

October 2022



Inside this month

From the Editor
Open Day
Monthly meetings
Group activities
Travel reports
And Finally....



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the October 2022 edition of the High Lane u3a newsletter. We have a bumper edition this month with information about two new interest groups, and reports and photographs of recent u3a group activities and holidays. Thanks to all the contributors for their interesting and informative contributions. It's good to see there is lots happening – a nice change from world news and national crises. You will notice this edition has a cover page. I've been intending to do this for some time. The cover photo is one of the photographs taken by Ged Wilson on the Ireland holiday organised by the Travel group. I plan a different image each month, based around our group activities, so please send me any images you would like to see on the cover.

River cruising has become very popular with our members and if you fancy joining a cruise for 2023, Margaret has a cruise offer at a very good price. You'll need to act fast as it has to be booked by mid-October. See the box on page 13 for details.

The date of the Murder Mystery play is fast approaching. The cast is busy rehearsing for the event at the Village Hall which takes place on Friday, 21st October, starting at 7pm. A last-minute change has meant that the food choice is now hotpot or lasagne. The play action takes place in an amateur dramatics theatre, where one of the characters meets a sticky end. You will be tasked with solving the mystery and identifying the person or persons who committed the evil deed. We have just a few tickets still available. To get yours, please see André at the monthly meeting or contact him directly.

This is your newsletter. Please feel free to share some of your news, your interests, or items you have found that you think would be of interest to other members. This could be places you have visited, books you have read, films you have seen; your stories, anecdotes, photographs, recipes, limericks, jokes; the list is endless. I've not yet heard from many of our new members. We would welcome your contributions.

This edition of the newsletter is accompanied by the National Office bitesize newsletter for September.

The next issue will be November 2022 so please send your contributions to me by 30 October at newslettereditor@highlaneu3a.org.uk

Diane Saxon



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

OPEN DAY 2022

On the 3rd of September we had an open day in the Village Hall. The idea was to bring to the attention of local retired and semi-retired residents who had not heard of the u3a what the u3a is all about. It is amazing how many people have still not heard of u3a. Thanks to committee members and group leaders, we had an excellent display of our activities. There were demonstrations of how to play various games and explanations of what groups did. The morning was very successful with quite a few people joining on the day and others taking membership forms home to fill in.

New members during the morning took our membership to over four hundred which for a small village is excellent.

Thanks again to everyone who turned up and helped on the day. We could not have done it without you.

Paul Kenneth Chairman











www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The speaker at the September meeting was Jim Williams. While struggling with some technical problems at the beginning Jim amused us with some information about his life. After leaving the bar he travelled extensively as an international lawyer for a construction company, meeting several interesting people including the king of Nigeria.

He is a professional novelist having published 12 novels and two self-help books, How to be a Charlatan and How to write an Autobiography. His first three novels were strangely prophetic and pre-empted the Hitler Diaries scandal, the Chernobyl disaster and the coup against Gorbachev. By his own admission he has received modest fame but was nominated for the Booker Prize for his novel Scherzo and it was research for this novel which provided the content for his talk The Life and Times of Casanova.

Everyone has heard of Casanova and his reputation as the world's greatest lover. He claimed to have 120 lovers, including castrati, nuns and very rich ladies. Several of his affairs were predatory to enhance his status and his wealth. He lived between 1725 and 1798. He was born in the Republic of Venice. He was deserted by his mother after his father left them. She was a famous actress in the Commedia dell'arte theatre and went to Austria to enhance her career. However, he went to university where he studied law and theology.

His life was very colourful. He was a scam artist and scofflaw, an alchemist, spy and church cleric. He wrote satires, fought duels, and escaped from prison more than once. He lived in various cities and spent his last years as a librarian in the Dux Chateau in Bohemia where he wrote his autobiography which is regarded an authentic source of the customs and norms of European life in the 18th century.

The meeting was well attended, and it was good to see several new and returning members. As usual the refreshments were excellent. Thank you to the tea ladies.

The next meeting is on Wednesday October 12th when the speaker is Allan Shalks whose talk is entitled My Very Interesting Life in Theatre, Television and Radio.

Kath Wareham



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

GROUP NEWS

BALLROOM DANCING

In August our programme was augmented by invitations to a party for one of the group, whilst in September we recommenced fortnightly meetings with a full house.

