



**February 2021**

**WYCLIFFE LUTTERWORTH**

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**u3a FEBRUARY “AT HOME” MONTHLY MEETING**

**THURSDAY 11/02/2021 @ 11:00 hrs.**

Hi to All,

I hope you can join the February 2021 “At Home” Monthly Meeting.

This is once again being hosted by “Mirthy”.

The talk is :- **You’re Never Too Old To Rock ‘N’ Roll - By Vince Eager**

From choir boy to TV appearances on shows such as Drumbeat, Six Five Special and Oh Boy. To touring with the likes of Eddie Cochran, Billy Fury, Gene Vincent, Marty Wilde, Jerry Lee Lewis and more.

Duration is 44 mins.

The presentation is NOT interactive.

REGISTRATION is required to view this talk.

The link for registration has already been circulated to members on 20/01/2021. If you are having problems please contact Andrea or Colin and we will attempt to assist.

Once registered you will receive a confirmation email with a unique link in it to access the talk. The system will send a reminder email a couple of days before the event. If you register but do not receive the confirmation email please check your junk or spam folders.

Regards to All

Andrea & Colin

Andrea Nichol (Speaker Liaison) / Colin Beadle (Vice Chairperson)

## Table of Contents

<a href="#"><u>Notice of Virtual Annual General Meeting</u></a> .....	3
<a href="#"><u>Notices</u></a> .....	4
<a href="#"><u>PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP</u></a> .....	5
<a href="#"><u>FRENCH CONVERSATION</u></a> .....	8
<a href="#"><u>HISTORY GROUP</u></a> .....	9
<a href="#"><u>Answers to last month's crossword</u></a> .....	13
<a href="#"><u>2020 - Questions</u></a> .....	14
<a href="#"><u>The Amusing World of Amateur Drama</u></a> .....	16
<a href="#"><u>2020 Answers</u></a> .....	18

**Notice of Virtual Annual General Meeting  
of Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A  
to be held on 11th March 2021  
at 10.30am  
via Zoom**

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**AGENDA**

- Welcome
- Minutes of last AGM
- Matters arising
- Chair's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of new members to the Committee
- AOB
- Date of next Committee Meeting

Chris Brady

Chair

Please Note: To attend this meeting you will be required to register for a place.

Details to follow in an email nearer the time.

## Notices

### Used Stamps

Liz White of Lutterworth U3A is still collecting used stamps on behalf of **Medical Detection Dogs**. They can be any used stamps but please could you ensure they have approximately a 1cm (roughly a finger's width) surround.

Please hang onto your stamps until we are able to meet again and give them to Sue Creeden, or you can pop them through her letterbox (25 Holly Drive, Lutterworth) and she will pass them on.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Used Toner Cartridges

Unfortunately, due to a change in Recycle4Charity's system, Sue is no longer able to accept the toner cartridges.

Sue Creeden

## PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Michael Bates

Tel: 07899937595

The Photography group continue to meet, via zoom, on the last Friday of each month. The meeting is in two parts. There is a display and discussion of member's photos for the topic of the month and an illustrated talk, usually by a member of the group.

It was great to see everyone again and find out about all those little photographic projects they had been doing and what new equipment or gadgets they were given or treated themselves to, over Christmas.

The monthly topic for January was **Winter** and as usual it could be anything we generally associate with this time of the year, including any pictures taken over Christmas. Lots of members took advantage of the recent snow for their pictures!

Stephen Carter gave an enjoyable presentation about his 'journey' in learning and practising the technique of photographing 'light trails', requiring hanging about in dark and cold conditions and some scary looking pyrotechnics.

The photographic topic for February is **"Action"** and as usual we will accept a wide range of interpretations although some actual or implied movement is the only 'must have' for each picture. The next meeting will be on **Friday 26th February at 10.00am.**

Penny Ross



Gilmorton Church – *Colin Beadle*



Winter Run – *Peter Sands*





Lutterworth – *Steven Carter*



Wire Wool – *Steven Carter*

## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

Sue Hicks

Tel.: 01858 880273

**28 January 2021**

We met on Zoom again, and most of us made it for an informal chat.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 25 February.

