



LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE

# LEICESTER NEWSLETTER

October 2019

Charity No. 1083274

---

[u3asites.org.uk/leicester](http://u3asites.org.uk/leicester)



A path in the Chinese Garden, Abbey Park

*Photo by Cliff Ault.*

## **October Meeting: Tuesday 8th at 2:45.**

Speaker: *Peter Cousins*

*'Tommy's Mail', the Postal Service to the Western Front in the Great War*

## **Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 12th at 2:45**

Speaker: *Susie Cattermole*

Susie is a local girl, having grown up in Leicestershire. After training at Leeds, she has spent her working career in fundraising; firstly with Macmillan Cancer Support, then the Development Office at Loughborough University, then on to Solihull School where she worked as Director of Development and Alumni Relations. She joined Curve in 2017, as Head of Fundraising, where she looks after the membership scheme and all the fundraising activities. Curve is a cultural charity that enables people of all ages and backgrounds to access, participate in and learn from the arts. They also nurture new and emerging talent, and create world-class theatre experiences. All money raised is reinvested back into the building and the work that they do, both on and off stage. Susie's talk will cover some of Curve's history, who they are and what they do in terms of their productions, and their charitable work reaching out to young people and the community.

Attendance at the September Meeting: 122, including 6 new members and 3 visitors.

## **Membership 2019 – Additions, Corrections and Updates**

The membership now stands at 448.

*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 Speaker Finder to let him 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 see p4*

## *Message from the Chair*

There are lots of things in my life that I've never done: never been skydiving, never eaten Steak Diane, never written a best-seller (or anything at all, for that matter) and never been to a conference. It's nice to know it's not too late for new experiences! You'll never get me to put on a parachute if there's nothing wrong with the plane, I really don't think I'd be able to keep the Steak Diane down, and I'm still holding out for the best-seller. But I can now cross the last one off my list: I've been to a conference, and despite this sounding like the most boring thing ever, it was great! Specifically, I went to the U3A Conference and AGM in Nottingham in August, along with Neil Taylor, our Groups' Co-ordinator. We went to lots of workshops, spent a fantastic couple of days immersed in all things U3A, met lots of lovely like-minded people, learned quite a lot and came back even more enthusiastic about the U3A movement than ever. One of the main aims of the Third Age Trust over the coming year is to raise the profile of the U3A generally. How many times have you mentioned the U3A to someone and they've said "U3A? What's that then?" Well hopefully, by the time the next Conference comes around, that will have changed and many more people will know what the U3A is. There are plans for much more media involvement (local radio, TV, newspapers), more U3A presence at events (manned stands, more actual speaking to the general public, branded clothing to make ourselves seen) and basically more sharing of our fantastic activities both outside of the U3A and with other U3As. One of the initiatives mentioned is that there will be a U3A week, the first week in June 2020, when U3As throughout the UK will be encouraged to do something different to show the rest of the population just what the U3A is all about. June the 3rd has been designated as U3A day, when the national and local media will be full of reports of different U3A activities. I do have an idea which I'm keeping to myself for the time being, as the people involved haven't been told about it yet, but as soon as it's sorted, I'll let you all know, you may well



want to join in!

One of the contentious issues for many years has been the name ‘University of the Third Age’, the feeling being that many people are put off by the word University (though ironically, it was that that drew me in!). The Third Age Trust have decided that renaming and total rebranding would be far too expensive, and have decided to just use ‘U3A’ in most cases, and just not mention what the letters stand for. So now if you mention the U3A, and someone asks “What’s that?”, just tell them what we do, don’t start off saying what it stands for. I was sceptical, but this did happen to me recently and I replied, “We’re a group of volunteers running interest groups for retired people, such as ...” I mentioned a few different groups, and the person I was talking to was very interested and didn’t ask further about what the letters stood for. It’s worth a try, and might encourage more people to join us. To start the ball rolling, we have dropped the University of the Third Age from our front page and replaced it with the recommended strap-line ‘Learn, laugh, live!’

