



LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE

LEICESTER NEWSLETTER

November 2019

Charity No. 1083274

u3asites.org.uk/leicester



Iron Bridge at Stamford
Photo by Anthony Matthew

November Meeting: Tuesday 12th at 2:45.

Speaker: Susie Cattermole

Curve Theatre

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 14th at 2:45

No speaker, Open Mic Afternoon

Attendance at the September Meeting: 89, including 84 members and 5 visitors

Membership 2019 – Additions, Corrections and Updates

The membership now stands at 454

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, Keith Pyne 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

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.

Message from the Chair

One of the aims of the Third Aid Trust this year is to raise the profile of the U3A nationally. This sounds very grand, at a national level, but in effect it means that local U3As like ours make sure everyone knows who we are. Well Leicester U3A has made a start... what's the phrase? Baby steps! Last month we had a stand at the opening of a new health centre on Sturdee Road. Various Committee members took turns to man/woman the stand for the morning and we did get to speak to lots of people. I know of one new member who has joined after meeting and chatting to us, but there were lots more people who know what the U3A is and what we do. We made a point, as suggested at the Conference in August, not to use the phrase 'University of the Third Age', and when people asked us what the U3A is, we just described what we do. No-one asked what the letters stood for! Hopefully some of those people we spoke to at the medical centre, will tell others, perhaps their older relatives, and so spread the word. If any of you know of any other opportunities where we could have a stand to promote the U3A to more people, do speak to any Committee member.



You may already have heard, through your groups, of another initiative I've roped us in for: the first Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary's Church in Brinsmead Road. We were invited to have a Leicester U3A Christmas Tree at their festival, to promote the U3A. I've invited all the Convenors to send/give me a 'bauble' which describes or celebrates their group. I'm hoping this will encourage a bit of creativity, it's amazing what can be achieved with some cardboard, papier mache, paint and tinsel! We already have our first 2 baubles, from Bridge 2 (thanks Henry!), and the Sunday Lunch group (thanks Pat!) so let's get creating, I really don't want to have to make them all myself! I predict there may be some members keen to point out that the U3A is a non-religious organization, and suggest that perhaps we shouldn't be taking part in what they deem to be a religious activity. However, we are taking part, not to

promote any religion, but to promote the U3A (plus there are no Christmas trees in the Bible!), so I think we are comfortably complying with U3A guidelines: “to promote and uphold the principles of the Third Age Trust”.

Christmas is hurtling towards us at a rate of knots, so don't leave it too late to book your place at the Christmas Lunch on December 10th at Evington Golf Club. Menu choices are available on the website (Events page). Booking is made using the form which was sent to you by email on 15th October, or you can collect one at the Monthly Meeting. Payment should be by cheque made out to Leicester U3A.

A quick reminder to all about the Open Mic Afternoon on January 14th: we've got entries so far from some of the groups: Singing For Pleasure, Guitar group, Ukuleles and The Shakespeare group. I'm also hoping for some poetry reading, comedy, or musical items from individuals, not just from groups. I'm sure there must be talented pianists, violinists, oboists, singers or stand-up comedians in our membership who could entertain us with a 'turn'. The only person so far who has offered to perform in this category (ie individual), is me! Don't let me be the only one!

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.*)

Reports from the Groups

Computer Help

Greetings everyone. As usual, this month has seen computer software updates. For those using Windows-based computers, I am using a laptop running Windows 10 and I check for updates around once a week or so. I make sure that the anti-virus software always updates itself automatically and I then go to Windows Settings, Update & Security, click on that and then in the Windows Update I let the machine update by itself. This can take a while, dependent on how many updates there are and the speed of your Internet connection. But these are necessary, I assure you!

Sadly, Microsoft ended what they refer to as 'mainstream support' for Windows 7 in 2015 but they will continue with 'extended support' until January 2020. For Windows 8 users, 'mainstream support' ended in 2018 but 'extended support' will continue until January 2023. My very old Windows desktop computer is now way past any kind of support - I cannot upgrade it beyond Windows 7! So I keep it plugged in and use the hard drive as backup storage for copies of essential files, photos and the like.

