

News & Views


 Newsletter

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Our Website

Check out our website at:
www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk
 for lots of information
 about Charnwood u3a,
 including details of our
 meetings, trips, all our
 Groups and much more.

Welcome

...to the July 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: My 25 Years at BBC Radio Leicester



See page 2
for details.

View from the Chair



I know it's being tewibly Bwedish but I just have to mention the gorgeous, scorching and definitely non-British WEATHER! I do hope you've been taking full advantage, while not getting too sun-scorched. Of course, by the time this edition of the newsletter arrives, the sun may well have packed its bags and gone home to Spain, leaving us searching for our wellies and brollies once more.

As you can tell, I'm an optimist by nature, but there are certain events whose outcomes you shouldn't talk up too loudly - or touch every piece of wood you can find while doing it. So, I'll elect not to mention either of the E-words currently dominating our screens. No, folks, not Energy, nor Excess Enthusiasm, though certain footballers might benefit from a booster injection of all three... (Sorry!)

And, I have to admit, they're not the only ones. Much as I'd like to, I can't stay out in the sun as long as I used to and my energy levels are certainly not what they were. At some point I guess we have to admit that we can't call ourselves young, at least in arithmetical terms. But, as they say, age is a state of mind. And in our various Cu3a groups, we're doing all the things that the experts say will keep us feeling young: keeping fit, socialising, learning new skills and having fun. And if that's not enough to keep us occupied, there's lots of things to do and see in this month's *News & Views*.

Finally, if, like me, you're finding it too hot and want to cool down indoors, why not check out our new (ish) website: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk> and let us know what you think? I suggested last time that we could do more to welcome new members. How accessible and easy to use is the site for new and potential members? What do you think about the content and the 'look' of the site? Drop me an email or send your thoughts to the Readers Comments page of the newsletter at newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Have a super July – whatever the weather and wherever you are!

All the best

Pam
chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

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. 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

Last month, ZamZam Yusuf gave us an interesting insight into her life as a Somali refugee and her work with ethnic minority communities in Leicestershire, inviting us to share a cup of tea (see picture, right). If you missed this meeting, you can catch up with it for a few more days (via the YouTube link sent by our Chair on 10th June).



Our Next Meeting Wednesday 10th July

My 25 Years at BBC Radio Leicester with Dave Andrews



An entertaining talk by Dave Andrews about his 25 years working as a presenter, commentator, and producer at BBC Radio Leicester. He will be looking at some of the high spots (and low spots), interesting interviewees and big events, from visits by HM the Queen to the discovery of Richard III and Leicester City winning the Premier League.



To attend this meeting:

If you wish to attend the meeting in person, no prebooking is required - just turn up on the day, with your Cu3a membership card, if you have one. **Please do not arrive before 2 pm.**



If you are unable to attend in person and would like to follow the meeting online (via YouTube), again no prebooking is required. All members who have supplied an email address will be sent a link to the live stream a few days before the meeting in a reminder email from the Chair.

Looking Ahead:

Please note there will be NO MONTHLY MEETING in August.

Meetings for the rest of the year are shown below:

Monthly Meetings September - December 2024

- **11 Sep:** *Wearing Tights for the Queen - Andrew Brown (former High Sheriff of Rutland)*
- **09 Oct:** *A Tasting Journey Through Chocolate - Butterflies Chocolates*
- **13 Nov:** *How to Read a House - Janet Spavold*
- **11 Dec:** *Quorn Ukulele Orchestra*

More information about each meeting can be found on the **Monthly Meetings** page under the 'Events' menu on our website, as well as in future issues of *News & Views*.

Group News

Latin

The Latin group will welcome new members warmly. First lesson free of course. Our next meeting will be Monday September 9th at 10 am at Emmanuel Church.

We are currently looking at The Aeneid by Virgil by reading it in English and then speaking it in Latin with explanations. You are invited to bring your own suggestions. We would be delighted to see you. Email: Latin@charnwoodu3a.org.uk



Equality of the Pickles!

Well, I never thought I'd get addicted to a new sport at this time in my life, but Pickleball is terrific. I've played lots of different sports but what I love about Pickleball is that men and women really can play on pretty equal terms. Also, Martyn Speight set up our u3a's Pickleball sessions and he has created a really friendly, helpful and encouraging set of players.

