



## **VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS**

It is very depressing and disappointing that I must advise you that I have not to date received any indication from any of our members that they will put their name forward for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair for the next year. We have been established now for over 3 years and at present have 219 members with fifty people on our waiting list and we have established 29 interest groups. **All this could be lost.**

I have for the last six months at meetings and in the newsletter advised you all that we need the four officers of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer filled for our U3A to continue and indeed included brief job descriptions in the Newsletter. Sue Harkin has put her name forward to continue as Secretary and we have received a nomination for Treasurer **BUT** we are in a position where there is no nomination, or indeed any indication, that our members are prepared to take on either of these roles of Chair and Vice Chair.

Should nominations not be received by the 6<sup>th</sup> May, (28 days before the AGM); at the AGM I would have to advise the membership that I would be calling an EGM (extraordinary general meeting), when the sole item under consideration will be the **closure of the U3A.**

**PLEASE LET ME MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR, IF MEMBERS ARE NOT PREPARED TO TAKE ON THESE TWO ROLES AN EGM WILL HAVE TO BE CALLED TO CONSIDER THE CLOSURE OF FOREST TOWN AND DISTRICT U3A**

Each and every member please gives this matter **serious consideration** as to whether you can take on either of these two roles. Please advise me if you are going to put your name forward and also complete a Nomination Form which must be forwarded or handed to our Secretary.

Should you need more information you can email me at [mikethos42@yahoo.com](mailto:mikethos42@yahoo.com) or 'phone me on 01623 470929 or 07790177224, or speak to any member of the present committee.

Mike King  
Chairman

### **Mike's Musings**

**Welcome** to the May edition of our Newsletter again produced for us by Steve Evans. I am writing this on Easter Monday, and we are still enjoying wonderful weather; I hope you have all been able to make the best of this Bank Holiday either at home or on your travels. Our weather is so unpredictable, I remember that when our daughter was born in June, we had snow!

**Committee Membership** We emailed our members and put on the website the current serious position regarding the vacancies, (particularly of Chair and Vice Chair), for which we have not received completed nomination forms. The text is re-produced in this Newsletter for those of you who do not have access to a computer, please give the contents your serious consideration.

**June Meeting** Following the AGM at the June meeting instead of a visiting speaker we are taking the opportunity for all our Interest groups to have informative displays. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn more of the groups and for you to consider joining one that you perhaps hadn't thought of previously. We now have 29 groups offering a wide variety of interests but if there is something else you are interested in and think could also be of interest to other please speak to our Group Co-ordinator Ann Stanford or any members of the committee.

Mike King  
Chairman

## LOOKING BACK AT OUR APRIL MEETING

At our April 2019 meeting PC Jayne Walters gave us a very interesting, informative and lively talk about personal safety, how to protect your home, precautions to take whilst driving and parking your car and being aware of people and our surroundings.



**In your home** use visual deterrents, a burglar alarm, invest in automatic light time switches; de-feminise your porch or conservatory by putting masculine wellies or a hard hat there, or a photo of a dog in the window.

**Going away?** Don't leave your home too tidy, a cup of tea, a half-eaten biscuit, a magazine in view or leaving your radio on a talk channel can make your home look occupied.

One question from PC Jayne had our members divided, do you lock your car doors when driving or not? the advice was to lock them to deter opportunist bag snatcher at traffic lights, for the same reason only have your car windows open 2 inches, when parking try to park in a busy area where people are moving about, avoid parking near hedges or trees where people might be loitering.

Many other topics were covered; the main message was **always be vigilant and aware of your surroundings.**

## **Our next monthly meeting will be on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 in St Alban's Church at 1.45pm.**

Our Speaker will be Trevor Dempsey, Pinewood to Hollywood. "I speak about people from the world of entertainment and sport I've talked to including: Anna Neagle, John Mills, Jane Fonda, Roger Moore, Judi Dench, Stan Matthews, Norman Wisdom and many more..."

