



milton keynes
university of the third age



October
2018



Open Meeting

Meetings start at 2.30pm and are held at the Oak Tree Centre, Wallinger Drive, Shenley Brook End, Milton Keynes, MK5 7GZ. There is car parking on site, and bus routes 8, 24 & 25 stop on adjacent grid roads.

James Gillray: The First Ever Political Cartoonist

24 October 2018 – Ian Keable

James Gillray succeeded William Hogarth as the primary satirist of the 18th century, not only taking caricaturing to new heights but also refining the format of the cartoon to one that we are now familiar with.

He is now generally accepted as the first, and the greatest, political cartoonist, still revered today by modern cartoonists.

Year End



Please remember that our year end is now 31st November 2018. All group leaders should ensure their returns are done by that date and that any funds have been paid into the bank by that date.

New Members Induction Session

Next session – 19 November 2018

Please note - There will no Induction Session in October.

The next session will be on **Monday 19 November**, starting at 2pm, and will be held in the Great Linford Parish Office meeting room, next to the Co-op in the Great Linford local centre at 1 St Leger Court, MK14 5HA.

The session will outline the background to the U3A movement, explain, how to get the best out of your membership with MKU3A, and show you how to use the website and join groups.

If you are a new member - just come along – any queries to Claire Naismith on membersec@mku3a.org.

Independent Examiner Sought

Milton Keynes U3A require someone to act as an Independent Examiner to look at our books for this financial year, 2018.

They do not need to be qualified in any financial way, but should have a good understanding of financial matters or have experience in financial matters.

This would take place sometime during January and/or February 2019.

If you think you could help with this or you know someone who could help, please contact the treasurer by emailing treasurer@mku3a.org.

Living Dangerously

The climate change group is launching a new season of films about various issues to do with global warming and climate change.

Join us for the National Geographic Videos: "Years of living dangerously".

Carbon sequestration is a technology that might allow the continued use of fossil fuels, but these technologies are



unlikely to make much contribution to reducing pollution until after 2030.

- October: Storms of the future
- November: Climate caused migrations
- December: Fuelling the fires
- January: Upsetting the oceans
- February: Extinctions of species
- March: Safe passage and autonomous cars
- April: Air pollution and China

Email Hilarie Bowman climate@mku3a.org.

New venue for Line Dance

The Tuesday Line Dance Group had their first session at the Old Bath House, Wolverton.



We enjoyed our reunion, after our summer break, and all the Members were delighted with the new venue.

The main hall is light and airy and a really big space. We can spread out and enjoy our routines - with plenty of room to make mistakes, which we call variations.

There is also an added bonus. The Tesco Supermarket is next door and a large new Lidl store has just opened at the rear so opportunities to shop. Buses to many areas stop outside the Bath House.

The first hour is devoted to Beginner Level Dances with detailed Instruction and most of our present dancers have moved on to advanced work from there.

We now look forward to a fun year of Line Dancing.

We always welcome and help new members. Contact linedancing2@mku3a.org.

If you've got the time, we've got the music

..... join us, and make room in your day for some varied music styles for a couple of hours. There's a bit of music in all of us.

We all meet twice a month (2nd and 4th Thursday morning) in Two Mile Ash.

Some of us will take it in turns to create a playlist, some of us just want to come along, chill out and listen to other's choice of music – or maybe just meet new people!

Check out recent playlists on our U3A webpage ([Music Appreciation](#))

So whether you are a jazz lover, an opera or classical buff, or perhaps you just enjoy relaxing to different styles of music, we'd love to know you.

New folks are joining us each month, but we still have enough room for more.

Give us a call or email us and we can tell you all about our group.

Contact: Sally Saunders at: musicapprec@mku3a.org



Maths for Fun looking for new Members

We would welcome new members for our Maths for Fun group which meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the afternoon.

For more info contact Hilarie Bowman on maths@mku3a.org

Choir Christmas Concert

We are pleased to report a recent upsurge in membership and internet enquiries so a big welcome to all the potential new members.

We hope you are enjoying the taster sessions, enjoying the practise of the Christmas music, and that you will continue to stay with us in future.

A date for your diary is Friday 14th December. We have our Christmas concert at the United Reformed Church in Newport Pagnell at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £8, to include refreshments, and will be on sale from early November. More details to follow.

Sheila Staincliffe, Joint group leader



Group Co-Ordinator Visit

Music Appreciation

The above group meets in a large room within sheltered housing based in Two Mile Ash.

They meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday morning in the month. Sally Saunders is the Group Leader and she explained that at each meeting one of the group volunteers to present a playlist for the group to enjoy.

On the day I visited, Sally had compiled a playlist entitled The Country Garden. It was the most relaxing two hours I have spent in a group, having the chance to actually listen to the music, instead of music just playing in the background while I get on with something else.

