



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

LEICESTER NEWSLETTER

July 2019

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u3asites.org.uk/leicester



Can you Canoe?

Members of the How Hard Can it Be group take to the water

Picture by Gabi Garland

Report on page 7

July Meeting: Tuesday 9th at 2:45.

Speaker: *Malcolm Riddle*

Origins and Decline of the Grand Central Railway Through Leicestershire

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 10th at 2:45

Speaker: *John Florance*

John Betjeman — More than Strapping Gels and Bombs on Slough

Dr Florance retired from broadcasting three years ago and now teaches for the WEA and lectures for other organisations. He conducts pre-concert talks for the Philharmonia and Bardi Orchestras. He has enjoyed John Betjeman since he was a student and is the President of the Shires Branch of the Betjeman Society. Eight years ago he gave the national society's annual lecture in London.

Attendance at the June Meeting: 85 members, 1 visitor.

Membership 2019 – Additions, Corrections and Updates

The membership now stands at 427.

Margaret Potter (Membership Secretary)

Speakers

We are always keen to hear about good and interesting speakers.

If, somewhere other than U3A, you have heard a talk which you would like to recommend for a monthly meeting, please contact the Secretary to let her know.

(Contact details can be found on the separate contacts sheet.)

Committee News

The minutes of committee meetings are available at the Secretary's table at monthly meetings and also on the members' page of the website.

Venues for Group Meetings

Is your group getting too big for your present meeting place?

Are you thinking of starting a new group?

A *Suggested Venues List* is available from the Groups Co-ordinator.

Mary Essinger

Members may have noticed the highly favourable review of Mary Essinger's book "How to be a Merry Widow" in the latest edition of Third Age Matters.

It fails to mention that Mary is a member of our Leicester U3A.

Message from the Chair

As members of U3A we are, by definition, no longer in full-time employment. But I've been working for the past two weeks and have still got about a week to go, doing GCSE exam marking for one of the exam boards. Apart from my pensions, it's my only additional income during the year. Fortunately, I'm a bit weird, and I actually enjoy the marking, time-consuming though it is. When I was a teacher, I used to really love marking the regular end-of-module tests my students did, and as a student myself, I really enjoyed doing tests and exams. I did say I was weird! I still enjoy tests and exams, and I'm currently doing another Botany course to help me with my Botany group. I'm also having Ukulele lessons to help me with my Ukulele group. It's all got me wondering what additional part-time employment members of Leicester U3A might be doing. I know some people do exam invigilation, another very seasonal activity like exam marking. And what about courses? Have you enrolled on a course which has piqued your interest? A new interest, that perhaps one day might become a new U3A group?



While we're speaking of courses, do have a look at the list of courses on offer at the two U3A National Summer Schools. There's a great mix of art, literature, music, history, maths etc. I was so excited to see a Ukulele course! But it clashes with an already-booked visit away, so no can do. I've got my fingers crossed for next year, though. The local Network of Leicestershire and Rutland U3As have plans to have 'subject days', where members with a particular interest e.g. History, or the Arts, will be invited to attend a whole day of workshops/activities based on their interest. This sounds very interesting to me, I love the idea of group-based contact between the different U3As, we can learn so much from seeing how other people do things. The first such event will be 'A Day for Bridge', which will be held in Market Harborough on 23rd November. Now that we have 3 Bridge groups, I'm sure some of you will be interested in signing up for this event. Do have a look at the advert in this month's Newsletter, and on the website, where you will be able to download a booking form. And have a chat in your groups; is this something you'd like to get involved with should further days be planned?

Finally, I'm still keen for us to have some fun events planned during the year. But we need some members to help organise them. Do let anyone on the Committee know if you'd like to help out.

Steph Smith

Social Committee

Cast your minds back to 2016, which was our 21st Anniversary year. You may remember some of the special events the then Committee, under the leadership of Sue Howard, organised throughout the year to help us celebrate: the Steam Railway trip, the afternoon tea, the quiz. Everyone seemed to enjoy them and indeed asked at the time if we could have them more often. I've recently visited another local U3A, which regularly holds social events throughout the year, which if the photos on display were anything to go by, were clearly a lot of fun. So I've decided to add 'have fun' to the list of activities we do. But this will need organising, you can't conjure up a cream tea or a ceilidh out of nowhere (just a couple of suggestions there!). We need a small social committee, of say, three members to organise an event to get the ball rolling. These will not be a Committee posts, but there will be one member of the Committee to oversee this little band of adventurers. These people will not necessarily organise every event, but decide on events, and hopefully, for each event, in turn organise a small group of people to focus on that one event. That way, different people can contribute, and it's not always the same people every time. This is very much how we organised things in 2016!

So if you are interested, please let me know or put your name on the sign-up sheet at the Monthly Meeting. Also, if you have any ideas for events we could have during the year, please let me know. Let's have some fun!

