



September. The start of Autumn, the time when shorts and summer shirts go back in the wardrobe and 'proper food' – wholesome stews, jacket potatoes and delicious cups of soup – emerges from the pantry like old friends.

What does September mean for you? For me, September has always been the start of a new Academic Year. In younger days, it meant catching the train from Darlington Station, crossing London to Paddington by Tube and then onward to school in Deepest, Darkest Berkshire. What pressing questions crowded my tiny mind on that long journey to the great unknown of a new year at boarding school, far from the comforts and security of home and the people I was closest to, I wonder? Thankfully, time has obliterated many of those concerns – so crucially important in the moment, of course – but I can distinctly remember keeping my fingers well and truly crossed that I would get into the Rugby XV!

When I became a teacher myself, there were always the elements of excitement and anticipation at the beginning of each School Year. New faces, new names to learn; new texts to teach, new skills to impart; new opportunities to learn from – not just teach – students; new chances to work collaboratively with colleagues, and, simply, lots of time to put things right. As you can imagine, there were challenges a-plenty – but there was always a lot of fun to be had from resolving problems, and the look on a student's face once the light had dawned was always richly rewarding.

So, what plans do you have for September, once the grandchildren have gone back to school, the nights start drawing in, Strictly returns and a nice cup of bedtime cocoa beckons you? Last month I recommended hunkering down with a good book in the heat, but now the weather appears to be cooling, what about trying something new with our U3A? As always, there is lots on offer and, hopefully, at least something to tempt you off the settee.

What about learning a new musical skill, such as playing the guitar, the banjo or the ukulele? Or dusting off those walking boots and joining one of our rambling groups? Why not get things off your chest in our new Discussion Group, or polish up your writing skills in our Creative Writing class? Bridge is always looking for new members, and Sharon Thornhill's All Sorts & Gardening Group really does have something for everybody. Oh, and don't forget all the appetising events that Leslye and her team continue to organise for our delight.

Details of all of these activities – and many more – can be found within the pages of this magazine. Happy Reading – and enjoy the new year!

Mike



Speaker for September

Sandy Leong - Stories from the edge - Life and Culture in Greenland's Remote Communities



Greenland is a self-governing part of the Kingdom of Denmark, blending ancient traditions with modern independence. Join Sandy for a captivating journey through Greenland's vibrant capital, Nuuk, and its smaller, remote communities. Along the way, we'll explore unique cultural treasures like the fascinating Stone Man Exhibition, where an entire town transforms into an open-air sculpture gallery, bringing Greenland's rich history and creativity to life.

Sandy is a member of the Royal Historical Society, telling stories to bring history to life and is a lively and entertaining speaker. She is a professional speaker, and published author, married to a Malaysian, spending time living and working in the UK & Malaysia. She has had a lifelong career as an educator and developer of people; she is a qualified teacher. We last saw Sandy on one of our Zoom talks, it's great to have her visit Dukeries u3a in person.

Ann Street

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

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Chris Neighbour



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Non Committee Roles

Co-ordinator Charity Donations

Pam Hardwick



Speaker Finder

Ann Street



Events Team Co-ordinator

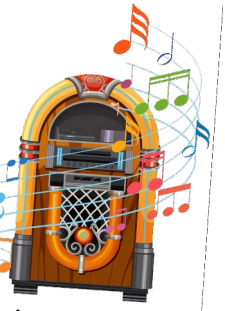
Leslye Henstock



Minute Taker

Sue Cook

The Jukebox Jury Show !!



Another cracking entertainment put on by your entertainments committee. Sixty odd members where treated to a first rate lunch, washed down with quantities of fruit punch and thanks to four of our members and the DJ, entertained with a selection of records from the 1970's. The Jury mostly disagreed as to whether they were hits or misses, so the audience where required to make the final decision. It was great to hear that familiar theme tune from the show gain, I was a great fan and watched regularly many moons ago.

Here is a link to some video I took on the day....

<https://youtu.be/MYAOGnfoLEE>

And a link to photos on our website...

<https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/juke-box-jury-1970-edition/>



John Harris

STARS IN OUR U3A !!!

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to
Anji Emmingham, Mal Richardson, Colin Barret
and Richard Emmingham

who were absolutely brilliant jurors on the Juke Box Jury
Panel in August.