Sue Hicks



## HISTORY GROUP

Viv Weller

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### Report for the History Group

#### Out with the Old. In with the New! A Miscellany

This topic reminded us of many of the old customs and traditions that took place after Christmas and into the early weeks of January. Many of you will be familiar with Twelfth Night, Epiphany, Wassail and First Footing but men, did you remember to celebrate 'Plough Monday' (the first Monday after Epiphany) or ladies, did you get back to your spinning on St Distaff's day (7th January)? January 2nd was regarded as the unluckiest day in the year by the Anglo Saxons who tried to avoid all risks on that day!. On 20th January, St Agnes' Eve saw unmarried women carrying out strange rituals before bed, such as eating 'Dumb Cake, a salty cake baked in silence or a transferring pins from one pin cushion to another, one by one. The purpose behind all that was they would then dream of their future husband! The coldest day of the year was said to be January 13, probably reminding us of Frost Fairs when the weather was so cold the River Thames froze over and the wine had to be sold by weight as it was solid. 'Childermas' or Holy Innocents' Day (31st December) was a very important religious festival and some Cathedrals still elect 'Boy Bishops' who 'rule' on that day, to remind us all of the terrible massacre by Herod. One local custom related to the processing of the 'Gilmorton Vase'. This was carried around the village on Twelfth Night by children who sang and begged for treats from the householders. The vase was an open box with three dolls inside, decorated with greenery and oranges. It is thought by some that the dolls

represented the Holy Family. Perhaps this custom was a relic of some long forgotten medieval procession.

New Year has been a moveable feast over the centuries. The Julian calendar used January 1st in Roman times but this later lapsed and saints days and religious festivals marked the year, rather than dates. Difficulties arose because of the lack of leap years meant the calendars became increasingly inaccurate. For many centuries March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation' (Lady Day) was the start of the New Year but in 1582, Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar and New Year returned to January 1st. As we were not a Roman Catholic state by then England did not join in and we continued with our own system with New Year remaining on March 25th until 1782 when we also adopted the Gregorian calendar and New Year fell on January 1st. By that time, we were so out of sync we had to 'lose' 17 days in order to fall into line.

The Christmas season and early January were very concerned with Christian beliefs and practices but it seems there was also plenty of time for feasting and fun and they did their best to celebrate in the darkest days of the year.

Viv

# History Quiz

1. Who is said to have invented the 'Siren Suit'?  
A. Coco Chanel  
B. Winston Churchill  
C. Mae West
2. Which limb did Horatio Nelson lose in Tenerife in 1797?  
A. Left Arm  
B. Right arm  
C. Left leg
3. Who won the battle of Naseby?  
A. Charles I  
B. Charles II  
C. The Parliamentarians
4. Who was the 5th wife of Henry VIII?  
A. Anne of Cleves  
B. Katherine of Aragon  
C. Catherine Howard
5. In medieval England, at dinner, lower born people sat below ....what?  
A. The Salt  
B. The Beer  
C. The Roast
6. In medieval France and England, what were forests?  
A. A dense area of woodland  
B. An open space for wealthy landowners to enjoy walks  
C. Private hunting grounds
7. What created the 'New Look' in 1947?  
A. Christian Dior  
B. Hardy Amies  
C. Mary Quant
8. Who won the battle of Bosworth Field?  
A. Richard Plantagenet  
B. Henry Plantagenet  
C. Henry Tudor
9. In 1066, Harold won a big battle at ..... ?  
A. Trent Bridge  
B. Stamford Bridge  
C. Goodison Park
10. Where is King John said to have lost the Crown Jewels?  
A. In the Wash  
B. In the Thames  
C. Down a Well
11. Who was called the Morning Star of the Reformation?  
A. Martin Luther  
B. John Wycliffe  
C. William Tyndale