A couple of final things: it’ll soon be Christmas (don’t groan!), and that means the Christmas lunch. The date will be 10th December at Leicestershire Golf Club on Evington Lane, so make a note now if you’re interested. More details of menu, costs etc will be in the November Newsletter. And the last final thing, is to do with after Christmas, and it will be here before you know it: at the January Monthly Meeting, there is traditionally no speaker, as this is Membership renewal day. There will be tea, coffee and biscuits as usual, but in the Hall, we will be having a free, Open Mike Afternoon! Our first ever: anyone is able to take part, so if you are keen to have a go, see the advert in this newsletter and let me know. Let’s have some post-Christmas fun!

*Steph Smith*

### **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.

## *Reports from the Groups*

### *Digital Photography*

This is the U3A digital photography group outing to Abbey Park on 8th August 2019.

The 'trip' was postponed from June due to heavy rain but in August the sun shone brightly as some of us explored the delights of Abbey Park for the first time. This historic park is well worth a visit at any time of year.



*Photo by  
Matt Matthew*

*Photo by Cliff Ault*



*Photo by Jean Burbridge*



## *Parks and Tearoom Strollers*

Here are a few pictures from our last stroll in the Botanic Garden



## **Botany Group**

The Botany Group met at Croft Quarry Nature Reserve early in September. At this time of year, there are few flowers around and it's easy to think 'there's nothing there'. But we're not a flowers group, we're a botany group, so whether they're in flower or not, there are still plenty of plants around to keep us busy. Admittedly, it's usually a lot easier to identify a plant which is in flower than if all you've got is the leaves, but it can be done! The first picture then, shows our intrepid botanists



*All photos by S. Smith*

all doing their own thing, seeing what they can find or recognise. This was just before someone found something really interesting and we all



gathered round to inspect it a bit more closely. Being the keenest of all, I sat down on the grass so I could get my hand lens close to the plant without actually picking it. I was very absorbed in my task till someone pointed out I'd sat on an



ant's nest! And indeed I had: almost my entire left side (leg, body, arms and shoulder) was covered in rather annoyed black ants, probably the common garden ant, *Lasius niger*. Thanks to Jenny Foxon for helping me brush them away, fewer thanks to everyone else who thought it was hilarious! (you know who you are!). Oddly enough, I never did manage to identify the mystery plant. The second picture shows a plant gall, called the Robin's Pincushion Gall (*Diplolepis rosae*) which is caused by the larvae

of a tiny gall wasp which actually causes little harm to the host plant, a rose. A tiny spider had made its home in this gall, you should just be able to see it. The third picture shows the confirmation of an ID made in the field by the rest of the group (not me) of this lovely little clover, Hare's-Foot Clover, or *Trifolium arvense*. It was very pretty. That day we identified 35 different plant species. Not bad for beginners, eh?

*Steph Smith (Convenor)*

### ***Bus Pass Tours***

The next Bus Pass Tours trip will take place on 9th October 2019.

From November, in order to bring the Group's programme into line with the U3A schedule, it has been decided to set trips on a regular basis, ie every 4th week of the month. Exact day and date to be set by the person/s arranging the trip. This will not preclude other, ad hoc trips



being arranged where these are either seasonal or topical at the time but it will be the main focus of our programme and the one which will be regularly advertised in the Newsletter. Noting that exception, however, the December trip will take place on 10th December, the day when Leicester u3a has its Christmas Lunch. Those members who don't wish to attend the lunch but would enjoy a cosy tea party in convivial company will be welcome to do so. Last year the venue was a café in Syston and the suggestion so far for this year is to explore the café delights on offer in Wigston. If any member wishing to join in has a favourite journey with a nice tea available at journey's end, though, please let the Convenor know. All suggestions can then be fully discussed at the October u3a meeting.

The future arrangement not being introduced yet, the September BPT trip to Northampton took place on 23rd and the October trip will be on 9th, to Coventry.



