

Summer 2022

Stop Press - We've 'Won' the Lottery!!

We have just heard that we have been awarded a grant from the National Lottery Under £10k Community Funding Scheme. Such welcome news! This will help considerably to get us back on track to where we were, financially, pre Covid. The money has been allocated to certain areas only and we will be setting up a separate account to ensure the money is spent in the right way, and invoices will be kept to monitor the expenditure. Look out for our new promotional material to get us noticed, all kindly paid for by the Lottery!



Already we have participated in the Artisan Fayre at Fisherman's Walk (see page 12)



Poster created by Richard Smith

Fun Photography Group

Post Lockdown snapping with indoor and outdoor photography



Puffer Fish
Bournemouth Natural Science
Society
John Finnemore



Lower Garden Views,
Gaye Barrett



Early Christmas Card
Sue Allibone



Monochrome Capers
Ed Jardine



Relaxing at Russell Coates.
Gerry Duggan

Happy Snapping! David Cox & Gaye Barrett, Fun Photography Group

We have had fun doing location photography at places such as the Russell Coates museum, Boscombe sea front and gardens, and Throop Mill. We have also enjoyed guest speakers presenting their photos of Japan and local wildlife.

From 16th – 23rd June we exhibited our winning photographs on the notice boards of Moordown Community Centre café, Coronation Avenue.

We hope you were able to see them. In case you missed this, we will have an online exhibition and links to this will be sent to all members via Bournemouth U3A Mailchimp.

22 March 2022- concert at MCC

The large hall – more arrivals finding a space; more chairs brought in,
“ ‘elf ‘n safety y’know. Can’t block the aisles.”

Cheery waves of recognition over the hum of chatter as all settled.

The hall was full. The reason?



Uni-sing’s March Concert.

The Leader, Thelma Clothier, settled the singers and we were soon lifted by the confident, clear sounds of musicals

“The Phantom of the Opera”

“The Lion King” & “Chess”.

Included also was film music,

“Aladdin” and “Titanic”

But more was coming in the form of pop music of the 1960s onwards.

‘The Shirelles’ (tick), ‘Elvis’(tick), “The Carpenters(tick)”

even “The Mamas and the Papas” (remember those?).



We were also reminded of the songs of Chris de Burgh and the super-singer, Whitney Houston. You could catch humming in the audience and see toes tapping. We had different lead singers and the recorded music was perfectly on time. No sign of nerves, movement all as one. Finally, the choir tackled ‘Les Miserables’ with aplomb and with solo characters on the nail. They brought the musical anthem to a climax, finishing with a flourish of the French Tricolor! We could only applaud their fine performance with its great variety of songs and total dedication to being as perfect as possible.

Congratulations to Thelma and all the singers. Jennie Pudney gave a vote of thanks before we left, leaving donations. A total of £370.00 was raised to support MCC renovations and our own u3a. Tea and cake were ready to round off the afternoon. It was a Spring tonic after the last two years of avoiding large groups of people. We look forward to more of these events in 2022.

Notes From The Chair



Hello everyone, for those who have managed to get back to a more normal life after the pandemic, I hope you've enjoyed being back in your chosen u3a Groups and attending the various social activities which have been on offer. I'm sure it's been so good to finally get back to a far more normal life!

You'll be pleased to hear that we have managed to agree contracts for all our usual venues, starting next September. We have also managed to secure Westbourne Library again, who have now reopened

their doors to pre-Covid numbers. We can only hope that we get through the following twelve months without any major changes to current policies.

Following our recent request for volunteers, I would like to thank those of you who responded, it is very much appreciated. June Arthur, our Office Manager, and I received many offers of help to work in the office, and two members have kindly offered their services to assist me with our IT requirements, which has been extremely helpful. However, unfortunately, the positions of Vice Chair and Secretary remain vacant. These two positions are critical to the continuation of Bournemouth u3a, and we do need to fill them urgently. We (the committee) are a friendly bunch of people and I would be only too pleased to have an informal chat with anyone interested in either of these roles. You can contact me at chair@bournemouthu3a.org.uk. I hope to hear from you!