Steph Smith

New Members Coffee Mornings

The Wellbeing and Hospitality team are very proud of the New Members Coffee Mornings - joining a new organisation can be very daunting, but having these events in members' homes means it's easy to get to know people. If you think you'd be interested in joining our Wellbeing team you'll always find me at the Monthly Meeting, or contact me, as we'd love to have you.

Sandra Barker

Refreshment Helpers

Volunteers are needed to serve refreshments at monthly meetings. If you feel you could help, please contact Sandra Barker, Wellbeing and Hospitality Co-ordinator. (See the contacts sheet.)

National Summer Schools

Booking for this year's National Summer Schools has now opened. There is more information on the national website at <https://summer-schools.u3a.org.uk/>.

Or phone National Office on 020 84666139.

Courses on offer:

Aston University, Aston Street, Birmingham, B4 7ET

Monday 12th to Thursday 15th August 2019

Art History & Archaeology - Ancient Civilisations of the Americas;

Creative Writing - The Big Novel;

English Poetry - During the Reign of Queen Victoria 1837-1901;

Film - International Films, Italian - La Bella Italia - Lingua e Cultura;

Linguistics - Child Language Acquisition;

Literature/Philosophy - Irisland;

Music - Jazz - The Sound of Surprise;

Ukulele - Play Ukulele;

Singing - Singing for Pleasure

Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, GL7 6JS

Tuesday 10th September to Friday 13th September 2019

Crosswords - Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners;

Drama - Mid Twentieth Century Drama;

Garden History - Influential Women in English Garden History;

History - Bede and the Conversion of England;

Language - Latin for Roman Britain and Beyond;

Literature - Shakespeare and the Props Department;

Mathematics - Surprised by Maths;

Opera - Donizetti's Three (and a bit) Queens;

Philosophy - Introduction to Philosophy;

Making Music - Recorder Ensemble.

Reports from the Groups

Architecture and Design



On May 8 the Architecture and Design Group visited Humberstone Garden Village. This is the only garden suburb in the UK which was set up by the workers in a co-operatively owned factory, Anchor Boot and Shoe. They bought land in Humberstone and, starting in 1908, built houses let at rents that are only spent on the upkeep of the houses and the estate.

A total of 147 houses were built, the last one in 1937.

We were shown round by Mike Osborne, one of the tenants, and were impressed by the strong community spirit on the estate which is still run as a housing co-operative, though the factory closed some years ago.

Veronica Matthew



Pictures by Matt Matthew

How Hard Can It Be

Our June experience was to try Canoeing at the Outdoor Pursuits Centre. A little nervous at first, six of us arrived and met our instructor, Bhavesh, and were kitted out with the necessary buoyancy aids. We then helped to carry the three canoes to the riverbank, and learned how to manipulate the paddles before lowering ourselves carefully into the canoes - one in front, one at the rear of each.

It was a lovely sunny day on the river; lots of laughter as we tried unsuccessfully to avoid steering into each other or the river banks; the atmosphere was one of peaceful progress, with birdsong all around us, and we were amazed at how the wind could blow us off course at times.

Bhavesh was very patient with us, and interspersed our paddling with short rests. During one he recited a beautiful poem about being swans and storks in life, and later encouraged us to try out some simple Yoga movements and poses (yes - in the canoes). He even demonstrated a headstand in his own canoe. We paddled back to base with much more confidence, feeling pleased that we had met this new challenge. My biggest problem was getting OUT of the canoe!

Anne Harcourt



Picture by *Gabi Garland*

Rambling

Here we are at Stoke Wet on the wettest day since Noah set sail!



On a walk from Lullington undaunted by the weather.

Sue Howard

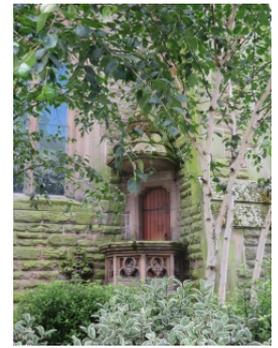
Architecture — Trip to Birmingham, Thursday 20 June 2019

The trip to see some of Birmingham's architecture in September last year was abandoned due to heavy rain and rescheduled for 20 June this year. The weather was warm, sunny and cloudy this time and eight of us arrived at Birmingham New Street Station at 10:45. This was the first construction on our list. Paul McCann, was our guide and had extensively researched the buildings we were going to see.

From the station we went to the Bullring shopping centre and down to St Martin's, saying "Hello" to Nelson's statue on the way. We were warmly greeted by the priest who preaches from the external pulpit attached to the north wall of the church on Saturdays. This church has been much renovated and rebuilt since the 12th century and contains a Burne-Jones



window at the east end. He was a member William Morris's Arts and Crafts movement. The café attached to the church was our first refreshment stop. Next we walked via New Street to Temple Row and had lunch in the Victorian Restaurant upstairs in the Great Western Arcade. This arcade is built over the former GWR railway line into Snow Hill Station and is full of interesting shops and delightful Victorian architecture. Everyone was highly complimentary about the Victorian Restaurant, refreshments being as important as the architectural education.



