

NEWSLETTER



Lutterworth

Issue No. 196

April 2019



WRITING COMPETITION 2019

I have said that I will organise the regular competition this time (at least I cannot win it and I will draft Graham in as a judge so he will not be eligible to win either!) I missed doing it all in time to read the winning efforts at the Christmas meeting, I guess I was waiting for someone else to organise it!! However, maybe the current chilly weather conditions are very suitable for curling up in the warm with a laptop or pen and paper.

CATEGORIES

This year there will be three categories, you can put in as many entries as you like to each category (As long as each is in a separate envelope).

1. FICTION a story of not more than 1000 words.
2. NON FICTION narrative prose, could be relating to past experience or thoughts/ a description of somewhere or something / commentary on something about which you feel strongly/ Again Max 1000 words
3. POETRY rhyming or otherwise to make us laugh, cry or just to make us think.

CLOSING DATE

ENTRIES CAN BE HANDED IN AT THE APRIL GENERAL MEETING.

There will be a box on the 'signing in'/ newsletter desk.

Please put each entry in a separate envelope labelled with your invented nom de plume/ secret name and the category it is destined for. A different name for each entry please, who knows you may win twice. Also in this envelope, you need to include a small envelope, again labelled with your secret name that contains your real identity. This will only be opened when the winners are announced at the MAY MEETING.

There will be actual prizes but the biggest prize will be the honour of winning!

Happy writing.

Nohline Ruff

Subscriptions.

Your subscription for 2019 - 2020 is now due. The amount was confirmed at the AGM at £15 for the year.

The details are on our website, as is the renewal form that can be downloaded. Copies of the form have also be left in both Lutterworth and Broughton Astley libraries.

INTEREST GROUPS AND EVENT REPORTS

Always check online for possible timing variations. Check with the group leader if you are not sure. A number of groups have room for more members. If you wish to join any of them, please contact the Group Coordinator

TOPICAL/CURRENT AFFAIRS GROUP

Coordinator: Nigel McNeill - Tel: 641634

An interesting couple of discussions, firstly about Non-Disclosure Agreements and the use of by celebrity or high profile business personnel, which by consensus we all agreed was not justified, based on media reports, as we were not privy to the full facts.

Then how we all felt to a degree influenced by "the awards season," be it Oscars, Bafta, Plays, TV etc. and how usually it is a good prompt to see something but occasionally as a bad or indifferent prompt!

We also had a discussion about members of our group and attendance, and felt that as after a year, two had dropped out, due to one moving and one having a clash of commitments, we would offer the opportunity for anyone else to consider joining us. However, to meet in comfort in a group member's house, space is limited, literally! If anyone is interested, could they please contact Nigel McNeill

Nigel

POETRY READING

Coordinator: Betty Wilson Tel: 209790

It was great to see a full house plus one new member to welcome. We were reading the poetry of Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes, which gave us much cause for interesting discussion. Sylvia Plath was born in Boston USA in 1932, came to England and went eventually to Cambridge where she met Ted Hughes. Her poetry was full of strong emotion, anger and darkness and was difficult to understand in parts. Her poem "Daddy" was full of anger, vitriol and hatred directed at him. She married Ted Hughes in 1956 but the marriage lasted only 6yrs perhaps due to her suffering from mental problems. She died in 1963.

Ted Hughes was born in Yorkshire. After national service, he went to Cambridge. He was regarded as a 'nature' poet drawing inspiration from the countryside and animals with poems like "Thistles", "The Thought Fox" and "Thrush" - so different to the poetry of Sylvia. He died in 1998.

Both poets had a wonderful use of words illustrating images, a sense of place, feelings and emotions with complex verbal structures. Very enjoyable.

May's programme is about the poet Lewis Carroll - refreshments Marian.

Betty

MUSIC APPRECIATION GROUP

Co-ordinators: John Peverley 553614

Tony MacDonald 553910

This month, Ken gave us the perfect programme for anyone considering joining this group – or indeed thinking that classical music is not for them.

With his theme of 'What makes a piece of classical music enjoyable and popular?' – He gave us the perfect recipe.

Out of the nine pieces of music we heard before the coffee break, I would hazard a guess that most people (given our age in U3A!) would have known well and enjoyed for many years at least half a dozen, if not more of these pieces. They included, The Blue Danube Waltz, The Toreador's Song from 'Carmen', part of Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons', so beloved of British Telecom and the William Tell Overture. The reason for their popularity was very apparent. They have melody in abundance, are tunes you do not forget and in today's jargon are 'easy on the ear'.

After the break, Ken devoted his programme to a tribute to Andre Previn who died recently, aged 89 – Mr Preview of Morecambe and Wise fame, to you and me and thousands of others. He did much to popularise classical music with his easy style and TV coverage, so the second half of the programme sat very easily with the first half as we listened to a varied selection of classical favourites.

Ken himself would say that he is a novice in the field of classical music and learning as he goes along – the aim and intention of U3A.

Well he gets a gold star and a smiley face for his programme, which was most enjoyable – as was Linda's' coffee cake.

The next meeting will be at Tony MacDonald's home on April 18th at 10am.

