



NEWSLETTER

Issue April 2021

Web Address: www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

Message from our Chair

Hello Everyone

We had a good warm and sunny start to spring in the final days of March and for the next 6 months the clock in my car is reading the correct time now we have entered British Summer Time (BST) - the time used in the UK from late March to late October, that is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

The early history of BST is interesting

It was first established by the Summer Time Act 1916, after a campaign by builder William Willett. His original proposal was to move the clocks forward by 80 minutes, in 20-minute weekly steps on Sundays in April and by the reverse procedure in September. In 1916, BST began on 21 May and ended on 1 October. Willett never lived to see his idea implemented, having died in early 1915.

April is also the AGM month of our u3a.

I would like to move ahead by 12 months to focus on the AGM in April 2022.

Currently our constitution states the trustees (main committee members) can serve for a total of 6 years

In April 2022 five members of the current committee reach that milestone and will vacate their office:

David Rose	Chair
Christine Berrill	Treasurer
Siobhan Lee	Groups Coordinator
Philip Attenborough	Equipment Manager
Barrie Saunders	Support across the committee roles

A u3a cannot function without trustees designated as officers:

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Business Secretary

Before April 2022 Hucknall u3a will need members to step forward and volunteer for committee vacancies especially the officer roles of Treasurer and Vice Chair.

We had a similar situation in April 2016 and for a time it was almost a closure situation. It was thanks to the work and persuasive powers of John Tedstone and his retiring committee that encouraged the retiring members of the current committee to volunteer.

We will need at least 5 volunteers next April, if you are interested please get in touch with a committee member or email me at : davidrose98835@gmail.com

David Rose, Chairman

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COMMITTEE MEETING

Notes from the April Zoom Committee meeting

The committee met via Zoom on Wednesday 7th April 2021 from 10am to 11.38am

Apologies were received from Sandra Green

The minutes of the March meeting were agreed.

Siobhan recently took part in a Notts Network Group Coordinators meeting where issues and ideas relating to groups restarting face to face were discussed.

Dianne reported that meeting speakers are arranged until June and that July and August are being finalised.

Angela has also attended a Notts Network meeting with a focus on using social media platforms to publicise and highlight membership of the u3a. She also reported 3450 'hits' on our website.

Treasurer Christine explained the previously circulated balance sheets which showed little change from March. She also confirmed that our annual accounts scrutiniser Geoff Cree had completed his report for Jan to Dec 2020 ready for the AGM. Our thanks once more are extended to Geoff.

Phil the Equipment Manager confirms the 'writing off' of the old laser printer on the basis of maintenance costs and we thank Sue Spolton for looking after it and for her printing over a period of approx. 8 years.

We have a concern about equipment storage at Hucknall Leisure Centre due to their refurbishment. This is being followed up.

Vice Chair Melvyn has arranged the final film in the John Wayne trilogy for Tuesday 20th April and is pursuing what will initially be an online driving course for members.

Greg confirmed 441 full membership renewals and he will now contact all affiliated members to confirm their status.

Mark as Business Secretary outlined 2 possible options for a modification to our constitution to allow Zoom type and hybrid (e.g. Zoom plus a physical meeting) to officially take place.

We agreed an amendment which will be put to the membership at the forthcoming AGM

National u3a day is designated for June 2nd. It is proposed that we do not arrange any face to face event but publicise Hucknall u3a through the local press and social media.

The latest Covid and risk assessments advice from the u3a was discussed as was the results of the recent survey.

These will be circulated to the membership.

