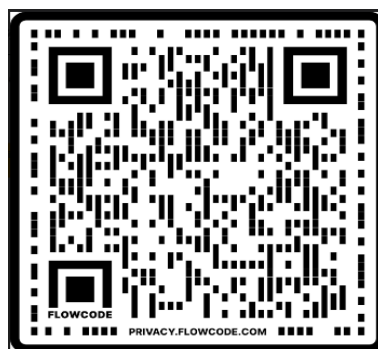




u3a Pathfinders Walking Group  
(Photograph courtesy of Ken White)

# NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2023



Mansfield u3a QR Code

## Words from the Chair: Yvonne Kennison

I know I run the risk of repeating myself constantly, but I can't believe how quickly this year is going. What a year it has been up to now. We don't seem to have any good news anywhere at the moment and just when I was feeling a bit low after reading the news of the day last Thursday, someone got into my mobile phone and sent me a text pretending to be from our son. It said that he had broken his phone, the one he was texting from was an old one, and he had big problems causing him a lot of stress.

Of course, you go into overdrive, I replied to the text asking if he wanted us to go over. His reply was he would come to us as soon as he had completed a few errands.

About an hour later, after we had been feeling anxious as to what could have happened, I got the text that clinched the scam, asking for a big favour - would we mind paying a couple of his bills for him and he would pay us back when his phone was repaired? I knew he would never ask this in a text message.

Please be aware everyone. I was completely hooked at the start. Of course, a quick phone call on the landline to our son, confirmed that it had been a scam. I wasn't thinking straight at the start and obviously should have done that to begin with.

Thank goodness for our u3a and all the good things we have to look forward to.

We are lucky to have such wonderful groups and to be in a position to keep welcoming new members.

It was sad to hear of the passing of John Hufton. He has been a member for many years and our sincere condolences go to Joan and all his family.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Refined Dining on 9 March.

Take care everyone.

Yvonne



**Please note the new email address of the Membership Secretary Jean Hatton:**

**For membership enquiries please contact:**

**[membership.u3amansfield@gmail.com](mailto:membership.u3amansfield@gmail.com)**

## Words from the Editor: Bill Harrison

Well, I type my editor's piece, having just had a fantastic day visiting Easton Walled Gardens, and experiencing the final flourish of the Snowdrops. This was by far the best display of snowdrops I have ever seen, along with beautifully manicured gardens. One to put in your diaries for 2024. The weather reports are not looking good for early March, with temperatures set to plummet and the forecast of snow on the way. Should you need any help if you are struggling, please do not hesitate to contact someone if you require assistance.

Once again Philip Tucker came up with another master stroke, with our recent speaker, Phil James. His talk on Personal Security and his voluntary business of Drone to Home, finding our beloved four-legged doggy friends, was both educational and rewarding. If you missed Phil's appearance on East Midlands Today, then you can watch it on the Mansfield u3a Facebook page.



This is the spray that Phil was talking about, if any of our members missed it.



The Social Committee have been very busy organising, events to suit all. Please show your support for these events.

Big thanks as always to those who contribute to the newsletters, it is much appreciated.

Kindest regards

Bill

## Notification of the change of email address of the Newsletter Editor.

The email address has changed to: [newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com)

Please send all correspondence to the above email address for the March Edition of the Newsletter  
Thank you.

### In this issue:

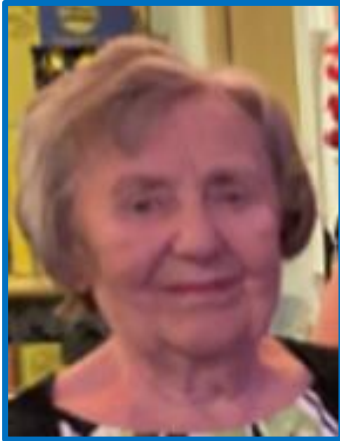
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## Mansfield & District u3a Social Committee



**IRENA DUBOWSKI  
CHAIRPERSON**



**SHIELA WHALLEY**



**JANET WHITLAM**



**MARRIE BARROW**



**JOHN LAWES**



**ELIZABETH ELLIS**



**ELAINE HUCKERBY**



**Social Committee 2023**



**GILL MALLINDER**

## **Social Committee News:**

**Mansfield & District u3a,  
Dukeries u3a and Forest Town & District u3a  
Invite you to join us on The Princess River Cruise**

**Wednesday 12 July 2023**

**Boat sailing at 6.30-9.30pm**

**From Colwick Pier, Racecourse Rd., Nottingham, NG2 4RF**

**£34 including a coach to the river, a three-hour river cruise, drinks ticket for three drinks, food and a DJ**

**Many thanks to all those who have supported this event.**

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**Wednesday 5 April Games Night with Fish & Chip Supper** at Mansfield Bowling Club.

From 6.30 to 9.30 pm. Tickets are £11.

Come and enjoy a fun Board Games night with supper thrown in!

### **A NIGHT AT THE RACES Tuesday 23 May**

The Kevin Bird Suite, One Call Stadium, Quarry Lane, Mansfield, NG18 5DA

7.00pm- 10.00pm

Lasagne and salad

'Dress to Impress'

Tickets £15 available from the Social Committee on Tuesday 18 April at the Main meeting.

**Proposed Halloween Party and Pie & Pea Supper on Friday 27 October. Details to come.**

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCH Tuesday 12 December**

The Hostess Restaurant, Sookholme Road, NG19 8LL

12.00pm – 3 course lunch + coffee and mince pies

Deposits £10 payable to the Social Committee on Tuesday 18 April at the Main meeting.

## MEETING DATES/SPEAKERS 2023

<b>Month</b>	<b>Members' Meetings</b>  Held in the 1861 Suite, Mansfield Town Football Club, One Call Stadium, Quarry Lane, Mansfield, NG18 5DA commencing at 10.00am
<b>March</b>	<b>Tuesday 21</b> Alistair Littlewood (a story teller) - 'Tales from the Brothers Grimm'
<b>April</b>	<b>Tuesday 18</b> Fool's Gold – a musical duo
<b>May</b>	<b>Tuesday 16</b> Paula Cornwell – 'Mind your manners'
<b>June</b>	<b>Tuesday 20</b> Wendy Davenport – retired female police officer discussing her career
<b>July</b>	<b>Tuesday 18</b> Ellie Devereux – 'Use of herbs in Medicine'
<b>August</b>	<b>No Meeting</b> A summer picnic or similar takes place
<b>September</b>	<b>Tuesday 19</b> Annual General Meeting
<b>October</b>	<b>Tuesday 17</b> Catherine McAteer – 'From Russia with Love'
<b>November</b>	<b>Tuesday 21</b> 'Co-op legal issues'
<b>December</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH Tuesday 12 December</b> The Hostess Restaurant, <u><a href="#">Sookholme, NG19 8LL</a></u> 12.00pm – 3 course lunch + coffee and mince pies Deposits £10 payable to the Social Committee on Tuesday 18 April at the Main meeting.