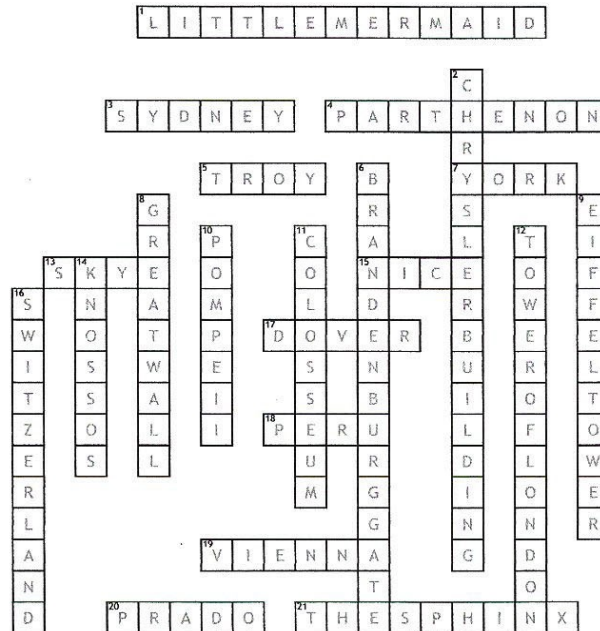
12. What is a 'wimple'?
  - A. A cloth head dress.
  - B. A herbal medicine.
  - C. A depression in the skin, from birth.
13. What activity does the term 'Flash in the Pan' come from?
  - A. The use of burning alcohol in cooking (like crepes suzette)
  - B. Firing a flintlock musket
  - C. The invention of the WC
14. How many of Queen Victoria's 9 children survived to adulthood?
  - A. 6
  - B. 8
  - C. 9
15. In what year did women in England get equal voting rights?
  - A. 1918
  - B. 1928
  - C. 1945
16. Which famous Victorian novelist lived in Nuneaton?
  - A. Charles Dickens
  - B. Mrs Gaskell
  - C. George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)
17. Which King founded Kings College, Cambridge?
  - A. William 1
  - B. Henry VI
  - C. Edward IV
18. Which road in Lutterworth used to be called Gas Street?
  - A. Gilmorton Road.
  - B. Misterton Way
  - C. George Street
19. Where, in England, is 'Tom Tower'?
  - A. Christchurch College, Oxford.
  - B. Westminster Abbey, London.
  - C. Durham Cathedral
20. In which city was the first Local Radio station?
  - A. Leicester
  - B. Nottingham
  - C. Coventry

## Answers: ANSWERS TO THE HISTORY QUIZ

1B 2B 3C 4C 5A 6C 7A 8C 9B 10A 11B 12A 13B 14C 15B 16C 17B 18B 19A 20A

## Answers to last month's crossword

### Seeing the sights



#### Across

1. 'Girl' on a rock in Denmark.
3. It's a very long way to go to the opera!
4. Where Elgin found his marbles.
5. The topless towers of Ilium? Schliemann woz 'ere
7. It's a Shambles near the big church in this city.
13. Where the 'bonny boat' was headed.
15. Where the English promenade?
17. This castle guards the straits
18. Paddington might show you round Machu Picchu here.
19. Fancy a ride on the oldest Ferris Wheel here?
20. When it rains on the plain, go to see the art here.
21. She gazes inscrutably at Giza.

#### Down

2. We must certainly drive to see this famous Art Deco tower in New York.
6. The way to the East in Berlin.
8. An historic barrier in China
9. You get an 'eyeful' of the view from here.
10. Walk on the streets where Romans walked
11. Did you see Spartacus here in Rome?
12. You will marvel at St Edward's crown in here.
14. Did they really leap over bulls here?
16. Buy a souvenir cuckoo clock, or maybe just a Toblerone!



## 2020 - Questions

We shall look back on 2020 as the 'Year of the Pandemic', but how much do you recall? Try these twenty questions. Answers at the end of the bulletin.

1. Which pair made Strictly history by becoming the first same-sex couple on the Saturday night dance contest?
2. The Crown returned for Season 4 and included the real-life story of when a man broke into the Queen's bedroom in Buckingham Palace and sat on her bed... what was his name?
3. Which Disney blockbuster that premiered in the US in March just before lockdown was eventually released on Disney Plus for a premium fee in the UK?
4. Who live-streamed PE lessons every day during lockdown to keep the nation's kids – and their parents – fit and healthy?
5. Which multi-platinum-selling artist kept the nation dancing during lockdown with her Friday night kitchen discos?
6. Captain Sir Tom Moore became the oldest person at 100 to have a UK number one after he featured on which song performed by Michael Ball?
7. Lewis Hamilton made history winning a seventh F1 world title – whose record did he equal?
8. On which date was the first lockdown declared in a special televised bulletin by Prime Minister Boris Johnson from Downing Street?
9. What was the name of the town Boris Johnson's close adviser Dominic Cummings drove to, during lockdown, to supposedly test his eyesight?
10. In which city was George Floyd killed, sparking the worldwide Black Lives Matter protests against police brutality and racism?

