



Staying Connected.

No 51 May 2024



Run for the members, by the members.

Dear fellow Members

I've been sitting in front of my laptop screen for ages. It perfectly matches the state my head's in right now. It's totally blank. I lift my eyes and look out onto our still-maturing garden. That's better. My brain fog starts to clear – as it always does with gardening. If it wasn't so wet, I'd be out there busy doing nothing but at least getting space to think clearly and relax. It's not for nothing that so many therapeutic communities for people with ongoing mental health or substance dependency issues centre on gardening as a vital means of refreshment and healing.

Back to that garden outside the window. It has a long way to go. But at least the shin-deep boggy mass we took on four years ago has given way to planted barked borders, a moderately healthy lawn, and a laid patio. It lifts the soul to see tiny anemones opening fully in the sun, proud parrot tulips flaunting themselves, the pear and plum, at last no longer whippy saplings, blasting into leaf and the very young apple planted in November showing its first cluster of blossom.

But the fig 'tree' I bought online a couple of years ago is still only about as high as the tallest tulip! We had high hopes of receiving a well-established sapling, not a twig, when I paid that king's ransom for it. At least I can now chuckle as I hear again our friend's voice: 'You'll be pushing up the daisies before that thing ever fruits!'. I should have gone to the right place, to a local garden centre, given them our custom, and come away with something decent. Oh well we live and learn!

Of course living and learning with a good spadeful of fun and relaxation thrown in is what the U3A movement is all about. And it was never truer than of our recent Open Day. There was such a buzz of enjoyment and sense of purpose about the occasion. Stalwarts there to lend support, friends of old returning to us, new and potential members being welcomed and encouraged, group leaders drawing people in, and Wendy and Chris and their team hardly drawing breath as they dealt with membership renewals and payments. Leslye our Chair as ever didn't live up to her title: she just never seems to sit down!

All of this reflecting the strength and appeal of our U3A. It always feels it's the right place to be. There's loads of involvement and social interaction. There is no hierarchy. No top-down attitude from the Committee or elsewhere. No-one superior to anyone else. No-one who 'knows it all'. No-one who doesn't have something of value to give to and receive from other members. We are all in it together. We are all there to offer friendship and to learn from each other. All there to enjoy trying new things and opening up new doors of potential for us and for others. It bears repetition: whoever we are, and whatever our background, we have something very worthwhile and unique to offer.

So, I make no apology for coming back to our appeal to you. Please think long and hard about coming forward for election at our AGM on 20th May to refresh the Committee. We recognise that some of you with a long history of involvement in Dukeries U3A will have already served in the past; but there are so many others of you with the talents and insight we need.

And someone among you has what it takes to succeed Leslye as our next Chair. It's a simple message: *Dukeries U3A needs you.*

Take good care. And here's to a 'blooming' brilliant future together!

James Bartlett



Information for Members of Dukeries u3a

Annual General Meeting (AGM) *Members only.*

Monday 20 May

Jubilee Hall Ollerton

Doors open 12.30 Meeting starts 1.00pm

Finance Report

Plans for Future Improvements to Constitution

Musical Entertainment

Photographic Presentation

Vote on which Charity we should support

Refreshments

Bring and Buy Table

Exclusive to Members of Dukeries u3a

Your votes for Committee Members 2024 – 2025 are needed!

Please support Dukeries u3a with your attendance on the day!

Do you have suggestions or questions to ask?

Please speak to any member of the Committee or email du3achair2020@gmail.com.

Send in your comments in advance of the meeting and they will be addressed on the day.

Your Vote at the AGM is Important

You will be voting for your new Committee.

You will also be voting on our proposed revised Constitution.

If it is impossible for you to be at the meeting,
you can appoint someone to cast your votes by proxy.

(They should have a short note from you to authorise them).

Or you can vote by email du3achair2020@gmail.com

Committee 2024

Chair (Retiring) Leslye Henstock

du3achair2020@gmail.com



Treasurer (Retiring)

Barry Callieu barry.callieu@icloud.com



Business Secretary

James Bartlett dukeriesu3asec@gmail.com



Deputy Chair (Vacant)

Volunteer needed.

Membership Manager

Wendy Neighbour membersdu3a@outlook.com



Events Team Co-ordinator

Leslye Henstock du3achair2020@gmail.com



Activity Group Co-ordinator/Press Officer

Jane Young janelesley56@gmail.com



Social Media

& Speaker Finder

Ann Street annstreetcornet@yahoo.co.uk



Newsletter Editor

John Harris johnhu3amag@gmail.com



Co-ordinator Charity DonationsPam Hardwick secretary1@gmail.com**Minute Secretary**Barbara Baglee du3asec23@gmail.com**Health & Safety Officer**Chris Neighbour pchrin@icloud.com**Committee Member**Maria Pitrolino mpitbar64@yahoo.com**Non Committee Roles**

June Nunn - Purchaser of Refreshments

Barbara Broomhead - Refreshment Rota

U3a Friends, the u3a online magazine has been given a facelift and a new section offering discounts and deals for members. I haven't had time to check it all out but members can have a look for themselves at ['Click Here'](#)

And the deals at ['Click Here'](#)

John Harris, Editor.

u3a friends 



Lancaster & Morecambe u3a rowers have set themselves the challenge of a rowing relay covering a course of 35 miles down the River Lune. The event is just one of the many ways that Lancaster & Morecambe u3a are celebrating their 35th anniversary.

