



As our new year begins, I thought it would be interesting to look back on the year just ended and reflect on what a memorable and exciting year it has been – and what adventures we have been on together!

We have peeped into the Second World War with a visit to the Bomber Command Centre in Lincolnshire; we have revisited our rich Mining heritage with our trip to Clipstone Headstocks Museum. We have rejoiced in the Wakefield Rhubarb Festival. We have relived the heady years of our youth with the 60's Juke Box Jury show, and we have recreated the Golden Era of Hollywood with our Easter Bonnet Parade.

The Walkers and the Ramblers have wandered up hill and down dale, celebrating the considerable beauties of our local area. The Quiz Night and the Irish Night, to name but two, have tempted many of us to venture out from the seductive comforts of our fireside and the TV.

We have had many opportunities to learn new crafts and skills. The Ukelele, Banjolele and Guitar groups are all joyful, all celebratory – and tremendous fun both to play in and to watch. Pickleball, Soft Tennis, Bowling and Badminton have all been on offer, reminding us all of the absolutely vital need to keep moving and to keep fit throughout our own, personal, 'Third Age'.

You can learn to sew, to play Bridge, or Scrabble, or Mah Jong or Rummikubs – all to keep the mind – and the fingers – active; the All Sorts and Gardening Group, is, simply, frankly, inspirational... and all of that is in addition to some marvellous, sensitive and thought-provoking Speakers at our Monthly Meetings.

None of this, of course, happens by magic, and we are all indebted to the tireless efforts of, particularly, the Group Leaders and the Events Committee, all of whom deserve our deep appreciation and thanks. In addition, I am personally most grateful to all the members of the Dukeries U3A Committee who give of their time freely and unsparingly and whose work, most often behind the scenes and in the background, provides the engine without which this U3A would simply cease to function. In a similar vein, Pam Hardwick has worked tirelessly, raising very nearly £10,000 for our adopted Charity, the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance.

Finally, I should like to pay tribute to Members who have contributed immensely to the growth, life and development of our U3A and who have now left the Committee – Barbara Baglee, Ann Street, Leslye Henstock and James Bartlett – not forgetting our very good friend, Wendy Neighbour, who is sadly missed by us all.

My final thanks, though, must go to every single Member of the Dukeries U3A. Your good humour; your capacity for love and friendship; your readiness to make the best of things; your tolerance and understanding; your willingness to 'just give things a go' - and your support for me and for every Member of the Committee is very much appreciated by us all.

Let us raise a glass to the year just past – and to the year to come. May we all continue to enjoy having the Dukeries U3A as a focal point in our lives for a very long time! *Mike.*

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 11.30am Tuesday Lunch Club 12.30 for 1.00 pm	Bridge Group 1pm till 4pm Jubilee Hall Guitar Group 10.00 till 11.30am Ambleside	Ramblers 6-8 m 9.30 Jubilee Hall The Banjoleers Jubilee Hall 10am till 11.30am	Bridge Group 1pm till 4pm Jubilee Hall Guitar Group 10.00 till 11.30am Ambleside
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 Workshop 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



Deputy Chair

Maria Pitrolino-Baranauskas



Business Secretary

Julia Worthington

Treasurer

Jane Young



Website & Groups coordinator

Paul Webb



Membership

Sharon Jones



Newsletter Editor

John Harris



Health & Safety Officer

Chris Neighbour



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

Speaker of the Month...

**Peter Amour - Eastern Yorkshire by t'bike,
t'tandem, t'car and t'train**



Peter undertook multiple visits to the eastern Wolds and Moors of this the largest of the UK's counties. Follow the adventures of this group of (nearly all) pensioners cycling around the testing terrain (and beauty) of this very interesting county.

See how they progress while trying to grow older disgracefully! Peter's talk is interspersed with other visits during which other modes of transport are used, including steam trains.

Living in mid Derbyshire, Peter is an enthusiastic, experienced photographer who delivers fine illustrated talks about various locations inside and outside of the UK. He aims to enlighten and entertain audiences with details of the character, characters, nature and history of the places he has visited.

u3a Festival in Sherwood Forest

Wednesday June 17 2026

**Visitors Centre,
Edwinstowe, NG21 9RN**

10.30am–3.00pm

A free event open to all.

**Join us for games, musical performances
and guided walks.**

Cafe on site or bring your own picnic.