## **Mini Breaks: Jacqui Hampshire**

Bruges trip. 8-11 May 2023

We still have a couple of twin/ double rooms available £369 pp staying at the Dukes Academie 4\* hotel.

Situated in a picturesque and quiet area. Plenty of delights are within walking distance.

On our second day, we will visit the medieval masterpiece, Ghent. This is a car-free, old city, restored to its previous splendour. Home to the Flemish Masters, including Bosh and Rubens.

Please see me for full details. Thank you.

Early departure, albeit times are yet to be decided, although we are looking around 5.00 am. However, we will be crossing on the 10.40 ferry.

May I remind you that a photo copy of your passport would be appreciated, and don't forget to check your insurance.

Skills do offer insurance at £40. Again, see me at the meeting for further information.

Please inform me should you be taking a walking frame etc.

**Balances are now due.**

**£319pp shared / double room, £469 single room**

**Cheques made payable to SKILLS TRAVEL**

**WE DO STILL HAVE A COUPLE OF TWIN / DOUBLE ROOMS AVAILABLE. £369pp.**

Jacqui Hampshire [jhampshire09@talktalk.net](mailto:jhampshire09@talktalk.net) or call 07514344689

## **Solo Dining Group: Sheila Pegg**

We welcomed three new members to the group for our first outing in February and we hope they will join us again. As always, the Redgate Inn provided us with excellent food and service and a good evening was had by all.

We tried a new venue for our February Sunday Lunch - The Waggon at Halam. We all agreed the food was good, the staff were welcoming and the venue will be added to our list to return to in the future.

## **Bridge Group: Sheila Pegg**

We had two enjoyable evenings of Bridge in February and we were pleased to welcome a new member. Our little band of players is gradually increasing and we are looking forward to our next games. The dates will be 6 March and 20 March.

## **Strollers Group: Sue Howlett and Val Hart**

### **Strollers February Walk in Sherwood Forest**

It was a lovely bright winter's day when 16 members participated in our February walk. We started from the RSPB Visitors Centre in Edwinstowe and walked along several paths which were new to us. We did see the Major Oak, which was just showing signs of new growth.

If an oak tree is over 400 years old it is known as an ancient oak. There are over 1,000 ancient oaks in Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve. The Major Oak is between 800 and 1,000 years old and is believed to weigh around 23 tonnes, it has a girth of 33 feet and a canopy of 92 feet.

The name originates from Major Hayman Rookes description of it in 1790. He was a retired Army Officer who became an antiquary and archaeologist who particularly studied the local area. After retiring from the army, he came to live in Mansfield Woodhouse and is buried in St Edmund's Church in Mansfield Woodhouse.

The Major Oak is therefore named in his honour in recognition of his writings and his love of Sherwood Forest.

The morning ended with most of us enjoying refreshments in the Courtyard Café and a good chat.

## **Family History Group: Valerie Wood and Ken Gilbert**

Our 28 February meeting was attended by seven of our members, the topic this month was newspapers.

We started with a photo taken in 1913 outside a church. The photo was of about 30 choir boys and amongst them was one of our member's relative. The photo was from a local newspaper and had been saved and passed down the generation to our member. Amazing.

Another member found that a relative had the letters VS after their name, and, after much research, found they had studied under a Professor William Dick at a college in Edinburgh. In 1850 they passed their exams at Edinburgh and received 'Veterinary Diploma', the forerunner of today's veterinary qualifications.

In my research, I found that our Great, Great Granddad, born in 1807, was a Brick Master who used to own a brick yard in Oldbury alongside the Birmingham Canal, West Midlands, producing blue bricks. He employed 53 people and had 2 servants.

He also had 14 children, 2 being twins, and was born in the brickyard. These blue bricks have been used in many parts of the country including in the construction of Papplewick Pumping Station.

We had an enjoyable meeting; our next meeting on 28 March is all about immigration and emigration, looking at how our ancestors moved around the world.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ken or Valerie. Email details are in the newsletter.

Many thanks

Ken & Valerie



## Margot Gale via Notts Network u3a

I have received this summary of the board meeting from Jean Hogg.

Also, you may or may not have heard that there is just one candidate for Trustee in the East Midlands, so he will become the Trustee at the end of March following completing of the election process in Wales and the West Midlands. His name is John Lewis and he is Chair of Bingham u3a in Notts and a regular attendee at our Network meetings.

### Third Age Trust

#### Board Meeting: 22 February 2023

#### Summary Report to be used when sharing with members

The main focus of the meeting was to review the financial information available for Q3, the year-to-date period ending 31 December 2022.

- **Q3 Outturn vs Budget.** The outturn for Q3 showed a significant improvement on budget figures caused mainly by cost savings and slowing progress on a number of key projects areas. In particular, expenditure associated with the Site builder replacement and initial proposals for the Learning Hub had both been reduced, although some costs may transfer to the next budget year. Savings had also been achieved as expected staff recruitment was phased across the year. A Finance News Extra will shortly be issued providing more detail.
- **2023/24 Budget.** The budget for 2023/24 is still being finalised and will be presented to the next Finance Committee and thoroughly discussed at the next Board meeting in March. A number of uncertainties remain including future inflation rates and membership income.
- **Multi-year Forecast.** Recognising these uncertainties, the longer-term position beyond 2023/24 will also be reviewed at the Board meeting in March.
- **Investment Policy.** The Board approved an update to the Investment Policy, which focused on a conservative approach including term savings accounts with the main banks, and avoided any investments that attracted high risk.
- **Start Up Expenses.** The Board endorsed an approach to claiming and payment of expenses to new u3a members (eg Steering Committee) and Trust Volunteers associated with start-up u3as, where a local bank account had not at that stage been established.
- **Conference 2023.** Following a snap poll sent to all u3as in February, there was a clear majority against holding a conference in 2023. Although only 23% of u3as had replied, 66% were against holding a conference this year, most citing cost as a significant factor.
- **Open Board Meetings:** In the interests of transparency, the Board initially discussed the feasibility of live streaming face-to-face Board meetings. As live streaming entails a number of complexities, more details will be prepared for the March Board meeting.
- **Trustee Nominee Hustings:** Report back from the Hustings - 6 candidates are nominated for the West Midlands, Wales and East Midlands trustee positions, no nominee received for the London position and the process will be re-run in London almost immediately. Voting commences week beginning 20 February with successful candidates being declared on 27 March.
- **Membership Fee Breakdown:** A simple breakdown of expenditure from the £4 annual membership fee was developed and discussed, and it will be circulated to u3as and included on the website as part of the Post AGM transparency programme.

