

Collingham & District



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

<https://u3asites.org.uk/collingham>

NEWSLETTER - July 2019

Welcome to the July Newsletter.

The production of a monthly Newsletter certainly highlights our varied activities. I would like to thank Martin and Liz Ball for starting this development and all the Group Leaders who submit information. There will be times when your group has been busy and you want to let others know what you have been doing. Sometimes it will be just a little quieter and if there is little to report that is fine.

The Collingham & District 5th AGM took place in June and over 60 people attended. It was at this meeting that the members of the Executive Committee were elected/re-elected. Those serving on the Collingham & District U3A Executive Committee for the year 2019-2020 are:

Chair:	Jannet Wright
Vice-Chair and Group Co-ordinator:	Sue Fleet
Business Secretary:	Mary Hughes
Treasurer & Website Manager:	Graham Fleet
Minute Taker:	Marion Collins
Membership Secretary:	Barbara Wilson
Newsletter and Bulletin Producers:	Martin and Liz Ball
Speaker Seeker:	Sonia Brodell

I would like to thank Linda Walters for her careful and thoughtful work as Membership Secretary. We are pleased to report that Barbara Wilson agreed to take on this role. Bea Morgan Bentley, who was a Founder Member, stepped down at the AGM and we thank her for her enthusiastic work in encouraging people to help with providing refreshments at the monthly General Meeting. I am really pleased to report that Pat Stewart has agreed to take over arranging refreshments for the meetings. This is an important role because the opportunity to have a cup of tea or coffee and chat to other members is an important part of the life of our U3A.

In our Constitution it states that we can have up to 12 Executive Committee Members. We do have some vacancies so if anyone would like to join the Committee and see how we work do have a chat with one of the Committee Members to find out more. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month in the Mayfield Room at the Memorial Hall at 4.30pm and we would be delighted for you to come and join us.

Jannet Wright, Chair, Executive Committee

Forthcoming Speakers

July Meeting on the 24th at 2pm

**The true stories of a lorry driver
and removal man**

Len Priestly

August Meeting on the 28th at 2pm

Going on safari in South Africa.

**The animals, her experiences and the on-
going conservation work**

Barbara Meyer

North Planter in Collingham



Deep in the heart of the natural planting at the north cross end of the village, is one of the two planters our U3A sponsors.

If you have a few minutes to spare, take a look and smell the wonderful fragrance of the many plants which make up this collection. They have been chosen to stimulate all of our five senses: ; sight, smell, taste, sound and touch.

Enjoy
Sue Fleet

Ukelele

Did you enjoy the ukelele group who entertained us at the AGM?

Are you interested in learning some basic chords, singing a few songs and having fun?

Then this might be of interest to you?

An absolute beginner group is planned to start in October, with the support, guidance and teaching aids from Dave, the Wellingore Group Leader. Before this happens however, it would be great to know how many might be interested and who if anyone, has a ukulele.



From the response, we can organise a meeting in September to decide important things like times, dates and venues, ready to start in October.

Please email me at susanfleet04@gmail.com or <tel:893458>

Look forward to hearing from you.
Sue Fleet

U3A AGM and General Meeting

Cool Hand Ukes, the Ukulele band entertains.

'Cool Hand Ukes' as seen in the picture, provided the musical entertainment following the business of the recent AGM.

A mix of 50s, 60s and 70s music encouraged a nostalgic half hour in which we prompted our brains to join in with the words.

Luckily Dave, the group lead, had the words projected on screen, for those of us in need.

It was a really fun and entertaining way to spend an afternoon, and we also appreciated the time some of the group spent talking to our own members.



Sue Fleet

Upcoming Events

A Fun Quiz Night for all U3A Members

Friday September 20th 6.45 for 7pm start until 9:30pm

at the Youth and Community Centre

£3.50 per person including question papers

Bring your own drinks and glasses.
Nibbles provided.

Prizes for the winners and losers

Your host for the evening will be Clive Bainbridge

Your quiz master is John Lewis who is providing an interesting mix of questions which includes music too.

We suggest named teams of 4 or 6 which might come from 1 Interest Group or small groups joining together to form a team.

So book your tickets now and come and join us. Tickets are available at General Meetings, or contact:

Sue Fleet tel: 893458 or email: susanfleet04@gmail.com



Indoor Bowling ?