**For a fun filled day of entertainment,
great company and plenty of spaces to unwind and
enjoy the beauty of nature together**

**Please visit the Arts and Crafts Centre
and RSPB Gift Shop**

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North Notts Neighbourhood Group

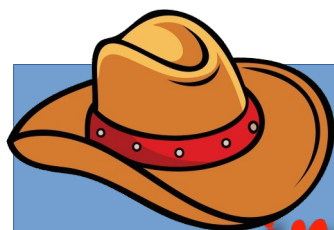
**Ashfield Bolsover Dukeries Forest Town Mansfield Rainworth
Retford Sherwood Sutton Warsop Worksop**

Enquiries: slhu3a@gmail.com www.rspb.org.uk



**All Day Car Parking £7
Free to RSPB Members**





Beginners Country & Western Group



If you have ever fancied yourself in a Country & Western band then this might be right for you.

Guitar players, banjo, mouth organ, fiddle, washboard players, no experience necessary. If you can make a noise in tune this is the group for you.... Contact

Paul Webb Email: paulmwebb@hotmail.com

Roy Haynes: haynesroy@gmail.com

07812 814240



Carter and the King

Who was Howard Carter and how did he find the tomb of Tutankhamun?

Come to the next History group meeting on **Wednesday 3rd June at 1:15pm** at **Ambleside** and find out.



All Welcome. £1.00



The play-reading group showing their support for England in the upcoming word Cup. Thanks go out to sue and nick of the play-reading group for organising this.





News from the Mah-jong group, this month Pam Hardwick, one of our group members managed to win Mah-jong four times in a row, this amazing feat is unprecedented. I had to search back through the records to discover if this had ever happened before. The records tell me the last time that this event took place was when the Chinese grand master Joe Pong Chow, managed it in Shanghai in 1933, although there has always been controversy over the result as it was known that Joe always played with a gun strapped to his thigh aimed at his opponents under the table. Which may have influenced the results of the games somewhat. Congratulations to Pam for achieving this tremendous score.

If you would like to find out more about this interesting and historically dangerous game why not come along on the second or forth Friday of the month to Ambleside at 10am and see if you would like it...or contact Val on 01623 631993

Guns not currently permitted.

MESSAGE FROM THE EVENTS TEAM

Anji, Chris, Jean, Leslye, Lis and Pam are concerned that Kevin is out-numbered on our team!

We would love two more men to join him, to contribute ideas and ensure a

male/female balance in our activities.
Could you give an hour per month to help?

Speak to any member of our jolly team or email Leslye on slhu3a@gmail.com

THANK YOU DAVE RYSZKA

Dave has been a volunteer in the Events Team for a few years! Always cheerful and helpful, Dave would do any task required for a meeting or event.

At the moment he needs to take a break from our team! You are always a joy to be with Dave and we will miss you! Don't be a stranger and come to be with us when you can!

*Thank you for your work and effort for our members
on behalf of
The Events Team!*



PAUL'S PIT STOP
PRESENTS

A CONCERT BY CANDLELIGHT SUNDAY 14 JUNE

Featuring special performances by

MAJOR OAK & CHRIS
POP CHOIR MIGGELS

Doors Open at 3.00pm

TICKETS
£15

Bar provided by Tuck's Brewery
Raffle

Thoresby Vale Workshop
NG21 9PS

For Tickets

e-mail: info.paulspitstop@gmail.com
Call text Jane on 07752 889813
Carol on 07494 252153

A trip to Barnsdale Gardens.

Now open to friends & family.

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/>



COME WITH US TO SCARBOROUGH FAIR!

DATE FRIDAY 10 JULY 2026

**COACH LEAVES JUBILEE HALL
8.00AM RETURN FROM
SCARBOROUGH 4.30PM**

STOP ONE. The Scarborough Fair Collection which hosts a magnificent working collection of Vintage Cars, Steam Engines, Vintage Fairground Rides and Mechanical Organs topped off with a 'Mighty' Wurlitzer Organ in the spacious ballroom.

STOP TWO. Scarborough – Free time to walk by the sea (or dip into it!), shopping, eat fish 'n chips and ice cream!

INCLUSIVE PRICE £20.00 per person £25.00 for Guests

Buy your seats at the Members Meeting Monday 15th June.

Pay on-line details below

DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP (U3A)

**30-54-66 A/C 47824960 REFERENCE SCARBO AND
YOUR NAME**

Email slhu3a@gmail.com

*This trip has been subsidised
by Dukeries U3A. The coach
company reserves the right
to add a fuel surcharge.*





FRIDAY 24 JULY
DUKERIES U3A
PRESENT

OUR EXCITING BEETLE DRIVE and GAMES NIGHT!