## THE MAIN MEETINGS IN 2019

May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trevor Dempsey	Pinewood to Hollywood and more
Jun 6 <sup>th</sup>	AGM & Members meeting	No Speaker. Show and Tell displays by groups
Jul 4 <sup>th</sup>	Phil Cooper	A trip of a lifetime - Syria, Damascus, and much more
Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mike Hill	Nottingham Search & Rescue
Sep 5 <sup>th</sup>	John Smith	Reading Body language: My Guide to People Watching
Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Roger Browne	From New Orleans to New York (Live recreation of tunes from jazz tour of 1919)
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Dr Ifran Malic	First World War contribution of Dulmial Village Pakistan
Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Members meeting	Slide Show; review of the year

# INTEREST GROUPS & LATEST REPORTS

## GROUP MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Book Club	Table Tennis Tai Chi	Rambling	<b>MAIN MEETING</b>	Music - 60s Appreciation
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Craft Poetry & Play Reading	Gardening Tai Chi	Current Affairs	Bird Watching Ten Pin Bowling	Bridge Scrabble & Rummikub
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Scrabble & Rummikub Family History	Tai Chi Cycling Off Road	Rambling Lunch Club	Local History	Strollers Dancing
4 <sup>th</sup>	Short Walks	Art Appreciation Tai Chi	Classic Vehicles	Cryptic Crosswords Painting & Drawing Scrap Booking Evening Dining Out	Bridge
<b>Groups with no Set Day - National Trust</b>					

### Art Appreciation

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 10am Forest Town Arena  
Contact Jill Gascoyne

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### Bird Watching

Group Leader: *Lynne Cooper*  
Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month

For our April meeting five members of the Bird Watching group took a walk through Sherwood Forest. The weather was kind to us for a change and we had good sightings, Tree Creeper and Chiffchaff in particular. The Woodpecker proved elusive as we could hear it plainly nearby but were unable to find it. Good to see the RSPB are beginning to improve the site at last with new signposts and benches.  
Kathleen.

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### Book Club

Group Leader: Ann Stanford  
Meet 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 10. 30am Forest Town Library

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### Bridge

Group Leader: Steve Evans  
Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month  
10 am - 12 noon at the Flint Avenue Centre.

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### Classic Vehicles

Contact Ann Stanford  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2pm Forest Town Arena

Nottinghamshire County Show will be at Newark. 11th & 12th May. Classic cars and other vehicles are on display.

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### Computer and IT Skills

Group Leader: *Bob Hunt*

Please contact Bob re meeting

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### Country Dancing

Pam Lander.

The group has decided to stay at St. Patrick's Church Hall. It is a lovely space with excellent facilities! As the hall is bigger we have spaces if you would like to join us. No experience required. There is a charge of £2 a session, paid in 3 monthly instalments of £6. This is to cover the hire of the hall and includes refreshments.

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### Craft

Group Leader: Jane Freeman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 2pm - 4pm Meet Forest Town Arena

On Monday 8th April, the group went to Taylor's Nursery and Tea rooms for lunch then lingered in the centre afterwards.

### Cryptic Crosswords

**Meet on 4th Thursday, 10am at Forest Town Arena.  
Group Leader Kay Toy**

We had our initial meeting in March, and got off to a good start, with the "beginners" making significant progress and the "improvers" polishing up their skills. A few crossword "tricks" were explored, with more to follow in April. Onwards and upwards...! Kay

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### Current Affairs

**Group Leader: Desley O'Leary  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 10am - 12 noon**

A wide range of topics was discussed. Starting with the recent news of the 70 million Euro lottery winner followed by asking how far President Trump has progressed with 'making America great again'. The plight of unhappy teachers leaving the profession motivated debate as did the realization that society was moving towards cashless purchasing which would be a challenge for those people with no access to or confidence with computers. The recent news of the Notre Dame fire posed the question 'Do we spend millions to fully restore it or leave it as a monument?'

The group ended on a happy note considering whether comedy on TV or radio was declining largely due to political correctness, but then some of us recognised that this in itself will always be a rich subject for comedy. Many thanks, to Desley for the splendid refreshments. Phil.

### Cycling Off Road

**Meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
Group Leader David Duncan**

We cycled our first route, uphill and down through the forests at Sherwood Pines. Phil was our route finder to the Cafe! It was brilliant! Weather good, company excellent and lots of heart beating that made you feel that there was a fitter person somewhere in the body.

The group is planning a similar route next time but incorporating parts of the tough red circuit! Join us - if you dare!

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### DAYS OUT/HOLIDAYS & OUTINGS 2019

Contact Denise

#### To all members taking part on trips that Denise organises herself

It has once again become frustrating for Denise with members last minute cancellations, we as a U3A appreciate sometimes illness can prevent members from participating, but as Denise puts together these holidays and hires the bus herself all discount is passed onto the members and not the travel agents. Members are responsible for payments and we will do our best to sell/fill your place.

A lot of work is put into the organisation, so let's keep everything positive or we will lose this group/organising of days out/holidays.