Doe

MUSIC AND MEMORIES Group One
Co-ordinator Nohline Ruff Tel. 556985

We began by remembering Andre Previn who had died this week and we played his version of 'Get me to the church on time'. We then heard Nana Mouskouri singing 'The White Rose of Athens', a beautiful voice that some had heard at de Montfort Hall (quite some time ago!) A collection of Romantic tunes played by the London Philharmonic orchestra would have made a complicated quiz question as they segued seamlessly from one melody to another. Vivaldi's 'Spring' continued the gentle moo

THEN we noticed a change of pace with the Kinks and 'Dead End Street' and the Rolling Stones singing 'Under my thumb'. We had an unusual rendition of a hornpipe played on an instrument called a hang; it is like an upturned Wok and sounds rather like steel pans. We finished this first half with Ed Sheehan's Galway girl and then heard one of our talented friends, who could have been that girl, playing Irish reels on the piano. She had recorded a selection of Irish music for her grandchildren. We enjoyed delicious cakes from our favourite continental supermarket, hope we can still get them after the dreaded 'B'! The second half of our afternoon was a similarly varied selection. Our session in May will be hosted by Ken and the Ruffs will sort out June, details by email nearer the date.

Nohline Ruff

MUSIC AND MEMORIES 2
The second desert island with discs.
Co-ordinator Nohline Ruff Tel. 556985

The March meeting at the Ruffs produced the usual eclectic mix of styles. We heard Johnny Ray and Tennessee Ernie Ford from the 50s and John Lennon, Neil Diamond and Eva Cassidy from later decades. These were interspersed with Ava Maria, Glen Miller, Mantovani, and Herb Alpert, harp playing,

memories of childhood, piano playing and a lovely rendition of Cavalleria rusticana.

Next month we will be at the home of Eve Jackson where we are able to play CDs

Pat Deacon

NEW AGE KURLING GROUP
Coordinator Roy Maiden Tel: 550058

Another successful month (March) and again well attended. Dates for April are the 10th and the 24th, so make a note in your diaries. If you have never played (or even heard of NEW AGE KURLING), just turn up at ULLESTHORPE VILLAGE HALL at 2.00pm until 4.00pm on the above dates and I promise it will be an enjoyable and painless experience. There is no excuse as even the infirm can play just as well as any able-bodied person. Free refreshments available. See you there.

Roy

READING GROUP
Co-ordinator: Linda Patton Tel: 556996

Our discussion this month of "Howards End is on the Landing" by Susan Hill revealed it to be a bit like Marmite. Susan Hill decided to spend a year reading only books that she already owned, some of which she not opened before. From her description, it seems as though every room in her house is full of books of all kinds and she describes how she decided which forty of these she "could manage with alone, for the rest of (her) life". She explains why she chose "Our Mutual Friend" from all those written by Charles Dickens and "Macbeth" from Shakespeare. We decided to choose one of her forty books to read in June to discuss at our July meeting and that is "Family and Friends" by Anita Brookner. The choice for our May meeting is "The Salt Path" by Raynor Winn and for June "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng. Whether we enjoy the book under discussion or not, we always spend the morning in happy chatter with coffee and refreshments so if you would like to join us please come along.

Linda

WHIST GROUP

Co-ordinator: Glenys Peverley Tel: 553614

We next meet on Thursday, May 3 at 7:00pm at Bitteswell village hall. We would welcome new members, so as to have a more interesting session, playing a greater number of people. We award prizes and have a chatty tea break half way through. Please contact me if you are interested.

Glenys Peverley

QUIZ GROUP

Co-ordinator Sue Jones Tel: 556192

Frances enjoys sport so we knew that it would feature at some point in the afternoon, and it did, we needed to recognise the badges of cricket clubs. The answer for me was lateral thinking, a bear and staff must be Warwickshire. After that, it was purely creative thinking, not so successful! Frances also likes baking and she had made some lovely cakes for us. Many thanks Frances.

Quiz Group Diary

April 11th Quiz afternoon hosted by Fay at Kim's house, 48 Macaulay Road, tel.207822

May 9th Quiz afternoon at Graham's home, 1 Mulberry close, tel. 556985

Members of this group take turns to host the quiz afternoon in their homes and at the moment, we have reached capacity. I will keep your name on a list should any vacancies occur. However, we welcome you to join us when attending pub or charity quiz evenings and if you would like me to keep you informed of these events let me know.

Sue Jones

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Alan Shean Tel 283512

We took advantage of the warm weather to take photos outside at our March meeting. After meeting up for a coffee in Sainsbury's at Oadby (we know how to live) where we discussed the day's shoot, we drove the short distance to the University Botanical Gardens where the daffodils were in fine bloom. Some tree blossom, the lake and the statues provided more opportunities. We finished up in the hot house to take pictures of the cacti and other tropical plants.

We meet on Friday 3rd May. Details will be circulated nearer the time.

Alan Shean

HANDICRAFTS GROUP

Co-ordinator Glenys Peverley Tel: 553614

We will meet on Monday April 15 at my house in Magnolia Drive, Lutterworth at 2:00pm. Please contact me if you would like to join us, as we would welcome new members.

Glenys Peverley

SCRABBLE

Co-ordinator: Glenys Peverley Tel: 553614

On a lovely sunny afternoon, we met at Liz and David's home to indulge in a couple of games of Scrabble. Linda won both her games and she and Jill managed to use all seven letters for extra points. Next month we will meet at Brenda's home. Do come and join us if you enjoy playing.

