



Have you ever wondered what long, hot summers – like the one we are currently experiencing – are actually for? Aside from the opportunity to act as unpaid grandchild minders, or to queue to give your fingerprints at foreign airports, or to watch interminable reruns of 'Pointless' with the curtains drawn to keep out the heat, that is?

Let me re-introduce you to the joys of reading – which seems to me to be at least as engaging, as useful, as entertaining, as stimulating and as relaxing a use of these halcyon days as any other – and, perhaps, more than most. So, where to start?

If I might be presumptuous, here are six books which I have thoroughly enjoyed and which I would recommend to you without any reservation at all. In no particular order, my 'Good Reads for the Summer' are –

'Pride and Prejudice' – Jane Austen. If you enjoyed 'The Other Bennett Girl' or 'Bridgerton' on the TV, this may suit you down to the ground.

'Jane Eyre' – Charlotte Bronte. Love, passion...and a madwoman in the attic. Far superior to her sister's 'Wuthering Heights', in my opinion.

‘The Old Man and the Sea’ – Ernest Hemingway. Man versus Shark – and the triumph of the human spirit.

‘Lonesome Dove’ – Larry McMurtry. One of the great American novels of the Old West telling the epic tale of a cattle drive. Simply a masterpiece. If you enjoy a good Western, then this is certainly for you.

‘Troy’ and ‘Odyssey’ – Stephen Fry. If you have seen Christopher Nolan’s recent film, ‘The Odyssey’, and would like to delve a little deeper into the world of the Greeks and the Trojans, then Stephen Fry’s masterly retelling of the events in Homer’s ‘Iliad’ and ‘Odyssey’ could be just what you are looking for.

Happy reading – but don’t forget that your U3A also has much to offer you this month – including The Jukebox Jury show on Monday August 17th. Just to remind you, ‘Juke Box Jury’ replaces our normal Monthly Meeting, and you must have a ticket to get in to see the show, which is unfortunately now sold out

See you all in September! Mike Mounsey



Important Notice.

No members meeting on Monday 17th August

This day is our annual summer celebration.

This year it is a lunch followed by the Jukebox Jury 70s show, ticket only, which is now sold out.

Monthly Activity Table

	First in Month	Second in Month	Third in Month	Forth 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	Ukulele group 10.00 to 12.00pm Jubilee Hall	Ukulele group 10.00 to 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 in the month 12.30 for 1pm
Green Bowling every Friday 1.15 to 3.30pm

Committee 2025-26

Chair, Publicity & Press

Mike Mounsey



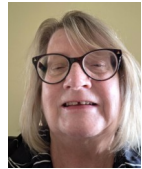
Deputy Chair

Sharon Thornhill



Business Secretary

Julia Worthington



Treasurer

Jane Young



Website & Groups coordinator

Paul Webb



Membership

Sharon Jones



Newsletter Editor

John Harris



**Health & Safety Officer &
Deputy Chair**

Chris Neighbour



Social Media

Position Vacant

Non Committee Roles

Co-ordinator Charity Donations

Pam Hardwick



Speaker Finder

Ann Street



Events Team Co-ordinator

Leslye Henstock



Minute Taker

Sue Cook



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

Sold Out

Scarborough



Our trip to Scarborough turned out to be one amazing day. First, we had wall to wall sunshine which is a big plus when visiting the seaside. Secondly the Fairground museum, our first port of call, was completely unexpected. Right in the front of the first display was my Lambretta scooter decorated with pictures from Quadrophenia the rock musical film starring 'The Who', soon to be followed with examples of my first car and the car I learnt to drive in. A brilliant start from my point of view, and then on to the fairground rides.

There was a Carousel, Bumper Cars, a Cake Walk and a Ghost Train, all of which you could ride. Penny Slot machines, Distorting Mirrors and many static displays to see along with a fine collection of old cars, lorries, buses and fairground generator vehicles and fairground organs. Another complete surprise was a full scale sprung dance floor and two Wurlitzer theatre organs both of which were used by a very capable organist who played dancehall tunes while visiting couples danced.

