



Melton Mowbray u3a

August 2026 Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1137780



Welcome to the August edition of your newsletter. We hope you'll find it both entertaining and informative. Details for sending contributions for future editions can be found on the last page.

MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING

Our speaker for our next meeting on **Thursday 20th August** is **Mike Burton** who will be talking about **"The Māori: Great Canoes, Mighty Myths"**. People of the sea, the greatest sailors and navigators of their day; insight into their craft skills and legends.

Catering	Hilda Cox, Mary Needham, Valerie Malloy, Eunice Fletcher, Joan Allen
Meet/Greet	Philip Waters, Shirley Harris

Forthcoming 2026 Program		
August 21	30 th Anniversary Garden Party at the Baptist Church 2:00pm to 4:00 pm	
September 17	tba	
October 15	Roger Prescott	Juke Box Jury
November 19	Bob Johnson	"How two oldish people built an eco-house"

Coral and Vicki
speakersecretary@u3amemiltonmowbray.org.uk

COMMITTEE NOTICES





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learn, laugh,
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Keep learning, keep connecting




Congratulations!

to our lucky member
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of the Riviera Travel
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*You're
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RIVIERA TRAVEL

Riviera Travel are a proud u3a travel partner offering our members fantastic holidays, exclusive discounts and exciting competitions.

This time, one of our Melton members has won a wonderful European Cruise!



Look out for offers, competitions and discounts from our travel partners on our groups webpage –
https://melton-mowbray.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/travel/

*We can't guarantee a winner every time –
you have to be in it to win it!*



Explore. Enjoy. Belong.



GROUP NEWS



NEW GROUPS NEWS!

Groups started in July

ZENTANGLE Mindful drawing of patterns.

1st Friday 2pm at Wilton Manor.

Groups starting in August

CANASTA An interesting rummy style card game. Would you like to play?

1st +/or 3rd Wednesdays afternoons

LONG ALLEY SKITTLES Old style with hardwood “cheeses”. Would you like to play?

2nd +/or 4th Wednesday afternoons at The Blue Bell, Hoby.

Coming Soon

PADEL An indoor doubles tennis style game.

Dates and times TBC. At Padel Mews, nr Salford.

For any of these please email groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

THERE WILL BE OTHER GROUPS! If you are interested in a group that is full, I can try to start another one and do email me with any suggestions for new groups. Thank you very much to all group leaders and helpers.

*Dolores Harvey, Groups Co-ordinator
email: groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk*



GROUP NOTICES



OUTINGS



Ruth and Jean would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to **Wentworth Woodhouse** with us. Our coach met a mishap on the way to pick us up so we were all left waiting for over an hour before the coach was sorted and we could get on our way. Everyone stayed positive, there were no complaints just smiles and laughing. We had a lovely

day there, the weather wasn't too hot, the gardens were lovely and the house very impressive. So thank you again and the feedback was very positive.

WE ARE HAVING ONE FINAL PUSH FOR OUR **TRIP TO YORK** BEFORE WE DECIDE TO CANCEL. IF YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS WHO AREN'T MEMBERS AND WOULD LIKE A DAY OUT, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH JEAN.

Wednesday 23rd September

£30 cash, £30.40 cheque.

Depart Wilton Road at 8 am.

Depart Tesco at 8.15 am.

It is at least 8 years since we last visited and it is always changing with lots of interesting things to see.

WORCESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET (One of the finest)

Thursday 3rd December

£30 cash, £30.40 cheque

Depart Wilton Road at 8.00am

Depart Tesco at 8.15am

If you are interested in any of our trips but can't attend a meeting, please contact Jean Pearson for information and how to pay so you don't miss the chance of a nice day out with friendly like-minded people.

Jean Pearson and Ruth Rigby
outings@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

AI EXCHANGE



FLOWER ARRANGING II

July Meeting: Mastering the Mechanics

Our July Flower Arranging II meeting saw members exploring the often unseen world of floral mechanics, with Mandy leading an informative and practical session on the hidden techniques that give flower arrangements their strength, balance and natural appearance.



Members discovered how good mechanics provide the essential foundation for every successful design, securing stems, holding water where needed and allowing flowers to be positioned with confidence while maintaining an airy, professional finish.

