

# News & Views


 Newsletter

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## Interest Groups

Details of Groups can be found on the Charnwood u3a website:  
[www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk)  
 under 'Our Groups' menu.

## Welcome

...to the November edition of *News & Views*, the newsletter of Charnwood u3a. We hope you'll find it both entertaining and informative. The content is written by members, and details for sending contributions can be found on the last page.



### Our Next Monthly Meeting:

**All about stained glass...**



See page 2 for details.

## A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to all our new members, and if you have yet to attend one of our monthly meetings, we hope to see you there very soon - please make yourself known at the Welcome desk on arrival.

### Meet... New Members' Liaison:

### Margaret Kelvey



You may well already have spoken over the phone with Margaret, and discussed joining groups and so on. You can also meet Margaret at our monthly meeting.

*By way of introduction to her background and role, Margaret writes...*

In my previous life I enjoyed a full and varied teaching career, working initially in schools, before moving to the Adult Education Service with the remit of widening participation in learning in colleges, the community and the workplace. On retirement, I was determined to keep active, so I joined Charnwood u3a and have never looked back!

Like lots of new members, I was amazed at the number and sheer variety of activities on offer. I joined the History and Archaeology groups (subjects I've always enjoyed) and also a walking group, as one of my pursuits when living in Lancaster was fell-walking, exploring the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales.

More recently, I was asked if I'd be interested in joining the Charnwood u3a Committee as a co-opted member. It has been quite an 'eye opener' as I'd not realised the range of issues that committee members have responsibility for.

Since last year's AGM, my role has been that of New Members' Liaison, which involves contacting new members when they join, welcoming them and checking whether they have joined any groups or need further information or assistance. I also attend the monthly meetings held at Emmanuel Church and work with the New Members' Welcome Team to meet and greet new members.

In July I went along to Scottish Dancing, which was great fun when I managed to tell my left from my right, proving that it's never too late to learn!

## Our Monthly Meetings

The monthly meetings of Charnwood u3a are on the **second Wednesday afternoon, 2.15 for 2.30 pm in Emmanuel Church**, Forest Road in Loughborough. The main car park for the church is accessed via Ingle Pingle, to the west of the church. There is a very small parking facility adjacent to the church but please only use that if the main car park is too far away. Our monthly meetings are free to all, and we welcome prospective new members attending a meeting as a 'taster'. If you think you'll need any assistance at the meeting, please contact our Chair in advance on [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk).

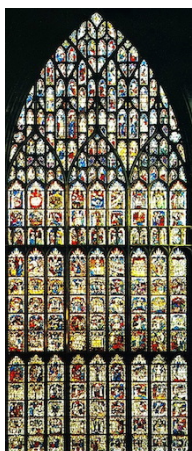
At our last monthly meeting, beekeeper Dave Bonner told us all about the fascinating world of bees - illustrating his talk with videos demonstrating their remarkable powers of communication and colourful images showing their very different view of the world: who knew that bees can't see the colour red? Dave is pictured right, during his talk, along with an empty hive. The jars of honey he brought for sale were all quickly snapped up!



On the subject of bees, you might find a recently published article (*The Guardian*, 27 October 2022) entitled "**Bees 'count' from left to right, study finds**" of interest. Read all about it at <https://tinyurl.com/9aervrhe>

## Our Next Meeting Wednesday 9th November

### Stained Glass: its manufacture, cutting & installation with Derek Hunt



Have you ever looked at the Great East Window of York Minster (*pictured left*) from inside the cathedral? You were viewing the world's largest stained glass window and, with the sun shining through, it is truly magnificent.

Our speaker at the November monthly meeting is Derek Hunt, who has a stained glass business in Leicestershire. He will tell us how the glass is designed, coloured, cut and assembled into the finished product, smaller or approaching the size of the East Window in York. Derek contributed to the glass in Southwell Minster. This will be an interesting talk on something familiar to us all, but which, possibly, we have given little thought to.

As always, this meeting is in Emmanuel Church (*but see below\**). Please arrive well before our 2.30 pm start. The Loughborough Fair will be in full swing at the time of the meeting so parking may be at a premium.

Members of other u3as and non members are always welcome. Please speak to me afterwards if you have any comments about this or other monthly meetings. I shall be wearing a badge in my lapel.

