ASHBOURNE & DISTRICT u3a

Registered charity no. 1190748

It may become necessary to update some of the information that follows.

Please check the Ashbourne & District website to contact a group leader or to see whether changes have been made to dates, times and meeting places.

———————————————————————————————————

Message from the Chair

Hello everyone, I hope you are all managing to keep healthy and warm. ❄☹.
I hope you have seen that we have some new or additional groups starting imminently. Firstly the *Learn to Cook* sessions start on **Monday 30th November.** This is for those of us with limited confidence in the kitchen and possibly living alone or with caring responsibilities. As Monday didn't suit all of the initial group, there are 2 places available. Please contact us via the website for further information.
The *Book Group* also has great news. They are starting a second / parallel group, led by Jackie, but mirroring the first group in the books read. Again, please check out the website, as they too have a couple of spaces available.
A few months ago, we became aware that Riviera Travel offers a donation of £300 to your chosen charity at the very FIRST stage of any booking you make. Please note we are NOT advertising any particular company and there may well be similar arrangements with lots of other company's. But if you are purchasing ANYTHING that offers a donation to a charity, we'd be delighted if you could mention Ashbourne u3a please.
The Monthly Meeting in December will be the anniversary of the founding of Ashbourne u3a on 6th December 2006. To celebrate, we have invited four of the original members who helped set it all up. I think they'll probably feel amazed and proud to see how wonderfully successful it is now. We will have specially made u3a biscuits, with a cuppa, at the end of the meeting. We will also be joined by John Butler and Rosie Allen, our East Midlands u3a Council representatives. Incidentally John has asked permission to video part of the fun for the tech stuff he produces for u3a, so please be aware if you'd rather not be seen.
Finally, just to remind you that **4th December** is also our Christmassy Monthly Meeting at Elim Church. Doors open from 2pm (sorry, not before, as we have a LOT of setting up to do for the staging and seating). The meeting will start at 2.30. As we are expecting a full house, would you be ok to fill up the seats from the middle of the rows first please, so we don't end up with single empty seats scattered around. As usual, our Guitar Group, Choir and Ukulele Group will all entertain us and then we'll join together for a shared finale. The words of some of the songs will be on the screens for you to join in. It would be lovely if you could all wear something Christmassy to get us in the mood. There will also be a Quiz to entertain you during the changeover for the musical bits. It's usually a lovely meeting, so please come, especially as I don't want to have to eat 200 decorated biscuits as I don't have a sweet tooth 😵. Cheers Sue Hall

Monthly Meeting

On **Friday 4th December** at 2.30pm in Elim Church, we will have our Christmas meeting. This will also be the 20th anniversary of the founding of our u3a. We will be entertained with Christmas music by our choir, guitar and ukulele groups. There will also be a quiz and appropriate refreshments. Please come dressed in your Christmas best for a milestone afternoon.

Art Appreciation Group

At our October meeting, we linked Pre-Raphaelite paintings with poetry. At our next meeting, on **Tuesday 25th November,** we will be examining *Winter in Art*, linking it to music. Sue will lead us through a close look at Bruegel's *Hunters in the Snow* and invites members to suggest pieces of well-known music which can be linked to the theme of a wintry piece of art. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 2 - 4pm at Yeldersley Hall, DE6 1LS, and we're very happy to welcome new members.

Sue Cooke, Co-Leader

Badminton Group

The Badminton Group meets every **Tuesday**; 09.00 – 11.00 at The Leisure Centre and its only £5 for up to two-hours. We are a friendly bunch and welcome new members. If you don't have a racquet, the Leisure Centre should have a few free of charge. You don't need to attend every week or stay for the full 2 hours. Why not give it a try? You will be made very welcome.

Kevin Barclay

Beer Appreciation Group

Important news: BAG members, Lee and John, have organised a special Burton-upon-Trent meeting for **Thursday 3rd December,** starting at the Burton Bridge Pub, followed by The Cooper's Tavern and finishing at the Balti Towers. It's that time of year again, so this meeting starts at 3pm at the Burton Bridge Pub. However, for those of us who would like to join later and are of a smaller beer capacity, the scheduled times are: Burton Bridge Pub 3pm, Cooper's Tavern 5pm and the Balti Towers 7pm, so you can choose when and where to catch up. Many thanks to Lee and John for the time and effort they have put into organising this event.