The trip to Northampton was very entertaining, especially for those of us who were booked on a tour round the Sessions House the history of which was relayed to us by an extremely lively and knowledgeable guide. A few of the group had already toured the Leicester Town Hall so were expecting such things as the two court rooms and Council Chamber (albeit on a smaller

scale and less ornate style) but the Northampton chambers were on a much grander scale, the building having been built in 1675 after the Great Fire had destroyed much of the town centre. The Sessions House is a complex of buildings rather than only one, being flanked on either side by what was the county gaol and the debtors' prison. There was even, into the early 20th century a gallows at the rear of the building. What one could call an early example of a 'one shop stop'. The law appears to have been exceedingly arbitrary in earlier centuries, look-



*Photos by D. Buchan*

ing more like entertainment and theatre for the masses than justice. One snippet I have to relay is about the wonderful devil's tongue embossed ceiling decoration in one of the courts. Apparently there were more than 300 offences a man, woman or child could be hanged for in the 17th century, ranging from merely talking to gypsies through witchcraft and theft to murder. The general public, the lucky ones of whom would have a ringside seat in the courtroom, loved it when the death sentence was handed down. In this verdict the Judge was assisted by the devil whose tongue wagged. This apparently divine intervention was actually wrought by the Judge's clerk who was stationed above the ceiling during every court session and worked the tongue by means of a pulley system. What a shame this mechanism is not also on display.

Because the tour was so thorough we did not have time afterwards for much sightseeing so look forward to a return visit sometime to see more of the other history of Northampton.

We look forward to meeting Members at the BPT table after the next meeting in Christchurch on 8th October.

*Denise Buchan (Convenor)*

### ***Computer Help***

What a delight it is to see the Leicester U3A group now up and running on Facebook! At the time of writing, we have seventeen members. It has been set up as a 'closed' group, so only Leicester U3A members may join. You also have to be on Facebook of course! To assist those with computers I have added a couple of items, or 'posts' as they are called, in this group for members to see there, that I hope might prove useful. These are downloadable files that contain the 'keyboard shortcuts' for use with both Windows and Apple Mac/MacBook Pro computers. It is my intention to add further posts containing computer hints and tips to the group as time goes by, to help people. In the meantime, I am sorting out when we can have some 'get-togethers' at the Quaker Meeting House on Queen's Road, as these will, I hope, provide practical help. Naturally we still have a number of us with varying knowledge on different computers, so members wanting computer help can still send questions in the usual way.

*Andy Williams (Convenor)*

## *News from the Groups Co-ordinator*

Hi everybody,

It's October and we've got back into gear again after summer, and it wouldn't be October if we didn't start to think about Christmas. I know, but hopefully you will read the next bit in a good way.

Kay Relf and I, with Jan Hall's crucial supervision, are looking after the Christmas Lunch this year, and I'd like to announce it here on everyone's behalf.

Steph has mentioned it in her message and we'll be putting details around very soon. Do come along, it's always a great occasion and wonderful food!



And of course, after Christmas we can look forward to January: our Chair, Steph, has told you about the Post-Christmas social event and there's an advert too. Suffice to say from my point of view though, to all groups: could you contribute to it? And of course, yourselves: could anyone do readings, songs, play something, demonstrate dancing? I'll leave it with you.

And so, to the Budding Groups. All are being advertised again:

Craft 2,  
Scrabble 3,  
Italian,  
World History 2.

If you're interested do put your name down, or email me to let me know, my details are on the Contacts sheet.

This month's star idea though is the suggestion that we start a Pub Quiz Group! When it was broached to me, I thought what a fine idea, I know lots of people like a quiz, and this is your group.

Finally, just a mention of my plans for future months in the Groups News.

From next month I'll begin a review of the Third Age Trust's (TAT) website, highlighting some of the areas month by month that a group could go to research subjects for their meetings, talks and trips. U3A Learning Resources are updated regularly, and added to. I don't want to tell my "grandmothers" and "grandfathers" how to suck eggs and I'm certain the vast majority of you have looked things up and researched things, but this is just intended as a signpost to places you can visit on-line. If you haven't had a good look, go to our website ([u3asites.org.uk/leicester](http://u3asites.org.uk/leicester)), and on the top right-hand side of the home page you will see the U3A logo. Click on that and it will take you to the TAT website and you can start exploring.