We have been busy promoting our u3a at two local events in Southbourne, (see front page) maybe you saw us there? I would like to thank those who helped by handing out leaflets and talking to the general public to raise awareness of what Bournemouth u3a has to offer. Without our volunteers, attending such events wouldn't be possible. We do need to attract more members and we're hoping these events will help us to achieve this.

Remember, you can also help by spreading the word amongst friends and family, we have so much to offer and with access to three groups a week, and over 100 groups to choose from, a yearly subscription really is excellent value. If you know of anyone who isn't a member, and may be thinking twice about the cost of membership, maybe you could drop a hint to their family or friends that membership to Bournemouth U3A is an excellent idea as a birthday, or dare I say it, even a Christmas present!

I hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer, whatever you may be doing!

Pat Ley

Treasurer's Report



I am delighted to report that, thanks to Pat's hard work and perseverance, we have been awarded two grants.

The first, £5,000 from Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund and the second, £9,000 from the Lottery Fund.

These are restricted funds which have to be used for the reason the grants were awarded.

In the case of the Dorset Fund:

- To increase the number of people attending activity sessions
- To increase the number of people reporting they feel less lonely
- To increase the number of people reporting an increased sense of belonging in the community
- To increase the number of people volunteering regularly

In the case of the Lottery Fund:

£5,000 can be used for Venue costs

£2,000 for Promotion and Marketing events

£2,000 for Computer Software Development

These grants, together with donations of £2,222 received from members, will help to provide some financial security for Bournemouth U3A for the next year, until we can grow our membership back up to pre-covid levels. Thanks again Pat for your time and effort in obtaining these grants.

News from the Groups

Group 22. Philosophy - the never-ending journey

Leader: Neil McArthur

Tuesdays at 10:30 in the Moordown Community Centre, commencing 27th September 2022:

I'll be continuing the philosophical journey. We can, and probably will, cover a fair range of issues, concerns and problems which philosophers of many kinds have addressed, struggled with and even attempted solutions for - over the centuries - since we started to have the time not merely to survive but to consider what life is really all about and what place we occupy in the cosmos.

Ancient philosophers began by looking at our universe and wondering whether it was ever intended to be understood by us, or whether it had some logical purpose or reason we might discover, or was simply chaotic. How much further have we progressed?!

New Group No. 49 – Spiritual Traditions of India

Leader: Dr. Peter Connolly

Moordown Community Centre, Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00.

This course is a modified version of modules I taught at Chichester University for many years, along with material from courses on the history and philosophy of yoga training organisations. It will be primarily historical and philosophical in focus and will develop through the use of lectures, video material and discussion. Some reading of a few texts will also be on the agenda. We will start with the earliest evidence of spirituality in India from the Indus Valley Civilisation before progressing through the emergence of Vedic, Jain, Buddhist and Hindu developments that bring us as close to the present day as time allows.

Sadly, Berni Hallam passed away on 30th April in Bournemouth Hospital. The popular leader of the stretch class at Moordown Community Centre, Berni helped many to enjoy exercise. She also supported the recent fund raising efforts at the Centre. Berni was an accomplished musician; when younger she was a member of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and she passed on her love of music to pupils at Talbot Heath School. Deeply interested in local history, she was a founder member of the Moordown Local History Society.
Our thoughts are with her children, Debbie and Andy, and their families.

U3A Tuscany Delights - 2022 and 2023



Following memorable trips to Tuscany, we shall again be returning to Montecatini Terme from 3rd to 16th July 2022.

This year our focus will be on learning more about the Medici family and their gardens, Etruscan history with visits to archaeological sites, a homage to poet Shelley at Viareggio, and trekking in the hills.

A new delight will be to see a performance of “Madame Butterfly” at Torre del Lago.

However, it is not all serious stuff! As usual there will be plenty of time to either relax by the pool, wander off into the market or explore other nearby cities.

Each day is rounded off with dinner, recounting the day’s events whilst enjoying one another’s company over delightful meals.

Unfortunately, this holiday was postponed from 2021 and so this year’s departure is already fully booked. However, I am already taking bookings for next year, the dates are confirmed as 2nd to 16th July 2023.

