the production](#)

## Cinema

Due to time constraints if you want to be kept updated of arrangements for future cinema trips, please contact Roy who will add your name to the cinema group and he will notify you directly of planned film trips. Joining the cinema group puts you under no obligation to join any or all cinema trips but ensures you are notified of forthcoming trips.

## Quiz Night

We are still looking for quiz enthusiasts to help organise future quiz nights. Please contact Julie if you would like to be involved.

## Contact Details

Carey:	<a href="mailto:careybaff@live.co.uk">careybaff@live.co.uk</a>	0121 472 6535
Julie:	<a href="mailto:julieallder@yahoo.co.uk">julieallder@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Mobile 07506 720 756
Tessa:	<a href="mailto:tessabidgood@btinternet.com">tessabidgood@btinternet.com</a>	Mobile 07941 641 799
Roy:	<a href="mailto:jroystove@googlemail.com">jroystove@googlemail.com</a>	Mobile 07786 267 682
Val:	<a href="mailto:envybaxter@hotmail.com">envybaxter@hotmail.com</a>	0121 444 7214

## University of Birmingham event

### Cubists and Tubists: The Golden Age of Poster Design

16th September 7 - 8.30 pm Winterbourne House and Garden

Following her sold-out talk earlier this year, Dr Emma West has been invited back to Winterbourne to deliver a lecture on the golden age of poster design. Drawing on original research from her postdoctoral project Revolutionary Red Tape, her enthusiastic and highly-illustrated talk explores posters from the 1910s-1940s.

Art Deco posters from the 1920s and 30s are now more popular than ever, but their reproduction on calendars and greetings cards belies their often radical beginnings as works designed to raise the standard of public taste. In this talk, Dr Emma West gives an insight into the history of British interwar posters, from adverts for the London Underground to the General Post Office, exploring how companies used advertising, not only to increase sales, but also to introduce the public to modern art.

## Cryptic clue solving

### Last month's answers

Man in chef's coat. (6). Batter. Cricket reference to man in and coat on food  
Pain in French capital. ( 5). Bread. French for bread and money ie capital.

### This month's clues

With legs akimbo, nag Spiderman to shift around. (12)

Cheering up ( 8 , 7 )

Latest landlord's bulletin (10)

## Interest Group of the Month - Science Group

The U3A Science group was formed when our U3A was founded at the beginning of 2013. Initially it had a handful of members, but has grown consistently and now has more than 20, roughly evenly split between men and women.

We don't have the things you might expect in a laboratory, so we cannot dissect frogs, make explosions or electrocute ourselves with a Van de Graaff Generator. We have had occasional field trips – recently to examine the microscopic life found in the River Rea, and some time ago to search for fossils at Wren's Nest in Dudley.

We have a number of specialists who are able present topics in Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacology, Physics, Geology, Genetics, Astronomy, Psychology and Maths (especially logical puzzles).

We also have a number of non-specialists and everyone is involved because we have regular topics where we discuss science in the news, famous scientists and where we ask science questions we want answered. Sometimes we view a video and sometimes we have discussed a science book, though it is quite difficult to find a suitable one.

Over the last couple of years we have had several visiting speakers from the University of Birmingham who have shared their expertise with us.

We know you want to join us, but unfortunately we are currently full and would need to put you on a waiting list. If you want to know more about us please contact:

Roger McFadden at [roger.mcfadden@virginmedia.com](mailto:roger.mcfadden@virginmedia.com)  
or Mike Clark at [mikehclark@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikehclark@hotmail.co.uk)



A "young" science group on a field trip to Wren's Nest, Dudley in 2013.

## Interest group photograph

Croome Park, Worcestershire from the photography group

For the first time the group arranged a summer social, each with a camera of course. On 12 August we were fortunate to have lovely weather for a visit to the National Trust's Croome Park in delightfully restored parkland with views of the Malvern Hills. It is a grand house with an exhibition of Grayson Perry's tapestries and many classical garden features. The group had lots of photo opportunities between coffee and tea breaks and plenty of exercise. From the many photographs taken, the challenge is to select two or three for viewing and discussion at one of the group's autumn meetings.



## Contact information

Interest Group enquiries - please contact one of the Interest Group Coordinators:

- Brenda Bingham      0121 444 6295      [brbingham@hotmail.com](mailto:brbingham@hotmail.com)
- Roy Stove              0121 459 8604      [jroystove@googlemail.com](mailto:jroystove@googlemail.com)

Membership enquiries - please contact:

- Jackie Spearpoint      0121 439 5824      [membership@mkhdu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@mkhdu3a.org.uk)

Social events enquiries - please contact:

- Julie Alder              07506 720 756      [julieallder@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:julieallder@yahoo.co.uk)

### Newsletter

- Ken Fisher              [ken@ken-fisher.com](mailto:ken@ken-fisher.com)

General enquires - please contact:

- Sara Meyer              0121 218 3759
  - Anne Crerar              07881 702 305
  - Mike Clark              0121 689 2765
- Or email                      [enquiries@mkhdu3a.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@mkhdu3a.org.uk)

## Your Committee

- Co-chair                      Anne Crerar
- Co-chair                      Sara Meyer
- Business & Communications Secretary      Ken Fisher
- Treasurer                      Tessa Bidgood
- Social Secretary              Julie Alder
- Interest Group Co-ordinators      Brenda Bingham and Roy Stove
- Membership Secretary      Jackie Spearpoint
- Monthly Meeting Co-ordinator      Sylvia Butler
- Advisory Member              Mike Clark