



Staying Connected.

No 73 March 2026



March is the month when the Dukeries U3A begins its new year with its Membership Renewal Day, being held this year on Monday March 16th from 12.30 – 2pm in the Jubilee Hall. Just a gentle reminder – this will not be a traditional meeting, with announcements and a Speaker. Instead, in addition to paying your annual subscription of £20 for Full Membership (£10 for Associate Membership), by cash, cheque or bank transfer, you will have the opportunity to socialise over a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, to meet with some of the Group Leaders, or to bring any problems you may have with your mobile phone, your tablet, laptop or PC to our new 'Techie Table' where John Harris and Paul Webb, our in-house wizards, will do their very best to sort your problems – great and small – out. They would love to have lots to do on that afternoon, so please don't hesitate to use them!

Now, a plea. You will remember that, for some time now, we have been campaigning for Dukeries Members to join our Committee to play their part in helping to develop our U3A into 2026 and beyond and to help with day-to-day running. You will be pleased to hear that we have managed to attract some extremely good and keen new Committee Members, which is most rewarding, but we still have one vital role which needs filling as a matter of increasing urgency. We need someone from our U3A to step up and take over the outgoing Business Secretary reins from James Barlett.



As you know, James has played a pivotal role in our U3A, for a number of years, but he is now retiring and we are keenly seeking his replacement who we would like to have in post as soon as is practically possible.

The Business Secretary's role in our U3A is not especially onerous, but it is crucial, and, without it, frankly, we cannot function efficiently. The job involves activities such as keeping and updating records, dealing with correspondence, giving administrative support to the Committee and Chair, and completing annual returns to external bodies such as the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. In addition, the Business Secretary plays a vital part in preparations for the AGM.

The role would most certainly suit somebody who enjoys working as part of a lively team, who would like to work closely with their fellow Committee Members (Trustees), is well organised, and who is quite efficient, especially in areas such as record keeping. A degree of computer literacy is essential – although help in this area would, of course, be available. In addition, a curious mind and sense of humour would also be invaluable!

I really do hope that you will give this key opening some thought, and if either you, or somebody else you know in the U3A, may be interested in taking this on, then please let us know, either personally or via the Contact Information on the website or within the pages of 'Staying Connected'. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

With Every Good Wish,

Mike



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DAY

Monday 16th March, 12.30 – 2.00

Jubilee Hall

Please come along to renew your subscription!

You can pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer. Price held at £20 for full membership until 31st March 2027.

Associate Membership only £10

Cheques payable to The Dukeries Third Age Group Bank

Transfer to **Sort Code 30-54-66**

Account Number **47824960**

Reference your payment with "your name subs"

It is necessary for each member to **sign a new form** for the next membership year, so please come along on the day and there will be people to help you complete the process.

Full information is also available on the Dukeries u3a website, where you can download forms to complete the process at home.

<https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/links/>

**Thank you for supporting our Membership
Renewal Day**

Group Meeting Times

	1st in month	2nd in month	3rd in month	4th in month
Mon			Monthly Meeting 12.30pm. Jubilee Hall	
Tues	Ramblers 6-8 m 9.30 Jubilee Hall The Banjoleers Jubilee Hall 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 The Banjoleers Jubilee Hall 10am till 11.30pm	Bridge Group 1pm till 4pm Jubilee Hall
Wed	All Sorts Games & 10am till 1 pm Ambleside Centre History Group 1.15 to 3pm Ambleside Centre Soft Tennis 12 to 1pm Ollerton Scout Hall	Sewing Bee 10am to 12pm Ambleside Centre Rummikubs Ollerton House 2pm to 4pm Play Reading 1.30pm to 3.30pm Ambleside Centre Soft Tennis 12 to 1pm Ollerton Scout Hall	All Sorts Games & 10am till 1 pm Ambleside Centre Creative Writing 2.15 to 4pm Ambleside Centre Soft Tennis 12 to 1pm Ollerton Scout Hall	Sewing Bee 10 to 12pm Ambleside Rummikubs Ollerton House 2pm to 4pm Play Reading 1.30pm to 3.30pm Ambleside Centre Soft Tennis 12 to 1pm Ollerton Scout Hall
Thurs	Ukulele group 10.00 to 12.00pm Jubilee Hall	Ukulele group 10.00 to 12.00pm Jubilee Hall Savoy Cinema Worksop 1.30pm	Ukulele group 10.00 to 12.00pm Jubilee Hall	Ukulele group 12.00pm Jubilee Hall
Fri	Scrabble 13.30 South Forest	Mah jong 10 till 12 pm Ambleside Centre		Mah jong 10 till 12pm Ambleside Centre