If you would like to register your interest and find out more, please contact Margaret Ronchetti on (07745) 917223 or by email to margaretronchetti@hotmail.com

International Folk Dancing Group – Another Day of Dance with lots of SMILES!!!

On a glorious, warm, sunny April morning, 25 members arrived at the Beaufort Centre, Southbourne, to embark on a journey to Europe through the world of dance. Our destinations started with Romania and Bulgaria, followed by Portugal, Switzerland, Italy and Israel.



Janet Woolbar, a London-based teacher of considerable experience, took us on our journey. Janet's extensive knowledge of the culture and dances of these countries is very impressive, as is her great enthusiasm which carried through to all participants. It is matched only by her love of travel. In addition to European destinations, her boots have trekked across the North West Frontier in Pakistan, through the Yemen, Mongolia and Ethiopia, plus many more countries.

This is the second Day of Dance organised in the last six months by our Group Leader, Janet Mason, and both events have been well attended. As at the previous workshop, all the dances were walked through before dancing to music.

A bring-and-share lunch was available to those who wished to participate and gave members an opportunity to socialise. Some members attended for the whole day and some either in the morning or the afternoon. Once again, thanks go to Janet Mason and also to those who helped on the day to enable the workshop to run smoothly.

It is widely acknowledged by health professionals, such as Dr Michael Mosley, that dance is good for both the mind and body and is particularly beneficial to the 50+ age group. There are many people, in their 80s, who participate in folk dancing. It's never too late to learn!

If you are interested in trying out International Folk Dancing then you are welcome to come along to the Friends' Meeting House, Boscombe on a Tuesday morning.

New members are always welcome – please bring flat, soft shoes.

Social Report

PICNIC ON THE BEACH

Wednesday 10 August

Last year, instead of the usual BBQ, we had a picnic on the beach. One advantage was that we did not have to wait for 6.00pm to light up. Despite some indifferent weather it was good to meet up so we decided "Same again this year" – with better weather of course!



So come along to the beach at Southbourne in front of beach hut 1414, by lamp post 311, just west of the site of "The Bistro".

Bring everything you need; food, drinks and something to sit on. Warren Edge car park off Southbourne Coast Road is conveniently near. We will "pitch camp" by 12.00. We are hoping for lovely sunshine but, on the day, if it's a bit cooler than we would like it won't put us off, but if it's unpleasant then we won't be martyrs! Hope you can join us and by all means bring along a friend.

John Moore and John Oram

TEN PIN BOWLING

**Monday 27 June and Monday 19 September
At Hollywood Bowl, (Bowplex), Branksome.**

As usual, please arrive promptly at 11.00 so that we can organise a group for each lane and all start together at 11.15. As our sessions will be in school term time we get a concessionary rate.

Bowling shoes are available for hire but ordinary footwear is perfectly acceptable. No need to book, just turn up and by all means bring a friend if you wish. If you don't feel like playing just come along and watch and have a chat. Enjoy the fun and there is a coffee bar. There is plenty of parking on site and of course many buses pass the door.

John Oram



COFFEE MORNINGS

We enjoy our coffee mornings! They are a great opportunity to meet up with other members for a relaxing coffee and chat – what's not to like?

We would be delighted if as many new members as possible decide to join us so that we can all get to know each other and make new friends before the new term starts.



So please come along, from 10.30am, on

Thurs. 21 July, Cliff House hotel, 13 Belle Vue Road, Southbourne

Tuesday 20 September, "The Westbourne", 45 Poole Road, Westbourne

See you there, **John Oram**

Host/s Needed To run a SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

Don't feel like cooking and would like to meet others who belong to Bournemouth u3a for Sunday lunch out?

We already have a very successful "Lunching Round the World" group which meets on weekdays. We would like to extend that kind of get together, for members to chat and enjoy a meal, to include Sunday Lunches.

If you are interested in coordinating something like this, maybe once a month, please contact Julie - publicity@bournemouthu3a.org.uk

PAST and FUTURE QUIZZES

During the Christmas break we presented a Quiz to 12 teams, each of six players. It was so successful so that another Quiz was held in the Easter break, again 12 teams. We're pleased to report that, once again, it went down extremely well so we will be holding another during the Summer break.