These members took us back to the 1970's with their witty
comments and considered opinions, creating an entertaining
experience for the audience to enjoy.

Thanks also to members of The All Sorts Group who created
flowers and to Liz, Pam, Leslye, Kevin, John, Anji, Paul and
Richard for organising and setting up the event.

Members enjoyed the complimentary drinks and pre-show
lunch before relaxing and imagining they were back in the
1970's decade.

Presenter Roger Prestcott Caterers Culinary Delights

Photos available on Dukeries u3a website

<https://dukeries.u3asite.uk/juke-box-jury-1970-edition/>





A French Evening.....



Please 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 chief so it should be a very enjoyable meal.

**Now open to friends who
are not members of u3a!!**

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.*

Or contact Jean Parry-Williams

01623 861832

07809 876614





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

Supper!! & **QUIZ** NIGHT

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026

DOORS OPEN 5.15PM

HOT SUPPER SERVED 6.00PM

TICKETS £15 PER MEMBER



**ON SALE MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21
MONDAY 19 OCTOBER**

Also pay online

THE DUKERIES THIRD AGE GROUP

Sort Code 30-54-66 Account 47824960

REFERENCE QUIZ26 and YOUR NAME



**Bring £1 coins for
charity games, your
own drinks and a pen.**

*Are you coming
to the Dukeries u3a
Christmas Party!!*



Monday 14th December 2026

DOORS OPEN 12.45 BUFFET LUNCH 1.15

Charity Raffle & Entertainment!

**TICKETS ON SALE, MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 19 OCTOBER
AND 16 NOVEMBER**

**BOOK EARLY, TICKETS SELL FAST
TICKET PRICE TO BE CONFIRMED**



BOTTLE PRIZES NEEDED!

Notts Lincs Air Ambulance Charity

Have you something you could donate?

You may have unwanted bottles of alcohol
or other drinks

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

We will be playing charity games in November
at the Quiz Night.

Huge Raffle at the Christmas Party

Please bring your donations to the Members'
Meeting on

Monday 21 September or Monday 19 October

Or send/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

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 latest walk from the WhatsApp Walking Group was enjoyed at Holbeck and Cresswell Crag, a much cooler day and a short rain shower at the end. *Hazel.*

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.

Speaker Finder



Would you like to be our next Speaker Finder? Would you enjoy booking eight speakers a year who would be of interest to our members? After seven years in the role it's time for Ann Street to pass the baton on and she hopes you have appreciated the speakers she has booked for Dukeries u3a. There are plenty of resources to refer to including the Notts u3a Speaker Finder Email Group whose members recommend speakers to each other and Ann will pass on her files and be on hand to help. Our speakers are booked up to April 2027 so there is plenty of time to get used to the role. You do not need to be on the committee to fulfil the role but you do need to have internet access for research and correspondence. There is a Dukeries u3a PC available for the new Speaker Finder to use.



If you would like to takeover this role please get in touch with Ann or any committee member via the Dukeries u3a website or speak to Ann at the September members' meeting.

[Click or tap here for an email link to Ann through our website Contacts page. Look for Speaker Finder on the list.](#)



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.

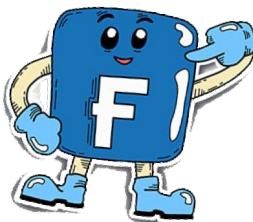
Our FB page has proven to be a very useful way of attracting new members and could be an interesting project for somebody.

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



*'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 **7th October at 1.15 to 3 at Ambleside,**

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

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

The Dukeries Singers.

Could Singing Change Your Life?

Have you ever found yourself singing along to the radio, humming in the garden, or joining in with carols at Christmas and thought, I'd love to sing in a choir. If so, The Dukeries Singers would love to meet you. Based in the heart of the Dukeries area, the choir is much more than a group of people who enjoy music. It is a friendly, welcoming community where friendships flourish, confidence grows, and every voice matters.