New players are welcomed in and are helped in a very inclusive way to learn the rules and to improve their game. Martyn also sends round extra coaching info and short videos to help you gain in confidence and skill level. I highly recommend contacting Martyn on pickleball@charnwoodu3a.org.uk before coming along any Tuesday to Loughborough Leisure Centre at 3.30 pm and having a go.

We meet in the foyer about 3.20 pm before going in. Come along and give it a try – it's great fun!

Char March



Opera Visits

In June, we enjoyed hearing **Amartuvshin Enkhbat**, the Mongolian baritone, in Andrea Chenier.

On **Friday 19th July at 2 pm** prompt we will show **Fidelio**, Beethoven's great rescue opera, with Jonas Kaufman in the lead role, **at Emmanuel Church, William Davis lounge**, by DVD on the television screen. Donations please. Please telephone me so we don't start without you. In August we hope to show **Mozart's The Magic Flute** the same way, as there are no live operas during summertime.



BBC Proms Concert announcement: *"We're thrilled to be presenting our first ever BBC Prom here in Nottingham with the BBC Concert Orchestra performing a varied and vibrant programme inspired by local history and legends and featuring Nottingham artists."*

<https://trch.co.uk/whats-on/bbc-proms-nottingham/>

This much-anticipated event is on **Sunday September 8th at 4 pm, at The Royal Concert Hall Nottingham** (exterior close-up pictured left), with the **BBC Concert Orchestra**, featuring:

Anna-Maria Helsing	conductor
Clare Hammond	piano
1. Carwithen	Men of Sherwood Forest: Overture
2. Kelly	Lace Machine Music
3. Rachmaninov	Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini
4. Korngold	The Adventures of Robin Hood (excerpts)
5. Sibelius	Symphony No. 3.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you want me to buy tickets for us together. Some free car rides. QParking £7. Tickets:- Stalls £27, 31, 36; Tier 1 £41, 36, 31. Tier 2 £31, 27, 21.

Please telephone Diana Harvey on 01509 232227.

More Group News

Have you ever thought of joining a philosophy group?



Firstly – no experience necessary – none of us has a formal background in philosophy.

We have two groups which each meet monthly, with the objective of having a lively philosophical debate. Our discussions are based around a combination of ancient and modern philosophical theories together with taking a look at contemporary philosophical problems.

To date we have discussed a very wide range of philosophers. As examples: from the ancient world we have looked at Socrates; from the medieval period, Thomas Aquinas; from the 18th century, Jeremy Bentham and Mary Wollstonecraft, then on to more contemporary philosophers such as Hannah Arendt and Amartya Sen and many others.

We have also had topic themed meetings, considering issues such as Human Rights, Bhuddism, Empathy and Knowledge.

Looking at contemporary philosophical problems we recently had an excellent session on Human Rights, referencing the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and various cases including that of Shamima Begum's citizenship and on the issues of good and evil, crime and punishment and the limits of personal responsibility posed by the Lucy Letby case.

The debates are led by the group leader or other members of the group and we pride ourselves on never getting more than five lines into a discussion paper before there is an interruption.

You would be most welcome to join us.

- **Group 1** meets on the **afternoon of the 4th Tuesday of the month**, usually in Cropston and occasionally in the Haddon Way area of Loughborough.
- **Group 2** meets on the **morning of the 4th Thursday of the month**, in the Haddon Way area of Loughborough.

If you are interested or would like more details, please contact Pauline May on 07455 167929 or by email at ppc.wat@ntlworld.com or through the group page on our website.

Looking at landscapes – a wide range of views!

The Art Appreciation group always enjoys a wide range of subjects and discussions but the backdrop to our most recent meeting really opened up an animated conversation.

From Constable and Turner to Eric Ravilious and John Piper, and from Welsh valleys and Scottish moors to Coalbrookdale and the River Thames, we found ourselves in the depths and heights of the British landscape.

Group member Sue Cooper led a lively meeting where we shared our likes and dislikes, and – inevitably – there were many views, both artistic and personal!

Particularly interesting to me were works by local artists Edward Davies (1841-1920) and Rigby Graham (1931 – 2015), new names to some of us and old friends of others. But these paintings, created a century apart, gave us a new perspective on our own local landscape.