I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Then back to the coach and on to Scarborough sea front for refreshments. It was exceedingly sunny and warm on the front and it being lunch time, what better than a restaurant, upstairs, with a wide-open window facing the sea. Within a short walk, we found exactly that and settled down to fish & chips washed down with generous glasses of wine while the world sailed or walked by viewed through the window. 'Magic.'

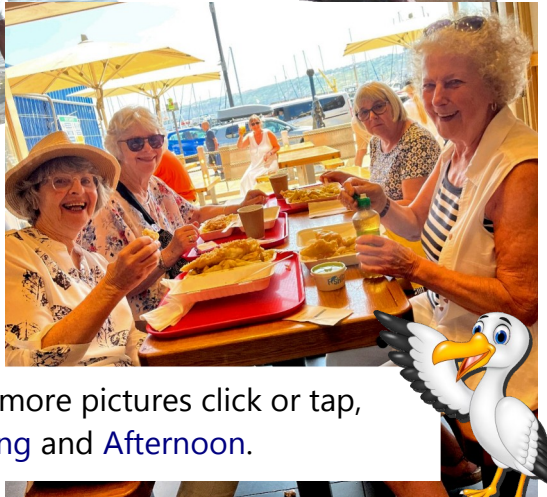
Suitably refreshed a walk along the front was in order and being at the seaside you have to have an ice-cream, don't you? And further along a doughnut? Well, I did, I could always sleep it off on the way back....

It was a perfect day which I won't forget for a long time. So, a big thank you to Leslye and the events team for a perfect u3a day out.



John Harris

Scarborough



Many more pictures click or tap,
Morning and Afternoon.





A French Evening.....



Why not come and Join us at the Crew Yard, Budby for an evening meal with a French flavour. This is a repeat of a very successful evening we did some years ago at the same venue. It's the same chef so it should be a very enjoyable meal.

Friday 2nd October

The location is the Crew Yard Cafe & Bistro, Budby, NG22 9EX. <https://budbyantiques.co.uk/>

Arrive 6.30 for 7pm.

Three courses of delicious food for £30
Special dietary requirements - no problem.

Choose your food and buy your ticket at the meeting
Monday 21st September *Menu next page.*

Car sharing is possible!
Any questions contact Jean Parry-Williams
01623 861832





MENU FOR A FRENCH EVENING.

STARTERS

- S1** Smoked salmon pate with rainbow pickles GF
- S2** Caramelized onion crostini VEGAN
- S3** Garlic and herb creamy mushrooms with crouton VEGETARIAN

MAINS

- M1** Chicken Fricassee Pie with puff pastry top (French chicken casserole – chicken thighs, small onions and mushrooms in a creamy sauce) GF
- M2** Harissa Fish Pie (king prawn, smoked haddock, cod in a spicy sauce topped with paprika and cumin sweet potatoes) GF
- M3** Mushroom Bourguignon (a variety of mushroom types cooked in a 'creamy' sauce) VEGAN/VEGETARIAN

All the above are served with roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables

DESSERTS

- D1** Mixed berry Roulade with summer fruit coulis GF
- D2** Tiramisu. VEGAN available
- D3** Deconstructed Spiced plum crumble with plum cream VEGAN

Beatles Galore.