On to St Philip's (the Birmingham Anglican Cathedral) and more Burne-Jones windows, then along Colmore Row (once part of the road between Lichfield and Dudley). The north side was bought by the Colmore estate in the 16th century and developed in the 18th and 19th centuries. On the south side was the Inge family estate we have yet to explore. There are 26 listed buildings in Colmore Row. We gave them a miss on this visit, except for No 130, built by Leicester architect Goddard.

Via Victoria Square and the Town Hall to the library and a café stop. Then a ride up to the 9th floor for the view from the terrace and the sensory garden, down to the 7th for another terrace and the Shakespeare room which has been transported to the new building from the former 1974 Central Library. Down again to the 3rd floor and another terrace with a south facing view.

Well satisfied, the group returned to New Street Station for the 5:22 train.



Great Western
Arcade

The
Goddard
Building



Architecture Groups — Coach Trip to Wisbech

In an exceptionally wet week the Leicester U3A coach trip to Wisbech was extremely fortunate to have a completely dry but overcast June day. After a walking tour in small groups round Wisbech's Georgian architecture we visited the National Trust's Georgian gem, Peckover House, with optional tours of the magnificent gardens. Some members managed to squeeze in a visit to the Fenland Museum or Octavia Hill's Birthplace Museum in the lunch break.

Veronica Matthew

Pictures by Matt Matthew



News from the Groups Co-ordinator

Hi everybody,

My first job this month is to welcome Spanish Beginners to our group list. This burst almost fully fledged on to the scene this month and is ready to go. I'll advertise it in the normal way to allow as many people as possible to join.



Mah Jong Beginners and Current Affairs 3 will begin shortly, once we've met to organise convenors and fill in the final details.

I am still very interested in starting a Social Committee. The title sounds very grand and time consuming, but it would just be a group who would get together informally every so often to organise purely social events. In talking you may wish to organise something outside of what we all do month be month. The Social Committee - it needn't be called that - would meet to plan it. And it could be anything from a Lunch away through Afternoon Tea to a Dinner. See you what you think and get in touch.

Now - is your group running out of ideas do you think? Are things getting repetitive? Dry? If so get in touch with and we can discuss future plans and come up with some ideas. The U3A has good resources and googling things always turns up interesting sources, buildings or areas of interest. *Neil Taylor*

Budding Groups – those seeking members in order to start

Spanish Beginners

This new group is starting but is still open to more members joining in.

Diamond Painting

Is nearly ready.

Social Committee (See page 4)

Though it is not a regular meeting group, it will be a useful addition to our organisation.

Next Group Meetings

Please remember, you **MUST** be a member of Leicester U3A and contact the convenor before joining a group. You can contact the convenor by email by adding @leicesteru3a.org.uk to the generic address given with each group. For example, to contact the architecture convenor, send an email to architecture1@leicesteru3a.org.uk

Continued overleaf ...

Detailed information on all our groups is also available on our website and members can contact the convenors from there. The information is also available as a “Contacts Sheet” sent out by email and at the groups table at monthly meetings.

If you have difficulty contacting the convenor, try the Groups Coordinator instead.

Dates included in the following list are for meetings taking place between 7 July and 13 September (inclusive).

Architecture	Susan Martin-Butt	architecture1
	2:00 on the 3rd Thursday of the month in members’ homes.	
	Next: 18 July.	Car sharing trip to <i>Apethorpe Palace</i> .
	Later: 15 August.	Car sharing trip to <i>Geddington, Warkton Church, Rothwell</i> .
Architecture and the Built Environment	Peter Kilty	architecture2
	2:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road. Further information from Peter.	
	Taking a break until September.	
Architecture and Design	Veronica Matthew	architecture3
	2:30 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation Synagogue, Avenue Road.	
	Next: 10 July.	Visit to Friars Mill, Leicester. Meet at the mill.
	Later: 14 August.	Stirling Prize shortlist presentations. Please check with Veronica whether this session is running.
Art Appreciation	Mary Neilson	artappreciation
	10:00 on the 1st Friday of the month in members’ homes or at a gallery.	
	Next: 2 August at Mary’s. Individual presentations on female artists.	
	Later: 6 September.	
Backgammon	Bob Collins	backgammon
	10:00 on the 4th Tuesday of the month in members’ homes.	
	Next: 23 July.	Later: 27 August.
Bones for Life	Jean Stone	bones
	10:30 on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Synagogue, Avenue Road.	
	Next: 17 July.	Later: 7, 21 August, 4 September.

