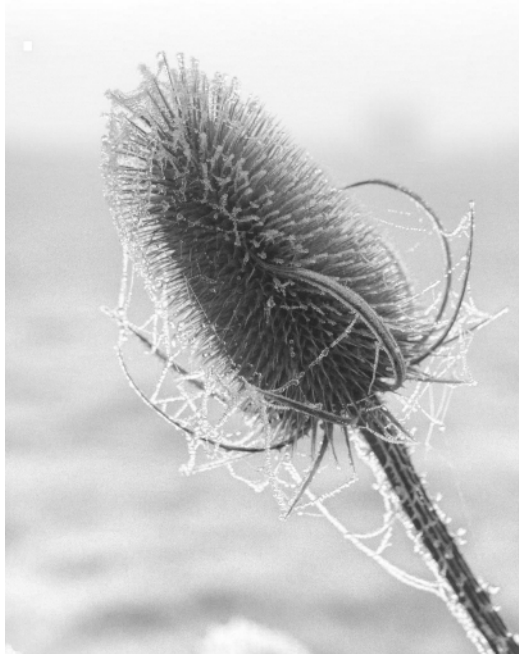


# CAMELOT AREA Newsletter



**September 2024**

**Charity Reg. No. 1038544**

# Who's Who in Camelot

## Officers

Chairman	Vacant	<b>To contact any of the Committee Members go to the contacts page of the website, and send a message</b>
Vice Chair:	Stella Fairbairn	
Hon. Treasurer:	Peter Kennedy	
Hon. Secretary:	Catriona Cole	

## Committee Members

Membership Sec.	Caroline Reeves
Speaker Secretary	Gill Bagnall
Newsletter Editor	Jill Halford
Publicity	Roger Weldhen
Beacon Admin	Robert Reeves
Website Assistant	Peter Townley

**Website** [u3asites.org.uk/camelot-area](http://u3asites.org.uk/camelot-area)

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**The copy date for all articles to be included in the October 2024 issue is 10th September 2024**

*Cover Photo: Denise Bailey Digital Photography*

# Notes from the Vice Chair

Hopefully you have all enjoyed our summer break. Although the weather has been mixed, we thankfully have experienced some sunshine over the last few weeks.

Looking ahead to our AGM on Friday September 27th, we are welcoming a new volunteer to our committee but sadly saying goodbye to two very experienced members.

We would like to thank Jill Halford for her hard work and commitment as Newsletter Editor over the past five years. Similar thanks goes to Roger Weldhen, who is stepping down from Publicity Officer. Two extremely knowledgeable committee members, that have been greatly appreciated.

Luckily Sandie Docherty has expressed an interest in taking on the Newsletter Editor vacancy and we are delighted to welcome her to the committee. Thank you for volunteering Sandie.

That leaves the Publicity Officer position vacant. Handily enough, the committee nomination form is included in this month's newsletter... who would have believed it?

We are a friendly bunch and if you have any questions about what is involved, please contact me for details. We would love to hear from you.

Hope to see you at the AGM and the monthly meeting. The AGM starts at 2, followed by a talk about pirates at 2.30pm.

Enjoy the return to your activities and classes, it will be good to see our group leaders and friends again.

Stella Fairbairn.

# **AGM Camelot Area u3a**

***At Caryford Hall , Maggs Lane***

***Friday 27th September 2024 at 2pm***

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Camelot Area U3A will be held in Caryford Hall, Ansford, Castle Cary on Friday 27th September 2024 at 2pm

## **From the Editor**

I hope you all had a great summer and are looking forward to another year of u3a Groups and activities and welcome to this September issue of the u3a Newsletter.

The September issue is, as usual, not in colour, as it mainly contains the AGM papers. The Groups that have taken a summer break are starting back again in September, so there is some Group News as well .

This will be my last "From the Editor" as I am handing over to Sandie Docherty who will be taking on this post.

I have had a very enjoyable five years putting the u3a Newsletter together, and I would like to thank all the contributors over the years, who have made my role so enjoyable and provided so much copy. Getting involved with the u3a and the committee has enabled me to meet so many lovely people.

Please support Sandie and send her all your lovely articles , artwork and photos and I will look forward to seeing them in the Newsletter in the future.

I will leave you in her very capable hands.

Jill Halford

# Monthly Meeting Tea Rota 2024

The Tea and Coffee for the Monthly Meetings will be organised by the nominated Group below. The nominated Group for that month will liaise with the group from the month before to bring the box of tea coffee etc. Please also bring fresh milk, teas and biscuits if necessary.

