



# U3A in Ludlow June 2019 News

## **Croquet**

Through a joint venture with Ludlow Castle Croquet Club there is a new U3A Croquet group. Meetings take place between April and September, depending on the weather, at the club, which is located at The Linney, Ludlow, SY8 1EE. Experienced players and beginners are welcome, and equipment and tuition will be provided for those who need it. Players are required to pay £2.50 per person per session. Meetings take place on Wednesdays from 2 pm to 4 pm. Anyone interested should contact the coordinator of the group, Bob Purcell, at [bobpurcell1@gmail.com](mailto:bobpurcell1@gmail.com) or on 01584 874857.

## **Middle East group**

The group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 am (except in August). Members take turns to choose and study a topic connected with events in the Middle East, mainly since 1945, and present the results of the reading to the group. All group members will have done some reading on the topic, and so the second part of the meeting becomes a discussion. The group meets in members' houses.

If you are interested in joining the group, please ring Susan McCormack for information. 01584 877315.

## **Modern Fiction Group - vacancies**

This very lively group takes a slightly different view of the 'book group' idea. Members have a very wide range of literary interests and once a month we read and discuss a book selected from members' recommendations. However, we alternate this with discussions around literature itself. These have recently included 'books in translation', 'writers' lives and biographies' and 'what actually is a good book?' Always stimulating, informative and most importantly, amusing afternoons (alternate Thursdays) are complemented by a summer and a Christmas lunch. Do come for a 'taster' if you love modern fiction. Contact Judie Welsh at [welshes2017@gmail.com](mailto:welshes2017@gmail.com) or on 07973 744161.

## **History of Art**

This group would welcome a new member and would be happy to offer a taster session. It meets on the second Thursday morning of each month, and chooses a programme according to members' tastes and interests. Everyone takes a turn leading the discussion and everyone does some work and joins in at every meeting. Please contact Ann Cheng at [cheng@btinternet.com](mailto:cheng@btinternet.com) or on 01584 879457.

## **Vacancies for Ancient Greek Philosophy**

What have the Greeks ever done for us? Well, you would be amazed at how these few brilliant philosophers have shaped our thinking over the past two thousand years. They do not shy away from the big questions about the meaning of 'life, the universe and everything'; and the voices of Plato, Socrates and Aristotle ring out to us as if they were with us in the room today. We meet on the last Monday afternoon of each month and if you would like to join our lively, enjoyable and friendly group please contact Michael Radford at [michael.radford@live.co.uk](mailto:michael.radford@live.co.uk).

## **News from the U3A Committee**

At the AGM it was agreed that the Committee would pass on to members via the monthly Newsletter anything of interest that might have been discussed at committee meetings. The committee has recently met and agreed no increase in membership fees for 2020. It also suggests to members that, to avoid the risk of heavy parking fines, members should use the adjacent public car park when visiting the Mascall Centre and only use the centre's car park as a 'dropping off' point. The committee also learnt that the University of the Third Age is the nineteenth largest membership movement in the UK, the largest being the NUS, followed by the NUT. We have more members than the RHS or the WI.

## **Monthly Meetings**

***These meetings will both be in the Mascall Centre***

***The June talk will start at 11.20 am in the Hall***

***The September talk will start at 11.00 am in the Severn Wye Room***

***Coffee and tea will start at 10.30 am on both days***

**Monday 24 June**

**The Last Laugh of the Railway King**

**Geoff Scargill**

Geoff is a retired head teacher and magistrate, with a multiplicity of interests, including politics, music and travel. He has given many talks, the proceeds from which go to Cancer Research. Amongst his repertoire, it is his talk about Sir Edward William Watkin that is the most popular. The largely forgotten Sir Edward was known as the Railway King, because of his involvement in engineering projects to develop railways. He had, however, a much wider interest in projects to benefit society. He initiated the development of the first Channel Tunnel and the development of Wembley Park as a pleasure park, a park now associated with English football.

Geoff's talk is not technical and will reveal the great sensation Sir Edward caused in the art world in twentieth-century America, seventy years after his death.

**Monday 30 September**

**Ancient Egypt - A History in Ten Objects**

**Janet Desmond**

Janet lived in Egypt for three years in the early 1980s and it was this that triggered her interest in and love of the ancient history of Egypt. She has a diploma in Egyptology and is committed to keeping her knowledge up to date. She has spoken to a wide variety of audiences, including to passengers on cruise liners.

Janet has chosen ten items, taken from across the main periods of ancient Egypt, from c.3400 BCE to 30 BCE. They illustrate a variety of artefacts, styles and materials from different museum collections around the world – each with its own fascinating story to tell. Janet clearly has great enthusiasm for her subject.

**If you change your email address please remember to let us know, so that you can continue to receive the *U3A in Ludlow* monthly news.**

**Further Information about *U3A in Ludlow* is always available on our website:**

**[www.u3ainludlow.org.uk](http://www.u3ainludlow.org.uk)**

**If you would like to submit an item for the next monthly news please contact us.**

**Telephone Contact: 01584 879180**

**Email Contact: [derek@ludlowballs.force9.co.uk](mailto:derek@ludlowballs.force9.co.uk)**