

System and District

**u3a**

learn, laugh, live

OCT  
2022

# *Vitality!*

Official newsletter of the System and District u3a

CHARITY No 1180152



YOUR u3a  
NEEDS YOU

## FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all enjoyed last month's talk, as much as I did, about Dove Cottage Hospice. It was pleasing to hear that when Jane retires next year, the excellent work the hospice does will continue as part of the LOROS group.

If it is one thing we excel at it is pageantry, and the Queen's funeral, was I thought, very moving and showed a great display of British tradition.

At our monthly committee meeting it was suggested that if a couple of members would like to organise a 1 off event, for example a day out then please contact Sheila Driver at [sadu3agroups@gmail.com](mailto:sadu3agroups@gmail.com).

It is shortly coming to the time when 3 of our committee members will have to step down from their present positions. The posts we need to fill are Treasurer, Membership Secretary & Committee Member. It is imperative that these positions are filled to allow YOUR u3a to continue. The Committee Member does not have a specific role but does require them to attend our monthly Committee meetings. Their opinions will be valued and appreciated.

Our new website has now gone live, and to make sure that this is kept up to date we are looking for people to deputise for various roles within this group. Can I just take this opportunity to thank John, Steve, Dave, Chris & Margret for the hours they have put in for getting our new software off the ground.

If you are interested in any of the positions I have mentioned, then please drop me an email at [sadu3achair@gmail.com](mailto:sadu3achair@gmail.com) or alternatively come and have a word at our next Members meeting when Peter Coombs talking will be 'A Face in the Crowd'.

Hope to see you at our next Members Meeting  
Clive

## WE WANT TO LET YOU KNOW

### **RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP - A BIG "THANKS"**

**A big "Thanks" to all our Members who have renewed their membership so far, it's very encouraging and much appreciated, around half our Members have renewed already.**

**Don't worry if you haven't received a confirmation email yet, the bank transfers part of the process is being dealt with once a week so don't panic – the same applies to those Members who have paid by cheque. It takes a little while to process all the renewals.**

**To those members who haven't renewed yet – you've still got time to renew and you'll get a reminder email or letter in the next few weeks.**

**If you've any queries please don't hesitate to contact me, I'm happy to explain how the system is working. Email [sadu3asecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sadu3asecretary@gmail.com) or phone 0116 2120 188.**

**Best wishes and thanks again,**

**Margaret King**

**Membership Secretary**



**Our own Syston Knitting Banksy has done our u3a proud – you can see this “in the flesh” on the post box outside the Post Office on the High Street.**

**++STOP PRESS - CLICK HERE FOR LATEST NEWS++**

**Retired? No longer work full-time? ... Come and be Inspired!**

*"Our motto is "Learn, laugh, and live"*

Welcome to Syston and District U3A, we're a friendly organisation offering a wide range of activities and interest groups for people who no longer work full time.

You need no previous experience or qualifications to join, and our groups work with the sharing of skills, interests, and knowledge - our groups are run "by our members, for our members".



This is what our new website homepage looks like. Our old website has a link to our new one, but you can go straight to the new at [www.systonu3a.org.uk](http://www.systonu3a.org.uk) We haven't ditched the "& District" part of our title, it's there on our header. We just have the shorter name for the website address.

## Have an iPad or iPhone but don't really make full use of it?



Would you be interested in a workshop explaining the basics, showing you some things you can use it for, and attempting to answer any questions you may have?

If so, please contact Dave Palmer ([dpalmer192@btinternet.com](mailto:dpalmer192@btinternet.com) or 07710 448253).

It would help if we could have prior notice of any questions you may have so we can try to prepare the answers!

There might be a charge to share the cost of room hire, materials etc.

## GROUP NEWS

### NEW GROUP - RUMMIKUB

We are having a taster session for this new group on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October**. Syston Community Centre. **10 am til 12**

Rummikub is a game similar to the card game rummy but it's played with tiles which are placed on the table for all to add to or manipulate. This game is for 2 to 4 players per table. We hope to be able to have up to a maximum of 16 in this group, i.e., 4 tables.

If this session is successful, we are hoping to meet once a fortnight. There will be a small charge to cover the hire of the room. This is usually £2 per session.

Please let me know if you are interested and I will add your details to the list. All I need is your **name**, **contact details** and your **membership number**.

Barbara Sargeant.