**Please note that official minutes are the true record of discussions and decisions taken at Board meetings. This is a summary of the main discussions and should not be taken as an authoritative statement. If you require any further detail about any item, please contact your Trustee.**

## **Gardening Group: Marilyn Dibble**

I'm very pleased to have booked a Garden Group trip to Highgrove Gardens on our usual Garden Group Day of Tuesday 4 July.

The guided tour costs £30.00 pp for a maximum of 26 people, I have had to pay this in advance (£750).

The cost of the coach is also £30.00 pp, making the total per person of £60.00. Cash or cheques made payable to Mansfield u3a.

I'll open the bookings at next week's Garden Group meeting.

If you can't attend the meeting on Tuesday, please let me know and I'll e-mail you my address so you can then post a cheque.

Please read the list of information:

The coach leaves the Mansfield Town football ground at 8.00am and will return about 8.00pm.

Parking is being arranged at the football ground.

We arrive at Highgrove at 12.00, the guided tour starts at 12.30 (just time for a comfort break).

There will be a comfort/coffee stop each way. Perhaps eat here or on the coach as there will not be time for lunch when we arrive at Highgrove.

The Orchard room is booked for 2.00pm for light snacks at the end of the tour.

[Picnics/ eating outside is not allowed.](#)

The guided tour of gardens is 1 ½ hours.

The only toilets are at the entrance.

[PHOTO ID is required for every person, or bank card.](#)

Photos are restricted to certain areas.

Wheelchairs should be suitable for all types of surfaces.

There is no access to the house.

The coach will park off site and return to Highgrove to collect us about 3.45pm.

Hope this covers everything, but, if not, please let me know.

Looking forward to see everyone at our first Garden Group meeting of the year on Tuesday 7 March.

The Garden Group members fee is still £16.00 for 4 meeting (March -June) and £5.00 per meeting for guest.

We have managed to keep the fees the same, even allowing for the rent rise.

**This month's speaker is Steve Lovell – topic title is “It's a Landscaper's Life”**

See you on Tuesday 7 March

Marilyn

# Garden Group 2023 Programme

**Meets at 10am, St Peters Centre,  
Mansfield NG18 1AP**

Mar 7 <sup>th</sup>	It's a Landscaper's Life – Steve Lovell
Apr 4 <sup>th</sup>	The Cutting Garden – Martin Fish
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wonderful Wisley – Mike Davey
<u>Jun 6<sup>th</sup></u>	Sweet Pea Growing – Jonathan Gant
<u>Jul 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Coach Trip to Highgrove Gardens
Aug	No meeting
Sep 8 <sup>th</sup>	A Look at Garden Projects – Karen Gimson
Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Successfully Growing Apples – James Ellson
Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>	Growing Dahlias – Jonathan Gant
Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Flower Arranging – Jane from Minster Flowers

Garden Group Leader –  
Marilyn Dibble  
Tel 01623 634805  
[dandmdibble@gmail.com](mailto:dandmdibble@gmail.com)





## **Pathfinders Walking Group: Ken White and Val Hart**

### **Linacre Walk Report Tuesday 14 February 2023**

There were 19 members who joined us for this lovely walk around the Linacre Reservoirs near Chesterfield. We all met in the car park and walked down to the Rangers' office where there is an interesting 'jigsaw puzzle' information board and map of the Linacre Reservoirs complex.

Permission was granted by an Act of Parliament for the Lower Reservoir to be constructed in 1855 (holding capacity 140 million litres), followed by Upper Reservoir in 1885 (575 million litres), and Middle Reservoir in 1904 (410 million litres). Prior to 1909 the water was unfiltered before being pumped to customers, resulting in complaints about its taste and odour. Quote: 'The appearance of the public water supply was such that the poor used it as soup, the middle class for washing their clothes and the elite for watering their gardens.'

Walking down the steep steps to cross over the dam wall of Lower Reservoir, we then headed uphill to a junction of paths where we followed the bridlepath up to Old Brampton Church dedicated to St Peter and St Paul. Although much was restored in 1924, there are still the remains of a Norman doorway in the south wall. Inside are choir stalls erected in 1938 to the memory of Thomas Linacre of Linacre (1450-1524) who was a fellow of All Souls and the first President of the Royal College of Physicians. He lived opposite the church in Brampton Hall, parts of which are medieval.



***Walking up the hill from the Lower Reservoir***

The church is well known for its clock face curiosity which has 63 minutes to the hour. Installed in 1897 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, it is thought that the painter may have over indulged while visiting the George and Dragon pub, which until 2010 was located nearby, resulting in a few too many strokes of his brush on his return!

From here we took a narrow steep path downwards with wonderful views across the countryside. The walls hereabouts are built in the dry-stone method but using delicate small slabs of grit-stone, a stark contrast to the jagged lumps of limestone to the west of the county.

Eventually we reach Westwick Lane between high hedgerows of holly, ivy and hawthorn.

After passing the imposing and wonderfully positioned Westwick Farm, we turned right at a junction and descended steeply on a wonderful old lane which meanders through a 'Postman Pat' landscape passing remote properties before going straight through the yard of Frith Hall. This farm has recently been accepted as an environmental project, part of the Environmental Stewardship Agreement with Natural England. The farmhouse dates from 1804, but a barn built about 1600 is reputedly one of the largest cruck structures in Derbyshire, having seven trusses.

The group continued along the lane, passing an old duck pond with rushes and weeds. This could well be one of the old routes used by John Stevenson who was recorded in 1692 as living at Hallcliffe House, Brampton. He was a yeoman involved in the lead trade and was registered as owning '5 pack saddles, gears for 4 of them and a collar of bells.

The bells were worn by all packhorse trains to warn of their approach, some consisting of a long line of up to 100 ponies. This road now becomes Bagthorpe Lane, an easy-to-follow walk, emerging at a little cluster of properties known as Hollins, with The Royal Oak pub opposite, where we took refuge to indulge in an excellent lunch - it comes highly recommended.

Following our lunch, the walk went downhill! This is a former turnpike road of 1759 and was the main route from Baslow to Chesterfield. It was used as part of a salt road from Cheshire, entering the market town of Chesterfield along Saltergate, which acquired its name as long ago as 1285. Walking down the road we got fine views of the Crooked Spire in Chesterfield.