Is anyone interested in forming a group to play Bowling, possibly on a Wednesday afternoon at the Indoor Centre off the A46.

No previous experience needed.

It would cost £2.50pp per hour unless you are a member of the club.

There are facilities to accommodate the less able-bodied, and so it is open access.

Sharing transport could be an option.

For more details please contact
Sue Fleet on 01636 893458 or
email; susanfleet04@gmail.com.



JCB Factory Tour ?

We are looking to arrange a JCB Factory Tour for later this year, the factory is near Ashbourne, the visitor centre is at ST14 5LS. Please read below and if you are interested in attending please email John Geeson on jfgeeson1@btinternet.com. We need to book and pay for this trip in advance, there is a minimum of ten people required.

During the JCB Factory Tour, visitors have unique opportunity to see the world famous JCB Backhoe loader production line. The visit involves entering a fully operational factory where Health & Safety is paramount and to ensure all our guest have a fantastic experience.

The duration of JCB's Factory Tour is approximately 2 hours 30 minutes and covers nearly 3 miles therefore individuals with walking difficulties may find the tour unsuitable.

John Geeson

Rainbows Abseil

If you were at the general meeting when we heard from Rainbows Hospice you may remember that they were promoting an Abseil down Derby Cathedral to raise funds. Two of our members, Sue Fleet and Lesley Piper, were inspired enough to volunteer.

They will be climbing 189 steps inside the Cathedral so that they can then Abseil down the outside on the 19th October. If you would like to jointly sponsor them you can do this via **Just Giving** at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sueles>

Groups

Scrabble

Lead: Margaret Orchiston, Telephone: 01636 894027
email: m.orchiston@btinternet.com

Meetings take place on 1st Thursday, 3-5pm at peoples homes

Just to let you know the Scrabble Group is progressing nicely. We have 2 new members which brings our total to 9. At present this number is easily accommodated as not everyone comes every month. (We meet in each other's houses taking it in turns). If we get more people on a regular basis then we may need to consider using a hall but that would not be a problem.

We have changed our time to 3 to 5pm so that those who wish can go to the Village Care coffee afternoon. This is a vital service which needs our support. Anyone who is interested in word games and extending their vocabulary should give us a try. We are very friendly and often more laughter than words are enjoyed. Look forward to seeing you. Yours Margaret

Music Appreciation

Lead: Nick Narracott, Telephone: 01636 892938
email: n_narracott@yahoo.com

Meetings take place on 3rd Monday, 2-4pm at the Mayfield Room

Music Appreciation will take it's summer break in August, and September's meeting will be on the 4th Monday 23rd then returning to the usual 3rd Monday in October 21st.

So far we have no shortage of presenters and that means a good variety of music tastes are catered for.

The Group continues to have a dedicated regular attendance, but we have room for more, so we'd love to see new people in the autumn - just turn up to the Mayfield Room at 2:00pm.

Circle Dancing

Lead: Sue Brauer, Telephone: 01636 894106
email: sebrauer@btinternet.com

Meetings take place on 2nd Friday, 2-4pm at the Phoenix Centre

There is no meeting for Circle Dancing in August, but we meet again as usual in September on the 13th.

Play Reading

Lead: Sue Brauer, Telephone: 01636 894106
email: sebrauer@btinternet.com

Meetings take place on 3rd Tuesday, 10am-12 at the Youth & Community Centre

We will have a summer break in August, so no meeting. But back to normal in September on the 17th.

The Bucketeers

Lead: Lesley Piper, Telephone: 01636 892795

email: lesleypiper@tiscali.co.uk

Meetings take place on 2nd Thursday, 2-4pm at various locations

Jerome of Gusto Builders and Men in Sheds hosted a very interesting and informative morning for the Bucketeers, teaching us bricklaying skills. Jerome talked us through the various stages of building a wall and Cole, a Gusto apprentice demonstrated how to start a wall by laying the two corners, with a breeze block inner wall and a brick outer wall. Most of us then got stuck in with trowel and mortar, laying a few courses of bricks.

Men in Sheds provided coffee, showed us round their workshop and very kindly invited us back at a later stage to teach us some woodworking skills.

Jerome and Cole made bricklaying look easy but we all came away thinking, 'there's mortar this than meets the eye.'



The Bucketeers took to the water in Derbyshire. The horse drawn canal boat at Cromford Mill was the perfect setting for a leisurely drift down the canal. The weather was superb and 19 happy Bucketeers had a picnic lunch then sailed along for two glorious hours. Thanks go to John Geeson for organising this fabulous trip.