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

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

Committee 2025-26

Chair, Publicity & Press

Mike Mounsey



Business Secretary

Position Vacant

Treasurer

Jane Young



Website & Groups coordinator

Paul Webb



Membership

Sharon Jones



Newsletter Editor

John Harris



Health & Safety Officer

Chris Neighbour



Deputy Chair

Maria Pitrolino-Baranauskas



Social Media

Jamie Baranauskas



Non Committee Roles

Co-ordinator Charity Donations

Pam Hardwick



Speaker Finder

Ann Street



Events Team Co-ordinator

Leslye Henstock



Minute Taker

Sue Cook

History Group

For my sins it seems that I am, at least temporarily, the new leader of the History group. So to kick off so to speak, I would like to try a sort of History Quiz.



I've made up some slides showing extracts from famous speeches or eyewitness reports from history and we can go through them and see how many members can guess who the speaker or writer was. Some of them will be a surprise and some should be easy and a few you probably haven't seen before.

Please come along on the **4th March at 1.15pm** and we should have an interesting time and, at least there will be free tea and biscuits.

John Harris

The group meets on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at Ambleside Community centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton from **1.15 to 3pm** No charge

Group Leader John Harris. 077077 37095

History Group presents.....

Who Said What??



A light hearted look at some famous speeches to see who can guess, 'Who Said What?'



**4th March 1.15 for 1.30pm at
Ambleside Community Centre.**

Please come along and have a guess.

Open to all.....



SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2026

DOORS OPEN 6.00pm JUBILEE HALL

IRISH THEMED FUN AND LAUGHTER SOCIAL NIGHT!

Come join in the fun at this get-together

Table Top Games and Raffle

Funny Half Hour – Bring a short joke, limerick or a brief, funny tale to tell

Snacks served in the Interval

Prize for the most original outfit – Theme – Irish/Green

Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Tickets Member £5, Guests £6

on sale on **16th March** at the

Members' Meeting. *The Events Team*



RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED!

At the Irish Themed Social Night on **Saturday 21 March**, we will be holding a raffle in aid of our chosen charity,

The Nottingham and Lincolnshire Air Ambulance.

Have you something you could donate?

After Christmas, you may have unwanted bottles of alcohol or body products. Or sweets and chocolates?

Or you might wish to purchase something to support this worthy charity.

Please bring your donations to the Members' Meeting on

Monday 19 January, Monday 16 February or Monday 16 March

and give them to Pam Hardwick or Chris Hough.

Please ensure your donations are new, unused and in date!

Thank you for your generosity!

The Events Team



**DUKERIES U3A EVENTS TEAM
ANNOUNCE A NEW EVENT!**

**THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2026 4.00pm
UNTIL 6.00pm**



POTTERY PAINTING, PROSECCO AND PATISSERIE

Come and release your creative skills at

*M Spalding Studio, The Art and Craft Centre, Opposite
Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre.*

Starting 4.00pm with a glass of fizz or orange juice and cake.
Choose your pot to paint. Treat yourself? Gift for someone?

A wide range of pots, plates, vases and ornaments are
available from £16 to £22 (purchase on the day).

All materials and paints are provided, and guidance is given.

Relax and enjoy taking your time to complete your creation,
which you leave at the studio to be glazed and fired by Melissa
to produce a professional, high colour finish. Your product
will be waterproof and suitable to use with food and liquids.

You can collect your finished pot after a week or we can
arrange collection.



Car Park – head for Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and turn left into the approach road.

At The Art and Craft Centre, turn left through the wrought iron gates leading into the car park (free for two hours)



Need a lift? Speak to us!

