



## HOLYWOOD DISTRICT U3A MONTHLY MEETING

### U3A GENERAL MEETING

**Friday 26th November 2021**

**@10.30**

**In the Queen's Hall, Hollywood.**

No need to book

**Speaker Margie Crawford**  
**Subject The Antarctic on a Tall Ship**

Please wear your mask and bring proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test.

No refreshments but please feel free to bring your own.

**Next General Meeting Friday 28th January 10.30am**

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**Tuesday 14th December Hollywood Golf Club. 12.30pm**

Please bring an envelope with name and choices written on the outside and containing £25, to the General meeting.

If you would like to sit with friends please also write their names on the outside of the envelope.

As the restaurant is opening for us we have to place people at the tables in advance and would like to facilitate everyone as much as possible.

Contact [groups@hollywoodu3a.org](mailto:groups@hollywoodu3a.org) if you would like to attend.

Details and menu are on the website, [hollywoodu3a.org](http://hollywoodu3a.org)

## Groups

*AMBLERS    CREATIVE WRITING    COFFEE&CHAT*

*CANASTA    OUTDOOR BOWLS    GARDENING*

*FINE DINING    LOCAL HISTORY    LOOSE ENDS*

*EXPLORING the SHORT STORY    POINTS of VIEW*

## *BOOK CLUB*

### **AMBLERS**

Thursday 9th December at 10.30

Walk along the towpath to see the new bridge across the Lagan.

Meet at the car park at Cutters Wharf, Stranmillis.

Car share from CIYMS car park at 10:00

Lunch after walk in the conservatory at Cutters.

Please bring mask and proof of vaccination.

Thursday 13th January at 10.30

Minnowburn Beeches

Meet at Minnowburn Beeches car park, Edenderry Road, BT8 8LE

Turn left just before Shaws Bridge - Ballylesson Road.

Car share from CIYMS car park at 10.00

Thursday 27th January at 10.30

Belmont Park

Meet at the car park on the Belmont Road ( opposite Campbell College )

Everyone is welcome on the walks. No need to book.

We walk at a leisurely pace and always find somewhere nice for coffee.

Joy

## **BOOK READING GROUP**

### **Book Club back in business**

First meeting Tuesday 30/11/21 in Hollywood library 2-4pm

2nd meeting Tuesday 25/01/22 as above, and tentatively every last Tuesday in the month.

Please bring to the first meeting any novel/poem on the Xmas/winter theme to share with the group. we will select a novel from the library list thereafter.

\_Hope this meets with your approval, all details can be changed.

Lesley Stewart [and Prince, hearing dog]

contact [groups@hollywoodu3a.org](mailto:groups@hollywoodu3a.org) for any queries

## **CANASTA**

Still waiting for permission to use the room in the golf club.

Will contact members as soon as word comes through

Happy Christmas to all the Canasta players

Joy

## **CHOIR**

Getting less hopeful of a volunteer to run the choir!

## **COFFEE AND CHAT**

Tuesday 11th January at 10.30

Edge Coffee, 98 - 100 High Street , Hollywood

All welcome for a coffee and a chat.

Joy

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

Each meeting is primarily devoted to the work of the group members, giving them ample time to discuss their pieces and gain valuable feedback. If time allows, the group takes part in exercises aimed at developing and enhancing a particular writing skill. Last month we examined the first paragraphs of several short stories to glean what information was subtly conveyed to the reader - the who, what, when, where and how—but also the mood, atmosphere and possible themes—of the pieces. We then had a go at writing our own first paragraph during the Zoom meeting. Afterwards, we read them aloud to the group and discussed them.

During the December and January meetings we will be looking at how setting plays a role in describing characters, their emotions, and how it can advance the plot.

The group is always looking for new members. Don't be shy! Contact the convenor for more details. She will email you back!  
Third Wednesday of the month. 2-4pm Zoom

## **EXPLORING THE SHORT STORY**

During December we will be reading a crime fiction short story, the first time we have explored this genre in the group. During the Victorian era it was not uncommon to tell or read aloud ghost stories during the festive Christmas season, with the haunting departed often meeting an untimely or gruesome end. Murder mysteries set at Christmas have remained in vogue ever since.

For January we will be re-reading and discussing a story from our backlog, an auld lang syne of past stories so to speak. This was chosen by the group from the list and it looks as if Margaret Atwood's 'Stone Mattress' is the winner so far.

Exploring the Short Story meets every second Wednesday of the month from half ten to half twelve via Zoom. Members are sent the Zoom link and short story to be discussed via email every month. At present the group is heavily subscribed and unfortunately not taking any new members.

## **FINE DINING**

Anyone interested in taking over would be very gratefully received.  
Contact [groups@hollywoodu3a.org](mailto:groups@hollywoodu3a.org)

## GARDENING GROUP

**Zoom meeting on Mon 13th Dec at 10.15am** - Shirley Lanigan, author of "The Open Gardens of Ireland", will speak to us on her "Adventures on the Road - gardens in Ireland I have particularly enjoyed".

### **Dates for your new 2022 diary:**

❖ Mon 17th Jan – The Gardens of Powerscourt House, Co Wicklow, a talk by Alex Slazenger, the Head Gardener.



❖ Mon 14th Feb – Save the Date. Details closer to the time.



**INVITATION** - ALL HOLYWOOD DISTRICT u3a MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR DECEMBER MEETING FOR THE TALK BY SHIRLEY LANIGAN. If not a Gardening Group member, please let Patricia know if you would like to join this meeting [patriciaclements.new@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaclements.new@gmail.com).

## LOCAL HISTORY

The next two meetings are as follows:

1st December 2021 at 10.30am

Topic: Samuel Davidson and his amazing fans

Speaker: Eric Woods

5th January 2022 at 10.30am

Topic: A visual presentation re. Archeology in the Borough

Speaker: Moira O'Rourke, North Down Museum

Zoom log in details will be sent to members closer to the time of the meeting.

For further information, please contact Robin Masefield - [rmasefield@hotmail.com](mailto:rmasefield@hotmail.com)

## **LOOSE ENDS**

We are in the process of trying to organise dinner at The Bay Tree on a Friday night in early December. I will send a separate email once we have a confirmed booking.

We are also proposing a day trip to the Kildare Village Outlet. I have been unable to find a company who offer this, at a time which would suit. However, it is possible to get there ourselves, though it will not suit everyone. It involves getting the train to Dublin Connolly, walking about 10 minutes to a coach stop and getting the coach to Kildare Village. This costs €10 return. The return coach will drop us back to Dublin at a stop which is within 10 to 15 minutes walk of Connolly Railway station for our return train to Belfast. If you have a Smartpass, the only travel expense will be €10 euros for the coach which is a private company, therefore Smartpass doesn't apply. I will send full details shortly.

Sandra and Valerie

## **Out and About**

Thursday 16th December at 2 o'clock  
Silver Screenings at the Strand Cinema, Hollywood Road  
Miracle on 34th Street  
Tea/coffee/mince pies and festive music before the film  
Cost £3

If interested in attending please phone Ann Dickson on 07502 153229

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Contact [groups@hollywoodu3a.org](mailto:groups@hollywoodu3a.org) if interested

## **Points of View**

There will be NO meeting in December as the normal date would fall on the Christmas weekend. The next meeting will therefore be on Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022, at 10.30, when the topic will be – *'What is Poverty in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?'*

In time for our November meeting we had the great news that we could again meet face-to-face at Hollywood Library. So please note that we expect to meet in the Praeger Room at the Library from now on. We will be required to follow Covid-19 guidance from the Library and this will be circulated to the members in due course.

Eric Woods, Group Convenor