Linda

PLAY READING

Co-ordinator: Glenys Peverley Tel: 553614

As Glenys was away sunning herself in warmer climes, the meeting was held without her at Gwenda's house. We continued and finished reading 'Lost in Yonkers', by Neil Simon. This was an extremely funny play set in a dysfunctional family in New York. We had Aunt Bella who was rather vague or 'closed for repairs' as her nephew stated and a rather garrulous Grandma, of German descent, who terrorised the whole family. We were all very surprised by the extremely poignant ending of the play; in fact, it nearly had one member in tears.

An excellent play.

Linda Patton will be hosting the next meeting in April.

Gwenda

HISTORY GROUP

Co-ordinator: Linda Patton Tel:- 556996

At our March meeting, we discussed Elizabeth Woodville, Margaret of Anjou. Anne Neville

and Margaret Beaufort as they supported kings Henry VI, Edward IV and Richard III and the fight for Henry VII to become king. This was a most informative and enjoyable meeting. As our next meeting falls on Easter Monday, we have decided to visit the Richard III exhibition in Leicester on Monday April 29th instead. Anyone who wants to join us is most welcome. We will meet at the Recreation Ground car park at 1pm. Unfortunately, our May meeting date falls on another Bank Holiday Monday so we will not meet again in Bitteswell Village Hall until the 4th Monday in June at 2-15 pm. Please join us there when we will look at Henry VII, Henry VIII and his wives.

Linda

THEATRE GROUP

Co-ordinator: June Clayton Tel: 209545

Wednesday 5th June "On Your Feet (Gloria Estafan music) 7.30pm

performance at the Curve. **Fully booked**

Thursday June 20th "Hobson's Choice, the Ballet" 2pm matinee performance at The Hippodrome Birmingham, leaving The Wycliffe Rooms at 10.15am. **£44** (ticket & transport).

6 places available on the bus, if anyone would like a shopping day in Birmingham (£8 return). Ballet tickets may still be available if needed.

Wednesday August 14th "Cats" 8.00m at Kilworth House. **Fully booked.**

Thursday September 26th "War Horse" 7.30pm performance at The Curve. **£47** (ticket & transport). Please pay by the June meeting

June Clayton

JOINT GOLF SECTION

Lutterworth and Wycliffe u3a

Co-ordinators:- Peter Moore

Tel:-552594 peter79moore@gmail.com

Ken Patton

Tel:-556996 ken.patton@btinternet.com

Joint Golf Section Lutterworth and Wycliffe u3a

Co-ordinators:- Peter Moore Tel :-

01455 552594 e-mail:-

peter79moore@gmail.com

Ken Patton Tel :-

01455 556996 e-mail:-

ken.patton@btinternet.com

Joint Golf Day Lutterworth and Wycliffe u3a

I have the Assistance of Ken Patton who will co-ordinate your commitment to fully support this event that has lacked solid support in the recent past. Your u3a Golf section needs you.

The next Golf Day will be at Lutterworth Golf Club on Thursday 9 May 2019 competing for the Hartopp Trophy and Prizes, including Ladies Prize.

Meet at 12.10 Hrs. in the Golf Clubhouse Bar for 1.00 pm Tee Time.

Coffee and Bacon Roll, included, on arrival.

To confirm your attendance or for full itinerary, please contact Peter Moore by Sunday 5th May 2019,

Cost approx. £28.00 To include Coffee and Bacon Sandwich, Green Fee, Prizes and Dinner in the restaurant at 6.30pm.

(Dependent upon numbers)

Upon confirming your attendance, you will receive a full itinerary and Meal choices.

Please invite your Spouse/Partner for 3 course Dinner at 6.30pm in the Golf Clubhouse Restaurant - Cost £11.50 per person.

Jackets and Ties *not required*

Forthcoming Golf Days.

Thursday 11th July 2019. Ullesthorpe Golf Club.

Full details in May 2019 newsletter.

Peter

GARDEN VISITS GROUP

Co-ordinator: Linda Patton Tel: 556996

The sun shone on us at Sudbury Hall and the Museum of Childhood and, although there were not many flowers on display, we all had a most enjoyable day out. Our May garden trip is to RHS Malvern on Friday May 10th. The coach will leave from outside the Wycliffe Rooms at 9am. As I have booked a large coach, there are still a few places left as long as they are booked and paid for at the April General Meeting. At this meeting, I shall have details of our June garden group day out. Everyone is welcome to join any of the trips as the members who go out with us are a lovely group and it is a great way to meet others.

Linda

BUFFET SUPPER GROUPS

Co-ordinator: Gwenda Jones Tel: 556923

After a selection of gorgeous food and talk about the important issues of the day, including the state of our roads and the values of turmeric, we were treated to one of Nohline's famous raffles. Initially, Glenys amassed quite a selection of goodies but these gradually dwindled as we fought over two tins of soup, a packet of Minstrels, a bottle of Mateus Rose and a pack of orchid bulbs. I kept quiet and took my jar of pickle home! A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all. Thank you Nohline and Graham.

Lynda

Where would you go to find lasagne, chicken tray bake, salmon, shepherd's pie, roast vegetables and curry for your selection and where else would you put it all on the same plate? Buffet Supper of course. All this was accompanied by good wine and scintillating conversation at Mick and Brenda's home. We were all seated in their lovely candlelit conservatory, which put the final touch to an excellent evening. Many thanks to Brenda and Mick.

