Dukeries u3a
Learn, laugh & live.

Staying Connected.

No 80 October 2026



Let's talk money – specifically, the U3A Membership Fees (currently £20) you pay each year to retain membership of our organisation and the money you pay each time you attend a group activity. What happens to that money - and where does that money actually go?

As you would expect, there are a few answers to those questions. Administration takes a goodly slice of that money, especially the Capitation Fees that we pay directly to the U3A National Body and the rent we have to pay each month for the hire and use of the Jubilee Hall. Our Speakers each month come under the heading of regular expense, as does the need to renew licences and PAT testing of our electrical appliances. In addition, we are required to hold a Reserve Fund of £3700 (in line with Charity Commission expectations) in case of emergencies.

Other expenditure would include the purchase, maintenance and repair of equipment, travel expenses, and the provision (close to everybody's heart!) of refreshments for group and Monthly meetings. In addition, there are times when subsidies for events or activities need to be given from General Funds so that the occasion can be made affordable for Members.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

In terms of accessing U3A funds if you are a U3A Member, Group Leader or Committee Member, the process is very simple and now just involves completing a brief pro-forma in advance of the purchase or the finalising of the event which explains the purpose of your request. If you are looking for a grant above £20, your advance application will be vetted by the full U3A Committee. Pro-formas will be available on the website or directly from the Treasurer, Jane Young.

Much of the responsibility for ensuring that our financial affairs are in good order and up to date falls on the shoulders of our Treasurer Jane, and our Business Secretary, Jules Worthington, who, in turn, answer to our U3A Committee who are fully accountable to you – our Members - the U3A National Body and the Charities Commission who award us our charitable status

I do hope that this brief explanation helps to clarify the important issue of where the monies you give to the U3A, either as Subs or as payments at Group meetings, go to, but, if you still have queries, please do not hesitate to contact a Committee Member – details are within this edition of 'Staying Connected' - or just collar us if you see us around!

Mike



Speaker for October



Helen, CEO of the Sherwood Forest Trust, joins us to tell us of the work of the Trust, a charity established in 1995, passionately devoted to Sherwood Forest.

Helen, CEO of the Sherwood Forest Trust, joins us to tell us of the work of the Trust, a charity established in 1995, passionately devoted to Sherwood Forest. The Trust works not just for nature, but for people and local communities. Projects range from restoring Sherwood's threatened heathland, tree-planting and woodland creation to getting people hands-on with the archaeology and history of the Forest. Sherwood Forest is an often misunderstood place. Does it still exist? How big is it? Is it all just woodland? Who manages it? Helen will tell us the answers.

Monthly Activity Chart

	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 & Social Discussion 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

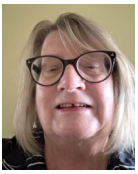
Chair, Publicity & Press
Mike Mounsey



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

Hot Supper!! & QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026



DOORS OPEN 5.15PM

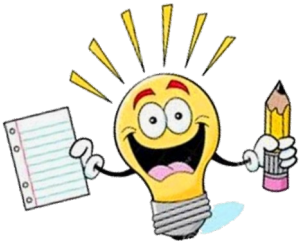
HOT SUPPER SERVED 6.00PM

TICKETS £15 PER MEMBER

ON SALE
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 is subsidised at



£7.00 members only


Small Instruments Big Smiles
Music Brings People Together
Strum Sing Smile Repeat
Ukes Make a Brighter World
Jubilee
Ukulele Group
Winter Sing-along
In aid of
Bassetlaw Hospice, Retford.
Sunday December 6th
2.00pm - 4pm
(doors open 1.30pm.)
Jubilee Hall Ollerton
NG22 9AP.
£7 per ticket,
inc. refreshments.
Raffle.
Tickets on sale at the October monthly meeting..
To order tickets, call Linda on 01623 861595

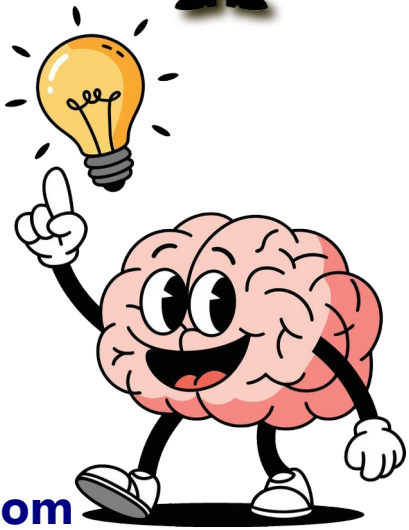
WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO IN 2027?



HAVE YOU GOT AN IDEA FOR A SOCIAL EVENT?

Dukeries u3a Events Team are currently planning for 2027.

We would love to get your ideas and suggestions.





Please email
slhu3a@gmail.com



Or complete the Suggestions Form at the Members' Meeting in October.

LIVE! LAUGH! LEARN!

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.