My new email address is [sadu3acomm5@gmail.com](mailto:sadu3acomm5@gmail.com)

### SUNDAY FOR SOLOS GROUP

The Sundays for Solos Group has recently met to plan activities for the remainder of this year. We usually meet on the third Sunday of each month to enjoy outings and events.

The Group is open to all u3a members who live alone: Sunday can be a very difficult and long day if you are on your own.

We currently have nine members and would welcome more.

Upcoming events include lunch at Pillings Lock Marina on 16<sup>th</sup> October, a visit to Gates Garden Centre for Christmas shopping and lunch on 13<sup>th</sup> November and a visit to Melton Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Market (followed by lunch) on 4<sup>th</sup> December. We share transport and take it in turn to make any necessary arrangements. Future events for next year include a visit to New Walk Museum, Leicester with lunch and a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum.

For more information, please contact Sue Blaxland, the Group Organiser, via the website.

## **FAMILY HISTORY GROUP**

The group had a short presentation on how married women won the right to own their own property, when previously it automatically fell to their husband when they wed. By 1880 they secured rights over keeping their own earnings and property. This in turn gave them the right to vote in local elections, which at that time depended on the value of property, and explains why some married ladies appear on historical electoral rolls, before women won the right to vote in national elections.

We then had a “help, query and update” session, with a variety of questions and queries raised, and members discussing aspects of their research. The use of a combination of “paper trail” and DNA allowed the “right” Elizabeth Jones to be identified amongst several possibilities, despite a misleading birthplace on census details after she married. Instead of being born locally in Staffordshire, she was actually born in Shropshire at Broseley. Her family had moved, a situation explained when it was discovered that Broseley was next to the Coalport factory and her father worked in “china” manufacturing. The china trade was a common link in making progress in tracing the Jones line in Broseley, though there is more work to be done. That the line so far is correct, was borne out by a couple of DNA matches to people also related to that family.

## **BIRDWATCHING 1**

The group visited Rutland Water. Thanks to Elizabeth Chew, who sent me these photographs.



*2 photos of the common snipe & on the next page a little egret.*



## FEELING CRAFTY GROUP



The 'Feeling Crafty' group have been reusing unwanted paperback books and have made some lovely hedgehogs, we also started making Xmas trees this week, they are looking rather unfinished but we will be decorating them at our next meeting.

## UKELELE GROUP

After the success of the narrowboat trip in June for many members of the Ukulele group, another trip was arranged for those that missed out on the first trip.

The group left the Peter Le Merchant Trust mooring in Loughborough and sailed up to Normanton-on Soar, some people having lunch in pub there. It was a great trip, singing and playing, with many laughs along the way, and the weather was good to us too!

Many thanks to Sara and Clive, who organised the trip.



## AMERICAN HISTORY GROUP

The group covered some varied ground –

We learned that **Franklin D Roosevelt** was the only US President to be elected 4 times. He saw his country through 2 major crises, the Great Depression and World War II. It was during his first inauguration speech that he referenced “the fear itself” concept –

*“So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is...fear itself – nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyses needed efforts to convert retreat into advance. In every dark hour of our national life, a leadership of frankness and of vigour has met*

*with that understanding and support of the people themselves which is essential to victory. And I am convinced that you will again give that support to leadership in these critical days."*

**The Quota Act of 1921** may seem surprising for a country famed for opening its arms in welcome to immigrants. It was aimed at limiting immigrants from Asian and East European countries to 3% (this was lowered to 2% in 1924). They were viewed as revolution prone, unstable and likely to bring with them their ethnic conflicts, communism and other undesirable ideologies. Those from Western Europe were still welcome.

**The Manhattan Project** is what ultimately led to the development of the Atom Bombs dropped on Japan in World War II. Although it was British physicist James Chadwick who discovered the existence of the neutron in 1932, this discovery was crucial. He worked as the head of the British Mission attached to the project during the 1940's.