What's next? - we are currently organising a session with Men In Sheds to have a go at Woodturning, just one idea amongst the many others that keep on popping up.

Bucketeers certainly keep ourselves busy"

Italian for Beginners

Lead: Graham Fleet, Telephone: 01636 893458
email: graf12003@gmail.com

Meetings take place on 2nd & 4th Monday, 2-4pm at peoples homes

Ciao Amici. The lure of holidays and sunshine have been very much part of our recent round table Italian conversations here in Collingham so the time has now come to take that well earned break. We are not meeting again until our session booked for 23rd September, so in the meantime - happy holidays to all / buone vacanze a tutti.

Graham

Strollers

Lead: Marion Wilson, Telephone: 01636 892967
email: lavenderpatch14@gmail.com

Meetings take place on 2nd Tuesday, 10am-12 at various locations



This is a photo of our group in July. John, Marg, Linda and Terry kindly organised the stroll and treasure hunt around Skellingthorpe. There were 32 clues in all, and it ended up a draw, fair and square. They each received a Crunchie bar, no expense spared. They had lunch afterwards using up all their energy. There was soup, sandwiches and chips on the menu. They all agreed it was a lovely village, and everyone was very friendly. Maybe we will find a nice stroll around Skellingthorpe for another time....

Literature

Lead: Sheelah Reynolds, Telephone: 01636 892348,
email: sheelahreynolds@btinternet.com

Meetings take place on 3rd Thursday, 10:30-12:30 at peoples homes

We are still reading and enjoying "The Age of Innocence" by Edith Wharton. We are trying a new way of selecting our next book when we meet on FRIDAY, 23RD AUGUST, at 10.30am., and expect a very lively get together.

Photography

Lead: Paul Bass, Telephone: 01636 892057

email: bass.ps@gmail.com

Meetings take place on 2nd Wednesday, 2-4pm at peoples homes

This month's theme "Letterbox" challenged the group to take images, that need a crop to a letter-box shape in order to maximise pictorial impact. Next month's group theme is "Summer Days".



Carew Tide Mill by Paul Bass



Dunham Lodge Memorial by Phil Leckenby



Follow the Leader by Margaret Bruce



Ocean View by Gill Bass



Poppies by Allan Allcock



Reflected Eye by John Geeson



Stepping Stones by Colin Smith



Firepit Design By Jenny Macpherson

Gardening

Leads: Jo Sloane, Telephone: 01636 893877

email: kslone007@btinternet.com

Ingrid Wiggins, Telephone 07805 975456

email: ingrid.wiggins@yahoo.co.uk

Meetings take place on 1st Wednesday, 2-4pm at peoples homes

We had a delightful tour of Judy's garden in June she was the perfect host and treated us to homemade cake and tea. Her conservatory was heavily laden with grapes used for fruit juice. The garden itself has a little of everything, from vegetables, deeply planted flowers borders to keep weeds at bay to majestic trees with the backcloth of the church. There is a dry garden, herb area and a huge fig tree that feeds not only the family but the birds too, sweet smelling roses and plenty of seating. Judy's artistic hand can be found too in weaving wisteria stems into decorative wreaths.

We meet next month, Wednesday 7th August at Ingrid's to appreciate her hard work after the Red Cross Open Garden's and I hear there is tea and cake!

Art Appreciation

Leads: Helena Narracott, Telephone: 01636 892938

email: hnarracott@yahoo.co.uk

Chris Stothard, Telephone: 01636 894241

email: cstothard@gmail.com

Meetings take place on 4th Tuesday, 2-4pm at the Youth & Community Centre

Our group has had some excellent presentations over the last few months June's talk from Margaret on Antonio Gaudi's construction techniques looked at his work around Barcelona and Mallorca Cathedral.

Lila then took us on a whimsical tour of the world, viewing buildings that were completed within the last year. How styles have changed! Gaudi exploited concrete with a lively imagination to make functional buildings that were beautiful, taking



[Under](#) is an underwater restaurant in Lindesnes, Norway



Casa Batlló in Barcelona

themes from nature. Now concrete, steel and glass structures are popping up around the world conjuring high structures within fantastic geometric shapes but will they stand the test of time and are some aesthetically beautiful admits our city buildings!