For those with Apple-based computers, at the last check the MacOS version was named Catalina or 10.15, the version for iPad users now being called iPadOS 13.1.3 and for iPhone it is iOS 13.1.3. One of the biggest changes I have noticed with the iPad and iPhone is that to see what software updates are available for your apps, you now have to open the App Store and from the Today screen tap on your picture in the top right of the screen. That brings up your Account page and if you then put one finger on the screen (preferably somewhere in the upper middle, near Purchased and Subscriptions) then drag your finger down the screen and the let go, a list of updated apps will appear. You can then scroll down and either update them all in one go, or update them individually by tapping on each item marked 'update'. This is the same for both iPad

and iPhone.

It is always a good idea to have backup copies of files and photos - some years ago I had a problem with my main computer and had to reformat the hard drive, then reinstall Windows. It took all day to get it back and working again with all my files and photos restored! A few years later I had a similar problem with my Apple MacBook, so I took it into the Apple Store in Highcross and with their help the full operating system was reset. I then restored my files, photos etc from backup copies that I had.

That's all for now, but for those in Leicester U3A with computers do please consider going on to Facebook - it is at least perhaps having a try with the Leicester U3A group set up solely by Stephanie Smith. It is a private group, so only members of Leicester U3A may join. I am sure you will find it of interest, especially as more people join and contribute. (We've got 24 members so far! -Ed)

Andy Williams (Computer Help Convenor)

Bus Pass Tours

We enjoyed a good day out in Coventry on 9th October, visiting the Cathedrals (all 3) one grandly and vibrantly alive and the ruins of the two previous ones. After a fairly short visit to the Museum, lunch and a brief, brisk walk round the Cathedral quarter it was time to board the bus to come home. One of these days I will get to visit the shops.

The next trip is due to take place one day during the week beginning 25th November. As the Convenor hasn't received any suggestions yet as to where we should go, nothing has yet been arranged. Suggestions please to me via either the U3A website or my email address.

Don't forget the date of the December tour, ie the 10th, to have tea in a cafe in Wigston. If you have a favourite you'd like the group to visit please let me know.

Denise Buchan (BPT Convenor)

Digital Photography

For the October meeting members were invited to offer pictures inspired by some Haikus:

The cool breeze
Twisted and crooked
Then came here
The Summer mountains
At my every steps
I could see more

Kobayashi Issa (1763 — 1828)

(The grammar may seem a little strange but this is how they were translated from the Japanese on the web.)

Dawn
diamond dewdrops
glisten on gossamer threads
morning has broken

Jan Allison (May 2016)

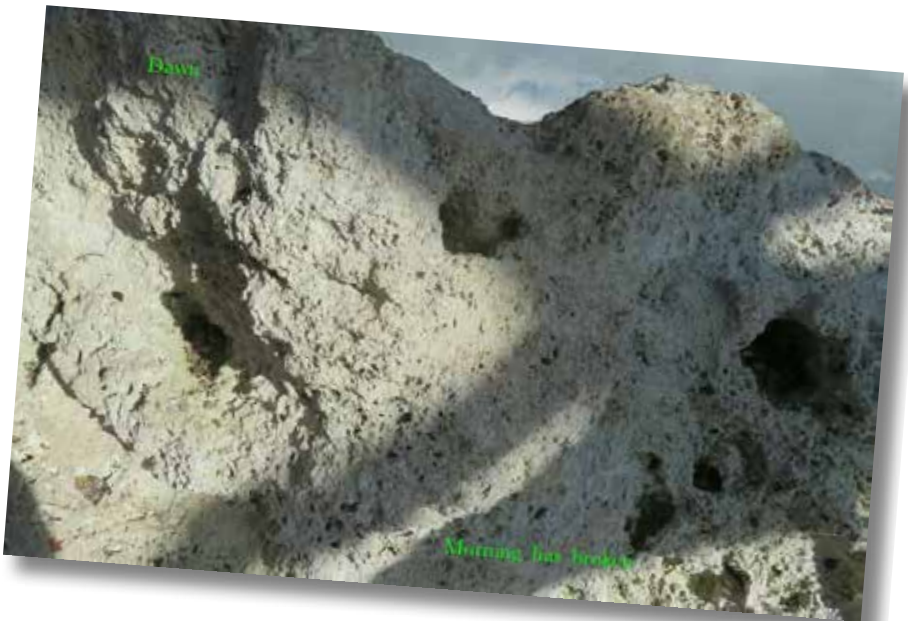
There were a surprisingly varied interpretations of these ranging from the literal pictures of mountains or cobwebs with dewdrops to abstract designs. All very entertaining.



