

# Newsline No 60 November 2024

## Public Version



CASTLE HOWARD  
SEPTEMBER 2024

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### Newsline No. 60 December 2024

**Please email articles and pictures to the Newsline team by 10th November to ensure inclusion in December edition.**

[su3anewsline@gmail.com](mailto:su3anewsline@gmail.com)

**Items that arrive after the 10th November will be carried forward to the following month's edition**

Group news is of particular interest to existing and new members and an excellent opportunity to review and promote your group.

Updates on social activities are also good to see, such as the coffee mornings at Southwell Garden Centre or Sunday lunch groups. We now have space for some 'Letters to the Editor.'

**PLEASE** remember to include your email address; a telephone number is optional. Thank you.

Anne, Editor



## FROM THE CHAIR

Almost two hundred years ago Thomas Hood wrote his poem 'November' that began:

No sun – no moon!

No morn – no noon!

No dawn – no dusk – no proper time of day –

What a cheerful man he must have been. Though many of us will recall Novembers like that, with climate change they seem to be a thing of the past. I am grateful for that change at least!

A new report, 'Learn to Live' has just been produced by the Third Age Trust. I am sure that many of you would find it of interest and it can be found on the home page of the national website, ([www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)) under News Items. It argues the case very powerfully that lifelong learning is one of the vital keys to being able to age well, and the fantastic role that u3as play in that. This is one reason why your Committee continues to raise the profile of Southwell u3a in our community. We met some of you whilst we were drumming up support from a Market stall recently. If people do not know about us they are missing such a lot!

One of the activities I continue to do

outside of our own u3a, is to help run the online workshops provided by the TAT to support everyone involved in running a u3a. I have just



been in a meeting where we discussed how to raise awareness of this support. So this is me doing that! If you think you would enjoy helping in any way, but feel you do not have the expertise or confidence, help is available. You would not be alone, but have support both from those of us involved in Southwell u3a, and also from the wider movement.

It feels very positive to know that we have some more new groups launching and wonderful that we have members keen to do that. They are an excellent example of the fantastic variety of topics that we offer: wine, kurling, computing and 'small wonders'. Amazing! I wonder how many groups you belong to? Some time ago, one member belonged to 13. Can anyone beat that?

And finally. . . a reminder about our Christmas Party on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Offers are coming in, but slowly, so do think what you could offer, whether or

## From the Chair cont'd

not it is linked to your group activity. We all look forward to enjoying the talent on show!

Jean ([chairmansu3a@gmail.com](mailto:chairmansu3a@gmail.com))

## In Brief!

[Our November meeting](#) is Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am at Southwell Leisure Centre. [The Speaker](#) will be Paula Cornwall, 'The Flying Housewife'

## GROUP NEWS

### Proposed New Groups



### Computer Help

A number of members have mentioned they would like help with computer related issues. In response to this a new group is being formed. "Computer Help" The first meeting will be held on November 26th. The subject will be 'Staying Safe Online'. The intention is each meeting will kick off with a presentation on a particular topic followed by a discussion around the

topic and then general discussion. Hopefully the general discussion will lead to a topic for the next meeting. All members with a basic computing knowledge are welcome. The group will be led by Mike who will be available to discuss further at the November u3a meeting.

### Science Group



If there is sufficient interest in the above Group, any particular science topics could be discussed. Subjects could be as varied as advances in medical science, astronomy science, particle physics, heat pumps and any other suggestions from members of the group. Short illustrated talks followed by discussions could be the format. The meetings would be monthly at a Southwell venue to be advised.

If you might be interested in joining such a group, please contact Philip

### Astronomy

By the time the next edition of Newsline is printed we may possibly have had the October meeting of the [Astronomy Group](#). Nonetheless we are indebted to Alex Dean for giving up his time to tell us about his passion astrophotography. This is a fascinating subject, not just to astronomers but also to photography buffs. It is the second time that Alex has come to talk to the group and show us his fascinating photographs.