Group Meeting Times

	1st in month	2nd in month	3rd in month	4th in month
Mon			Monthly Meeting 1pm. Jubilee Hall	
Tues	Ramblers 6-8 m 9.30 Jubilee Hall Cheeky Blinders Ollerton House Pub 10am till 11.30pm Tuesday Lunch Club 12.30 for 1.00 pm	Bridge Group 1pm till 4pm Jubilee Hall	Ramblers 6-8 m 9.30 Jubilee Hall Cheeky Blinders Ollerton House Pub 10am till 11.30pm	Bridge Group 1pm till 4pm Jubilee Hall
Wed	All Sorts Gardening 10am till 1 pm Ambleside Centre History Group 1.15 to 3pm Ambleside Centre	Sewing Bee 10am to 12pm Ambleside Centre Rummikubs Ollerton House 2pm to 4pm	All Sorts Gardening 10am till 1 pm Ambleside Centre Creative Writing 2.15 to 4pm Walesby Church Hall	Sewing Bee 10 to 12pm Ambleside Centre Rummikubs Ollerton House 2pm to 4pm
Thurs	Ukulele group 10.00 to 11:30am Jubilee Hall Mah Jong 1.15pm to 3pm Jubilee Hall	Ukulele group 10.00 to 11:30am Jubilee Hall Savoy Cinema Worksop 1.30pm Nat Hist, S&T 2pm Plough Inn, Warsop	Ukulele group 10.00 to 11:30am Jubilee Hall Mah Jong 1.15pm to 3pm Jubilee Hall	Ukulele group 10 to 11:30am Jubilee Hall Mah Jong 1.15pm to 3pm Jubilee Hall
Fri	Scrabble 13.30 South Forest			Photography Ambleside 1.30pm

Sunday Lunch Club 4th Sunday in Month 12.30 for 1.00pm

Tuesday Lunch Club 1st Tuesday of the month 12.30 for 1

Soft Tennis Contact Paul Web 07803 606928

Air Ambulance



At the bring and buy table on Monday we raised £43.75 for the Air Ambulance. I have added to this some anonymous donations from friends and members >>>> many thanks to you all.

Our total now stands at **£5,573.00** so not far to reach our goal.

At the AGM our members will be asked to vote on the charity they would like to support in the coming year.

Please read this month's interesting newsletter from LNAAC.

Pam Hardwick

Charity Coordinator.



Latest Air Ambulance News [CLICK HERE](#)



The latest video from Lines & Notts,

Air Ambulance.

[Click Here](#)



Bletchley Park

26th April 2024

Twenty-Eight potential code breakers set off for a fascinating day out at Bletchley Park. They left in unbelievable sunshine given our recent experience of British weather and after a smooth and uneventful couple of hours arrived at a quintessentially British country house surrounded by a motley collection of huts and sheds, that apart from a lick of paint, haven't changed since 1945. After a coffee we gathered together in the Chauffeurs hut for an introduction from our guide, who then took us all on a fascinating walk and talk around the huts and grounds of Bletchley.

He explained how in 1937, the British security services came to realise that the German Enigma coding machine was going to make it very difficult to follow the Germans military intentions in the coming war, as their radio messages were undecipherable.

Bletchley Park was on the market, it had plenty of surrounding ground, was not too far from London on a main railway line and, just as important, was close to a post office telephone cable trunk route, so it would be easy to have good telephone and teleprinter connections which could carry a great deal of traffic.

Nothing actually happened at Bletchley until August 1939, just before the outbreak of war, when about 150 members of the existing security services, who had experience of deciphering coded messages arrived to find an empty house with nothing provided.

They had to acquire what was needed and set up a working establishment in a few weeks, an establishment that grew over the years of the war into a data processing factory employing nearly 9000 people. All of whom were sworn to secrecy, and though they lived in the surrounding towns and villages, travelling to work each day, no word of their existence or the fact that they succeeded in breaking the enigma code ever reached the ears of the enemy.



Our Guide also explained how it came to pass that the Poles were the first to break the enigma code, actually acquiring drawings of the machine and building a couple. These, due to a very unlikely but happy circumstance fell into the hands of first the French, and then the British. A full understanding of how the machine worked helped greatly in developing technics to decipher the codes. A process very slow at first, but, due to

the work of post office engineers and mathematicians from Oxford & Cambridge grew into the development of faster and faster machines, until codes could be broken in less than two hours. The work at Bletchley led on after the war to the development of the first commercial computers. One of the first of which was installed at the London office of J Lyons, the baking, and catering company that ran the Lyons corner house restaurants. [Click here for more.](#)

After the tour we were free to explore on our own, so a quick coffee and then time spent touring the huts, inspecting the bomb, a machine that could predict the settings used on the German enigma machines, a setting that they changed every day. We also watching a film which explained how important the decoded German radio signal information was, in planning for the success of D Day. The British knew by the 6th June 1944 the deployment in western Europe, of all German army divisions, and aircraft establishments. Knowledge that greatly helped in the coming battle.