Tickets will be on sale on **MONDAY 16th MARCH AT JUBILEE HALL £5 PER PERSON**

Email slhu3a@gmail.com

Pay online Reference **"Pottery and Your Name"**

DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP (U3A)

SORT CODE 30-54-66 ACCOUNT NUMBER 47824960



*'YOU SHALL GO TO THE
PANTOMIME'*

Cinderella

Starring Adam Moss,
Mansfield's Favourite Funny Man
MANSFIELD PALACE THEATRE
MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2026

2.00pm SHOW GREAT SEATS

To book your places*

Come to the Events Table on Monday 16
March

Email slhu3a@gmail.com

Car Sharing Possible

*payment in full by June 15 2026 **£25.50**



DATE TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2026

U3A FESTIVAL IN SHERWOOD FOREST

10.30am TO 3.00pm

Bring a picnic Hot food and drinks available

Live music through the day

Outdoor games

Walk in the forest and conservation talk

FREE EVENT



A trip to Barnsdale Gardens

Friday June 19th, Leaving Jubilee hall 8:45.
Returning approx Eightish.

The trip includes the following,

...transport and admission to Barnsdale gardens.

... a ride up to Rutland Water, a boat trip is available, this is an optional extra.

.... on to the Horse and Jockey at Manton. Meals are an option extra. Menus will be available nearer the time.

... return home to Jubilee Hall

Total cost is **£38.00** a full non returnable payment is required by our March Meeting.

I will be at the next meeting to take your payments You may pay by bank transfer, details are available. You can pay cash as well.

It should be a good fun day.

*Thanks, Sharon Thornhill **07739 003251***

Group leader Allsorts and Gardening group.

Link to Barnsdale Gardens web site,

<https://barnsdalegardens.co.uk/>

A History Group Stroll through Ollerton Village

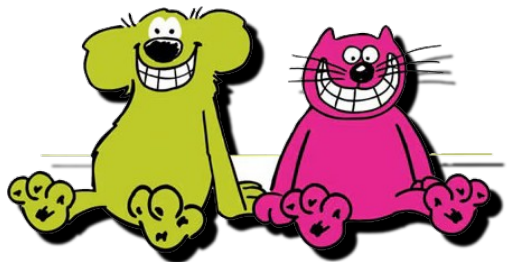
A member of the Ollerton Village Residents Association (OVRA) is offering to take small parties, up to ten, on a one and a half hour stroll around Ollerton to talk about it's history. Would members who are interested in this please send their name & phone number to John Harris, jghollerton@gmail.com



A BIG Thank you

To all Members and their Guests who
went to Wakefield Rhubarb Festival.
Your support and participation
enabled us to provide a low-cost trip
for all to enjoy!

From *The Events Team!*





Many more pictures of the goings-on at the Rhubarb Festival on the link.

<https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/rhubarb-rhubarb-rhubarb/>

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION WHEN PAYING ON-LINE FOR TICKETS FOR EVENTS

Dukeries u3a has changed banks and our account
is now with Lloyds.

Should you wish to pay on-line for an event,
the details are as follows:-

DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP (U3A)

Account 47824960 Sort Code 30-54-66

IMPORTANT

Please Reference with EVENT NAME and YOUR NAME.

For example, IRISH BILL BLOGGS.

Information from The Events Team

Dietary Requirements

When booking tickets for events, please ensure you
advise the ticket-seller, if you have a particular dietary
requirement

(vegetarian, gluten-free, dairy-free etc).

Every effort will be made to accommodate your
requirements.

The Events Team

Chris, Dave, Jean, Kevin, Leslye, Lisbeth, Pam

We are now looking at social events for 2026.

Where would you like to go? What would you like to do?

***Thank you for supporting our events over
the past 12 months***

Would you like to contribute some fresh, new ideas to Dukeries u3a Social Events Calendar? We would love two new people to join our happy band. We meet every two months. We share ideas and any tasks. We have a laugh!

Contact Leslye slhu3a@gmail.com

Don't forget to check out our Website,
lots more to see there....

<https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/welcome/>

Just click or tap the link above...