Bookworms	Nick Arlett	bookworms
	10:30 — 12:00 on the 1st Wednesday of the month at The Exchange Bar (opposite Curve), 50 Rutland Street. Please contact Nick Arlett if you are interested in joining. For more information, including a list of novels so far, please see the Bookworms page on the Leicester U3A website.	
	Next: 7 August.	Book:
	Later: 4 September.	
Botany	Steph Smith	botany
	2:00 on the 1st Monday of the month at Steph's.	
	First: 5 August.	<i>Croft Meadows Nature Reserve.</i>
	Later: 2 September.	
Bridge 1	Bob Collins	bridge1
	2:00 every Wednesday at Bob's.	
	Next: 10 July.	Later: 17, 24, 31 July, 7, 14, 21, 28 August.
Bridge Beginners	Keith Pyne	bridgebeginners
	2:00 on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in members' homes.	
	The group has grown and we are making steady progress in learning and, above all, enjoying doing it.	
	Next: 16 July.	Later: 23 July, 20, 27 August.
Bridge 2	Henry Paulinski	bridge2
	2:00 every Thursday in members' homes. Play this wonderful game in congenial company. Ideal for Bridge players with two or more years' experience.	
	For interest: The group is taking part in the County U3A bridge event on November 23rd, 2019.	
	Next: 11 July. Later: 18, 25 July, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 August, 5, 12 September.	
Bus Pass Tours	Denise Buchan	buspass
	Trips are once or twice a month. Dates and venues will vary according to destination.	
	Next: .16 July.	Destination: Derby.
	Later: 31 July.	Destination: Kelmarsh House / Northampton.
Canasta	Barbara Sheppard	canasta
	2:00 on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	
	Next: 12 July.	Later: 26 July, 9, 23 August, 13 September.
Chess for Pleasure	Graham Williams	chess
	10:30 - 12:30 on the 1st Monday of the month at Graham's.	
	Anyone who can play chess is welcome.	
	Next: 5 August.	Later: 2 September.

Craft	Margaret Potter	craft
	2:00 on the 2nd Friday of the month at Margaret's.	
	Next: 12 July.	Later: 9 August.
Creative Writing	Stella Memory	creativewriting
	Usually 10:30 on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes.	
	We are completing our writing for our forthcoming booklet, then starting to edit.	
	Next: 8 July at Rachel's.	Later: 12 August, 9 September.
Cryptic Crosswords 1	Diana Barker	crosswords
	2:00 on the 3rd Monday of the month at Diana's.	
	We have lost a member so have one vacancy for a member wishing to learn/improve in this very sociable group.	
	Next: 15 July.	Later: 19 August.
Cryptic Crosswords 2	Barbara Russell	cryptic2
	2:00 on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	
	Next: 19 July.	Later: 2, 16 August, 6 September.
Current Affairs 1	Denise Aaron	currentaffairs1
	2:30 on the 1st Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	
	Next: 6 August.	Later: 3 September.
Current Affairs 2	Henry Paulinski	currentaffairs2
	10:30 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes.	
	Next: 17 July.	Later: 21 August.
Digital Photography	Angela Jennings	photography
	2:15 on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road.	
	Next: 11 July.	Talk by Gerry Broughton: <i>Strange things that happened to me when taking photos.</i>
	Later: 8 August,	Photoshoot in Abbey Park.
	12 September.	Photos illustrating a poem chosen by Bob.
Discussion	Angela Kendrick	discussion
	2:30 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	
	Next: 16 July.	Later: 20 August.
Discussion 2	Henry Paulinski	discussion2
	2:00 on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes.	
	For interest: Topics discussed so far have included Emancipation of the Sexes in the 1960s and how to improve the world's religions!	
	Next: 2 September.	

Drawing & Sketching	Kamal Ohri 10:30 on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at Roy Priestley's. At each meeting the group decides what they would like to draw on that occasion: art objects that participants bring in for the day or flowering pot plants etc. Next: 18 July. Later: 1, 15 August, 5 September.	drawing
Family History	Sandra Barker 2:00 on the 1st Friday of the month at the Leicestershire and Rutland Family History Society, King Street. Next: 2 August. Later: 6 September.	familyhistory
French Advanced 1	Fiona Oliver 2:30 every 2 weeks on Fridays in members' homes. Next: 19 July. Later: 2, 16, 30 August, 13 September.	frenchadvanced1
French Advanced 2	Peter Hampton 2:30 every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes. Next: 11 July. Later: 25 July, 8, 22 August, 5 September.	frenchadvanced2
French Intermediate	Ivy Carr 2:30 every 2 weeks on Fridays in members' homes. All members are involved in choosing topics, usually two or three meetings ahead. Next: 12 July at 1:00 (for this meeting only). Later: 6 September.	frenchintermediate
Gardening	Angie Barnes 2:00 on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes or on a visit. Next: 7 August. Visit to Markfield Road NGS garden. Later: 9 September. To be arranged.	gardening
German Conversation	Paul McCann 10:00 to 12:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Helen Parsons'. Next: 16 July. Later: 20 August.	german
Gilbert and Sullivan	Margot Comer 10:00 on the 1st Thursday of the month at Margot's. Next: 1 August. Later: 5 September.	gands
Guitar Playing	Pat Breen Normally 10:30 on 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes. Next: 8 July. Later: 12 August, 9 September.	guitar

