

## This Month at The Walker Theatre

Monday 17th November 10.30am

**Walker Theatre at Theatre Severn**

**Marcus Watkin**

**How and Why I Became a Midlands  
Air Ambulance Volunteer**



The talk will focus on the charity's work in prehospital emergency care and how they contributed to saving Marcus' life following a particularly bad motorcycle crash 22 years ago



## HIGHLIGHTS

# BIG NEWS

**Our New Website Goes Live  
Page 3**

### Group Reports (Pages 6–9)

- **Computer Club 2** • **Just Walking** •
- **Discovering Shropshire Lunch 2** •
- **Pickleball 2** • **Table Tennis 5** •
- **Anthropology** • **Military History** •
- **Poetry Appreciation** •

### New Groups (Page 11)

- **Love To Travel** • **Amateur Radio** •
- **Drama Games Workshop** •

### Chairman's Report (Page 3)

### Last Month's Talk (Pages 4–5)

### Group Details (Page 12)

### 2024/25 Accounts (Page 10)

**Last Chance to get a team in the Quiz on  
22 November (Page 2)**

## Future Talks

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10:30am

Shrewsbury Town Football Club

Dorothy Nicoll

### All About Christmas

Why do we celebrate Christmas on the 25th of December? Who was Father Christmas? Discover the history behind the myths and traditions of the Christmas season.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 10:30am

Shrewsbury Town Football Club

Sharon MaGrath

### My Atlantic Journey

## Shrewsbury u3a Members Quiz Night 22<sup>nd</sup> November



At the time of going to press, we have space for a couple more teams in the quiz. The quiz is at Christ Church Bayston Hill on Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup> 7pm. A buffet is included, and it is £40 per team of six

To enter a team or for more details contact [editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk)

## Palmer's Café Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Our popular drop-in afternoons are held at Palmers Café on Claremont Street, usually on the last Friday of the month. Join us anytime from 2.00pm until 4.00pm in the room upstairs where a lift can transport you in comfort.

This is a good chance to meet other members to chat about everything u3a and there will be Committee members there, and they just love answer to answer all your questions. All current and potential and members are welcome so why not give it a try?



Future Dates are Fridays 19<sup>th</sup> December and 30<sup>th</sup> January

## NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

I am looking for reports that promote your Group and tell us what you have been doing. If you are the coordinator of one of these groups, I would love to hear from you. No prescribed length but around 300 words is good, and a few photos are welcome too. – by 19<sup>th</sup> November please to [editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk)

- Bridge 3 ● Clock Repairing for Beginners ●
- Digital Photography ● Discover Shropshire Lunch 2 ●
- French Conversation 1 ● Music Appreciation 2 ●
- Nature Watch ● Topical Discussion ● Walks (5th Wed) ●

## LETTER FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

As I have a piece in the AGM Supplement this month, I will keep this letter short. Please take a few minutes to look through the AGM supplement, even if you are not able to attend the AGM itself.

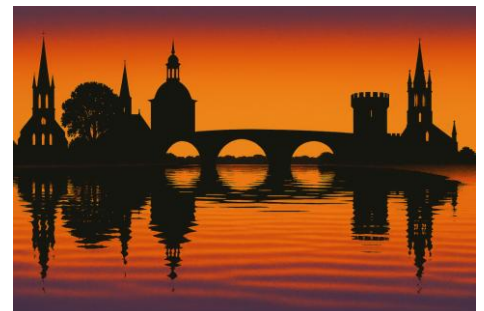
Many people are increasingly of the opinion that physical exercise is the key enabler for enjoying a long and healthy life. This view has been reinforced by the recent TV series, “Wonders of The Human Body,” presented by the late Dr Michael Mosley. Dr Mosley makes a strong case for using exercise as a contributor to maintaining/improving both physical and mental fitness, as we get older. In particular he asserts that exercising while utilising some thinking skills (as in sport and dance), and doing it in a social setting, is particularly beneficial.



I am pleased to say that many of our Group activities fit the bill for provision of physical exercise. I encourage all our members to take advantage of what we have on offer. We have had some new groups form over the past couple of years (e.g.: pickleball and walking tennis) and could add more capacity/variety if the demand was there. So please take a moment to consider what more you might do. If we don't currently have a group that offers what you want, then don't be afraid to volunteer to set one up. The New Groups Facilitator will be pleased to provide support.