The Art Appreciation group meets every third Friday at Quorn Church Rooms, and is always keen to welcome new members. At upcoming meetings, we will be exploring the life and works of Elizabeth Frink and Barbara Hepworth and looking at the French movement, Fauvism. We are also joining the Gardening Group on a visit to the Doddington Hall biennial sculpture exhibition in August, always a great day out. And in September we will welcome local artist Jaqui Gallon who will talk about how artists set about planning and executing a history painting.

So if you would like to find out more, please contact Sue Palmer: ArtAppreciation@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Penny Bryce



*Castle Hill, Hallaton, 2005 by Rigby Graham
(photo: Goldmark Gallery, Uppingham)*

Out and About

Back to the 1620s for Architecture Appreciation members

Members of the Architecture Appreciation group recently ventured beyond the confines of Gorse Covert Community Centre for the first time since Covid for a visit to the manor house at Donington-le-Heath, one of the oldest houses in Leicestershire.

Many of us have visited the house over the years, but it was the first time some of us had experienced it since its transformation into the 1620s House and Garden eight years ago, and it couldn't have been more enjoyable.

Now fully furnished in the style of the 17th century, the house was owned by a family who lived in the shadow of the Gunpowder Plot. Prior to its more recent restoration, it was previously modernised in the early 1620s, hence its new name.

The present house was first built around 1290, and a number of features were added during the 13th and 14th centuries. After many changes of ownership, by the early 1960s, the house was being used to raise pigs! But in 1963, it was listed as an ancient monument, and over the next few years, Leicestershire County Council oversaw a full restoration, resulting in the site opening as a public museum in 1973.



The early 17th century was a time of much religious upheaval and a real fear of witchcraft, which at Donington-le-Heath reveals itself in a great deal of graffiti on the stone and timber work of the windows, fireplaces and doorways, most of which was designed to protect the house and its inhabitants from evil spirits.

As we explored the house and garden, we were able to get a real sense of what life was like for the family and their servants at that time. Our guides were informative, enthusiastic and friendly, and the cakes were – as promised – absolutely delicious.

Although we have no more trips organised this year, we still have a full programme of events planned, including a look at the influence of Roman architecture on English country houses, an exploration of working buildings around the world, and a history of Tuckers brickworks, one of Loughborough's historic employers.

If any of those sound appealing, you would be very welcome to come along and try us out!

For further information, please contact Penny Bryce or Helen Whittaker at ArchitectureAppreciation@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Penny Bryce

Further Out and About

Days of Interest - Handmade in Oxford & Waterperry Gardens

We were an almost full coach for our trip to the Handmade in Oxford festival which was held at Waterperry Gardens. On arrival we split into three groups: those that made their way to the teashop for a reviving cup of tea and a scone, those that went directly to the festival and those that chose to do the garden first. All three options were a good choice.

The Handmade festival was full of stalls displaying handmade pottery, jewellery, paintings, clothes, floral displays, interesting cards, garden ornaments, wood turning and much much more.



One stall was even selling very old decorated roof tiles, which is not something most of us had come across before. In addition to this, there were artisan food and drink sellers with some unusual liqueurs to try, plus somewhere to buy nuts and Turkish delight.



The gardens were also a delight and seemed very calm and peaceful after the busy festival. The roses were particularly spectacular. The gardens were made famous by Beatrix Havergal who established her School of Horticulture for Ladies here. It ran from 1932 to 1971. It seems she and Roald Dahl met, both having an interest in gardening. When describing to Quentin Blake what he wanted the character of Miss Trunchball, from his story Matilda, to look like, he referenced Beatrix Havergal's stature and dress sense. The gardens themselves also offered lots of opportunities to purchase things horticultural.

All this plus a well-stocked farm shop, and again the weather was good to us.

If you are interested in joining the Days of Interest Group, please contact Pauline May via the group page on our website, by email at ppc.wat@ntlworld.com or phone 01509 552834 or 07455 167929 for details.

Local History Visit to Hough Mill

In glorious weather on the last Monday in June, 18 members of the Local History group enjoyed a really interesting visit to Hough Mill at Swannington. There were two fascinating guided tours: one of the windmill itself and the other of the wider site of Gorse Field and Califat Spinney to see evidence of coal mining going back to the 13th Century. Our volunteer guides for both tours were excellent and we learned a lot about the history of milling and mining in the area.