On 28<sup>th</sup> November we will have a talk on black holes, those very mysterious (some would say worrying) powerful objects in space. Only very recently another one close to us (astronomically) has been mooted. This will be a presentation by Mark, a group member – as always I am grateful for (and welcome) volunteers offering to lead a session.

On 19<sup>th</sup> December we will be having a Christmas Meeting which will be a presentation on dimensions and wormholes. This seemingly takes us into the world of science fiction but could well be true.

Generally, we hold our group meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month, in the downstairs meeting

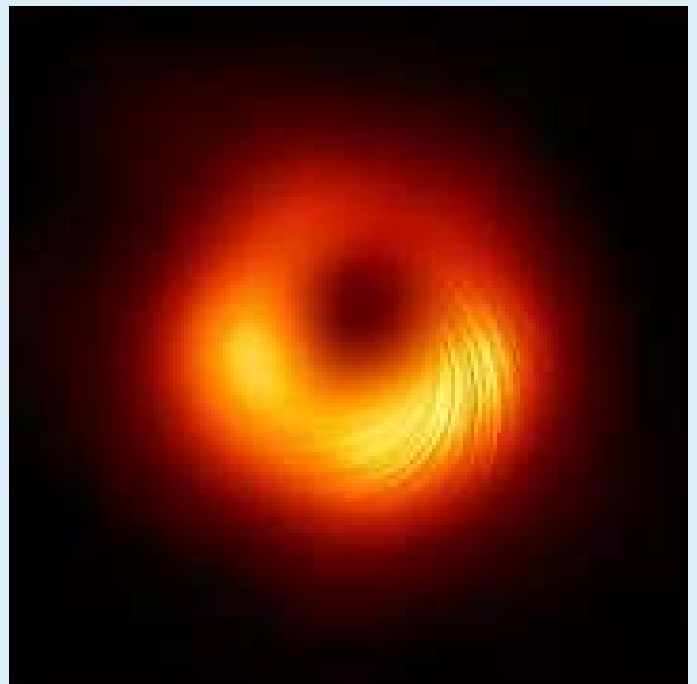
room of Southwell library from 10:00am to 12 noon (in December we are meeting one week earlier as the scheduled date would have been boxing day!).

We try to cater for beginners by not making the sessions too technical but with enough content to stimulate the more knowledgeable.

After coffee the audience get the chance to ask questions, comment or offer views, which is, I think, an important part of our meetings.

I hope to see as many people as possible in the remaining sessions this year (established members, new members and potential members!).

Richard



A supermassive black hole

## Raspberry, Pistachio, Limoncello and Lemon Curd Trifle

It seems like we've not had a dessert in this column for a few months and so here's one from our latest [CDWU meeting](#). It's a dessert with a twist, consisting of limoncello, lemon curd sponge, custard, pistachios, raspberries, and whipped cream. Statins all round again I'm afraid and remember that you **can't** substitute citronella for the limoncello!



Ingredients – serves 6-8

1 Madeira Cake, approx. 300g	Lemon Curd 5 tbsp
Raspberries 300g	Vanilla Extract 1 tsp
Limoncello 3 tbsp	Pistachio, shelled finely chopped
Custard ready-made, 400g	Double Cream 300ml
Caster Sugar 1 tbsp	

### Method

Slice the Madeira cake lengthways, spread one half with lemon curd, place the other half back on top. Cut the cake into smaller finger-sized pieces and line the bottom of a trifle bowl so that it's completely covered in cake. Squash the cake pieces together to minimise gaps.

Mash half of the raspberries in a bowl and stir in the Limoncello and vanilla extract and spoon this over the cake. Top with more raspberries but save some for decoration. Add a scattering of pistachios – we chopped them by hand but, with hindsight, it would have been much easier to put them in a small freezer bag and bash them with a rolling pin.

Stir most of the remaining pistachios into the custard and spoon it over the fruit and cake. Whip the cream and caster sugar in a large bowl until it holds soft peaks. Spoon over the trifle. Top with the rest of the pistachios and the remaining raspberries. ENJOY!