Phil Topley

By 4pm twenty eight tired and very well informed potential codebreakers wound their way back to the coach for the journey home, not forgetting a dinner stop on the way when I had my first and very enjoyable visit to Wagamama.

A big

**Thank
you!**

from all of us to Elaine Biddulph for organising both a brilliant day out and almost wall to wall sunshine....

John Harris

THE ROLE OF DUKERIES U3A CHAIR, AND DEPUTY CHAIR COULD YOU VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME?

The Chair

- 1/** Agrees the agenda for the committee meeting with the Business Secretary, and chairs the meeting, (two hours, third Monday each month).
- 2/** Attends 3 meetings per year, usually in Ravenshead, with other Chairs from u3a's around Nottinghamshire.
- 3/** Takes part in organising and opening the Monthly Members' Meetings.
- 4/** Writes a foreword for the monthly newsletter.
- 5/** Supports other Committee Members in their roles where necessary.

Deputy Chair or Chairs, a role that could be shared.

The role of Deputy Chair is to support the Chair, in all of the above, and maybe, in the future, move into the role of Chair.

DIARY DATES FOR DUKERIES U3A 2024



MON 13 MAY

MON 20 MAY

FRI 31 MAY

COMMITTEE MEETING

MEMBERS MEETING

VISIT TO BILSTHORPE HERITAGE
MUSEUM

MON 10 JUN

MON 17 JUN

WED 26 JUNE

COMMITTEE MEETING

MEMBERS MEETING

PICNIC IN THE FOREST
NORTH NOTTS U3A FUNDAY IN
SHERWOOD FOREST
VISIT SOUTHWELL MINSTER

FRI 28 JUNE

MON 8 JULY

WED 10 JULY

COMMITTEE MEETING

TRENT RIVER CRUISE COACH,
TWO COURSE MEAL, TWO FREE
DRINKS, DISCO

MON 15 JULY

SAT 27 JULY

MEMBERS MEETING

BLACK & WHITE SUMMER PARTY
SWING BAND A BUFFET, FORREST
TOWN ARENA

MON 12 AUG

MON 19 AUG

COMMITTEE MEETING

MEMBERS COACH TRIP TO YORK
(TO BE CONFIRMED)

MON 9 SEPT	COMMITTEE MEETING
MON 16 SEPT	MEMBERS MEETING
MON 14 OCT	COMMITTEE MEETING
MON 21 OCT	MEMBERS MEETING
FRI 25 OCT	HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS PARTY FOREST TOWN ARENA WITH FANTASTIC READY STEADY 60'S BAND
MON 4 TO FRI 8 NOV	TURKEY & TINSEL IN TENBY COACH TRIP TO SOUTH WALES SEE AD IN THIS NEWSLETTER
MON 11 NOV	COMMITTEE MEETING
MON 18 NOV	MEMBERS MEETING
MON 9 DEC	COMMITTEE MEETING
MON 16 DEC	MEMBERS MEETING



USED POSTAGE STAMPS
A BIG THANK YOU TO MEMBERS OF
DUKERIES U3A

Mansfield u3a would like to thank those members who have donated stamps for charity. We will continue to collect these.

Please bring them to monthly meetings at Jubilee Hall, where there will be a collection point.

Well done Members of Dukeries u3a!!!

Dukeries u3a Events Team

Your Events Team would love to receive your ideas for social days and evenings, trips and special events.

Please send these to:- du3achair2020@gmail.com or chat to us at meetings.

Our team includes

Barbara Broomhead Elaine Biddulph Leslye Henstock

Kevin Morrell Jane Young Jean Parry-Williams

Pam Hardwick David Ryszka

Learn Live Laugh *Leslye Henstock*

Speaker for June...

Andy Smart returns by popular demand. Andy spent most of his working life with the Nottingham Evening Post and its associated newspapers, starting as a junior reporter on the weekly Notts Free Press, working his way through titles including the Free Press (assistant editor), Recorder series (editor), Long Eaton Advertiser and Stapleford and Sandiacre News (editor), Nottingham Post, various news desk positions; finally as a feature writer and editor of the Bygones magazine before retirement. He covered Mansfield Town for several years.



His talk today is on the history of Nottingham's theatres. Lots of stars, showbiz stories, theatre anecdotes etc.

Expect even a bit of audience participation!

Exclusive for Members of Dukeries u3a

Visit to Bilsthorpe Heritage Museum

Cross Street, Bilsthorpe, NG22 8QY

(behind the old village hall)

Friday 31 May 2024 10.30am

The volunteers at the Heritage Centre are opening
the doors just for us.

We have 25 places so book early!

Free Car Parking. Tea and Coffee provided.

If it's a nice day, you can bring a picnic lunch and sit in
the garden afterwards.

Add your name on the list at Members' Meetings.

£2 per person donation is requested to cover
costs and it secures your place.

Need a lift? – Car sharing may be possible.