There are other websites of course, and I intend to direct everyone to these too, over the coming months, including the one which Margaret, our Membership Secretary, likens to a Wikipedia for the U3A (and of course there's Wikipedia and Wikihow too!) Anyway, I look forward to reminding you about them, and of course you can share with me websites you find particularly interesting too, and I'll put them in the Newsletter.

See you at the table to sign up, suggest new groups, and talk!

*Neil Taylor*



### *Flu jabs? Just a thought...*

Do you suffer from asthma? One of our members, who does, had an appointment recently with their asthma nurse, who recommended to him that his grandchildren should have the flu jab, to prevent them passing it on to him. Flu is bad enough without the added complication of asthma, which would leave you much more vulnerable to the adverse effects. So if you are an asthma sufferer with grandchildren, perhaps have a quiet word with your son/daughter and encourage them to make sure the kids have the jab too. And if you haven't had yours yet, what are you waiting for? If not now, when? You know it makes sense.

### *Interest Groups*

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 architecture@leicesteru3a.org.uk

Detailed information on all our groups is also available on our website and members can contact any of the Convenors from there. The information is also available as a "Contacts Sheet" sent out by email and at the Groups Table at all the Monthly Meetings.

If you have difficulty contacting the Convenor, try the Groups Co-ordinator instead.

The list below is a comprehensive list of all our current groups, when and where they meet, the name of the Convenor and the generic name of the group.

- Architecture** Susan Martin-Butt architecture1  
2.00pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month in members' homes.
- Architecture and the Built Environment** Peter Kilty architecture2  
2.00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queens Road. Further information from Peter.
- Architecture and Design** Veronica Matthew architecture3  
2.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation Synagogue, Avenue Road.
- Art Appreciation** Mary Neilson artappreciation  
10.00am on the 1st Friday of the month in members' homes or at a gallery.
- Backgammon** Bob Collins backgammon  
10.00am on the 4th Tuesday of the month in members' homes.
- Bones For Life** Jean Stone bones  
10.30am on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation Synagogue, Avenue Road.
- Bookworms** Nick Arlett bookworms  
10.30am on the 1st Wednesday of the month at the Exchange Bar (opposite Curve), 50 Rutland Street. Please contact Nick if interested in joining. For more information, plus list of novels so far, see the Bookworms page on the Leicester U3A website.
- Botany** Steph Smith botany  
2.00pm on the 1st Monday of the month, at Steph's or at a nature reserve or wood.
- Bridge 1** Bob Collins bridge1  
2.00pm every Wednesday at Bob's.

<b>Bridge 2</b>	Henry Paulinski 2.00pm every Thursday in members' homes. Play this wonderful game in congenial company. Ideal for Bridge players with two or more years' experience.	bridge2
<b>Bridge Beginners</b>	Keith Pyne 2.00pm on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in members' homes.	bridgebeginners
<b>Bus Pass Tours</b>	Denise Buchan Trips are once or twice a month. Dates and venues will vary according to their destination.	busspass
<b>Canasta</b>	Barbara Sheppard 2.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	canasta
<b>Chess for Pleasure</b>	Graham Williams 10.30am-12.30pm on the 1st Monday of the month at Graham's. Anyone who can play chess is welcome.	chess
<b>Computer Help</b>	Andy Williams Contact Andy for help with computer problems.	computerhelp
<b>Craft</b>	Margaret Potter 2.00pm on the 2nd Friday of the month at Margaret's.	craft
<b>Creative Writing</b>	Stella Memory 10.30 on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes.	creativewriting
<b>Cryptic Crosswords 1</b>	Diana Barker 2.00pm on the 3rd Monday of the month at Diana's.	crosswords
<b>Cryptic Crosswords 2</b>	Barbara Russell 2.00pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	cryptic2
<b>Current Affairs 1</b>	Denise Aaron 2.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	currentaffairs1