Next meetings: Thursdays **November 19th, December 3rd** as above, and **December 17th**,5pm to 7pm at the Hug and Heave, unless otherwise notified.

Good beer drinking from me,

Chris Robson

Book Group

At our November meeting, we discussed *Friends of Dorothy* by Sandi Toksvig.

We all know Sandi as a comedienne and TV presenter, but not as a writer. The eponymous Dorothy is an elderly lady who sells her house, keeps the money (in cash) and doesn't move out. This light-hearted book charts the consequences through the eyes of the buyers and through the eyes of Dorothy's friends, past and present.

It is full of colourful characters, the writing is playful and there are several funny moments, but the group felt the initial premise (staying put in a house you have sold) to be unrealistic, and that coloured our enjoyment of the book. We also felt that there were too many cliches and that Toksvig was trying too hard to push her not-so-hidden agenda that the lesbian couple who bought the house and Dorothy's gay and trans friends were just like any other people. To some extent, this backfired and most of us didn't find the characters engaging or really care what happened to them.

Our December meeting is our Christmas lunch when we will discuss generally books that we have enjoyed over the last 12 months. Because we have grown in size, we are going to hold 2 meetings each month from January onwards, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, at Cornerstone Cafe. We are also

now open to new members, having had a waiting list for some time.

Liz Hoof

Beginners' Bridge Group

We currently meet in Ashbourne Library on a Monday from 1.30 - 3.30 pm. As we are restricted in the number of tables we can have there, it means that, at the moment the class is nearly full. However things can change, so if you have not played bridge before and would like to learn, then please contact me via the u3a website as space may become available. Thank you.

Pat Dixon

Bridge Improvers' Group

We now have 3 tables playing regularly on a **Wednesday** afternoon.

The hands are bid, played and then discussed by the players to understand where they can improve. There is always somewhere!

If your bridge is a bit rusty and you fancy playing again, then please get in touch via the u3a website and arrange to come for a taster session.
Yowie Roberts

Bridge Group

Clearly winter is here but the good news is our player numbers continue to grow. With the return of former players and a number of new members, we recently had over 10 tables seeking to play at our Thursday afternoon session. Clearly with such interest and continual increase in membership, Bridge in Ashbourne is in a good place. The Bridge committee hope you have enjoyed your bridge throughout 2026 and found the club to be a sociable and engaging experience. We also hope your game will continue to progress throughout 2027.

As a reminder, we have our Christmas lunch and Bridge event at Kedleston Golf Club on **17th December.** Whilst the event is now fully booked, members wishing to attend can be added to the waiting list. Please provide your menu choices and payment to Sarah ASAP.

Bridge Benefit: Bridge is great fun and exciting! It combines the best qualities of multiple games - the cerebral challenges of chess, the psychology of poker and the excitement of a football match (well maybe!). Bridge truly offers a unique combination of technique, teamwork and tactics. Why not give it a go and join us! What a great way to start 2027!!

Geoff Glover

Canasta Group

Our last meeting of the year will be on **Wednesday 16th December** at the earlier time of 1 pm. Please bring along a small plate of food to add to our "bring & share" lunch. Drinks will be provided. Play will begin at the normal time of 2 pm.

New players are always welcome. The group leader and existing players are happy to teach anyone who wants to learn this fun game.

We will resume play in the new year on **Wednesday 13th January** at 2 pm.

Sue Carpenter

Chatter Group



Eighteen members enjoyed lunch at the Coach & Horses, Fenny Bentley. Before lunch was served, members took part in two table games with opportunities to win small prizes. This was in advance of Christmas as members have made the decision not to meet in December due to the many Christmas lunches, linked to other groups, that they will be attending. The group will meet again on **Thursday 14th January**. New members are always welcome. You can choose to have a full hot meal or just a snack. It is not the food you eat, it is your company we value.

Sheila Allen

Chess Groups

Chess Group has one more meeting on **24th November** and then two meetings on **8th** and **15th December.**

In addition, the Beginner/Improver Chess Group also has three remaining meetings this year, on **23rd November** and then **December 7th** and **14th**.

Duncan Meikle

Choir

We have a lovely selection of Christmas music to perform at the December u3a meeting at the Elim Church; a couple of our songs are lively and upbeat, another is gentle and flowing. Our fourth piece, Sleigh Bells, set to a Ukranian folk tune, is our most challenging piece with a lot of fast phrases, tongue twister words and some high sections for the sopranos. We made really good progress with this one at our last meeting.