The Dukeries Singers

at The Jubilee Hall, Ollerton, NG22 9AP

Contact: Barry on 01623 822200 or at dukeriesingers@icloud.com

TICKET
£10
INCLUDES
OUR
LEGENDARY
BUFFET

SUMMER CONCERT

Saturday 15th June 2024 at 7:00pm

Special Guests

The GentleMen

SUMMER

Car Parking at Jubilee Hall

Members of Dukeries u3a are allowed to park cars at Jubilee Hall when they are not using the meeting rooms.

If members are meeting, to embark on a trip or a walking activity, it is requested that they park cars at the rear of the building, especially so if the hall is booked out to other users on the day.

We are not charged for parking, so please be considerate and comply with this request. *Thank you!*



u3a
North Notts Neighbourhood Group
**INVITE YOU TO A
PICNIC IN THE FOREST**
WEDNESDAY 26th JUNE

**AT SHERWOOD FOREST VISITOR CENTRE
EDWINSTOWE, MANSFIELD NG21 9RN**

This is a FREE EVENT from 11 – 3
ALL DAY CAR PARKING £5

All welcome to join us for a Fun Day of

Activities Musical Entertainment Prizes

Games

Cafe On Site

Walks

Bring tables, chairs, blankets & picnic



More information available in newsletter

**A visit to Southwell
Minster Friday
June 28th
Tickets £15.00**



Itinerary:-

10-00am Guided talk in and around The Minster

11-35am Pause for lunch and/or shopping

1-30pm A seated concert in The Minster

2-30pm concert ends

2-45pm Meet at The Minster for a guided walk to The Bishop's Palace, The Garden & The Song Room, tour lasts 1 hour.

Car shares may be possible.

Whole tour is easy walking and wheelchair accessible

Please book your place on or before the next monthly meeting, 20th May, Contact number **07809 876614** . Please leave a message and I will get back to you. Payment in full at or before the next monthly meeting, if paying in cash please have the correct money. *Jean Parry-Williams.* Jean.pw@outlook.com

On concert days it is advisable to book lunch in the Refectory.
01636 815691 [https://www.southwellminster.org/theme/refectory
-and-shop/](https://www.southwellminster.org/theme/refectory-and-shop/)

*We have been advised that it also gets busy in the town so
advance booking there is advisable as well.*

Church Street carpark is opposite the minster. Six hours £4.70



Evening Cruise on the Trent from River Lodge, Nottingham.

Wednesday 10th July

Here are the details of the trip...

Coach will pick up in Forest Town, Edwinstowe and Ollerton

Arrive at River Lodge. The boat departs 6.30pm,

Meal includes chicken, salads, potatoes and breads (vegetarian on request). Black Forest Gateau and cream as dessert

Voucher for 2 drinks from the bar.

DJ on board for music

Boat returns at 9.30pm Coach departs for the return journey.

Ticket, which includes all the above, is **£37 per person.**

***Tickets selling fast. Email Leslye
on du3achair2020@gmail.com***



**u3a Members' Black
and White Summer
Event**



Forest Town Arena

Saturday 27 July 2023 7.00pm

Complimentary Pimms on arrival

Buffet

20-piece Swing Band

Car or taxi sharing can be arranged

£15 per person

**Tickets on sale at
Members' Meeting**



*This event is hosted by Forest
Town u3a*

Interest Group Leaders

All Sorts/Gardening	Jane Young	du3agroups23@gmail.com
Bridge	Georgina Batty	0777 2649281
Bowling	Alan or Val Saunders	01623 631993
Cheeky Blinders	Sue	07812 156406
Creative Writing	Mike Mounsey	01623 824789
History	Barbara Baglee	01909 239661
Mahjong	Christine Yates	07799 701763
Photography	Stefan Ziembra	01623 860293
Rummy Kub	Linda Bond	01623 861595
Ramblers 6-8m	Stephen Hall	07877 792969
Scrabble	Christine Storer	07980 511308
Sewing Bee	Christine Yates	077997 01763
Soft Tennis	Paul Web	07803 606928
Sunday Lunch Group	Maria Pitrolino	07904 269549
Tuesday Lunch Club	Beryl Lee	079678 01467
WhatsApp Walkers	Hazel & John Francis	074847 28027
Ukulele	Linda Bond	01623 861595

Just in case...

If you have any health issues that you think may affect your participation in, or enjoyment of, the activities of Dukeries u3a, you might wish to disclose them voluntarily with the Group Leaders of the groups you join.



Please have an "in case of emergency" card with you at all times and/or enter details onto your mobile phone.

North Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Group (NNNG)

The following u3a's belong to the NNNG:-

Ashfield, Dukeries, Forest Town & District, Mansfield & District, Rainworth & District, Sherwood, Sutton, Warsop & District.

What does this mean?

Should you wish to join an activity group in a NNNG u3a, you can, if they have a place for you. You will need to show your membership card and give your number.

If you wish to join an activity Group in any other u3a, you will need to purchase an Associate Membership from them.

Details of activity groups can be found on their websites.

Dukeries u3a welcomes members from other u3a's on these terms. NNNG actively encourages these opportunities to share members' skills, talents and experience.

Learn, Laugh & Live

The All Sorts Crafts & Gardening Group

Two lovely flower arrangements demonstrated by Sue



We meet on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday morning in the month, 10am till 12 pm** at the **Ambleside Centre**, Yew Tree Rd, Ollerton
Anyone who would like to come along, you'd be more than welcome.