History 1	Deborah Hartridge 10:30 on the 1st Thursday of the month in members' homes. Next: 1 August. Later: 5 September.	history1
History 2	Mike Bates 2:30 on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes. Next: 15 July. Later: 19 August. <i>Visit to Newark Civil War Museum.</i> <i>History in Knighton and Stoneygate.</i>	history2
How Hard Can It Be	Gabrielle (Gabi) Garland Morning on the 1st Friday of the month. Time and venue to vary according to activity. Next: 2 August. Later: 6 September.	hhcib
Irish Language	Pat Breen 2:00 every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes. Next: 18 July. Later: 1, 15, 29 August, 12 September.	irish
Latin Polish Up Your Rusty -	Jean Cloud 2:30 on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Jean's. Next: 11 July. Later: 25 July, 8, 22 August, 12 September.	latin
Little Theatre	Elisabeth Somogyi 7:30 on Wednesday of the week of performance at the Little Theatre. See page 22 for a description of the group's plans. Next: 10 July. Play: <i>Dick Barton Special Agent.</i>	littletheatre
Mah-Jong	Ann Allsop 10:30 on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at Ann's. Next: 8 July. Later: 22 July, 12 August, 9 September.	mahjong
Medieval People	Peter Kilty 10:00 on the 3rd Friday of the month. Next: 19 July at Jane's. Topic: Stephen and Matilda — weak king + arrogant empress = hell on earth? Find out!	medievalpeople
Modern Novel	Helen Parsons 10:30 on the 3rd Friday of the month in members' homes. Next: 19 July. Book: <i>Less</i> by Andrew Greer. No meeting in August.	modernnovel
(Mon) Music Appreciation	Liz Warren 10:30 on the 3rd Monday of the month at Liz's. Next: 15 July. Later: 19 August. Topic: <i>Beethoven's music for voices.</i>	music.mon

(Wed) Music Appreciation	Jill Reville 10:30 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes. No meeting in July. Next: 21 August. Topic: <i>Influenced by Folk Music</i> . Later: 18 September. Topic: <i>Music from the Brass Section</i> .	music.wed
Natural History	Richard Edwards 10:00 on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Next: 23 July. Later: 27 August.	naturalhistory
Needlework and Knitting	Elisabeth Watkin 2:30 on the 2nd Monday of the month at Elisabeth's. Next: 8 July. Later: 12 August, 9 September.	embroidery
Orienteering	Dave Barnes 2:00 on the 3rd Friday of the month. Venue to vary. Next: 19 July. Later: 16 August. Venues to be arranged.	orienteer
Paranormal Phenomena	Alan Baker 10:30 on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes Next: 15 July. Later: 19 August.	paranorm
Parks and Tearoom Strolls	Marjorie Mallory, Cliff Ault (Deputy) 2:00 every 2 weeks on Fridays during the Spring and Summer months. Next: 12 July. Abbey Park. Later: 26 July. Kings Lock. 9, 23, 30 August, 13 September.	strolls
Pétanque	Anne Harris 4:15 to 6:15 on the 3rd and 4th Mondays of the month at Leicester Bowling Club, Kenwood Road. A nominal fee of £1 per session will be charged. Please try to provide your own set of boules. Next: 15 July. Later: 22 July, 19, 26 August.	petanque
Philosophy 1	Matt Matthew 10:00 on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month in members' homes. Book: <i>Mortal Questions</i> by Thomas Nagel. Next: 12 July. Later: 26 July, 9, 23 August, 13 September.	philosophy1
Philosophy 2	Judy Hastings Normally 2:00–3:30 every 2 weeks on Thursdays at Judy's. Reading <i>Human Nature after Darwin</i> by Janet Radcliffe-Richards. Next: 25 July. Later: 8, 22 August, 5 September.	philosophy2

Philosophy 3	Dennis Foxon 10:30 every 2 weeks on Wednesdays at Evington Library. Reading <i>Causing Death and Saving Lives</i> by Jonathan Glover. Next: 10 July. Later: 24 July, 7, 21 August, 4 September.	philosophy3
Poetry Appreciation	Helen Parsons 10:30 on the 1st Monday of the month at Helen's. Next: 2 September.	poetry1
Poetry for Pleasure	Jane Michel 11:00 on the 2nd Monday of the month at Jane's. Next: 8 July. Later: 12 August, 9 September.	poetry2
Rambling	Jan Hall Every 2 weeks. Days and locations vary. Next: Wednesday 17 July. Day out by train in the Derwent Valley. Later: Weeks beginning 29 July, 12, 26 August.	rambling
Reading Music Made Easy	Margot Comer 10:00 on Fridays every 2 weeks at Margot's. Next: 12 July. Later: 19 July, August dates to be decided.	readingmusic
Reading for Pleasure 1	Jill Reville 2:00 on the 3rd Monday of the month (usually) at Jill's. Next: 15 July. Book: <i>The Cut Out Girl</i> by Bart van Es. Later: 19 August. Book: <i>The Outcasts of Time</i> by Ian Mortimer.	reading1
Rummikub	Barbara Sheppard 2:30 on the 3rd Monday of the month (usually) at Roy Priestley's. Next: 15 July. Later: 19 August.	rummikub
Science & Technology	Richard Thompson 2:30 on the last Thursday of the month at AgeUK, Humberstone Gate. Meetings for July and August are not yet arranged.	science
Scrabble 1	Bill Manners 2:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in members' homes. Next: 16 July at Helen's. Later: 20 August at Margot's.	scrabble1
Scrabble 2	Janet Stratford 2:00 on the 4th Monday of the month at Janet's. Next: 22 July. Later: 26 August.	scrabble2