## Roofing the World

Ere dawn their swaddled shapes ascend the hill

And soon each rope is fast atop the rocks

A form descends and sounds his trumpet shrill

To warn of powder blast and splitting blocks

They read the ancient grain within each stone

Then strain to load the best upon the cart

The rest into the gaping pit is thrown

The chosen slabs will feed the craftsman's art

All year through summer's heat and winter's chill

He sits within the open sided hut

And gently lets the chisel feel his will

To rive the yielding stone without a cut

From terraced homes to palaces of state

His hands have roofed the world with timeless slate

Austin Brady, © July 2024

[Creative Writing Group](#)

## GROUPS cont'd

### Indoor Climbing



Heather , a member of [Southwell u3a Indoor Climbing group](#) abseiled off the roof of Nottingham QMC in September with two members of Nottingham u3a groups. Together they raised £2,500 for the Oncology Department. One of the members is currently undergoing treatment there. The three of them, all with white hair and of a certain age called themselves 'The Three Wrinklies'. Their challenge for next year will hopefully be a Sky Dive! If anyone is interested in joining our friendly Climbing group please get in touch with David, group leader.

**Kurling** – your latest u3a group to get off to a really good start. Meeting on the first Thursday of each monthly (not January) at Thurgarton Village Hall from 14:00hrs to 16:00hrs.

Volunteers came forward to help with the running of this new group, to include a Treasurer, a refreshment co-ordinator and someone to prepare the room with chairs. Valuable help is always necessary because all groups are self-run by volunteers. A Kurling Tournament was organised and as the games progressed there was a marked improvement in skill and tactical play. It is hoped that next month the numbers will grow. Why not give Kurling a try? It is good fun and, at time there is silence as all members wait with anticipation for the final 'stone' to land on the 'target'

Ann



Members of su3a enjoying their Kurling

**u3a** Southwell



### Photography Group

At our October meeting the [Photography Group](#) looked at some of our pictures from recent themes, as usual with positive supportive criticism. We then had some tips on photographing fireworks, ready for November 5<sup>th</sup>. The practical exercise of firework photography in the library, sticking to health and safety guidelines, was a bit of a damp squib as we could only use party poppers, only some of which worked!

It was good to welcome a new member, and the return of an old member that we hadn't seen for a while, if only for a fleeting visit from warmer climes.

We normally meet at Southwell Library on the second Tuesday of each month at 2pm. As well as looking at our photos from the previous month on the big new screen, we get some tuition from our more expert members on a particular subject – editing, camera settings, etc. And if anybody needs help on any aspect of their camera or camera phone, that is available on a one-to-one basis.

We can still probably squeeze in a few more members, so if you'd like to join, contact Graeme



We cover a wide range of expertise and equipment; we are a genuine self-help group and support each other whatever level of skill and model of camera or phone that we have. If you've got a phone, you can be a photographer – you don't need a camera!



## TRIPS AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We all had an amazing day out to **Castle Howard** on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

The weather stayed dry for most of the day and we were able to look round the colourful gardens when we arrived, and the beautiful house in the afternoon. Here are some photos from our trip.



### BURNS NIGHT 2025

We have kindly been invited by Southwell Lions to join them on **Friday 24th January** for their annual Burns Night.

The event will be held in the historic Great Hall of Southwell Minster and will include a delicious three-course Burns Supper and live entertainment. Tickets £30 per person.

**We have been given a limited number of tickets - so if you are interested please let me know as soon as possible - along with any dietary requests.**

Full details to follow.

**Dates for your diary:** Contact Miriam for further details:

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November**– Xmas Floral demonstration and 2 course lunch  
Floral Media, Caunton. Tickets £25.00

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

**Murder Mystery Play and Supper** at Southwell Library

Performed by: Southwell Theatre Club

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Quiz** : Southwell Rugby Club

# SOUTHWELL u3a TRIP BOOKING FORM

Please book a place for me on the trip on:

(Date) .....

to (Place) .....

Name .....

u3a member yes/no .....