Continuing our walk down the roadside, we reached the quaint former Hollins Wesleyan Chapel of 1846. At Hollins House, we turned off the road onto a narrow-walled footpath before Priestfield Grange and then crossed the fields and stiles on the well-walked path to return to the reservoirs with grand views of the water of the Upper Reservoir. After completing our walk across the field, we entered woodland and down the path to the sides of the reservoir and then across the dam wall.

After crossing over the dam, we followed a track through tall trees. The woodland here contains many oak trees along with beech, alder, larch and pine. Conifers are often planted next to reservoirs for two reasons.

They keep away farm animals that might pollute the water and, after a few years, they can be sold for timber. The area is a haven for wildlife and birds as well as a habitat for bugs, beetles and interesting insects. There are many varieties of wildflowers to be found especially bluebells which, in spring lie as a carpet beneath the trees.



**Some of the walking group with the Upper Reservoir in the background**

After the final dam wall, we took the path uphill back to the car park.

**Note:** Soon there will be many more photographs on the Mansfield u3a Facebook page. For the Facebook page link click here... <https://www.facebook.com/groups/349190408987691>  
**Ken White. February 2023**





**Pathfinders Walking Group: Ken White and Val Hart**

**The Roman Villa Walk  
Thursday 23 February 2023**

It was a bright, sunny but cool, day when we all met to begin our walk in the car park at Mansfield Woodhouse railway station. Our walk leaders for the day were Marilyn and Dave Stubbs and what a joyful pair they are taking every opportunity to chat to various members of the group.



**Some of the walking group**

We began by walking up towards Oxclose Wood, over the old coal tips, but now unrecognisable after extensive landscaping and tree planting.

The Romans had a fortress here in Mansfield Woodhouse and a civilian settlement in the area from about 20AD.

There was a wholly wooden church in Mansfield Woodhouse before the 1086 Domesday Book, but a part timber, part stone church was raised here in 1190. The church burned to the ground in the Mansfield Woodhouse fire of 1304. The church was rebuilt using stone between 1804 and 1810 and this [Church of St Edmund, Mansfield Woodhouse](#), still stands.

Stone from Mansfield Woodhouse was quarried and used in the building of the Houses of Parliament and Southwell Minster.

From close to the Roman Villa, we walked across open countryside and then down towards Pleasley Vale. Unfortunately, close to Pleasley, we found our pathway had been blocked due to building work, which meant a detour of almost 3 miles. However, the walk was enchanting with lots of snowdrops along our path in the woodland setting. Eventually we arrived at Pleasley Mills for our break.



**Pleasley Vale Mills**

The caravan served drinks and exceptional food and very low prices - highly recommended!

The Pleasley Vale Cave was discovered in 1862. Inside the cave were the bones of reindeer, woolly rhinoceros, wolf and wild horse – at that time the animals lived in a very cold climate. The second cave, known as Yew Tree Cave, was explored by William Ransom in the 1860s, where he discovered bones of roe deer, wolf and pig, indicating a warmer climate. The area has been used 600,000 years, like Creswell Crags.

You only have to look at Pleasley Vale's striking stone mills to see this is a site with history. In the 17th century it was home to a water-powered forge before it was bought in 1784 by five men, one of these being Henry Hollins, to transform the site into cotton spinning mills. Three mills were built between then and 1913. Mill 1 was burnt down in 1840 and Mill 3 in 1844, the latter after Hollins had received an anonymous letter threatening to burn it down. Both had to be totally rebuilt.

These mills are said to be haunted. In 2004 the mills played host to the 'Most Haunted' team. It is said to have a negative and an oppressive atmosphere, enough to drive some visitors to tears, causing them to feel disorientated or nauseous. One of the most haunted areas of the building is the dye room on the first floor where the ghost of a former boss at the mill is said to haunt. He is described as an intimidating and abusive entity; not surprising since, in life, he is said to have murdered one of the mill workers!

The nearby Pleasley Pit was sunk in 1870 and was worked until 1983 when it closed.

Following our very deserved break at the cafe, we walked through Pleasley village and up towards Northfield House, then on towards the old garden centre, across the old Pleasley Pit railway line and finally up the hill to Oxclose Woods back to our starting point. Although the walk was advertised as 3.5 miles, due to our diversion we walked almost 6.5 miles, but everyone was still smiling at the end.

More photographs can be found on our Facebook page.

**Ken White Feb 2023**



## Potters Resort: Denise Whitsed Sherwood u3a

20 November 2023

Monday to Friday

We are taking a group to Potters Christmas Extravaganza, as previously arranged  
It is now fully inclusive of everything.

Every break is unashamedly full board which means four meals on each full day, each offering a wide selection to suit every appetite.

Kickstart your day the right way with a delicious **breakfast**, from a traditional and hearty full English, to a choice of cereal, yoghurts and pastries. For your tasty **3-course lunch** you can choose from a range of hot dishes, salads and desserts. And in the evenings, enjoy a sumptuous **3-course dinner** in readiness for the night ahead, including a delicious variety of starters, mains and desserts to satisfy even the healthiest of appetites. Plus, enjoy a **late night snack** before you either retreat for the evening, or continue your night in style.

Our chefs cater for most dietary requirements, so please feel free to discuss this with our friendly team at time of booking.



Two different accommodations of bungalow plus and hotel.

Depending on numbers we will get at least £60 discount plus 2 free places to be shared, so we can choose our rooms. We hire a separate bus with Skills Travel.

At the moment, I have only been given twins and double rooms in both hotel and bungalows.

**Entertainment**  
The Best Entertainment, Live Day And Night

We love to entertain, and with a host of outstanding resident performers and our Potters Live Band, nobody does entertainment like Potters. With the Atlas Theatre, Garden Bar, and the outdoor South Terrace stages, you're never far away from the action.

Please email Denise [deewhits@aol.com](mailto:deewhits@aol.com) or tele 07791941502 (Mon to Fri 9.00 to 16.00)

Many thanks  
Denise

West Sussex Holiday 18<sup>th</sup> September to 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Half Board – Avisford Park Hotel, Arundel

£415 for National Trust Members - £489 for Non NT Members

Monday

8am Pick up at Forest Town Arena.

Travel to Petworth House and Gardens (NT) and hotel



Inspired by Baroque palaces of Europe, set amidst a fine landscaped deer park and garden nestled in the South Downs, Petworth House displays one of the finest art collections in the care of the National Trust. // Petworth House is an extraordinary and surprising place created by just one family over 900 years.