The Mill itself is open to the public every Sunday afternoon April - September, with numerous permissive paths around the wooded and heathland site open every day 6 am - midnight, and special events throughout the summer. A good place to take the grandchildren in the summer holidays!

The site is managed by Swannington Heritage Trust, who are always on the lookout for volunteers to help out, as well as members and visitors.

See <https://swannington-heritage.co.uk/> for more information.



Helen Reid

Future Visits

Days of Interest: Spare places on July, August and September trips

In **July** we are off to Bedfordshire. Firstly we visit Wrest Park (*pictured right*), an English Heritage site, where we will be able to enjoy dazzling parterres and fragrant borders, sweeping countryside views and idyllic woodland walks. The site illustrates 300 years of the evolution of English garden design. You can also see wall paintings in the Archer Pavilion and keep a look out for the rustic bath house and the Chinese bridge.



*Wrest Park: Wrest House.
Nigel Cox, CC BY-SA 2.0, via
Wikimedia Commons*



In the afternoon we move on to the nearby National Trust property Ascott House (*pictured left*) filled with its renowned collection featuring rare paintings, furniture and Chinese ceramics. Additionally the gardens are considered to be amongst the best in Bedfordshire.

The price, per person, for National Trust members is £17.50 and for non-members £35.00

In **August** we are offering a choice, either a day in Harrogate to admire its elegant architecture, beautiful gardens, rich cultural heritage and perhaps enjoy a little retail therapy. Or alternatively stay on the coach for another quarter of an hour and visit the RHS Gardens at Harlow Carr. There are many different garden designs and diverse landscapes to enjoy. Luckily in both Harrogate and Harlow Carr Gardens you can also indulge in a cake from Betty's, the world famous teashop.

The price per person is Harrogate £19, Harlow Carr for RHS members £19 and Harlow Carr for non-members £35.00

The **September** trip is to the West Midlands, Cannock Designer outlet centre, followed in the afternoon by a trip to Middleton Hall. The outlet centre has over 60 designer shops and lots of places to eat. In the afternoon we make our way to Middleton Hall (*pictured right*), set in 42 acres of the peaceful North Warwickshire countryside. Journeying through the magnificent manor house, Georgian walled garden and peaceful grounds, we can enjoy over 950 years of remarkable history. With elements of the hall dating back to the 13th Century, discover its rich and colourful past with tales of its inhabitants and their exploits.



*Middleton Hall viewed from moat.
Photo: Bs0u10e01, CC BY-SA 4.0
via Wikimedia Commons*

The price is £25 per person

All of our trips depart from Tesco Extra, Park Road, Loughborough car park, on Saturdays:
July 20th, August 17th and Sept 21st.

For more details and a booking form, please contact Pauline May by email at ppc.wat@ntlworld.com or on 07455 167929.