Graham Cooper, Programme Secretary

### To attend this meeting:

No pre-booking is required - just turn up on the day, with your Cu3a membership card, if you have one. **Please do not arrive before 2 pm.**

**\*This month, we will be meeting in the lounge area of the Church building, as the Main Hall of the Church is being redecorated. Unfortunately, this means it will not be possible to stream the meeting online. So please ignore any reference to joining online on the web page for the November meeting.**

### Looking Ahead:

Our December meeting will feature a performance by a group of musicians from West Leicestershire u3a, who will play popular music from the '60s and '70s. More details will appear in next month's *News & Views*.

## View From Our...



**Web Manager:  
Tony Westaway**

When I retired, I promised myself that I would never voluntarily serve on a committee again. However, Charnwood u3a is a wonderful organisation and I wanted to do my bit to help.

I took on the role of Web Manager following a few helpful meetings with the previous post holder who convinced me that anyone with basic IT skills could do the job. I started with no knowledge of web design, but I needn't have worried as there has always been someone to help.

My main task is keeping the website up to date. Weekly changes are made to the groups pages, the noticeboard, the trips and activities calendars. Electronic versions of News & Views, documents to support the work of group leaders and committee papers are regularly updated.

Four years on I have redesigned our website, transferred it to a new hosting service, and created web pages that provide information for members, group leaders and the committee. The internet is an amazing resource and I have done my best to produce what I hope is a useful, attractive and informative website. Since January 2022 our website has had around 12,500 visits while News & Views has, on average, almost 800 downloads per month!

I have got a lot of satisfaction from being Web Manager. None of this would have been possible without the on-going support from several u3a members. You know who you are – and I am forever grateful.

It is your website so please let me know how you think it can be improved.

## Membership Renewals

The renewal of membership is drawing to a close for the 22-23 year. As I write this article, about 80% of members have already renewed. A reminder email will be sent out during the first week of November. In December, I will be phoning those who have still not made contact with me. I am hoping to reduce this to a minimum, so if your letter or email has gone astray, please let me know.

**u3a**  
Charnwood

Garry Rigby  
Membership Secretary

## Scam Alerts

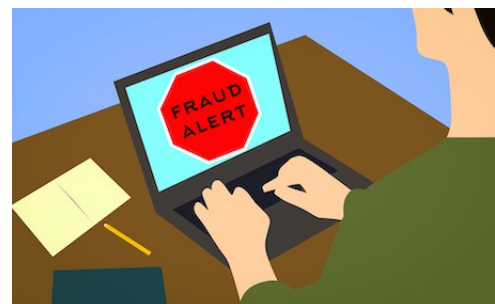
One of our members has passed on the following warnings from *Which?* magazine:

### Watch out for phoney Amazon texts

Scammers impersonating Amazon are sending texts asking you to follow a link to secure your account following attempted logins, which is a typical tactic to incite panic. If you click the link it takes you to a convincing fake Amazon website where you're prompted to enter your login details. The website could look genuine enough if you don't take time to assess it. For details of what to watch out for, see <https://tinyurl.com/mtxzhew9>

### Don't fall for lure of high-risk investments

With inflation far outpacing savings account rates and unregulated investments claiming to offer far higher returns, there's growing temptation for the unwary to be tempted by these types of schemes. To find out more, listen to the latest *Which?* Shorts podcast at <https://tinyurl.com/y27kn99w> which investigates how large parts of the investment world remain unregulated and how social media is only helping scammers to operate on a global scale. You also have the option to download the full transcript.



## Group News

### A Poem from ETHEL

#### The year they cancelled Loughborough Fair

The year they cancelled Loughborough Fair  
The streets of town were Covid-bare.  
No laughter in the market square,  
The year they cancelled Loughborough Fair.

No waltzers, twist or dodgems there,  
No ghost train giving kids a scare.  
You couldn't even win a bear,  
The year they cancelled Loughborough Fair.

No onion smells, no lights aglare,  
No music pumped through amps that blare,  
No blue-jeaned girls screaming through the air,  
The year they cancelled Loughborough Fair.

But do they know and do they care  
What tears and misery they share;  
What disappointed hearts they tear  
The council that cancelled Loughborough Fair?

Graham North (2022)



Photo: Charnwood Borough Council

This year's fair runs from Wednesday 9th November to Saturday 12th November. Read more about the fair at <https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/fairs>

### EDI Meeting

Our next Equality, Diversity & Inclusion meeting will be held at Gorse Covert Community Centre on **Monday 14th November at 2 pm**, when Joanne Talbot, the Charnwood Link for social prescribing will be joining us to discuss the potential mutual benefits of this scheme for individuals and for our u3a. We also plan to discuss ways of increasing diversity in Charnwood u3a. All are welcome to come along and join in the discussion.