<b>Current Affairs 2</b>	Henry Paulinski 10.30am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes.	currentaffairs2
<b>Digital Photography</b>	Angela Jennings 2.15pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Quaker Meeting House, Queen's Road. December topic is 'Guess Who?': members bring along pictures by famous photographers and discuss their work.	photography
<b>Digital Photo Help</b>	Bob Hall Contact Bob for help with digital camera problems.	photographyhelp
<b>Discussion</b>	Angela Kendrick 2.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	discussion
<b>Discussion 2</b>	Henry Paulinski 2.00pm on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes.	discussion2
<b>Drawing and Sketching</b>	Peter Elliott 10.30am 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.	drawing
<b>Family History</b>	Sandra Barker 2.00pm on the 1st Friday of the month at the Leicestershire and Rutland Family History Society, King Street.	familyhistory
<b>French Advanced 1</b>	Fiona Oliver 2.30pm every 2 weeks on Fridays in members' homes.	frenchadvanced1
<b>French Advanced 2</b>	Peter Hampton 2.30pm every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes.	frenchadvanced2
<b>French Intermediate</b>	Ivy Carr 2.30pm every 2 weeks on Fridays in members' homes. All members are involved in choosing topics for discussion, usually 2 or 3 meetings ahead.	frenchintermediate

<b>Gardening</b>	Angie Barnes 2.00pm on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes or on a visit.	gardening
<b>German Intermediate Conversation</b>	Paul McCann 10.00am on 3rd Tuesday of the month at Helen Parson's.	german
<b>Gilbert and Sullivan</b>	Margot Comer 10.00am on the 1st Thursday of the month at Margot's.	gands
<b>Guitar Playing</b>	Pat Breen 10.30am on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes.	Pat Breen
<b>History 1</b>	Deborah Hartridge 10.30am on the 1st Thursday of the month in members' homes.	history1
<b>History 2</b>	Mike Bates 2.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes.	history2
<b>How Hard Can It Be</b>	Gabrielle (Gabi) Garland In the morning on the 1st Friday of the month, time and venue to vary according to the activity.	hhcib
<b>Irish Language</b>	Pat Breen 2.00pm every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes.	irish
<b>Latin - Polish Up Your Rusty...</b>	Jean Cloud 2.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Jean's.	latin
<b>Little Theatre</b>	Elisabeth Somogyi 7.30pm on Wednesday of the week of performance at the Little Theatre. See page 24 for a description of the group's plans.	littletheatre
<b>Mah-Jong</b>	Ann Allsop 10.30am on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at Ann's.	mah-jong



<b>Medieval People</b>	Peter Kilty 10.00am on the 3rd Friday of the month.	medievalpeople
<b>Modern Novel</b>	Helen Parsons 10.30am on the 3rd Friday of the month in members' homes.	modernnovel
<b>(Mon) Music Appreciation</b>	Liz Warren 10.30am on the 3rd Monday of the month at Liz's.	music.mon
<b>(Wed) Music Appreciation</b>	Jill Reville 10.30am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes.	music.wed
<b>Natural History</b>	Richard Edwards 10.00am on the 4th Tuesday of the month in members' homes or at a nature reserve.	naturalhistory
<b>Needlework and Knitting</b>	Elisabeth Watkin 2.30pm on the 2nd Monday of the month at Elisabeth's	embroidery
<b>Orienteering</b>	Dave Barnes This group is now closed for the winter season, meetings will resume in April 2020	orienteer
<b>Paranormal Phenomena</b>	Alan Baker 10.30am on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes.	paranorm
<b>Parks and Tearoom Strolls</b>	Marjorie Mallory, Cliff Ault (Deputy) 2.00pm every 2 weeks on Fridays during the Spring and Summer months.	strolls
<b>Petanque</b>	Anne Harris 4.15pm –6.15pm 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 bowls. The September meetings will be the final meetings for this season, information for next season's start will appear early next year.	petanque