We remembered Queen Elizabeth II by dancing to the Platinum Waltz, specially composed for her Jubilee. And then we stood to sing the new anthem God Save The King.

Walter Mason





LINE DANCING

I am happy to report that the Line Dancing finally got started. Twenty people turned up on September 13 in the afternoon and a great time was had by all. There was much laughter and bumping into each other as Les (our teacher) taught us two dances. Whether we will remember them next time remains to be seen. However, we are all keen and have great ambitions that before long we will be hee-hawing, waving our Stetsons and putting on a great show.

Can't wait for October 11.

Dorothy Neillands



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

READING

We had our first meeting of the autumn session on Monday 5th September and discussed TEACHER's DEAD by Benjamin Zephania which went down really well. We jointly compiled a list of books we wished to read in the coming months and were not short of ideas. Our provisional list is as follows:

October: HUMAN VOICES by Penelope Fitzgerald

November: PARADISE by Toni Morrison

December: A poetry session

January: THE MERCIES by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

February: THE PROMISE by Damon Galgot

March: A session discussing biographies and autobiographies we have read

April: HAROUN AND THE SEA OF STORIES by Salman Rushdie

May: THE LIE by Helen Dunmore
June: MISS AUSTEN by Gill Hornby

July: MUSIC AND SILENCE by Rose Tremain

It seems to be a pretty varied list so there's something that will appeal to everyone. Our next meeting will be Monday, October 3rd.

Marlene Brookes

GERMAN

The German group has been meeting most Fridays since the beginning of September. Our numbers have been depleted somewhat because of illness and family commitments but we have acquired a new member and are still able to have lively, interesting sessions.

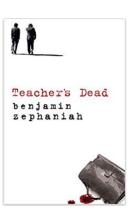
Marlene Brookes

SOLOs

This group is planned to start in November. People who have put their name down will be notified about the first meeting nearer the time.

Sorry about the delay caused. This was due to holidays.

Paul Kenneth





www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

CRIME FICTION READING



Burial of Ghosts by Ann Cleeves

Ann Cleeves' Burial of Ghosts was the fourth book chosen for the Crime Fiction group to read, a stand-alone novel written in the first person. Eight members attended the September meeting and when asked six of us enjoyed the book, the remaining two reserving judgement.

It is an interesting and complicated story with several flashbacks and starts with a surprising and violent incident in the two page prologue. It then moves forward to Morocco and next on to NE England. Initially there is a quest which results in a murder.

The narrator is a young woman struggling with bipolar disorder and haunted by nightmarish dreams, who throughout the story reflects on the plight of children taken into care, as she was herself. There are

a couple of "red herrings", one thoroughly unpleasant and objectionable character, beautiful and enticing descriptions of Morocco and the country north of Newcastle on Tyne and for me something of a surprise when the killer was revealed, although looking back there were plenty of clues along the way! A good and easy read and one which, as many of the newer crime fiction authors do nowadays, touches on social problems affecting the country today.

Our book for October is The Hard Way by Lee Child, a Jack Reacher novel.

Nancy Colclough

KEEPING SAFE ONLINE

North West Regional u3a presented a Cybersecurity update from Dave Carlos of the Lancashire Constabulary's Cyber Volunteer Team Online Awareness June 22. You can find the slides <u>here</u>.

Many of us use the Chrome browser because it is convenient and easy to use but perhaps with a vague feeling that we don't know what happens to our data. <u>This book</u> in comic form sets out the risks – a warning, perhaps not for the faint-hearted.



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

BRIDGE

High Lane u3a bridge groups recently took part in the u3a Bridge Festival, which was organised for our anniversary week, 19–26th September. Members from various u3as across the country took part. Each day, all players played the same hands, and each u3a group submitted their scores to a central system. The scores from our players were then compared with all the other scores for that day.

We have some notable successes to report. Ben and Shan Alexander from Joan's group finished second in the Wednesday competition. In the Monday competition, John and Viv Carroll were top ranked, and Irvine Holmes and Debbie Thursfield were second. Congratulations to them. The results and commentaries can be accessed here.