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 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

RAF COSFORD MUSEUM





We had the most enjoyable day out with Ashfield U3A, visiting the aircraft museum at RAF Cosford. There is an impressive collection of British and German aircraft together with simulators and immersive experiences to try. We actually experienced the feeling of flying with the Red Arrows in a 4D experience (which did not make you feel queasy!) We had two interesting talks from volunteers who were full of facts and deeply personal stories to bring the planes, and our heroes, back to life.

On display are the world's oldest Spitfire, as well as a Hurricane, Gladiator, Messerschmitt Me 109, Junkers Ju88, newly restored Vickers Wellington and the Bristol Blenheim. We also skimmed through the selection of more recent flying machines in the Cold War museum

We finished the day with a drop into David Austen Roses for refreshments and shopping.

A super day out, and we will be speaking with the other members of the Events Team to suggest we organise a trip in 2027

Leslye and Kevin



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 Crags , 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.



New Facebook Manager ?

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.

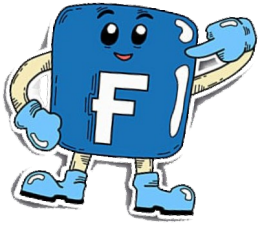
Our FB page has proven to be a very useful way of attracting new members and could be an interesting project for somebody.

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



Air Ambulance





Another eventful members' meeting this month was enjoyed by all. Chris and I were overwhelmed by the quality of the donations you all made for the charity table and of course our thanks go to all who bought such brilliant bargains.

Our talented Ukulele group donated £20 from a performance, thank you, and we all look forward to their Christmas concert in December, it is such a great event which gets us in the spirit of Christmas and one which I look forward to very much, such fun. So the proceeds of our bring and buy table today amounted to £81 My gardening friends raised £101 from a raffle and sale of plants which they are happy to add to our donations which makes the grand total this month of £182.

I have just sent this off to LNAAC and Sally Mundy will send an email thanking us in due course.

What a lovely group of members we have in Dukeries u3a, thank you so much for coming together in the enjoyment of living, laughing and learning and for your generosity in supporting our chosen charity.

Pam and Chris xxx

Air Ambulance News. *Click Here*



THANK YOU

Dukeries U3A

FOR YOUR DONATION OF

£182.00

CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS A TOTAL RAISED OF

£10,447.10

SEPT 2026

KAREN JOBLING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LINCS & NOTTS AIR AMBULANCE

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

Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance Charity| Registered Charity No. 1017501



History & Social Discussion Group

Dear All

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.

The next meeting will be on **7th October at 1.15 to 3 at Ambleside**,

Please bring along anything you would like to discuss outside of politics and Trump.

Show and tell, History, Objects, Holidays / Photos, Experiences Thoughts, Education, Quiz, Music, Trips/walks, Whatever you are interested in?

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

LOVE TO SING?

Everyone Has a Voice

THE DUKERIES SINGERS

Join The Dukeries Singers, a welcoming community choir where everyone is encouraged, supported and valued.



YOU'LL ENJOY:

- No auditions
- No need to read music
- Friendly atmosphere
- New friendships
- Fun performances

> ***"I came for the singing and found wonderful friendships."***

Singing together is one of life's great pleasures, and we'd love you to be part of our choir family.

Come and share yours.

CONTACT DETAILS:

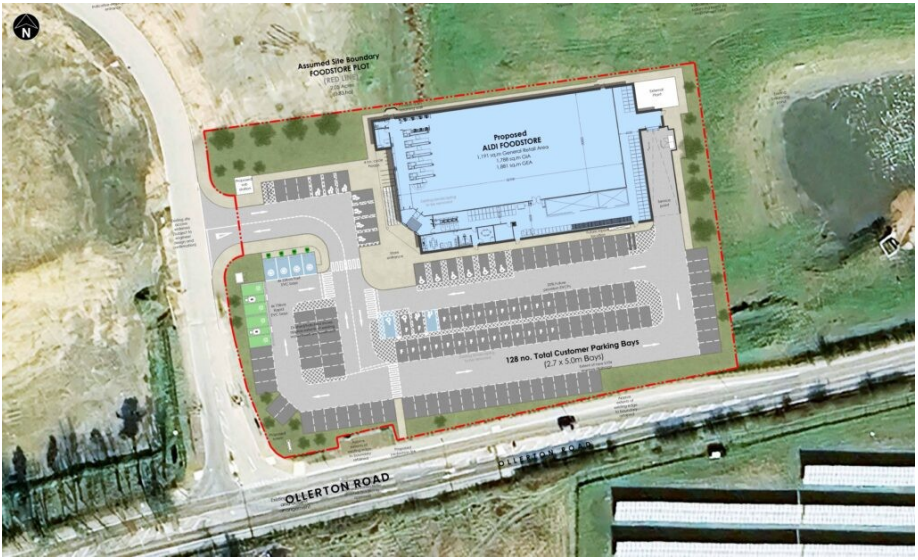
John Banbury
07759-086132
john@asherwood.co.uk

REHEARSALS:

The Methodist Chapel, Forest Road, New Ollerton
7-9pm every Wednesday.