We also occasionally meet on the **2nd & 4th Wednesday** afternoons **1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.**

Group Leader, Christine **01623 422113**

For more information contact, Jane Young, du3agroups23@gmail.com

Bowling Group



Bowling Dates for May 2024

1st May

15th May

29th May

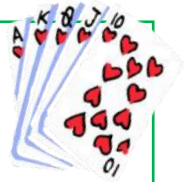
The new season of bowling has started at Ollerton Bowls Club, Whinney Lane, Ollerton. If you fancy giving it a try, come along to any session wearing flat shoes and instruction will be given. You will be most welcome.

The playing time is **1.30 to 3.30 p.m.** There is a charge of **£3.50 per session** which includes a cuppa and biscuits during the half time break. Free car parking is available.

For further information contact Val or Alan Saunders on 01623631993



Bridge Club



Not to be confused with National, International or any other conventional Bridge clubs ! If you enjoy playing cards and social interaction - this may be the group for you! Unfortunately, we cannot offer tuition at present - but if you have an elementary knowledge of the game, we are sure that you will enjoy these sessions. We have a wide range of abilities playing, and there is always much help on offer for the less experienced, (and often somewhat nervous!) players, from the more talented ones, who are very kind and encouraging.

It is not necessary to have a partner, as we all rotate in a friendly fashion, thus enjoying a social chat with everyone. Card-playing, conversation and tea and biscuits - what more could you want?

This group meets at the **Jubilee Hall, Wellow Rd, Ollerton, NG22 9AP, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month - 1pm until 4pm.** There is a sub of **£3 per session** to cover the rent.

You are very welcome to come along to visit us and watch at no charge, to see whether you might like to join us - there are no obligations !

For further information, either, turn up on the day, or contact **Georgina Batty on 077726 49281.**

Creative Writing Group



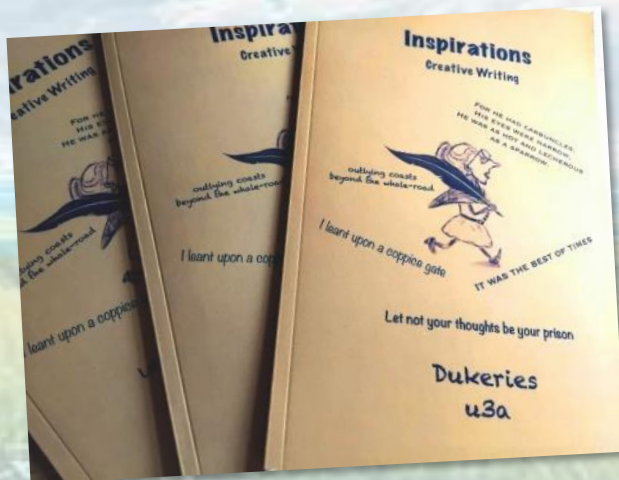
The Creative writing group will meet on the **Third Wednesday in the month**
2.15 to 4pm.

Meetings will be held at **Walesby Church Hall** - all welcome -
£3 (including refreshments) *Mike Mounsey*

The Creative Writing Group

The Creative Writing Group have vacancies in our friendly group which meets on the **3rd Wednesday monthly at Walesby Church Rooms from 2.15 to 4.00.** We would like you to join us in exercising our creative muscles. You do not have to have been a whiz in English at school, just to enjoy learning about different writers and writing styles, led by our facilitator Mike Mounsey. The cost is **£3** which includes learning materials and refreshments. Please contact Mike on shallow1958@gmail.com if you would like further information.

We have a few copies left of our recently published book, 'Inspirations', full of poems, short stories and anecdotes produced by our group. The book would make a lovely gift for yourself, family or friend. They will be on sale at the AGM in May or you can reserve a copy to collect at the AGM by contacting Ann at annstreetcornet@yahoo.co.uk. The cost is £3 with profits going to the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance.





“Cheeky Blinders”

Do you play the Banjolele and would you like to join us?

We are a new group of Banjolele players who meet every **1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month in the smaller room at Jubilee Hall**

between 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to strum, fingerpick, sing and generally have a lot of fun.

For more information please contact Sue on **07812 156406**



There was an old man of Tarantum
Who gnashed his false teeth till he bent
'em

And when asked of the cost

Of what he had lost,

Said, “I really can’t tell for I rent
'em!”



History Group

Wednesday May 1st

Have you ever wondered where The Mulberry Bush was or the School where Mary took her Little Lamb?

If so come along to the History Group and find out that and more. Sam Millard will be telling us some of the stories behind our Nursery Rhymes, *those we couldn't tell to the children.* Cost £2



Do you have an interest or passion for a time, person, place or event don't want to commit to regular meetings? If you would like to come along for one session and share with us you would be more than welcome.

Just get in touch.

The group meets on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **Ambleside Community Centre,**

Yew Tree Road, Ollerton from **1.15 to 3pm.**

Cost **£2.00** per session.

For more information contact,

Barbara Baglee

01909 239661

barbarabaglee@gmail.com

Mah Jong

1st, 3rd & 4th
Thursday each month



*Jubilee Hall,
Wellow Road,
Ollerton, NG22 9AP
Arrive 1.00 pm
Play 1.15 to 3.15 pm*

Mah-Jong is an interesting game which originated in China. 3 or 4 players play together using small tiles which depict the different suits

New members are very welcome.