As well as raising the profile of bridge in u3a, the event is raising money for charity. Players were asked to make a donation to cover costs and raise money for charity. Donations will be shared equally among the chosen charities. We have made an initial donation but if you would like to contribute there will be a box on the desk at the October monthly meeting.

Diane Saxon

QUIZZING

The August quiz was set by Irene, her final quiz before leaving us for pastures new. We will miss her. Her quiz was a bit different – and good fun. In each section all the answers started with the same letter. The first task was to determine what that letter might be. We found that sometimes, we were well through the questions before we realised that the letter we had decided on no longer fitted – inevitably this required a rethink! However, once we had the key letter, it was slightly easier to get to the answers. We all really enjoyed this quiz.

We met last week for our September quiz, set by Margaret. We all found the first sets of questions very challenging – typical scores after the first three rounds were around 4 out of 20! Fortunately, we improved from then on, but overall scores were pretty low. One for you to try – can you name the highest mountains in Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Greece and Tanzania?

Fancy challenging yourself with us? New quizzers are very welcome. Please get in touch.

Diane Saxon



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Our group discussed several subjects with some having been in the news recently.

We started with: do people have the right to protest? This was mostly aimed at the Welsh holding up their placards during the visits by the royal family. We quickly came to the conclusion that yes people should have the right to protest just as long as it's done in a respectful way & within the law.

This led on to: was the mourning period for the Queen too long and should the BBC have cancelled so many programmes. We agreed that although it was an extra special and sad occasion the BBC did cancel too many programmes and even though they always do an excellent job at this sort of coverage there was too much of it.

Bankers' bonuses and the mini budget came up for discussion. Kwasi Kwarteng axed the cap on bankers' bonuses & lowered the top rate of tax. We all said interest rates will go up and financially hard-pressed families could lose their homes. We all thought that they should raise taxes for the upper bracket earners and that the upper classes had been satisfied again and not the working man.

We talked about Fracking, should the ban be lifted. We decided we need more information on the pros and cons.

Should people be allowed to take pets into the workplace? All were sceptical about exotic pets such as snakes and spiders, one member thought that cats could cause an issue because of allergies which we thought was a fair comment. But all agreed that dogs should be allowed in the workplace.

Is the BBC impartial? Social media sites and young people also discussed. Very mixed views from the group.

All in all, an interesting afternoon. Margaret provided lovely chocolate cake which Trevor had requested but we all enjoyed.

Betty Smith



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

GARDENING



In August we had the contrast of Janet's attractive varied level bungalow, and an arranged trip to Thornbridge Hall, Ashford in the Water, which combined a variety of themed gardens around the hall, with extensive parkland – often with quirky touches. Both enjoyable in their different ways.



September saw us visit to two of the larger gardens in our group, those of Jackie/Chris and to Lynn. The former has changed considerably since our previous visit. More paths laid, white themed flower beds, and specimen dahlias, agapanthus and pot plants witness to Jackie and Chris's gardening skills. Lyn's garden is quite different, with hidden paths leading to cosy hideaways and secluded patios. Well-tended vegetable plots, grape laden vines, and runaway courgettes on the one hand; wide panoramas across to Kinder and the High Peak on the other. Two more gardens to savour as we approach the last of our visits in early October.













Walter Mason



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY

This month's competition was Numbers and Letters. Well done everybody for all your entries, excellent photographs.

Winning photos were:

1st. CN 5 to midnight – Earl 9 points

2nd. Letters that are numbers - Diane 6 points

3rd. Cheers - Earl 5 points





The topic for next month is 'Sports'.

Why not come and join us?

Jeff Robinson





www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

WALKING

Rainow to Lamaload Reservoir in the countryside of the South West Peak District. Thanks to the Vicar of Rainow Holy Trinity Church for allowing us to use the church car park for today's walk.

21 walkers joined Merlyn and Joyce for this 5½ mile walk in an area not walked by the group for the last 10 years. The sun was shining, temperature ideal 17°C-20°C with a refreshing breeze on the hills which was great for today's outing. We walked initially down the road; crossing the river Dean which originally powered seven mills in the area and made our way up to Tower Hill. Along the way, the now converted Poorhouse/Workhouse shows no resemblance to its former use. Following a short stop to admire the surrounding hills around Rainow and history of the area we joined the Gritstone trail heading off into open countryside. We could see the reservoir service

road in the valley below as it snaked and climbed the hillside before descending steeply to the distant reservoir dam. The short gradual ascent was soon reached and we admired the splendour of 360 degree views of the surrounding landscape. Views out to the Cheshire plain and far distant Welsh hills, Manchester skyscape, Pennine hills, Cats Tor, Shinning Tor, and local hilltop (Bronze Age Barrows). Wow!



