

Welcome to the September Edition of our Newsflash

Speakers Meeting

Our Monthly Speakers Meeting is on 2nd September at the Leigh Community Centre
Doors open at 2.00pm for a 2.30pm start

Henry VIII England's Favourite King – a talk by Tony Harris
Tony Harris is a professional comedian, raconteur and actor who specialises in historical talks with an hysterical twist. For two years Tony lived and worked at Hampton Court Palace and played Henry VIII every other day for the benefit of more than half a million tourists



Group News

We have three tennis groups playing on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning and certainly two, maybe all three, are struggling for players. It would be a shame if any of these groups were to close through lack of members.

The standard is at a "fun with a little bit of exercise" level and we really need a few more members to keep us going. So if you want to keep those joints moving coupled with the enjoyment of playing table tennis please contact one of the group leaders via the website (<https://leighestuary.u3asite.uk/>) and you'll be welcomed with open arms. All three groups play at the Rayleigh Megacentre (next to Rayleigh Weir) where there is a cafe offering tea/coffee if you like a cuppa and natter afterwards. Hope to see you there.



The Days Out Group still have a few spaces on a trip to Bury St. Edmunds on 15th October cost £20 for travel only. Please contact Valerie Lewis (valerie.u3a.daysout@gmail.com).

The Mahjong and Boardgames groups are beginning to take shape. If you are interested in joining them, please contact Jim Jennett, (jimjennett@btinternet.com).

The following Groups all have vacancies:

- * Art for Pleasure
- * Chess (beginners welcome)
- * French Conversation
- * Just Sew
- * Maths for fun



- * Photography group
- * Quiz group
- * Spanish for beginners (2 spaces) now meeting at The Woodland Centre, Belfairs on the 2nd and last Tuesday of the month from 2pm-4pm
- * WhatsApp 2 – members get together and do different things each month

Details for the above groups and their co-ordinators can be found on the Leigh Estuary u3a website under the Groups section or by contacting the Groups Co-Ordinator, Jim Jennett at jimjennett@btinternet.com.

Group Co-Ordinators If you have any Group spaces or Group news that you would like to share with the LEu3a members, please contact Trish at: leu3anewsflash@gmail.com

Scam Watch

Shoppers should beware a scam email impersonating online retailer Temu. Tricksters claim you have been 'chosen' to receive a brand new electronic bicycle but you must complete their survey about your 'experience' with the shopping brand to get the bike. The survey will lead to a malicious website designed to steal your personal and financial details. **Do not click on the link but forward the email to: report@phishing.gov.uk.**

Investors should watch out for a scam investment peddled on messaging app Telegram. Fraudsters add victims to a group chat and claim they have been chosen to participate in a Bitcoil or cryptocurrency trading advice group. Victims are given the number of a 'senior financial adviser' to call. This is a scam and fraudsters will attempt to get you to part with your money. If you are added to one of these groups, click 'report spam and leave' at the top of the group chat page.

Thousands of Britons are being targeted by fraudsters impersonating the Financial Conduct Authority. Scammers say they have found funds in a crypto wallet held by their victim, that they can help victims of loan scams or that creditors want them to pay the FCA. The watchdog has received 4,465 reports, with 480 victims this year alone. The FCA would never ask for bank PINs, passwords or to transfer money. **Do not click on any links or respond in any way.**

Let's be careful out there!!

Local History Group - An article by joint group leader **Jim Sanctuary**

CATASTROPHIC AIRCRAFT CRASH OVER SOUTHEND

Monday 10th of September, 1951, was a devastating day for the residents of Westcliff-on-Sea, when an RAF Gloster Meteor F8 fighter jet aircraft of 84th Squadron, flown by 25



year-old Pilot Officer Lionel Millikin, broke up in mid-air over Westcliff. The fuselage crashed onto Hainault Avenue and adjoining roads. In Beedell Avenue, No. 88 was completely destroyed and wreckage was strewn across the carriageway. Further wreckage also landed on properties in Ramuz Drive and Brightwell Avenue, causing extensive damage.

It was reported at the time that when the aircraft broke up, the pilot had been attempting to reach Southend Municipal Airport. Sadly, his body was discovered still strapped in his cockpit seat and one of the two jet engines was found in the mud off the pier. Two members



of the public, Mr S Smith and Mrs A Gilbert, were killed on the ground, and Mrs F Sydenham died later from her injuries in Southend Hospital. Also injured was Mr. H Duck, who fortunately survived the incident.

