

## A message from the Chairman

And it's goodbye from him! After five and half years on the committee and three years as chairman, I am stepping down – as chairman as required by the constitution, but a year early from the committee due to my many other commitments. It has been a great pleasure and a privilege to be able to help u3a in Ludlow succeed in its objectives of the advancement of education of older people in Ludlow and the surrounding locality, For the last twenty-five years since being founded in 1997 we have been doing just that, but have also contributed greatly towards enhancing the social wellbeing of our members and that is something I think we can, collectively, be very proud of.



Despite the vicissitudes of the last couple of years, u3a in Ludlow is still going strong and although we have, sadly, lost a number of members, we have gained almost the same number of new members since the beginning of the year. Inevitably, some groups have fallen by the wayside having been unable to meet properly for some time, though in many cases this is simply down to a lack of coordinator. Being coordinator of a group is not an onerous task and we need people to step forward and volunteer. In our recent survey, twenty-six of you said you might be willing – stand ready to be contacted!

But even with the loss of some groups and a number of members, things are looking up and life is getting back to normal. Many of the long-standing groups are flourishing and new groups are starting up.

I shall continue to be involved and hope to see many of you in the future. In the meantime, it falls to me to wish all the best to Jan Haines as she takes over and to the rest of committee, for whose support over the last three years, I say thank you

*Dr Robert Hodge*  
*Chairman*

## Membership renewal

If you have not renewed, your membership has now lapsed, and you will no longer be able to participate in groups or attend monthly meetings. If you wish to rejoin, please contact the Treasurer, Grace Wilkins: [treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk).

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If your email address has changed, please contact: [treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk)

# Study group update

## ■ Calligraphy



A well-attended new group had its first meeting on Tuesday – there is still room for two or three more participants. Calligraphy means ‘beautiful writing’ and in this group we will learn different ‘hands’ such as Foundational, Roman writing, Italic, Uncial, Gothic, of which all different ‘hands’ that can be used for many different projects, including hand-addressing invitations, creating beautiful written artwork or poetry, and enhancing other paper crafts.

Meetings are on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 1030.

## ■ Get by in Spanish



This group meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4 at Ludlow Library. There are vacancies for new members who want to learn enough Spanish to get by in everyday situations – just in time for summer sun. *Una cerveza por favor. ¿Cuánto cuesta?*

## ■ Study group survey

349 of you responded to the recent study group survey and we are grateful for your input. Not as many as we thought said they were unable to join groups because they were full, but we will be looking into the information provided. The most interesting input was the long and somewhat eclectic list of topics for potential groups. The committee is looking to see how best to approach this and see what might be set up. We expect lots of interest in the possibility of a ‘life drawing’ class.

For more information on the above groups please contact: [membersadviser@u3ainludlow.org.uk](mailto:membersadviser@u3ainludlow.org.uk)

# Noticeboard

## ■ Annual General Meeting

The AGM commenced on Monday 28 March but was not quorate and has therefore been adjourned until Monday 4 April at 0930 via Zoom. This is a formality required by the constitution. However members present at the meeting were given the opportunity to vote on the resolutions in the agenda. Those resolutions will be formally ratified by those attending the resumed AGM.

Resolutions informally passed by those present were:

- acceptance of AGM 2021 minutes
- acceptance of Chairmans's report
- acceptance of Treasurer's report and (unaudited) accounts (those these have now been examined and approved in line with those presented)
- election of Jan Haines (Chair), Suzanne Taylor (vice-Chair), Grace Wilkins (Treasurer), Barbara Ball (Secretary)
- election of Sue Billing, Peter Law and Michael Cooke as members of the committee
- election of Ian Stewart as external examiner

## ■ AGM quiz

After the AGM a quiz was held. It has been a long time since we have had a quiz and – judging by the scratching of heads – a long time since members had taken part! But those participating seemed to be having fun.

Our thanks go to those who prepared the questions (the questions and answers are available on the website under the Documents tab. Go to <http://www.u3ainludlow.org.uk>)

Team scores were as follows:

33	Dan's Desperates
32	Tenbury Four
31	River Severn
30.5	Outdoor People
30	The Three Graces
28	The Archadians
22	MFP
22	Cobbled Together
19.5	Indefatigables

All four members of Dan's Desperates receive a £10 voucher to Bill's Kitchen at the Assembly Rooms. Well done!

## Monday meetings

25 April 2022

The History of Jazz Piano

Roger Browne



From Blues, Ragtime, Boogie to Swing, Be Bop, Free Form and Avant Garde, the story of jazz piano has been one of exciting and rapid evolution influenced by creative talents such as Scott Joplin, Fats Waller, Count Basie and more. Pianist, with internationally renowned Manchester Jazz, Roger Browne's talk is illustrated with live musical examples in the style of the great jazz masters and punctuated with

hilarious anecdotes about the people, places and events that fuelled the development of this remarkable genre. Tea and coffee in Oscars from 1030 – meeting at 1100 in the auditorium.