One of the things that makes The Dukeries Singers different is that there are no auditions, no music tests, and no pressure. All that is required is a willingness to come along and enjoy singing. Many members joined feeling nervous about whether they were 'good enough', to sing in a choir. They soon discovered that singing together is not about perfection. It is about enjoyment, companionship, learning new skills, and creating music as a team. Choir members often say that rehearsals are one of the highlights of their week, providing laughter, friendship, and a real sense of belonging. Under the guidance of experienced musical leadership, The Dukeries Singers perform a varied repertoire throughout the year, entertaining audiences at concerts and community events across the region. Yet despite their musical achievements, the choir remains firmly committed to its founding principle: everyone is welcome. Whether you are young or old, an experienced singer or someone who has never sung in a choir before, you will find a warm welcome waiting for you. So why not come along and see for yourself?

The Dukeries Singers are currently welcoming new members in all voice parts. If you enjoy singing, or would simply like to try something new, this could be the perfect opportunity.

For further information about rehearsal times and venues, please contact The Dukeries Singers or visit one of their rehearsals. A warm welcome awaits. **Contact John Banbury on 07759-086132.**

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

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

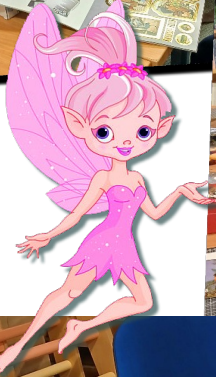
Just in case...

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

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

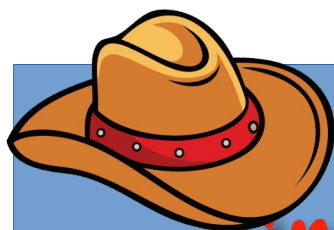
**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
NETWORK**

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.

Ramblers Rambles

For our first walk in August, we gathered in the Courtyard at Welbeck to enjoy a delightful summer walk around the historic Welbeck Estate. With clear skies and temperatures reaching 25°C, conditions were ideal for a leisurely exploration of this beautiful corner of Nottinghamshire.



Covering approximately 6.8 miles, the route led east towards South Tunnel Lodge, where the estate's rich heritage and peaceful surroundings provided an impressive start to the walk. From there, we turned north towards Worksop Manor, passing through open countryside and enjoying expansive views across the estate.

The final section headed west, following the gentle course of Millwood Brook back towards Welbeck. The contrast between the cool, shaded woodland and the open fields was particularly striking. While the brook continued to flow peacefully, many of the fields we crossed bore the effects of the prolonged dry spell, their sun-baked, parched ground providing a vivid reminder of the continuing lack of rainfall. Even so, the estate remained a pleasure to explore, with its blend of historic landmarks, mature woodland and tranquil waterways creating a memorable summer walk.

Returning to the Courtyard, we rounded off the afternoon with well-earned refreshments, enjoying the opportunity to relax, chat and reflect on another successful Ramblers outing.



After the long spell of hot weather, the lower temperatures and early morning breeze was very welcome for our second walk of the month.

Our ramble began on the Hexgreave Estate at Farnsfield and covered approximately 6 miles. The route continued south-east towards the deer park where we encountered a large herd of excited and slightly chaotic group of deer who provided a wonderful start to the walk.

We then left the estate and followed field paths towards Kirklington, crossing a footbridge over the River Greet. After passing the church at Kirklington, we continued southwards towards the railway station on the Southwell Trail.

From there, we turned east and made our way back towards Hexgreave for well-earned refreshments, including Jenny's delicious homemade flapjacks—a perfect reward after a great morning's walk!

Jacqui Petrovic

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

*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

Eleven came to the Devonshire.

The next venue is the **Rose Cottage at Rufford on Tuesday 1st September**

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

Jubilee Ukulele Group



Jubilee Ukulele Group, Dukeries U3A

The Jug's have had a busy, but rewarding few weeks. Since performing at the U3A festival we have played one Saturday and Sunday at the Woodland Festival in Thoresby Park and a Sunday in Clumber Park recently, which we all enjoyed, although the weather was so hot. September 4th, about a dozen of the group are off for a day out together, to join up and play with another ukulele group at Nettleton, Lincolnshire. We are looking forward to this. Next on the agenda will be preparing and practising for our annual charity 'fund raising' concert sing-along at the Jubilee Hall, Sunday 6th December 2.00pm-4.00pm. We love playing together, just for the fun of it, but it's also good to have something to work towards.

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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