Refreshments available

£1 - £2 per session depending on numbers attending



For further information, contact Christine Yates,
Group Leader **01623 422113**.

LEARN LAUGH
LIVE

Photography Group

Here's some examples of pictures taken by the group. If you are into Photography or would like to learn, why not come to one of our friendly meetings?

The Photography group meets on the **4th Friday** of the month at **Ambleside Community Centre**,



Junction of Ambleside & Yew Tree Rd
opposite Yew Tree Park, Ollerton,
meeting starts at **1.30pm**.

*For more information, contact,
Stefan Ziembra*

stefziembra@btinternet.com



Rummikubs Group



We meet on the **2nd and 4th Wednesday each month**,
in the restaurant at
The Ollerton House pub, Wellow Road, Ollerton,
2.00 – 4.00pm.

Now is a good time to enjoy indoor activities, especially with good company and warmth. Rummikubs is a very easy game to pick up and I may be a little biased, but I think the company is good. We are lucky to have the use of Ollerton House Restaurant. Several members of the group take the opportunity to have lunch prior to the meeting, which is one of the many advantages of meeting here. Should you care to join us, you are most welcome. Originally we played a variety of indoor games, like dominoes, backgammon cribbage etc., until everyone preferred Rummikubs. I am quite happy to investigate doing this again if anyone is interested.



There is no fee, but I do expect you to buy a drink.

Cheer's Linda Bond (howardbond1@yahoo.co.uk)
01623 861595)



Ramblers Rambles

We only managed one Ramble in April as our first walk was scheduled for Easter Tuesday and many of us were away.

So, mindful of the amount of rain we have endured recently, we tried to find a walk that may have had a bit of a chance to drain and give some firm footing to us all.

Stephen decided that the walk from Gedling Country Park to Lambley and return would be a good 6.5 mile option.

How wrong could we be, it was something of an endurance feat over very spongy fields, tracks with ruts filled with water, six stiles which were all poorly maintained and really more suitable for giants, and muddy paths where they should have been drained.

However we are a determined bunch and all finished the walk with a smile, coffee and cake at the Country Park cafe.

I fell over into a big muddy puddle so finished the walk looking like a rugby player on a wet Saturday.



Our next walk will be on **Tuesday 7th May** when we will have fingers and toes crossed for a dry period.

All the best

Stephen & Kate. 07877 792969

We walk on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, leaving Jubilee Hall at **09.30**.

You do not need any specialist equipment to join the Ramblers apart from good walking shoes and a decent coat, however you should be able to walk up to 8 miles.

Soft Tennis



The Soft Tennis group is now up and running and we currently have 7 members and we are looking for new members.

We are using the Scout Hall on Back Lane in

Ollerton, and we currently meet on Wednesdays in the early afternoon every fortnight but we might go to weekly in the future.

There are generally 2 rooms available so the more players the merrier

It's good, safe, simple and easy exercise and all you need is comfortable clothing and suitable footwear and don't forget your water bottle!

Paul has a WhatsApp group, and his number is 07803 606928.

If you are not familiar with WhatsApp, then text Paul on the same number or email paulmwebb@hotmail.com





South Forest Leisure Centre
 Clipstone Road, NG21 9JF
 1st Friday of the month
 1:30pm till 4pm

Contact ***Christine Storer on 07980 511308***
for more information.

Dukeries on the Web

[Welcome](#) [New members](#) [Chairperson](#) [Committee](#) [Groups](#) [Events](#) [Newsletters](#) [Contact Us](#)
[U3A](#) [Gallery](#) [Community](#) [Gallery 2](#) [Coronation](#) [AGM 2023](#)

Dukeries
u3a

To find Dukeries u3a on the web, just click,
HERE.

Savoy Film Group



9th of May



A crowd pleasing romantic comedy thriller about a down-and-out stuntman who must find a missing star of his ex-girlfriend's blockbuster movie.

Directed by David Leach

Starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt

2nd Thursday in the month at the **Savoy Cinema, Worksop.**

Doors open 1.30pm for coffee,

film starts at 2pm.

Tickets cost £4.15 including coffee, no need to book, just turn up.

Remember to bring your u3a membership card



sewing Bee

Dukeries u3a Sewing Bee

Dukeries u3a has Talent!

Linda, a member of Dukeries u3a Sewing Bee Group has produced this sign

from material and machine embroidery. It is fantastic! Thank you Linda - we are lucky to have you and your skills !

The group meets at Ambleside Community Centre in Ollerton two Wednesdays per month from 10.00 to 12.30. Anyone is welcome from total beginners to skilled stitchers. It is a self-help group where people can make, alter and up-cycle garments and sewing projects. The group has sewing machines and sewing equipment.



2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month. 10.00am to 12.00, Ambleside Community Centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton

Sewing machines available for use, a basic sewing kit and any sewing projects, if you have any.

Contact Christine or come along on the day.