On the first of April, you would be a fool if you did not sign up with either Lynda and Alan or Brian Fowler for another supper.

In May, hostesses will be Pat Boot [Tel:284282](tel:284282) or Sue Sharp Tel 556255

Please let your chosen host know what you are bringing and please be there to start eating at 6.45pm

Gwenda

JAZZ GROUP

Coordinator Graham Ruff -Tel: 556985

We met at Graham's home in March and seven members brought along an eclectic mix of singers and instrumentals. We heard Acker Bilk, Benny Goodman, The Dutch Swing College, Ian Bellamy with accordion accompaniment and an unusually spelt piece by Chris Barber call Loo-easy an-i-a. Among the singers were Eartha Kitt, Maxine Sullivan and Julie London.

At the break we had our usual refreshments and chat about Lutterworth and big brother Market Harborough. The second half featured

Benoit Viellefon, Peggy Lee, Stéphane Grappelli, Duke Ellington, Stacey Kent, Teddy Wilson and George Lewis. As you can see, a very varied afternoon as usual.

Our next meeting will be at Jim Davey's home on April 23rd **tel: 01455699857**. Please let him know if you will be able to attend. As always, if you are reading this and have even a slight interest in jazz music in all its forms, why not come along and join us?

Graham

BRIDGE GROUP

Co-ordinator: Kathy Scott-Simons Tel: 559945

We meet at June's home (Tel: 553418) every Friday at 2.00.

If you enjoy a social game of bridge, please contact me for further information.

Kathy Scott-Simons

TEN PIN BOWLING

Co-ordinator: Richard Whittington 209021

If you are right handed, left handed or ambidextrous and you enjoy exercising with a friendly group of people, join us for ten-pin bowling. We meet on the 2nd Friday of the month at 9.30am on the car park at the recreation ground to arrive at the Nuneaton MFA Bowling, CV10 7SD, at 10.00am. Contact Richard Whittington for more information.

Richard Whittington

SINGLES DINING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Val Howson. Tel: 552130

Email:- <mailto:vhowson4@gmail.com>

Monthly lunch organisers vary

14 enthusiastic lunchtime diners made their way to the delightfully situated Queens Head pub in Saddington on 21st March. In a dining room that overlooks the rolling meadow leading to the reservoir drinks were taken and recent news and views updated as the attentive waitress took the food orders. It was not long until the chatter subsided and eating in earnest began. The array of food chosen from the extensive menu was very varied but as each

and every plate was steadily cleared, the splendour of the pub and the choices were praised. Such are the joys of this group, a variety of hosteliaries, good food, always good banter and always the next month to look forward to. In April, after Easter, members will sally forth to the village of Willey on Thursday 25th. Bookings will be taken at the Wycliffe Rooms General meeting or by e-mail to Brian on fowlerclaybrooke@aol.com

Brian

TABLE TENNIS

Co-ordinator: Carole Harrington Tel: 553438

We meet every Monday (except for Bank Holidays) together with Wycliffe U3A from 2pm to approx.4pm at Walcote Village Hall. **New members are always welcome.**

Carole Harrington

UKULELE GROUP

Co-ordinators: Peter Sneath and Barbara Wilkinson Tel: 553254

The ukulele group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at Bitteswell Village Hall from 9.30 until 11.30. New members are always welcome. No previous musical ability required and no need to read music. We have several spare ukuleles available so you can try before you buy. If you are interested, please contact either Peter or Barbara.

Barbara Wilkinson and Peter Sneath

CANASTA GROUPS

June Hartopp Tel: 553418

June Hartopp runs the Canasta groups for Wycliffe U3A on the first Friday of the month 10:00 – 12:00 and third Wednesday 10.00-12.00. She has offered to extend participation to our members. Please contact June if you are interested in joining.

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Sharp Tel 556255

Next meeting is at Lanes deli - **completely booked on the 11th April**
If you would like to be on the reserve list, please ring me.

Sue

DAYS OUT GROUP

Co-ordinators Gordon and Sue Jones Tel: 01455 556192

Future Days Out will be announced in newsletters

LINE DANCING FOR BEGINNERS

Co-ordinator: Carole Harrington Tel: 553438

We had a very good attendance at the last meeting and therefore are not taking new members at present.
7 dances were done in all, some of them twice.

Carole

ART APPRECIATION GROUP

Co-ordinators: Rae Flowerday Tel. 556942 & Sue Woodhead Tel. 01455 558037

For the group's most recent meeting we looked at the third & final programme on the **art of China**, this one entitled 'When East meets West' and looking at the period from the C19 to the present day. It was a really turbulent period in Chinese history marking the end of two thousand years of dynastic rule, the destructive impact of engagement with (particularly) the British Empire and the revolutionary period of Chairman Mao. What has been remarkable is the resilience of the creative tradition in China and its ability to spring back to life after periods of repression. There is much in contemporary Chinese art that is not only groundbreaking but also references long standing cultural traditions, such as the use of fireworks.

For the second half of our session we considered a favourite piece of art introduced by one of our members. The work in question, Manet's final masterpiece 'A Bar at the Folies-Bergère'(1882) was well known to those present but, nonetheless, yielded new insights that only served to enhance the reputation of the work.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 2nd May** (10am-12 noon) when we will be looking at the second in the series on the art of America. Rae will be introducing a favourite piece of artwork to the group.
Venue: 7 Magnolia Drive.

