



Tetbury & District u3a Newsletter

May 2023

Monthly Speakers

On **Tuesday 12 June**, at 10:30 in the Tetbury Goods Shed, Andy Jarrett from The Nelson Trust will explain how the charity offers practical help for addiction.



The second of our charity talks, this local Gloucester charity is concerned with people suffering from addiction and, in particular, offers practical help to women who find themselves caught in that circle of having children taken into care, then because they have no children, being put in bedsit accommodation, and then being told their accommodation is not suitable, so cannot get their children back.

I know we all appreciate the lives that we have and that many of us already do work or contribute to help those less fortunate than ourselves, but if you can help support this charity by donating after the talk, it is money that goes direct to a local effort with a very worthy ambition. Please make sure you bring cash with you if you wish to support this charity.

Group News

The Historic Buildings Group

The Historic Buildings Group made a visit at the end of April to Gloucester Cathedral where we split into three groups and, accompanied by very knowledgeable and interesting guides, toured the main parts of this magnificent building. The weather was kind and many of us later took the opportunity individually to visit Gloucester Quays.

I am afraid that our Leader forgot to take a group photo but was impressed by the fact that Gloucester Cathedral, despite undergoing continuous repairs by craftsmen to replace the ancient parts of the building, is also providing a home for modern artists. The photograph shows a stunning stained-glass window by Tom Denny installed in 2014.



The History Group

The History Group's latest quest was to Minchinhampton Common where George Keeling guided us around the many bumps and dips that history has left us. Are the ditches defensive works, pre-historic ceremonial paths, field boundaries built by paranoid ancient Britons - or were they



left by extra-terrestrial visitors? Did we care? It was a wonderful place to be on a sunny May afternoon and the beauty of this bucolic scene was caught by Corinne Hinton in the above photo of which I am sure the Photography Group will be suitably envious.

history@tetburyu3a.org.uk

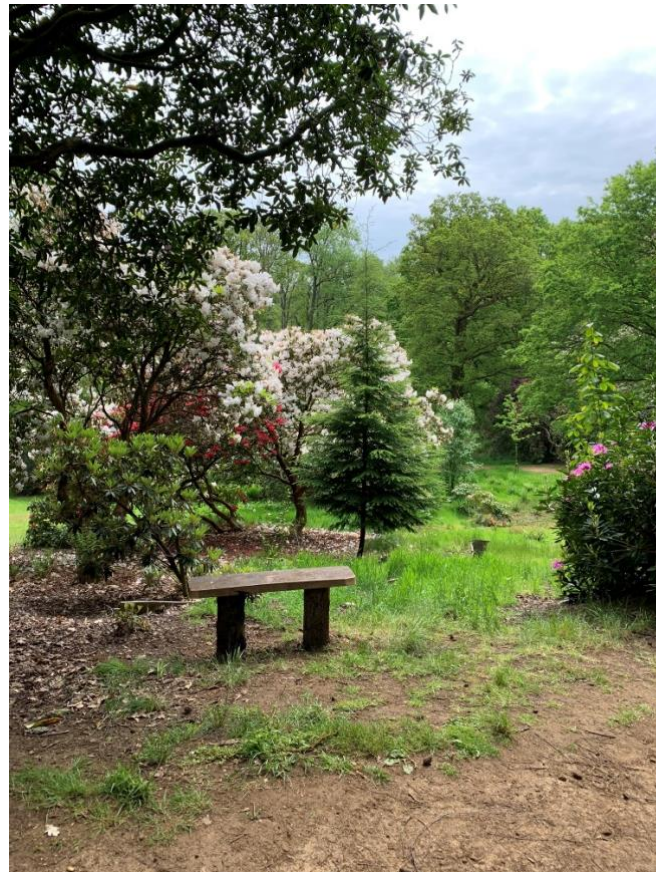
The Wednesday Book Club

Our next meeting is on May 31st at 2.30 when we will be discussing "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly

bookclubwednesday@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Gardening Group

Seven members of the Gardening Group made the trip to Bowood Woodland Garden on a warm Monday in May. We hoped to see magnificent rhododendrons and beautiful bluebells and we were not disappointed. The pathways through the garden were well stocked with all the colours of the rainbow, including a beautiful handkerchief tree and plenty of wooden seats to sit and admire the views. Everyone was very glad they had seen such an amazing collection of plants at the right time of the year.





gardening@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Bridge Group

We are looking to test whether members would like to play in an on-line tournament in June and July using Bridgebase and Imps scoring.

Members who have already joined the group will be circulated direct, but any new members should contact the bridge leader (below) direct for more information. He is also prepared to offer a tutorial for those who have not used Bridgebase before.



Yes! It's a weak two! Open 2 spades pre-emptive.

Jeremy North

bridge@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Monday Book Club

Our book for May is *Young Mungo* by Douglas Stuart the Booker Prize-winning author of *Shuggie Bain* and our meeting will be held at 7pm on Monday 29th May at The Royal Oak.

bookclubmonday@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Pub Lunch Group

For May we found ourselves dining at The Trouble House, London Road. As one would expect from The Trouble House the food was excellently cooked and presented and very tasty, although the service was a bit slower than expected. This may have been due to it being a Friday and quite busy. I thought I would try a Friday in the hope that more people would be available to join us but despite this only 9 attended. It is becoming more difficult to book pubs early in the week as they tend to close or at least close their kitchens and midweek tends to clash with other groups. But I strive to find interesting pubs with interesting menus for the group to enjoy.

publunchgroup@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Boules Group

The boules group grows ever larger, now with over 40 members. We have entered three teams for Tetbury Hospital Boules Tournament on 28 May at the Royal Oak, so if you are interested drop in and cheer us on and watch the arguments about whose boule is closest to the jack!



Our two group leaders both offer to hold introductory sessions for those who have not played before or who are not sure of the rules. Just contact us below to join the group or to have an induction session or come along to any of our weekly meetings (more details on the Tetbury & District u3a groups website).

Martin Doidge and Jeremy North

boules@tetburyu3a.org.uk

Singing For Fun Group

The Singing For Fun (U3A) group have now moved to a new 'home' in St Marys Road at the Community Centre St Marys hall. We have also changed our meeting time to the SECOND WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH. We still meet from 2-4 pm. The aim of the group though remains the same - to spend an enjoyable couple of hours every month singing along to well-known songs that we love, within a group of like-minded people. There's usually a fair amount of reminiscing and refreshments about too!

In the past the songs have includedSea Shanties.....Songs from the Musical Theatre and FilmsFolk SongsPop Songs and good old rock 'n' roll.

You name it - we sing it!

Members of the group are all very welcome to suggest their own personal favourites and these are included in the following month's session.

This is a very relaxed and informal group who like to do things a little bit differently to the more formal type of 'choir', even incorporating a little bit of spontaneous dancing and percussion on the odd occasion! A short musical quiz is also now on the agenda. We would love more people to join us - the more the merrier. So remember The Singing for Fun group meet on the second Wednesday

of each month, from 2pm until 4pm, at the St Marys Hall in St Marys Road.

To find out more and get onto the email list contact Gail at singing@tetburyu3a.org.uk We look forward to meeting you.

Carolyn and Gail for the u3a singing for fun group.

And finally.....

Cotswold Link u3a has some events coming up at the end of June. Please click on the link below if you would like to know more and find details of how to attend.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/cotswold-link/events>

The u3a Short Story Competition is back for its fourth year. The theme is 'Decision(s)', and the deadline is Monday 26 June. The full competition rules can be seen on the u3a learning pages.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/short-story-competition-2023>

The final date for contributions to the June Newsletter is Friday 23 June. Keep those reports coming.....