Tuesday

Standon House and Gardens (NT) and Brighton



Wednesday

Arundel Castle (House and Gardens only entrance included) and Bognor Regis



Thursday

9am Travel to Uppark House and Gardens (NT) and Winchester



Friday

Nymans (NT) and home **BOOKING OPENS IN JANUARY - £50 DEPOSIT - SKILLS**

Please email Denise [deewhits@aol.com](mailto:deewhits@aol.com) or tele 07791941502 (Mon to Fri 9.00 to 16.00)

Many thanks  
Denise



**The only way to LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE, is to get involved in the following groups.**

**Key to Meetings details:**

The tables on the following pages show the Interest Groups. Please check the Mansfield u3a website for up-to-date information of your group/groups.

Some outdoor activities will be indicated by various meetings/meeting places.

Meeting Places: various Groups will be meeting as indicated in the meetings column; please check with your Group Leaders or u3a website if any amendments have been made.

Leader/Contact, Group Leaders' names and contact details: please make a note of the contact details for your chosen Group.

Could all Group Leaders please inform the Newsletter Editor of any alterations.

## Calendar for Year 2023 (United Kingdom)

January							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
52							1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5	30	31					
6:O 15:O 21:O 28:O							

February							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5			1	2	3	4	5
6	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9	27	28					
5:O 13:O 20:O 27:O							

March							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9			1	2	3	4	5
10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
12	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
13	27	28	29	30	31		
7:O 15:O 21:O 29:O							

April							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
13						1	2
14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
17	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
6:O 13:O 20:O 27:O							

May							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
22	29	30	31				
5:O 12:O 19:O 27:O							

June							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22				1	2	3	4
23	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
24	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	26	27	28	29	30		
4:O 10:O 18:O 26:O							



## AFTERNOON TEAS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Afternoon Teas</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Sheila Whalley</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 453908</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday monthly 2pm–4pm</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>Costs vary</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>The Mansfield u3a Afternoon Teas Group meets on the second Saturday of every month (usually) at pubs, garden centres and other places of interest locally. The aim is to develop friendships informally, while exploring new venues and sometimes indulging in some retail therapy. However, I do sometimes have to change the dates, so keep looking.</b>	

## ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Antiques and Collectables</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Patricia Blackwell</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 481745</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>St Peter's Centre Mansfield</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday monthly, 10am-12noon</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b> The Group meets once a month and there is a different topic each time. Members bring along an item relating to the subject. It is helpful if they have done some research on the item and can tell the rest of the Group about it. In that way we all learn and expand our knowledge. If you haven't got anything that month it doesn't matter because you will learn from what others have brought.  <b>Group full, with a waiting list.</b>	

### **BEADWORK GROUP**



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Beadwork</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Marilyn Jones</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:Marilyn.jones1947@gmail.com">Marilyn.jones1947@gmail.com</a> Landline: 01773 819155 Mobile: 07803 244841
<b>Venues:</b>	Group Leader's home in Hilcote
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	Every Wednesday 10am-12noon. There is also an overflow group every Monday at the same time.
<b>What happens:</b> Often, we are all working on a single project, or, at times, members may be making different items.	
<b>Equipment:</b> Members can source their own materials singly, collectively, or can buy from Marilyn from her stock, if available, at cost.	
The Wednesday group is currently full.	

## BIRDWATCHING AND WILDLIFE GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Birdwatching and Wildlife</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Val Hart and Ken White</b>
<b>Group Leaders' contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:ken@atrain.org.uk">ken@atrain.org.uk</a> - 07973 315050 <a href="mailto:valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk">valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk</a> - 07745 208248
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>Free but cost for transport if required and any entry charges</b>
<b>What happens:</b> Visits to various places of interest in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. Plus, occasional overseas visits.	
<b>Equipment:</b> Members should bring their own first aid kits. Suitable footwear and clothing to be worn Food and drink for picnics as required Bring binoculars or telescopes if required  <b>Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times.</b>	

## **BOWLS GROUP**



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Bowls</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Paul Sanderson</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>07592016691</b> <b><a href="mailto:paulsanderson168@gmail.com">paulsanderson168@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Mansfield Bowling Club (Summer)</b> <b>Lammas Centre Sutton (Winter)</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>This will be every Tuesday; the time is 1.30pm-3.30pm</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>The cost will be £4 per session</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	<b>All you need is a pair of flat shoes and we mean flat; there must be no heels.</b>



## **BRIDGE GROUP**



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Bridge</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Sheila Pegg</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>07883720657</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>The Rushley, Nottingham Road, Mansfield</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays Time 6.30pm-9pm Our next dates will be 6 March, 20 March</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>No fee charged by venue- we just buy a drink (or two!)</b>
<b>What happens:</b> <b>Just turn up. We can sort out a partner if you turn up alone. We are a friendly group, playing for fun.</b>  <b>Equipment: Provided</b>	

## CALLIGRAPHY GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Calligraphy</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Marilyn Jones</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:Marilyn.jones1947@gmail.com">Marilyn.jones1947@gmail.com</a> Landline: 01773 819155 Mobile: 07803 244841
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Leader's home in Hilcote</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the month from 1pm- 3pm. Three spaces available.</b>
<b>What happens:</b>	<b>This is a course led by Marilyn (Group Leader), using video tuition and lots of practice.</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	<b>Members will need to source their own pens and paper, although these will be provided at the beginning until they know what they need.</b>

## CARD CRAFTING GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Card Crafting</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Jill West</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>07554012769</b> <a href="mailto:jwptt1s@hotmail.co.uk">jwptt1s@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Quaker Room</b> <b>124 Rosemary Street</b> <b>NG18 1RB</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>Last Tuesday, monthly, 1pm-3pm</b> <b>Future dates for 2023 are:</b> <b>28 March, 25 April, 30 May, 27 June</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>Due to room hire and materials,</b> <b>sessions will cost £5, including free tea and coffee.</b>
<p><b>What happens:</b> Ideal for beginners to moderate level, but everyone welcome. All materials will be provided.</p> <p>Look forward to seeing everyone and making some excellent card projects. At the moment the group is full; however, I would happily place anyone new that is interested on a list.</p> <p>Please contact Jill 07554012769 if you are interested or unable to attend so we can offer the place on that date to others.</p>	

## CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Classical Music</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Michael Allen</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:michaelallen446@gmail.com">michaelallen446@gmail.com</a> 01623 653345 Mobile 07565 936859
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Group Leader's home</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Monday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>	<b>Play music / discuss</b>
<b>Future Events:</b>	<b>Nothing as yet</b>

## CRAFTY CHAT



<b>Name of Group:</b>	Crafty Chat
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	Stephen or Stella Hall
<b>Group Leaders' contact details:</b>	07940460250 <a href="mailto:hall.s@hotmail.co.uk">hall.s@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Venue:</b>	Quaker Room 124 Rosemary Street NG18 1RB
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	This Group will be run during term time only, on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the afternoon. 2pm-4pm  <b>Any new members will be more than welcome.</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	There will be a charge of £12.00 a term to cover the cost of the room and refreshments.
<b>Equipment:</b>	No equipment required