Apologies to Glenys (Tel 553614).

John

BIRD WATCHING GROUP

Coordinator: Rita Nicholls Tel 557412

Our trip out this month was to Coombe Abbey. We thought, lots of trees before they turn green. Our 1st bird was in the car park, a mistle thrush. Later we heard another singing high up at the top of a tree. We heard and saw our 1st spring visitor of the year, a chiff chaff. Also, while searching for it, a redpoll; a new bird for the group.

We saw a total of 42 species, including an iffy black swan, lots of herons and little egrets; finishing with great views of GS woodpecker. April's trip on Friday 26th to Paxton gravel pits. Hopefully the nightingales will be in. Usual time – 09.30 at Rec with pickup.

Rita

SINGLES TAKEAWAY SUPPER GROUP

Co-ordinator June Clayton Tel:209545

Please phone June on above number for April update

June



LIVELY DISCUSSION GROUP

Co-ordinators: Dianne and Brian Thorp Tel: 01455 209584

The topic for the March meeting of The Lively Discussion Group was posed by Brian and for a full two hours on Thursday 21st we mourned the state of the Justice system in the UK. The statistics that highlight the incredible numbers of criminals who re-offend before being sentenced is horrifying and the enormous cost in terms of money and police resources bringing offenders to court time after time only for them to walk out again with a caution beggars belief. The public constantly bewails the reduction in Police Force numbers but it can hardly be an encouragement for men and

women officers to remain in a force that is so badly let down by the Justice system.

The group members, in turn, remarked on the vast increase in knife crime and it cannot be ignored that, here again, the culture which is soft on crime encourages and may well be at the root of the increase.

The words from The Mikado penned by Gilbert & Sullivan really sum up the conclusion reached at the end of the meeting.

“Let the punishment fit the crime”

In April, on Thursday 18th at 2-15 p.m. the group will gather at the home of Diane & Brian Thorp in Claybrooke Parva. Topic chosen by Dianne is Grenfell Tower - Consideration of the aftermath!

All enquiries on joining the group to Dianne on 01455 209584

Brian Fowler

MUSIC FOR FUN - SONGSTERS GROUP

Bill Tomkins Tel: 01455 552864/07913 386476

bill karen26@hotmail.com

Things are a bit different during April/May due to public holidays and other commitments. Songsters will meet on 1 and 15 April but Bill will not be leading these sessions. There will be an extra rehearsal on 29 April, when Bill will be back again. Then, as 6 May is a bank holiday, there will be no rehearsal. Things return to normal on 20 May.

Please send any queries you may have to Bill's email address, bill_karen26@hotmail.com Meanwhile, I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine.

Bill

SHORTER WALKS GROUP

Co-ordinators:

Lyn Foxwell Tel: 01455 553492

Fay Goodwin Tel: 01455 207822

Next walk 23rd April

Meet at Coventry Rd car park at 10a.m

Walk TBA

Lynda and Alan Shean led a walk from Aylestone via the canal path to Leicester. The weather was dry and fine so it made for easy walking. There were many majestic swans and

a few ducks, who were anticipating being fed. We came off the towpath at Castle Gardens to make our way to Wetherspoons where we had lunch. After a suitable length of time, we retraced our steps back to Aylestone. The walk was 4.6 miles and no-one came back on the bus!
Thankyou Lynda and Alan for an enjoyable morning.

Fay

GROUPS ONE AND TWO STROLLING

Co-ordinator Group One: Gwenda Jones

Tel: 556923

Mobile: 07986905319

Coordinator Group Two: John Lee Tel: 556923

GROUP ONE

We revisited Cosby this month and found out more interesting facts about this village and its beautiful, well looked after church. There is a fascinating coffer or chest in the nave, which is possibly a thousand years old and is a 'dug out' made from a single tree trunk. It is full of photographs of weddings, funerals and Christenings that have taken place in that church, a lovely idea. A King's tomb once stood in the church chancel and we were told that to mark the deaths in the village, the Passing Bell would be used to indicate when a parishioner was dying. Just imagine lying in bed, not feeling too good and hearing that bell toll.

We ended the morning with a good lunch at Cosby Golf Course.

Next month we will be visiting Stoneleigh in Warwickshire.

Gwenda

GROUP TWO

A record number of Strollers assembled in Ashby Parva on March 17th. The weather was warm, the skies were blue and there was an expectant hush as our worthy leader John Lee opened his research book in the Church of St. Peter. John always bones up on his subject exceedingly well so we learned about the church and the village including a wonderful story of how a 19th century Rector William Clement Lay became a renowned weather forecaster through his mathematical and metrological study of weather systems.

Farmers from miles around came to rely upon his forecasts to plan their harvesting. The village name has changed through the ages, first mentioned in Domesday as Little Essebi

and then in the reign of Edward The Confessor as Ashby Parva. It is recorded that in 1642 during The Civil War, one hundred men of the Coventry Garrison "*availed themselves of meat, drink and provender in the village*". After our very informative talk those who wished to perambulate to the outer edges of the village set off whilst the more leisurely strollers confined themselves to the centremost elements before all joining forces again in the bar of The Holly Bush, where we too availed ourselves of drinks and generous platefuls of food.

On April 16th, the group will head to Billesdon. Precise detail not available at time of going to press but seek out John on April 9th at The Wycliffe Rooms for details.