July 2024 Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1 Jul 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Current Affairs	2 Jul 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 10+ Walks 10.00 Spanish 10.45 Pilates 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 12.00 Pilates 4 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Canasta1Quorn 14.00 Sing4Pleasure 15.30 Pickleball	3 Jul 10.00 Golf 10.00 JigsawBookEx 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Scottish Dance 10.30 Papercraft 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 French Improve 14.00 Reading Group 14.00 Scrabble 2 14.00 Sustain Planet	4 Jul 10.00 Parish Walks 10.00 Sci & Tech 10.00 Spanish Conv 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor 14.00 French Conv 19.00 Canasta 3	5 Jul 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Knit & Natter 10.00 Mah Jong 10.30 Tai Chi 12.00 Lunch Club 13.30 Pilates 1
8 Jul 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 10.00 Poetry 1 11.00 Table Tennis 1 14.00 Chess 14.00 EDI Meeting 14.00 Quiz group	9 Jul (visit) Eng Parish Ch 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 Scrabble 3 10.45 Pilates 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 12.00 Pilates 4 14.00 Canasta 1 15.30 Pickleball	10 Jul 10.00 Committee 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Laughter Club 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.30 Monthly Meet 19.00 Canasta2Quorn	11 Jul 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor	12 Jul 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Needlecraft 1 10.00 Scrabble 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
15 Jul 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Gardening 14.00 Painting	16 Jul 10.00 6+ Walks 10.00 Needlecraft 2 10.00 Recorder Group 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Sing4Pleasure 15.30 Pickleball	17 Jul 10.00 German 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Poetry 2 10.00 Scottish Dance 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 Family History 14.00 French Improve 14.00 Italian Conv 14.00 Scrabble 2	18 Jul 09.45 CC Walks 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor 14.00 French Conv 14.15 Scrabble 4 18.30 Supper Club 2	19 Jul 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 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 14.00 Opera Visits
22 Jul 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 14.00 Chess 14.00 Local History	23 Jul 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 ETHEL 10.00 Scrabble 3 10.45 Pilates 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 12.00 Pilates 4 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Philosophy 1 15.30 Pickleball	24 Jul 10.00 Golf 10.00 History 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Scottish Dance 10.00 Stitch & Sew 11.00 Laughter Club 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Classical Music 18.30 Supper Club 1	25 Jul 10.00 Philosophy 2 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Architecture 14.00 Bowls Outdoor	26 Jul 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Scrabble 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1 19.30 Wine Apprec'n
29 Jul 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2	30 Jul 09.30 Pilates 2 10.45 Pilates 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 12.00 Pilates 4 14.00 Canasta 1 15.30 Pickleball	31 Jul 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3	Please note: Whilst every effort has been made to show the dates/times of meetings as accurately as possible, errors and changes may occur, so you should check with group leaders for confirmation. Please send any amendments for future issues to: newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk	

PLUS at Weekends:

Days of Interest trip to Wrest Park & Ascott House (20th July), Sunday Lunch Club (14th July)

Remembering Hilary

Many of you will remember Hilary Knowles, a longstanding member of Charnwood u3a, former Committee member and Groups Coordinator, who sadly passed away in December 2023 after a long illness.

Those who knew Hilary well will know she was a gardening enthusiast who was a volunteer gardener at Glenfield Hospital's Secret Garden. You may remember that last year, Hilary wrote a very interesting article about the restoration of this lovely garden, which was published on page 8 of the June 2023 edition of *News & Views* (see our website under News - Charnwood Newsletters to access all previous issues).

On 24th May this year, to mark Hilary's birthday, the Secret Garden at Glenfield Hospital held a short ceremony which was attended by all the volunteers and some hospital staff plus Hilary's husband Cliff, her two sisters and brothers in law. They have created a small section of the garden planted entirely with plants donated by Hilary. Cliff unveiled a plaque (*pictured right*) and there is also a sapling and a peony which is called a "Hilary" (they couldn't find any plants with a single L).

The garden has two Open Days over the summer under the NGS scheme. The first was on 22nd June (as announced by our Chair at our last monthly meeting) and the second will be on **Saturday 20th July from 10 am to 3 pm**. You may be interested in going and seeing the garden, especially if you are among Hilary's many friends in Cu3a.



For more details of the garden, the Open Day and how to get there, see: <https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/44274/the-secret-garden-glenfield-hospital>

EDI Meeting 8th July

The next EDI meeting will be held on **Monday 8th July at 2 pm at Gorse Covert**, when we will be discussing plans to implement the suggestions put forward at our last meeting in May.

A shortlist for action was drawn up, as detailed in the June issue of *News & Views* (page 8). We now need to discuss the practicalities of putting these ideas into action, so please come along to contribute to the plans.



If you have any comments or suggestions on EDI matters, or if you might be interested in joining the EDI team (who normally meet once every 2 months at Gorse Covert) please email

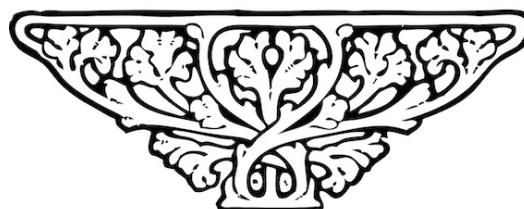
Pam: chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk or

Helen: newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

David Haddleton

We were sorry to learn of the recent passing of David Haddleton, who, along with his wife Vera, had been one of the earliest members of the History group.

Our thoughts and condolences go out to Vera and to all of David's family and friends.