The group experimented with four different foam-free techniques: chicken wire, a rose top support, a natural willow and hazel nest, and an ingenious nylon mesh support, similar to the netting used to package fruit in supermarkets. Each

method demonstrated that sustainable mechanics can be just as effective as traditional floral foam while encouraging creativity and reducing waste.

The variety of finished arrangements was a delight to see, with every member interpreting the techniques in their own unique way. The session proved that, although hidden from view, good mechanics are the true backbone of every beautiful floral design.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome **NAFAS National Demonstrator Sue Hodgson** to our **August Open Workshop**, where she will present "**Triangular Blooms**", creating an elegant **foam-free arrangement** perfect for gala events, churches and weddings.

If you would like to join Flower Arranging II or attend the August workshop, please contact **Mandy** at flowerarranging2@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk. We would be delighted to welcome you.

LUNCH GROUP NEWS

Ascough's Bistro, Market Harborough

As an additional date in this year's programme, the Lunch Group ventured to Ascough's Bistro in Market Harborough, continuing our quest to discover some of the region's finest dining experiences.

From the moment we arrived, we were welcomed into a bright, contemporary restaurant where attentive staff ensured everyone felt at home. The three-course lunch was a true culinary delight, with beautifully presented dishes that looked almost too

good to eat. The starters were generous, expertly prepared and theatrically dressed, setting the scene for what was to follow. Many members chose one of the excellent fish dishes for their main course, while the irresistible desserts provided the perfect finale to a memorable meal.



Ascough's impressed on every level, combining exceptional food, warm hospitality and a relaxed atmosphere. It was unanimous that this is a venue worthy of a return visit in the future.

The Lunch Group continues to seek out hidden culinary gems across Leicestershire and, from time to time, ventures beyond the county borders in search of outstanding food and good

company. New members are always welcome to join us for these enjoyable social occasions.

The Lunch Group meets on the second Friday of each month, and the next outing is to **Perkins Restaurant, Keyworth**

To find out more, contact Mandy at lunchfri@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk or visit our Lunch Group webpage for upcoming events and further information:
https://melton-mowbray.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/luncheon-group-gk/

PATCHWORK & QUILTING 1

This double size quilt was just one to be shown at our recent group meeting. It was the result of an on-going plan organised by Patchwork and Quilting 1 group and was quilted along the Quilt As You Go method which is easier than trying to quilt a large quilt on a normal size sewing machine rather than another method known as a long arm machine. Well done to Joy whose granddaughter will love the quilt.

Sue Barker



THEATRE

The Choir of Man

Chosen purely on the strength of its outstanding West End reviews, none of us quite knew what lay ahead. What we discovered was a very different experience to the traditional musical. Set entirely within a fully working pub on stage, the production brings together a remarkable nine-man cast whose warmth, humour and genuine camaraderie draw the audience into their world from the very first moment.



Beautifully narrated by poet Oluwalonimi Owoyemi, the show seamlessly links each musical number while introducing us to the unique personalities behind the performances. The vocal talent throughout is simply outstanding. Joshua Lloyd, playing the Barman and proudly hailing from nearby Hinckley, delivers a breathtaking rendition of *Somebody to Love*, while Jack Skelton, as the Handyman, brings the house down with an extraordinary tap-dancing performance to *50 Ways to Leave Your Lover*, even dancing across the bar itself. The cast's inventive use of everyday pub props, including pint glasses as percussion instruments, adds another layer of brilliance.

Although there is no conventional storyline, the production celebrates friendship, belonging and the power of community through music. A particularly memorable comic highlight sees the cast bursting into *Under the Bridge* in the pub urinals, complete with impeccable comic timing and priceless facial expressions.

With powerhouse vocals, The Choir of Man delivered a different style of theatre.

Forthcoming Program

u3a Theatre Group
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snow White Seven Horny Miners
NOT FOR THE EASILY OFFENDED!
Grantham Guildhall
Thursday 11th February 2027
7.00PM
TICKETS £40 PER PERSON

EMERALD STORM
Theatre Royal Nottingham
Monday 16th November 2026
7.30pm Performance
TICKETS £62.50 PER PERSON

CONTACT: MANDY
theatre@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
WhatsApp/Phone/Text 07702 103281

FULL LISTINGS HERE - https://melton-mowbray.u3asite.uk/u3a_group/theatre/



WALKING GROUPS



2nd MONDAY WALKING GROUP

Monday 10th August 2026

10:15 am for 10:30 am start

Meet at the "Star Inn", West Leake, LE12 5RQ.