*Photo by Cliff Ault,
PTO for more*



Photos by Cliff Ault





Photos by Rachel Mason



Photo by Angela Jennings

*Angela Jennings
(Digital Photography Convenor)*

Botany Group

The weather got the better of our proposed 'Urban Botany' excursion (it's not much fun poring over plant ID books in the rain) so we had a warm, dry indoors session looking at 'urban plants' ie. weeds! This was followed by a quiz on botanical terms, which everyone seemed to enjoy. Here they are puzzling over such terms as 'glabrous' and 'corolla'.



Steph Smith (Convenor)

Architecture and Design Group's Visit to Stamford

Stamford is a charming town built in the local stone, mainly dating from the Georgian period. We, however, went to see the Victorian architecture of Stamford, starting off with the railway station. We were led by Mike Taylor, a very knowledgeable guide and the author of *The Quality of Leicester*. The town's Georgian architecture was protected because the

Marquis of Exeter, the owner of the nearby Burleigh House, refused to allow the main line from London to York to pass through Stamford. It went through Peterborough 20 miles away and a delightful station was built in Stamford to link with the main line. It is now a private house.



The first stop on our tour was All Saints Church to see the nineteenth century changes and to admire the stained glass added at that time. We went on to Browne's Hospital, built in 1474, walking through the almshouses to the peaceful inner garden which is surrounded by the Vic-

torian extension to the old building. We saw many Victorian buildings and admired how they blended well with the Georgian architecture. Just as it was starting to rain heavily we had extremely good pots of tea in the Central Cafe and Tearoom emerging again when the rain had stopped. We then walked by the river seeing the ornate iron bridge and the Marquis of Exeter's station.



This was an excellent afternoon trip and we thanked Mike for offering to show us round.

Veronica Matthew (Architecture & Design Convenor)

Natural History Group Report

October's meeting of the Natural History group took us to a new venue for us all: Blackthorn Lane wildlife area, off Manor Road. This land is part of Leicester University and is used by their Conservation students for their research and studies. There are always plenty of plants to see, (though few flowers at this time of year) but very little fauna on our visit as the chill of autumn sets in! There was the usual birdsong accompanying us as we went round: robin, goldfinches, even the call of pheasants. One keen-eyed member claims to have seen a buzzard, always exciting! Very few invertebrates, just a lovely little harlequin ladybird which definitely did not want his picture taken! We saw the last of the blackberries, starting to be replaced in abundance by fungi. We're all looking forward to revisiting this site in the spring and summer, it clearly has a lot more to offer than this first visit showed us.



News from the Groups Co-ordinator

Hi everybody,

Critical Thinking:

“The analysis of facts to form a judgement. The unbiased evaluation of factual evidence. It is self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective thinking.”



It sounds a lot like us all! So goes the definition of the subject of our latest suggested group.

Our member Jane Geere is an experienced teacher of Critical Thinking, and really misses teaching the subject. It certainly would be a great group to add to the numbers. Can you communicate? Can you solve problems? Or be better at either?

So: have a think; weigh up the pros and cons; read this article to acquire information; be creative; and present to yourself your argument that Critical Thinking might be a good group for you to join! I'm using some of the subject's skills to advertise it of course, but you see where I'm coming from. Critical Thinking is now taken as a subject in most Sixth Forms in England and Wales and is examinable at A-Level. Students typically sit exams on the “Resolution of Dilemmas”, “Credibility of Evidence”, and “Assessing and Developing Arguments”. Do consider signing up for this fascinating sounding group.