Meeting closed at 11.38am

David Rose

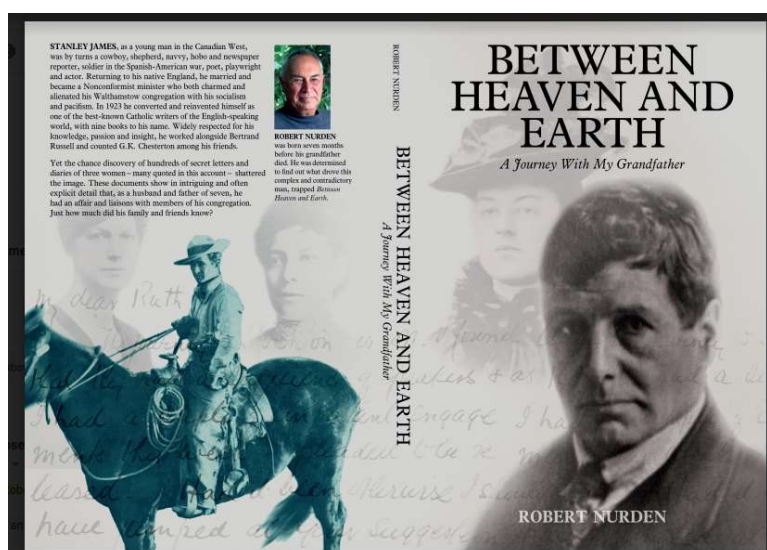
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Monthly Meeting via Zoom Wednesday April 14th 2021

The meeting will start at 2pm, the Zoom access link will be sent to you on Monday 5th April. There will be an introduction and some u3a business before our guest speaker Mr Robert Nurdén presents an illustrated talk about his grandfather Stanley James.

This is a brief synopsis of his interesting life:

STANLEY JAMES, as a young man in the Canadian West, was by turns a cowboy, shepherd, navvy, hobo and newspaper reporter, soldier in the Spanish-American war, poet, playwright and actor. Returning to his native England, he married and became a Nonconformist minister who both charmed and alienated his Walthamstow congregation with his socialism and pacifism. In 1923 he converted and reinvented himself as one of the best-known Catholic writers of the English-speaking world, with nine books to his name.



David Rose

Crisp Packets

David will be collecting crisp packets again as soon as we can meet up. Just pop them on the table where we sign in.

Medicine Blisterpacks

Siobhan will be collecting the little irritating blister packs all our medications come in these days. There will be a box in the area we sign in. A group member found out that Super Drug is collecting them and recycling them but it is only those Super Drugs with a pharmacy.

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Proposed presentation to celebrate some activities carried out by Hucknall and District u3a members under Covid restrictions since March 23rd 2020

Have you tried something new during lock down?

A new craft or hobby: Learnt a new language or piece of music?

Walked or cycled a different route in your neighbourhood and noticed something you hadn't before?

Have you had time to try a new recipe or baking technique?

Read a book or watched a film you never had time to read before or wrote your own poem or story?

I would like to compile an audio /visual presentation of activities undertaken by the Hucknall u3a members during the various levels of lock down.

This will be shown at one of our future meetings.

Your contributions would be most welcome, please send photos, short videos, illustrations or pieces of writing to me at:

vincent.christine@ntlworld.com

Thank you, Chris Vincent

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NEW GROUPS, GROUP NEWS, WORKSHOPS & OTHER NEWS

APRIL SCAMS UPDATE

In the previous 12 months the various types of scams have increased and currently Email and social media account hacking is on the increase as are fake texts, delivery and telephone scams.

1. Over 15,000 hacked email and social media accounts reported in one year.

If a hacker got into your email or social media account, what would they find? Health and banking information? Names and contact details for your friends and family? Private photos and messages? For most people, it's at least one of those.

Your email and social media accounts contain a wealth of personal information about you, which makes them a lucrative target for cyber criminals. **Between February 2020 and February 2021, Action Fraud received 15,214 reports about email and social media account hacking.** The majority of reports (88%) were made by individuals, with 12% of reports being made by businesses. Analysis of the crime reports revealed that Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat were the most affected social media accounts, with phishing messages being the most common tactic used by cyber criminals to lure unsuspecting victims.

The motivation behind the hacks is varied and can range from financial gain, to revenge or personal amusement. Some victims are extorted for money, whilst others have their accounts used to send malicious links to their contacts. One victim who had multiple email and social media accounts hacked paid over £2,000 to regain access to them. Another victim reported that her hacked Facebook account was used to trick her friends into sending money into a PayPal account they thought belonged to her.

Secure your email and social media accounts in just a few minutes. Here's what you need to do:

1: Use a strong and separate password for your email, as well as other important accounts, such as your banking or social media accounts.