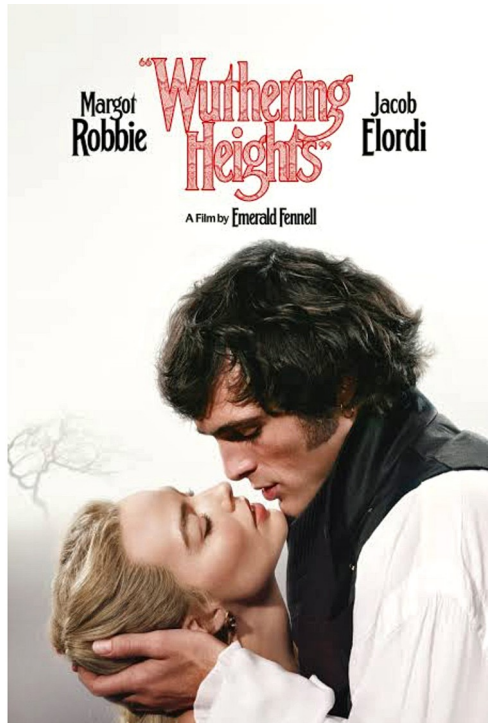
SAVOY

Worksop

Thursday 12th March

Tragedy strikes when Heathcliff falls in love with Catherine Earnshaw, a woman from a wealthy family in 18th-century England.

Trailer



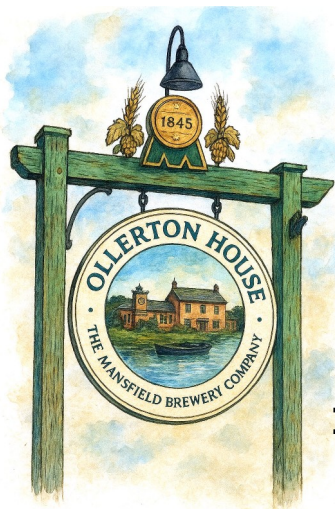
New Ticket Price £5.15

Whether you have a drink or not....

Doors open 1.30pm Show starts at **2pm**

Greatly reduced ticket price, for u3a members only.

Remember to bring your membership card...



**Lets get
Together.**

Informal social get-togethers, early evening in the Ollerton House next to the Jubilee Hall

If you would like to do something more interesting in the evening, instead of sitting at home flicking through the channels, do come along.

You buy your own drinks, tea or coffee, and stay as long as you want. Everyone is welcome, especially singletons who would like to get out more!! A member suggested it should be called the Laughter Club after a recent hilarious meeting.

Simply text your name and mobile number to Dave on **07517 699105** and he will contact you.

Contact Dave today and make more of your Winter evenings.



Air Ambulance



After our January meeting I was able to forward £64.50 into the Air Ambulance account so my thanks go to all of you who were able to contribute.

February has also been a good month during which my gardening group made a substantial donation and members have sold items and given the proceeds to me to add to our monthly total. Also I was handed the amount of £26 by two members who sadly were unable to take up their booking for the rhubarb trip so my thanks go to them for donating the sale of their tickets. So the bottom line for February totals £142.50 which includes the sale of items from our monthly stall and this is the amount I have forwarded to Air Ambulance.

Once again my sincere thanks go to all our charity supporters within the Dukeries u3a and beyond and be proud that the running total of funds you have donated is now a staggering £9,357.00

And wasn't the talk on the river Trent fascinating at this month's meeting, thank you to our speaker finder, Ann Street, for her hard work in procuring us such quality entertainment.

Your Charity Coordinator

Pam Hardwick

Air Ambulance News.

[Click Here](#)



Nottinghamshire County Show

Experience the best of farming
& rural life from your county



DISCOUNT
**
£15
TICKETS

16 YEARS
*
FREE
& UNDER

OPEN 9AM - 5PM

9 May 2026

AT NEWARK SHOWGROUND

nottinghamshirecountyshow.com

*16 & under free of charge when accompanied by a paying adult and will still require a ticket.