23 May 2022

Jeremy Derrick

The Work of a Practising Homeopathist



A lifelong experience of homeopathy: Jeremy grew up in a household where homeopathy was practised and, in adulthood, he became a practitioner. His anecdotal talk about his personal and professional experience of homeopathy explains and illustrates how he considers its approach may help and why he feels it is valid in the 21st century.

Jeremy Derrick has been a practitioner of homeopathic medicine for over 20 years. His practice is in Shrewsbury.

## ■ Upcoming Online Talks: Organised by the Third Age Trust

Here is a sample of available events, arranged by the Third Age Trust, which are free to access: [u3a.org.uk/events](http://u3a.org.uk/events)

### How to crochet a creature



As part of the Extreme Crochet Initiative, Trust u3a's Groups Coordinator, Chris Winner offers a live workshop on Tuesday 5 April at 1000. To join, click [here](#).

### The Geology of Igneous Rocks: part 2



Igneous rocks were once liquid magma and consists of granitic rocks common throughout northern & western Britain and volcanic rocks widespread in Wales and Scotland. Their genesis is linked with the movement of tectonic plates In the second talk, we will focus on extrusive or volcanic rocks at convergent plate boundaries (Pompeii, Wales), and divergent plate boundaries (Iceland, Scotland) and the occurrence of oceanic crust on land (Cyprus, Cornwall)

A discussion by Martin Eales of the the geology of igneous rocks (part 2) - their plate tectonic setting and formation from volcanoes to granites. Thursday April 7 at 2pm. For more information, click [here](#).

### Evidence based medicine



Rebecca Gould, Cochrane UK Fellow, explores what evidence based medicine (EBM) is all about and why it is important to all of us when we make decisions about our health. She gives examples of where disasters have happened through lack of evidence and how drug licensing laws help ensure that treatments are safe and effective. She looks at some media headlines and encourages a healthy dose of scepticism to look

behind what we are being told. She talks about the contribution Cochrane makes to EBM and gives an example of a Cochrane systematic review. She also shares links where trustworthy, evidence-based health advice can be found. Friday April 8 at 2pm. For more information, click [here](#)

## The stories of the willow plate pattern



This talk tells of the making of the Willow Pattern Plates. From the ancient and treasured 'blue and white' porcelain which came from Cathay (the original name for China), I relate the bringing of these much loved pieces to Europe and the great journeys undertaken to get them here. The discovery of how to make porcelain in Europe, followed by the creation of the story of the willow pattern and its making in the Potteries in England are all part of the history. Join Irene Kyffin from London u3a for this talk exploring the history of the Willow Patern. Friday May 13at 2pm. For more information, click [here](#)

If you have any useful links that would help advance the education of other members, please get in touch: [info@u3ainludlow.org.uk](mailto:info@u3ainludlow.org.uk)

### ■ Trust u3a

Did you know that there is a national u3a (akin to a local group) which organises different groups and short series of meetings which meet via Zoom. There are almost 100 different groups available. Membership of Trust u3a for members of u3a in Ludlow is only £5 per year.

If you cannot find what you are looking for in u3a in Ludlow, or find it difficult to attend face to face meetings, this might be for you. For more information, visit <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/groups>

# Committee update

## ■ The Committee members are currently as follows: (to be ratified at resumed AGM)

Chair	Janice HAINES (01584 878794)	<a href="mailto:chair@u3ainludlow.org.uk">chair@u3ainludlow.org.uk</a>
Vice-chair	Suzanne TAYLOR (07455 367554)	<a href="mailto:suzannecaroltaylor@gmail.com">suzannecaroltaylor@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Barbara BALL (01584 879180)	<a href="mailto:barbara@ludlowballs.forec9.co.uk">barbara@ludlowballs.forec9.co.uk</a>
Treasurer	Grace WILKINS (07990 526203)	<a href="mailto:treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk">treasurer@u3ainludlow.org.uk</a>
Study Group Adviser		
Members' Adviser	Janice HAINES (01584 878794)	<a href="mailto:membersadviser@u3ainludlow.org.uk">membersadviser@u3ainludlow.org.uk</a>
Monthly Meeting Organiser	Sue BILLING (07710 756093)	<a href="mailto:sueatmill84@yahoo.com">sueatmill84@yahoo.com</a>
Communications and Marketing	Suzanne TAYLOR (07455 367554)	<a href="mailto:suzannecaroltaylor@gmail.com">suzannecaroltaylor@gmail.com</a>
u3A Plus	Peter LAW (01584 877012)	<a href="mailto:peter.peterwlaw@gmail.com">peter.peterwlaw@gmail.com</a>
Committee member	Michael COOKE (01584 878774)	<a href="mailto:barleycooke@btinternet.com">barleycooke@btinternet.com</a>
Newsletter editor		

All the members of the committee are Trustees of the registered charity, u3a in Ludlow. A description of each role, along with a description of the role of Trustee, is available on the Committee page on the website.

If you are interested in serving on the Committee, please contact Jan Haines: [chair@u3ainludlow.org.uk](mailto:chair@u3ainludlow.org.uk).