The music flowed from classical, Jazz, Dean Martin, The Andrews Sisters, through to Eva Cassidy with a lot more in between.

The group break for refreshments and a chat mid way and then it's back to the music. I came away thinking about what playlist I would put together.

This large group is very friendly and welcoming, and are very willing to accept new members should anyone wish to join them, please contact Sally for full details at musicapprec@mku3a.org.

Third Age Players have a party



The picture shows The Third Age Players (TAP) having a party during their black comedy, *Ten Little Thespians*, at the Chrysalis Theatre on 13th, 14th and 15th September.

The play was written by MKU3A member Tashika Cecchetti with the group especially in mind.

We were able to use a large number not just by acting but through the very necessary backstage and technical work.

With 17 in the cast, it was no mean feat to bring it (and them) all together, but once on stage, evil spirits conspired to reduce this number dramatically, ending with the “Little Thespians Drama Group” without any members and relying on the audience to resurrect them which, thankfully, they did!

We’d like to invite anyone who has a yen to act, crew or otherwise be involved with TAP to contact our group leader, Barbara Baker on 01908 562738 or tap@mku3a.org.

News from the PlayPals

This year we have been delighted to receive a grant from the MK U3A towards our uniform of polo shirts with a logo incorporating MK U3A and the name of the group.

The group contributed to the cost with a combination of funds accumulated from our subs and additional payments from members.



We are pleased to have a band 'look' which reflects our identity as a U3A group, as the number of performances we do goes up year on year.

The first outing of our uniform was at the AGM in March, see above.

In this photo the band are getting some audience participation in a Hawaiian song at the summer fete of St Frideswide's church, Water Eaton.

We enjoyed our latest performance at St Frideswide's on 25th September for their MacMillan coffee morning. We included singing with the audience as well as playing and it's hard to say who had the most fun.

The PlayPals offer several November dates for the diary and everyone is welcome to attend. Our next performance is at the St Lawrence church, Steppingley, on Saturday 3rd November at 2.30pm.

On Thursday 15th November we will be playing at St Mary and St Giles in Stony Stratford in the TT@TT (Third Thursday at 12.30) slot, followed soon after by the St Frideswide's Christmas bazaar on Saturday 17th November.

If anyone has a long neglected musical instrument that they would like to take up again or is trying out playing as a retirement hobby (as I did with the flute) and you would like to play with others in a friendly environment, do get on touch and come and see us on a Tuesday morning to see if you would like to join in. You can contact me by email at: musicians@mku3a.org .

Marilyn Ridsdale

Open Meeting - IT Help Desk

There will be opportunities both before and after the Open Meetings to seek assistance with IT problems and using the MK U3A website, including setting up your login and password and updating your personal profile.

Help will be available before the meeting from 2pm and after the meeting until 4.15pm

Free Wi-Fi is available at the venue.

Support is available for:

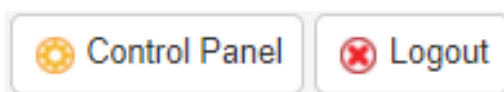
- Windows PCs
- Apple/Android tablets and phones.

NOTE: Please ensure your device is fully charged or bring your charger with you.

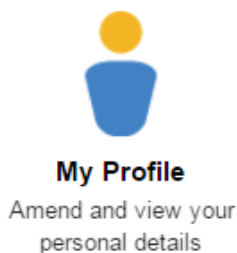


MK U3A - Making Changes to your Personal Details

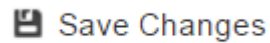
1. Open the MK U3A website (mku3a.org)
2. Login to the site. (If you haven't set your login password yet please see the instructions on the LOGIN page.)
3. Once you are logged in 'click' on the Control Panel icon top right of screen



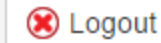
4. This will open a page showing the following icon. 'Click' on the icon



5. You will now open a page showing your personal profile. This is where you can change your contact details and add an emergency contact. **This is extremely important in cases of accident or emergency.** Make any changes necessary and 'click' **Save Changes** top or bottom right of profile screen.

 Save Changes

6. You now have two options – Returning to the Website or to Logout. Top right of screen. Select the appropriate icon.

 Website  Logout

Quiz and Hymns at Simpson

Saturday 13th October. Quiz & Fish & Chip Supper at 7pm in Simpson Village Hall.

Proceeds to the Soroptimists.

£12 pp. Please book with missquiz@sky.com Tel: 01908 644785

Sunday 21st October 3pm at St Thomas's Church, Simpson

“Heavenly Hymns & Angel Cake.” Come along and join in singing some favourite hymns – Cream Teas and Cake.

If you want to choose a hymn to be sung contact missquiz@sky.com or Tel: 01908 644785

Friends of Willen Hospice Quiz Night

Friday 9 November, 7.30 at Working Men's Club, Silver Street, Newport Pagnell.