Our next meetings are **Thursdays 19th November** and **3rd December,** 2pm - 4pm at Wyaston Village Hall. We will also meet on **Thursday 17th December**, when we will learn a couple of short new Christmas songs, then we start back on **Thurs 7th January**. New members are most welcome on any of these dates.

Janet Bunting

Craft Group

No meeting in December - look forward to seeing you in 2027.

Jill Smith

Creative Writing Group

Some of our members have left for the warmth of Spain, Australia and cruising the Adriatic coastline. They will be sorry they missed the icy mornings here.

Our next meeting will be at 2.00pm on **Thursday 26th November** at Pat's house, the subjects to write about are:
1. It Began as a Game
2. That's When Santa Fell Over
3. I/She/He Was a Fly on the Wall

The December meeting will be at Olive's house at 2.00pm on **Thursday 10th**. The subjects to write about will be given later.
Older people know what it was like to be young, but young people have no idea what it is like to be old.
Pat Hall

Current Affairs

Our November meeting was led by Malcolm Boura, on the topic of climate change and its human impact. He emphasised the distinction between weather and climate, the first being an immediate effect and the second a long-term trend. It was universally agreed that the observed trends in data confirm a fast-changing climate. Various tipping points were discussed, where models based on past data shift in less predictable ways when particular phenomena change quickly – the path of the Gulf Stream being a particular example that we examined and where the current data suggests a fair degree of resilience. Mitigation and speed of addressing the effects were also discussed, as well as what we might do personally, locally, nationally and internationally to overcome resistant vested interests.
The topic for our December meeting is Homelessness which is often brought to the fore over the cold festive season. It is also signalled as a priority by the new(ish) Prime Minister who has stated he wants it to be eliminated. Our discussion will be led by John Hellier who promises to focus on the different reasons that people end up homeless, to emphasise it's human face, rather than being lazy and discussing it as a uniform phenomenon with a single cause.
The group will meet at 10am on **Thursday December 10th** in Mayfield Memorial Hall.
Bob Hodgson.

Cycling Group

In November, Tony kindly led the ride for me whilst I was away. Ten riders braved the cold to cycle up to Alsop Station car park on the Tissington Trail and then had lunch at Herbert's Tea Rooms on the return journey.

On **10th December**, we will be having our Christmas Lunch at the Royal Oak but on this occasion we will not be cycling.

The first ride in the new year will be on **14th January**, once again using the Tissington Trail. It will be a short ride to Tissington and we will return to the Cornerstone Cafe in Ashbourne for lunch.

Doug Billings

Disco Dancing and Social

It was great to be back from our summer break and our October evening was really enjoyable. Our next one is on **Friday November 27th** at St John's Church Hall from 7.00 – 9.30 pm and it is still only £5.00 per person.

Everyone is welcome, whether you're one of our regulars or fancy coming along to see what we're all about! Please remember to bring your own refreshments.

You may need your residents' parking pass to park in the car park opposite the hall. If you don't

have one, the charge is just £1.00 for the evening. I hope to see lots of our regular dancers there, as well as plenty of new faces! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The full list of dates is available on the Disco Group website, so please check it out and get the dates in your diary. Looking forward to seeing you on the dance floor!

Please note that we're not meeting in December.

Tricia Barclay

Family History Group

We are getting used to our new venue at Cubley Village Hall and greeted 2 new members to the group at our November meeting. We actually managed to find some information for them, as they were researching someone with an unusual name.

Our next meeting will be at Cubley Village Hall on **Thursday 10th December** at 2.30pm, and hopefully Peter will be able to resurrect and update his presentation on how to get started on researching one's ancestors. Then we are planning a social event in January.

Vivien Tiano

French Group

The French group seems to be very popular this autumn with record numbers attending. Since we started back at the beginning of October, we have used the following themes for our sessions: current affairs, travel and television. We had a very lively session at the beginning of November with the members working in pairs on a sketch to present later to the whole group. One of the pair was encountering a difficulty with their travel arrangements, and the other was the employee trying to sort out the problem.

We meet on alternate Mondays from 2pm to 4pm at Mayfield Memorial Hall. There will only be one meeting in December, on **Monday 14th**, as I don't think anyone will want to turn out for French between Christmas and the New Year. (We will actually have had 3 sessions in November.) Activities are varied at our meetings, but we usually have a theme for the day, so anyone wishing to turn up for a taster session would be well advised to contact me in advance, to find out what the theme is on the day they wish to attend.