#### December 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas spectacular at Potters,

Price to be confirmed approximately £325 including transport and accommodation

**Please make all cheques payable to Skills  
Days out and Holidays are very popular,  
places can only be reserved on payment**

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#### Evening Dining Out

**Group Leaders: Jane Atkins, Marilyn Redfern  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

#### May 23<sup>rd</sup> Van Dyke's

Modern European fine dining  
Worksop Road Clowne S43 4TD

#### June 27<sup>th</sup> Farndon Boathouse

Modern Home Cooked & locally produced food  
N End Farndon NG24 3SX

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## Gardening

**Group Leaders: Angelina Taylor & Irene Brookes**  
**Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 10-12noon –**  
**Stuart Avenue Centre**

For our April meeting we enjoyed a very interesting talk by Mr Mike Davey, on Historic Houses and Gardens. Brought back by popular demand, this was his second visit, and proved a hit once again!

A world of wonderful architecture and landscape gardening opened up, with intriguing facts and beautiful photos. Almost 20 houses from various parts of the country were illustrated, and dated from as early as the twelfth century, through to the nineteenth century. And these presented new territory for most of us: out of all of them, I myself had only visited Kew Gardens! Possible garden visits for us to look forward to in the future (although some were as far away as Cornwall).

Thanks to Mr Davey, to Angelina for her home-made cakes, and to the members who organised refreshments. Kay

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## Family History

**Group Leader: Jenny Wright**  
**Meet 2.30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - Flint Avenue Centre**

There was no meeting in April due to it falling around Easter. From May, there will be a change of Group Leader when Jenny Wright will be leading the group.

Pauline

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## Local History

**Group Leader: Pauline Marples**  
**Meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2.15pm –**  
**Flint Avenue Centre**

There was no meeting in April due to Easter.

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## Lunch Club

**Group Leader: Denise Whitsed**  
**Meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**

**Group Leaders can be contacted  
via their Group page on the  
Forest Town & District U3A website:**

**<https://u3asites.org.uk/forest-town/groups>**

## Music - 60's Appreciation

**Group Leader: John Kirk**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Friday Meet Forest Town Arena 2-4pm**

There was another good turnout of members for the monthly bash of all things 1960,s (or thereabouts) in the Arena Lounge. This was the first time with the new PA speakers which proved to be excellent. These speakers belong to the Sherwood U3A and we are very grateful to be able to loan them once a month, so many thanks to them from us.

This month's excellent quiz was devised and delivered by Janet Clarke so thank you Janet for taking the time, it was most enjoyable.

The Dave Clark Five was our featured artist who turned out to be a very complex character who's long and eventful career too him from leaving school at 15 to being an 80 year old reclusive millionaire. More of the same next month, hope to see you there. John.

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## National Trust Group

**Ann Stanford**

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019 we visited Woolsthorpe Manor, which was the home of Sir Isaac Newton. We visited the science and discovery centre where physics and mathematical experiments could be explored from isaac's ideas. We also toured the house in which he lived, and we saw the famous apple tree.

We move on to Belton House which is a 17<sup>th</sup> English Country House with excellent gardens and a ancient deer park.

## Spring and summer 2019 National Trust Visits

We are using Ravenshead Community Transport. The mini bus will seat 14 passengers and all prices have been costed to this.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Town Arena 9.30am. Bookings being taken at the May main monthly meeting 14 seats places available  
Cost £9.00

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June:** - **Packwood House and Baddseley Clinton**. Leaving Forest .Town Arena 9.30am Cost £13.00

**Saturday 13th July:** - **Lyme Park and House**

Leaving Forest Town Arena 9.30am. Cost £9.00. Booking and payment will take place at May main monthly meeting for the 13<sup>th</sup> April visit. Cheques made payable to **Forest Town and District U3A**

## Painting and Drawing

**Group Leader: Christine Cawthorne .**  
**Meet on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2pm till 4pm**  
**Sherwood Centre, Stuart Avenue**

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## Poetry & Play Reading

**Group Leader: Alan Barham**  
**Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 10am till 12noon**  
**Sherwood Centre, Stuart Avenue**

## Rambling

**Group Leader: Andrew Riby**  
**Rambles from 7 miles up to 9 miles**  
**Meet on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**

Our first walk of April explored the Charnwood District in Leicestershire. We set off from the Quorn & Woodhouse railway station, which has been restored to a 1940s theme, on the preserved Great Central Steam Railway. Steve led us through the pretty village of Quorn, whose residents have included Gordon Banks, the 1966 World Cup winning goalkeeper, and David Gower, ex England cricketer. On the way to the village of Mountsorrel, we passed the largest granite quarry in Europe. Our morning break was taken sitting on the war memorial on top of Castle Hill, with views over Mountsorrel towards Melton Mowbray.