Brian Fowler

1st WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Joint Co-ordinators :-Peter and Irene Moore. Tel:- 01455 552594.email:- peter79moore@gmail.com

Date of Walk :- Wednesday 1st May 2019.

The Bluebell Walk.

Walk Organisers :- Peter & Irene Moore. Tel :- 01455 552594 - email:- peter79moore@gmail.com

Driving distance:- 18.5 Miles each way. Note earlier start. But well worth it.

Meeting Point and Time: Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 9.05am to leave at 9.10am.

Start Point : The Cottage Inn, Fillongley, Nr Nuneaton. Leave 10.00am. Toilets available.

Directions to Start :- At Magna Park A5 island, take 3rd exit towards Wolvey, at Axe and Compass island take 2nd exit to Nuneaton, after large Rail bridge, turn left at island through Attleborough, at large island (under bridge)turn left onto A444 towards Coventry, at 1st island, with pedestrian bridge over, take 3rd exit (signed George Eliot Hospital), at rear of Hospital turn left onto B4112 then B4102 signed Fillongley. At the X roads in the centre of Fillongley, turn right onto B4098 Tamworth Road. After ½ mile bear left onto Black Hall Lane. Pub on left at end.Car Park at rear. Please park at the far right. Allow 40 minutes travel, as nearly all on busy side roads.

Order lunch before starting walk.

Route and Distance: - Starting from Car Park, turn left on track and head towards Fillongley. After X roads turn right after Church. All seated at Coffee break, we then

head to our "bluebell delight" and return on footpaths and farm tracks. There is a stretch of very quiet road walking to join it all together. 5.9 miles in total. 4 Stiles (approx)
Good choice of Food from the extensive Lunch menu. Gluten Free Food available. 2 courses £8.95

Summary. The walk and Pub are now our favourite. Even Bass on draught. What could be better?

Interesting walk, Great Pub & Excellent food. Only needs your support. Bluebells in abundance.

Let us hope the Pub comedian/landlady is on duty.

Next Walk. Wednesday 5th June 2019.

Lime Tree Pub, Whetstone. Excellent Country Pub with Good Golf Special Lunch menu. Gluten Free food available.

Peter and Irene Moore

2nd WEDNESDAY MEDIUM DISTANCE WALKING GROUP

Co-Ordinator Mike Chapman 01455 209972

Last minute update (until 8:45am on the day) see www.wycliffelutterworthu3a.org/walking or follow the link in "Stop Press".

Walk Organisers: Peter and Irene Moore Tel: 01455 552594

Date of Walk: Wednesday 8th May 2019

Meeting Point: Coventry Road Recreation Ground at 09.20am to leave at 09.30am.

Start Point and Time: From the village end of Stanford Road or Rugby Road in Swinford (LE17 6BJ). Start time 10.00am.

Directions to the Start: From Lutterworth take A426 towards Rugby. 200 metres after Plane Island (opposite Golf Club entrance) turn left and immediately right towards Swinford.

Follow the signposts for Stanford upon Avon and park near the children's swings in Stanford Road, Swinford. (LE17 6BJ)

Route and Distance: This is a circular Walk, a little less than 5 miles. Leave Swinford on the Kilworth Road, after 2 fields turn right onto Bridle Track towards Stanford. Continue into village, turn left at Church and continue through this lovely village on the Clay Coton/Yelvertoft Road, turn right on the outskirts of the village onto the footpath that was the Railway line, (lookout for the old Station) and return to Swinford via fields and bridge over River Avon. No stiles.

The pub in Swinford is very unreliable for food, as with no notice at all, and on a whim, the

Lady who cooks decides to go to Manchester. Even if it is booked, she still shoots off.

Directions for lunch: Head back towards Lutterworth, after 2 miles turn right at offset crossroads into Walcote. The Black Horse is opposite. Choose from menu, so no need to pre-order.

We look forward to your company.

March walk

On a windy drizzly miserable day, 15 hardy souls met by the "Old Smithy" in Church Lawford. At the appointed hour, we set off towards Long Lawford, in what was quite a strong cold wind, only to realise that a Walker last seen at Lutterworth was not with us. Having re-checked the start point, we continued onwards, over field paths to be joined by our missing walker before we reached our coffee stop in the grounds of a disused church. Setting off from our break, we too late spotted that the church hall was open for coffee and cake. We continued on towards the canal, back to our starting point, where a number stayed for lunch at the pub.

Mike Chapman

4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinators: - Sue and Peter Creeden

Tel: 01455 557888

March 2019 Walk Report

A walk leader's lot is a difficult one. They have to find a walk, preferably not walked recently, for the 1st and 4th Wednesday walks one that starts from a pub that is open at lunchtimes, do a recky and possibly a second one closer to the walk date to check nothing drastic has changed on the route, try to limit the mileage to approximately 6 miles, limit the number of stiles, limit the amount of mud en route, limit the number of ploughed fields and then after that, get details to the coordinator in what seems months in advance, lastly organise the weather and then lead the walk.

So, it is a challenge and sometimes things don't go quite as well as planned because of comprises that have been made or difficulties not envisaged.

The March walk was one of these walks when George Robertson, who led the walk, I think, regretted choosing this one.

The weather was not as good as was forecast earlier in the week. It was dry but overcast and a little on the chilly side particularly in exposed places. However, this did not stop a

magnificent number of 31 walkers starting from The Holly Bush (renamed the Cherry Tree by George) in Ashby Magna. I was little surprised to see Pete and Jean Williamson arrive in their car because they live in the village but Pete assured me it was to get a quick getaway after the lunch. Little did he know what was about to unfold.