Onwards now on farm trackways towards Hordern farm, we next contoured the hillside to Gulshaw Hollow for a coffee stop with views of Walker Barn hamlet, Macclesfield forest.







Gulshaw hollow



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

Refreshed we continued along the hillside valley passing Valeroyal Farm, then a small stream and an old, renovated barn. Field paths and occasional awkward stone wall stiles took us up to the side of Lamaload reservoir.

Lunch stop was taken at Brock Low, a Bronze Age Barrow overlooking Lamaload reservoir showing much depleted water content due to our dry summer.



Group photo with Lamaload dam and reservoir in the background showing depleted water level.

For the return route we descended to the bottom of the dam wall and an uphill path to Yearns Low farm ,a short rest , a final look at the River Dean valley and the distant hills before our downward descent back to Rainow. The group thanked Merlyn & Joyce for an enjoyable walk, for their efforts in preparation for this walk, the views, history and perfect weather conditions.

Merlyn and Joyce Young

Taxal Edge, Windgather Rocks and the Goyt Valley

On a glorious sunny autumn morning, thirteen of us met in Whaley Bridge to begin our walk towards Windgather Rocks. After an initial climb and walking through woods we had a sharp ascent to the top of Taxal Edge, and we enjoyed the views (and had a short rest).

As we walked along the Edge, we had several stops to admire the views on both sides of the valley and identify places of interest. Just before the final ascent to the Rocks we stopped for a short coffee break.



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk



We reached the summit about mid-day and we admired the 360-degree views and looked at some of the climbs on which mountaineers' practice their climbing skills on.
On leaving the Rocks we descended steeply for a while and stopped for lunch in the woods, sitting on logs with the added benefit of dappled sunlight and bird song.

We continued down, then up, then down again, the footpath taking us through a farmhouse garden and on to a bridge over a steam before arriving at river Goyt, at the bottom of the valley. We followed the meandering river to Taxal, with a sharp short climb to Taxal church at the end. The final stretch took us through a new housing complex being built, and back to our starting point.



Ralph Caddy

TRAVEL

FANCY A CRUISE?



There is an offer from Riviera for 1 in 4 free places for a group of 12 or more on a river cruise which would considerably reduce the cost. The best price is for the Moselle on October 4th–11th with stops at Trier, Bernkastel, Cologne etc.

If you would like to join the group, please let me know Asap as the offer lasts only until mid-October and we would have to book by then.

Margaret McDermott



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

TRAVEL REPORTS

We have been on two holidays recently – to Ireland and a river cruise on the Rhine. Both holidays were much enjoyed by members who joined us. Thanks to members for their thoughts and photographs.

Margaret McDermott

RHINE CRUISE

With a very short wait in security at Manchester Airport the flight to Zurich was uneventful and was followed by a coach journey to the ship Oscar Wilde moored in Basel. The following day after visiting Lucerne we boarded the historic mountain railway at Wilderswil station to climb slowly up the steep track to Schynige Platte in the Bernese Oberland. The Alpine scenery was magnificent with wonderfully clear views of the Jungfrau, Eiger and Monch. The wooden seats on the train seemed to get harder and harder as we travelled back down the mountain!

On the journey between Basel and Breisach two of our group decided to relax on the sundeck and watch the ship going through one of the many locks on the Rhine. Sitting at the bow end they marvelled at the engineering process but did not realise that they would be drenched with river water. The very hot weather meant that they soon dried off!

From Breisach we were taken on a delightful coach journey through the Black Forest. We saw several storks and what appeared to be red kites. Because of the size of the storks' nest the authorities dismantled it and several pairs of children's shoes and socks were found inside! Apparently, the Black Forest fox is a horse and the giant earthworm endemic to the area can be up to 60 cm long. Eventually we arrived at Lake Titisee, beautiful in the sunshine, found a cafe and what else could we have with our coffee but Black Forest Gateau?

