



Long Eaton and District u3a  
in the County of Derbyshire  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/long-eaton>

## **newsletter 286 of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024**

### **A Message from the Chair**

Hello all

We started 2024 with an interesting talk at our January meeting by Mike Storr on 'Masters of Mirth', which was enjoyed by around 60 members. Thank you to all who contributed to his collection for Asthma UK. Together with a donation from LEDu3a funds we raised £100, a very good amount.

Our February meeting details are below in this newsletter so please do come along.

Groups are meeting again after the Christmas break and several new ones are in the process of being set up. Please do have a look and consider joining one.

Membership renewals are due from April 1<sup>st</sup> and we are starting the process this month as usual; full details below. Fee this year is the same as last; it's one thing that hasn't gone up!!

Please ensure you read all of this Newsletter so that you don't miss out on anything coming up.

Thank you. Hope to see you all soon.

Andrew Savill, Chairman

### **February Monthly Meeting**

#### **February Monthly Meeting**

The next Monthly Meeting takes place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at EVA, Granville Avenue. Vanessa Tissington will present a fascinating talk about the life and works of Hans Christian Anderson. The talk includes wonderfully colourful images from the original fairy tales.

Doors open at 1.45pm and refreshments are available until 2.20pm when the talk begins. Please ensure you get your hot drink in good time!

## Membership Renewals

We will be taking renewal payments for 2024-25 from 1st February. The **membership fee this year will be £20** for the period April 2024 to end of March 2025. Online payments are still preferable. (Please remember to put your name and membership number as the Reference).

**If you bank online you can renew by bank transfer**

**Our bank details are given in your Renewal e-mail or letter.**

**Please remember to put your initial and surname and membership number as the Reference.**

It will also be possible to pay by Debit card at monthly meetings. However, payments can still be made by cash or cheque.

You can renew by **sending the renewal letter with a cheque** to: Long Eaton & District u3a Membership, 41 Springfield Avenue, Sandiacre, Nottingham, NG10 5NA. **Please write your name and Membership number on the back of the cheque.**

## Membership cards

This year we have decided to save unnecessary expenditure on printing and postage so you will no longer receive a membership card. When you make your renewal payment you will be sent an email confirming receipt of your payment.

**Long Eaton and District u3a Facebook Page**



Another well supported month on our Facebook page.

Please give us a like if you haven't already.

Lots of photos and stories each month to keep up with.

If you have any photos or information to share, please send a message or email.

Julie

## u3a Group News

To contact any of the group leaders to discuss group activities, please go to the Groups Page on our website by clicking this link: <https://u3asites.org.uk/long-eaton/groups>. Select the group in which you are interested and then click the bird link to send a message. Alternatively, you can speak to the Group Coordinators at the Monthly Meeting.

### Garden Group

Our next Garden Group meeting will be on Thursday, 8th February at 10.00–11.30am, as always at Granville. We have decided to make this an open meeting, with cake and coffee, to discuss how the Group will be moving forward this year. After having very good speakers since we started again after COVID it is apparent that we are not providing what the members want. In theory we actually have a large number of members, unfortunately the number who come to the meetings is very low. In view of the high cost of speakers we cannot continue without member's support. Thankfully we have a core group of regulars we can rely on, but more would be welcome.

So would members try and come along in February to discuss how we can attract more interest and provide what people want.

Thank you.

### Art Group

We met up for our annual meal, this time at Wilsthorpe Tavern. Lots of chat, laughter and a few readings.





### **MALE u3a members – YOUR ART GROUP NEEDS YOU**

We need 3 models to paint a portrait of (head and shoulders, you can even leave your hat on) during one of our art sessions.

Are you available Wednesday 13th March 1-3 p.m. at Erewash Voluntary Action Centre? Please let Julie or Barbara know, Via the Long Eaton u3a website.

Thankyou

P.S. Ladies don't be offended, we will organise a ladies' day another time, for budding models.