**Discounted tickets are available until midnight 1 May 2026, thereafter gate prices will apply.

DIARY DATES DUKERIES U3A 2026

MONDAY 9 MARCH

COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 16 MARCH

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

ACTIVITY GROUPS DISPLAY

SATURDAY 21 MARCH

IRISH THEMED SOCIAL EVENING
(TICKET EVENT)

MONDAY 13 APRIL

COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 20 APRIL

MEMBERS' MEETING

FRIDAY 24 APRIL

TRIP TO NEWARK GARDEN SHOW
(TICKET EVENT)

THURSDAY 30 APRIL

PAINT A POT PARTY (TICKET EVENT)

TO BE CONFIRMED – OLLERTON HISTORY WALK

MONDAY 11 MAY

COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 18 MAY

MEMBERS' MEETING AND AGM

FRIDAY 29 MAY

SOCIAL NIGHT – GAMES AND
SNACKS (TICKET EVENT)

MONDAY 8 JUNE	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 15 JUNE	MEMBERS' MEETING
WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE	U3A FESTIVAL SHERWOOD FOREST
FRIDAY 19 JUNE	TRIP TO BARNSDALE GARDENS (TICKET EVENT)
MONDAY 13 JULY	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 20 JULY	MEMBERS' MEETING
MONDAY 10 AUGUST	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 17 AUGUST	LUNCH AND JUKE BOX JURY 70'S SHOW (TICKET EVENT)
MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER	MEMBERS' MEETING
MONDAY 12 OCTOBER	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 19 OCTOBER	MEMBERS' MEETING
MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER	MEMBERS' MEETING
SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER	SUPPER AND QUIZ NIGHT (TICKET EVENT)
MONDAY 7 DECEMBER	COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 14 DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
TO BE CONFIRMED – TRIP TO PANTOMIME	

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 the **Ambleside Centre**
All welcome (Currently no charge)

Mike Mounsey



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NETWORK**

NEWSBITES!

Sharing ideas across 34 u3a's in Nottinghamshire

*Click on the link for the
latest Newsbites*

<https://nottsnetworkofu3as.u3asite.uk/newsbites/>

u3a friends



Join up for the latest 'Friends' magazine

Have a look on the link....

['Click Here'](#)

And **u3a Extra** with products & services

[Click Here...](#)

Interest Group Leaders

All Sorts/Gardening	Sharon Thornhill	07739 003251
Bridge	Georgina Batty	07772 649281
Bowling	Alan or Val Saunders	01623 631993
Banjoleers & Guitar	Phil Topley	07980601018
Creative Writing	Mike Mounsey	01623 824789
History	John Harris	07707737095
Mahjong	Val Saunders	01623 631993
Play reading	Leslye Henstock	07946 702296
Rummy Kub	Linda Bond	01623 861595
Ramblers 6-8m	Stephen Hall	07877 792969
Scrabble	Christine Storer	07980 511308
Sewing Bee	Jane Young	07980 378979
Soft Tennis	Paul Webb	07803 606928
Sunday Lunch Group	Maria Pitrolino	07904 269549
Tuesday Lunch Club	Beryl Lee	07967 801467
WhatsApp Walkers	Hazel & John Francis	07484 728027
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.

All Sorts Group



What a wonderful morning ladies had making Christmas cards. Lots of fun had and lots of mess and fingers stuck together ha-ha. Here's some pictures of their work.

If you fancy having a go at various things pop along and see us at **Ambleside** every **1st and 3rd Wednesday** of the month, **10am till 1pm**. For further information please contact,

Sharon Thornhill 07739 003251



A picture of a few of our happy band.

'The Banjoleers are a 16 strong group of like minded individuals, getting together twice a month to play, laugh and enjoy ourselves, We like to think we are 'Improving / advanced' players but don't let that fool you or put you off. If you would like to give it a go, come and join us. We're also looking for some additional voices, so even if you don't fancy playing an instrument, come along with your voice and have some fun.

Every **first & third Tuesday** of the month, **10 to 11.30 am** at **Jubilee Hall**. Playing joyful songs, having a laugh and enjoying ourselves.

For information contact Phil Topley, **07980 601018**



The Bridge Club

Not to be confused with any National, International or any other conventional Bridge clubs ! If you enjoy playing cards and social interaction - this is the group for you !

If you are a seasoned Bridge player, please come along and join us - you will be made very welcome, and can join in the play immediately.

Alternatively, if you have played Bridge in the past, and have become 'rusty' - but would like to take it up again, you are quite at liberty to come along to sit and watch, until you feel confident enough to join in.

Whatever you decide, we have experienced players who will offer kind help and advice. You do not need a regular partner, as we all rotate round and play different people - hence, lots of social chatter !