2: Enable two-factor authentication (2FA). It will help to stop hackers from getting into your online accounts, even if they have your password.

3: If you can't access your account, search the company's online support or help pages. You'll find information about how to recover your account.

For detailed instructions on how to reset your password or enable 2FA on your accounts, visit: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/secureyouraccounts>

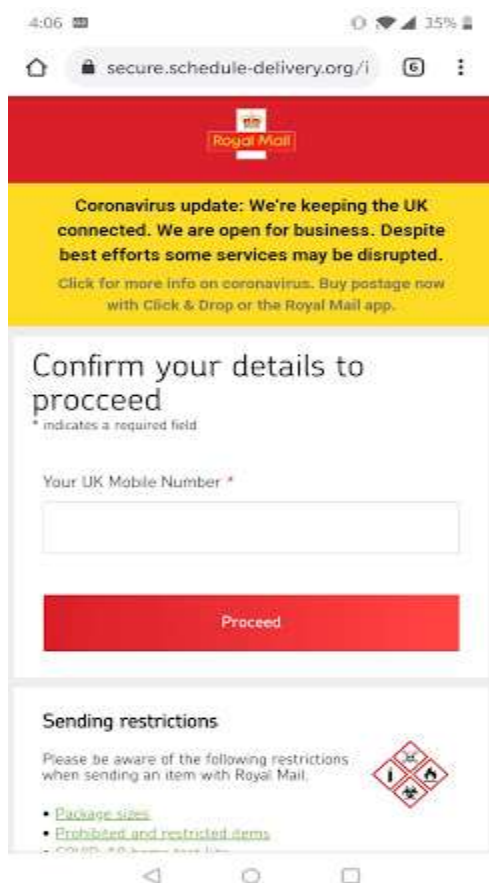
2. Royal Mail: fake texts, calls and a cloned site

Fake texts purporting to be from mail and courier services have been on the rise. In this case, fraudsters attempted to wipe out a person's entire bank balance by impersonating Royal Mail. The text informed the recipient that a parcel was being held due to an unpaid shipping fee and included a link for them to enter their personal info and bank card details.

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The link in this text is disguised to look as though it points to the genuine royalmail.com website, this is done by capitalising the letter 'I' so it will appear to be the letter 'L'. Therefore the link is actually 'royaimaii.com' which redirects you to a slick phishing website: Delete immediately.



David Rose

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Short Course Zoom Films

This Month's 'Short Course' Film:

On Tuesday 20th April at 1.30pm to complete a John Wayne 3 film series is 'The Shootist'

'The Shootist' is a 1976 American Western film directed by Don Siegel and based on a 1975 novel of the same name. It is notable as John Wayne's final film role. With James Stewart, Lauren Bacall and Ron Howard and Richard Boone.

A subtle, touching valedictory tribute to both Wayne and the Western in general as he was dying of cancer as is the main character in the film.

Quote from Time Out review

Wayne is perfect as the dying gunfighter attempting to live out his last days in peace and obscurity, but prevented from doing so by various younger gunmen out for revenge or to prove their worth against him. The performances are uniformly excellent, Bruce Surtees' photography is infused with an appropriately wintry feel, and Siegel handles both pace and tone beautifully; the admitted sentimentality is thoroughly in keeping with the elegiac tale of old-timers reconsidering their lives. If you're one of those who still feel that Wayne couldn't act, watch this and change your mind.

Running Time 1hr 40 mins

Melvyn

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ARTS & FILMS INFORMATION GROUP

If you wish to be included with the 150 other members in the circulation of the ongoing Arts Information Calendar each month, please drop an e-mail to alansnape@Hotmail.co.uk or ring me on 07940146542.