Shakespeare	Liz Bradow	shakespeare
	2:00 to 4:00 on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road.	
	Reading <i>Cymbeline and watching a DVD</i> .	
	A small contribution is required towards room hire and refreshments.	
	New members are always very welcome.	
	Next: 10 July.	Later: 11 September.
Singing for Pleasure	Margaret Potter (Deputy)	singing
	10:00 on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road.	
	Next: 24 July.	Later: 28 August.
Spanish Conversation	Lorna Pollard	spanish
	2:30 on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month in members' homes.	
	Next: 19 July.	Later: 2, 16 August, 6 September.
Steam Railways	Mike Rowberry	steam
	2:00 on the 1st Tuesday of the month.	
	Next: 6 August.	Later: 3 September.
Summer Croquet	Barbara Russell (Deputy)	croquet
	10:15 – 12:00 on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Monks Rest Gardens Bowling Club, Vicarage Lane, Old Humberstone, LE5 1EE.	
	Next: 10 July.	Later: 24 July, 14, 28 August, 11 September.
Sunday Lunch	Patricia Thompson	lunch
	12:30 on the 2nd Sunday of the month.	
	The convenor will need definite numbers 48 hours before the meal. An email is sent out a week before to enable the booking to go ahead.	
	We aim for a 12:30 start and would really welcome new members.	
	Next: 14 July.	Venue: The Dove, Downing Drive, Evington.
	Later: 11 August, 8 September.	
Swanns	Dave Barnes	swanns
	10:00 every two weeks. Days to vary.	
	"Swanns" stands for "Short Walks And Nearly No Stiles".	
	Next: 10 July.	Wistow Rural Centre led by Cliff and Irene.
	Later: 7 August.	Martinshaw Wood led by Anne and Alison.
	4 September.	To be arranged.

Table Tennis	Jackie Caunt Pat Thompson (Deputy) Every Wednesday at Parklands Leisure Centre, Oadby. The group is being given different times - not always 2:00 - by Parklands every week, Therefore it is advisable for new members and those who have missed a week or two to contact Jackie before attending a session. Next: 10 July. Later: 17, 24, 31 July, 7, 14, 21, 28 August, 4, 11 September.	tabletennis
Ten Pin Bowling	Jenni Shelton 10:30 on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Hollywood Bowl, Meridian Leisure Park. The emphasis is on fun, socialising, with tea and coffee at the end. Definitely not competitive (yet....!). Car sharing is available if needed. Next: 8 July. Later: 9 September.	tenpin
Theatre Visits	Jenny Foxon and Kay Relf About 4 or 5 visits are arranged each year. Anyone wishing details please contact the convenor through the generic email address. See page 24 for the upcoming programme.	theatre
Ukulele	Steph Smith 2:00 to 4:00 on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Synagogue, Avenue Road. Next: 6 August. Later: 3 September.	ukulele
Video Making a -	Bob Hall 10:15 on the 1st Thursday of every third month in members' homes. Next: 5 September at Bob's.	video
Welsh Improvers	Brenda Worrall 2:30 on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month usually at Brenda's. Next: 4 September. (No meetings in July and August.)	welsh
World History	Jenni Shelton 10:00 on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes. Next: 5 Aug. Later: 2 September. Ken to show a DVD <i>Sunken Cities</i> .	worldhistory

Technical Help

Computer Help	Margaret Potter Contact Margaret for help with computer problems.	computerhelp
Digital Photo Help	Bob Hall Contact Bob for help with digital camera problems	photographyhelp

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 16th July — *All Members Coffee Morning at 10:15.*

Thursday 19th September — *Trip to Saltaire (See page 25).*

Wednesday 25th September — *Local Theatre Visit at 2:15 – War Horse.*

Thursday 26th September — *Theatre Visits – Oxford Playhouse.*

Thursday 10th October — *Theatre Visits – Birmingham Rep.*

Thursday 17th October — *Local Theatre Visit at 2:15 – Cabaret.*

Thursday 7th November — *Theatre Visits – Nottingham Playhouse.*

Wednesday 27th November — *Local Theatre Visit at 7:30 – West Side Story.*

Local Theatre Visit details are on page 23.

Little Theatre Visit details are on page 22.

Theatre Visits Group visit details are on page 24.

The *All Members Coffee Mornings* take place on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:15 at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road. There is a small charge to cover the cost of coffee and biscuits and hiring the room.