You will find no harsh judgement or criticism - This is a social occasion where everybody is very friendly and encouraging, and where the emphasis is on having fun !

Tuition

For those who have never played Bridge, but would like to learn, we are now happily able to offer Tuition.

Next Page...

Linda Bond has very kindly offered to teach newcomers. If you are interested, please contact us and we will put your name down on the waiting list. The idea is, to integrate the novices into the main Bridge group when they are ready, and this is proving very successful.

We have often been asked about tuition in the past, but until now, have reluctantly had to respond negatively. A big 'Thank You' to Linda for offering this service, which is much appreciated !

The Bridge group meets at the Jubilee Hall, Wellow Rd, Ollerton , DN22 9AP, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month - from 1pm until 4pm. There is a break for Refreshments at 2.30pm. The first visit is free of charge, but thereafter, the fee is £3 per session. This covers the rent and refreshments.

Either, just drop in, or contact us beforehand.

For further details please contact Georgina Batty,
Group Leader, on **07772649281**

PLEASE JOIN US - WE LOOK FORWARD TO
SEEING NEW FACES !





New Guitar Group

Change of Venue and Time....

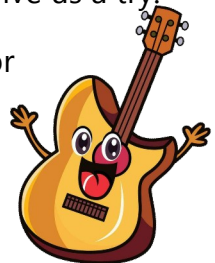
Phil Topley is organising a new Guitar group which will meet twice a month,

2nd & 4th Tuesday at Ambleside Centre, 10 till 11.30pm.

Next Session 10th March

This new group is being set up by Phil (from Banjoleers), and is initially for intermediate players with their own equipment. However, at this embryonic stage the group is looking to learn from each other and decide on the direction it will take. There are currently about 5 people who have expressed an interest but if you play or have played in the past, please come along and give us a try.

Why not give Phil a call on **07980 601018** or just turn up and see if you like it?



Mah Jong

2nd & 4th

Friday each month



Ambleside, Yew Tree road, Ollerton
NG22 9UW, 10am to 12pm.

Mah-jong is an interesting, tile-based game that was developed in the 19th century in China and has spread throughout the world since then. It is played by three or four players with a set of 144 tiles based on Chinese characters. Similar to the Western card game of rummy, Mahjong is a game of skill, strategy and luck.

New members are very welcome and existing members will help any newcomers wishing to learn the game.

Refreshments are available at each meeting.

£1 - £2 per session depending on numbers attending



For further information, contact
Val Saunders 01623 631993



PLAY READING

Perfect for theatre lovers and beginners alike!

When:

- ❖ Second and Fourth Wednesdays of the month **1.30 to 3.30 pm**

Where:

- ❖ The Ambleside Centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton, NG22 9UW
- ❖ What3words app: nightfall.schools.profile

What to expect:

- ❖ Discover the joy of play reading
- ❖ Meet like-minded people
- ❖ Improve your reading and performance skills
- ❖ A friendly and welcoming atmosphere
- ❖ Engaging readings of classic, contemporary, and homegrown plays
- ❖ No experience necessary – just bring your enthusiasm!
- ❖ Refreshments provided

Why join the Waiting List?

- ❖ Be notified when we have a vacancy
- ❖ Opportunity to join a second group if demand is there

More Information: Group convener: Leslye 07946 702296

slhu3a@gmail.com

Ramblers Rambles



We were lucky enough, with the dismal weather we have all endured, to get in our two walks in February, despite having to look for "dry" venues. Our first walk was a new one for the group and was very well attended with 14 people, even though we all thought it was the coldest walk we had ever undertaken. We certainly had to keep moving! This was from the Sconce and Devon Park in Newark, out past the Marina and then down onto the River bank in front of the Castle coming out across the road to the railway station and down past the old gravel pits and back to the Sconce, a reminder of the importance of Newark during the Civil Wars. Sconce is actually the Dutch word for fort and this one was built by Dutch engineers brought over from the Netherlands to help with the defence of Newark as a Royalist stronghold. A fabulous walk and we will do it again in the Summer and take a picnic.



