

Measure your progress not by the distance travelled but by the lessons learned.

NEW GROUP

10 of our members have been trialling a new group - a nine week Pottery course. Aimed at beginners, the weekly sessions will cover the basic handbuilding techniques of pinching, coiling and slab building, as well as methods for decorating and glazing our work. After firing, our masterpieces will be revealed in all their glory! We are grateful to the Riverfront Arts Centre for the use of their pottery studio.



CREATIVE WRITING STUDY DAY

The aim of our Creative Writing Group is to develop writing skills whilst sharing ideas. Our members make an interesting mix of knowledge, experiences and opinions. Recently we invited Halima Alam back to give us a second Workshop.

'Halima's sessions are interesting and stimulating. We looked at point-of-view and how the choice of a particular character within a scene to relate events alters how we picture our scene unfold and how those events might be described. That is a powerful tool as it



allows the writer to decide what information is or is not revealed to the reader at that time. What is unsaid? What is said - and is it true? We can follow the thoughts of that particular character. An opportunity to have the guidance and knowledge that a writing professional can bring to the group is invaluable as it gives us fresh thoughts about how we develop and present our work.'

DAY TRIP TO BATH

A coach full of our members went on a day trip to the American Museum in Bath, arranged by the History Group. It was founded to challenge stereotyping of American culture, and 2026 is especially relevant as it is the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.



In the manor house we found fascinating American stories, textiles, decorative art & design and exhibitions; Folk Art that celebrates the vast diversity of America's people and their culture that shape the richly layered country. In all, 12,000 objects, some of the most significant in Europe; such as the 250 Quilts that span 300 years.

The acres of wildlife-friendly gardens were amazing on such a beautiful day with a backdrop of spectacular views. Afterwards we had time to explore the city centre of Bath.

Contact Angela at publicity.newportu3a@gmail.com if you have any news about your group or photographs to be included in a future Newsletter.