The Group should arrive early enough to set out the cups before the meeting and stay to serve the teas and to make sure the washing up has been done afterwards and the kitchen left clean.

With meetings only eight times a year and currently twenty nine Groups, each Group will be asked to do this only once every three years or so.

## 2024

September	Travel Group	Anne Wood
October	Art Monday	Sylvia Mottram
November	History	Bruce Bowers

### Displays At Monthly Meetings

The Group Leaders are invited to use the Tea Rota as a guide to also mount a small display or information about what happens in their Group.

# Camelot Monthly Meetings

*At Caryford Hall*

*Maggs Lane, Ansford, Castle Cary*

**Friday 27th September at 2.30pm**

**Pirates the origin and truth – Richard Hutley**



Like swashbuckling hero's and villains of Hollywood or just ruthless criminals and murderers. But what is the truth about Piracy, over the last 1000 years, the origins of such as we understand it and its relevance today

**Friday 25th October at 2.30pm**

**Strings around the world – Nick Potter**



Rick Potter is an honours graduate in music. He became interested in non-western music and instruments about twenty years ago . Since then he has acquired nearly 100 stringed instruments, playing as many as he can in concerts and folk sessions.

**Friday 29th November at 2.30 pm**

**Race to Scotland – Kenneth Fowler**

The story of sailing a bath tub sized dinghy from Lands End to John O Groats. Full of lots of on board video footage, photos and unusual happenings. A story of human endeavour and the ups and downs of an epic adventure.

# Group news

## Monday Art

Our last Art Class was 1st July and we have all been enjoying the summer break and perhaps some holidays in the sun.

The u3a Open Day was a great success with lots of people admiring our work and more people joining our Group. Two are complete beginners, but they will get plenty of help from many of us to give them confidence.

Time marches on and in just over a month's time on 16th September we will be back to enjoy our lovely class painting and socialising.

We have been working on our 2025 Calendar during the summer and hope to get the work finished as soon as we return and then off to the printers. It's such a pleasure to give a personal calendar to our friends and family.

Sylvia Mottram

## Digital Photography News

Thank you to everyone who submitted their photographs on "The Natural World" for viewing at the Open and Enrolment Day and to the u3a members who made a point of coming over to view them.

Any new members signed up at the Open Day are very welcome to attend any forthcoming meeting in Galhampton Village Hall, on the second Monday of the month at 10:30am.

At our next meeting we shall be returning the Open Day photos and discussing next year's theme (or themes) for the Open Day in 2025, so that there will be plenty of time to amass a suitable collection.

In June the Digital Photographic Group had a departure from the usual meeting and an outdoor photography session was arranged in Sherborne. We were each assigned a topic and a limitation eg. Architecture close up. The resulting four photos each were shown at

the July meeting, with explanations by members of why they had chosen those four pictures, from the many taken on that day.

The group continues to add its pictures to the Facebook page where the topics were "Reeds" and "Flying".

Anne Wood

## **Writing for Pleasure**

The Group were given the following exercise: Write about Theatre Today in less than 50 words , not including the title. Have a beginning, middle and end. See below for Alison and Colin's contributions.

### **Much Ado About Nothing or As you Like It. By Alison Gibbons**

Golden opportunity, they said. Innovative theatre productions of Shakespeare in the park, they said.

Not likely, I said, declining the offer to join the cast of naturist actors, goosebumps rising at the prospect. Romeo in the raw? Desdemona defrocked? A bare Bottom? What the Puck!

Thanks, but no Thanks.

### **Theatre Today by Colin Bowen**

We're are waiting for "Waiting for Godot"

We've been waiting for weeks and we're weak with the weight of the wait.

Once the waiting is done, the play should be fun.

They say this pastiche

on the the human condition

throws light on the state of our fate.

# Committee Nomination Form

Please complete and send to: The Hon. Secretary, Camelot Area u3a, email: [ccmcole@gmail.com](mailto:ccmcole@gmail.com)

To be received no later than 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

## Elections.

Nominations are required for trustee/committee members to serve for the year 2024 / 2025.  
All trustees shall be elected annually at the AGM at which a vote must be taken on this motion and must be carried by not less than two thirds of the members present.