Jubilee Hall, Wellow Road, Ollerton, NG22 9AP

Doors open 6.00pm Choose your table, chatter
and drink

Take your seats by 6.30pm

Bring your own drinks, glasses and a pen

Nibbles served during the break

Beetle is good fun. All games easy to play

Full instructions will be given on the night

Come and join in! Live Laugh Learn!
Guests are most welcome

Prizes for the winners

Charity Raffle £1 per ticket

This is a Ticket Only Event
Members £5 Guests £6

TICKETS ON SALE AT THE 15th June
MEMBERS' MEETING.



Or pay online, details below,

Reference, Beetle and your Name.



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
THE RETURN OF

THE JUKEBOX JURY SHOW!!!

THIS YEAR FEATURING THE 70'S

MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2026

JUBILEE HALL, OLLERTON

Doors will open 12.15 2 Course Lunch with tea and
coffee served 12.45



Jukebox Jury Show 2.00pm

Tickets will be on sale 15th June.

At the Members' Meeting.

**Or pay online, details below, Please reference DUKEBOX
and your name..**

*'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 15th June

Email slhu3a@gmail.com

Car Sharing Possible

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

Payment online, see details below,

Reference, PANTO and your name.

Paying online.

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.

Some of the Pots decorated at
our recent pottery painting
evening at the Sherwood Forest
Arts and Crafts Centre



The Dukeries Singers.

Where We Stand: A Song, A Town, A Shared Story

The Dukeries Singers are immensely proud and excited to share a very special moment in our musical journey. Thanks to the generosity and vision of Live & Local, and Newark and Sherwood DC, we were commissioned to perform a brand-new song written especially for us, one that tells the story of Ollerton, its people, and the ground beneath our feet.

We first had the honour of singing this work at the St George's Day Celebrations in Ollerton on 26 April 2026, and from the opening bars it was clear that this was something extraordinary. The occasion was made even more special by the presence of the composer herself, as singer-songwriter Amy Kakoura joined us to premiere her own work, bringing added depth and authenticity to the performance.

Where We Stand, written by Amy Kakoura, captures the spirit of Ollerton with warmth, honesty and deep affection. Rather than simply recounting events, the song gently weaves together generations of lived experience. It speaks of labour and craft, of roads laid and railways forged, of close-knit communities shaped by industry and care. It remembers the hop fields and the River Maun, ever moving, never waiting, mirroring the passage of time itself.

The song honours the women and men whose skills filled factories and workshops, and it reflects on family life bound together through the colliery and beyond. Running through it all is a powerful sense of place: how paths meet, how names endure, and how history leaves its imprint while still allowing space for change.

The sentiment of the song is both poignant and uplifting. It reminds us that we are all echoes of what has gone before, shaped by those who walked these paths earlier, yet still responsible for how we move forward. It is a celebration of shared identity of standing together in the present while acknowledging the tides of history that brought us here.

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Live & Local for commissioning such a meaningful piece, and our sincere gratitude to Amy Kakoura for creating a work that feels so true to Ollerton and so fitting for The Dukeries Singers. Her writing is sensitive, thoughtful and deeply resonant, and we are honoured to bring her music to life.

We are delighted to announce that Where We Stand will be included in our forthcoming concerts, alongside a joyful selection of music from the musicals through the years. Both performances promise an uplifting afternoon of song and shared celebration. We will be joined by two fantastic flautists, adding extra colour and sparkle to the programme, and we are also thrilled to feature a saxophone instrumental, bringing a rich and expressive voice to the afternoon's music.

Upcoming Concerts

Saturday 6 June 2026, 2.30 pm

The Village Hall, Edwinstowe

Saturday 13 June 2026, 2.30 pm

Jubilee Hall, Ollerton

Tickets: £10.00 (including afternoon tea)

An unmissable afternoon of music, community and celebration. We would love you to join us as we continue to share this remarkable new song and stand together, past, present and future, through music.

For more information: John Banbury 07759 086132

john@asherwood.co.uk

SAVOY

Workshop

Thursday 11th June

When Rick, a past-his-prime wedding singer, meets fading boy-band star Danny during a gig, the two bond over music and a late-night jam session. But when Danny turns one of Rick's songs into the hit that reignites his career, Rick sets out to reclaim the recognition he believes he deserves -- even if it means risking everything he cares about.