### Social Dance

The Social Dance group restarted in October and is now meeting on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 2 - 4 pm at the Good Shepherd Church Hall, Park Rd, Loughborough**. All the group needs now is a few more members.

#### Everybody welcome!

No partner required; no skills necessary! Just wear sensible shoes and bring your own refreshments. Extra parking at Tesco.



If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Bev Gillman on [DanceSocial@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:DanceSocial@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or ring 01509 264593 and leave a message.

### Parlez-Vous Francais?

Have you spent time in France and wished you could communicate more confidently? Did you do French at school and would like to do some more? Perhaps you'd be interested in forming a French Improvers group.

The structure of the meetings will depend on members' preferences and ability levels. So it might include conversation, translation and a course book. It would be suitable for anyone with some previous knowledge of French – no matter how small or long forgotten!



Contact Pam Upton if you'd like to know more: [pam.upton@btinternet.com](mailto:pam.upton@btinternet.com)

### Interest Groups Online

Formerly known as Trust u3a, *Interest Groups Online* is a u3a community furthering their learning within friendly online group settings. Like all u3as, it is run by members for the members. You can access over 80 groups, covering a range of subjects, and meet members from all across u3a.

See <https://u3asites.org.uk/trustu3a/groups> for full details of how to join and the groups on offer.

## Roving Reporters

### *Travel Group trip to East Yorkshire in September: A personal account*

At 8 am at Tesco's on an overcast Monday morning, over 40 intrepid explorers huddled under trolley shelters to avoid the lashing rain....and waited...and waited....until at last we saw Mick at the wheel of Winson's coach coming through the mist. After waiting three years for the holiday to 'launch', what was an extra delay of three quarters of an hour you ask?

Off north, our first port of call was the lovely Castle Howard, where after a brisk look around and lunch, we then headed for the austere Ampleforth Abbey. After a guided and informative tour by Father Hugh, a search was on for examples of Robert Thompson's beautiful mouse carvings. Throughout Yorkshire we passed through many lovely villages; all seemed so neat and tidy. We finally reached our hotel at Ravenscar, overlooking the dramatic Robin Hood's Bay.

Next day, after a hearty full English breakfast, we were then off to Whitby. The weather continued to be kind and sunny; the ruins of the Abbey silhouetted against the blue sky looked magnificent (*as you can see on the right*). Roger then played the part of Rector standing in the middle deck of the pulpit in nearby St. Mary the Virgin church, pointing out some of its unique architecture. Luckily there was time for lunch once down the steps.....can't beat seaside fish'n'chips can you?



Then onto Grosmont heritage railway station for a magical steam train ride across the rugged Yorkshire countryside. We marvelled at the changing colours of autumn as we arrived at Pickering, where our coach driver, the genial and obliging Mick, exalted us constantly to try the black pudding sausage rolls! I didn't manage to track them down but next time I'm in Yorkshire, it will be my mission.



The next day in Scarborough, we visited the church of St. Martin-on-the-Hill, with beautiful wall decorations by Rossetti, Maddox Brown and William Morris. Then on to the splendid Tudor mansion, Burton Agnes Hall in Driffild (*pictured left*), to admire all its magnificent features.

The next day we visited the parish church of St Peter and St Paul in Pickering. Once inside, we saw the most amazing and famous medieval wall paintings. We then travelled on to explore the striking ruins of Rievaulx Abbey.

On our final day, we travelled to St Michael and All Angels church in the tiny village of Garton on the Wolds for a short visit. I think there was a collective gasp as we entered, followed by a big 'WOW' on seeing the exquisite Victorian wall paintings. At nearby Sledmere House, the family had delayed their lunch to allow us to visit and explore their delightful home. Our final visit of the day was to beautiful Beverley Minster.

Heartfelt thanks to Roger and Ann for all their hard work and planning. Thanks also to Mick for getting us all safely home, via the Humber Bridge, through wild gusts and torrential rain.

*Unusual incidents:-*

1. One of our ladies entered her bedroom to find it festooned with balloons and 'Happy Birthday Boy' bunting ....Oops!
2. On another occasion, three members returned to their rooms to find them flooded.
3. As an extra gift from Yorkshire, a small number of us came back with Covid; myself included.
4. Roger's final words to us were: 'I expect you may be all churched out?'.... well, the answer is ....'YES'.... but in a nice way.