## Our New Website

Many of you will know that we have had many problems with our website over the last few years. We came to the conclusion that the ARDA system did not meet our requirement, so our brilliant IT team (Paul and Geoff) have spent hundreds of hours switching us to a new system and it is now live and running



You should have received an email from them on 16<sup>th</sup> October (and a reminder) which showed some of the personal details that we hold for you and explaining the process of getting on to the new website.

During the registration process you will be asked for the personal details shown in that email. If they are not correct, they will still be the details you need to enter and you can change them later.

**The team have produced a helpful guide to logging onto the website, and it is included as an extra at the end of the email version of this Newsletter.**

There is also a more extensive version at

<https://u3abeacon.zendesk.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360007368138-10-2-Members-Portal>

And, if all else fails, then you can contact [membership@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk) but bear in mind that in this initial period we will be getting many queries so bear with us.

The website is in its early days and will no doubt have lots of changes over the coming months and years, but it is already looking very good and is a great advertisement for Shrewsbury u3a.

# Last Month's Talk

## Living with Swifts

Carol Wood from Shropshire Wildlife Trust, who is Shropshire's official swift champion, was welcomed to October's meeting.

Carol began her talk by asking us to imagine that we were *homo erectus* living in Africa 1.5 million years ago watching flocks of birds flying overhead – on their annual migration, had we but known it. Swifts have been around for 60 million years, as evidenced by fossil finds. Then, it would have been dinosaurs roaming beneath them.

Six years ago, Carol inherited a cottage. It needed 'doing up' so the builders were in for some time. One day in August, she found a swift lying on the kitchen floor. She picked it up and took it out, whereupon it flew away. Then another appeared on the stairs. So began Carol's life 'living with swifts'.

Many people confuse swifts, swallows, house martins and sand martins. While they all have a similar appearance and habits, in fact swifts are from a different family.

Swifts arrive on our shores in May and stay until August, during which time they nest and raise their young – not very pretty babies, it has to be said, with their transparent skin. The parents take it in turns to feed them, storing the food in a pouch under the chin. This is the only time in their lives that they land. Indeed, their feet are not designed for walking. (The scientific name, *apus apus*, means 'without feet'). Apart from this short breeding period, they do everything – eating, sleeping and mating – on the wing.

Carol's swifts nest under the eaves and the same birds return every year, having undertaken one of the longest migratory routes, from South Africa. They cover vast distances in an incredible time – they have been recorded travelling over 3000 miles in 5 days. How they navigate not just to the same country, to the same area, but to the specific home they left the previous year, no-one knows. But when they arrive at Carol's cottage, they zoom in at 40 mph!

They stay around twelve weeks while the young birds grow. Before fledging, they have to do exercises, rather like press-ups, to strengthen their wings. Then, all of a sudden, one day they take off, on the long journey to Africa. The following year, the swifts return but not to nest; the year after that, they seek out an empty nest box and take note of it; in the third year, having found a mate in Africa, they settle into the nest, lay their eggs and raise a new family. Incidentally, the babies are not alone in the nest: the blood-sucking swift louse fly lives on the birds all summer, jumping off just before they migrate, having laid its eggs in the nest so its larvae hatch ready to feast on next year's inhabitants.

Some of our common (as well as less common) birds are in trouble, including the swift. The migration cycle does not seem to be the problem. So, what is? Major reasons are a lack of food and the reduction in the number of suitable nesting locations. Swifts like to nest in old tree holes or in cracks and tiny gaps in brick or stonework such as at the base of a chimney. New houses tend not to have such crevices. If a swift has been inhabiting an older property that is being renovated so its nest hole has gone, it will leave and not return the following summer. Since swifts have only one brood a year, the numbers will decline.

How can we help? One of the best ways is to join/form a local group. There are several in Shropshire including a new one in Shrewsbury ([shrewsburyswiftgroup@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburyswiftgroup@gmail.com)). Groups lobby councillors and developers to leave holes in new properties for swifts to use or, better,

Rosemary Salter



install a 'swift brick' that can be slid in and left there permanently. They carry out surveys of places where swifts might be found (clues: hard droppings or discarded eggshells on the ground). They put up nest boxes in suitable locations, with assistance from the National Trust which has donated wood, and Men in Sheds who have made boxes. Since the birds like older properties, churches are ideal and boxes have been installed in Church Stretton, Worfield and Much Wenlock, among others. There are even nest boxes on the Ditton Priors Industrial Estate!