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...

Air Ambulance



At our AGM on Monday there was no need for a members' vote for a change in our chosen charity as no objections had been received.

I gave my annual report as follows:-

At last year's AGM I reported an overall donation totalling **£8,283.27**

This year we added £1,473.23 from our usual fundraising activities

So our grand total now stands at **£9,756.50**

We had a small sale of plants at the meeting and a donation from my gardening friends brought this months total to **£71.50** and so begins a new challenge.....**£10,000** Thank you so very much on behalf of the LNAAC

Pam and Chris Charity Coordinators

Air Ambulance News.

[Click Here](#)

Air Ambulance Donations, after the AGM....

Hello Sally,

We have just held our AGM and the good news is that we are continuing for another year to donate to the LNAAC as our chosen charity. So you will have to put up with me for at least one more year.

We had a small sale of plants which raised £16 Sylvia's garden group raised £50.50 And a donation of £5 from April was forthcoming.

No doubt you will be sending Sylvia your usual lovely email for her to share within the group.

So I have just forwarded £71.50 to your account.

Best wishes

Pam

Dukeries u3a charity coordinator

Hi Pam,

Wow! That's amazing news, thank you all so much for your continued support for another year, it's much appreciated by us all.

I will process asap and thank Sylvia as well.

Kind regards, Sally

Sally Mundy, Supporter Engagement Manager

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...](#)

**DUKERIES U3A WHAT'S ON FROM THE EVENTS TEAM 2026
OUR SPECIAL EVENT ON OUR DOORSTEP**

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE

U3A FESTIVAL IN SHERWOOD FOREST (FREE EVENT)

10.30 UNTIL 3.30PM

MUSIC, GAMES, BRING CHAIRS AND PICNICS, HOT AND COLD
FOOD AVAILABLE TO BUY

FRIDAY 19 JUNE TRIP TO BARNSDALE GARDENS (TICKET EVENT)

**FRIDAY 10 JULY SCARBOROUGH (SUBSIDISED FOR DUKERIES
MEMBERS)**

VISIT SCARBOROUGH FAIR VINTAGE COLLECTION OF VEHICLES,
CAROUSELS AND ORGANS

FREE TIME IN SCARBOROUGH COACH TRAVEL

ALL THIS FOR ONLY £20!!! BOOK EARLY! GUESTS £25

FRIDAY 24 JULY BEETLE DRIVE AND BEATLES MUSIC SOCIAL

6.00PM JOIN DU3A FRIENDS TO PLAY BEETLE, ENJOY A
NOSTALGIC EVENING, CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES
SNACKS SERVED, BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

TICKETS £5 GUESTS £6

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY JUNE 15 AT THE MEMBERS' MEETING.

**MONDAY 17 AUGUST LUNCH AND JUKE BOX JURY 70'S SHOW
(TICKET EVENT)**

DOORS OPEN 12.30 2 COURSE LUNCH, TEA AND COFFEE,
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

FOLLOWED BY THE JUKE BOX JURY 70'S SHOW

£15 PER TICKET PUT YOUR NAME DOWN FOR THE JURY!

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY JUNE 15 MEETING

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER SUPPER AND QUIZ NIGHT
(TICKET EVENT) TBC

MONDAY 14 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
MORE DETAILS TO COME

MONDAY 21 DECEMBER CINDERELLA PANTOMIME, PALACE
THEATRE MANSFIELD

MEET IN FOYER AT 1.30pm FOR 2.00pm SHOW
TICKETS £25.50 LAST DATE FOR BUYING TICKETS JUNE 15

.All Tickets may be purchased online.

DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP (U3A)

Sort code **30-54-66** A/C **47824960**

Remember to reference the event and your name on the
payment.

Email Leslye on slhu3a@gmail.com to confirm payment.

Payments secure places on all events!

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...



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

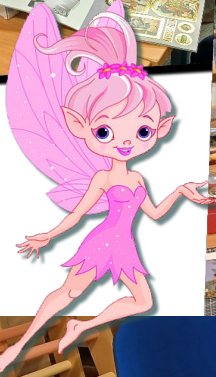
Just in case...

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 !