Our second walk was a group favourite and again very well attended. We parked at Linby and walked over a very soggy field, which Stephen assured us would be the only wet part of the walk! How wrong was he? We did enjoy good paths into Newstead until a dog walker advised us that the river had burst its banks, the road we normally walk along was flooded and we had to go into the trees to get round the water. Anyone would think we were a group of youngsters, not in our third age, climbing hillsides that were very muddy and slippery but we all survived to get to the cafe in Linby for a well deserved cuppa and a piece of cake. Newstead is always so pleasant at any time of year but was lovely in the winter sunshine this time.

Our next walk is on Tuesday 3rd March, location to be decided.

Regards, Stephen & Kate

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.

About 12 of us meet for a friendly game of Rummikubs at the Ollerton House. If you would like either to play, or to learn to play, please come along and join us. NO FEE but do buy a drink as a thankyou to the Ollerton House for giving us the use of their restaurant.

Cheer's Linda Bond
01623 861595)



Here is a link to the latest news.... [Click Here...](#)

S C R A B B L E

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.

The image shows a screenshot of the u3a website. At the top, the text "Dukeries on the Web" is written in a large, blue, cursive font. Below this is a yellow navigation bar with the following links: "Welcome", "New members", "Chairperson", "Committee", "Groups", "Events", "Newsletters", "Contact Us", "U3A", "Gallery", "Community", "Gallery 2", "Coronation", and "AGM 2023". Below the navigation bar is a blue header section with the word "Dukeries" on the left and the "u3a" logo on the right. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a white box with a blue border containing the text: "To find Dukeries u3a on the web, just click, Dukeries.u3asite.uk".



Sewing Bee

**Second & forth Wednesday in the month. 10am till 12.
Ambleside Community Centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton**



Sewing machines available for use, bring a basic sewing kit and any sewing projects, if you have any. New members very welcome. Knitters, Crochet and needle work undertaken.



Contact Jane Young **07980 378979**

OLLERTON JUBILEE HALL *presents*



A Concert by Candlelight

Featuring:

CHRIS MIGGELLS

THE DUKERIES SINGERS

PERFORMING A MEDLEY OF
HIGHLIGHTS FROM LES MISÉRABLES

INVICTERS 59

ROCK 'N' ROLL REBELS

SAT 28 MARCH 2026

DOORS 6:15 | 7:00 START

TICKETS:

£12

Available online at **Eventbrite** or at the following locations (cash only):

Tennis, Badminton Pickleball, Boule & Frisbee



Soft Tennis, Badminton and Pickleball (a fast growing sport from the USA), and when the weather suits we also have Boules/Petanque and Frisbee outside.

It's open to all ages and abilities and it's great fun so please come along for some gentle exercise at the Scout Hall, Back Lane ,Ollerton.

Just wear sporty clothes and shoes and bring a drink

Please contact Paul on **07803 606928** for further information or click on the organiser link below to send an email.

We use a WhatsApp group to communicate each week and for special events such as drinks and meals out so please send me your name and mobile number.

More information on our website, [click here](#).



Hope to see you soon,
Paul Webb on **0780360692**

Or email, paulmwebb@hotmail.com

You will have a great time !

Sunday Lunch Club



The Dukeries u3a Sunday lunch club Christmas lunch. This year we visited the Lansbury in Edwinstowe. It was a wonderful lunch with great company. Next year's new Sunday lunch club venues and dates will be available in January. If anyone is interested in coming next year please see either Maria or Jamie.

Maria Pitrolino 07904 269549

Tuesday Lunch

If you enjoy good food.

Why not join us? You choose the ones you want and do not have to support every event.

Program for 2026 on the next page....

Open to all, for more information contact Beryl on

07967 801467 Or email golferberyl@yahoo.co.uk





TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB 2026 PROGRAMM

Feb 3 rd	Spread Eagle Hockerton
Mar 3 rd	Greendale Oak Cuckney
April 7 th	The Angel Blyth
May 5 th	Refined Mansfield
June 2 nd	Bella Vita Ollerton
July 7 th	Rufford Park Golf Club
Aug 4 th	The Devonshire Langwith
Sept 1 st	The Chequers Ranby
Oct 6 th	The Lion Farnsfield
Nov 3 rd	West Retford Hotel
Dec 1 st	Bella Vita Ollerton

Meet 12.30 for 1pm

Beryl Lee 07967801467

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.