Films at the Phoenix are shown at 10:30 on the second Wednesday of each month. Cost: £6.00 including a drink of tea or coffee.

The film to be shown in a particular month can be found through a link on our website. Otherwise contact the organiser, Malcolm Gray, by email at mjgray220@gmail.com

Wellbeing and Hospitality

Enabling everyone to take part

Do you find it difficult to hear or see at the monthly meetings?

Do you have any mobility issues?

Is there anything else that prevents you from fully participating?

Christchurch is fully accessible with facilities for the disabled.

Members of the Wellbeing and Hospitality team (easily recognised wearing blue/yellow sashes) are there if you need to have an end of row/front seat.

If there is anything else we can do that enables you to take part please tell us.

If you would prefer to talk to someone before you attend then please give Sandra Barker a call and, if you have any suggestions, we'd be very happy to hear them.

Also, if you know of any member who is unwell or has suffered a loss, then please tell Elizabeth Hassall, a member of the Wellbeing team, and she will send a card. [Contact details on the separate contacts sheet.]

Marion Hare

I am sorry to let fellow members know that Marion died in June and her funeral was on 2 July. After bringing up four children and a career as a primary school teacher which ended with the headship of Thornton Village School Marion had a very active retirement.

She was the member of several U3A groups and was instrumental in getting the Craft Group off the ground. She was the convenor of the Architecture Group which started at the end of 2009. She handed over the role of convenor to me in 2012. Marion and Diana Davidson were a great help when I took over with suggestions of future activities for the Group.

Marion's interests outside U3A were wide-ranging, she campaigned for greater recognition of Richard III and was Life President of the East Midlands Branch of the Richard III Society. She was honoured to be invited to the interment of Richard's body in the Cathedral in 2015. She was an active member of many Leicester societies concerned with the preservation of buildings including the Civic Society, the Victorian Society and the Stonegate Conservation Area Society. She was interested in history, particularly the fight for women's suffrage and enjoyed going to Elaine Pantling's one-woman show about the Leicester suffragette, Alice Hawkins.

She spent the last three years of her life at South Lodge and died peacefully on June 10th.

Veronica Matthew

Helen Parsons adds: Marion was a very valuable member of the Music Appreciation Group – she was passionate about opera, and gave several fascinating talks, illustrated with excerpts, about operas she loved. She also hosted the group for several years.

Little Theatre — Contact Elisabeth Somogyi
(littletheatre@leicesteru3a.org.uk)

DICK BARTON SPECIAL AGENT — COMEDY

Wednesday, 10 July 2019 at 7:30 £14.00

Booking open until 1 July

Pre-performance meals are available at 10% discount at the Last Plantagenet pub for those holding Little Theatre tickets
Interested parties meet at the pub at 6:00 before the performance

Local Theatre Visits (Curve) — Contact Diana Barker

THE COLOR PURPLE

Wednesday 3 July 2019 2:15 £21

Stalls AA and BB – 12 Balance due 03/05/19

This unforgettable story told over the course of 40 years follows courageous heroine Celie with a profoundly evocative score of jazz, ragtime, gospel and blues, set in racially divided southern America.

WAR HORSE

Wednesday 25 September 2019 2:15 £35

Stalls AA and BB – 27 Balance due 24/07/19

War Horse is an unforgettable theatrical event which takes audiences on an extraordinary journey from the fields of rural Devon to the trenches of First World War France. Based on the beloved novel by Michael Morpurgo, this is a powerfully moving and imaginative drama.

CABARET

Thursday 17 October 2019 2:15 £24

WEST SIDE STORY

Wednesday 27 November 7:30 £17.25

Special pre-view price Balance due 27th September

1957. In the midst of gang rivalry and racial tensions, love at first sight strikes between Tony, of the White-American Jets and Maria, the sister of Bernardo, of the Puerto Rican Sharks. In the face of danger, the two young lovers continue to meet in secret – but the Jets and the Sharks have one last rumble to fight out.

All enquiries to curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk

Theatre Visits Group

Forthcoming matinee visits, 4 or 5 a year, to theatres outside Leicester will be advertised to all members of Leicester U3A.

A visit will only take place if the event is financially viable.

Cheques will be collected in advance but not banked until sufficient places are sold to cover the cost of the coach. Ticket numbers can be adjusted.

Coach seats are available to any U3A member who wishes to arrange their own ticket or who wants to spend some time in the cities we visit.

The cost is usually about £40 to include the ticket and coach to and from Oadby.

The proposed plays for Autumn 2019 are:

Thursday, 26 September Oxford Playhouse *Two Trains Running*

There's a controversial new president in the White House, and racial tensions are on the rise. It is Pittsburgh, 1969, and the regulars of Memphis Lee's restaurant are struggling to cope with the turbulence of a rapidly changing world. The diner is in threat of being torn down, a casualty of the city's renovation project that is sweeping away the buildings of a community, but not its spirit.