Group Co-Ordinator Geoff Harris.



The **2nd Monday Walking group** enjoyed their July walk (especially as it was so much cooler!) around Prestwold Estate through woods, corn and even maize which was taller than all the group members! This was followed by a nice lunch and chat at the Grey Hound Inn before heading home.

3rd WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Wednesday 19 August 2026

09:45 am for 10:00 am start

Meet at the The Stilton Cheese Inn, 59 High St, Somerby, Melton Mowbray LE14 2QB

Lunch is booked for 1.15pm. Toilets available and lunch can be pre-booked prior to walking. Menu - <https://www.stiltoncheeseinn.co.uk/images/downloads/Card-Menu.pdf>

The walk will be approx.6 miles on mainly field and track with a small amount of road walking. Walk will be hilly with lots of ups and downs but rewarding with excellent views (weather dependent).

NB/ Please let me know by Monday 17 August if you are intending to walk and if you will be staying for lunch.

Terry Hopper (Group leader/Co-ordinator).

1st THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

The **Thursday August 6th, 2026**, walk will be from Braunston in Rutland.

Please park in the area of Cedar Street near the Blue Ball PH, LE15 8QS. Ready to walk for 10am. Toilets will be accessible.

The undulating walk of approximately 6.5 miles is to Withcote and back, with some moderate hills and good views.

We intend having lunch at the Blue Ball PH and can be ordered prior to walking. You are welcome to join us if you wish.

If you intend walking/staying for lunch please let us know by the Monday before, so that we can invite guests if numbers are low.

The **Thursday 3rd September, 2023**, walk will be from the Ashby Arms, Main Street, Hungarton, LE7 9JR. Please park in the pub car park and be ready to walk for 10am, toilets will be accessible.

The circular walk of about 6 miles is to Cold Newton, Quenby Hall grounds and back to Hungarton.

We intend staying for lunch at the Ashby Arms, if you wish to join us please let us know by the Monday before.

*Stuart and Wendy Posnett, Group Leaders
Email: walkingthursday1@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk.*

REPORT ON THE 2026 U3A FESTIVAL

Tai Chi, Walking Netball and Peculiar Rabbits: My U3A Festival Experience

The U3A Festival took place at the University of York, and I attended from Wednesday 1 July through to Friday. The event brought together a wide range of members from across the country, offering an impressive programme of activities, talks, sports and taster sessions. According to the festival organisers, many attendees later sent complimentary messages praising both the variety of events and the spirit of cooperation that makes U3A such a special organisation.

Arrival and Accommodation

I arrived on Wednesday and quickly discovered that the university campus was not the easiest place to navigate. Located about three miles from York city centre, the site is extensive, and finding both parking and registration points took some time. My accommodation was in Block C, where an unusual room numbering system caused some initial confusion before I eventually found my room.

The accommodation itself was typical student accommodation: simple but comfortable. The room was in good order, and the bed proved comfortable. The shower was remarkably compact, providing an experience that required a certain amount of flexibility and determination!

Teaching Tai Chi

My main contribution to the festival was running Tai Chi taster sessions on both Thursday and Friday mornings. The Thursday session attracted well over one hundred participants and was very well received. Attendance was slightly lower on Friday, perhaps because some festival-goers were taking advantage of organised visits and activities elsewhere in York. Nevertheless, both sessions were enjoyable and provided an excellent opportunity to introduce people to Tai Chi and Qigong.

Other Activities

One of the strengths of the festival was the sheer variety of activities available. After my Tai Chi session on Thursday, I decided to participate in Walking Netball. This turned out to be one of the highlights of my visit. I enjoyed it immensely and would happily take part again in the future.

There was also plenty of opportunity for conversation and socialising. A particularly memorable discussion concerned Brompton bicycles, proving once again that U3A members can find fascinating subjects to discuss at almost any opportunity.