Plans for the new Aldi Store in Edwinstowe





Aldi is bringing forward plans for a new food store on Ollerton Road, Edwinstowe. The proposed site forms part of the Thoresby Vale development and will be transformed into a modern, energy-efficient store, representing a multi-million-pound investment in the local area. *Could be up and running by the end of next year. From latest Aldi report.*

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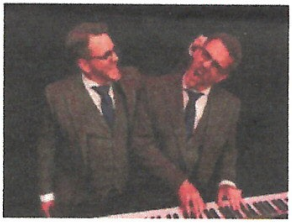
Sunday 22nd Nov.—Christmas Craft Fair. 11.00 till 3.00

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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Jones & Co Solicitors are a trusted legal firm providing expert legal advice and services to businesses and individuals across Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire.

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.wegottickets.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

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...

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 Hal**l. 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

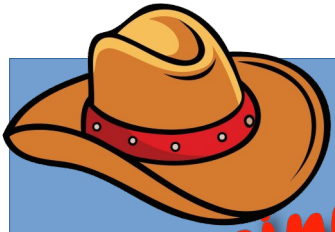
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK

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





New Guitar Group

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





First of all, we would like to say a big "thank you" to Liz Abbott and Milan & Jacqui Petrovic for organising such lovely walks for the group during August whilst we were on holiday. So for September, things were back to normal although we were still blessed with lovely weather for both our walks. Our first walk was from the Pumping Station at Budby through the Birkland Woods around the back of the Agricultural Research Centre and through some beautiful countryside back to the cars. These woods are so unspoilt and very different as the seasons go on and they are easy walking too. This walk is about 6 miles. For our second walk in September we drove to Sconce Park in Newark and walked via the park and Sconce onto the long walkway that comes out at the Railway Station, over the road and down along the Trent back to the Park for a well deserved cuppa! Again this walk is on lovely paths and takes in parts of Newark that people normally do not see. We had certainly never seen the fabulous fox mural before! This was approximately 7 miles of easy walking.

To join the Ramblers you do not need any special equipment,just a good pair of walking shoes and the ability to walk and talk for about 7 miles. Rambling is good for the soul, you get to meet a group of people with a wide range of interests,and it is acknowledged that walking in a social group is not only good for you physically but mentally as well. We walk again on Tuesday 6th October. Regards,
Stephen and 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)

SHERWOOD OBSERVATORY

Here is a link to the latest news.... Click Here...

SCRABBLE

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.**



To find Dukeries u3a on the web, just click,
Dukeries.u3asite.uk

Sewing Bee



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

A group of us enjoyed lunch at Rose Cottage in September.

Next venue, The Lion, Farnsfield

Tuesday October 6th

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

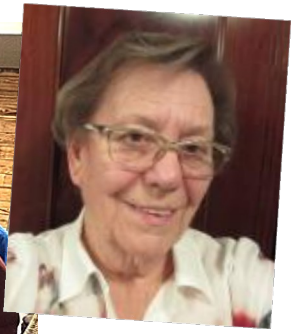
Feb 3rd	Spread Eagle Hockerton
Mar 3rd	Greendale Oak Cuckney
April 7th	The Angel Blyth
May 5th	Refined Mansfield
June 2nd	Bella Vita Ollerton
July 7th	Rufford Park Golf Club
Aug 4th	The Devonshire Langwith
Sept 1st	The Chequers Ranby
Oct 6th	The Lion Farnsfield
Nov 3rd	West Retford Hotel
Dec 1st	Bella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

Meet 12.30 for 1pm

Beryl Lee 07967801467

Jubilee Ukulele Group





September 4th. The members of the group who travelled to Nettleton, near Caister, in Lincolnshire thoroughly enjoyed the day out together. Before lunch we took a leisurely walk with Sue North, around the beautiful grounds of the holiday park. After a picnic lunch we joined the ukulele group which meets there weekly, for a lively 2 hour session. A good number of the residents popped in to see what was occurring and stayed for the whole afternoon to sing along and join in the fun. A good time was had by all and we were happy to agree that we would love to join them again next year. On Monday 28th September we shall be entertaining the members of the Blidworth Community Hub to one of our sing-along performances. UKE' n Sing-along I have already had several enquiries about tickets for our annual charity sing-along, **Sunday December 6th 2-4pm**.. They will be on sale at the October meeting **£7 inc refreshment**.. We are really looking forward to seeing both familiar and new faces when we present our new programme of songs, together with a few Christmas favourites. So far, since our first concert in December 2023 we have raised over **£4100** for various charities. This year we shall be supporting **Bassetlaw Hospice**, Retford. *Linda Bond*

Meetings Thursday at Jubilee Hall,
10 to 12pm.
Cost £1.50 ***inc refreshments***

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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