What a memorable holiday!

Pat Foster

## More Roving Reporters

### Days of Interest October Trip

Our October trip was to Oxford, the city of “dreaming spires”, on what turned out to be matriculation day for the students when they formally join their colleges. This meant that there was a constant flow of new students making their way across Oxford to their various matriculation ceremonies and then making their way back to their individual colleges for a celebratory meal. They were smartly dressed in black skirts or trousers, white shirts and black or white ties, along with very short academic gowns – the sign of an undergraduate. It was a celebratory event and some may have had sore heads the following day. Along with the dressed up students, there were other groups wearing Alice in Wonderland and Harry Potter costumes in honour of the Oxford connection to Lewis Carroll’s books and the Harry Potter films, parts of which were shot in Oxford.

Our group did a range of activities, including walking tours, bus tours, visiting the colleges, museums and art galleries, just generally walking around admiring the buildings and a bit of early Christmas shopping.

On the way home, instead of a Macmillan’s big coffee morning we had a Macmillan’s big tub of sweets afternoon and collected more than £50 for the charity. Many thanks to all.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Pauline May at [ppc.wat@ntlworld.com](mailto:ppc.wat@ntlworld.com), 01509 552834 or 07455 167929 for details.



### 10+ Walking Group

Geoff Dodsworth led our October walk around Thorpe Satchville, Burrough on the Hill and Somerby.

An excellent walk with great views and a variety of terrain but windy on the tops. Geoff deviated from the usual route with a diversion through a front garden in Burrough on the Hill to 10th Bn Parachute Regiment Memorial. A good part of the walk was on the 10th Battalion Trail.

Mike Hill



At All Saints Church, Somerby

## November 2022 Meetings

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	<b>1 Nov</b> 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 10+ Walks 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Sing4Pleasure	<b>2 Nov</b> 09.30 Golf 10.00 Classical Greek 10.00 German 10.00 JigsawBookEx 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Scottish Dance 11.00 Table Tennis 3 13.30 Cribbage 2 14.00 Scrabble 2 14.00 Sustain Planet	<b>3 Nov</b> 10.00 Sci & Tech 10.00 Spanish Conv 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 French Conv	<b>4 Nov</b> 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Photography 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Lunch Club 1 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
<b>7 Nov</b> 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Latin 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 15.00 Current Affairs	<b>8 Nov</b> 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 Scrabble 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Eng Parish Ch 14.00 Social Dance	<b>9 Nov</b> 09.30 Golf 10.00 Committee 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.30 Monthly Meet	<b>10 Nov</b> 10.00 Les Sportives 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 Making Music	<b>11 Nov</b> 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Classical Civ 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Needlecraft 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
<b>14 Nov</b> 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Poetry 1 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.00 Quiz group 14.00 Archaeology 14.00 Chess 14.00 Digital Imaging 14.00 EDI Meeting	<b>15 Nov</b> 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 6+ Walks 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Philosophy 2 14.00 Sing4Pleasure	<b>16 Nov</b> 09.30 Golf 10.00 German 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Poetry 2 10.00 Scottish Dance 11.00 Table Tennis 3 13.30 Cribbage 2 14.00 Family History 14.00 Italian Conv 14.00 Scrabble 2	<b>17 Nov</b> 10.00 Parish Walks 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 French Conv 14.15 Scrabble 4 18.30 Supper Club 2	<b>18 Nov</b> 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Photography 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1 14.00 Art Apprec'n 15.00 Mac Users
<b>21 Nov</b> 09.30 Yoga 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Gardening 14.00 Painting	<b>22 Nov</b> 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 ETHEL 10.00 Needlecraft 2 10.00 Scrabble 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Philosophy 1 14.00 Social Dance	<b>23 Nov</b> 09.30 Golf 10.00 History 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Classical Music 14.00 Travel Group	<b>24 Nov</b> 10.00 Les Sportives 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Architecture 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 Making Music	<b>25 Nov</b> 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Needlecraft 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
<b>28 Nov</b> 09.30 Yoga 11.00 Table Tennis 1 14.00 Chess 14.00 Digital Imaging 14.00 Local History	<b>29 Nov</b> 09.30 Pilates 2 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1	<b>30 Nov</b> 09.30 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3		

**PLUS at Weekends:** **Saturday Walks** (5th Nov); **Sunday Lunch Club** (13th Nov);  
**Days of Interest trip to Blenheim Palace** (19th Nov).