11. Whose complaint has led to an investigation into the controversial Princess Diana interview with Martin Bashir that was broadcast again in 2020 after 25 years?
12. Which member of the royal family received a special gift from David Attenborough ahead of a screening of his new film 'A Life on Our Planet' and what was it?
13. Carrie Symonds gave birth to Boris Johnson's sixth child. What is its name?
14. With which singer did Prince Harry record a charity record?
15. Who is the Chief Medical Adviser to HM Government?
16. Which film won the Oscar for Best Picture?
17. Who won 'I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out Of Here'?
18. To the million, how much money did Capt. Tom Moore raise for the NHS?
19. Which James Bond film was twice delayed in 2020?
20. Which singer/songwriter was credited with partially funding one of the Covid vaccines?

Quiz sent in by Richard Hill

## The Amusing World of Amateur Drama

*by - Richard Hill*

As many of you know, I spend a lot of my time getting involved in local amateur drama. As a means of raising a smile during these trying times, I thought you might be lightly entertained by some of the amusing anecdotes I've collected over a period of time.

John and Nigel were playing the part of the horse in the local panto. When they agreed to take the part on they had forgotten about the Saturday matinee. On Saturday afternoons they always went to see the local football team they supported. So they met up with other friends in a nearby pub to discuss the match they had just missed owing to the matinee. The drinks flowed freely after a convincing victory when Nigel suddenly realised they were due on stage. He stumbled back to the theatre to be greeted by the stage manager who yelled, "You're due on in a minute and you're bloody well pissed!" "You think I'm pissed", replied Nigel. "Wait till you see the back end of the horse. He thinks he's got lines and he's trying to remember them!"

An amdram group were putting on Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves at Christmas. As it was only a small group, the principal boy on making her first entrance would utter the scene-setting line, "You two thieves come with me – the other thirty-eight wait outside."

Another amdram group was putting on a panto and playing to a very rowdy house. Even the experienced dame who had a strong voice was not being heard. Suddenly a man on the front row stood up and yelled, "Why don't you all shut up and give the old cow a chance?" His shout quietened the audience and the dame immediately stepped forward and said, "Thank you, sir. It's nice to know there's at least one gentleman in the house."

One night an actor dived and started ad-libbing while waiting for the prompt which did not come. He walked over to the prompt who looked up and with a snarl simply said, "Wrong!"

The local group had just done a dreadful production of Dial M For Murder. When the review came out the critic wrote, "I saw the play at a great disadvantage – the curtain was up."

A young man came into his house and said to his parents, "I've got a part in the local group's play." "What part is it?" asked his mother. "I'm going to play a man who has been married for twenty years." "Well, don't worry, son," said his father, "Perhaps next time you'll get a speaking part."

A local actress met her priest in the street and gushed, "Oh Father O'Reilly, I got the part of the Queen in Snow White and, having looked at myself in the mirror, thought how beautiful I am. Will I have to do penance?" "Not at all, my child," replied the priest. "You only do penance for a sin not a mistake."

A reviewer of a local show went home and his wife asked him if it had a happy ending. "Certainly did," replied the critic. "Everyone was delighted when it was over."

It was a death-bed scene but the director was dissatisfied with the acting. "Come on," he cried. "Put more life into your dying."

The amdram society had just finished the first performance of a new show. The cast, as they stood to the applause of their friends and relatives, felt pleased with the effort. As the curtain closed the hall was quickly cleared except for one man who sat sobbing in the back row. The director was rather impressed by this and approached the man. It *was* a rather touching performance," said the director. "Are you a relative of a cast member?" "No," sobbed the man. "I'm the author."

In one infamous amdram episode, the production was dragging and near the end of the second act, the villain clobbered the hero from behind and left. The heroine promptly came on stage and discovered her lover on the floor. "Oh dear. He must have fainted. What shall I do? What shall I do?" A bored voice from the hall answered her, "Try tickling his balls!"

It's quite common for amateur actors to mangle lines a little. The secret of success is to continue without breaking the flow, quite difficult when the line you've mixed up is "Oh dear, John has just shot himself!" or "You know, there's art in farce."

Richard Hill

richardhill711@gmail.com

## 2020 Answers

1. Nicola Adams and Katya Jones
2. Michael Fagan
3. Mulan
4. Joe Wicks
5. Sophie Elli-Bextor
6. You'll Never Walk Alone
7. Michael Schumacher
8. March 23<sup>rd</sup>
9. Barnard Castle
10. Minneapolis
11. Her brother, Charles Spencer
12. Prince George received a fossilised shark tooth.
13. Wilfred
14. Jon Bon Jovi
15. Prof. Chris Whitty
16. Parasite
17. Giovanna Fletcher
18. £32,796,475 - £33m to nearest million
19. No Time To Die
20. Dolly Parton