Also, this month I will be contacting Craft 2, and the Pub Quiz Group—they are both nearly ready to start, but of course are always open for new members.

Budding groups are:

Scrabble 3

Italian

World History 2

Do think about signing up to these groups!



U3A Christmas lunch

Where: *Leicestershire Golf Club*

Evington Lane, Leicester LE5 6DJ

Date : *Tuesday 10th December*

Time : *Doors open at 12.00pm*
Serving starts at 12.45 pm

Cost £27.00

Please complete your menu choice and bring or send it to Jan Hall, Kay Relf or Neil Taylor.

Remember you may invite a non-U3A member

Remember to keep in touch with your Convenor and keep her/him up to date with plans, to make organising things that much easier. See you at the table!

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.
- Bridge 2** Henry Paulinski bridge2
2.00pm every Thursday in members' homes. Play this wonderful game in congenial company. Ideal for Bridge players with two or more years' experience.

Bridge Beginners	Keith Pyne 2.00pm on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in members' homes.	bridgebeginners
Bus Pass Tours	Denise Buchan Trips are once or twice a month. Dates and venues will vary according to their destination.	buspass
Canasta	Barbara Sheppard 2.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	canasta
Chess for Pleasure	Graham Williams 10.30am-12.30pm on the 1st Monday of the month at Graham's. Anyone who can play chess is welcome.	chess
Computer Help	Andy Williams Contact Andy for help with computer problems.	computerhelp
Craft	Margaret Potter 2.00pm on the 2nd Friday of the month at Margaret's.	craft
Creative Writing	Stella Memory 10.30 on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes.	creativewriting
Cryptic Crosswords 1	Diana Barker 2.00pm on the 3rd Monday of the month at Diana's.	crosswords
Cryptic Crosswords 2	Barbara Russell 2.00pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at Barbara's.	cryptic2
Current Affairs 1	Denise Aaron 2.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month in members' homes.	currentaffairs1
Current Affairs 2	Henry Paulinski 10.30am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes.	currentaffairs2

- Digital Photography** Angela Jennings photography
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.
- Digital Photo Help** Bob Hall photographyhelp
Contact Bob for help with digital camera problems.
- Discussion** Angela Kendrick discussion
2.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in members' homes.
- Discussion 2** Henry Paulinski discussion2
2.00pm on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes.
- Drawing and Sketching** Peter Elliott drawing
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.
- Family History** Sandra Barker familyhistory
2.00pm on the 1st Friday of the month at the Leicestershire and Rutland Family History Society, King Street.
- French Advanced 1** Fiona Oliver frenchadvanced1
2.30pm every 2 weeks on Fridays in members' homes.
- French Advanced 2** Peter Hampton frenchadvanced2
2.30pm every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes.
- French Intermediate** Ivy Carr frenchintermediate
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.
- Gardening** Angie Barnes gardening
2.00pm on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes or on a visit.

German Intermediate Conversation	Paul McCann 10.00am on 3rd Tuesday of the month at Helen Parson's.	german
Gilbert and Sullivan	Margot Comer 10.00am on the 1st Thursday of the month at Margot's.	gands
Guitar Playing	10.30am on the 2nd Monday of the month in members' homes.	Pat Breen
History 1	Deborah Hartridge 10.30am on the 1st Thursday of the month in members' homes.	history1
History 2	Mike Bates 2.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes.	history2
How Hard Can It Be	Gabrielle (Gabi) Garland In the morning on the 1st Friday of the month, time and venue to vary according to the activity.	hhcib
Irish Language	Pat Breen 2.00pm every 2 weeks on Thursdays in members' homes.	irish
Latin - Polish Up Your Rusty...	Jean Cloud 2.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Jean's.	latin
Little Theatre	Elisabeth Somogyi 7.30pm on Wednesday of the week of performance at the Little Theatre. See page 25 for a description of the group's plans.	littletheatre
Mah-Jong	Ann Allsop 10.30am on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at Ann's.	mah-jong
Medieval People	Peter Kilty 10.00am on the 3rd Friday of the month.	medievalpeople