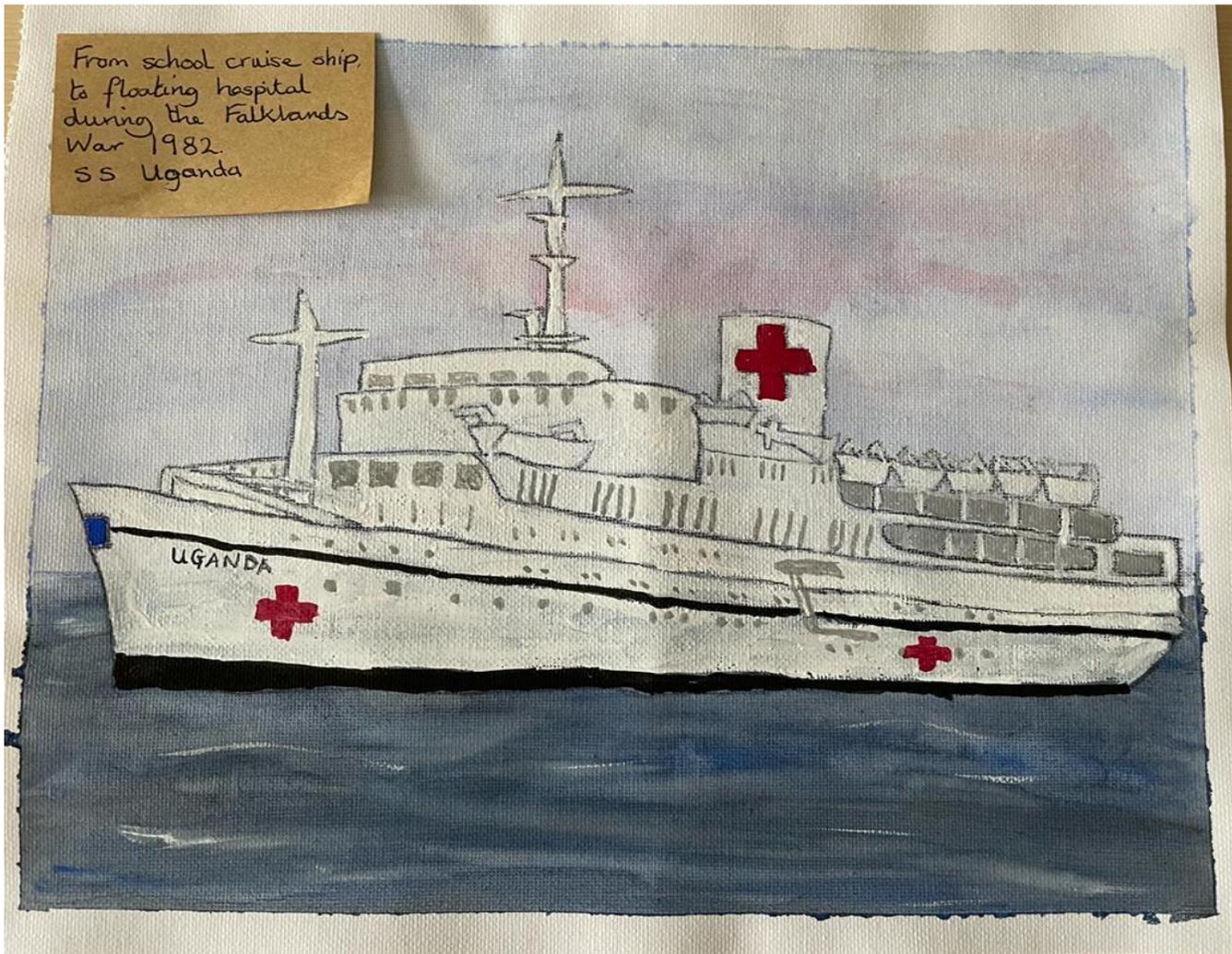
On a lighter note we looked at how the **US Masters Golf** event came to be. I've included the paper on this in full in the "From our members" section as I suspect there are a few golfers amongst our members.

## ART GROUP

The art group have been attempting pictures to celebrate the anniversary of the U3A, these are a sample. They represent the year of 1982 and the memories it held and the how the u3a can fill our time and bring us together.







## WHAT'S ON NEXT

### GENERAL MEETINGS

In the Brookside Room at the Community Centre – talks start 10.30am

Tea/coffee and mingling from 10.00am

**Wed Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**

**A Face in the Crowd - Peter Coombs** (*please note this is a change of speaker*)

For more than ten years Peter Coombs worked as a TV and film extra or "supporting artist" as they're known in the business.

His talk explains how he got into the business, some of the productions he was in on TV, film and the London stage.

He will be covering things like how programmes are made, why they need extras and the role they play and also some of the amusing situations he found himself in!