The Flax Mill in Ditherington used to have many swifts but their number has greatly declined over the years of renovation. It is hoped they will return eventually.

Other ways to help swifts (and birds in general) are by leaving road verges uncut for longer, sowing wild flower meadows and growing grasses and flowers that attract invertebrates – food to sustain bird populations.

Carol ended her fascinating talk with a film from her bedroom window of swifts flying on a summer's day – a lovely sight and sound.



## Shrewsbury u3a Policies

To operate effectively, and legally, we all need to take a responsible and commonsense approach to our participation in u3a activities. The general principle in Shrewsbury u3a is that all members are responsible for their own wellbeing, health and safety. They are trusted to use common sense and judgement in their participation in any of our activities in accordance with our Code of Conduct.

### **Member Code of Conduct**

Our code of conduct is flowed down from National u3a and is as follows:

- Members are expected to know, follow and promote the principles of the u3a Movement at every opportunity.
- Members must always act in the best interests of Shrewsbury u3a and the u3a Movement. They should uphold its reputation and never do anything which could bring their own, another u3a or the u3a Movement, into disrepute or expose it to undue risk.
- Members are expected to use Shrewsbury u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objects/purposes.
- Members are expected to reflect the current organisational policy of Shrewsbury u3a, regardless of whether it conflicts with their personal views.
- Members are expected to abide by Shrewsbury u3a's procedures, practices and policies.
- Members are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect at all times.

### **Governance Guidelines**

In order to be compliant with mandated policies and to facilitate the procedures and practices associated with the safe and proper operation of our u3a, a number of guidelines have been put in place. These can be found in the Members' Handbook which is accessible on our web site and, where necessary, hard copy is available.

# Group Reports

## Computer Club 02 – Learning, Sharing, and Enjoying Technology

Mike Etchells

Computer Club 02 was formed in July 2024, when the original Computer Club 01 became so popular that a few members transferred to form a new group.

Fifteen months on, our membership has grown to eleven, with an average of six members attending each month.



We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2 pm, in the Community Room at Tesco Extra, Harlescott (Old Cattle Market, Battlefield Road, Shrewsbury SY1 4HA).

Members are encouraged to bring along their own IT equipment – laptops, MacBooks, tablets, iPads, or iPhones. If you're experiencing any difficulties, there's often someone in the group who can offer advice or a practical solution.

Our meetings are divided into two parts, with a refreshment break in the middle. Tesco kindly provides the refreshments – and sometimes even biscuits!

The first half usually features a PowerPoint presentation or tutorial on an IT topic (for example, using Microsoft Copilot). After the break, we hold an open forum where members can ask questions, share problems, or suggest subjects for future sessions. Members are also encouraged to give a presentation on a topic in which they have particular experience or expertise.



Recent presentations have included open-source software, making the most of your smartphone camera, understanding artificial intelligence, and setting up Apple or Google Pay, among others.

We always welcome new members, regardless of your level of IT knowledge. If you think this group might be for you, come along and give us a try – you'll be made very welcome.

We look forward to seeing you!

## Local History Group 3

Lorna McGain

We're a group of @ 30, meeting monthly to share our interests in all possible aspects of local history.

Each month we're treated to a different topic researched and presented by a member of the group and occasionally an outside visit.

This year we've become "experts" on: some Shropshire castles, Saxon churches (a visit), stained glass in Shrewsbury, The Drapers Guild, Rowley's House, medieval defences in the town, Victorian pumping engines (another visit), Corbett church and castle, St Chads church, the geology of Shropshire, a history of medicine and quacks in Shropshire, and the historic features of The Quarry.

We thrive on members volunteering a topic of their own choosing and in their own style, but there's no pressure to make a presentation, and a questioning, curious and friendly audience is at the heart of our group.



And all this with time for a welcoming cup of coffee and a chat at each meeting!