**I wish to nominate the person named below, for the position indicated,  
as trustee/committee member of Camelot Area u3a for the year 2024/ 2025**

<b>Chair</b>	(Print name)
<b>Vice Chair</b>	(Print name)
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	(Print name)
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	(Print name)
<b>Committee Member</b>	(Print name)

We confirm that the person named above has agreed to be nominated: -

Proposed by ..... (print name) ..... (signed)

Seconded by ..... (print name) ..... (signed)

Nominee ..... (print name) ..... (signed)

Date .....

# Camelot Area u3a Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Camelot Area U3A will be held in Caryford Hall, Ansford, Castle Cary on Friday 27th September 2024 at 2pm to conduct the following business:

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes** To receive and approve the minutes of the AGM held on Friday 29th September 2023
- 3. Matters arising from the minutes**
- 4. Chairman's summary report 2023 / 2024** – full report in October 2023 Newsletter.
- 5. Treasurer's report** and adoption of examined accounts for the year ended 2023 / 2024 30th June 2024.
- 6. Election of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and members of the Committee**

The following are standing for election

Stella Fairbairn / Vice Chair

Peter Kennedy Committee Officer / Hon. Treasurer

Catriona Cole Committee Officer / Hon. Secretary

Caroline Reeves Committee Member / Membership Secretary

Sandie Docherty Committee Member / Newsletter Editor

Peter Townley Committee Member / Website Editor

Gill Bagnall / Committee Member / Speaker Secretary

Robert Reeves / Committee Member / Beacon Coordinator

***Continued on page 14***



***Continued from page 10***

The following posts are vacant

Chair

Publicity

Group Coordinator

If you wish to apply for any of the committee positions, please submit a completed Committee Nomination Form to arrive no later than Friday 20th September 2024

Completed forms to be sent to The Hon. Secretary Camelot Area u3a

Email [ccmcole@gmail.com](mailto:ccmcole@gmail.com)

**7. Appointment of the Hon. Examiner for 2024 / 2025.**

**8. Any Other Business**

# AGM Papers

## **Minutes To receive and approve the minutes of the AGM held on Friday 29h September 2023**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Camelot Area u3a (charity reg no 1038544) held at Caryford Community Hall Maggs Lane Ansford, Castle Cary BA7 7JJ on Friday 29 September 2023.

Present: Robert Reeves (Chairman), Peter Kennedy (Treasurer), Catriona Cole (Secretary), Caroline Reeves (Membership Secretary), Dayella Stickland (Publicity), Alan Gibbons (Web Editor), Peter Townley (committee), Roger Weldhen (Minutes Secretary) plus 35 members.

The Meeting commenced at 2:07 pm.

1. Apologies for absence. Apologies had been received from: Stella Fairbairn, Howard Goodman, Jill Halford, Sara Shepherd and Jane Wilde.
2. Minutes of AGM held on 30 September 2022. These were received and approved (proposed by Alan Gibbons; seconded by Sue Kennedy).
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the AGM held on 30 September 2022. There were none.
4. Chairman's summary report.
  - 4.1. The Chairman confirmed his full report for 2022/2023 was in the October newsletter.
  - 4.2. The Chairman highlighted several matters including: the change to online banking, thanking Howard Goodman who is stepping down as Speaker Secretary for a good programme, the appointment of Catrina Cole as Secretary and Stella Fairbairn putting herself forward as Vice Chair, the formation of two new groups, the work of Peter Kennedy and Caroline Reeves resulting in the successful implementation of the Beacon management system,
  - 4.3. The Chairman emphasised the need for members to put themselves forward to serve as officers and Committee members. A

new Chairman will be needed as Robert Reeves announced he would be standing down as Chairman at the conclusion of the meeting.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

5.1. The Treasurer confirmed the 2022/2023 accounts (which have been examined by the Treasurer of Somerton u3a) were in the September newsletter. The Treasurer urged members to volunteer for appointment as examiner; he was of the view the accounts should be examined by a member of Camelot Area u3a.

5.2. The Treasurer highlighted some points within the accounts including: details of the bank balances as in the published accounts, static membership subscription income in last two years of around £4000 resulting in the need for some cost reductions and the increase in membership fees from £15 to £17 pa and overall expenditure of about £13000 56% of which was group expenditure for the period.