CHOIR GROUP

Spring has definitely sprung, we all have something to sing about, and not just the weather, which is glorious today (when I have typed this I am heading for the patio with a Magnum). Although local gardens are looking as beautiful as they will at any time, it is good that we can now have a change of scene, driving non-essential journeys to somewhere further than an exercise walk away! The hills will be alive, whether or not anyone bursts into song. During the month we had another Ring and Sing request, this time from a choir member for herself, who enjoyed an extra pleasant surprise due to an unexpected musical skill from our choir's R&S volunteer. Hidden talents, well done. Hopefully, it won't be too long before we can sing together, it won't be soon, but I think we can begin to look forward to it, and so many other things. Keep patient, keep taking care, see you later.

FUN WITH LANGUAGES GROUP

Our Zoom in march began our first session in our course on Spanish. We revised some vocabulary and revisited the Mi Vida Loca drama we are following. I think most of us were pleased to revise!! We shall continue with this drama on Thursday 8th April at 10.30.

The only problem is that the drama is set in Spain and gives us all holiday withdrawal symptoms. But a nice reminder too of how halcyon those lockdown free days were. Let us hope there will be more at some point in the future. Meanwhile, we hope for sunshine and garden days to help us along! As always, if you wish to join our group, you are welcome.

Love Ann & Liz.

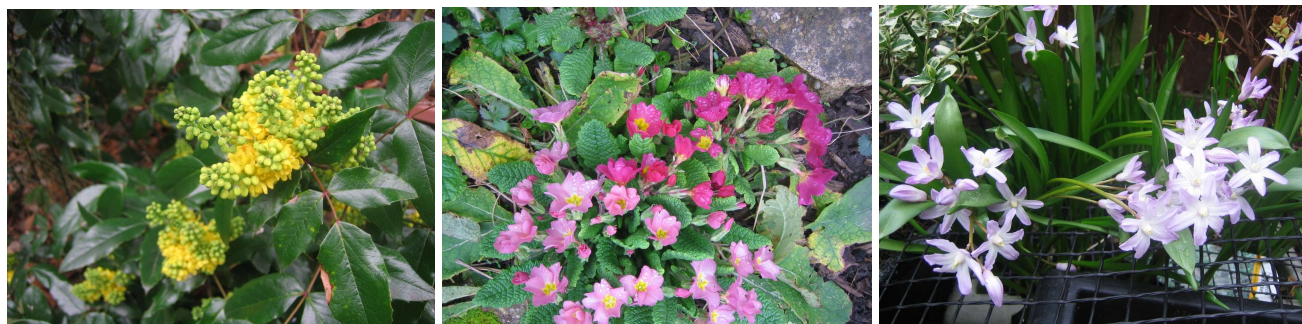
GARDENING GROUP

Now that the weather is warming up we can all get on with those plans we made in the winter! Apparently gardens produce around 85% of nectar harvested by urban bees, so new research has found. More than in rural, farmland and nature reserves. So our gardens are critical for the food supply of pollinators in towns and cities, and the decisions we make regarding the plants and flowers that we grow matters for the conservation of bees, butterflies and all the other pollinators. Thankfully there are so many species and varieties that we can provide, both for our enjoyment and for the benefit of insects. Foxgloves or digitalis are popular with bees, as are Agastache, Sedum (Hylotelephium), Verbena, Thyme, Scabious, Clematis, Eryngium, Honeysuckle, species roses with single flowers, Wisteria, to mention just a few.

You may not want to risk going out to visit gardens yet but there are still lots online that you can see. The tulip festivals can be seen online, at www.hevercastle.co.uk; www.arundelcastle.org; www.dunsboroughpark.com; www.pshleymanorgardens.com; and www.rsc.org.uk/morton-hall. Also a garden that has opened for the NGS has a lovely film online in memory of the lady who gardened there for many years, Mary Caroe, she sadly died of Covid last spring. The garden is at Vann, in Surrey and can be accessed online through the NGS website.

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As I write the gardens are awash with spring flowers and fragrance, and the insects are already busy collecting nectar and pollen. Hyacinths, daffodils, Ipheon, aconites, Daphne, Chionodoxa, cyclamen, primulas, forsythia, bellis are all enjoying the warm sun, as are we!.