## CURLING GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Indoor Curling</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>David Drew</b>
<b>Group Leaders' contact details:</b>	07960 385537 <a href="mailto:david.drew100@icloud.com">david.drew100@icloud.com</a>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Maun Community Centre Barringer Road Mansfield NG18 2DF</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Monthly 3.30pm-4.30pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>Provisionally £3.00 (subject to change)</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	<b>Provided. No black-soled shoes</b>



## CURRENT AFFAIRS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Current Affairs</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Graham Headworth</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 468883</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Mansfield Bowling Club Chesterfield Road South. NG19 7AP</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>The Current Affairs Group will meet between 10am and 12noon on the first Friday of the month.</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>We have some very interesting discussions which can be quite lively, especially when we are discussing Westminster Matters.</b>  <b>But we are always friendly. If any member of Mansfield u3a would like to join us on this occasion you will be welcome, but we will be restricting it to 15 guests. Please contact me on the above number for availability.</b>	

## FAMILY HISTORY GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Family History</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Valerie Wood and Ken Gilbert</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	Valerie Wood at <a href="mailto:v.a.l.woody11@gmail.com">v.a.l.woody11@gmail.com</a> Ken Gilbert at <a href="mailto:kattaria@gmail.com">kattaria@gmail.com</a>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, monthly, 10am-12noon</b> <b>No meetings during August &amp; December</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  Valerie Wood and Ken Gilbert are the Group Leaders for Mansfield u3a Family History. The group enjoys researching family histories and welcomes new members with similar interests.  Members share their family history research, photographs, maps and artefacts. We will also guide members to which websites to use to do their research.  Our Group's usual meetings are held at 10.00am on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Our meetings take place at a member's home.  If you would like to join our Group, please contact Valerie Wood or Ken Gilbert on the above emails.	

## GARDENING AND GARDEN VISITS GROUP



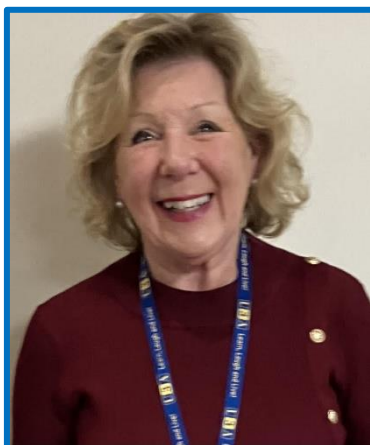
<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Gardening and Garden Visits</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Marilyn Dibble</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 634805</b> <a href="mailto:dandmdibble@gmail.com">dandmdibble@gmail.com</a>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>St Peter's Centre Mansfield NG18 1AP</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, monthly, 10am-12noon</b> <b>Visits – various</b> <b>Garden Group starts again next month with a talk from Steve Lovell.</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>For those who would like to be a Garden Group member.</b> <b>Guests most welcome at £5.00 per session.</b> <b>Cash or cheque (cheque to Mansfield u3a)</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>We have a wide variety of guest speakers covering a broad selection of horticultural topics.</b>  <b>In the summer we have an organised group visit to an outstanding garden.</b>  <b>There is a small charge for the monthly meetings, refreshments are included.</b>	

## HISTORY GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Philp Tucker</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 437516</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Mansfield Bowling Club Chesterfield Road South. NG19 7AP</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, monthly, 10am-12noon</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£2.00 per head</b>
<b>What happens:</b> I look forward to hearing suggestions for interesting presentations coming through from Group members. Presentations which have some quirky appeals are especially welcome.  If you have a particular passion for some historical event, by all means bring it forward.  At our friendly meetings, we have tea or coffee and sometimes homemade cakes. We have presentations and discussions from members.  Funds permitting, we may have the opportunity to hire an external speaker at least once during the coming year.	

## MINI BREAKS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Mini Breaks</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Jacqui Hampshire</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 239210</b> <a href="mailto:jhampshire09@talktalk.net">jhampshire09@talktalk.net</a>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>See table at the meetings</b>
<b>What happens:</b> <b>A group formed to organise mini-breaks for u3a members throughout the year.</b> <b>Please contact Jacqui Hampshire for more details.</b>	

### PATHFINDERS WALKING GROUP



Name of Group:	Pathfinders Walking
Group Leaders:	Valerie Hart and Ken White
Group Leader's contact details:	<a href="mailto:ken@atrain.org.uk">ken@atrain.org.uk</a> – mobile - 07973 315050 <a href="mailto:valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk">valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk</a> – mobile - 07745 208248
Venues:	Various
Meeting dates and times:	Various
Cost of event:	Free, but cost of transport if required and any entry
What happens: Shorter walks of 3-5 miles Longer walks of 5-7 miles	
Equipment:  Members should bring their own first aid kits and emergency contact cards at all times.  Suitable footwear and clothing to be worn.  Food and drinks for picnics as required.	
Future Events: Please visit the website or contact Valerie or Ken on the above numbers for details.  <b>Please have your “in case of emergency card” with you at all times.</b>	



## PHOTOSHOP GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Photoshop</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Gordon Howlett</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:g.howlett@ntlworld.com">g.howlett@ntlworld.com</a>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Group Leader's Home</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly 10am-12noon</b>
<b>What happens:</b> <b>Members meet monthly to share information and knowledge about image manipulation, based on, but not exclusive to Adobe Photoshop.</b>  <b>The programme will reflect the on-going needs or challenges mentioned by members. This enables them to develop their skills and encourage others.</b>  <b>Two hours when you can aside time to enhance your skills and, of course, have a chat.</b>	

## POPULAR MUSIC GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Popular Music Appreciation</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Ellis</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 644429</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>The Group has been running successfully for nine years.</b>  <b>We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We now meet at Members' Homes from 2.00pm till 4.00pm, except in March when we have lunch and a music quiz at the Carnarvon Arms, Teversal.</b>  <b>We do not meet in December, but we have our Christmas fuddle at the November meeting.</b>  <b>The Popular Music Group welcomes new members who have a wide interest in all types of music. Do join us or contact Elizabeth Ellis on the above number for more information.</b>	