For more information, visit our **website** (<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk>) for the interactive calendar.  
 Please send any amendments for future calendars to the Editor at [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

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## Upcoming Local Events

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**ON WEDNESDAY 2 NOV:** *If you're quick, you might just catch one or other (or both!) of the following events, celebrating the centenary of the birth of Philip Larkin:*

### ***Larkin Centenary Walk Around Loughborough***

**Wed 2 Nov, 14:00-16:00 - from Charnwood Museum, Queen's Park**

A free, circular walk to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of poet Philip Larkin, led by Accredited Leicestershire Tour Guide Lynne Dyer and Larkin expert, Philip Pullen. Larkin's mother, Eva, and his sister, Kitty, lived in Loughborough, so Larkin was a frequent visitor to the town.

<https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events/2022/11/larkin-centenary-walk-around-loughborough>

### ***'Dearest Old Creature' - the Life of Eva Emilie Larkin***

**Wed 2 Nov, 18:00-20:00, Stanley Evernden Studio, Martin Hall, Loughborough University**

In this illustrated talk, Philip Pullen, Larkin researcher and trustee of the Philip Larkin Society, will examine the significance of the close relationship between Larkin and his mother and the part played by the town of Loughborough in shaping both of their lives. For details and booking information, see:

<https://www.lboro.ac.uk/news-events/events/dearest-old-creature/>

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### ***War Graves Tours in Loughborough***



**Sat 5 Nov, 9:30-10:30, Loughborough Cemetery, Leicester Road**

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) have introduced walking tours in Loughborough to help people discover the World War heritage on their doorstep. There were 62 casualties from the two world wars who are buried at Loughborough. This free guided tour will be led by Neil Strange, local resident and a volunteer for the CWGC.

For further information, see:

<https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events/2022/11/war-graves-tours2>

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### ***Remembrance Sunday***

**Sun 13 Nov, 10:00-14:00, Queen's Park, Loughborough**

Charnwood residents are invited to honour those who served and sacrificed themselves in the line of duty this Remembrance Sunday. The parade will march off from the town centre at 10.20 am and the service will start at 10.50 am at the Carillon Tower in Queen's Park. Charnwood Borough Council will be live-streaming the service. For further details, see: <https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events/2022/11/remembrance2022>



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### ***Loughborough Flower Lovers' Club November Open Meeting, Thursday November 17th***

Award winning florist Dean Sharpe from Staffordshire will join us for the evening to present a demonstration entitled Winter Wonder.

If you love flowers why not join us for a spectacular evening of seasonal arrangements from this highly talented demonstrator.

The demonstration starts at **7.30 pm** and is at **Amherst School** (formerly Our Ladies Convent), Gray St, Loughborough. **Doors open at 6.30 pm**, raffle tickets will be on sale and at the end of the evening the raffle prizes are all the floral displays created during the evening.



Tickets at £10 are now available and you can reserve yours by contacting **Lynne Peebles** on 07954411363



## More Upcoming Local Events

### *The Brush Electrical Engineering Co. - An Exhibition*

Ongoing until Sat 31 Dec.

Loughborough Library, Local and Family History Centre

An exhibition on the Brush Electrical Engineering Company by Cu3a member Tony Jarram for Loughborough Local Studies Volunteer Group.

Picture: Brush factory and railway, Loughborough, by Rob Newman.  
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 license



### *Loughborough Christmas Lights Switch-on*

Sun, 20 Nov 2022, 11:00 - 18:00, Loughborough Market



Photo: Charnwood Borough Council

The day will be filled with festive fun including an arts and crafts fair, children's fairground rides and musical performances, with the lights being switched on at 5 pm. There will also be a charity market in the town centre as well as a food court and a craft and retail market. The main stage will come alive at 1 pm with performances by local groups, ensembles, choirs, theatre groups and performance groups.

For more details, see: <https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events/2022/11/lborolights>

### *1620s House & Garden*



The 1620s House at Donington le Heath is hosting several events in November, including:



**Gunpowder Plot Day, Sun 6 Nov, 11 am – 3:30 pm**

An entertaining re-telling of the story behind the Gunpowder Plot in a house owned by the family of one of the plotters.  
£2 per person + Normal Admission. No booking needed.

