



What's On

This **February newsletter** is sent to all members of the Matlock Area u3a who are registered as current members on the Beacon database and for whom we have an email address.

This is a plain text version ...if you want to see it in full colour with the new u3a logo and pictures then please open the attached pdf version.

Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Monday 1st February at 10.30am**

Just a chance to chat and exchange information, with a brief presentation about the History Conference from John Entwistle and some pictures of Local Gardens from the Gardening Group. You will receive a separate Zoom invitation

Fools Gold

It was great to see so many of you at the Fools Gold event, and especially a lot of people for whom Zoom was new. Do keep trying, and if you are still finding it difficult then we may be able to find you a 'tech buddy' who could guide you.

2021 Subscriptions

Thank you to all those who have already paid their subscriptions for this year. In the light of the curtailment of many of our activities last year the committee has decided that this year's subscription will be reduced to £5 per year, or £3.75 if you are a member of another u3a. It is due on the 1st February.

Gill Needham, the membership secretary should have contacted you with details of how to pay.

You can pay by post with a cheque, or by electronic transfer. *Please do not send cash*

Any queries contact membership@matlockareau3a.org.uk

Matlock u3a Website

For your edification, enlightenment and indeed your education may I draw your attention to the enthralling, eloquent, enlivening and of course eclectic information that you can find on our website at www.matlockareau3a.org.uk

This month's theme is history and new items will be 'live' from Monday 1st February, including 'Vote for your Valentine'

The webteam have been working hard to make the website more attractive and creative, by including photographic quizzes, a spotlight feature on hot topics and interesting short anecdotes by group members highlighted in *The Matlock Mole* section. It is hoped to focus each month on a particular theme to showcase the work of different groups.

Alliteration courtesy of Linda Wilson!

Group Activities

Well done to all those groups who are keeping going, zooming or keeping in touch as best they can. We know not all of you can do this, but we are hoping the spring will bring hope for more face to face (or maybe elbow to elbow) activity.

However, as a group we shall be sticking firmly to both u3a and national guidelines regarding the starting up of activities under the u3a banner, whether you have had your vaccine or not.

Proposed Language Study Group

Here are some questions:

- Of what Hebrew name are the following: Seumas, Iago, Yakov, Jacques, James, Giacomo, Hamish, Jacob, Jaime, all versions in different languages?
- If you overheard someone say, “Big man ting, she is peng, init” which city would you probably be in?
- Roughly, at what date do you think the following was written?

“It falleth out in love as it doth in vines, for the young vines bring the most wine, but the old the best: so tender love maketh great show of blossoms, but tried love bringeth forth sweetest juice.”

- Would you regard the following sentence as grammatical or ungrammatical? “Experience is the criteria by which we must select candidates for these posts.”
- From which languages do you think English borrowed each of the following words? schadenfreude, khaki, kismet, kayak, convention, cook, glen.

Even if you don't know the answers to all these questions, if you found any of them interesting questions to ask yourself, you might also be interested in being part of a Language Studies group which would look at members language related passions and puzzlements concerning the history, structure and variations of languages. If so, contact Rick Osborn on:

rick.osborn1@outlook.com

Greenaway Workshop.

I don't usually include items not Mau3a related in the newsletter, but feel that this appeal is very local and worthy.

Greenaway Workshop has been running for over 30 years providing therapeutic help for up to 20 adults from its premises in Darley Dale. They are looking for more volunteers to help run and support it. If you feel you can help email

greenaways@gmail.com

Finally

A poem from your vice-chairman



A Humble Ode to Prodigious Fish and Chips

**Oh! bountiful union of the soil and the sea
The dripping Fried Fish, the Chip, and the green
Mushy Pea.**

**Historic invention to sustain the needy poor,
Now delighting fine England for aye evermore.**

**Proffer in vain French weak garlic and snails,
Our heritage Cod flips its tail and prevails.**

**Gracing our table at points near and far,
With essence of newsprint, is best in a car.**

**Lo, eaten through lockdown our golden fish friend
We shall sing of your praises after COVID shall end!**

John Anderson

Picture: Wikipedia

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