



What's New for August 2024



New Groups!

It's great to know that we have some new groups starting up in the Autumn. You can check them out on the website by clicking on the menu from the home page and then click on Groups Listing. To pique your interest, I've listed them below with summary information where it is available.

They are:

Calligraphy. Leader is Sandy Grayson. No detail as yet on when and where.

Music, Health & Wellness. Leader is Sarah Chater. Fortnightly on Tuesdays 10.30am at the Elgar School of Music.

6 new Pickleball groups. 13 in all now. Wow, positively a growth industry 😊.

Perdiswell – Mondays, 12pm – 1pm, then 1pm – 2pm.

" " " – Tuesdays, 3pm – 4pm.

" " " – Wednesdays, 1pm – 2pm.

University Riverside, St. John's – Tuesdays, 2pm–3pm and 3pm–4pm.

Anyone interested should contact Paul Yeo at paulyeo@hotmail.co.uk.

Reading Historical Novels. Leader is Carolyn Clarke. Fortnightly on Mondays at 10am–12pm, starting 9th September at Café Zest.

What the papers say. Leader is Christine Skelton. Fortnightly on Thursdays 10am–12pm, starting on 3rd October at The Hive.

New to Worcester. Leader is Beryl Curtis. This has proved very successful when it was trialled earlier this year. The newsletter has been given this table below to show the programme in detail for the Autumn.

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|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <p>Over the last few weeks, we have met 15 people who have recently moved to Worcester. This plan is to provide a chance for those new to the area to familiarise themselves with the parts of Worcester so well known to those of us who have lived here for more than a few years. Full details will be publicised on the website and in the newsletter preceding each event.</p> | 12 th September 2024 | Countess of Huntingdon's Hall |
| | 26 th September 2024 | WR2 (St John's) |
| | 10 th October 2024 | The Hive |
| | 24 th October 2024 | WR4 (Warndon and the Hospital) |
| | 14 th November 2024 | Swan Theatre |
| | 28 th November 2024 | Victorian Christmas Fayre |
| | 5 th December 2024 | WR5 (Whittington, Norton, St Peters) |
| | 11 th December 2024 | u3a Christmas Quiz (Wednesday) |
| | 17 th December 2024 | The Nutcracker at Vue Cinema |
| | 9 th January 2025 | WR3 (Northwick, Perdiswell + others) |
| | 23 rd January 2025 | Café Zest |
| | 13 th February 2025 | Droitwich and Webbs Garden Centre |
| | 27 th February 2025 | tbc |
| | 13 th March 2025 | Severn Valley Railway and Bridgnorth |

Most events will happen on Thursday mornings

Please e-mail membership@worcesteru3a.org to request more information, indicate that you would like to be included, or to let Beryl know that you intend to come to any specific events shown above

Walking Tennis. Leader is Anne Holmes. Weekly on Wednesdays 2pm-3pm at Hallow Tennis Club. Following the success of walking tennis in the summer programme, this group may become established. Ian Raven and Anne Holmes will be at the Groups Fair if anyone wants to talk to them about it.

Due to other commitments, Anne cannot continue as group leader so the group needs both members and someone willing to volunteer to lead it! Anne is happy to help set the group up. At present the group runs on Wednesday afternoons at Hallow Tennis Club.

You can also express your interest by emailing Anne at anneholmes2@gmail.com before the end of August.



Running Out of Time (ROoT) 2024

Thank you to Denis Compton for sending me this event. On 24th June, four members of the Cycling (Short) Group took part in the **'Running Out of Time'** climate change relay. The relay started at Ben Nevis and ended at Big Ben - 2436 kilometres in 210 stages of walking, running, cycling, kayaking, swimming, paddle boarding, paragliding etc. Our group 'cycled' the baton from St Barnabas School to Malvern Theatre. The baton carried a message to parliament **'calling for action to cut emissions, restore nature, and support those hardest hit by climate change'**. Perhaps unfortunate that it was scheduled to arrive at Big Ben at 8pm on July 4th!

