

# 2020 U3A LEEDS

## CHRISTMAS BULLETIN

Dear U3A member,

Greetings and best wishes to everyone. No matter how you celebrate this time of year I hope it is a time of wellbeing, peace and harmony for us all.

Jo Turner, the latest member of the Executive Committee, commented on some of the pros and cons of the last ten months. During periods of lockdown, she has discovered two main positives have come about; they are that there has been an increase in neighbours looking out for one another and Jo believes that, if this has been necessary during lockdown, there is no reason to think those better relationships will not continue on into the future.

People have also found they have had more time for themselves and those around them, more so those of working age. For example, because they are not having to commute each day there has been less timetabling of every working minute which has proven to be of direct benefit to wellbeing and mental health.

Friendship has also been vital: so friends have gone the extra mile to help combat social isolation by keeping in touch. The importance of communication of all kinds can never be downplayed.

On the flip side we must also recognise that this has been a devastating time for many such as the bereaved, those suffering the long-term effects from Covid 19 and people whose lives have sadly been shortened by the unintended effects of lockdown. Our thoughts are also with those cut off from the people they love, those likely to be or who are already out of work; those for whom optimism is not their natural default setting and who have found this period particularly distressing.

If I have learned anything from 2020 it has been optimism, patience and forbearance. If you can do nothing but wait, do that as patiently as you can with optimism and hope that 2021 will bring a better prospect for everyone.

Best wishes for a good festive season and a bright & happy 2021

from

*Janet Keogh,  
Jo Turner and  
all the U3A Leeds  
Executive Committee*



### CHRISTMAS ICE CREAM

#### INGREDIENTS

- ❖ 600ml double cream
- ❖ 375g sweetened condensed milk
- ❖ 500ml tinned custard
- ❖ 2 or 3tbsp mincemeat

#### METHOD

- ❖ in large bowl, whip cream until peaks form,
- ❖ then slowly mix in sweetened condensed milk, custard and mincemeat.
- ❖ stir gently but well
- ❖ pour into container and freeze for 1hr
- ❖ Take container from freezer and stir
- ❖ Repeat then leave in freezer until mixture is firm & ready to serve

### CHRISTMAS JOKE

Q. What's green, covered in tinsel and croaks?

A. A mistle-toad!

## WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN THE PIPELINE FOR YOU IN 2021?

We have a whole host of cancelled speakers just waiting for the Green Light.... anything from Wood Carving....The Magic Circle....Fraud prevention advice....An insight into CSI Forensics. How about a good old-fashioned natter over tea & cake? Sounds good to me.

Then there's the wardrobe mistress for Leeds Amateurs....an Educational Visit with Margret...memories of a 1970s Yorkshire classroom (hey – pocket calculators were the height of technology!). An inspirational spin a speaker who is profoundly deaf but teaches music! What about a chat with Veronica Bird? The first female prison Governor in the country – ground-breaking stuff.

There's a lot more – and that's just what's on the waiting list, so, bring on the vaccine I say and let's get back to real contact with real human beings and real speakers. There's so much to look forward to and we're ready for the 'off' as soon as they give us the signal. In the meantime, we're not organising talks for Leeds u3a members but there is plenty to choose from on-line and u3a nationally and regionally are doing their bit – check 'em out if you feel like it.

## PUZZLE 1

Q: Bobby's mother had three children.  
the first child was named April. the second child was named May. What was the third child name ?



### *The Maidservant at the Inn*

*"It's queer," she said; "I see the light  
As plain as I beheld it then,  
All silver-like and calm and bright—  
We've not had stars like that again!*

*"And she was such a gentle thing  
To birth a baby in the cold.  
The barn was dark and frightening  
This new one's better than the old.*

*"I mind my eyes were full of tears,  
For I was young. and quick  
distressed  
But she was less than me in years  
That held a son against her breast.*

*"I never saw a sweeter child—  
The little one, the darling one!—  
I mind I told her, when he smiled  
You'd know he was his mother's son.*

*It's queer that I should see them so—  
The time they came to Bethlehem  
Was more than thirty years ago.  
I've prayed that all is well with  
them."*

*Dorothy Parker*



## PUZZLE 2

Q: I have six eggs,

I break two,

I eat two,

How many eggs do I have left?