Dukeries u3a Bowling Group



If you have never tried green bowling before, or you are keen to get started for the new season, Ollerton Bowling Club, Whinney Lane, Ollerton have invited us to use their facilities again this year. No experience is necessary as instruction can be provided by the friendly members of the Bowling Club. All equipment will be provided, or you can bring your own if you have it. You will need to wear flat shoes. Dukeries Bowling

Group will start on Wednesday, 13th May with further sessions every two weeks after that. The playing day/time is Wednesdays from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. There is a charge of £4.00 for each session which includes a cuppa and biscuits during the half time break. Free car parking is available.

**For further information contact Alan Saunders
on 01623 631993**

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/>



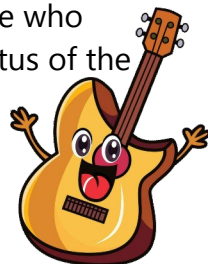
**2nd & 4th Tuesday at Ambleside Centre,
10 till 11.30pm.**

The group goes from strength to strength.

When someone suggested we started a guitar group, never in my wildest dreams did I think we would get to 13 members but that's where we stand at present. I honestly thought that we would max out at 6 or 7 but it seems there are more 'Closet' guitar players in the Dukeries than I ever imagined. At least 4 of our group were not members of the U3A prior to joining the Guitar Group.

Now getting that number of guitars (well 11 guitars a Bass and a Vocalist) to play together and sound reasonable is not as easy as with Ukuleles or Banjoleles we are finding. So for the minute we are going to put the group onto a Waiting List Status. I will still take calls and enquiries and will keep details of people who express an interest then I will let them know if the status of the group changes.

Many thanks for your support.



Phil 07980 601 018

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



When

Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Doors open 1.15pm, **Start 1.30pm to 3.30pm**

Where

The Ambleside Centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton, NG22 9UW

What to expect

Discover the joy of play reading

Meet like minded people

A friendly & welcoming atmosphere

Readings of classic, comedy, contemporary and home grown plays

No experience necessary – just bring your enthusiasm

Refreshments provided

For further information

Contact Leslye on slhu3a@gmail.com 07946 702296 or speak with any member of the play reading group.

Ramblers Rambles



The Ramblers have had a busy May with several of our members away on lovely holidays as the season begins.

Stephen & I missed the first walk of the month as we were in Normandy and Brittany on a cycling holiday, so the first walk of the month was led by Laurie Patterson who did a fab job taking the group over to Gunthorpe and walking through some pretty villages and back along the Trent.

This is a walk that we used to do twice a year so it is good to see it back on the agenda.

Our second walk was a bit like taking a holiday on the Isle of Man, we had every season in one morning, we started off from the car park at Vicar Water in misty rain, went into the forest and it was very misty but not raining, then finished the walk in lovely sunshine.

Stephen chose this walk as we would be under trees if the heavens did decide to open so we were lucky.!

Our next walk is on 2nd June, venue still to be decided.

All the best

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.

It's a while since I updated the Rummikub information.
There are still 9-12 of us who meet and keep our little grey
cells ticking over, and if you feel you would like to join us
you would be most welcome. We meet on the 2nd and 4th
Wednesday of the month, 2.00- 4.00 pm at Ollerton House.
No charge, just buy a drink, or maybe treat yourself to
lunch.

Cheer's Linda Bond
01623 861595)



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



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.u3asite.uk'."/>

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,
Dukeries.u3asite.uk



**Second & fourth 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**

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



Our next Sunday Lunch is at the Dog and Duck on the 28th June at 12.30

Anyone wanting to join us please get in touch at the latest 22nd June.... pre-orders and deposits required beforehand.

Maria Pitrolino

07904 269549



Tuesday Lunch

Open to all, for more information contact Beryl on

07967 801467 Or email golferberyl@yahoo.co.uk

June 2nd Bella Vita, Ollerton





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....

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.



Our last walk in April was this lovely circular walk around Bothamsall and Elkesley wood on a pleasant sunny day the fragrant bluebells were spectacular we saw Reindeers, Alpacas and two friendly horses. We ended with refreshments at Thaymar one of our favourite places.

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

I know in theory we meet to practise or learn to play our ukuleles, but more importantly, we meet old friends, make new friends and enjoy our time together. The ukulele is such a 'joyful ' instrument, and we leave each Thursday with a smile on our faces after a 'fun' get-together. We are now a group of over 30 players of varying age and skill levels, from an 80 year+ member who has just started to learn to play, to very experienced players who have been playing over 20 years. After our very successful, whole day Ukulele Jamboree, we are now preparing to entertain the general public and other U3A Groups at the North Notts U3A Festival in June. Hopefully we shall see you there.

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.

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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