Thousands of people have been involved in the relay. The ROoT team has called in personally at over 50 schools during the journey, leading activities and presentations to enthuse the pupils (perhaps to go home and nag their parents and grandparents?) When we picked up the baton at St Barnabas, the whole school had been involved.

You can find out more about 'Running Out of Time' at [About the relay](#)



The attached photo shows the stage #121 team. Left to right – Penny Welford, Anna (not u3a) Rob and Dan (both Bike Worcester) Denis Compton, Sylvia Pulleng and Jacquie Dobson outside Malvern Theatre at the end of the stage.

Line & Tap Dancing taster sessions from 12th July



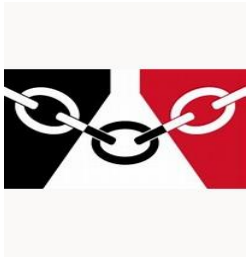
Here are a couple of pictures from the taster session and there are videos on our Facebook page as well. Everyone had a good time and many were prepared to join in and try out some steps. Thank you to group leaders and members who gave the demonstrations; fab-u-lous!



Country Dance Group, Pershore u3a



Musicians wanted! Is anyone from Worcester u3a interested in helping out Ivan Steele, a group leader, from Pershore u3a. He started a Country Dance group, but unfortunately has damaged his arm. He would like to hear from any musician who would be willing to join him. Accordionist, concertina or violin players are most welcome and if you wish to know more, please contact Ivan at: ivanopus@hotmail.co.uk



Trip to the Black Country Living Museum, Dudley

This trip is now fully booked up and many thanks to all who signed up. I am sure it will be a lively outing.



The Worcester Show

Just to remind everyone about the Show. It's on between **9am–5pm on Sunday 11th August** and Worcester u3a are running a stand on the Pitchcroft.

We're always looking for an opportunity to welcome possible new members so this is an excellent way of showing who we are and what we do. If you want to volunteer for a shift, then even better. It's a 2 hour stint and if you are interested, please contact the Vice Chair, Stephen Thorneycroft, at his email address: layamon@btinternet.com. Also you can see what's on offer for the day at the Worcester show website: <https://www.worcestershow.org.uk/>



Annual Groups Fair

A reminder for The Annual Groups Fair that will take place on **31st August from 10.30am–12pm** at Nunnery Wood High School. Our Interest and Activity Groups are there to promote their activities and with an aim to recruit members. So, if you know anyone who may be interested or is thinking about joining, bring them along to chat to other members/group leaders.

In addition, those who are starting new groups, as indicated earlier on in the newsletter, will be there to give information.

The address is: Nunnery Wood High School, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NL.

There are a number of groups that will continue through the summer and these are listed on the website under Summer Programme 2024.



u3a Renewal Time

We are now in the renewal window for 2024–2025. This relates to members who joined before April 2024, or in previous years.

The annual subscription rates for 2024–25 are:

Guest: £16; Standard £41; Standard Plus £57

All members will receive an email from the Membership Secretary in early August, with more details.

Most members will renew their membership at the Groups' Fair or online, but if you are unable to attend that event or access the online system, come and buy a drink at a coffee shop near to you and pay your renewal at the same time! Janet (Assistant Treasurer) and Beryl (Membership Secretary) will be at the following venues from 10.00 to 11.30 on the days shown to renew your membership and take payments (by card reader, cheque or cash).

Friday 9th August, Café Piano, Friar Street, Worcester

Tuesday 13th August, Beanies Coffee Shop, 19 St John's (on walkway through from Sainsbury's)

Thursday 15th August, Worcester Garden Centre, Droitwich Road

Thursday 22nd August, Waitrose, London Road

Thursday 29th August, Costa Coffee Café, Tesco, Mill Wood Drive, Warndon

Any updates for What's New by 16th August please for the September edition.

Email: newsletter@worcesteru3a.org Or leave an answerphone message on **01905 887579**.

The Worcester u3a website can be found by clicking <https://worcester.u3asite.uk/>

Under 'Groups' there is up-to-date news and a list of the groups you can join with the Worcester u3a. You can also contact individual Committee members by clicking on the 'Get in Touch' heading. Here you can leave your email address and your comments.