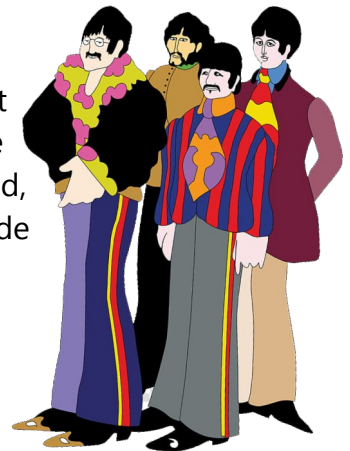


One evening in July about forty-five members settled down.... not quite the right words, for a Beetle Drive and Games night, for, as usual, it was a riot of laughter and arguments over who had thrown what on the dice and which table they should move too at the end of a round. Sometimes the noise was such that I could hardly hear the cry of 'Beetle' when somebody managed to complete one. The energy and excitement these competitions generate would heat the average house for a week, if only it could be harnessed. Refreshments followed, and an anagram competition which floored me completely. Spelling was never my forte, hard to believe, I know, since I produce the newsletter, which would be impossible, for me, without Spell Checker.

The evening wound up with a Beatles music quiz with intros from Beatles tunes played by Phil Topley and Kev Vere, on their guitars. Many members sang along to the old familiar tunes from fifty odd years ago, the songs are still there, lodged in the memory, I'm sure Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr must realise the impact they had on young people at the time, what a legacy. After that there was nothing left but to clear away the tables and sweep up the dozens of one eyed, three legged, tailless beetles that never made it to win the round.

Three cheers for the entertainments committee for another most enjoyable evening...

John Harris





Is there anyone amongst our members who is familiar with posting on Facebook and would like to have a go at driving our Facebook page? Our page is currently maintained by our Web Manager & Newsletter Editor who will give full support and would initially supply most of the information to be posted with plenty of scope for additional input from the new FB manager.

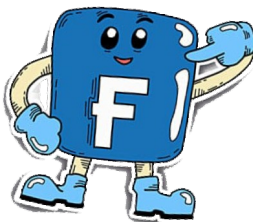
Our FB page has proven to be a very useful way of attracting new members and could be an interesting project for somebody.

Here is a link to the site, have a look and see what you think...

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

If you would like to have a go contact John Harris.

jghollerton@gmail.com



Ramblers Rambles



We have managed two fabulous walks in beautiful walking weather in July .Our first walk was undertaken with the "heatwave" in mind and we walked through Sherwood Forest,where there is plenty of shade, to the Major Oak and then round via the National Cycle Trail and back into Edwinstowe for a well earned cool drink. We had heard the news that the Major Oak had been declared dead but it was so sad to see it in such a pitiful state, I can recall climbing inside it as a child on visits to the forest. What a loss to our local legend status! Our second walk was a new one for some of us, we started from the Hop Pole Pub near Clarbrough in Retford and walked down a very interesting path (see photo of a very brave Maeve getting through.) We then came onto the canal towpath where our member Bev saw a pike landed by a fisherman for the first time, and back to the Hop Pole for a very tasty lunch and a well earned drink.



Regards, Stephen & Kate.



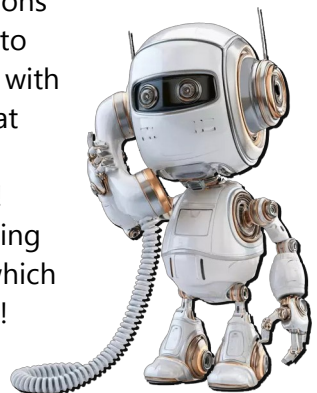
OH - FOR A HUMAN-BEING !

My list of irritations is long, which probably means I am becoming old and cantankerous! Is it just me, or do others now find some everyday jobs arduous and infuriating ? For instance, simple tasks like making phone calls are not as pain-free as they once were ! In fact, they can prove to be quite the opposite- and come to think of it, most people I have spoken to about this seem to agree !

I like to think that I am a happy, optimistic sort of person, and when I pick up the phone to make a call, I don't wish anybody harm. I wish them joy and want to say "Good Morning " in a cheerful voice and have a productive conversation with the person on the other end of the line – a conversation which has a satisfactory conclusion - well, any conclusion would be something ! Is that really too much to ask ?