**Wed Nov 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Rod Axon - The History of East Goscote and surrounding area**

From - An Unwanted Unloved Village ...

Jelson's 1960's concept for a self-sufficient community on the site of Factory 10, an eyesore, a derelict ordnance factory, caused a long and heated argument between the Council Planners and the developers. Tempers frayed and harsh words were exchanged!

Maturing over 5 decades the place that Jelson fought tenaciously to create from a post-war industrial landscape, became the start of a vibrant and solid community. An enviable place to live just 20 minutes from everywhere, but not by railway.

... to one of the Most 'liveable' Settlements in Leicestershire

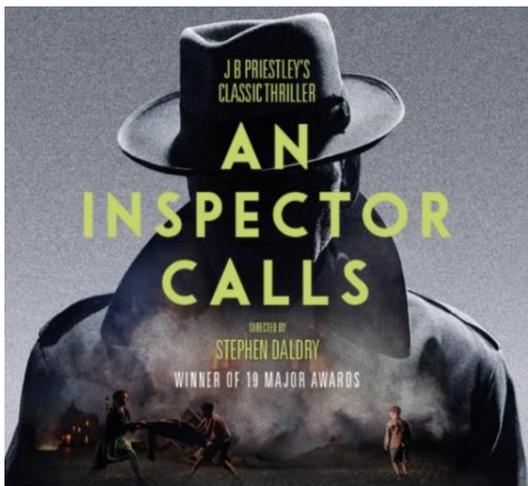
**Wed Dec 14<sup>th</sup>**

**A Royal Christmas - John Whitehead**

John Whitehead will talk us through how Royalty have celebrated Christmas through the ages in a variety of ways, with luxury and excess, with cruelty and frugality, with family and frivolity.

Which monarch would you wish to share the festival with?

## **THEATRE TRIPS**



**Stephen Daldry's** multi award-winning **National Theatre** production of **JB Priestley's** classic thriller returns.

Winner of 19 major awards and hailed as the theatrical event of its generation, *An Inspector Calls* has thrilled more than 5 million theatregoers worldwide.

I have booked 20 seats for Saturday 25 March 2023 matinee performance at Curve Leicester, payment not due till January. Yes, I know it's an early booking but it's very popular. Let me know if you are interested.

## **NATIONAL U3A ITEMS**

### **u3a FUTURE LIVES GROUP**

Future Lives is a u3a group made up of members across the movement who share information and resources to inspire, influence and inform how we can improve our future lives. The group aims to challenge and break down the attitudes and physical barriers that limit and restrict us as we get older.

One of the themes that the group is looking at is housing and they need your input. Have you thought about how your home could support your independence in the years ahead and whether you would need to adapt it in some way? Perhaps you would need to move - and, if so, what you would want from a new home? The results will be used to put older people's voices at the heart of planning and developing housing for the future. [Take the questionnaire now.](#)

The group is also holding a series of events, which begin on 12 October 2022 with Professor Janet Lord sharing research about how we may all be able to age better. This is a hybrid event hosted by Lichfield u3a. [Book your place now.](#)

Find out more on [the Future Lives page](#) and keep updated by [signing up to our national newsletter](#).

## U3A TALKS



### Exploring World Faiths – Diwali – Festival of Light

Join us for a talk from two speakers about Diwali's significance to different faiths.

Mon 24 Oct at 10pm

Free – Online via Zoom



### The Arrow of Time – a talk with Jim Al Khalili CBE FRS

Jim Al Khalili explores one of the most profound aspects of existence – that we perceive time to 'flow' from past and future: the so-called 'arrow of time'.

Thurs 27 Oct at 3pm

Free – Online via Zoom



### The Swan – its life, its nature and its future

Join nature author, journalist and photographer Dan Keel for a talk followed by Q&A on the swan.

Fri 28 Oct at 2pm

Free – Online via Zoom

Book [here](#)

Book [here](#)

Book [here](#)

## u3a EXPLORES SCIENCE WITH THE RI

The Royal Institution are hosting an event exclusively for u3a members in October.

It will be a hybrid event, with many members attending in person and others joining online through Zoom. The talks, presented by respected academics, will explore space, chemistry and future power solutions.

u3a have worked with The Royal Institution many times before, bringing dynamic and interesting reflections on science to our members. This is the first event the two organisations will be working together on since 2019.