Julie

### **Photography Group**

Group Visits – January 2024

The Photography Group began the New Year with a visit to Nottingham City Centre. We had arranged to meet at 'The Left Lion.' However, the chilly weather forced the first arrivals to find the nearest coffee shop – 'Patisserie Valerie,' where we were able to take advantage of their tempting menu. Eventually a large group of us began our walk around Nottingham, heading for the Contemporary Museum, St Mary's Church and afterwards lunch at the Pitcher & Piano.

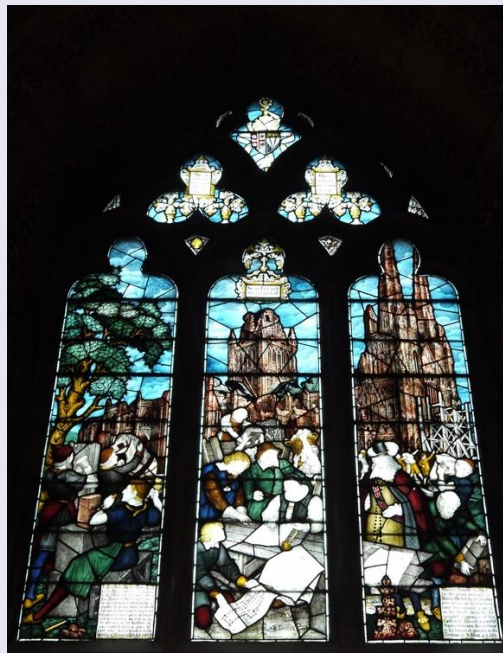
Our second visit in January was to Litchfield. First of all, we went to the number '19' café for our usual refreshments and afterwards we headed to the Cathedral. After lunch we explored the town and its attractions. Some of the group visited the garden of the house

of Erasmus Darwin, who was a doctor, inventor and poet. Erasmus was the grandfather of Charles Darwin.

All in all, a very enjoyable start to 2024.



Don't forget to look up when you're walking around Nottingham as there are many interesting buildings to see. The first photograph depicts the building that the shop 'Zara' occupies on the corner of Pelham Street and was originally built for Boots the Chemist - 1902-1905.



Litchfield Cathedral has many highlights, one being this delightful stain glass window, which depicts the rebuilding of the Cathedral after its destruction in the Civil War.

Gill Hartley

## **Family History**

The next two dates for the Family History Group are Monday, 19th February, 2024 and Monday, 18th March, 2024.

We meet at Long Eaton Library from 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm for a round table discussion about researching your family tree.

All members offer helpful advice and suggestions to move forward with your research and maybe resolve those long-standing problems.

If you wish to bring your own computer or use the library's please feel free.

New members are always welcome.

John Hassall

## **History Group**

The History Group meets monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday from 10.30 to 12.00 at EVA Granville Avenue, Long Eaton.

We are currently studying why the Romans left Britain and the after effects of that. New members are always welcome. If you want to join us, contact me through the website or just come along to our next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February. There is a small charge per session which includes tea/coffee.

## **New Interest Group – Discover Africa**

This new group will hold its first meeting on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 10 am to 12 noon in Sandiacre. The group will meet on the third Friday morning of each month.

The aim of the group is to learn about the African Continent by asking questions then to try to research the answers.

The group is nearly full. If you are interested in joining, please contact David Pinney via the website or email or phone.

## Belly Dancing

Our first u3a Belly Dancing group for 2024, 18 altogether, was great fun. We even had a new member, who enjoyed herself and will return in 2 weeks.

The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 1.30 p.m. at Erewash Voluntary Action Centre if anyone would like to join us.

We have been invited back to Lock Cottages to perform in the summer.