## READ A LITTLE LOUD GROUP



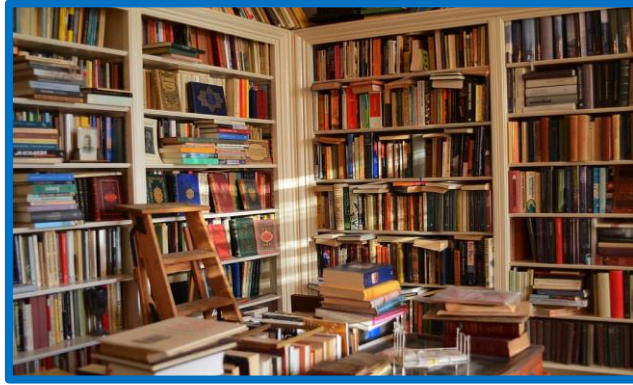
<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Read a Little Aloud</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Susan Howlett</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 627423</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  We read extracts from books, poems etc and then discuss.  This group provides an opportunity for members to sample a variety of extracts from novels, biographies or non-fiction books.  Copies are provided which have been marked in sections so that each person reads aloud about two paragraphs each. The topics involved might be: Friendship, Love and Marriage, Indiscretion, etc.  The idea is to prompt discussion afterwards about our reactions to the subject; we don't delve into criticism or style of the writing.  We always fly off on a tangent and relate our own anecdotes on the theme, and it's surprising where it leads us! It is not necessary for all members to read aloud if they prefer just to listen.  This Group is currently full.	

## READING GROUP 1



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Reading Group 1</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Peter Dawson</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 882191</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Peter Dawson's home or members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b> <b>We meet once a month on the third Thursday, usually in Farnsfield, but sometimes at other members' homes.</b>  <b>At our friendly meetings, we have tea or coffee and then we discuss the book we have read the previous month; we are then given the book we will read in time for the next meeting.</b>	

## READING GROUP 2



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Reading Group 2</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Mick Kennison</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 481721</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Sylvia Slack's home</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, Monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>The Mansfield u3a group members are supplied with the same book to read. We then meet for discussion.</b>	



## **SCRABBLE**



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Scrabble</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Lynne Payne</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>Mobile - 07954463384 Home – 01623 555738</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Lynne's home</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>We meet at my house on the second Monday of the month, where we enjoy 2/3 games of Scrabble with a break for coffee/tea and biscuits.</b>	

## SHUFFLERS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Shufflers</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Sylvia Newlyn and Ian Lakin</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>Sylvia Newlyn 01623 655893</b> <b>Ian Lakin 07989668272</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Various – Short and Gentle</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, monthly, 12.00pm.</b> <b>Variable finish times</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>Mansfield u3a's Shufflers Group holds social meetings for members who have problems that restrict their mobility.</b>  <b>This has enabled members to continue enjoying friendship and outings with like-minded members.</b>  <b>We meet for lunch at various venues that have flat grounds to enable as many as possible to enjoy a short 'shuffle': Rufford Park, Vicar Water and Sutton Lawn have all proved very enjoyable as they have facilities for short walks and somewhere for those less able to walk to enjoy the surroundings and have a natter.</b> <b>Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times.</b>	

## SOFT TENNIS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Soft Tennis</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Yvonne and Mick Kennison</b>
<b>Group Leaders' contact details:</b>	<b>01623 481721</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Oak Tree Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, monthly 2pm-3pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>£10 each for the four months.</b>
<b>Equipment:</b>	<b>Provided. No black soled shoes</b>
<b>Dates for 2023:</b>  14 March (subscriptions due) 11 April 9 May 13 June  11 July (subscriptions due) 15 August 12 September 10 October 14 November (subscriptions due) No meeting in December	

## SOLO DINING GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Solo Dining</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Sheila Pegg</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>Mobile - 07883720657</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>First Thursday in the month for the evening meal. Solo Sunday Lunch - third Sunday in the month. Times - various.</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>Choose from the menu and we all pay individually.</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>This group enjoys the company of other single people in a friendly atmosphere.</b>  <b>An evening meal is arranged at various dining locations on the first Thursday of the month.</b>  <b>A Sunday lunch has also proved to be popular, generally on the third Sunday of the month.</b>	

## STROLLERS GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Strollers</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Susan Howlett, Valerie Hart and Ian Lakin</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>Susan Howlett – 01623 627423 <a href="mailto:valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk">valerie.hart@hotmail.co.uk</a> - 07745 208248 Ian Lakin - 07989 668275</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Various</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, monthly, 10.30am. Variable finish times</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>Mansfield u3a's Strollers Group do short easy walks of about two miles in length, avoiding stiles and steep hills.</b>  <b>It is a good way to improve your health and to make new friends.</b>  <b>Please have your “in case of emergency card” with you at all times.</b>  <b>At the end of the walk, there is an opportunity to have coffee, tea and refreshments.</b>	



## TAI CHI GROUP



Name of Group:	Tai Chi
Group Leader:	Lorna Pye
Group Leader's contact details:	Mobile – 07712 029262 01623 636060
Venue:	Bethel Chapel, Nottingham Road
Meeting dates and times:	Monday, weekly, 10.30am-11.30am
Cost:	£30.00 per term
Events:	<b>We do have two spaces at the moment.</b> If anyone would like to come and give it a try.
<b>What happens:</b>  Within our group, you work amongst friends, within your own ability, standing, or sitting if needed, and feeling that you have gently exercised every part of your body (even internal bits that you cannot see).  Ken really understands how our bodies work. Tai Chi, with its calm movements, focuses on deep breathing, and is known to reduce chronic stress and improve health and emotional well-being.  With all these benefits, it comes to u3a members highly recommended.	

## WINE APPRECIATION GROUP ONE



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Wine Appreciation 1</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Michael Allen</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:michaelallen446@gmail.com">michaelallen446@gmail.com</a> 01623 653345 Mobile 07565 936859
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, monthly, 7.30pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>To be shared</b>
<b>What Happens:</b>	<b>Drink wine/discuss</b>
<b>Future Events:</b>	<b>To be announced</b>
<b>We do have two spaces at the moment.</b> If anyone would like to come and give it a try. Please contact Mike Allen on the above contact details.	