Food and Social Events

Breakfast was included with the accommodation and was served in the university refectory, known as the Galleria. One attendee commented that the experience was “as good as a cruise”, which set a high benchmark. While the catering was clearly designed to serve large numbers of people, it was well organised and perfectly satisfactory.

The festival also included open-mic events on both Wednesday and Thursday evenings. These provided a relaxed and enjoyable social atmosphere and were well attended by members.

Memorable Moments

York University's architecture made a strong impression on me. The campus's distinctly brutalist style reminded me of the University of East Anglia and gave parts of the site a rather unusual atmosphere. One particularly unexpected sight was a group of large rabbits calmly grazing on a lawn, adding a touch of character to the surroundings.

Overall Impressions

The festival was an interesting and worthwhile experience. It provided opportunities to teach, learn new activities, meet people from different U3As and enjoy a wide variety of events. The enthusiasm of participants and organisers alike demonstrated the strength of the U3A movement and its spirit of mutual support and lifelong learning.

This was the second U3A Festival to be held, and with the current organising committee moving on, any future festival is likely to take place in a different location. Wherever it is held, I hope the event continues to offer the same combination of participation, friendship and enjoyment that made this year's festival such a success.

Click on the link to see the highlights from the festival and a very brief view of Peter in action! <https://youtu.be/qlwkEs19bJE?si=gubBbr848ztFn15M>

Peter Karran
U3A National Subject Advisor for Tai Chi and Qigong
and member of Melton Mowbray U3A



ANNUAL GROUP REPORTS



Local History

The Group was formed in May 2025 with the aim of providing varied and informative talks on the history of Melton Mowbray and the surrounding area. Over the last year we have been entertained with Pork Pie Raising; handled guns and ammunition with Jed Jaggard during his talk on the real Dad's Army; had a tasting of cheeses from Long

Clawson Dairy; and been wowed generally by a variety of speakers on what the residents of Melton have been up to over the centuries. Last month we learnt from Brian Fare what amazing things Melton Mowbray residents did during the Second World War. Melton isn't just about pork pies and Stilton Cheese!

Our first meetings were in the British Legion but, due to the group's popularity, we now meet in Mary's Place on Burton Street. The room is larger and although upstairs, it is serviced by a lift. We meet on the second Friday of the month at 2.00 p.m. Meetings generally last an hour with a Q and A at the end. Meetings are open to all Melton Mowbray u3a members at a cost of £3 per person to cover room hire and speaker fees.

We are currently taking a summer break but will be back in September with a talk by Mathew Morris on *"From Hunters to Farmers – the story of Prehistoric Leicestershire and Rutland"*. Further details in September's Newsletter.

We are currently looking for additional volunteers to help set out and clear chairs for the meetings and also have a vacancy for an additional Group Leader to share roles and provide additional cover to the existing team. If you are interested and want further information on what's involved, please email: localhistory@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk We hope to see you all in September.

Debbie Adams, Geraldine Deverson and Brian Ellis
Local History Group Leaders

Lunch Friday

If variety is the spice of life, then the Friday Lunch Group has enjoyed a wonderfully well-seasoned year.

Meeting on the second Friday of each month, with the occasional extra outing to tempt us with something different, we've continued our quest to discover the best eateries across the region. From traditional village pubs serving comforting favourites to Michelin-starred restaurants and elegant tasting menus, no style of dining has been off the menu.



Choosing somewhere new is always a leap of faith. Occasionally a venue hasn't quite hit the mark, but those experiences have provided just as many laughs as the outstanding ones. After all, a forgettable meal soon fades, while the stories, banter and shared smiles live on long after the plates have been cleared.

Our loyal following continues to grow because this group has become about far more than food. It's about friendship, lively conversation, plenty of laughter and the simple pleasure of spending a few hours in good company. New faces are quickly welcomed, regulars are always ready with a tale to tell, and every lunch leaves us wondering where our next culinary adventure will take us.

My role is simply to keep unearthing new venues and cuisines to tempt your tastebuds. Your role is much easier. Turn up hungry, bring your sense of humour and enjoy every mouthful. Judging by another successful year, I'd say we've found the perfect recipe.