## Pickleball on Tuesdays — A Bit of Fun and Fitness

Steve Kefford

Six months ago, a small group of us decided to give pickleball a go. Most of us had not played before, but it quickly became something we looked forward to each week. Now, every **Tuesday afternoon from 3:00 to 4:30**, we meet for a relaxed session that offers a good mix of activity and enjoyment.



If you've not come across pickleball before, it's a cross between tennis, badminton and table tennis, played with paddles and a light plastic ball. The game is easy to learn, gentle on the joints, and ideal for anyone wanting to stay active without too much strain. It's played at a comfortable pace and suits a wide range of abilities.

Our sessions are informal — there's no league, no competition, and no pressure. We rotate players regularly so everyone gets a chance to mix and play different games. It's an easy-going format that keeps things varied and enjoyable.

Since starting, the group has evolved naturally, with some players moving on and others joining along the way. The mix of familiar and newer faces keeps things fresh, while the friendly atmosphere has remained much the same. It's been a steady, enjoyable way to stay active, learn something new, and build a bit of routine into the week.

If you're near the courts on a Tuesday afternoon, you might notice a few games in full swing. Pickleball has proved to be a great way to keep moving, try something different, and add some variety to an ordinary Tuesday.

## Just Walking

*A poem from our walking group composed by Al our constant companion and the group.*

We are the wanderers, boots laced tight,  
Through Shropshire's hills in morning light.  
From valleys deep to ridges wide,  
We stride with purpose, side by side.

We're u3a, with maps in hand,  
Exploring every patch of land.  
The weather's boss — if skies turn grim,  
We wait for sun to stretch each limb.

No pub detours, no frothy ale,  
Our lunches packed — we blaze the trail.  
A flask of tea, a sandwich neat,  
A mossy stone becomes our seat.

No need for pints or pub-bound cheer,  
The birdsong is our anthem here.  
The chatter flows, the laughter rings,  
Above the bracken, skylark sings.

Retired now, but far from slow,  
We chase the winds where wildflowers grow.  
Walking tall, come rain or shine,  
Each Monday marks our walking line.

So here's to paths both steep and long,  
To picnic breaks and robin song.  
To friendship found in every mile —  
Just Walking, with a Shropshire smile.





I attended the meeting that Pam Stone chaired to explore the feasibility of another table tennis group TT5 and I put my hand up to explore a suitable venue as Gains Park community hall didn't want to accommodate anymore table tennis groups.

More by luck than judgement I contacted Sundorne Sports Village who could provide six tables for an hour at a very reasonable price. With collaboration between the sports hall and interested parties we agreed on one hour on a Thursday afternoon 2pm – 3pm.

I was so passionate about this new group succeeding that I was prepared to invest some of my own money ~ that hasn't been necessary as I soon had enough members to cover the Halls fees and it wasn't long before the number of members were enough to pay for two hours. 2pm – 4pm. After sometime a member suggested we move our slot to 1pm – 3pm in order to miss busy traffic. This has proved a prudent move.

It was also a thing of mine to eliminate the waiting lists from all the table tennis groups but this hasn't happened. Despite the fact that TT5 has been able to take new members from inception, waiting lists still exist in all the other groups. Just proves that not everyone wants or is able to play at Sundorne sports hall on Thursday afternoon.

Doubles was the order of the day to maximise players. We mainly play doubles but singles are also played towards the end of the two hours. Getting players to mix-in has been a bit of a challenge as it is human nature in all sport to want to play with similar ability players. But this group is all inclusive with a big emphasis on having fun. This has been a bone of contention, so just recently I introduced a new foolproof system (believe that if you will). The new Mix-In has worked very well for the two sessions it's been in operation but relies on players following the rules.

It has proved challenging coordinating six tables with up to 25 plus players. Initially I set the group size at 40 but I've just set the limit at 35 and only accepting waiting list members. It has proved to be successful and I get lots of praise for setting this group up and coordinating it.

On voting day last year a few of us played on the outdoor table tennis tables at NT Attingham Park. Fairly recently a small group of us meet up at Battlefield Cafe 1403 before we play.

Our group will also be sporting two teams at the u3a quiz. We are also in the process of booking our TT5 Christmas meal. We had mince pies at our last session 🥰

## Discovering Shropshire Lunch Group 2

This summer, the u3a Discovering Shropshire Lunch Group 2 has truly embodied the spirit of exploration, friendship, and cultural appreciation. With a shared enthusiasm for local heritage, the group ventured to a variety of National Trust properties across the county, each visit offering new insights into Shropshire's rich history and natural beauty.