The afternoon will see Mark Sumner talk about electric motors and the future of our energy, Astrophysicist Rebecca Smethurst explore the topic of supermassive blackholes before the Head of Demonstrations Dan Plane finishes the afternoon with a bang as he shows spectacular science demonstrations covering the world of chemistry.

'u3a explores science at the RI' will take place on 31 October from 1.45pm-4.45pm. The event costs £8.50 to attend online and £20 to attend in person. [Book your place now.](#)

These are not the only events available, in addition Eventbrite have various other free sessions, as well as ones that require payment. Visit their website <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/> to find more.

## NOT U3A BUT YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED

### WOODHOUSE EAVES – THE VILLAGE, CHURCH AND SCHOOL AT WAR

Sat 15th October, 2022, 1pm to 5pm

Saturday 15th October 13.00-17.00. At St Paul's church, Church Hill, Woodhouse Eaves.  
Heritage Open Afternoon - 'The Village, Church and School at War'

We'd love to see you on Saturday 15th from 13.00 for refreshments. Our theme is The Village, Church and School at War with Colonel Martin's memorabilia displayed, evidence of our church's military associations, records of the school at war and details of those on our war memorials plus tombola, book and jewellery stalls!

### WAR GRAVES TOUR IN LOUGHBOROUGH

Sat 22nd October, 2022, 9:30am to 10:30am

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) have introduced walking tours in Loughborough to help people discover the World War heritage on their doorstep.

The free guided tours take place at Loughborough Cemetery and will give people the chance to discover the remarkable stories of the men and women of the Commonwealth forces that died in the First and Second World Wars who are buried in their community. The tours will also help local people learn about the skills, dedication and expertise of the CWGC staff and volunteers who work to keep their memory alive.

The free guided tour will take place on the following date:

- **9.30am on Saturday October 22**

There were 62 casualties from the two world wars who are buried at Loughborough.

The tours will be led by Neil Strange, local resident and a volunteer for the CWGC.

The CWGC honours and cares for the men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the First and Second World Wars, ensuring they will never be forgotten. Funded by six Member Governments, its work began with building, and now maintaining, cemeteries at 23,000 locations all over the world.

Today, over a century after it first began, work continues through staff, supporters and volunteers who preserve a unique cultural, horticultural, and architectural heritage that ensures the stories of those who died are told.

To book a free tour, visit [www.cwgc.org/tours](http://www.cwgc.org/tours).

## Nature's Art: Gardens in Leicester and Beyond

Exhibition

06 August - 30 October  
2022

Free

@ The Newark Houses - more details <https://www.leicestermuseums.org/NaturesArt>

Visitors are invited to rethink their ideas about what gardens are, who they are for, and the role they can play in shaping our identities and experiences. Featuring a range of objects from ceramics and clothes to watercolours and welly boots – Nature's Art showcases the dynamic history of gardens in the region.

Familiar names feature, from the designer William Morris, alongside lesser-known Leicester-based artists such as the watercolourist Isabella Charters.

This summer exhibition reveals how gardens throughout time have functioned as sources of pleasure, inspiration, and healing.



Deemed the *'most exciting Roman mosaic discovery for a century'*.

In 2020, a high status Roman villa was discovered close to the River Chater, south of Rutland Water. An excavation undertaken by the University of Leicester uncovered part of a dramatic mosaic with 3 panels each portraying a scene from the Siege of Troy as described in the Iliad.

An initial investigation was made after interesting surface pottery was found and exploring Google satellite images which led to a professional excavation.

In this fascinating talk, archaeologist Peter Liddle will speak about the excavations that took place that have revealed this most spectacular mosaic pavement showing the story of Hector and Achilles at the siege of Troy and the villa in whose main room it lay.

**Tickets are £6 per person. You can purchase them online [HERE](#) or by calling our sales and enquiries team on 01455 290429. Pre Booking Essential**

## IF YOU MISSED THE JULY GM (or even if you didn't)

Unfortunately I couldn't come to the September GM, so missed the talk from Chris Gatfield about Dove Cottage Hospice. I think most of us are familiar with the modern hospice movement in this country, but what about the history of the hospice?