You can read more about our culinary adventures and where we are looking to venture next - https://melton-mowbray.u3asite.uk/u3a_groups/luncheon-group-gk/ or contact group lead Mandy – email: lunchfri@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk

Maths for Fun

When I looked back, I saw that I took over leadership of this group in time to write the previous annual report. At that stage, I had a pretty good idea what I should write. At a similar stage in this year, I'm not so sure.

It won't surprise most people if "Maths for Fun" is regarded as a niche activity and, indeed, the group is fairly small, with around seven active members. We usually gather a couple of names at "Meet the Groups" in January, but it takes a while to see, if any of those will become regular attendees at the meetings, held monthly on the 2nd Monday morning of the month, on Zoom. I want to say that we are ticking over nicely. We are not shrinking, but is that enough, when Melton u3a, as a whole, is expanding?

Eppure si muove.

As mathematicians, we have to admit to a fascination with the way that simple principles can govern and explain complex systems. As scientists, we commit to a notion of truth, that is both absolute and empirical, therefore not "social", in a world where science, conservation and honesty sometimes seem to be as optional as the Tenth Commandment in capitalism.

However, what we do, in practice, is to use a supply of maths problems, prepared under the auspices of the national u3a and delivered regularly, as mental exercises to keep the infamous grey cells in halfway decent nick.

Meeting on Zoom, implies that there will be some competition for the "floor", as you can only really have one conversation at a time. This also means, that there is a risk that a few voices will be heard more than others. We try to be aware of this. Similarly, comparing our results over a set of problems can lead to a degree of competitiveness. However, I find, the enlightenment, of discovering and understanding where you went wrong, is usually more satisfying, than the confirmation of applying what you knew, already.

We do try to provide some outreach, in the form of a maths problem in the monthly newsletter. Initially, we crafted our own puzzles and tried to represent a variety of types of problem. Currently, we are content to select one of the Maths Challenge problems. This is less demanding on us and, we assume, less demanding on the newsletter readers.

As always, if any of this sparks your interest, you are welcome to join us.

C. J. Rupp, maths@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk,
Maths for Fun Group Leader (among other responsibilities.)

LOCAL EVENTS

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

Saturday 19th September, 7.30pm in St Mary's Church
with

Melton Mowbray Choral Society

An evening of fine music including Rule Britannia, Land of Hope and Glory, Jerusalem and lots more!

Tickets are £15 in advance.

Available from members or online at www.meltonmowbraychoralsociety.co.uk



GET PUZZLING!

Hot Quiz

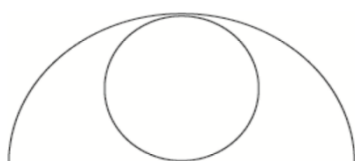
1. Which British band had a hit with "You Sexy Thing" in 1975 and again in 1997, after its use in "The Full Monty"?
2. What is the name for the snack consisting of a sausage in a split bread roll?
3. What was the nickname of Sir Henry Percy (1364 – 1403)?
4. In which US crime comedy film did Marilyn Monroe star as Sugar Kane?
5. What is the only place in the UK to have a naturally occurring hot (above 37°C) spring?
6. Extremely short shorts first fashionable in the early 1970s were known as what?

7. Which British comedy action film of 2007 starred Simon Pegg and Nick Frost as police officers?
8. In which US tv series was Major Margaret “Hot Lips” Houlihan a character?
9. What distinctively decorated spiced fruit bun was originally eaten to mark the end of Lent?
10. One of the symptoms of the menopause.

Answers on pages 16

Kindly provided by Judy Smithers

August Maths Puzzle



In the diagram, the circle fits snugly inside the centre of the semicircle. What fraction of the area of the semicircle is occupied by the circle?
[U3A Maths Challenges, week 313, #1]

I believe this is not so much a puzzle, as a “marmite” question. If you get it, it’s quite easy, otherwise it’s not. Well, we don’t want to overexert ourselves in hot weather. (Does that mean it will be raining by the time this is published?)