You may like to try companion planting this year, growing vegetables in with your flowers, for variety of colour, structure and protection from pests. Alliums, sage and mint are all good in pots with flowers as their strongly fragranced leaves are a useful distraction to pest attack. The flowers will also attract pollinators to feed on the pests and to improve fruit set. Borage or marigolds(tagetes) can be grown with tomatoes, runner beans with nasturtiums, leeks with lavender or carrots, carrots with mint or chives, cabbages with sage or mint, and beans with calendula (annual pot marigold).

Finally, does this sound like you – Gardeners are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied! (Vita Sackville-West 1892-1962).

HISTORY GROUP

The History Group always welcomes all U3A members. Our indoor meetings are held at Central Methodist Church on the 3rd Wednesday of the month commencing at 2pm. I am hoping this year the first meeting will be July 21st with Kieran Lee talking about the Bennerley Viaduct.

Only two people replied to my question last month about Doddington Hall both thinking the best thing to do would be to change it to 2022. This made me realise that we should be booking speakers and visits for next year to make sure the best come to speak in Hucknall and we visit the best places. Ideas please.

Since I last 'spoke to you I have filled in my 2021 Census form. I am assuming you all got one for your household. While sitting there black biro poised did you give a thought to your ancestors who filled in their forms? Could some of them even fill the paperwork in themselves or were they illiterate? Did you think about the enumerators slogging round the streets collecting the forms when you pressed the button to send yours online or pushed it into the post-box?. Enumerators had to help the householders by writing details in for those who couldn't so I guess they would have headaches, be footsore and weary when they returned home to write up all the information into the census books. Something else I have considered is how my descendants will look at the information about me 100 years from now; what will they think and what will they do with it. Then thinking of a wider angle what will Hucknall look like in 100 years?

I am hoping the government will keep upgrading the records enabling them to be read on the different devices which will be available in the next century. It is only 30 years since my first computer and information from it can't be read now.

Incidentally until the 1870 Education Act which allowed local government to set up School Boards it was not compulsory for children to go to school. Beardall Street was the first Board School in Notts.

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built in 1872 opened January 13th 1873. In 1891 a new Act made education free for all children until then schooling had to be paid for each week.

It occurred to me to check the history of British Summer Time or Daylight Saving Time as we alter the clocks again the end of March. It was first thought of by a chap called William Willett in the early 1900s - then the idea resurfaced in the Great War when the Summer Time Act was passed in the UK on 17th May 1916. In World War II in 1941 it was changed to Double Summer Time then back to normal in 1945 but because of the severe winter of 46/47 back it came for a while. Who remembers Double Summer Time when it never seemed to get dark? Info. very briefly from www.historic-uk.com.

T.T.F.N. & God bless from Maureen

LUNCH GROUP

Optimistically I have booked our Christmas Lunch at the Nottingham Albert Hall for Wednesday, 15th December; let's hope we will be in a position to enjoy it!

NATIONAL TRUST GROUP

The situation with regards to Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions seems to be improving but also still remains uncertain for reasons that we are all aware of such as the situation in Europe and a possible slowing down of the vaccination programme.

For our group there are still some major hurdles to overcome. Firstly, with regards to coach travel there are strict guidelines in place regarding the wearing of masks on board, social distancing rules to protect the driver and passengers mean that it is not possible to run coaches at anywhere near full capacity. There are also regulations with regards how to board the coach itself, where social distancing must be maintained.

Secondly, as you will aware National Trust properties are only operating at a reduced capacity for people who live locally to exercise. Car parking is limited and there is presently no facility to book coaches in for a day. Indoor facilities are closed for the foreseeable future although plans to open indoor cafes etc are being planned.

Thirdly, the Third Age Trust require that we complete a Risk Assessment before going on any visit.

Whilst it may be possible for some u3a groups to meet in numbers up to six in the relatively near future, I think that the date which will determine our progress will be June 21st when a decision will be made on Social Distancing and the wearing of face masks.

IF decisions made in June allow then we will book the dates for the first two visits and let group members know immediately.

We will put a short further update in the May Newsletter

In the meantime if you have any suggestions or comments please contact us via the National Trust section of the Hucknall u3a website.