Vivien Tiano

Gardens Group

We had a very useful group planning meeting recently. Lots of members attended with some wonderful ideas for next year's programme. Our final visit this year is our Christmas outing to Arley Hall on **December 6th**. Details will be sent shortly to those who are going on this trip.

Mary Marshall and Sandra Holmes

Give it a go Group

November will see our members making their way to St Oswalds Church in Ashbourne, to learn about and try first hand, ringing the church tower bells.

And as we move into early December, we start getting in the festive mood and we are running a Christmas Wreath Making workshop where we will be getting creative while enjoying good company and some of the first mince pies of the season.

Both these are fully booked but please look at the group page on the website or contact our group

leader via the website, for full details and activities for 2027.

Clare Hamilton

Hiking Group

It was a beautiful day for our November walk. 17 of us were walking stage 2 of the Hope Pilgrimage which necessitated catching the train from Bamford to Hope. After walking to Brough, we picked up our route where we had left it in September, then walked past the Roman settlement of Navio before reaching Hope village. We began our serious ascent of the day to the summit of Win Hill, an Ethel, at 462m. The views were expansive in all directions. We dropped down to the side of the Ladybower Reservoir, enjoying stunning autumn colour, then followed the Derwent Valley Heritage Way back to Bamford.

For our next outing on **December 1st,** we will be walking from Hartington duck pond beginning at 9.30.

Judy Harrison

Indoor Bowls Group

Our recently commenced Monday morning group is a huge success and it's lovely to see all our participants growing in confidence and thoroughly enjoying the game. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the members of The Venue Bowls Club who generously share their time and knowledge. Their support has been vital in helping to create such a warm and friendly environment. Because the sessions are so popular, we now have a waiting list. If anyone would like to join the list please contact me.

Coral Greville

Intermediate German Group

We are making great progress. We are concentrating on speaking German in the present sessions and everyone is enjoying having a go, covering a wide range of topics. As always there is vocabulary, grammar, reading and coffee with chat. The group is full at the moment but all details are on the website.



Rhona Hunt

Landscape and Heritage Group

Our winter programme of monthly speaker meetings commences in Mayfield Memorial Hall with refreshments at 10.15 on **Friday 20th November.** Then, at 10.30, Gerald Price will speak on *The History of Woodland*. The cost is £3 each payable on the door.

The following meeting is at 10.15 on **Friday 18th December** in Mayfield Memorial Hall when the subject is *A Tudor Christmas*. This will be followed by Christmas lunch at the Royal Oak, Mayfield. Anybody who would like to join the lunch can sign up at the meeting on 20th November or should let me know a.s.a.p. I will need to have menu choices by Friday 4th December.

Pamela Boura https://ashbourne.u3asite.uk/u3agroups/landscape-heritage/

Learn to Cook Group

We are delighted that the first session is booked for **Monday 30th November** from 1.30 - 4.30 in the kitchen at Mayfield Memorial Hall. Anne Green is the group leader. The sessions are aimed at helping those of us who may now be living on our own or with caring responsibilities to build skills and cooking confidence. There will be a charge of £5 per session to cover the hire of the hall. Menus and shopping lists will be forwarded by Anne once we've identified how confident everyone is in the kitchen.

These sessions will usually be on a fortnightly basis to coincide with our French Group who will be using the adjacent meeting room. This shared use of the facilities has enabled us to make the cooking session good value for money. Thank you very much to the French Group. If we are making biscuits you can definitely be our taste testers!!

As these dates aren't suitable for some of those initially interested, there are two places available, so please spread the word to family, friends, neighbours etc. This is a fantastic opportunity to master some new skills.

Sue Hall

Line Dancing Group

It's been great to welcome so many new faces to the group recently. We are always adding new beginner level dances that everyone can learn together. In November, we introduced *Coco Na Na*, a fun dance for absolute beginners, and *Heartless*, which is in waltz time.

We will finish for the year on **Monday 14th December** by dancing from 7-8 pm and then enjoying our annual fuddle.

Sue Edmonds

Natural History Group

17th December will see us at JCB Lakes, our regular Christmas saunter, followed by lunch at Denstone Farm Shop cafe. New members always welcome, see the group's page of our website for more information.