The WhatsApp Walkers enjoying the wet weather at Rufford Park



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



Jubilee Ukulele Group, Dukeries U3A

Over the past three years, the group have held several fundraising concerts for charity, as well as performing at other events locally.

This year we are holding a first for us.

We are getting very excited, and just a little nervous. On the 19th of this month the group will be hosting a Ukulele Jamboree for 80 ukulele enthusiasts, travelling from all the surrounding counties as well as Nottinghamshire. The planning for this event began last September with invitations sent to local U3As and other ukulele groups. Now everything is coming together, with a whole day planned for ukulele players to meet, get to know each other, share their expertise and generally have fun. The icing on the cake is that it will also raise funds for a good cause, as all the proceeds will be donated to 2 local charities, John Eastwood Hospice and the John Fretwell Complex.

I'll let you know how we get on next month!!

Linda Bond

**Meetings Thursday at Jubilee Hall,
10 to 12pm.**

Cost £1.50 *inc refreshments*

Linda Bond

Information for group leaders.



Groups Coordinator.

The group coordinator is here to help all group leaders manage their interest Group and also to help anyone who is interested in setting up a new interest group. Please find below a very useful handbook which all current and future interest Group Leaders should read and refer to

[Handbook for Group Convenors Leaders_updated2024.docx](#)

You can contact the coordinator using this link [group coordinator](#)

Website Group Page updates

If you need any changes making to your group page please keep me informed now and in the future, this could include ...

Opening page – I can add photos and any details you would like adding

Future events – I would need to know the venue, date, time, cost, arrangements etc

Past event write up – I can add any write up with photos and comments

Other things can be added that I may not have thought of at the moment

You can contact the website manager using this link

[website manager](#)

Paul Webb

Website & Groups coordinator.



FARNSFIELD TENNIS CLUB

WALKING TENNIS

Farnsfield Tennis Club run Walking Tennis sessions every Monday from 11am until 1pm.

Why not come down for a trial session? No equipment or experience required.

What is Walking Tennis?

Looking for a new form of exercise in the new year? Walking Tennis is safe, fun and inclusive and a fantastic way to stay active!

It's a game that's open to anyone - whether you're an experienced tennis player, a complete beginner or just need a bit more time to get into the swing of things, you can give the game a go in a supportive setting.

You can play tennis at any age and Walking Tennis offers an easy way for older people to keep their body and mind active - while also enjoying the social side of being part of a tennis community



If you are interested, please come down to the club on a Monday morning, or contact **Alastair Walker**.

Email: amwalker1322@outlook.com



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/>

North Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Group (NNNG)

The following u3a's belong to the NNNG:-

Ashfield, Dukeries, Bolsover and District, Forest Town & District, Mansfield & District, Rainworth & District, Sherwood, Sutton, Warsop & District, Worksop & District and Retford.

What does this mean?

Anyone from a NNNG u3a can join an activity group, or join a trip. Membership cards must be shown. This is based on places being available.

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

Non NNNG u3a members can join an activity group but must complete an Affiliate Membership form.

Non u3a Guests on trips, must complete a one day membership form.

Dukeries u3a welcomes members from other u3a's on these terms.

NNNG actively encourages these opportunities to share members' skills, talents and experience. Learn, Live, Laugh

Health and Safety Information

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.

Please continue to do the following: -

Avoid meeting others if you feel unwell or are infectious

Continue wearing a mask if want you to protect yourself and others

Avoid touching other people (hand-shaking, hugging and kissing) if you feel uncomfortable and want extra protection against infection.

Frequently wash your hands for 20 seconds and avoid touching your face. Ensure that equipment is clean to use in Activity groups.

Event and activity organisers, please ensure windows and doors are open to ventilate the rooms

If you are leading an activity, you do need to keep a register of names at each meeting and file it.

When signing up for a physical activity, please ensure it is within your capability (for example signing up for a walk which is too long for you)

Wash hands before serving refreshments, and ensure all crockery and utensils are clean before and after use.

If we each take on the responsibility, to protect ourselves and safeguard our friends, we will all enjoy our social lives.

Thank you.

Chris Neighbour, Health and Safety, Dukeries, u3a

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 johnhu3amag@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: <https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/welcome/>

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

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