However, today, making a phone call has all the virtues of a military campaign ! It is advisable to settle down with a warm rug, something alcoholic and a selection of sandwiches and, thus prepared, you are ready for the fray. You dial the appropriate number. Having done this, there is usually a wait, as nobody answers, or worse still, some robotic voice does answer, to inform you that you are currently no 27 in the queue, in which case a very long wait follows and you are glad of the snack !

Otherwise, an automated message gives instructions to press various buttons in order to connect you to the right department. After this, you are deluged with endless repetitive music, and gradually realise that you are failing to achieve any useful purpose. 20 minutes of your life later, you lose the will to live! Even more annoying is the fact that the music being played, may well be a piece that you really like, which means that thereafter, you hate it with a passion !



Every 30 seconds, a patronising voice thanks you for being patient and informs you that your call is very important - and will be dealt with as soon as possible. Your blood starts to boil ! You start to utter expletives - at first under your breath, but then shamelessly out loud ! You work yourself up into a frothing frenzy and want to inflict pain and torture !

All this means that by the time you do make contact with a human-being, you have become rude, abusive, completely obnoxious and probably drunk ! You no longer care about the purpose of your call, in fact you have probably forgotten all about it - all you are interested in now is making the recipient suffer horribly !

Just to make matters worse, on the occasion when you do control your anger sufficiently, and have actually managed to explain the reason for your call, you may be told, in a coldly clinical tone, that a phone call was unnecessary, as you must complete this task on line. "Good day" !

Apparently, reasons given for these inconvenient delays in answering calls are many, with two main ones at the top of the list. Firstly, companies only want to employ a minimum number of switchboard staff in order to keep their costs down, and obviously this leads to unmanageable numbers of incoming calls at peak times - and secondly, there are constant faults with the technology involved, which causes major hitches on a daily basis! Therefore , I wonder what has been gained by this so-called advance in communication because it seems to me that there is very little advantage at all - certainly not for the likes of me!

In conclusion, I am only surprised that we aren't all in a home for the bewildered !! How I yearn for the days when phone calls were answered swiftly by a helpful body, who dealt with requests or problems efficiently and in civilised fashion!

Isn't that what everybody desires ? Where did it all go wrong ?

Georgina Batty



*'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 £25.50 GREAT SEATS

A few places remain,

Email Leslye slhu3a@gmail.com

Car Sharing Possible

**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, JUKEBOX ALAN BROWN

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.

History Group

Dear All, the history group met on July 1st at Ambleside to discuss the future of the group. It was lovely, lively chat with lots of ideas.

No one has currently stepped forward to lead the group at the moment.

We have decided to continue the group but in a different way, the group will become a general discussion group with John Harris listed as the group leader but he will not be preparing anything each month, instead we will start with a new interest group name (maybe Social Discussion Group) any group name ideas welcome, we will meet at Ambleside on the first Wednesday of each month from 1.15 until 3 (as per the history group) and everyone will be encouraged to contribute.

At the end of each meeting we will decide on the topic or subject for the next meeting which will take the pressure off just one person.

Things that can be brought to the meeting include the following, but anything goes.

Show and tell History Objects Holidays / Photos Experiences Thoughts Education Quiz Music Trips/walks Wine tasting etc, etc.

The next meeting will be on **5th August at 1.15 to 3 at Ambleside**, the initial topic will be **interesting newspaper articles** to discuss as a starting point so please bring anything along.

The room should be set up as a round table format so we can all see each other.

Things will hopefully evolve over time. *Paul*

The group meets on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at Ambleside Community centre, Yew Tree Road, Ollerton from **1.15 to 3pm** £1 for refreshments

Air Ambulance



What an amazing time at our "All things Beatle" evening. There were times when we couldn't hear ourselves think through the laughter and jolly conversation. Another resounding success Leslye, thank you to all of the events team for your hard work.

Of course we had a raffle; prizes were donated by you all, our generous members, and the ticket sales amounted to **£147.00** how amazing was that!!!