Having skirted Swithland Reservoir, on our way back to Quorn we spotted some bluebells already in flower and were lucky enough to see a steam train pass closely by.

Janis and I led our next walk. Setting off from Linacre reservoirs, we headed first to the tiny hamlet of

Pratthall as the cloud was being burnt off by the sun. Heading across undulating countryside with fine views we passed through the intriguingly named hamlet of Rumbling Street. Lunch was taken in glorious sunshine on the side of Bole Hill overlooking the beautiful Cordwell Valley.



Arriving in Barlow, we visited St Lawrence's church, which dates back to the mid-1100s, and then came across the Coronation Tree in the centre of the village, planted in 1911 to commemorate the crowning of King George V. In Cutthorpe we admired the 17C Manor House with its four storey staircase tower before finishing our walk crossing the lower Linacre Reservoir dam.

**Our next rambles:** 1<sup>st</sup> May: Dale Abbey to Stanton-by-Dale and Ockbrook (9 miles). 15th May: Ashford in the Water, Sheldon, Monsal Dale & Thornbridge Hall (7.5 miles). Meet at the Arena car park to arrange lift sharing, normally departing at 08:40 a.m. prompt but please check beforehand. New members welcome.  
Andy

## Scrabble & Rummikub

**Group Leader: Celia Tassle**  
**Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Forest Town Arena**  
**2pm**

## Scrap Booking

**Group Leader: Ann Stanford**  
**Meet on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2-4pm**  
**Sherwood Centre, Stuart Ave.**

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## Short Walks

**Group Leader: Marilyn Redfern**  
**Meet on 4th Monday 10.15am**

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## Strollers

**Group Leader: Denise Doud**  
**Meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday 10: 30am**

What a beautiful morning for our stroll around Thoresby Hall on Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. The sun was shining and as we arrived we found the car park very busy due to a family fun day, so it was lovely to see the area around the Hall occupied by tents and bouncy castles all ready for the children. Our circular walk took us round past the church and the farm which enabled us to see the new lambs, not quite new-born but still lovely to see. 18 of us did the stroll today chit - chatting away as usual so we were ready to adjourn at the end of our walk to the cafe in the courtyard which is always a welcome treat. Our next stroll is on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am meeting at Thieves Wood.

## Table Tennis

**Group Leader: Marilyn Redfern**  
**Meet on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Meden & Oak Hill Leisure Centre New Time 11:30 - 1:30**

## Tai Chi

**Contact Ann Stanford.**

Forest Town Methodist Church

"Next block of 10 sessions begins on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019  
2.30pm to 3.30pm. Cost £14."

## Ten Pin Bowling

**Group Leader: Gordon Chapman**  
**Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2pm**  
**Mansfield Superbowl 2000**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Kingsway Hall has been undergoing lots of refurbishment and they are pleased to announce the VILLAGE MARKET will start again on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 10am -2pm.

Forest Town Community Council meets 7.15pm every third Tuesday in the Sherwood Room (Forest Town Arena). It is open to all Forest Town residents who have an interest in events relating to the community. A Coffee Morning will be held in Forest Town Methodist Church on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 10am to 11.30am.

## Deadline for June Newsletter

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. Please send articles to Steve Evans

[steve.jackie84@ntlworld.com](mailto:steve.jackie84@ntlworld.com)

<i>Forest Town U3A Executive Committee</i>	
<i>Committee Position</i>	<i>Name</i>
<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Mike King</i>
<i>V/Chair &amp; Speaker Sec</i>	<i>Susan Wright</i>
<i>Business Secretary</i>	<i>Sue Harkin</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Lynne Cooper</i>
<i>Assist Treasurer</i>	<i>Marilyn Redfern</i>
<i>Groups Co-ordinator</i>	<i>Ann Stanford</i>
<i>Assist. Group Co-ordinator</i>	<i>Steve Evans</i>
<i>Membership Sec</i>	
<i>Assist/Membership Sec.</i>	<i>Jane Atkins</i>
<i>Website Editor</i>	<i>Bob Hunt</i>
<i>Joint Social Secretary</i>	<i>Hazel Hett</i>
<i>Joint Social Secretary</i>	<i>Denise Whitsed</i>
<i>Welfare Officer</i>	<i>Kelvin Foster</i>



**The Avenues today**