**Monday 25 July 2022, at 2.00pm, arrive from 1.30
At Immanuel Church, 120 Southbourne Road, BH6 3QJ**

Will group/team leaders please make up a table of a maximum of 6 members and notify the Office by phone or preferably email of your contact details and team name? A group can have more than one team.

If no-one in your group wants to make up a team, contact the Office telling them of your interest and you will be linked with another group that cannot make a full team; or you could be linked with other individuals to make a new team.

**Admission is £3 per person, to include refreshments, payable at your table.
Alan and Audrey Kneller**

Cycling, Walking and Rambling



The Hiking/Rambling group enjoyed a lovely 6 mile walk from Pamphill near Wimborne in early May. This was mainly in countryside owned by the National Trust and partly along the River Stour encompassing some woods full of wonderful bluebells! We have also hiked around the Agglestone rock in Purbeck, Canford Heath and the New Forest near Ringwood in recent months.

Our monthly Thursday walks are medium paced ranging from around 5 to 6 miles. A summer holiday monthly walk is planned for July and August. The accompanying photos show us on our bluebell hike.

David Cox, Leader, Hiking/Rambling group

CYCLING GROUP - Leader Archie Hoggan

Meet at 10.00 every Thursday at Gloucester Road,

Park end by Wessex Indoor Bowls.

Cycle for about an hour with a break at a café or similar before returning.

Bournemouth u3a at the Artisan Fayre (see front cover)

Fisherman's Walk Park in Southbourne was the location for the first annual Artisan Fayre on Saturday 28th May.

Our marquee was in a good position close to the entrance. As the day went on more and more people passed through the park. Our volunteers talked to lots of them about the benefits of joining Bournemouth u3a, and many people signed up to receive a brochure for 2022 - 2023.

This was a great opportunity to recruit new members as well as display our recently purchased pull-up banner, table covers and bunting which will be used at future events.

*We would especially like to thank the following members for their help: **Nick Monk, Margaret Garman, Colin Grimmett, Rosemary Chinchin, Howard Fincher, and Ann Tallamy, as well as committee members Pat Ley, Jennie Pudney, John Oram, Rod Jackson and Julie Williams***

Can YOU help YOUR U3A?



We are urgently seeking new
Group Leaders
For our 2022/2023 programme

There is availability in the hall at



Friends Meeting House

(which we are already paying for!!)

Mondays: 12.45 – 2.15 & 2.30 – 4.00

We need Yoga and Stretching / Exercise groups.

These are popular groups which are always over subscribed.

The future of your U3A depends on being able to offer groups which will attract new members.

Do you have the necessary experience to run one of these groups?

Or maybe you know someone who would be willing to help?

Please contact Jennie: accommodation@bournemouthu3a.org.uk

These additional groups would be an excellent opportunity to attract new members at our 'Open' Summer coffee mornings.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Venue	Time
27 June	Tenpin Bowling	Bowlplex Branksome	11.00
3-16 July	Italian Holiday	Montecatini Terme	
20 July	Old Rectory Gardens	Manston	12.00
21 July	Coffee Morning	Cliff House Hotel	10.30
25 July	Quiz	Immanuel Church	14.00
10 August	Picnic on the Beach	Southbourne Lampost 311	12.00
19 September	Tenpin Bowling	Bowlplex Branksome	11.00
20 September	Coffee Morning	Westbourne Hotel	10.30
13 December	Christmas Lunch	Cumberland Hotel	



The Lost Words

An exciting exhibition of paintings of well-known local animals, birds & plants accompanied by beautifully presented writings/poems/ 'spells' Russell Cotes Museum until 18 September 2022.

This enchanting exhibition combines the creative talents of writer Robert Macfarlane and artist Jackie Morris to celebrate the relationship between language and the living world, and nature's power to spark the imagination.