5.3. The examined 2022/2023 accounts were received and approved (proposed by Alan Gibbons; seconded by Anne Wood).

## 6. Election of officers and committee members.

6.1. The following were re-elected: Peter Kennedy (Treasurer), Catriona Cole (Secretary), Caroline Reeves (Committee - Membership Secretary), Jill Halford (Committee - Magazine Editor), Peter Townley (Committee) and Roger Weldhen (Committee).

6.2. Stella Fairbairn was formally elected Vice Chair (proposed by Caroline Reeves; seconded by Chris ?).

7. Appointment of Honorary Examiner of the 2023 - 2024 accounts. The Meeting agreed to the Committee appointing a suitable Examiner.

## 8. Monthly raffle.

8.1. The Chairman said there are problems in continuing with the current raffle arrangements. Third Age Trust have received guidance from the Charity Commission that a charity recipient of charitable gifts from a u3a must have substantially the same charitable objects as the donor u3a. Directives from the Third Age Trust reflect the Charity

Commission's guidance – those directives prevent us continuing with the existing raffle arrangements.

8.2. The Chairman outlined options which included: (a) the raffle continuing but keeping it entirely separate from the u3a event, with proceeds being held and managed by the raffle organisers; (b) Finding a charity which has the same objects clause to donate the proceeds to ; (c) cease holding a raffle.

8.3. Following suggestions from members the Chairman confirmed the matter will be discussed by the committee at its next meeting.

9. Any other business. None

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 2:31 pm

## Treasurers Report 2022/3

Report by the Treasurer Peter Kennedy to the Camelot Area u3a AGM on 29th September 2023.

As you can see from the 2022/23 year end accounts issued in the September Newsletter they were kindly signed off this year by the Treasurer of our neighbouring u3a in Somerton. We have struggled to get a member from Camelot Area u3a to step forward to volunteer to carry out this role. Whilst I've had some tentative interest, I have not managed to sign anyone up yet and it would be good if others could come forward and offer their services to do this job. It's not a difficult task and would take just a few hours of their time once a year. And obviously I would walk you through the process.

The Treasurer at Somerton did say it was a pleasure and so easy to sign them off. So if anyone is interested they can get in touch or talk to me afterwards.

The detail of the bank balances in the Barclays accounts are shown in the Newsletter. As follows :

Current Account.	. £4091.49
Deposit Account.	. £5515.81. (42%)
Travel Group Account.	. £374.29
Charitable Giving Account.	£758

Additionally the balance of funds that were held in the u3a accounts for group activity at the end of the year stood at £926.

Whilst the account balances look, on the face of it, quite healthy there are a couple of points I'd like to make.

1. Membership subscription income has stayed around £4000 for each of the last 2 years, however since Covid it has become clear that there has been an ongoing shortfall of fee income against fee expenditure of about £800 to £1000 year on year. Therefore during the last financial year we have managed to reduce some costs and are reviewing others on an ongoing basis. however in order to help make up the shortfall, and to

maintain a reasonable level of reserves in the Deposit Account, the Committee decided for the current subscription year to increase the fee from £15 to £17 for the first time in many years. that fee will be reviewed annually by the Committee. Overall in the longer term this should help us balance the books.

2. As a point of information, overall expenditure for the u3a last year was near £13k which is what will be reported to the Charity Commission. Of that £8k (60%) was group expenditure. And the rest, £5k, was expenditure relating to the membership fee ( ie. The Newsletter (15%), this AGM, monthly meetings etc.).

I would like to thank all those members and group leaders who have diligently and promptly given me invoices and cash and cheques that I can bring to account.

However I'm sure there are some items of income and expenditure that I may not be aware of. So I would encourage members to let me know the details, in order that they can be included in the accounts to ensure we get a true picture of what is happening financially. And more crucially that we are meeting the requirements of the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission.

Finally, I'd just like to thank the Chairman and the Committee for the advice and support they have given me in this first year.

So I commend these accounts to the AGM for acceptance and adoption.

Peter Kennedy

Camelot Area u3a Treasurer

Camelot u3a



# Cinema in Caryford

## *Caryford Community Hall , Maggs Lane*

Doors open 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm All tickets £6.00. Available from the Market House Mon – Fri 9.30 – 12.30; Sat 10 – 12.

### **Wed 25 Sept. Dune: Part One (2021) (12A)**

As a prelude to showing the recently released Dune: Part Two in November, in September we are showing Part One, released in 2021, which won six Academy Awards. Set the distant future, the

plot revolves around Leto Atreides, ruler of the planet Caladan, who is assigned as the fiefholder of Arrakis, a harsh desert planet and the sole source of "spice", a valuable substance.