July, Helena's talk is on Joaquin Sorolla 'Spanish Artist of Light' - Tuesday 23rd July

No meeting in August but we are arranging for our members a trip to Sheffield's Millennium Gallery to see an exhibition on the work of John Ruskin, specifically his Botanical and Ornithological studies. After lunch will visit the Graves Gallery, that has a small, but comprehensive collection including Impressionism and recently acquired a Comfort Blanket designed by Grayson Perry.

Music Making

Lead: Phil Leckenby, Telephone: 01522 778280

email: pjleckenby@gmail.com

Meetings take place on 1st & 3rd Monday, 10am-12 at Methodist Church, High St., North Scarle

Following the last rehearsal, there is now a possibility that we will be joined by another singer. If this comes to pass, we could venture into more jazz/blues/soul material and even explore the possibility of backing singers to augment soloists. However, our present equipment would need updating. Our PA amp is limited to only two microphone inputs, the third being occupied by an iPad. We would need to procure a mixer to enable balancing of all inputs. If anyone has expertise in this area, please let me know.



The repertoire continues to grow, with the addition of another Shadows number for the guitarists and also the early '80s favourite, 'Will You?', by Hazel O'Connor. There are several more pieces in the pipeline awaiting arrangement.

Looking ahead towards the end of the year, a couple of items have cropped up on the calendar. We have been asked to perform, for the third year running, at the North Scarle Church Carol Service on 13th December and we expect to play during the Collingham U3A Christmas party on 18th December

..... And no, we haven't found a keyboard player yet!

Local History Research

Lead: Pat Smedley, Telephone: 01636 892292

email: patsmedley@googlemail.com

Meetings take place on 3rd Wednesday, 2-4pm at the Mayfield Room

For our August meeting we will be looking into family history as an important element of our local history. We are also in the process of arranging a date to visit Creswell Crags over the summer. If anyone is potentially interested in joining us, please get in touch.

Members of our research group have contributed to volume 4 of The Irregular which be available by 1st September in Gascoigne's and from the Local History Society – look out for posters in the village.

Activities in the group are diverse but all directed to enrich our knowledge of local history and how to research this.

- History Trail [as above : from Big Bang to 21st century : we will trace the story of Collingham and our regional area and set it against our island story]. Our visit to Creswell Crags will inform our understanding of our prehistory.
- Living History : some of our members have already interviewed people who wish to share their earliest memories of the village. From the autumn we will be looking to interview anyone with memories of Collingham in the second world war [and in particular of VE day] to contribute to a display for the Collingham MayFair already being planned for 2020
- Individual research topics : members who have made an area of interest their own, over the last two years continue to work on these topics, including the history of public houses, schools and so on.

You do not have to know anything about history, local history, or research techniques to join this group. It opens up ever fascinating details of what life was like in the past – and why!

Group Diary

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Week	AM/PM	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	AM	Making Music 10am - 12 Homes	Walks 9.30am Coop Car Park	Recorders 10.30am - 12 Homes	Family History Motor Sports 10am - 12 10am - 12 Phoenix Centre Coop Café	Casual French 10am - 12 Homes
		PM		Gardening 2 - 4pm Homes	Scrabble 3 - 5pm Homes	Kurling 2 - 4pm Memorial Hall
2	AM	Strollers Active 50+ 10am - 12 Times Vary Co-op Newark Leisure				
		PM	Beginners Italian 2 - 4pm Homes	Committee 4.30 - 6.30pm Mayfield	Photography 2 - 4pm Homes	Bucketeers 2 - 4pm Youth & CC
3	AM	Making Music 10am - 12 Homes	Play Reading 10am - 12 Youth & CC	Recorders 10.30am - 12 Homes	Literature 10.30am - 12.30 Homes	Casual French 10am - 12 Homes
		PM	Music Appreciation 2 - 4pm Mayfield	Board Games 2 - 4pm Youth & CC	Local History Research 2 - 4pm Mayfield	Lunch Club 12.30 Various Venues
4	AM	Active Over 50's Times Vary Newark Leisure			French Advanced 10am - 12 Homes	History 10am - 12 Youth & CC
		PM	Beginners Italian 2 - 4pm Homes	Art Appreciation 2 - 4pm Youth & CC	General Meeting 2 - 4pm Memorial Hall	Thursday Talking Shop 2 - 4pm Homes