The Gloster Meteor was on a routine flight from RAF Wattisham, Suffolk, to Southend Municipal Airport, flying at about 1,500 feet. At the time of the crash, it was alleged that the pilot's girlfriend lived in the town. Her identity remains unknown, but, according to a widely circulated story, she was a Leigh schoolteacher taking a primary class at the time. As he passed over the school, it was claimed that Millikin put the Meteor into a victory roll, the manoeuvre assumed to have been a love token. Whatever his message to his loved one, it proved fatal and resulted in the most

catastrophic air disaster to strike the town since WW2. The official report of the accident noted that the aircraft had previously been grounded for repairs to stress damage.

If you would like to write a few words on a topic close to your heart, have an anecdote from a group meeting or something you think readers would be interested in, please do get in touch. Would you consider becoming a regular contributor to a section? Email: leu3anewsflash@gmail.com

Quiz

Thanks once again to our Quiz setter, Shirley Eastwood, who sends in a quiz for us every month. Shirley does an excellent job and I would like to thank her on your behalf.

1. How was Yugoslavian President, Josip Broz, better known?
2. What is the memorial in front of Buckingham Palace called?
3. What are fingernails made of?
4. Which group sang "Stand and Deliver" in 1981?
5. Who are the King and Queen of the fairies in "A Midsummer's Night Dream"?
6. Which advertised product made your "hands as soft as your face"?
7. Barbara Vine also wrote under what other name?
8. Which world famous building is in Uttar Pradesh?
9. What do the authors Sebastian Faulks, Anthony Horowitz, Kingsley Amis and Charlie Higson have in common?
10. Who lived at 52 Festive Road?
11. How many times could Belgium fit into the UK? 2, 4 or 8 times.
12. What is the length of a cricket pitch?
13. Which is the oldest university in the western world?
14. Where is Shakespeare buried?
15. Which is the longest river entirely in Wales?
16. Who captained the Lions on their rugby tour of Australia this year?
17. In which city was "The Full Monty" set?
18. Which English king seized the Stone of Scone from Scotland in 1296?
19. Which city is the capital of New Zealand?
20. In which US state would you see Mount Rushmore?

September's Pause for Thought

"As the alluring song of September begins to whisper in my ear, my passionate spirit yearns for the splendour of its promise." Peggy Toney Horton

"September smiled at her wonderful friends in all their colours and bright eyes and gentle ways." Catherynne M. Valente

"September the golden threshold between summer and winter" Meeta Ahluwalia

"O sweet September, thy first breezes bring the dry leaf's rustle and the squirrel's laughter." George Arnold

"There is a time in late September when the leaves are still green, the days are still warm, but somehow you know that it is all about to end as if summer was holding its breath, and when it let it out again, it would be autumn." Sharyn McCrumb

"It must be September, July sun has disappeared" Charmaine J. Forde

"September! I never tire of turning it over in my mind. It has warmth, depth, and colour. It glows like old amber." Patience Strong

"September tries its best to have us forget summer." Bernard Williams

"By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer." Helen Hunt Jackson

"September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn." Rowland E. Robinson

"It was a lovely afternoon—such an afternoon as only September can produce when summer has stolen back for one more day of dream and glamour." L.M. Montgomery

"Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul." Peggy Toney Horton

"We know that in September, we will wander through the warm winds of summer's wreckage. We will welcome summer's ghost." Henry Rollins

"Happily we bask in this warm September sun, which illuminates all creatures." Henry David Thoreau

"September has come, it is hers whose vitality leaps in the autumn, whose nature prefers trees without leaves and a fire in the fireplace." Louis MacNeice

"All the months are crude experiments, out of which the perfect September is made." Virginia Woolf

"It was September, and there was a crackly feeling to the air." Carolyn Parkhurst

"September is dressing herself in showy dahlias and splendid marigolds and starry zinnias." Olive Wendell Holmes

"Outside the leaves on the trees constricted slightly; they were the deep done green of the beginning of autumn. It was a Sunday in September." Ali Smith

"Wine is the divine juice of September." Voltaire



Quiz Answers

1. Tito
2. The Victoria Memorial
3. Keratin
4. Adam and the Ants
5. Oberon and Titania
6. Fairy Liquid
7. Ruth Rendell
8. The Taj Mahal
9. They have all written James Bond novels
10. Mr. Benn
11. 8 times
12. 22 yards
13. Bologna (teaching began in 1088!!)
14. Holy Trinity church Stratford upon Avon
15. The Towy (Tywi)
16. Maro Itoji
17. Sheffield
18. Edward 1
19. Wellington
20. South Dakota

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Petanque group enjoying their coffee break in the shade and Local Walks 1 stoically enduring the rain for their coffee break - all in the same week!!