This month the Allsorts group donated **£65** through their various activities, a lovely member did a sewing job for a neighbour and donated a **£10** thank you from them. My gardening friends raised **£20** from the sale of plants and gardenalia and finally our monthly bring and buy table raised **£92.20**.

So tomorrow I will be transferring the mighty sum of **£334.20**. Your generosity never ceases to astonish me so a big big thank you to all of you from Chris and myself. And now..... brace yourselves the total amount raised by Dukeries u3a and friends stands atdrum roll please..... **£10,270.20** yesten thousand, two hundred and seventy pounds and twenty pence. So be proud my friends you are all stars thank you.

Air Ambulance News.

[Click Here](#)

Chris and Pam xxx Charity Coordinators

THANK YOU

Dukeries U3A

FOR YOUR TOTAL DONATIONS OF

£10,270.20 To Date.

JULY 2026

Karen Jobling

KAREN JOBLING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

01522 548469 | enquiries@ambucopter.org.uk
ambucopter.org.uk



LINCS & NOTTS
AIR AMBULANCE

Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance Charity | Registered Charity No. 1145284



Day of Lincolnshire Folk

**FREE
EVENT**

**Sunday
August 2nd, 2026**

11am till dusk

**in the grounds of
LEADENHAM HOUSE**

LN5 0PU

**Stables Stage, Four Counties Stage,
Terrace Stage,
Leadenham Church,
Leadenham
Village Hall**

**Music,
Dance, Song
and Poetry**

**THE 16th
ANNUAL DAY OF
LINCOLNSHIRE FOLK**

Facebook: Day of Lincolnshire Folk



More info & a location map here... <https://www.lincssound.com/local/events/event/day-of-lincolnshire-folk/>

Jubilee Hall Upcoming Events (July 26)

Thursday 8th October at 7.30 – AWOL



Cyril doesn't like old people, which is a shame because he is one. When he learns his estranged granddaughter, Lily, has her big break with her thrash metal band, Abscess, he and his friend Neville are determined to show up and support her. Neither of them will ever be the same again.

Tickets from www.Ticketsource.co.uk/ollerton-village-jubilee-hall CASH BAR

Friday 6th November at 7.30 - The Lost Notes

"An eclectic blend of Americana, folk and country (laced, for good measure, with soul, gospel and jazz) ...stories each wrapped in a gilded coating of rich, gentle and perfectly balanced music... all done with sumptuous three-part vocal harmonies.

Tickets from www.Ticketsource.co.uk/ollerton-village-jubilee-hall CASH BAR



Sunday 22nd Nov.—Christmas Craft Fair. 11.00 till 3.00

Lots of craft, Gift and Card stalls in time to get your supplies for Xmas.

FREE parking and Free entry.



Coffee bar and tombola/raffle on the day (please bring some cash)

Friday 9th April— Victor and Albert (Purveyors of fine musical comedy)

A two-man modern variety show. Expect satirical songs, sketches, games, a quiz, classical music, mind-reading and even a sprinkling of magic. Join identical twins Professor Victor and Dr Albert for an evening of riotous comedy, original songs and laughter. A good old-fashioned two-man variety show brought kicking and screaming into the 21st Century

www.Ticketsource.co.uk/ollerton-village-jubilee-hall



CASH BAR



The Retford Lions



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Back by Popular Demand

Last Night of the Proms

Once Again Starring - Award Winners

HATFIELD & ASKERN



COLLIERY BRASS BAND



AGAIN BASS BARITONE MARTIN LAMB

Saturday 26th September 7pm

@ The Well. Hospital Rd. Retford DN22 7BD

Bring Your Own Drinks inc. Alcohol if desired

Doors open 6pm

Tickets £15

Tickets from Bob Crampton 07815-473802 (no Fee)

Tickets at: www.wegotickets.com (10% fee)



Your chance to learn more about the story of
"On Freedom's Wings"



Photos by Claire Hartley Photography

On Freedom's Wings is an iconic landmark recently unveiled on the Lincolnshire/ Nottinghamshire border.