The next day we travelled by coach to the French city of Strasbourg home of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament. The various institutions of the EU. are based in Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg. The cobbled streets, half-timbered buildings and canals of the historic Petit France were pointed out to us on a walking tour. The magnificent Gothic cathedral of Notre Dame was in sharp contrast to a refugee camp we passed on the way in to the city.

From Strasbourg the river level was too low to continue, so by coach to Speyer where we changed to the Emily Bronte, a sister ship, which continued as far as Rudesheim. This is one of the centres of German winemaking, particularly Riesling. We boarded the Noddy train which took us to Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum Cabinet where we were amazed at the huge collection of self-playing instruments. At the heart of the old town is



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

Drosselgasse a narrow street full of shops and restaurants. In one of the shops we were very amused by a large male model wearing an apron on which was printed I LIKE TO KEEP MY HOT DOG WARM. One person was tempted to lift up the apron and was quite shocked at what was hidden underneath!! A few of our group braved the cable car to the Niederwald monument and were rewarded with wonderful views over the river.

Other places visited were Koblenz and Marksburg Castle but these were by coach because of the low water level. The climb up to the castle through the forest was very steep and a struggle for some of us.

On our final day we were unable to visit Cologne and had a long journey from Rudesheim to Dusseldorf Airport (the only place where we were required to wear a mask). We stopped at a German motorway service station- what a contrast to those we have encountered in England. A short flight to Manchester ended a very enjoyable holiday.

Contributions from June Christon, Alan and Sheila Small, Betty Smith, Judith Temple and Margaret Mcdermott. Thanks to Pat Gorie for the photographs.











www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

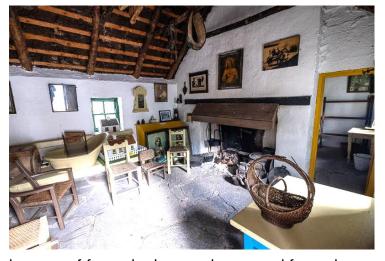
IRELAND

A very early start to catch the Ryanair flight to Cork where we landed on time and met our new driver Colm. As usual it took us a while to get used to the Irish accent!

We travelled to Blarney Castle where an excellent restaurant housed in one of Ireland's oldest woollen mills provided a welcome snack. The castle dates from the 15th century but its fame is derived from the Blarney Stone. Millions of people have climbed the narrow staircase to kiss the Stone including Winston Churchill, Stan Laurel, Ronald Reagan and Eddie Redmayne. Only two of our group, Ged and Doreen, were



brave enough to climb up to do the same. We hope they will be rewarded with the gift of eloquence! Sitting on a wall admiring the view we were approached by an American couple from New Mexico. They had flown to Dublin, then travelled by train to Cork and intended touring Ireland by public transport. They got into conversation with us and turned out to be extremely pro-Trump, insisted that the election was stolen from him. Everything was fake news and even the secret documents found in his holiday home and seized by the FBI did not exist. He must be re-elected to "make America great again." Like many Americans he had a very loud voice! When they had gone, we looked at each other in absolute amazement that anyone could hold such fanatical views. The rest of us walked through the grounds and admired the beautiful gardens until it was time to board the coach to continue to the Benners Hotel in Tralee. The portions at dinner that night were absolutely enormous!



Not far to go next day to the Kerry Bog Village. So many exhibits in the cottages brought back memories—the stone hot water bottle, mincer, butter pats and open fires. Thank goodness life has moved on! Mary still has an open fire and thatched roof but her lifestyle is very different with modern technology. We patted the Irish wolfhounds, one of the tallest dogs in the world, and saw the Kerry Bog Ponies used for bringing

home turf from the bog and seaweed from the nearby beach. A few of us had Irish coffee in the Red Fox pub before making our way to Valentia Island.



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk



The Wild Atlantic Way lived up to its name when we arrived with a very strong wind making the sea lash up against the quayside. We managed to dash into a nearby hotel to have lunch before visiting the Heritage Centre, run by volunteers, housed in three rooms of a 150 year old schoolhouse. A fantastic exhibition in such a small space covering a wide variety of subjects. In the schoolroom we were greeted by a

very knowledgeable lady with stories about previous pupils and teachers. The open fireplace surrounded by a fireguard and the desks were as we remembered from our primary school days. One of the rooms had a huge display about the very first Transatlantic Telegraph Cable which operated for a hundred years from Valentia Island to Newfoundland. In 1993 a geology student discovered tetrapod footprints from some 385 million years ago. Not easy to visit in situ but there was a very good facsimile in the third room. Apparently, Ireland was attached to North America millions of years ago.