From stately homes nestled in rolling countryside to tranquil gardens and historic landmarks, every outing was thoughtfully chosen and well-attended. Members enjoyed not only the architectural splendour and storytelling of these sites but also the opportunity to connect over lunch, laughter, and shared memories. The blend of discovery and companionship made each trip a highlight, fostering deeper bonds and a renewed appreciation for our collective past.

Whether admiring the craftsmanship of bygone eras or simply enjoying a cup of tea in a sunlit courtyard, the group's summer programme has been a testament to the joy of lifelong learning and community spirit.

Here's to many more seasons of discovery!

## Steve Jones





On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October at approximately 5:45 am a group of 8 hardy 'young men' answered Kitchener's call and started their trip to the Somme albeit 108 years late. Some were regular battlefield trip veterans, but there was at least one new recruit in our ranks. Unlike our ancestors we didn't have to carry huge amounts of kit, but we did go prepared for all eventualities. We were led by our expert guide Sergeant David Shergold, who last year led us to the beaches of 'D' day where we followed the route of the KSLI on their landings on 6<sup>th</sup> June, the furthest any unit got inland on that day.

Our intention was to head to our base in Arras and from there visit as many parts of the Somme battlefield as was possible in the four days we were based there. We had a fairly intensive itinerary planned but we had some flexibility in it as being October we weren't sure of the weather. As it happens, we had perfect weather for the whole trip.

In the end we didn't quite cover all that we had planned, but we did visit some amazing places, and, in no particular order, these are some of the places we did manage to get to: Serre Ridge, the Sunken Lane, White City and Hawthorne Crater. (For those of you familiar with the film "The Somme" shot in 1916 by Geoffrey Malins these places are some of the most memorable sections of the film)

Newfoundland Park Thiepval Memorial, Lochnagar Crater, The Ulster Memorial Tower High, Mametz and Devils Woods And many others too many to list here.

One of the most memorable places we visited were the Wellington Tunnels in Arras. Here soldiers dug tunnels from the existing quarries to right in front of the German lines ready for a surprise attack. Also 1000's of people lived down in these underground quarries to avoid the bombardment that Arras suffered, virtually obliterating the town. To take part in the excellent guided tour we had to wear WW1 helmets for protection as well as headphones for certain sections of the tour, although our French guide was extremely well informed and could answer all questions! Here you can see us as we emerged from the tour:

It was a very enjoyable trip and also quite poignant as we thought of all those young men and women who gave their lives in such conditions that we all today find hard to imagine. We are already planning next year's trip, but it is going to be a hard one to top what we did this year!

## Anthropology

Liz McIntyre



We number nine at the moment and have well attended meetings with two on the waiting list. We meet at a member's house.


The group is thriving. To begin with we watched videos on Homo species that predated Homo Sapiens, and then an Alice Roberts series on how man spread out of Africa to inhabit the whole of the earth.

As we gained knowledge and confidence, everyone introduced a topic that they are particularly interested in. These have ranged from textile and clothing to cave art, Aztecs and Incas, body art, and have included practical sessions on carving (ancient) Venus women in soap, recreating early cave drawings on huge paper rolls and will next be creating Beaker people pottery drinking vessels. We also had a visit to the Shrewsbury museum for a talk on the Bronze age when we were able to handle artefacts.

We have booked to attend a lecture next June by Ella Al-Shamahi who presented the recent HUMAN series on the BBC. Exciting stuff!

# 2024/2025 Accounts

Here are the accounts that will be presented at the AGM. The Treasurer's Report is in the AGM Supplement.