Modern Novel	Helen Parsons 10.30am on the 3rd Friday of the month in members' homes.	modernnovel
(Mon) Music Appreciation	Liz Warren 10.30am on the 3rd Monday of the month at Liz's.	music.mon
(Wed) Music Appreciation	Jill Reville 10.30am on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in members' homes.	music.wed
Natural History	Richard Edwards 10.00am on the 4th Tuesday of the month in members' homes or at a nature reserve.	naturalhistory
Needlework and Knitting	Elisabeth Watkin 2.30pm on the 2nd Monday of the month at Elisabeth's	embroidery
Orienteering	Dave Barnes This group is now closed for the winter season, meetings will resume in April 2020	orienteer
Paranormal Phenomena	Alan Baker 10.30am on the 3rd Monday of the month in members' homes.	paranorm
Parks and Tearoom Strolls	Marjorie Mallory, Cliff Ault (Deputy) 2.00pm every 2 weeks on Fridays during the Spring and Summer months.	strolls
Petanque	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

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

Scrabble 2	Janet Stratford 2.00pm on the 4th Monday of the month at Janet's.	scrabble2
Shakespeare	Liz Brandow 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
Singing for Pleasure	Margaret Potter (Deputy) 10.00am on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Quaker Meeting House, Queen's Road.	singing
Spanish Conversation	Lorna Pollard 2.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month in members' homes.	spanish
Steam Railways	Mike Rowberry 2.00pm on the first Tuesday of the month, venues vary.	steam
Summer Croquet	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
Sunday Lunch	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
Swanns	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

Table Tennis	Jackie Caunt, Pat Thompson (Deputy) 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.	tabletennis
Ten Pin Bowling	Jenni Shelton 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.	tenpin
Ukulele	Steph Smith 2.30pm – 4.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Leicester Progressive Jewish Synagogue, Avenue Road.	ukulele
Video – Making A	Bob Hall 10.15am on the 1st Thursday of every third month in members' homes.	video
Welsh Improvers	Brenda Worrall 2.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, usually at Brenda's.	welsh
World History	Jenni Shelton 10.00am on the 1st Monday of the month in members' homes. Ute will talk on Vienna and the Ringstrasse, and Vienna After the Fall of the Empire.	worldhistory

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/>

Dates for your Diary

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 10th December - Christmas Lunch at 12.00pm

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

Tuesday 17th December - Little Theatre Visit at 7.30pm - Gervase Phinn

Tuesday 14th January - Open Mic Afternoon – 2.45pm

Little Theatre Visit details are on page 25.

Theatre Visits Group visit details are on page 26.

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 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

Booking is open through the U3A Little Theatre Group.

Contact the Convenor Elisabeth Somogyi

(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 closed (reminder for those with tickets)

Special performances

Autumn Leaves musical memories in the Haywood Studio

cheese and wine included

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

Booking closed (reminder for those with tickets)

Gervase Phinn

a special evening with the master poet and storyteller

Tuesday, 17 December, 7.30pm £16.00

Booking open to 3 December

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

REMEMBER

Leicester U3A now has its 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!

Local Theatre Visits (Curve)

Contact Diana Barker

WEST SIDE STORY

TICKETS RESERVED CAN BE COLLECTED AT THE MEETING

PHANTOM of the OPERA

Thursday 5th March 2020 2.15pm £52

Stalls Rows R, S, T (25)

Balance due 16th December so tickets need to be reserved by 2nd December
enquiries to curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk

CINDERELLA

Performed by the Northern Ballet

Thursday 2nd April 2020 2.30pm £20

Balance due 4th Feb so tickets must be reserved by 20th January
enquiries to curve@leicesteru3a.org.uk

Open Mic Afternoon

January 14th, 2020

2.30-4.30pm

Christchurch Hall

If you've got it, come and flaunt it at our first ever
Open Mic 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 January 2020 Newsletter is Tuesday December 31st. 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 2020	Individual	Associate*
Joining between 1st January 2020 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 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 Tel: 0116 291 1814)

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

(Details of subscriptions for 2020 are on page 27)