Two of the group decided to go elsewhere for their evening meal but the rest of us arranged to stay in our hotel where we were allocated our own separate alcove. Being given one bill for the whole group caused problems as some wanted to pay by card and some with Euros but with lots of laughter and adding up we agreed the amount. When we presented the money to our charming waiter, he said we were the easiest group he had ever had to wait on (Blarney?)

On Tuesday we took a boat trip on Lough Leane which is surrounded by beautiful scenery and included the bonus of a complete rainbow. The commentary from the captain of the boat was very entertaining. We went on to Killarney, a lovely town, with a fantastic craft shop where we could have spent much longer. If only we were younger and not at the age when have to downsize.







www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

Killarney House and Gardens was our next stop. Entrance was free as it is owned by the Irish State. There was an excellent exhibition with commentary showing the geological changes in the area from 600 million years ago to the present day.

This evening we decided to try a different restaurant which had a wider choice on their menu and afterwards we went to a traditional Irish pub with music and dancing. Betty and Doreen joined in and even Mary got up to do a jig!



What a lovely morning we had watching

the Border collies Jess and Sam round sheep on Bridget and Seamus' farm who gave us the usual warm Irish welcome. It was so interesting so see how obedient the dogs were from commands from Bridget. She showed us a complete fleece but there is no market for them now and she was offered only 50 cents for it. We had the opportunity to feed some very greedy lambs. We were invited into their cottage to be entertained by Seamus playing the Bodrun. Janet could not resist buying one of Bridget's wool pictures showing the view of the farm and surrounding hills which she makes in the winter

Leaving the farm our coach took us to the Dingle Aquarium, the largest in Ireland, with an enormous array of marine animals. We watched the Humboldt penguins standing in an orderly queue, no pushing and shoving, waiting to be fed. The favourite animal of one of our group was an intimidating lizard which jumped down against the glass as she was watching. Apparently, they can leap 40 to 50 feet.





The drive back to Tralee took us through magnificent mountain and coastal scenery along the Wild Atlantic Way said to be the longest coastal route in the world.



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

Our final day included a visit to Muckross House a Victorian mansion previously owned by several wealthy families the last of whom donated it to the State. Many superbly furnished rooms with very informative guides in each of them.





Afterwards we went through long winding roads to Gougane Barra, a magical place where Saint Finbarr founded a monastery. He eventually became the first bishop of Cork where one of the Cathedrals is named after him. Coincidentally three of our group visited here on the exact same day in 2015.

Ireland is a very beautiful country and is enhanced by the most welcoming people we have ever met.



Compiled with accounts from Pat, Janet, Diana, Ged, Doreen, Betty and Mary. Thanks to Ged Wilson for the amazing photographs.

Margaret McDermott

HOT OFF THE PRESS - u3a CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

The wealth of talent in the movement's writing community was on display last night as the winner of the u3a's STAR Award for creative writing was revealed. Harriet, of Gilwern u3a writing group, clinched the first prize with 'Cinderella, What Happened Next?' – a fantastic short story on the theme of 'Opening(s).' Second place goes to lan from Cupar u3a with his story 'Cold Comfort Affair' and Jane from Lancaster u3a with 'An Opening in Darkness' came in third place. Now in its third year, the STAR Awards showcased the passion and talent for creative writing across the movement as members tuned in to hear the winning stories. Winning stories are not on the website as yet but will be at https://www.u3a.org.uk/latest-news/creative-writing-competition-2022-winners



www.highlaneu3a.org.uk

u3a explores science with the RI

The Royal Institution is 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 has 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. You can book your place now at https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/u3a-explores-science-at-the-ri-tickets-404634311117

This is just one of a wide programme of events run for u3a members. See more on our online events page. https://www.u3a.org.uk/events

AND FINALLY

Even kids can write limericks! Ready for Halloween.



New Cumnock Primary, Ayrshire