I believed the origins of the hospice went back to the monasteries and similar religious institutions of several hundred years ago. However, one researcher credits a 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman lady, Fabiola, as opening the first hospice in her home, for the poor, travellers, the hungry, thirsty and sick. Most other historians point to Malta as the origin of the hospice. It was a staging post for pilgrims to and from the Holy Land and it is there, around 1065, that hospices were set up to care for the sick and dying who were making that journey. The rise of the Crusading movement led to the Knights Hospitallers opening a hospice on Rhodes, to assist travellers to the Holy Land. The hospice movement flourished amongst the religious orders during the Middle Ages, but contracted as they became dispersed for a variety of reasons. In this country, it was the actions of Henry VIII in dissolving the monasteries, that tore the network apart.

A revival began in France in the 17<sup>th</sup> century with the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. That country led the way in further development of the hospice system. In 1843 Jeanne Garnier founded L'Association des Dames du Calvaire, this organisation opened several sites between then and 1900. In England, the early Victorian period saw attention being drawn to the needs of the terminally ill, especially those who were poor, in both the *Lancet* and the *British Medical Journal*. At that time their only refuge was the notorious Workhouse system, where the quality of care was often woeful. Otherwise, they often simply died at home and in pain, their families unable to afford medical intervention. By that time, some religious institutions had re-emerged and were offering treatment and care to the sick. But they could not hope to fulfil the increasing demand created by tuberculosis and other illnesses that were beyond cure in that era, at a time when the population was rising rapidly.

Despite the concerns raised, it was not until the 1890's that specific facilities began to open. The Friedenheim in London had 35 beds for patients dying of tuberculosis by 1892. Four other hospices had opened in London by 1905. The standard of care within workhouses had also improved considerably by this time, and the number of beds within that system had expanded significantly. Changes in legislation meant that they could offer care to those who could not pay for medical treatment, but did not otherwise need to enter the workhouse. The Irish based religious order the Sisters of Charity opened their first hospice in Dublin in 1879, they were an international organisation. They opened St Joseph's Hospice in London in 1905. The Workhouse as an institution was abolished by legislation in 1930, with responsibility for the poor passing to local government. However, changes in facilities did not happen overnight, although by this time the workhouse had generally become a kinder place, and medical advances and quality of treatment had led to significant improvements for those with no other option.



Dame Cicely Saunders

The beginning of the modern hospice movement is credited to Dame Cicely Saunders founder of St Christopher's Hospice, which opened in 1967. Cicely Saunders was born in 1918 and trained as both a nurse and a social worker. She recognised that those dying in hospital often felt isolated and alone, that their psychological and spiritual needs were not being met. During the course of her work, she met a Polish Jew, David Tasma. He had terminal cancer and was suffering pain, vomiting and a variety of other symptoms. This relationship led her to train as a doctor. She volunteered at St Joseph's Hospice, her experience there, along with all the skills she had acquired over the years,

culminated in the opening of St Christopher's. Its objective was to treat all of the patients' needs, not simply deal with their medical requirements. The modern UK hospice movement was born.

Initially the modern hospice was aimed at end-of-life inpatient care for the terminally ill. The main difference between hospital care and hospice care has tended to be that the latter is a more homely setting. That said, hospital palliative care is evolving. The modern hospice has also moved on considerably in the last 50 years. It now encompasses day care centres for medical, nursing and respite care. It does not purely concern itself with terminal illnesses, but with other conditions where quality of life can be enhanced, such as dementia. Home care and support has also become an important facet of the movement, as has bereavement support.

In looking at this subject, I found a common thread running through many of those who have set up and run hospices; love and care for humanity, often rooted in deep religious faith. That is certainly true of Chris Gatfield our speaker and founder of Dove Cottage Hospice. If like me, you missed hearing her in person, you can find out more [here](#)

There are reported to be more than 7,000 hospices and palliative care facilities in over 90 countries. Some are funded entirely by national health services, but most have to rely on voluntary donations for much of their income. The latter is certainly the case in the UK. The covid pandemic and the current cost of living crisis have, and will undoubtedly continue, to make funding more challenging. Without this sector, our NHS would struggle even more than it already does.

When my paternal grandmother had lung cancer in the early 1960's, she had the choice of dying in hospital, or at home, cared for by family, but with only the support of her GP surgery. My parents and I lived in the same village, my mother took time off work and nursed her mother-in-law through her final days. Even though I was only in my first year at High School, I remember my grandmother lying in the bed that had been brought downstairs to the sitting room, and I recall how hard it was for my mother to nurse her. She did it because she was the nearest female relative and she had a close bond with her, but not everyone had a daughter-in-law, or someone else, prepared or able to do that with very little support. The existence of the hospice movement provides choices that my grandmother did not have, and that is cause for thanks and celebration.