Thursday, 10 October Birmingham Rep *Prism*

The legendary Jack Cardiff has retired to the sleepy village of Denham, Bucks. His days of hard work – and play – on some of the most famous film sets in the world are now long behind him, as are his secret liaisons with some of the most famous women in the world. Surrounded by memorabilia from a lifetime of 'painting with light', the writing of an autobiography should be an easy matter – were it not that Jack would now rather live in the past than remember it. Stars Robert Lindsay

Thursday, 07 November Nottingham Playhouse *Assassins (Musical)*

Assassins is a satirical and stylish look at why individuals reach for a gun when they feel their voice can't be heard. Clever, funny and thought-provoking, this is a musical about the power of the President, the lure of celebrity and the failure of the American Dream. The music is by Stephen Sondheim .

If you interested in any of these plays please email:
theatre@leicesteru3a.org.uk to receive further details.

Saltaire Village, Shipley 19 September 2019



The trip costs £16.00 each. This covers transport only.

There is no charge for entry to the Village or Salts Mill.

Salts Mill is a Grade II listed building set in the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It was opened in 1853 and houses a permanent exhibition of works by David Hockney and the Saltaire Exhibition. The Mill was named after its creator Sir Titus Salt, a textile magnate and philanthropist who built it and the village for his workers.

There are other buildings of architectural interest and there are options of a trip on one of the oldest working cable tramways or a canal boat.

There is an extra charge for the trips.

We will meet at Glebe Road at 8.15 for 8.30 departure and arrive at Saltaire Village at 11.30. The return journey will be at 16.30 and we expect to be back at Glebe Road at 19.30.

There are plenty of restaurants and coffee shops available in the village.

To book please complete the booking form available at the Monthly Meeting and return with a cheque for £16.00 payable to Leicester U3A to Siham Turvey, Gabi Garland or Ola Horbacz at the Monthly Meeting or by post or book online at the Leicester U3A website on the Events page under the heading “Outings”.

All payments to be received by 23 August 2019.

Contact details can be found on the separate Contacts Sheet.



**Leicestershire & Rutland
Network of U3As presents:**

**A Workshop
"A Day for BRIDGE"**

The Angel Hotel, 37 High Street,
Market Harborough LE16 7AF

**Saturday 23rd November 2019
10am – 4.30pm**

Expert tuition, discussions and opportunity for playing

Tickets £5 per table

(preference will be given to teams of 4 players)

To include coffee/tea, biscuits

Lunch can be bought separately from the hotel bar, snacks
to full menu if required.

Numbers are limited for space reasons:
please book tickets as a pair or group of four soon!

Mobility:

The hotel has disabled access and facilities
Parking nearby, disabled parking available

Further information from: Network Coordinator:
Don Collins: guirri35@yahoo.co.uk 01858 462409

About the Newsletter

Delivery

The Newsletter is normally delivered to members by email as a pdf file with one page per side.

If you have trouble reading the Newsletter from email (or do not have email) and cannot attend the monthly meetings to collect a hard copy, then either:

- you can have them posted to you for the cost of postage (contact the Secretary for details of the scheme); or
- you may be able to collect one from AgeUK, Queens Road or Evington Library where a few copies are deposited each month after the meeting.

Contributions

There is no general meeting and so no Newsletter in August.

The **deadline** for items to be included in the September 2019 Newsletter is **Tuesday 27th August**. Contributions (from members) should be sent to the editor. [newsletter@leicesteru3a.org.uk]

If you want to submit your entry as hard copy, please contact the Editor, or the Secretary, to get an address to which you can send it.

I am always pleased to receive brief reports from groups about their recent activities and I extend my thanks to all the authors who have done so, so far. Please keep them coming. The occasional picture would be welcome as well.

Subscriptions for 2019

	Individual	Associate*
Joining between 1st July 2019 and 31st October 2019	£9.00	£6.00
Joining between 1st November 2019 and 30 June 2020	£15.00	£11.50

Membership runs from the date of joining until the end of 2019.

Similarly 2020 membership runs from the date of joining until the end of 2020.

**Associate membership is for those who have paid a full subscription to another U3A this year.*

Message from the Editor July 2019:

This is the last Newsletter that I will be producing though I expect I will still be making occasional contributions. I have enjoyed doing the job over the last twelve years but feel it is now time for someone else to have go and I am pleased to be handing over to Steph Smith and her husband. Please continue to support them with reports and other contributions.

Items sent to newsletter@leicesteru3a.org.uk will reach them.

Cliff Ault

LEICESTER U3A meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except August and December) at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road, LE2 3AH, and there are special interest groups that meet regularly in members' homes and elsewhere.



INTERESTED IN JOINING?

You can find out more about joining Leicester U3A by visiting the website or by contacting the Membership Secretary.

Application forms are available to download from the website or they can be posted to you on request to the Membership Secretary.

(Email: membership@leicesteru3a.org.uk Tel: 2911814)

The form includes information on where to send your application and the annual subscription.

(Details of subscriptions for 2019 are on page 27)