<b>Philosophy 1</b>	Matt Matthew 10.00am on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month in members' homes.	philosophy1
<b>Philosophy 2</b>	Judy Hastings 2.00pm – 3.30pm every 2 weeks on Thursdays at Judy's	philosophy2
<b>Philosophy 3</b>	Dennis Foxon 10.30pm every 2 weeks on Wednesdays at Evington Library.	philosophy3
<b>Poetry Appreciation</b>	Helen Parsons 10.30pm on the 1st Monday of the month at Helen's.	poetry1
<b>Poetry for Pleasure</b>	Jane Michel 11.00pm on the 2nd Monday of the month at Jane's.	poetry2
<b>Rambling</b>	Jan Hall Every 2 weeks, days and locations vary.	rambling
<b>Reading Music Made Easy</b>	Margot Comer 10.00am on Fridays every 2 weeks at Margot's.	readingmusic
<b>Reading For Pleasure 1</b>	Jill Reville 2.00pm on the 3rd Monday of the month (usually) at Jill's.	reading1
<b>Rummikub</b>	Barbara Sheppard 2.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month (usually) at Roy Priestley's.	rummikub
<b>Science and Technology</b>	Richard Thompson 2.30pm on the last Thursday of the month at Age UK, Humberstone Gate.	science
<b>Scrabble 1</b>	Bill Manners 2.00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	scrabble1

<b>Scrabble 2</b>	Janet Stratford 2.00pm on the 4th Monday of the month at Janet's.	scrabble2
<b>Shakespeare</b>	Liz Bradow 2.00pm – 4.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queen's Road. A small contribution is required towards room hire and refreshments. New members are always very welcome.	shakespeare
<b>Singing for Pleasure</b>	Margaret Potter (Deputy) 10.00am on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queen's Road.	singing
<b>Spanish Conversation</b>	Lorna Pollard 2.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month in members' homes.	spanish
<b>Steam Railways</b>	Mike Rowberry 2.00pm on the first Tuesday of the month, venues vary.	steam
<b>Summer Croquet</b>	Janet Connolly 10.15am – 12.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Monks Rest Gardens Bowling Club, Vicarage Lane, Old Humberstone, LE5 1EE	croque
<b>Sunday Lunch</b>	Patricia Thompson 12.30pm 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.	lunch
<b>Swanns</b>	Dave Barnes 10.00am every 2 weeks, days to vary. 'Swanns' stands for 'Short Walks And Nearly No Styles' This group is now closed for the winter season, meetings will resume in the spring, 2020, date to be decided.	swanns

<b>Table Tennis</b>	Jackie Caunt, Pat Thompson (Deputy)	tabletennis
	Every Wednesday at Parklands Leisure Centre, Oadby. The group is being given different times – not always 2.00pm – 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.	
<b>Ten Pin Bowling</b>	Jenni Shelton	tenpin
	10.30am 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.	
<b>Ukulele</b>	Steph Smith	ukulele
	2.30pm – 4.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Synagogue, Avenue Road.	
<b>Video – Making A</b>	Bob Hall	video
	10.15am on the 1st Thursday of every third month in members' homes.	
<b>Welsh Improvers</b>	Brenda Worrall	welsh
	2.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, usually at Brenda's.	
<b>World History</b>	Jenni Shelton	worldhistory
	10.00am on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes.	

## *Dates for your Diary*

Tuesday 15th October - All Members' Coffee Morning 10.15

Thursday 17th October - Curve Theatre Visit at 2:15pm - Cabaret.

Friday 1st November - Little Theatre Visit at 7:30pm - Sophie Hagan.

Saturday 2nd November - Little Theatre Visit at 7:30pm - La Voix.

Wednesday 13th November - Little Theatre Visit at 7:30pm - Cat On a Hot Tin Roof.

Tuesday 19th November - All Members' Coffee Morning 10.15am

Sunday 24th November - Little Theatre Visit at 2.30pm & 7:00pm - Autumn Leaves.

Wednesday 27th November - Curve Theatre Visit at 7:30pm - West Side Story.

Tuesday 17th December - All Members' Coffee Morning 10.15am

Little Theatre Visit details are on page 24.

Theatre Visits Group visit details are on page 25.

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](mailto: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 disabled facilities.

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.]



