



Wu3a's News November 2025



November! Hasn't this year gone by quickly? How many of us say so every year? I hesitate to say it, but Christmas is looming! Meanwhile, we have a number of new groups and new members who have joined to be a part of those groups. A very warm welcome to you.

Groups News...

Culture Vultures upcoming events.....

November 4th - Theatre - NT screening of "Mrs Warrens Profession" at the Swan.

November 14th - Book Group - Pat Barker's "Silence of the Girls 2".

If you would like more information about this group, please contact Chris Scott at chair@worcesteru3a.org.

Adventures on Trains next trip.....

Thursday 27th November: Bath – To visit the first day of their Christmas Market
(Leaves Worcester 10:00, arriving back 20:00)

These trips are open to any member of Worcester u3a, their family and friends. Please contact Stewart at groupcoord@worcesteru3a.org for more information.

Groups in demand.....

- **Beginners Spanish/Italian/German**
- **Ukulele/Guitar**
- **Pilates/Yoga/Zumba**
- **Chess**
- **A second Beginners Bridge**
- **A second Board Games group**

If you would be, or you know of anyone, willing to lead one of these groups, which are frequently requested by members and non-members, please get in touch.



**This month.....not one, but two talks,
one an in-person, and the other, on
Zoom**



“The Seventeenth Century Bishops of Worcester (Part II)” with Philip Bowen

Worcester was one of the five most important cathedrals during the turbulent Tudor times and the Reformation. In his talk Philip explains why the bishops’ role was so important.

Venue: **Woodgreen Church, Warndon**

Date: **12th November 2025**

Time: **1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

John Hooper, Bishop of Worcester, 1552 – 1554

This meeting is open to all members, plus guests.



**“From Barrow to Baghdad and back again” with Philip Caine –
(online event)**

Philip’s talk begins with leaving school and ends with the writing of his seven novels, all inspired by his 10 years in the Middle East. He talks about his time in the hotel industry, working in the oil business on rigs in the North Sea, in Algeria and Nigeria, then about Kazakhstan and Russia and Bagdad, and finally about his time running companies in Dubai and Iraq. Expect plenty of interest, humour and inspiration.

Date and time: **27th November 2025 at 7:00 pm**

This is an online talk, open to all members – a Zoom link will be sent out by email in advance of the event.

What else is going on?



Coffee at the Café

Come and join us for a cuppa and a chat with other Worcester u3a members. We meet the first Friday of the month at Café Piano in Friar Street, and the third Tuesday of the month at our new venue on the west side of the river, Ego at Manor Farm, WR2 4BS.

The next Friday meet-up will be on **7th November 2025, anytime from 10.30 to 12.30pm**

The next Tuesday meet-up will be on **21st November 2025, anytime from 11.00 to 12.30pm**

Partners and friends welcome!

Please see the website for dates for future Coffee at the Café meet-ups and the programme of monthly open meetings and social events.

Coming up for Christmas and New Year

CHRISTMAS QUIZ with Karen & Tim Austin – 16 December 2025

NEW YEAR LUNCH at Browns on the Quay – 7 January 2026

Booking is required for both above events.

Full details available shortly.

A message from Onside Advocacy.....

"I have recently been introduced to your organisation as a source of potential volunteers for this rewarding opportunity.

The Independent Visitor (IV) service is a national programme set up to provide young people in care with mentors and role models. The life of a young person in the care system can be very chaotic and the professionals supporting the individual can change regularly, thus adding to the instability of their situation. Onside provides this service within Worcestershire.

An IV is matched with a young person and provides monthly opportunities to get together and chat or take part in fun activities. This provides the young person with the potential to form a stable relationship and have someone in their lives they know are there just for them, and not because they are paid to do so."

Bridget Nisbet, Volunteer Manager

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Mob: 07485 325 612

Email: bridget.nisbet@onside-advocacy.org.uk

Web: www.onside-advocacy.org.uk

Onside Advocacy is seeking people who are friendly and approachable, prepared to meet the young person every month to provide a friendly ear and share their interests. Please contact Bridget if this appeals to you.

And finally.....

The Worcester u3a website can be found by clicking [here](#).

Under 'Groups', you'll find up-to-date news and a list of all Worcester u3a groups. You can also contact individual Committee members by clicking on the 'Get in Touch' heading. Please do check the EVENTS page on the website for talks and events taking place further ahead. Click [here](#).

National and Regional Activities

You might be interested to know that the national u3a body organises a number of free online talks via Zoom, on a wide variety of topics, free for u3a members. These range from cookery demonstrations to staying safe online. Here are just a few of the talks this month:

"Catherine the Great" – How Catherine's vision and ambition reshaped Russia into a European political power.

Monday, November 10th, 2 – 3:30pm

"Tiny Algae with Big Impact: The response of micro-algae to river pollution" – Isabelle Fournier of the British Phycological Society discusses the importance of micro-algae and how it can be impacted by pollution.

Monday, November 17th, 10 – 11:30am

"The Geology of Britain in the Mesozoic, the Era of Middle Life" – A regional look at the history of Britain 250–65 million years ago, how the rocks formed and the evolution of middle life.

Thursday, November 27th, 2 – 3:30pm

Click on [Online learning](#) to find out more and book.

If you want to be kept informed about the various events being held you can sign up to receive the national newsletter for u3a stories, events, advice, opportunities and more. Click on [u3a National Newsletter](#).

Plus, a digital version of the u3a Matters magazine (formerly known as Third Age Matters) has been launched. You can now read u3a Matters free online. See <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/u3a-matters#taster> for a taster!

If you have something for the next newsletter or questions about anything in this newsletter, please email communications@worcesteru3a.org. Comments, suggestions and ideas to improve the group are always welcome.

P.S For those who have joined our **Facebook group page**, on most group pages, you can decide how you want posts to be sorted. I can't see this as I'm an Administrator, so receive all posts. If you can see a symbol that looks like two black lines with two black dots, the top one to the left and the bottom one to the right, click on that, and you can sort your posts.