Group Facilitator– Christine Yates

(enquiries 07799 701763)

Groups Co-ordinator – Jane Young

Sunday Lunch Club

Sunday

26th May

Please contact the organiser **Maria Pitrolino**

for more information.

Contact number is **07904 269549**

Next meeting

Tuesday 7th May 2024

The Lion

Tuesday Lunch

Last month twenty members enjoyed an excellent meal at the Angel Blyth a regular favourite of the group where we are looked after extremely well.



Regards Beryl

golferberyl@yahoo.co.uk

WhatsApp Walkers....



The WhatsApp walks take place on a **Thursday every two weeks at 10.30am**, they are mostly local walks of 3 to 4 miles, we meet at suitable local starting points relevant to the walk, some of the starting points can be accessed by public transport, If a lift is required our friendly members are always willing to oblige. We usually contact everyone by WhatsApp but will also contact by phone call or text message.



We all enjoyed our walk at Silverhill Wood on Thursday 14th March this is a picture of us near the miner statue on the highest hill in Nottinghamshire

If you would like to join the group please contact **Hazel or John Frances on 07484 728027** You'll be made most welcome.
Regards Hazel.

Jubilee Ukulele Group



At the request of one of our long term members, Norah Staley, sixteen of the ukulele group went along to Clipstone Hall Care Home, on Tuesday 12th March and entertained the residents for an hour. We all, residents and 'strummers' alike, thoroughly enjoyed the morning and look forward to a repeat visit later in the year.



The group meets each **Thursday, 10.00- 12.00pm** at the Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton **NG22 9AP**. Cost £1.00. You do not need to be able to read music, though a good singing voice is always welcome. I do have a spare ukulele to lend if you want to 'Try before you Buy.'

Contact **Linda Bond 01623 861595** and come along any Thursday
Keep smiling and start strumming.

Linda



Fundraising FASHION SHOW & SHOPPING EVENT



YOUR FAVOURITE BRANDS AT UP TO 75% OFF!

DOROTHY PERKINS · WHITE STUFF · RIVER ISLAND · NEXT
EVANS · NEW LOOK · MISS SELFRIDGE · TOPSHOP · WALLIS
URBAN OUTFITTERS · WAREHOUSE · MONSOON & MORE!
PLUS FRENCH & ITALIAN DESIGNER WEAR

**SIZES
6 TO 30**

Tuesday 25th June 2024

Bilsthorpe Miners' Welfare - NG22 8QX

COST £10.00 | FREE Glass of Bubbly | Time: 18:15 (19:00 Start)

Tickets: **Venue** or **Jon** on **07581 265531** • jon.c.yarwood@gmail.com

Funds raised are for Edwinstowe and the Dukeries Lions Club CIO

Debit & Credit Cards Accepted • charityfashionshows.co.uk



Turkey and Tinsel in Tenby
Monday 4 to Friday 8 November 2024
Coach Travel and Hotel, Half Board
Happy Hour 20.00 to 21.00 hours
Nightly Entertainment

Additional treats

Monday - Sherry and Mince Pies on arrival

Tuesday - Scenic drive to Picton Castle, guided tour. Festive punch before Christmas Dinner and a visit from Santa

Wednesday – Visit to Carmarthen Market

Thursday – Explore Tenby at your leisure.
 Afternoon Tea at 15.00

Friday – Depart after breakfast

£ 425 per person

At the time of printing, there are 1 single and 7 twin or double bedrooms available.

A non-refundable deposit of £50 secures your place.

Telephone Irene on 07765 970751 to book

This u3a trip is arranged by our neighbouring u3a, Forest Town and District



Workshop u3a. Hello Dukeries!

Here is some information about our steel band, **STEELPANTASTIC**. We have the opportunity to recruit new members and it would be lovely if anyone from the Dukeries group was interested in joining us.

Have you ever fancied having a try at playing a steel pan? No previous musical experience is necessary. The group meets every **Thursday, between 2-5**, (these times include setting up and putting away the pans), at **Crown Place community centre, Workshop**.

If you do fancy coming along to have a listen and try, contact Pat Durrant: patmdurrant@outlook.com or Jean Williamson: ploverdene@googlemail.com You will be made most welcome by our very friendly group. Catherine Williams c.williams@sheffield.ac.uk

Even if you decide it is not for you, you would be made most welcome by our very friendly group.

Catherine Williams c.williams@sheffield.ac.uk



You may have read about the publication Newsbites News in our Dukeries newsletter. I hope some of you have opened the link to see what is happening around u3a's in Nottinghamshire.

Maria Gabrielczyk, the Editor, thanks u3a's for their contributions for Newsbites News, which goes out every two months.

Any member of Dukeries u3a can promote an upcoming event, or report on a recent interesting activity. Simply send your article to Ann Street or Jane Young, who will check it over and send the item for you. The maximum word count is 300 words, and photos must be good quality and clear. Remember that over 2 months lead time is required if you are promoting an event in the future.

Do check out Newsbites News in the future.

Ann Street annstreetcornet@yahoo.co.uk

Jane Young du3agroups23@gmail.com

Maria Gabrielczyk mg.abbey@outlook.com

Leslye Henstock



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NETWORK**

NEWSBITES!