Mitchell Robertson

Recollections of a trip to Arundel Castle and Gardens

Visiting Arundel Castle and Gardens at the start of their "Tulip Festival" we were treated to spectacular flower displays and unusual garden features. The magnificent castle offered an intriguing insight into a thousand years of history.

Mary Lapish provided these thoughts; -

*"I had been before but not into the Castle - home of the Dukes of Norfolk. It was just wonderful. The gardens worked so well, winding up the drive with lots of natural plantings and spring blossom. The formal layouts were a delight of shape and colour, especially the tulips. And who wouldn't like fountains. I'm so glad you told me not to miss the novelty of the spinning crown in the Collector's Garden. The **Stumpery** was unusual as an eccentric rockery so congrats to the Head Gardener.*

At the Castle Keep I was separated from my friend, unsure if she'd fallen or got caught on a portcullis! Absorbing the wonderful main rooms with their treasures I saw the forbidding Rembrandt by the sledge, later a portrait of a dandy with lace pantaloons hanging below his doublet!

The Chapel was fascinating, the 1450 tomb quite something with playful marble puppies holding milady's marble dress. I really love seeing the human qualities which you can deduce from these ancient details.

The rebuilding in the 19th century created this perfect idea of a castle overlooking the town of Arundel. What a great day".

David Hardman, 22nd April 2022



The Spinning Crown is a water feature whereby a Crown is suspended on a Column of Water

What is a stumpery? The first was built in 1856 at Biddulph Grange, described as "Victorian horticultural oddities" in 19th-century gardens. Reasons for their popularity vary, possibly a result of the Romantic Movement which emphasised the beauty of nature or attributed to the increasing popularity of growing ferns. Walking through the Collectors Garden at Arundel Castle you venture upon a strange garden feature looking like a rockery made of upturned ancient tree roots. So what are its origins?

This is their Stumpery, designed and created in 2014 by the Head Gardener, Martin Duncan. He reminded me that the storms of October 1987 brought down large numbers of ancient trees resulting in magnificent stumps being left where they lay. This sparked his imagination so choosing the best oak, yew, and sweet chestnut stumps he arranged their removal to the garden.



Once there, the stumps were individually positioned using a mini excavator, digging 20inch deep holes to secure the stumps upside down in the ground, with their impressive architectural roots revealed.

His aim was to give visitors the feeling of walking through a magical woodland, so chose plants that would grow through the stumps and cascade onto pathways. stumpery has a yew hedge surrounding it, clipped into points that echo the cathedral spire behind; the towering flower stems of Echium have a similar effect. Tree ferns provide fabulous lushness and an exotic feel. Some trees were planted to provide height and fantastic autumn colour.

**A Visit to the Gardens of the Old Rectory, Manston
near Sturminster Newton on
Wednesday 20 July 2022**



This year we're going to the heart of Dorset to visit a 5 acre garden which includes a walled garden, an herbaceous border, a wild area and more. The garden is on the level with paths all the way around. We hope to arrive between 2.00 and 2.30 pm and, depending on the weather, we would like to return around 4.30pm. The cost will be £20 per person, which includes coach travel, gratuity to the driver, admission to the garden and tea and cake. Should the weather be adverse, refreshments will be under cover. Plants will be available to purchase.

Pick up points are:

- No 1 - 12.30 Bell Inn (opposite Pokesdown Station)
- No 2 - 12.35 Boscombe (Bus Station)
- No 3 - 12.45 Lansdowne (near bus stop by college)
- No 4 - 12.50 Outside Homecaks, Wimborne Road
- No 5 - 12.55 Westbourne (opposite the Bingo Hall)

If you're interested in joining Audrey and I, please fill in the booking form below:
PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS ONLY

Name.....

Email Address

Telephone

Number of seats.....@ £20 equals £..... Pick up point No(1 – 5)
Ticket includes, gratuity to the driver, admission to garden, tea/coffee and cake.

Cheque payable to: **Bournemouth U3A** and sent to
Alan Kneller, 180 Harewood Avenue, Bournemouth, BH7 7BG.

Any queries phone 01202 394386

A receipt will only be sent if you enclose a stamped addressed envelope.
Otherwise you'll receive a phone call or an email confirming your booking.