Sue and Barrie Saunders

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PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

Here are the MARCH PUB QUIZ ANSWERS :-

SECTION ONE – PEOPLE

1. Who rode his 'Funky Moped' to No 5 in the UK charts in 1975? **Jasper Carrott**
2. What are the surnames of the 3 tenors? (1 point for each) **Pavarotti, Domingo, Carrera**
3. Who wrote and illustrated the children's book, 'The Snowman'? **Raymond Briggs**
4. What was the name of A.A. Milnes' son? **Christopher Robin**
5. Who was the captain of 'The Black Pig'? **Captain Pugwash**
6. What nationality was the magician and escapologist, Harry Houdini? **American**
7. Which month in 1969 did Neil Armstrong first stand on the moon? **July**

SECTION TWO – GEOGRAPHY

8. Which explorer discovered the Hawaiian Islands? **Captain Cook**
9. In which modern country are the ruins of Troy? **Turkey**
10. What TV series was set on Craggy Island? **Father Ted**
11. Which river runs through Baghdad? **Tigris**
12. On what street in London would you find The Bank of England? **Threadneedle St.**
13. The A1 road starts in London and finishes in which city? **Edinburgh**

SECTION THREE – GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

14. What food would a Cockney be eating if he is going for a ruby? **Curry (Ruby Murray)**
15. What is the colour of the black box on commercial aircraft? **Orange**
16. How many old pennies were there in a guinea? **252**
17. In which film did Raquel Welch appear in a fur bikini as a cave girl? **One Million Years BC**
18. The first two words in the film title where David Bowie plays Mr Lawrence? **Merry Christmas**
19. What is the motto of the boy scouts? **Be Prepared**

SECTION FOUR – SPORT & LEISURE

20. What is the highest bid, without doubling, in the game of bridge? **7 No Trump**
21. In a game of bowls, what name is given to the target ball? **Jack**
22. Which team won the 2017 FA Cup? **Arsenal**
23. Which sport is said to have been played for over 3,000 years? **Hurling**
24. What is Japan's national sport? **Sumo**
25. What is an ice hockey puck made of? **Vulcanised rubber**

And just for a change, let's have a **Name the Creature Quiz** for April

1. Result of a sore throat - (5)
2. A bit of a wrench - (6)
3. Monty's soldier Desert - (3)
4. Not colder, I think I hear? - (5)
5. These were filmed in the mist? - (7)
6. Hard to hit the ball without one of these? - (3)
7. Tony used to think Frosties where grrrrreat? (5) - (5)
8. When their tails up, they can cause quite a stink - (5)
9. Troy Tempest used to command one of these? - (8)
10. Naked - (4)
11. Used to lock up the Urine? - (4)
12. A dance where you need to follow? - (6)
13. A shy fish? - (3,4)
14. This bird used to be great for Guinness? - (6)
15. A Roman soldier would die for this standard? - (5)
16. Not the most sensible thing to put down your trousers? - (6)

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17. Pulled? – (4)
18. Take the red out of this misleading clue - (7)
19. Boy George thought this animal really had Karma! – (9)
20. Simple! – (7)

READING GROUP



It was World Poetry Day (21 March), established by Unesco in 1999, it aims to recognise the unique ability of poetry to capture the creative spirit of the human mind – but how do you convince people that this is something worth celebrating? Poetry is for academics and posh people, right? Wrong! So Reading Group members, why not let us share your favorite poem with you? Thanks.

Otherwise, please let me know what books you have been reading over the last Month

SCIENCE GROUP 2

For our March meeting we welcomed three guest speakers associated with the well-established Sherwood Observatory. Last month they were guests at the Science 1 session and it's thanks to Jim and the group for suggesting that we should contact Steve Wallace who is the project manager at the Observatory. Steve presented the first half of the meeting.

The focus of Steve's talk was about the chances of life on other planets /moons in our solar system and beyond into deeper space.

For life water is an essential ingredient so only places with water have the potential to support life.

Much of our expanding universe is too hot or too cold to hold liquid water.

Those life forms would be pretty basic microscopic life which needs billions of years to evolve into complex living things. Basically those green aliens are a figment of our imagination.