U3A SHREWSBURY				
<u>Receipts and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 August 2025</u>				
	U3A	Groups	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Subscriptions	19,766.00		19,766.00	17,601.50
PayPal & SumUp Commission	(434.13)		(434.13)	(363.48)
<b>Net Subscriptions</b>	<b>19,331.87</b>		<b>19,331.87</b>	<b>17,238.02</b>
Gift Aid	2,064.00		2,064.00	1,865.87
Newsletter Advertising	0.00		0.00	330.00
Grants and Donations	2,850.06		2,850.06	0.00
Interest	158.05		158.05	63.72
Group Courses - Trips/Theatre/Golf Croquet		11,880.73	11,880.73	12,909.20
	<b>24,403.98</b>	<b>11,880.73</b>	<b>36,284.71</b>	<b>32,406.81</b>
<b>Payments:</b>				
Third Age Trust Membership/Insurance	4,560.00		4,560.00	4,176.00
U3A Magazine mailing	2,732.88		2,732.88	2,232.28
Room Hire - Speakers	3,766.92		3,766.92	3,678.00
Speakers' Fees	968.00		968.00	920.00
Palmer's Café	390.00		390.00	497.80
Social	1,364.50		1,364.50	1,421.25
Newsletter, printing (Inc. AGM supplement)	1,453.00		1,453.00	1,263.00
Newsletter Postage	340.00		340.00	480.00
Membership Stationery	675.88		675.88	337.27
IT Remediation & Enhancement	7,431.00		7,431.00	894.00
IT Support Costs	178.78		178.78	178.69
Equipment	0.00		0.00	1,073.78
Committee + Office	441.24		441.24	259.40
Sundry / Gifts	89.99		89.99	236.98
Publicity - u3a day, Flower Show, print	107.25		107.25	342.60
Manage Expenses Funds	357.60		357.60	0.00
Group Courses - Trips/Theatre/Golf Croquet		12,430.29	12,430.29	10,778.85
	<b>24,857.04</b>	<b>12,430.29</b>	<b>37,287.33</b>	<b>28,769.90</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(453.06)</b>	<b>(549.56)</b>	<b>(1,002.62)</b>	<b>3,636.91</b>
Surplus brought forward from previous year	20,954.34	3,935.10	24,889.44	21,252.53
<b>Surplus carried forward to next year</b>	<b>20,501.28</b>	<b>3,385.54</b>	<b>23,886.82</b>	<b>24,889.44</b>
<b>Represented By:-</b>				
<b>Bank Accounts</b>				
Current Account	2,631.43	3,385.54	6,016.97	18,553.31
Deposit Account - Lloyds	5,136.61		5,136.61	5,089.51
Shawbrook Deposit Account	10,110.95		10,110.95	0.00
Theatre Group Bal - to u3a	100.00		100.00	100.00
PayPal account	458.29		458.29	1,146.62
	<b>18,437.28</b>	<b>3,385.54</b>	<b>21,822.82</b>	<b>24,889.44</b>
Accrued Income	2,064.00		2,064.00	0.00
Accrued Expenses	0.00		0.00	0.00
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>20,501.28</b>	<b>3,385.54</b>	<b>23,886.82</b>	<b>24,889.44</b>
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prepared by Ian Hallworth Treasurer				10-Sep-25
Examined and found correct in accordance with account books and receipts S Tarr, Chartered Accountant				10/09/2025
		<i>Susan J Tarr</i>		

To express your interest in any of these groups contact [newgroupsfacilitator@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:newgroupsfacilitator@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk)

## Love to Travel

This group is aimed at like-minded u3a members who enjoy travelling and exploring in the UK and overseas, to meet up with others to share ideas, tips, technology and views on places already visited and to discuss thoughts on places we'd like to visit – maybe even organise our own trip if there is enough interest!



## Amateur Radio Group



The Amateur Radio Group is intended for radio and electronics enthusiasts, short wave listeners and licensed and aspiring radio amateurs.

The aim is to share knowledge, practice operating skills and potentially participate in the many amateur radio activities that are available.

## Drama Games Workshop

Remember enjoying practical drama lessons or taking part in productions at school? Or maybe getting involved with amateur dramatics? Then this new group may be for you. Previous experience is not a requirement – only a willingness to participate, step into a role at times and work with a group in a relaxed and informal setting.



The focus will be on interactive drama games and exercises, improvisation and working with others to present creative ideas. It will be led by two practitioners with extensive experience in both theatre and drama arts education.

**Details for all existing Shrewsbury u3a groups can be found on the website**

[shrewsburyu3a.org.uk](http://shrewsburyu3a.org.uk) and in the groups listing at the back of the monthly newsletter.