**Stir Up Sunday, Sun 20 Nov, 11 am – 1 pm.**

Workshop to learn how to make a Traditional Christmas Pudding in the relaxed and beautiful Barn. Take home the pudding you've made along with a jar of vegetarian mincemeat to share with all the family.

£20 per person. Pre-booking essential. Buy tickets online or call the Sales & Enquiries Team on 01455 290429 between 10 am and 4 pm.



**Prelude to Christmas Lute Concert, Fri 25 Nov, 7 - 9 pm.**

Ayres and Graces perform songs, solos and poems on the themes of Winter and Christmas from the late 16th and early 17th Century and a few more modern ones too! Refreshments available from 6.30 pm. Tickets £8 available online or by calling 01455 290429 between 10 am and 4 pm.

For more details of these and other events, go to: <https://1620shouse.org.uk/whats-on/>

### *Charnwood Orchestra Concert*

Sat 26 Nov, 19:30-21:30, Emmanuel Church

A reminder of this concert of works by English composers, featuring violinist Thomas Bowes. See last month's [News & Views](#) (page 8) for details.

## Loughborough University Events

The University is putting on various public events in November, including free public lectures - some for attendance in person, others online - plus the return of the LSU Fireworks display on Nov 5th (£9 for adults, £5 for children) and a free exhibition of 3D printing research in Martin Hall Exhibition Space until Nov 11th (weekdays 12-2pm). See <https://www.lboro.ac.uk/news-events/events/> for details of these events.

## Answers to Last Month's Quiz:

- 1) What was called "Operation London Bridge"?  
The historic plan for procedures and protocols following the death of the late Queen. It was continually reviewed. A similar plan is now in its very formative stages for King Charles III.
- 2) The title of the 2019 musical *A Strange Loop* refers to a term coined by which US cognitive scientist?  
Douglas Hofstadter
- 3) What happened to Colchester and Milton Keynes in England and Bangor, Co. Down in Northern Ireland in the summer of 2022?  
They were all made cities, coinciding with the Platinum Jubilee.
- 4) Which *Neighbours* star had a 1989 No. 1 single hit with *Too Many Broken Hearts*? Jason Donovan
- 5) Which Christian martyr is the patron saint of archers? St. Sebastian
- 6) The Burman people form the largest linguistic group in which country? Myanmar
- 7) How many numbered symphonies did Franz Schubert compose?  
Eight. There is a ninth but no seventh.
- 8) Where, about 30 miles from Loughborough, can one find the Wicker Man, Rollercoaster and Congo Rapids? Alton Towers
- 9) Which conflict began, formally, on 17th May 1706 when Great Britain declared war on France?  
Seven Years' War
- 10) Which New Zealand born spy was dubbed "*The White Mouse*" by the Gestapo? Nancy Wake
- 11) Which river in North West England derives its name from an old English word meaning "boundary"?  
The River Mersey
- 12) The state funeral of our late Queen was believed to have been watched by what estimated percentage of the world's population? 50%, amazingly.
- 13) What is the largest historic county in England (by area) without a coastline? Shropshire
- 14) Which country has the longest land border with Germany? Austria
- 15) Which type of butter derives its name from "sprinkled" in Sanskrit? Ghee
- 16) Who, in politics, was "Ramshackle Mac"? Ramsey McDonald
- 17) Which small rodent is the only mammal to have a prehensile tail? Harvest mouse
- 18) Which muppet played the piano? Rowlf, the dog
- 19) Which sum of money is called a *monkey* in slang? £500
- 20) Which Welsh university did King Charles The Third attend?  
Aberystwyth, actually not then a university but a satellite of the University of Wales



# CHRISTMAS QUIZ



**MONDAY 12th DECEMBER 2022**  
**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**



Open to all u3a members in the East Midlands

Singles – Couples & teams of up to 4

No limit on the numbers from each u3a

Handicap system so fair for all



To Register send:  
Your name  
Your email address  
Name of your u3a  
Team name (if any)  
to:  
[u3achristmasquiz@gmail.com](mailto:u3achristmasquiz@gmail.com)  
You'll receive confirmation within a couple of days

The quiz will start promptly at 7:00pm – login from 6:45pm  
We aim to finish around by 9.00pm  
There will be a 10-minute comfort/drinks top-up break after Round 4  
Answers will be given after Rounds 4 and 8



## News from the National u3a



### Free On-Line Events this Month include:

- **Exploring World Faiths - All Souls Day, The Day of the Dead**, Mon 14 Nov, 10 am.
- **Tipping Points and Climate Change** with Ian Hawker of East Suffolk u3a, Tue 15 Nov, 10 am.
- **Creative Thinking** with Gill Russell, Trust Volunteer, Thu 17 Nov, 2 pm.