Solution will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

*Kindly provided by CJ Rupp
Maths for Fun Group Leader (among other responsibilities)
maths@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk*

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

The Royal British Legion (RBL) Annual Poppy Appeal

Thursday 22nd October 2026 sees the launch of this year’s Poppy Appeal, the RBL’s flagship campaign held every year to raise funds to help support Armed Forces serving personnel, veterans, and their families throughout their lives with whatever the need, whenever it’s needed.

Melton Mowbray’s small band of volunteers (only half of us have actually served in the Armed Forces) under the leadership of Kevin Wilson (an RBL member), last year raised over £34,000 for the Poppy Appeal. This year we hope to raise over £50,000 but to do that we need more volunteers.

Do you have a few hours to spare to help us between Thursday 22nd October and Sunday 8th November (this year’s Remembrance Sunday)? This could be distributing collection tins to local shops, schools, pubs or businesses; helping on stalls in our local supermarkets for an hour or so; or collecting the tins after the campaign has ended. If you can help and/or have any questions, please email me - Debbie Adams - on sputniksparrowhawk@gmail.com. I will also need your mobile telephone number to pass on to Kevin Wilson so that he can contact you to discuss when and how you would like to help with this year’s Appeal. Thank you.

FINAL NOTICES

Annual Reports due for the September 2026 Newsletter:

- Needlecraft
- New Age Kurling 1
- New Age Kurling 2
- Outdoor Bowls
- Outings

Annual Group Reports

The Annual Group Reports item is included to allow group leaders, or group members to provide an overview of the activities they've undertaken with their groups over the year. We have typically gone through the groups list in alphabetical order, but members are welcome to submit a report at any time during the year, particularly if you are a new group and/or have spaces for new members. It also has the effect sometimes of giving other members ideas for groups they could start and that is always welcome.

We do not wish to put any group leader under pressure to write an annual report but merely provide a platform for your group to showcase achievements and talk about what your members have gained from being part of the group.

At the meeting next month on Thursday 17th September 2026

Speaker: tba

Catering: Lynda Middleton, Eunice Fletcher, Hilda Cox, Lynn Benton, Robin Benton

Meet and Greet: Maureen Carruthers, Lesley Dyason

COMMITTEE		
Chairman	David Ramsden	chairman@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Sue Gowans	vchair@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
Business Secretary	Carol Thompson	secretary@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
Groups Co-ordinator	Dolores Harvey	groups@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
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Speaker Secretary	Victoria Reynolds/ Coral Batchelor	speaker@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
IT Advisor	CJ Rupp	admin@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Claire Abbott	editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk
SOCIAL MEDIA		
Publicity – use this email to spread the word about u3aMM activities - social_media@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk. Let's Go ... Together This is a group of WhatsApp users who share with other members their upcoming activities, inviting others to come along. You either post your desired activity or answer someone else's post to fill your days or evenings. If you would like to be included on this WhatsApp group, please contact		

membership@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk. It's a fantastic way of connecting members and building a connected community. If you join but subsequently decide it's not for you, you can always leave the group but please give it a go.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

General telephone number 0300 102 4512
Website: www.melton-mowbray.u3asite.uk

Your committee is here to help keep Melton Mowbray u3a running smoothly and efficiently. Committee members are always keen to receive feedback on our u3a and encourage members to contact us with any issues, thoughts, suggestions on how we can keep it thriving.

GET PUZZLING! ANSWERS

Answers to the Hot! Quiz

1. Hot Chocolate
2. Hot dog
3. Hotspur
4. Some Like It Hot
5. Bath – several places have warm springs (less than 37°C)
6. Hot pants
7. Hot Fuzz
8. M*A*S*H*
9. Hot Cross bun
10. Hot flushes

Solution to July's Maths Puzzle



A large, varnished cube is cut in to 27 smaller cubes of equal size.

What fraction of the surface area of the new cubes has been varnished?

Each of the small cubes had 6 faces: 6×27 . Each face of the large consists of 9 faces of small cubes, and there are 6 such faces: 6×9 . Therefore, the fraction that jumps out at us is: $(6 \times 9) / (6 \times 27) = 1/3$.

*C. J. Rupp, Maths for Fun Group Leader (among other responsibilities)
maths@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk*

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS: Please send by **25th** of each month to Claire Abbott, editor@u3ameltonmowbray.org.uk. It would be much appreciated if you did **not** leave it until the last minute.