### **Wednesday 23 October 2024 Back to Black (2024) (15)**

The film tells the story of the life and music of Amy Winehouse, through the journey of adolescence to adulthood and the creation of one of the best-selling albums of our time. Painting a vivid, vibrant picture of

the Camden streets she called home and capturing the struggles of global fame, Back to Black honours Amy's artistry, wit, and honesty, as well as trying to understand her demons.



### **Wednesday 27 November 2024 Dune: Part Two (2024) (12A)**

This big-screen epic continues the adaptation of Frank Herbert's acclaimed bestseller Dune exploring the mythic journey of Paul Atreides as he unites with Chani and the Fremen while on a path of revenge against the

conspirators who destroyed his family. Facing a choice between the love of his life and the fate of the Known Universe, he endeavours to prevent a terrible future only he can foresee.



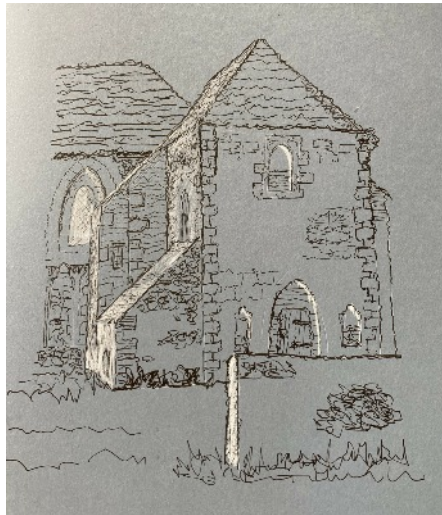
# Good Tradesman Guide

<b>Home Improvements</b>		
Carpet Cleaning	Orchid Carpet Cleaning Ltd Richard Payne	Tel: 01963 371284 Mob: 07599 789725
Roofer / Carpenter	Dave Whitehead	Mob: 07932 058681
General Builder	Andy Baker	Mob: 07510943009
Painter & Decorator	Adrian Richardson	Mob: 07815 618465
Painter & Decorator	Jonathan Ackland	Mob: 07759 882591 Tel: 01963-351316
<b>Vehicle Servicing &amp; Repairs</b>		
Car Body Maintenance	SMB Body Repairs Shaun Browncey	Tel: 01935 840301 Mob: 07813 399564
Car Repairs	Bayford Motors	Tel: 01963 33746
<b>Plumbing &amp; Heating</b>		
Heating Engineer (Gas Safe Reg'd)	Perkins Plumbing & Heating Andrew Perkins	Mob: 07815 515671
Heating Engineer (Gas Safe Reg'd)	Warm Welcome Heating Services Roger Welton	Tel: 01963 440341
Plumbing & Heating Engineer		
Plumbing & Heating Engineer	Kevan Davis Plumbing & Heating Kevan Davis	Mob: 07976 741029
<b>Electrical &amp; Electronic</b>		
Computers - Technology & Software	Nigel Smith	Tel: 01963 220993
<b>General Services</b>		
Domestic Appliances,	Domestec (washing machines and dish washers)	Tel: 01963 220366
Domestic Appliance Servicing & Repairs	PRM Domestic	Tel: 01963 34260 Mob: 07977 802756
Chimney Sweep	Tom Sweep	Mob: 07340743366

All of the above businesses have been recommended by individual Camelot Area U3A members based on their own experience. Each of the businesses listed above have given their permission for their details to be included - last checked in January 2020.  
Disclaimer: Inclusion does not constitute endorsement by Camelot Area U3A. No liability is accepted by the Camelot Area u3a trustees

# Dates for your Diary 2024

- Wed 25 Sept Cinema in Caryford. Dune: Part One (2021) (12A)
- Fri 27th Sept AGM Camelot Area u3a 2.00pm Caryford Hall
- Fri 27th Sept Monthly Meeting 2.30pm: Pirates the origin and truth
- Wed 23 Oct Cinema in Caryford. Back to Black (2024) (15)
- Fri 25th Oct Monthly Meeting. Strings around the world: Nick Potter
- Wed 27 Nov Cinema in Caryford. Dune: Part Two (2024) (12A)
- Fri 29th Nov Monthly Meeting. Race to Scotland: Kenneth Fowler



The old barn by Harold Clark Tuesday Art

## Newsletter Distribution

Patsy Diamond & Hilary Dunford