## ***Little Theatre***

**Contact the Convenor Elisabeth Somogyi**

([littletheatre@leicesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:littletheatre@leicesteru3a.org.uk))

### **Cat on the Hot Tin Roof**

Classic drama by Tennessee Williams Wednesday, 13 November 2019, 7.30

pm start ticket price £15.00\*

Booking open to 25 October 2019

Special performances

### **Sofie Hagen - The Bumswing**

Danish comedienne, winner of an Edinburgh Fringe award

Friday 1 November, 7.30 pm, £15.50 booking open to 22 October

### **La Voix**

Singer and impressionist, winner of Britain's Got Talent

Saturday 2 November, 7.30 pm, £20.50\* booking open to 22 October

### **Autumn Leaves musical memories in the Haywood Studio**

cheese and wine included

Sunday, 24 November, 2.30 pm and 7 pm £14.00

Booking open to 30 October

Interested parties meet for a pre-performance evening meal in the Tatra Restaurant, 1 Northampton Street LE1 1PA (just off Granby Street)

at 5.45 pm before the performance.

\*Concession price

### ***Save the date!***

On Wednesday June 10th 2020 the Architecture and Design Group are planning to go on a coach trip to the Avoncroft Open Air Museum of 30 historic buildings which is near Bromsgrove in Worcestershire. The trip, as in previous years, will be open to all U3A members. See <https://avoncroft.org.uk/>

## ***Local Theatre Visits (Curve)***

**Contact Diana Barker**

### ***CABARET***

Thursday 17th October 2.15pm £24

TICKETS ALL SOLD

### ***WEST SIDE STORY***

Wednesday 27th November 7.30pm £17.25

Special pre-view price

ONE TICKET REMAINING

Stalls AA & BB

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.

### ***PHANTOM of the OPERA***

Thursday 5th March 2020 2.15pm £52

Stalls Rows R, S, T (25) Balanced due 16th December

The brilliant original production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera tells the tale of a disfigured musical genius known only as 'The Phantom' who haunts the depths of the Paris Opera House. Mesmerised by the talents and beauty of a young soprano, Christine, the Phantom lures her as his protégé and falls fiercely in love with her. Unaware of Christine's love for Raoul, the Phantom's obsession sets the scene for a dramatic turn of events where jealousy, madness and passions collide.

enquiries to [curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk)

### ***CINDERELLA***

Performed by the Northern Ballet

Thursday 2nd April 2.30pm £20

16 tickets available

enquiries to [curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk](mailto:curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk)

## ***REMEMBER***

Leicester U3A now has it's very own, closed, Facebook page. Only Leicester U3A members can join the group, and once you're in, only you and other Leicester U3A FB members can see any of the posts or respond to them. So if you've got some news about any of your groups, any questions, any pictures, then come and join us. Look for Leicester U3A on Facebook, and request to join, it's a great way to share what you're learning with others and have fun. It's all there to help you learn, laugh, live!

### ***Open Mike Afternoon***

***January 14th, 2020***

***2.30-4.30pm***

***Christchurch Hall***

If you've got it, come and flaunt it at our first ever  
Open Mike Session

All acts welcomed: musical, lyrical, poetical, dramatical,  
comical, terpsicorial, gymnastical!

Max 3 songs/pieces for all acts (but if you can only manage  
one, that's fine)

Tea and biscuits available for performers and audience  
If you'd like to take part, contact Steph Smith

If you'd like to be in the audience, just come into the hall after  
you've renewed your membership and take a seat, no charge!  
Audience participation is encouraged!

## *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 rereading 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 on Queens Road or Evington Library where a few copies are deposited each month after the meeting.

### *Contributions*

The **deadline** for items to be included in the November 2019 Newsletter is Tuesday 29th October. 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.

<b>Subscriptions for 2019</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Associate*</b>
Joining between 1st November 2019 and 30 June 2020	£15.00	£11.50
Joining between 1st July 2020 and 31st October 2020	£9.00	£6.00

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.*

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](mailto:membership@leicesteru3a.org.uk) Tel: 0116 291 1814)***

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

(Details of subscriptions for 2019 are on page 27)