## FROM OUR MEMBERS



Jones, c. 1921

### THE US MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Bobby Jones was an American golfer who some people say was the best ever. He dominated as an amateur both nationally and internationally, his peak being 1923 to 1930. On his retirement from competitive golf in 1930, he formed a consortium with Wall Street financier Clifford Roberts. They bought 365 acres from a commercial nursery in Augusta for \$70,000 (£57,104.00) and created an exclusive golf club. Clifford proposed an event be called the Masters Tournament, but Jones objected, and the name Augusta National Invitation Tournament was adopted and was used until 1939, when Jones relented and the name was officially changed to The Masters.

The 18-hole course was opened in 1933 and the first tournament was held in 1934 with 72 members playing. There were 300 members and this number is still maintained at any given time. The first tournament was won by Horton Smith with a prize of 1,500 dollars (£1,228) with a 284 score (4 under par). In 1940 it was decided that it would be scheduled to be held each year during the first full week in April.

Professionals often describe the course as one of the most beautiful they ever play. It is surrounded by towering pines, dogwood and blooming azaleas in April. The competition is played over four days and 72 holes. A total of 90 players started the 2022 competition. After two days a cut is made meaning that only the top 50 players including ties compete on the final two days. This year it was 52.



Over the years many changes have been made to the course. Greens have been reshaped and redesigned, bunkers have been added, water hazards extended and hundreds of trees have been planted. In 1934 the length of the course was 6700 yards, in 2022 7510 yards. During the Second World War cattle and turkeys were raised on the course.

The photo on the left is of "Amen Corner" a hole designed by Herbert Warren Wind over 60 years ago.

Golfers are invited to play and entry is judged on their past achievements. The monetary prize is worth several million dollars, along with a Gold medal and the Green Jacket. Once a player has won The Masters they automatically receive a lifetime invitation and invitations to the other three major competitions for the next five years.

There have only been three first time winners, Horton Smith, Gene Sarazen in 1935 and Fuzzy Zoeller in 1979. The prize money remained the same from 1934-1942, it was not played during the Second World War, post-war, in 1946, winnings were raised to \$2,500 (£41,180). Scottie Schaffer, the 2022 winner, took home \$2.7 million (£2,230,567) which is 18% of the total prize money. The 2021 winner, Hideki Matsuyama received \$2.07 million. Players who miss the cut receive \$10,000 (£8241) although this does not include amateurs. In 1997 Tiger Woods became the youngest winner at the age of 21, breaking the course record by 12 shots with a score that had stood for 32 years. Jack Nicklaus became the oldest winner in 1980 at the age of 46. Seve Ballesteros was the first European winner in 1980. Mike Weir the first Canadian in 2003 to win, as well as being the first left hander. Gary Player was the first non-American winner in 1961. Lee Elder was the first African American to be admitted in 1975, Ron Townsend was the first Black member admitted in 1990.

The Green Jacket is the ultimate prize. It was originally worn by club members to allow them to answer questions from patrons less familiar with the course. Since 1949 when Sam Snead won it has been awarded to the current winner. Only winners and members are allowed to wear them and they must be kept at Augusta. The current winner can take it from the club, but it must be returned at the end of their year, although it does remain the property of the winner. Originally made from wool it now produced in a lighter fabric.

The Champions Dinner is held on the Tuesday before the tournament and is only open to past champions and certain board members. Ben Hogan started the tradition in 1952 and often the winner chooses a menu which is traditional to the country they come from. Sandy Lyle chose haggis and Nick Faldo, fish and chips. Tiger Woods picked cheeseburgers, chicken sandwiches, French fries and milkshakes. He was the youngest winner, and when asked about his food choices, he responded with "They said you could pick anything you want. Hey it's part of being young, that's what I eat."

Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus dominated the Masters from 1960 to 1978. Palmer's first win was in 1958, Nicklaus' in 1963 and Player's in 1961 beating Palmer. Nicklaus was the first player to win in three consecutive years. Over time Nicklaus won 6 times, Tiger Woods 5 and Arnold Palmer 3. During the 1980-2000s non-Americans won 11 of the 20 Championship.