Sheila Crawley

Padel Group

We're always looking for more members, our group is small but growing! Our current schedule is **every Tuesday** at 2pm, a 90 minute session. In addition, we have a WhatsApp group which can be used to find partners any time you fancy playing.

Padel is a mix of tennis and squash, played in doubles with a padel on a small, enclosed court with walls. No equipment required except a good pair of trainers. Please consider your fitness level before taking part.

New members are welcome, and as with all u3a groups, you're welcome to come along to watch and / or have a go before you commit.

Sheila Crawley https://ashbourne.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/padel/

Park Garden Volunteers

We are winding up activity in the Park now, until the spring, and the beds have been tidied and mulched. We give many thanks to all the volunteers who have helped throughout the year. We shall be in touch again in the spring. Best wishes to you all.

Lynne and Maria, Patti and Sue

Petanque Groups

All four groups are continuing their weekly games as we head into more autumnal / wintry weather. However, we're a hardy lot and generally play on unless it's really inclement. We often try to play, at least for a while, so that we qualify for a good lunch at our base, The Red Lion at Hognaston. The Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday groups all have WhatsApp arrangements and keep in touch should the weather be too wet to play. If it is too some of the groups have the alternative of enjoying indoor Kurling in Hognaston Village Hall.
The Friday group would be particularly pleased to see a few more players.

Sue Hall

Photography Group

We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Mayfield Memorial Hall at 10:00. The theme for November was *On the Farm. S*everal photographs showed many different farm animals and there were some interesting farm buildings, tools and machinery. A photograph from each member can now be seen on the website.

Next month's meeting will be held at Mayfield Memorial Hall on **Thursday 3rd December** at 10.00 when the theme will be *Shadows.* Please contact me via the website if you are interested in joining the group.

Helen Bluff

Pickleball Group

We have 3 sessions each week, Monday and Wednesday at 9 to 11am, and Thursday 11am to 1pm. All at Ashbourne Leisure Centre. No equipment required except a good pair of trainers. Please consider your fitness level before taking part.

New members welcome, and as with all u3a groups, you're welcome to come along to watch and / or have a go before you commit.

Sheila Crawley https://ashbourne.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/pickleball/

Supper Group

After a break, as I was on holiday, we are off to the Shoulder of Mutton at Osmaston on **Thursday 19th November**.

Sue Petty

Qigong

In November, we celebrated five years of u3a classes. There were 24 at the first session and there are now 50 on the register across two classes and a waiting list. Some members have been with us from the start – they keep coming back which is great!



We'll be celebrating the 'end of term' on **17 December** with Christmas refreshments between classes, before our winter break.

There will be no sessions in January – we'll begin again on **Thursday 4 February**, just before Chinese New Year, the Year of the Fire Goat, which starts on 6 February.

We generally meet on the first three Thursdays of the month from 10.00 to 11.30 at Wyaston Village Hall.

Lyndsay Trevarthen

Quiz Group

Quizzes are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 2 to 4pm, so **17th November** and **15th December**. Turn up on the day, no need to pre-book. Entry is £2 cash per person on the door. Cubley Village Hall is in charge of catering and provides interval drinks and cake at an additional cost of £1 per person per item (so £2 for a drink and cake).

The address is Cubley Village Hall, Derby Lane, Cubley, DE6 2EY. All the information for the group is on its page on the website.

Richard McLachlan https://ashbourne.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/quiz/

Science and Engineering Group

At our October meeting, Ron Banks presented *The Concorde Noise Reduction Programme.*

During the early stages of the evolution of supersonic passenger transport, it was recognised both in the UK and France that engine noise would be a principal issue. At the time, aircraft noise reduction was already very much an issue for subsonic aircraft and the need for high bypass engines (such as the RB-211) was recognised as essential to lower their noise levels. Accordingly, in 1959, the Supersonic Transport Aircraft Committee was set up by the UK government, an equivalent organisation was set up by the French government, and in 1962 the two governments got together in a joint venture calling the potential new aircraft Concorde.

Universities and companies worked on engine noise reduction and, by 1972, a lot of test facilities were available. The results of this work allowed Concorde to take off meeting noise regulations at nearly every major airport throughout the world by reducing power levels as the edge of the

airfield was approached. The big exception was New York where an unusual flight manoeuvre was adopted. Almost immediately after leaving the ground, Concorde would make a sharp left turn to avoid the microphone beyond the end of the runway, allowing it to continue in trans-Atlantic service for 27 years!