The full-size statue of the Lancaster Bomber pays tribute to the aircrew who lost their lives serving their country during World War II.

It is more than a sculpture. It is a beacon of remembrance, a symbol of sacrifice, and a celebration of heritage.

It serves as a constant reminder of the courage, loss, and legacy of Bomber Command.

Inspire Culture are delighted to host a touring exhibition and associated events throughout 2026.

In partnership with The Bomber Gateway Trust - On Freedom's Wings and Motorfinity

Exhibition dates -

Arnold Library - 12th June to the 22nd July 2026

Hucknall Library - 4th August to the 26th September 2026 including a talk about the project on the 22nd September 2026 2.00 till 3.30 p.m.

Mansfield Central Library - 1st October to the 15th November 2026 including a talk about the project on the 20th October 2026 2.00 - 3.30 p.m.

Worksop Library - 18th November to the 23rd December 2026

SAVOY

Workshop

I'm sorry to have to pass on the news that the Savoy Cinema has withdrawn the monthly u3a film show with immediate effect.

The company say the attendance in recent times has not been sufficient to allow it to continue. I suspect the cause may have something to do with the selection of films offered wasn't likely to appeal to u3a members. Whatever the reason, unfortunately the cinema group run by Workshop u3a is currently closed.

John Harris

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...



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. It doesn't have it's own website but you can find links to other local groups on this Website.

<https://nottsnetworkofu3as.u3asite.uk/our-u3as/>



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**

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

FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER A FRENCH EVENING. THREE COURSE MEAL
AT THE CREW YARD, BUDBY. 6.30 FOR 7PM. £30 PER PERSON.

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!

Interest Group Leaders

All Sorts/Gardening	Sharon Thornhill	07739 003251
Bridge	Georgina Batty	07772 649281
Bowling	Chris Williams	01623 631993
Banjoleers & Guitar	Phil Topley	07980601018
Creative Writing	Mike Mounsey	01623 824789
History/Social Discussion	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

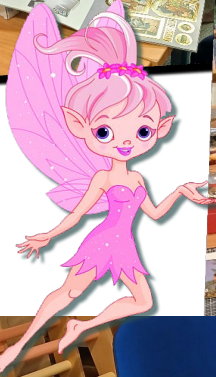
Just in case...

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



The Banjoleers

A picture 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

Sessions are every Fridays 1.15 for 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

Chris Williams Tel: 07873 172406

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



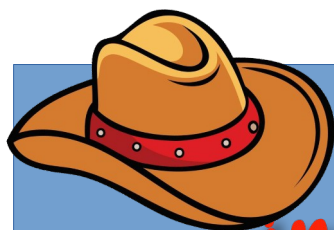
**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NETWORK**

NEWSBITES!

Sharing ideas across 34 u3a's in Nottinghamshire

*Click on the link for the
latest Newsbites*

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



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





**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.

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 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 Christine Yates

01623 422113

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

Sunday 24th August.

The venue is,

The Larch Farm.

<https://www.thelarchfarm.com/>

*Sue Cook will be taking names
and deposits for the time being.*



Maria Pitrolino 07904 269549



Tuesday Lunch

Open to all, for more information **contact Beryl on**

07967 801467 Or email golferberyl@yahoo.co.uk

Nineteen of us had a lovely lunch at Rufford park golf club and enjoyed coffee overlooking the course.

The next venue is the **Devonshire at langwith on Tuesday 4th August**

Regards

Beryl



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....**



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.



Another beautiful walk from the Jug and Glass in Langwith to Poulter Park followed by some lovely meals in the pub, windy but warm for walking, much better than the recent heat. Thank you John and Hazel 😊 *Paul Webb*

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

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/>

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.

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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