## WINE APPRECIATION GROUP TWO



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Wine Appreciation 2</b>
<b>Group Leader:</b>	<b>Graham Allin</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>01623 473662</b>
<b>Venues:</b>	<b>Members' homes</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, monthly, 7.30pm</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>To be shared</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>Our meetings are essentially to give Mansfield u3a members friendly, relaxed evenings, whilst, at the same time, fostering a desire to know more about good wine.</b>  <b>A number of wines will be tasted.</b>  <b>This group is full.</b>	

## WRITING FOR PLEASURE GROUP



<b>Name of Group:</b>	<b>Writing for Pleasure</b>
<b>Group Leaders:</b>	<b>Susan Ford and Hilary Miller</b>
<b>Group Leader's contact details:</b>	<b>Hilary Miller 01623 620067 Susan Ford 01623 844286</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Friends Meeting House Rosemary Street Mansfield NG19 6AB</b>
<b>Meeting dates and times:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, monthly, 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>Cost of event:</b>	<b>We pay 3 times a year Cost per session = £3.00</b>
<b>What happens:</b>  <b>Mansfield u3a members enjoy writing for the pleasure of it – simply that.</b>  <b>Get your ideas and words flowing and share them with others in an entertaining and happy two-hour session.</b>  <b>We write on a variety of subjects including found poetry, free verse, many different story titles and even the odd Limerick.</b>	

### Notes on Chesterfield, Extracts from the Pathe Finders Walk.

Chesterfield began as a Roman fort, which was built around 70 AD until the 2nd century when the Romans left. However, the Roman Fort gave its name to Chesterfield. The Saxon word for a Roman fort or town was Caester and their word for grazing land around the village was feld. So, the village was Caester Feld and eventually Chesterfield. By 1165 Chesterfield had a market and in 1204 Chesterfield was granted a charter, granting the towns people certain rights.

### Chesterfield, Crooked Spire Church (St Mary and All Saints)

The crooked spire leans at an alarming 9 feet 5 inches from true.

The typical explanation is that the builders used green timbers, which warped over time



**The Crooked Spire**

### The Roman Villa Walk

The Roman Villa, (which was occupied between 130- 340AD and discovered in 1786 by Mayor Hayman Rooke (1723-1806), a British soldier and antiquarian who came from Pleasley Vale. This year it's the 300th anniversary of his birth. The major had another claim to fame by being the person to name the Major Oak, previously known as "The Major's Oak".



There was a wholly wooden church in Mansfield Woodhouse before the 1086 Domesday Book, but a part timber, part stone church was raised here in 1190.

### The Roman Villa as it was

The church burned to the ground in the Mansfield Woodhouse Fire of 1304. The church was rebuilt using stone between 1804 and 1810 and this [Church of St Edmund, Mansfield Woodhouse](#), still stands.

**LAUGH**

**So a soldier who was renting my house has  
done a runner owing me 6 months rent!!**

**He told me he was a General but I've since  
discovered he's a Left Tenant!!**



**Over 90% of the things you worry  
about, never happens.**

**Which proves....**

**Worrying really works.**

**My teacher told me not  
to worry about spelling  
because in the future  
there will be autocorrect  
And for that I am  
eternally grapefruit.**



**Perks of reaching 60 or being over 70 and heading towards 80.**

- 1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.**
- 2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.**
- 3. No one expects you to run anywhere.**
- 4. People call at 8.00pm and ask: "Did I wake you".**
- 5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.**
- 6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.**
- 7. Things you buy now won't wear out.**
- 8. You can eat supper at 5.00pm.**
- 9. You can live without sex, but not your glasses.**
- 10. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to a manageable size.**

**Justice has been served!!!!**

**There's been some scumbag called Callum known as Cal going around breaking into people's houses near me for months, but the police can't catch him. The weirdest thing about it all is he was breaking into people's houses and ruining their washing machines by putting bricks into them and turning them on while helping himself to whatever he wanted!!!!**

**Really weird if you ask me...**

**Anyway, just read that he was found dead in an alley coz of a drug overdose. It's never nice hearing of someone's death, but on the bright side, washing machines live longer with Cal gone.**

### **IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:**

First of all, here's hoping that everyone is keeping safe and well. If anyone is struggling or needing any help in any way, please don't hesitate to let me or any of the Committee know. We will do our best to help in any way we can.

([Businesssec.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com](mailto:Businesssec.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com))

Subscription costs for current members for 2022/2023 is £16.00. £18.00 for new members and £12.00 for Associate Members.

### **Cheques payable to Mansfield and District u3a**

**The Membership Renewal Form** can be downloaded from the website or will be available from the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

**Please note:** All current members must complete all sections of the Membership Renewal Form to comply with Data Protection laws when paying their subscriptions. Thank you.

**Online Banking** is now available to members to pay their subscriptions online. As publishing details for this facility has compromised its security, members are asked to apply to the Treasurer.

[treasurer.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com)

### **Events and visit payments**

Members are reminded that deposits and payments for events and visits organised by Mansfield u3a and its interest groups are non-refundable, but places may be offered to others.

Please note: if you go on a trip/visit organised by a company, cheques for the event must be made out to the company, not Mansfield u3a.

**Changes of Address, etc.** Please contact the Membership Secretary, Jean Hatton on (0793 5707582) or [membership.u3amansfield@gmail.com](mailto:membership.u3amansfield@gmail.com) if you've changed your address, phone number or email recently so that she can update our records.

If you have any health issues that you think may affect your participation in, or enjoyment of, the activities of Mansfield & District u3a, you might wish to disclose them voluntarily to the Group Leaders of the groups you join, should it be helpful to do so.

**Please have your "in case of emergency card" with you at all times.**

(If you do not have one of these cards, then please ask when you sign in at your next members' meeting).

### **Change of email address Newsletter Editor:**

#### **Notification of the change of email address of the Newsletter Editor.**

**The email address has changed to:**

[newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com)

Mansfield u3a may take photographs of members engaged in u3a activities for the Newsletter and Website.

Should you not wish to be included in any photographs, please inform the photographer as otherwise we will assume your consent has been given. **You may change your data consent at any time by contacting the Business Secretary ([businesssec.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com](mailto:businesssec.mansfieldu3a@gmail.com)).**

### **Disclaimer**

The views expressed here are those of the contributors only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Committee of Mansfield & District u3a or the Third Age Trust. Nor can any responsibility be accepted for members' announcements or any errors that may occur.

**Please send contributions for the next issue to [newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.editoru3a@gmail.com) or by hand to Bill Harrison as soon as you can and by the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month at the latest.**

Thank you for taking the time to read.

**Newsletter Editor: Bill Harrison: 01623 462188 / 07849 966962**

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

**Message of Gratitude from: Adrea Thompson**

With many thanks for all the kind deeds shown to me over my recent travails - whether it involved arriving with our fish, chips and peas lunch - or helping me clear out some books - or even offers of lifts - and also being so understanding of my front seat passenger bus travel arrangements...all very much appreciated, thank you to one and all.

Keep safe.

Best wishes Andrea xx

KIND HEARTS  
ARE A GARDEN

KIND THOUGHTS  
ARE THE ROOTS

KIND WORDS  
ARE THE BLOSSOMS

KIND DEEDS  
ARE THE FRUITS

**Website:** [www.u3asites.org.uk/mansfield/home](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/mansfield/home)

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