Teams 6 max, tickets £4 per person

Tickets available from Liz, tel: 07891 280904 or email friendsofwillenhospice@outlook.com

Let their feet do the talking



Bow Brickhill WI are meeting on 25th October at the Pavilion in Rushmere Close at 7.30pm.

There is a very interesting talk from Supershoes who do really good work with terminally ill people.

Supershoes is a charity based in Fenny Stratford. They illustrate shoes according to the wishes of the person and donate them. They have over 200 artists who donate their skills to paint the shoes.

This meeting is open to everyone. Visitors are requested to donate £4 to help with expenses for the speaker, hall hire and refreshments.

There is plenty of parking space. You will be given a warm welcome.

Sir Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man*



A concert to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI will be given in the Milton Keynes Theatre on Sunday, 14th October.

This concert, *The Armed Man*, is a powerful and compelling account of the descent into, and terrible consequences of, war.

Subtitled *A Mass for Peace*, it is essentially an anti-war composition based on the Catholic Mass. What makes the work particularly distinctive is the intermingling with the traditional sections of the Mass of a wide variety of texts, both sacred and secular.

Note that there is no booking fee if tickets are ordered from the Danesborough Chorus (or Bedford Choral Society).

Contact 01908 583460 or 01234 781421.

For further info see <https://www.danesborough.org.uk/>

Get Smart with your phone

Drop-in on

Wednesday 3 October from 1-4pm

The Foyer at Milton Keynes Central Library

Let us help you set up your own devices so you can read and listen to digital books and newspapers.

Grafton Regis Sunday Concert

October 7th 2018, 3pm

Our Countryside in Music and Words

A concert in the beautiful Church of St Mary the Virgin, Grafton Regis, featuring the **Sherington Folk Band**.

Come and enjoy a selection of music and words from our countryside, including The Ballad of Grafton Regis and several pieces associated with John Clare, the Northamptonshire poet.

Booking is essential. Tickets costing £5.00 are available from Kathy on 0791 009 2132 or from keith.harry@btinternet.com

Grafton Regis is a village of fewer than 100 inhabitants in south Northamptonshire on the A508, midway between Northampton and Milton Keynes.



Kents Hill Community Centre

Vacancy For A Caretaker



The management committee is seeking to appoint a caretaker for the community centre.

It would best suit someone who lives near the community centre as it requires multiple visits to the centre most days.

Roles

Keyholder in charge of the security of the community centre.

Enabling access for user groups in accordance with the terms of their bookings.

Reporting any accidents, difficulties or anomalies to the committee.

Enabling access for maintenance work.

Regularly liaising with members of the committee

Management

The post will be managed by the community centre committee.

Person Specifications

Honesty

Punctuality

Good communication skills

Understanding of the role and the importance of the job

Remuneration

This is a part time position and remuneration will be discussed at the interview.

Holidays will be unpaid and by negotiation with members of the committee.

We are hoping to fill this vacancy as soon as possible.

Please send your CV together with your letter to

Mrs P Young

Christ The King Church

Frithwood Crescent

Kents Hill

Milton Keynes MK7 6HQ

or email the committee: kents.hill.community.centre.no2@outlook.com

Thyroid event cancelled

Due to personal circumstances Thyroidmk Information Event on Saturday 6th October is **CANCELLED**.

We hope to be back again in March 2019 - dates to be announced on our website and facebook page. For further advice or support please refer to the British Thyroid Foundation website - www.btf-thyroid.org

Key Contact details – more on the website

Chair	Lesley Sparks	chair@mku3a.org
Vice Chair	Tina Two	vicechair@mku3a.org
Secretary	Neill Dewar	secretary@mku3a.org
Treasurer	Diana Sears	treasurer@mku3a.org
Groups Coordinator	Shirley Dewar	groups@mku3a.org
Webmaster	Dave Barratt	webmaster@mku3a.org
Membership Secretary	Claire Naismith	membersec@mku3a.org
Communications Coordinator	Simon Wong	comms@mku3a.org
Datum Project	Dave Barratt	datum@mku3a.org
Thames Valley Network	Fred Bass	tvn@mku3a.org
Members Liaison	Dennis Revell	membersliaison@mku3a.org
Assistant Webmaster	Len Barrows	assntwebmaster@mku3a.org
Groups Finance Admin	Geraldine Cannell	groupsadmin@mku3a.org
Halls Admin	Sue Giordano	hallsadmin@mku3a.org
Open Meetings/Volunteers	Currently vacant	volunteers@mku3a.org

Please refer to the website www.mku3a.org for statements concerning **MKU3A Policies and Guidance** on all aspects of our **admission including Data Privacy, Disclaimers and Copyright**

Office: 11 Winchester Circle, Kingston, Milton Keynes MK10 0BA

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