Contact telephone..... Mobile.....

Emergency contact Name .....

Emergency contact telephone: .....

NB This information must be included on all booking forms.

I enclose a cheque for £..... made out to Southwell u3a. Money is non-refundable unless your place can be re-sold. Please return this form with payment at the November monthly meeting.

If you would like more information on the above, please contact Miriam



## Southwell u3a Concert Coaches – Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham



We had an excellent number of 45 for the thrilling opening concert on October 1<sup>st</sup> and attained a virtually full coach for the Special Event with Sheku Kanneh-Mason on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October.

Booking is open for the following three concerts to which normal prices of Band C £35, Band B £37 and Band A £41 apply. Please may I have separate Booking Forms, (now available on the Southwell u3a website), and cheques made out to Southwell u3a for these three concerts.

Roger Bennett

### **Friday 15 November 7:30pm      Nuremberg Symphony**

Jonathan Darlington	conductor
Federico Colli	piano
Weber	Der Freischütz Overture
Beethoven	Piano Concerto No. 5 'Emperor'
Brahms	Symphony No. 4

### **Tuesday 26 November 7:30pm      The Hallé**

Thomas Adès	conductor
Stephen Waarts	violin
Sibelius	Symphony No. 7
Rautavaara	Deux Serenades
Adès	Air – Homage to Sibelius (for violin and orchestra)
Sibelius	Symphony No. 5

Roger

## Southwell u3a Concert Trip Booking Form

Please book me a ticket and place on the concert coach to the Royal Concert Hall on: .....

Name: ..... u3a member: Yes/No

Contact Tel No: .....

### Emergency Contact

Name: ..... u3a member: Yes/No

Emergency Contact No: .....

Pick up point .....

No. of tickets: .....

Seating Area: Stalls/T1/T2

Price Band: A/B/C

Seat Nos. ....

Please circle your choice.

I enclose a cheque for £..... made out to Southwell u3a.

Money is non-refundable unless your ticket/place can be re-sold. Please return this form and cheque for the full amount to Roger. Alternatively, cheques and Booking Forms can be given in at the Monthly Meeting.

## OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER



Our speaker last month was Paul Lillie who managed to combine a very interesting talk about the life of Elvis whilst at the same time painting some aspects as you can see in the photograph as well as singing his songs.

A very enjoyable speaker.

John

## OUR NEXT MEETING

# Christmas Party

**Tuesday, 3rd December.**

**10.00am. Southwell**

**Leisure centre.**

**Don't forget your Christmas Party Hat!!**



## COFFEE MORNINGS

Southwell u3a enjoys fortnightly coffee mornings at Southwell Garden Centre, Fiskerton Road. They are very popular and open to all members. It is an opportunity to have a chat and a coffee. Do come along at 10:30hrs on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings of the month. November's get togethers are on the 14th and 28th November.

There are usually one or two Committee members present for you to talk with. It can help other members if you remember to bring and wear your u3a lanyard.



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The [Hearty Goodfellow](#) in Southwell has agreed to give a 10% discount on all food (NOT drinks) to Southwell u3a members. Lunch or dinner. **EACH** member must show their own current u3a membership card **before** ordering to get their **INDIVIDUAL** discount.

## COURSES AT

### SOUTHWELL LIBRARY

Inspire are running several stimulating courses at Southwell Library. If you are interested, explore their web-site. [www.inspireculture.org.uk](http://www.inspireculture.org.uk)



## Useful websites

Southwell u3a website is <https://www.southwellu3a.com>

National u3a website is <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Southwell u3a members Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/southwellu3a>

## Community News

Southwell Town Council website is <https://www.southwellcouncil.com>, council office [admin@southwell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@southwell-tc.gov.uk) or 01636 816103

Nottinghamshire County Council website is <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>

You can contact Notts County Council customer service team via 0300 500 8080

Customer service opening hours: Monday to Thursday: 8:30am to 5pm Friday: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Newark & Sherwood District Council website is <https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk>, [customerservices@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk) 01636 650000