Sherry and Julie



## Derbyshire u3a Network

To find out more about our Network, click on this link:  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/derbyshirenetwork/welcome>

News from Buxton u3a for you:



**The 30<sup>th</sup> International  
Gilbert &  
Sullivan  
Festival**

Buxton & District U3A welcomes the  
30th International Gilbert & Sullivan  
Festival back to Buxton from Saturday  
27 July to Saturday 10 August 2023

We are pleased to advise that a U3A group booking has been  
made in Buxton Opera House for the performance of  
**The Pirates of Penzance** on Sunday, 28 July 2024 at 7.30 pm



The full festival programme may be  
downloaded from [www.gsfestivals.org](http://www.gsfestivals.org) or call  
01422 323252 for a copy of the newsletter.  
One of the festival highlights will be a hilarious  
production all-time favourite *The Pirates of  
Penzance*, performed by the professional  
National Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company,  
directed by and starring Simon Butteriss.

Follow the adventures of Frederic, in love with  
the Major General's daughter. Frederic finds  
himself torn between his sense of duty and his  
love for Mabel. Can he find a way to live happily  
ever after?

There will be a pre-performance talk by a G&S  
expert especially for U3A members.

**The cost per ticket is a special price of £30 (centre stalls)**  
Please register your interest by emailing Philip Barton (group leader *Adventures in Good Music*) at  
[philip.barton@btinternet.com](mailto:philip.barton@btinternet.com) with your name, email address, telephone number and number of  
tickets required. Alternatively, text details or leave a message on 07980 660202 or 01293 214571.  
You will be contacted in early March with details of how to make payment.

Gilbert & Sullivan Festivals ngsoc BUXTON OPERA HOUSE & PAULSON ARTS CENTRE

u3a learn, laugh, live

Contact Philip Barton of Buxton u3a at [philip.barton@btinternet.com](mailto:philip.barton@btinternet.com) or 07980 660202 for further details



## News From u3a National Office

The **first u3a national festival** takes place in York from Thursday 18 July to Saturday 20 July. The festival will be held at the University of York, based around their exhibition centre. There will be a wide variety of activities – talks, sporting events, musical entertainment and workshops which will make our first national festival something to remember.

More information about this event at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/festival-2024>

## Online Learning Events from u3a National Office

### Online Learning Events from u3a National Office

Our National Office offers a number of workshops, webinars and interactive sessions, delivered by members for members, which are free to join. These are in high demand and spaces are limited, particularly for those with an interactive element.

**In February, events include: David Hockney and the Theatre – Friday, February 23 at 2pm.** Through sound and video, art historian, Peter Webb brings Hockney's theatre to life. Peter Webb has degrees from Cambridge and London Universities and a Doctorate from the University of East Anglia. After a lectureship at Coventry College of Art, he started teaching the first ever degree course in England on the subject of The Erotic Arts at Hornsey College of Art in London in 1970. After Hornsey, he taught at Middlesex University in London, and retired as Reader in the History of 20th Century Art in 1996;  
**Science Network Event – Tuesday 27 February at 9.30am.** Dr Jonathan Kennedy will discuss his book, *Pathogenesis: How Germs Made History*. Humans are generally seen as the main actors in the history of our species. Outbreaks of infectious diseases have destroyed millions of lives and decimated civilizations, but the devastation created opportunities for new societies and ideas to emerge and thrive. *Pathogenesis* was a Radio 4 book of the week and a Sunday Times, Waterstones and Amazon science book of the year;

**Secrets of the Human Brain: Sleep and Dreams – Thursday 29 February at 2pm.**  
**Talk2: Awake, Asleep and Dreams (Was I Dreaming?)** This talk explains how our brains make us wake, sleep and dream. It explains how different parts of the brain are responsible for keeping us awake and making us go to sleep. The talk continues to explain how we have different kinds of sleep and why we dream. Bob also asks the audience to talk about their own dreams and the meaning of dreams is discussed.

All the above courses are free and on Zoom. For more information on these events and others, please go to: [u3a – Online Learning Events](#).

## Community News

### Asda £1 Deal

Asda is doing "Soup and a Roll plus unlimited tea or coffee" for anyone 60 or over for just £1 per person in their cafes until Feb 28th.

