

Dear u3a member,

Welcome to our September Newsletter..

Fairly short Newsletter this month. One extreme to another with the local weather. Not sure whether I am coming or going, but at least our lawns have some green shoots; so I may soon be mowing.

Please let me know of any outstanding achievement you would like to share with our members, and send your letters, creative works and local photos to: [ken's email](#), putting the word 'Newsletter' in your email subject box. The deadline for receipt of information or articles for the October Newsletter is Friday 30th of September..

Ken Fisher, Editor.

In this month's newsletter

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A Message from our Chair, Carey Baff

Good day,

I hope you are keeping well in this very changeable weather – and I’m sure some grandparents among us will be looking forward to a bit of a rest!

We don’t have a regular committee meeting in August but had a social get together at the Red Lion and it was a lovely opportunity to get to know fellow committee members better. We meet our own costs while we treat retiring committee members (Janet this time) and Gillian who very kindly does the minutes for our committee meetings.

On the wider front elections have just opened for another member of the u3a Board, the group which looks after our business at a national level. I cast a vote on behalf of our u3a, so would be pleased to receive views as to who we should support. There are 3 candidates, and you can read their personal statements on the [u3a website](#). If the link doesn’t work for you google “u3a Board elections” to find the page.

If you would like to have a say please let me know who you would like me your preferred candidate before 16 September: my email address is at the end of this newsletter. My vote will go to the person who has the majority support from our branch.

Wishing you all a very happy September.

Best wishes

Carey

Events and reminders

Drop in for a coffee and chat



For members of Moseley and Kings Heath u3a or anyone interested in finding what the u3a has to offer, join us in Fletchers Bar in York Road, Kings Heath on the second Friday of each month from 10:30am to 12:00pm. Access is through the Kitchen Garden Café. You just need to order and pay for your own drink at the counter in The Kitchen Garden Café and then make your way to Fletchers Bar.

The next dates are: September 11th, October 9th, November 13th and December 11th.

Any questions, please call:

Tessa Bidgood or contact Jeff Baker .

Monthly Meetings

August at the Shires

Games afternoon

People brought their own games and we played various ones, including Rummikub, Sequences and Scrabble. It was nice that at least one person had not encountered two of these games before, but enjoyed playing. It was a lovely opportunity to hone our skills in practised games, to learn new ones and also to chat to members that we have not engaged with much before.

September meeting: 14.00 on Tuesday 8th at the Shires

Andy Munro The Pen Museum

Andy Munro, will give a talk about the Pen Museum in the Jewellery Quarter. It promises to be an entertaining talk, with the chance to try your hand at calligraphy!

<https://penmuseum.org.uk/>

Interest Group Matters

Italian Groups

A message from Liz Rasheed

For anyone learning Italian

We have been given some books and other resources such as a file of language exercises for people learning Italian.

If you would like some please contact Liz Rasheed. They are free.

Poetry Appreciation Group

We have 2 vacancies for this group. A message from Janet Burgess

If you enjoyed poems as a child with ballads like Sir Patrick Spens, or lyrics by wordsmiths such as Dylan or Simon and Garfunkel or the more traditional poems by Wordsworth/ Keats/Emily Dickinson, not forgetting modern poets like Zephaniah, Armitage or Duffy, then you may feel at home in our group.

We alternate between a topic and a poet, reading our choices aloud and chatting about why we enjoy them. The emphasis is on our response rather than an academic lit-crit analysis.

Come and try us out: 2nd Fridays of the month , 10-12 noon at the Friends Meeting House, Colmore Road, Kings Heath.

Please contact me, via our Interest Group Co-ordinators

Scam Watch

Royal Mail scam

A scam email impersonating Royal Mail tells you that your parcel hasn't arrived due to a 'customs duty payment' you are required to pay.

You're then given a link to follow to make this payment, but the link will lead to a site designed to steal your personal information.

O2 scam call

Scammers claiming to be from phone company O2 offering fake discounts on your phone bill.

The scammer will already have enough details about you to attempt to log in to your O2 account, and these login attempts will trigger a one-time passcode text.

The scammer's goal is to then get you to reveal the passcode so they can gain full access to your account.

DVLA scam email

An email claiming to be from the DVLA tells you that your vehicle tax renewal has not been completed and it is now expired.

It threatens fines up to £1,000 for non-payment and includes a dodgy phishing link where it will ask for your personal and financial details.

Reporting scams and fraud

Before making any investment, use the FCA's [firm checker tool](#), to confirm whether a firm or individual is authorised. The tool can be accessed via the FCA website and is one of the most effective ways to avoid cloned firms and bogus advisers.

To report scam emails or texts forward them to: report@phishing.gov.uk

Report Fraud. <https://www.reportfraud.police.uk/>

Report suspicious web sites by visiting [National Cyber Security Centre](#)

Suspicious calls received on an iPhone can be reported to your provider by texting the word 'call' followed by the suspicious phone number to 7726.

On an Android phone, text the word 'call' to 7726. You'll then receive a message asking you for the scam number.

Useful web sites for news and help

Please click on the blue headings to go to each web site.

[Moseley, Kings Heath and District u3a web site](#)

Our u3a's own web site

[Birmingham Council News](#)

This site provides useful information about council services.

[West Midland Police](#)

Help and support in the local area.

[Moseley Together](#)

Community support and news for Moseley and other general information.
tel 07796 668257

[WM Now](#)

WMNow is a free community messaging system that emails you up-to-date information from police and partners after you have registered.

[Betel](#)

If you have furniture to dispose of Betel will collect it and relocate it to people in need.
Telephone number 01564 822356

[West Midlands u3a](#)

News and information from our regional u3a.

[U3a Found in Nature](#)

Where members can share any photos which are 'wild and interesting'.

[u3a free workshops and courses](#)

Details of free workshops/short courses available free to our members.

[U3a Newsletters](#)

Link to the latest and previous National u3a Newsletters

[AbilityNet](#)

Free online resources and a network of over 450 community-based volunteers to help individuals with any disability and of any age to use all kinds of digital technology.
Helpline 0300 180 0028, 9-5, Monday to Friday. Email enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk.

Contact information

You can send a message to the Committee Members below via our web site at:

<https://moseleykingsheath.u3asite.uk/>

Postal address

Moseley & Kings Heath u3a, c/o The Shires, 216 Wake Green Road, Birmingham, B13 9PQ

Your Executive Committee

● Chair	Carey Baff
● Vice Chair	Mark Sharp
● Business Secretary	Ray Tier
● Treasurer	Sue Charvis
● Interest Group Co-ordinators	Ros Napier & Liz Rasheed
● Membership Secretary	Judy Kearns
● Newsletter	Ken Fisher
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