The second part of the session was led by two students from Nottingham Trent University Blaine and James who introduced us to the project to develop a visitor centre and planetarium on the current site. Part of the process was to ask the group for ideas about what the site could offer help to make it an exciting venue for families and visitors of all ages.

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It was followed up by a questionnaire which was completed on an individual basis.

Next Month: Friday 16th April at 10am

Ann Murray has kindly volunteered to lead the session on the theme 'Glaciers and Icebergs'.

David Rose

THEATRE GROUP

Good News, River Dance is going to be on at Theatre Royal on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th August 2021. We are booked in for 2.00pm on Saturday 28th August. It could be our first trip to the theatre for over a year. We should all have been double vaccinated by then - so fingers crossed.

Keep calm and carry on.

Barbara.

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The Weekenders April Newsletter will be sent out on 2nd April. Once again, many thanks to Margaret Wilde for printing off copies for those members not on email and for delivering them on her morning walk. We are now starting to make provisional plans for meet ups after the end of May and also optimistically our birthday lunches, an outing and a Christmas lunch but of course that all depends on whether the great British public behaves itself! Fingers crossed!

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HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS

April 2021

For further details contact check the website at www.hucknallu3a.org.uk from there you can email the respective Group Leader

ARTS

ACOUSTIC GUITAR	1 st &3 rd Thursday 10:00
CHOIR	1 st Wednesday 13:20
	3 rd Wednesday 11:20
DISCUSSION	1 st Monday 13:45
DRAMA	4 th Friday 10:00
FILM CLUB	Thursday 12:30
HISTORY	3 rd Wednesday 14:00
NATIONAL TRUST	Various dates & times
READING (BOOKS)*	1 st Wednesday 14:00
SINGALONGA	3 rd Tuesday 10:30
THEATRE	various dates
UKULELE	2 nd &4 th Monday 10:00

ACTIVE WELLBEING

CYCLING	Every Wednesday 9:00
EASIER CYCLE	Every Friday 9:00
GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY*	Various
GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN	Various
KURLING	2 nd Sunday 3-5pm
PICKLEBALL	Thursday 14:00
SEATED EXERCISE	4 th Monday 14:00
WALKING (LONG)	1 st Tuesday 10:00
WALKING (MID)*	3 rd Monday 10:00
WALKING (SHORT)	3 rd Thursday 10:00

FOOD & DRINK

BREWERY SCIENCE & HISTORY	Various
GINOLOGY	3 rd Thursday 19:00
INTERNATIONAL DINING	As Arranged
LATE BREAKFAST	1 st Friday 09:15
LUNCH GROUP	4 th Wednesday 12:00
PUB QUIZ & LUNCH	2 nd Monday 12:00
WINE APPRECIATION*	3 rd Monday 19:30
WINE TASTING *	3 rd Wednesday 19:30

HOBBIES & PASTIMES

CANASTA	1 st & 4 th Friday 19:00
CRAFT 1 *	3 rd Monday 13.45
CRAFT 2	2 nd Tuesday 14:00
GARDENING	3 rd Tuesday 14:00
HOLIDAYS	various dates
KNITTING & CROCHET	4 th Tuesday 14:00
MAH JONG	2 nd Friday 19:00
POT LUCK *	1 st Wednesday 19:30
RUMMIKUB1	1 st Monday 14:00
RUMMIKUB2	Thursday 13.00
SCRABBLE	4 th Thursday 14:00
TABLE GAMES	3 rd Friday 19:00
WATER COLOUR	1 st Monday 14:00
WEEKENDERS	various Sat & Sun.

LANGUAGES

FRENCH CONVERSATION*	3 rd Tuesday 10:00
FUN WITH LANGUAGES	2 nd Thursday 10:30

SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCIENCE 1	4 th Thursday 10:00
SCIENCE 2	3 rd Friday 10:00

*Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Siobhan who will happy to help you set up a further group. Please be aware that some Interest Groups have a limited number of places due to activity, venue etc.

Group Leaders are normally available in the Board Room at the monthly U3A meetings to answer any questions that you may have about their group. Their contact details are displayed on the Interest Group Information Board.

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