## A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

*You will have noticed that we have a new logo and, from now on, we are to be known as 'u3a Leeds'. National Office too has changed its name to 'U3A Office'.*

*It may take some getting used to but our organisation has been 're-branded' and, to be honest I never felt a thing. If you go on to the National Office ... sorry ... U3A office website you can find out more.*

*Rest assured, u3a Leeds, will still be the organisation you've got to know and love and, as Shakespeare says "a rose by any other name ..." or, if you prefer, "plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose".*

**u3a**  
**LEEDS**

Charity No 518366



## CHRISTMAS JOKE

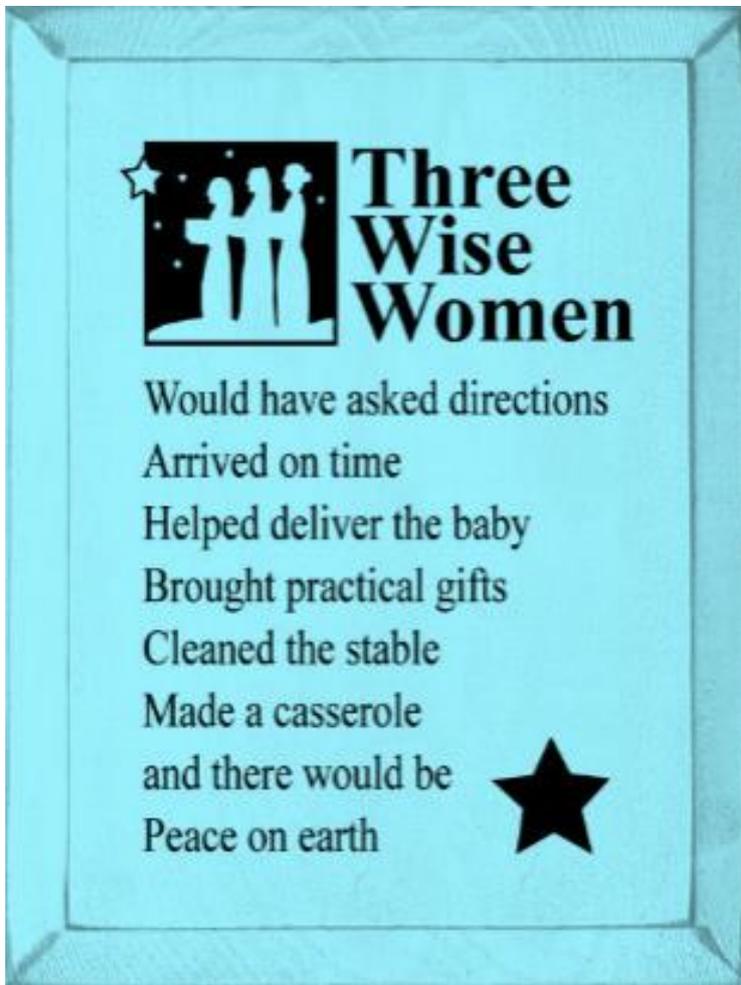
Q: What type of  
Motorcycle does Santa  
ride?

A: A Holly Davidson



1. In total, how many ghosts visited Scrooge?
2. What do Pagans call the Christmas celebration?
3. How many branches are there on a Hanukkah Menorah?
4. Muslims & Hindus celebrate this Festival of lights, what's its name
5. In which country is it the tradition to eat KFC for Christmas dinner?
6. If you're born on Christmas day what is your star sign?
7. In which country did eggnog originate?
8. What colour are mistletoe berries?
9. Who were Balthazar, Melchior and Gaspar?
10. Who sang 'All I want for Christmas is You'?





## ORANGE AND CRANBERRY SCONES

8oz self raising Flour

½ teaspoon salt

2oz margarine

2oz sugar

1 egg

Grated rind of 2 oranges

2oz dried cranberries

Milk to mix

Mix flour and salt and rub in margarine until it looks like fine breadcrumbs

Stir in grated orange rind and cranberries

Add egg and enough milk to make a stiff dough

Knead lightly on a floured surface and roll out to ½ inch thickness

Cut into rounds, re-roll the trimmings and cut more rounds

Place on greased baking sheet and brush the tops with milk and sugar

Bake in hot oven 180 electric or gas mark 7 for about 10-12 minutes

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

**P1, Bobby – P2, I have 4 eggs as I cooked and ate the 2 eggs, I broke**

**QUIZ ANSWERS- 1, 4 ghosts, 2. Yule, 3. nine, 4. Divali, 5. Japan, 6. Capricorn, 7. England, 8. White, 9. The 3 Kings, 10. Mariah Carey**