### Support and advice for people in Derbyshire affected by Storm Babet at drop-in events around the county.

Derbyshire County Council will hold a series of public drop-in sessions around the county for local communities affected by flooding. Residents and businesses will be able to talk to local agencies about their experience, get advice and share their views as well as finding out what is being done to help the community recover.

Representatives from the Environment Agency, district and borough councils, Severn Trent Water and Derbyshire County Council will be on hand to talk to local people. The one for communities in Breaston, Long Eaton, Sandiacre and surrounding areas will be held in Sawley on Friday 16th February at Sawley Memorial Hall, Draycott Road, NG10 3FR from 2pm to 7pm.

While the events have been organised with local communities in mind, they are open to any members of the public.

### Derbyshire Time Swap

Time Swapping (or Time Banking) is a fantastic initiative which allows members of the community to 'swap' their time to help somebody else. This support can range from assistance with gardening, to teaching I.T skills, or giving cookery lessons – the sky is the limit!

In return for this, a member of the community earns back time which they can spend doing something they want to – like learning a new skill or receiving help from another member. Members can even donate time they have accrued to other members if they wish. Time is the only currency used. For more information contact Stuart Martin, Time Swap Development Officer (Erewash and South Derbyshire) – email: [StuartM@sdcvcs.org.uk](mailto:StuartM@sdcvcs.org.uk) or call 07938 737011/01283 219761.

### Erewash Borough Council Garden Waste Collection Fee Prices

#### How much will the garden waste service cost from April 2024 to March 2025?

The annual charge depends on when and how you sign up. Here are the charges:

**Early Bird Online** – sign up online between 29 January to 31 March 2024 – £20 first bin, additional bins £10 per bin.

**By Telephone** – £32 first bin, additional bins £16 per bin.

**Online** – sign up online after 31 March 2024 – £32 first bin, additional bins £16 per bin.

**In Person** – £37 first bin, additional bins £18.50 per bin.

### **When and how can I sign up?**

You can sign up from Monday 29 January, using the following ways:

- Online through My Erewash, find out how to set up an account.
- Calling our Customer Services Team on 0115 9072244
- Visiting Ilkeston or Long Eaton Town Halls (please check opening times before travel).

### **The 'Friends of Erewash Museum' are looking for new trustees!**

The 'Friends' has been operating as a charity for over forty years supporting the work of Erewash Museum. Whilst based in Ilkeston the Museum seeks to reflect the history of the whole borough and provide resources and events for every Erewash resident.

The challenges for local government finance mean that the museum will be relying on more support from the 'Friends' through fund raising and volunteer support. To respond, the charity needs to strengthen the board of trustees with two or three new members. Whilst we are particularly looking for folk with financial, heritage or marketing experience we would welcome anyone with a passion for making the museum and the work it does available to all Erewash residents.

If you think you might be interested, or know someone who would be, drop an e-mail to [friendsoferewash@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoferewash@gmail.com) and we will contact you with more information. We are hoping to move forward on this recruitment by the beginning of March.

## **More people need to know about us!**

How many times do we tell people we belong to the u3a and are met with a blank expression? 'u3a?' they ask. 'What's that?' I'm sure you'll agree, it's no good having all our wonderful groups and activities if people don't know about us. To overcome this hurdle, the committee has invested in an exciting range of new publicity equipment. Along with our posters and leaflets, we have banners and flags, bunting and beanie caps! We are planning to take our display to fetes, festivals, community halls and places where potential members might visit. If you know of somewhere we could mount a display, please could you email me with ideas. You don't need to have the exact details, just the name of the event or the building and whereabouts it is. You can email me on: [publicity.ledu3a@gmail.com](mailto:publicity.ledu3a@gmail.com). Many thanks for your help.

**Helen Baron**

**Publicity Officer**

**Please send items for the March Newsletter to David Pinney by 25<sup>th</sup> February at the very latest.**

**Long Eaton & District u3a members are also invited to send in concise information about future local events.**

**The email address is [lead.u3a@live.co.uk](mailto:lead.u3a@live.co.uk)**