We set off at a good pace and took the footpath that goes through the back garden of a large house. There is always a feeling of naughtiness when doing this. Within a few hundred yards, we encountered the first of a series of what can only be described as b**** awkward stiles. Can I appeal to the residents of Ashby Parva to dip into the parish coffers to upgrade these stiles? Now as any walk leader knows, stiles can slow the walking group down, awkward stiles can slow them down even more (getting the leg over being the challenge) but getting 31 walkers over them takes a while, and it did. I could see him getting flustered at seeing all this going on.

Eventually we did get going. The walk across the fields to Leire Mill was so rural, the trees and bushes just at that point where they are about to burst out into leaf. We then passed Stemborough Mill; a Grade 2 listed building, and headed along the footpath to Dunton Bassett. Luck was on the walk leader's side as I have seen this stretch of the walk a complete quagmire but on this walk it was incredibly dry. We went up Bennet's Hill and then ascended The Mount to join Dunton Lane. At the sharp right-hander, we kept going straight on. We had lost a lot of time and a shortcut was suggested to the leader, I was not a party to his decision making process but he decided to keep going on his original route. We passed through Boggy Brays Farm (not anymore!) and through Slip Inn Quarry. It was at this point that George decided that, maybe, we might not get back to the pub for 1.00pm so he gave them a ring to delay the cooking of the food. We reached Cauldwell Lane, walked a hundred metres or so along it, and then back across a rape field. There was a lovely wide path flattened out for us, what a nice farmer we thought, but it was a lure, like a spider's web, because there before us was a recently ploughed field (the walk leader's worst nightmare), no footpath flattened out, just heavy chunky clay, dried out to make it a really ankle twisting experience. The convivial conversation went silent as we concentrated on navigating ourselves across the field. The next field was not much better but fortunately the farmer, I am not sure whether it was deliberate or not, had left a small pathway round the

edge, but had left trip hazards (brambles) to catch us if we should use it. This slowed us down even more.

It was at this stage that Peter Moore, who I had thought had mellowed as he got older, pulled out a yellow card and then a RED card. We arrived back at the pub about 1.10pm. I am not sure whether Pete Williamson got back early enough to get and consume his lunch. So, that was the walk. Countryside was brilliant, company was excellent but there were some issues!

I would like to thank George very much for leading the walk and beg him not to throw in the towel as we desperately need walk leaders like him if we are to continue as a group.

Peter Creeden

Next Walk Wednesday 24 April 2019

Walk Organisers:- Sue and Peter Creeden
Tel: 01455 557888

Meeting Point and Time:- Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at 09:25am to leave at 9.30am.

Start Point and Time:- The Bulls Head at Brinklow (Postcode CV23 0NE). Depart at 10:00am

Directions to the Start:- Leave Lutterworth towards Magna Park. At the A5 roundabout, take the second exit (B4027) to Pailton, Stretton under Fosse and then Brinklow. At the T junction in Brinklow turn right (towards Coventry) and the Bull is about 150m on the right. Please park at the back of the car park.

Route and Distance:-The route will head up Broad Street and then turn off to pass the motte and bailey castle before heading to the canal and along the towpath to Hungerfield Bridge. It will then take a large loop to Kings Newnham before returning across fields to Brinklow. The route will be along a mixture of roads, canal towpath and tracks across fields. Distance: Approx 6 miles. Stiles: 6

Lunch Arrangements:- The Bulls Head has a reasonably priced lunchtime menu. We will order before we depart from the pub.

Peter Creeden

CHARITY CORNER

Postcards for MAF:- Please remember to save your postcards and let Brian Fowler have them, either by post to him at 16 Roman Close, Claybrooke Magna LE17 5DU, or at any General Meeting

Stamps for the 'Medical Alert' Charity

Please remember to save your used postage stamps for Liz White, who is collecting these for the charity.

Knit and Stitch needs volunteers like you to join us at Lutterworth Methodist Church on the first Thursday of each month between 2pm and 4pm to help make Linus quilts (for children in need of a hug) or to knit items for charities and good causes. All equipment and help is provided. Knit and Stitch is also looking for donations of cotton fabric, threads, wadding and knitting wool. Just turn up to a meeting or for more information ring Sue Turner on 01455 554455

NOTICES AND MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

HOPING TO JOIN LUTTERWORTH U3A?

If any members have friends who are interested in joining us, please give details of their address, telephone number and email address to our membership secretary, Alan Shean Tel: 01455 283512

Current Committee Members			
Post	Name	Number	
Chair	Ken Patton	01455	556996
Vice-chair	Roy Maiden	01455	550058
Secretary Minutes Secretary	Gwen Edwards	01455	209649
Treasurer/ Membership Secretary	Alan Shean	01455	283512
Social Account Treasurer/ Online Co-ordinator	Kate Ayres	01455	209074
Newsletter Editor	Carmel Kerslake	01455	553790
Programme Secretary	Margaret Foster	01455	553258
Groups Coordinator	Linda Patton	01455	556996
Committee Member	Theresa Phillips	07788	130339
Committee Member	Lynne Grindlay	01788	860567
Co-opted member	Mick Barrows (Equipment Organiser)	01455	556570
Co-opted member	Peter Sneath	01455	553254
Co-opted member	June Clayton	01455	209545

MONTHLY MEETINGS

These are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 9.45am, in the Wycliffe Rooms, George Street, Lutterworth. Between 9.45am and 10.15am, coffee and tea will be served. The speaker will commence at 10.30am and the speech will last for 45 minutes.

FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS

April 9th - Ian Maber – Laughing my way round the world

May 14th – Julie Ede – Wonderful wily, wicked Wallis Simpson

NEWSLETTER BY POST; E-MAIL or ONLINE

If you change your e-mail address, please let me know so that you do not miss out on your newsletter.

The newsletter is available on our website:
<https://u3asites.org.uk/lutterworth/newsletters>

Please contact the editor if you need one posted or e-mailed.

Contact details:

Carmel Kerslake - 3 King's Way, Lutterworth, LE17 4QA

Tel: 01455 553790

or 07815410167 (mob)

email: kerslakec@hotmail.com

MAY NEWSLETTER ENTRIES

Please ensure group reports, notices and news are submitted before Friday 3rd May 2019 pm

Please make better use of our notice board, which will be in the Wycliffe Rooms foyer during every General Meeting if you think there is anything our members might be interested in looking into further

LUTTERWORTH U3A GROUP MEETINGS – TIMING GUIDE

GROUP	LEADER	TELEPHONE	FREQUENCY	TIME
MONDAY				
Buffet Supper Club	Gwenda Jones	01455 556923	1 st	From 7.00 pm
Table Tennis	Carole Harrington	01455 553438	Weekly	2.00-4.00
Music for Fun - Songsters	Bill Tomkins	01455 552864	1 st & 3 rd	10.15
Music for Fun - Ukulele	Barbara Wilkinson Peter Sneath	01455 553254	2 nd & 4 th	10-12noon
Handicrafts	Glenys Peverley	01455 553614	3 rd	2.00-4.00
History Group	Linda Patton	01455 556996	4th	2.15-4.15
TUESDAY				
Reading Group	Linda Patton	01455 556996	1 st	10.00-12.00
Music & Memories 1	Nohline Ruff	01455 556985	1st	2.00-4.00
Strolling Group 1	Gwenda Jones	01455 556923	3 rd	am - varies
Strolling Group 2	John Lee	01455 556923	3 rd	am - varies
Short Walks Group	Fay Goodwin Lyn Foxwell	01455 207822 01455 553492	4 th	10.00 onwards
Jazz Group	Graham Ruff	01455 556985	4 th	2.00-4.00
Line dancing for Beginners	Carole Harrington	01455 553438	4 th	2.30-4.00
WEDNESDAY				
Poetry	Betty Wilson	01455 209790	1 st	2.00-4.00
Topical/Current Affairs Group	Nigel McNeill	01455 641634	1 st	10.00 onward
1 st Wednesday Walking	Peter and Irene Moore	01455 552594	1st	As arranged
2 nd Wed Medium Distance Walking Group	Mike Chapman	01455 209972	2nd	9.30 onward
Play Reading	Glenys Peverley	01455 553614	2 nd	10.00-12.00
New Age Kurling Group	Roy Maiden	01455 550058	2 nd & 4th	2.00-4.00
Scrabble	Glenys Peverley	01455 553614	3 rd	2.30-5.00
Joint Canasta Group 2	June Hartopp	01455 553418	3 rd	10.00-12.00
4 th Wed Walking	Sue & Peter Creeden	01455 557888	4 th	9.30 onward
THURSDAY				
Whist Group	Glenys Peverley	01455 553614	1 st	7pm
Music and Memories 2	Nohline Ruff	01455 556985	1st	2.00-4.00
Art Appreciation	Rae Flowerday Sue Woodhead	01455 556942 01455 558037	1st	10.00-12.00
Quiz Group	Sue Jones	01455 556192	2 nd	2.00-4.00
Wine Appreciation Group	Sue Sharp	01455 556255	2 nd	Evening
Music Appreciation	John Peverley Tony MacDonald	01455 553614 01455 553910	3 rd	10.00-12.00
Lively Discussion	Dianne and Brian Thorp	01455 209584	3 rd	2.15-4.00
FRIDAY				
Photography Group	Alan Shean	01455 283512	1st	10.00-12.00
Bridge	Kathy Scott Simons	01455 559945	Weekly	2.00-5.00
Joint Canasta Group 1	June Hartopp	01455 553418	1st	10.00-12.00

Ten Pin Bowling	Richard Whittington	01455 209021	2 nd	10.00-1.00
Bird Watching Group	Rita Nicholls	01455 557412	4 th	9.30 onward
VARIOUS				
Garden Visits	Linda Patton	01455 556996	Varies	Daytime
Theatre Group	June Clayton	01455 209545	Varies	Varies
	Jean Williamson	01455 209882		
	Pauline Harrison	01455 209064		
Days Out Group	Gordon & Sue Jones	01455 556192	As Arranged	Varies
Singles Takeaway Group	June Clayton	01455 209545	Varies	Evening
Singles Dining	Val Howson	01455 552130	Varies	Varies
Joint Golf Section	Peter Moore	01455 552594	As arranged	Varies
	Ken Patton	01455 556996		

Always check online for possible timing variations.

Please remember to update your online Group page in order to keep your group members and potential new members informed.