In 1997 Tiger Woods won his fourth straight major championship, but in 2010 he was publicly censured for "his off course behaviour." Billy Payne chairman of Augusta National made headlines when he commented "It's not simply the degree of his conduct that is so egregious here. It is the fact he disappointed all of us and more importantly our kids and grandkids."

There is a silver Masters trophy which is kept at Augusta and obviously the winner has his name engraved on it, the runner up receives a silver medal. The trophy weighs over 130 pounds and sits on a four foot wide base. The replica is just 6.5 inches and weighs 20 pounds. The Double Eagle trophy was introduced in 1967 and was won by Bruce Devlin. It is a large crystal bowl with "Master Tournament" engraved around the top. A Double Eagle can only be achieved on a par 5 when a player reaches a hole in two strikes of the ball. Gene Sarazan was the first to achieve this feat in 1932.

Until 1983 players had to use the caddies attached to the club, but since then they have been allowed to use their own. They are easy to see on the course as they wear a white jumpsuit, a Green Masters cap and white tennis shoes.

Tickets for the Masters are not expensive, but very hard to come by. Applications by ballot are necessary for the practice rounds. Tickets for the actual tournament are sold only to a member on the patron list, which is closed. The majority of the badges/tickets are received by the same group of patrons, fans and members each year. Sometimes perennial holders do sell their badge through large ticket marketplaces. Obtaining one is very difficult and tickets for the 2023 Masters have already sold out.

I wonder, will we ever see a woman's Masters?



*Rory McIlroy pondering how to extricate his ball from amongst the famous azaleas in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round in 2018*

## POETRY CORNER

### A Poem for Queen Elizabeth II

*(written from the perspective of the Queen)*

Philip came to me today,  
and said it was time to go.  
I looked at him and smiled,  
as I whispered that "I know"

I then turned and looked behind me,  
and saw I was asleep.  
All my Family were around me,  
and I could hear them weep.

I gently touched each shoulder,  
with Philip by my side.  
Then I turned away and walked,  
with My Angel guide.

Philip held my hand,  
as he led the way,



Our poet laureate wrote this tribute –  
Notice that the first letter of each verse spells out ELIZABETH.

### Floral Tribute

Evening will come, however determined the late afternoon,  
Limes and oaks in their last green flush, pearly in September mist.  
I have conjured a lily to light these hours, a token of thanks,  
Zones and auras of soft glare framing the brilliant globes.  
A promise made and kept for life – that was your gift –  
Because of which, here is a gift in return, glovewort to some,  
Each shining bonnet guarded by stern lance-like leaves.  
The country loaded its whole self into your slender hands,  
Hands that can rest, now, relieved of a century's weight.

Evening has come. Rain on the black lochs and dark Munros.  
Lily of the Valley, a namesake almost, a favourite flower  
Interlaced with your famous bouquets, the restrained  
Zeal and forceful grace of its lanterns, each inflorescence  
A silent bell disguising a singular voice. A blurred new day  
Breaks uncrowned on remote peaks and public parks, and  
Everything turns on these luminous petals and deep roots,  
This lily that thrives between spire and tree, whose brightness  
Holds and glows beyond the life and border of its bloom.

**SIMON ARMITAGE**

to a world where Kings and Queens,  
are Monarchs every day.

I was given a crown to wear  
or a Halo known by some.  
The difference is up here,  
they are worn by everyone.

I felt a sense of peace,  
my reign had seen its end.  
70 years I had served my Country,  
as the peoples friend.

Thank you for the years,  
for all your time and love.  
Now I am one of two again,  
in our Palace up above.

*Originally written by Joanne Boyle*



## Our Queen Elizabeth

70 years & 214 days,  
a victorious reign in so many ways.  
A true servant of God; of people of lands.  
You touched so many hearts and so many hands.

A constant figure in good times and bad.  
A nation now mourns as we half-mast the flag.  
Rest now; rest now and put down your yoke;  
that the labours of this world and body evoke.

As we honour your passing the church bells are heard,  
then resound again for King Charles the third.  
You leave Balmoral - such a sad scene.  
Farewells commence for a much-loved Queen.

We recall 'never give up and never despair'  
as streets are filled with love and care.

You begin your final journey  
and are laid to rest.

'Thank you, Ma'am'  
'For everything'

Our Queen Elizabeth.

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**And finally.....**