For details of these and other upcoming free on-line events offered by the National u3a, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

### National u3a Newsletter and More:

To register to receive the National u3a newsletter regularly, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter> where you will find a link to recent issues (also see our Cu3a website under 'News' - National u3a Newsletters...).

The u3a National programmes page has more learning initiatives to get involved with, with new programmes for Autumn 2022, as well as ongoing themes like mathematical challenges, sharing photos and artwork - and the monthly radio podcast. Go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes> for details. Also, the u3a learning blog **Sources** has a large collection of articles, posted by u3a members, covering a wide range of topics, and can be found at <https://sources.u3a.org.uk>.

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## Obituary

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### Barbara Brown, R.I.P.

Our fellow member and friend, Barbara Brown, slipped away peacefully on October 11th. When the year began she seemed to be her cheerful and 'bubbly' self but was then diagnosed with cancer. The last time we saw her was in August when some of the EPC group visited churches in the Vale of Belvoir, and we saw then how unwell she looked. She went into hospital for chemo in September but the cancer was by then inoperable. Chris has spoken about his and the family's gratitude for the wonderful care she received over these last weeks in LOROS.



Barbara was an early member of Charnwood U3A along with Chris, joining as soon as she retired from teaching, and she was a committed member from the beginning. She was an enthusiastic and regular member of the Archaeology, History and English Parish Churches Groups. Those of us in the History Group know how much support she gave to Chris, especially on our holidays and excursions. She kept a low profile but was always there, helping to make everyone feel welcome. The photo is of a happy Barbara and Chris on holiday in the Algarve in 2019, just one of the many places they loved to travel to. Those of us in the EPC Group know that she was always ready

to help organise the refreshments at our monthly meeting and our Christmas buffets. Her great gifts to us have been friendship, loyalty and being one of those U3A members who is always ready to come forward when they see that something practical needs to be done.

Her funeral will be at **12.30pm on Thursday 10th November** at Loughborough Crematorium.

The last two years have thrown a lot at Chris himself and throughout Barbara has been there to support him in every way. We will all greatly miss her and at this time our thoughts are with Chris and his family.

## Items for News & Views

Do you have an announcement, story, poem - or even a short comment - to share with your fellow Cu3a members? All contributions are very welcome, and we can preserve your anonymity if you prefer that your name does not appear in the newsletter.

There is a limit of around 500 words per item, and photos are very welcome.

To enable the newsletter to be compiled in time for delivery to members at the start of each month, the deadline for receiving items will normally be the last day but one of the previous month. The deadline for the **December** issue of **News & Views** will be **Tuesday, 29th November (12 noon).**



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

Please make sure you include your contact details with your item, and try not to leave it until the last minute if at all possible.

The Editor reserves full editorial rights as to length and suitability and the Editor's decision is final.

News & Views is sent to all Charnwood u3a members by email link (or, for those without email, by post) before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood u3a website each month at [www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk) under the News menu.

Thank You!

Helen Reid  
Newsletter Editor  
Charnwood u3a



## Committee and Group Leaders' Details

Names, photos and generic email addresses ending [@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) of all the current Committee members - along with links to their role descriptions - can be found on our website at: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/CommitteeContactsNew.html> and those of other members of our Support Team are at: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/SupportTeamContacts.html>



The names and generic email addresses of Group Leaders for each group can be found on that group's dedicated website page, accessed via Our Groups - Groups Listed...

Telephone numbers of Group Leaders can be accessed from the Members area of the website, using login details previously supplied.

*Note: Where personal contact details appear in News & Views, these are included with permission.*

## Committee Meetings

Don't forget that members are always welcome to attend any of our Committee meetings on the **second Wednesday of the month** (10 am - noon), by prior arrangement, as observers. If you would like to attend one of these meetings and see what we do, please contact our Chair on [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

## Some other useful u3a web addresses:

National u3a: <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

The Association of East Midlands u3as: <https://www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk>

Leicestershire and Rutland Network: <https://u3asites.org.uk/landr/welcome>

Beacon: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/beacon>