Sharing ideas across 34 u3a's in Nottinghamshire

<https://nottsnetworkofu3as.weebly.com/>

*Click on the link for the
latest Newsbites*

For our members interested in local history, there are a couple of websites you might like to check out.

The Minor2Major project covers subjects which include, Landscape Partnerships with local associations e.g. NCC, NDC, RSPB, and

Inspire. The landscape refers to both natural and people history. There are publications available about the Model Villages of the Notts Coalfield, Colliery Stables & The Notts Pit Pony and Country House Stables of Notts. More details can be found at



<https://miner2major.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>

Also Sherwood Voices which is a series of short local walks in the Sherwood Forest villages. An audio guide can be downloaded or ask at the library/council offices.

More information at



<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/reading-information/sherwood-voices-walks/>



Walk & Talk

With RSPB Sherwood Forest and Mind Nottinghamshire
Every 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at 10am

- Free wellbeing group walk
- Approximately 40 minutes of very gentle-paced walking to the Major Oak and back
- Mobility scooter accessible
- Meet at the Main Visitor Centre Car Park (If arriving by car participants will be given a permit for free parking on arrival)
- Refreshments and toilets available at Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre

Wellbeing is just one step away...

For further details, contact: carol.hallam@rspb.org.uk





This station is aimed at baby boomers, the generation of people born between 1946 and 1964. The station is available on DAB and there are two extra channels, BOOM ROCK & BOOM LIGHT both available on line.

More information [Click Here.](#)



Our Good to Know telephone groups invite a different guest speaker each week to discuss issues that matter to older people. Topics include scams, the cost-of-living crisis, social care, benefits and finding new social connections - things that are simply 'Good To Know' about.

Since our Good to Know Groups launched, we've had guest speakers from organisations including Step Change, Mind, Parkinsons UK, and Cruse as well as specialist advisors from Independent Age benefits and social care teams. Think of these groups like a cup of tea and a chat at a community centre, but over the phone in the comfort of your living room. The groups are particularly great for older people unable to get out and about or to online activities, but anyone over the age of 65 is welcome. You can view our website here to read more and to see what events we have coming up - <https://www.independentage.org/get-support/telephone-groups/good-to-know-groups>

Do you fancy yourself as a singer?
Would you like to try?

Have you wondered whether you could sing in a choir. No test or audition, just turn up and give it a go...

Here's a few words from John Banbury, a member of the Dukeries Singers...



"We as a choir believe anyone can sing and is good enough to be part of the group, we would like to get that over to anyone Interested, most people think they cannot sing well enough but I can assure you that's not the case, I was a guy who only sung to himself in the shower, now I am really enjoying singing with folks. You only have to see what Gareth Malone achieves in the workplace getting people to sing, its just that we need people to come and try, they will be surprised what they can do and that we don't have auditions or checks on the way people sing."

So, if you fancy giving it a try, contact....

John Banbury
07759 086132

Dukeries Singers
23 Paddock Close
Edwinstowe
Nottinghamshire
NG21 9LP

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dukeriessingers/>

Dukeries u3a – Membership to March 2025

Membership subscription by bank transfer
Sort Code 60-17-28 Account 91244358
The Dukeries Third Age Group
Please reference Subs and Your Name

Email Wendy Neighbour to confirm your payment
membersdu3a@outlook.com

Complete your application form on your next visit or from our website

Membership can also be renewed at meetings – simply collect a form, fill in your details and seal it in the envelope provided with your cash or cheque (*made payable to The Dukeries Third Age Group*).

Full membership to 31 March 2025

£20 per person

Includes £4.00 subscription to u3a National.

Full associate membership* to 31 March 2025

£10 per person

**(For people who are full members of another u3a group. Proof required)*

**Dukeries u3a is now open to all Adults/Seniors
(regardless of employment status)**

Health and Safety

Please be Considerate.

Members of Dukeries u3a each have the responsibility to keep themselves safe, keep others safe and avoid making an environment unsafe when taking part in activities.

It is hoped that any member participating in activities has had two vaccinations to prevent COVID.

In addition, please consider the following:-

- *Wear your face mask when near to other people **if you wish to**
- *Keep your distance from people. Avoid touching other people (hand-shaking, hugging and kissing). It's hard to do but necessary for the time being.
- *Frequently wash your hands **for 20 seconds**. Sanitise your hands and avoid touching your face
- * **Open windows when travelling by car with others**

If you are arranging activities inside, keep to government regulations and guidelines

Also

Take a register of names

Ventilate the room

Chairs should be well spaced.

Encourage members to sanitising hands on entry to the room

Consider use of toilets.

If serving refreshments, consider the safest way to avoid cross-contamination.

If we all take responsibility to protect ourselves and safeguard our friends we will all be able to enjoy our social lives.

Thank you **for your kind consideration**

Leslye Henstock

Chair Dukeries u3a



The u3a National Newsletter is available on line and all you need to do is fill in a few details on the link below and you can get your own copy emailed to you every month.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>

Back issues are also available on this link.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/newsletter>

Disclaimer

The views expressed here are those of the contributors only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Committee of Dukeries 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 jghollerton@gmail.com as early as possible and not later than the 27th of the month.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

Newsletter Editor: John Harris

Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/dukeries

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dukeriesu3a>

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