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 17th December** and will be our Christmas lunch at the Bentley Brook Inn, Fenny Bentley. The details have been circulated and the deadline for booking is Thursday 26th November.

Steve Butler

Spanish Group

This month, we have been talking about clothing, describing what we are wearing and experimenting with conversations in a clothes shop. We have also learned about el Día de los Muertes - the Day of the Dead, a festival celebrated on the 1st November each year.

Shirley Loveridge

Strollers



ALTON TO DENSTONE **7th December**

Note that booking is required.

3 mile walk along the disused railway track from Alton Village Hall car park. Descend into the Churnet Valley along narrow lanes to join the track to Denstone. Refreshments at Denstone Farm Shop. This is a good time to visit the Farm Shop as they are have all their Christmas stock on display.

Meet at The Range end of Waterside to car share and leave at 1.00pm prompt for Alton. Karen will leave a car at Denstone and take drivers back to Alton to collect their cars. Drivers can then collect their passengers from The Farm Shop. Most important! Please let Karen know if you wish to join the walk.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 21st December at 12:30 for 1.00pm. Our Christmas Lunch is booked at The Shoulder of Mutton, Osmaston, as they have looked after us very well in recent years. For those who have booked lunch, please assemble from 12.30 to have lunch at 1.00pm.

Karen Tallent

Tabletop Games Group

The group will meet in Ashbourne library at 2pm on **Fridays 11th and 18th December.** New members, and new games, are always welcome. Check our page on the website for more details.

Sue Edmonds

Table Tennis

We continue to meet **every Friday** morning at Ashbourne Leisure Centre from 9 - 11am. We are a very sociable group playing mainly doubles, but when numbers permit we sometimes play singles.

Elaine Beard

Theatregoers Group

We have enthusiastic members looking forward to 2027 with a programme of all forms of entertainment. The musical CATS! in January and on **March 10th** at the Garrick Theatre, Lichfield, the longest running whodunit, Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP. An amazing 10 million people have seen it and kept the murderer a secret! This will be the first and probably the only tour by a West End production.

Jill Dudfield

Travel Group

The Travel Group is having a slight pause in activities while we investigate new possibilities for future trips. We have a volunteer, Heather, who will arrange holidays for us but she won't go on the trips as she has lots of other calls on her time. So if we could find someone to do the 'on the ground' work during trips we'd like to organise our own visits. However, if this doesn't happen we are looking either to join with another u3a, or another local community group, on their visit. We could also explore other suggestions where members make their own arrangements and meet up in the same place, at the same time. Volunteers to help organise any such break would be very much appreciated.

Sue Hall

Weekend Lunch Group

December 6th will see us at the Sycamore in Parwich. Reminders will be sent out to the group nearer the time but, if anyone wants to join us, please get in touch via the website. Our cut off date will, as ever, be the Wednesday before which is 2nd December.

Lynne Wood

Wine Appreciation Group



We were so fortunate to be able to meet as one group for our October meeting. The theme that was chosen was *Wine loosely connected by the letter C.* Our hosts introduced us to a different retailer and some good wines. We started with a very popular Crémant de Loire Rose then moved on to a medal winning Colombard Sauvignon Blanc and another Rose… Argali 2025. Our red wines started with a Cochon Volant rouge which was followed by a Bordeaux from Chateau Graulet and we concluded with a Cuvee Y Chateau Jeremie 2026.

Thank you to our hosts, the Crawleys, who entertained us with an amusing photo board quiz showing some of our members before they were old enough to drink. If you would like to join us, then please contact me via the website. We are a friendly lot who enjoy learning about wines although none of us profess to be experts.

Jan Dodd

Wood Craft Group



Our skills continue to grow. Many are working on carving designs of their own and some are significantly more complicated than a year ago. We are closing out the year with some quite detailed projects and a few Christmas inspired gifts. We are still limited by the size of the group leader's kitchen that turns into a carving room. However, always get in touch through the website if you are interested. Over the summer, the group leader also became an AWGB approved Tutor, so we have scope for running woodturning sessions by arrangement.

Sheldon Davies

Yoga Group

The last session before Christmas will be on **29th November**. Attendance at the group remains high and we are therefore unable to invite any new people to join us for the time being. Sessions start again on **7th January** and the situation regarding numbers will be reviewed again at that time. For those on the waiting list, many thanks for your patience.

Sue Copson



Editor: Pamela Boura

18th November 2026