## SOME HILLAIRE BELLOC EPIGRAMS FROM OUR POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

### THE PACIFIST

Pale Ebenezer thought it wrong  
to fight,  
But Roaring Bill (who killed him)  
thought it right.

### ON HIS BOOKS

When I am dead, I hope it may  
be said:  
"His sins were scarlet, but his  
books were read."

### FATIGUE

I'm tired of Love: I'm still more  
tired of Rhyme.  
But money gives me pleasure all  
the time.

### TALKING OF BAD VERSE

William, you vary greatly in  
your verse;  
Some's none too good, but all  
the rest is worse.

### TIME CURES ALL

It was my shame, and now it is  
my boast,  
That I have loved you rather  
more than most.

### AN EXAMPLE OF THE SAME

Wine exercises a peculiar  
charm;  
But, taken in excess, does  
grievous harm.

# Shrewsbury u3a Committee Members

Mike Reece	Chairperson		
Sue Davies	Vice-Chairperson		
Russell Game	Secretary		
Ian Hallworth	Treasurer		
Ian Tanner	Membership Secretary		
Nell Motley	New Members' Secretary		
Frank Velandar	Groups Administrator		
Patti Cooke	New Groups Facilitator		
Paul Claes	IT Admin		
Jan Dale	Speaker Organiser		
Keith Winter	Local Networks		
Sue Davies	Marketing Officer		
Alwyn Winter	Committee Member		
Mike McGarry	Editor	<a href="mailto:editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk">editor@shrewsburyu3a.org.uk</a>	

## Study Groups, Activities and Contacts

If you would like full details of a group, or would like to join, then log on to our website or you can contact the Editor. Details above.

Outdoor and Sports	Hobbies	Languages	Academic
Badminton	Calligraphy	Ancient Greek	Anthropology
Crown Green Bowling	Classic and Vintage Vehicles	Deutscher Stammtisch	Architecture
Cycling 2	Clock Repairing for Beginners	French Conversation 1	Creative Writing
Golf Croquet	Computer Club 01	French Conversation 3	Creative Writing 2
Indoor Bowling	Computer Club 02	French Improvers	Economics
Naturewatch	Family History	Parlez Vous Francais	Exploring English Language
Naturewatch 2	Map Reading	German	Feminism Discussion Group
Pétanque	Reading 1	German Conversation Improvers	History 1
Pickleball 2	Reading 2	Greek Holiday Conversation	History 2
Table Tennis 1	Stitching	Italian	History of Science & Invention
Table Tennis 2	<b>Creative Arts</b>	Italiano	International Relations & War
Table Tennis 3	Digital Photography	Italian Improvers	Local History 1
Table Tennis 4	Drawing & Painting	Latin	Local History 2
Table Tennis 5	Early Dance	Russian Language	Local History 3
Touch Tennis	Folk Music	Advanced Spanish Conversation	Local History 4
Walkers 1	Folk Music 2	Welsh for Beginners	Military History
Walkers 2 (Hill Strollers)	Folk Tunes Workshop	Welsh Intermediate	Philosophy Group
Walks – Even Shorter	Line Dancing	<b>Social and Wellbeing</b>	Political Philosophy
Walks (5th Wed)	Play, Write, Record	Breakfast at Shrewsburys	Practical Philosophy
Walks Just Walking	Practical Photography	Discovering Shropshire Lunch 1	Topical Discussion
Walks Medium 1	Ukulele	Discovering Shropshire Lunch 2	<b>Cultural</b>
Walks Medium 2	<b>Indoor Games</b>	Discovering Shropshire Lunch 3	Art Appreciation
Walks Medium Hilly	Backgammon	Exploring Mindfulness	Cinema
Walks Short	Board Games	Have Pass Will Travel	Classical Music Appreciation
	Bridge 1	Living Sustainably	Jazz Appreciation
	Bridge 3	Lunch Club 2	Looking at Art
	Bridge 4	Lunch Club 3	Modern Art History
	Contract Whist	Lunch on Sunday	Motown, Soul and Funk Music
	Cryptic Crosswords	The One Club	Music Appreciation 2
	Mahjong	The One Club Group 2	Poetry Appreciation
		Sunday Lunch Group 1	Poetry Workshop
		Trips	Theatre Trips