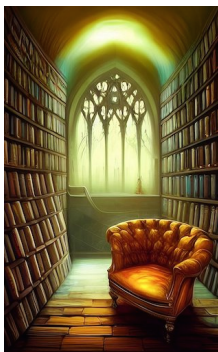


Upcoming Local Events

The Parish Library Exhibition

every Saturday 11 am - 3 pm
from 29th June - 31st August
at the Old Rectory Museum,
Rectory Place, Loughborough

In the eighteenth century, one of the Rectors of what is now All Saints Church in Loughborough began a library. This new exhibition at the Old Rectory Museum will shed light on this little known part of Loughborough's history and tell the story of the Parish Library and the people behind it.



Also at the Old Rectory Museum:

Old Rectory Community Fun Day

Saturday 6th July 10 am - 6 pm

The annual Old Rectory Community Fun Day is here again, and you are invited to come down for a free day of fun things to do, all with a history twist.

Wymeswold Farmers' Market and Fun Day

Sunday 7th July, 11 am - 3 pm
Wymeswold Sports Field

Lots of food, craft and art stalls with a Fun Dog Show with doggy stalls. Race with the ferrets, dance with Maria or just enjoy the sunshine. Entertainment and bar. Entry fee £1 for adults.

A Pub Crawl with a Difference

Thursday 11th July, 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm
Loughborough Town Centre

Meet at 6.30pm in the grounds of the Old Rectory Museum on Rectory Road for a circular walk round Loughborough looking at some of its pub buildings from the outside.

The walk will be led by Lynne Dyer, and it is essential to book a place.

Please call Charnwood Museum on 01509 233754. Friends of Charnwood Museum £2 Guests £4.

The Highway Cello with Kenneth Wilson

Saturday 13th July, 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm
at All Saints with Holy Trinity Church,
Steeple Row, Loughborough

An evening of music and stories as Kenneth Wilson shares his experiences of travelling from Hadrian's Wall to Rome. On a bike. With a cello.

Standard tickets £12, concessions £10.



For more information and tickets, see:
<https://allsaintsloughborough.org.uk/resources/highway-cello>

Discover Charnwood has other local events at:
<https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events>

Festival of Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeology

Saturday 29th June - Wednesday 31st July

As reported in last month's *News & Views* (p.10), this is a reminder that this festival of archaeology is happening throughout July with lots of events going on all over the 2 counties, allowing us to celebrate the rich and diverse heritage of Leicestershire and Rutland. There are guided and self-guided walks and tours, talks and performances, hands-on excavations, displays and exhibitions. All free or very modestly priced.

The entire programme can be downloaded from:
<https://leicsfieldworkers.org/festival-of-archaeology/>

Also see Char March's report of last year's Festival in the September 2023 edition of *News & Views* (p.9).

A walk round
Hallaton Castle,
2023. Photo
courtesy Janina
Holubecki



News from the National u3a



Fit for the Future Update

The Board have decided to present a resolution about the governance changes to the AGM on 16 October. The results of the Fit for the Future consultation phase have been positive and the Board believe that as more and more details are released, u3as will feel comfortable enough to support the resolution.

The resolution and supporting documents will be circulated to u3a committees during the first week of July and there will be opportunities to hear more about the proposals before the AGM.

Do you have a story in you?

Enter the **u3a Short Story Competition** to have your work featured in national u3a magazine *u3a matters* - which has a readership of over 200,000 members. The winner will also win a copy of Bloomsbury's bestselling 2025 Writers' and Artists' Yearbook, edited by Alysoun Owen.

The theme of the competition is 'Escape(s)'. The deadline has been extended to **Monday 15 July at 12 pm**. See <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/short-story-competition> to find out more.

Where am I?

The u3a office Learning team has launched 'Where am I?', a new geographical and travel based challenge. Members are asked to look at the submitted photos and use the clues and their knowledge of the world to work out where the locations are. The first correct answer out of the hat will receive a u3a tote bag. See <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/learning-activities/where-am-i> to take part.

For future challenges, u3a members are asked to submit a photo and some clues as to where the location is, so that other members can guess and find out more about interesting places to visit.

Free On-Line Events this Month include:

- **Future Lives Webinar: Demystifying retirement housing: options and costs** with Kathleen Dunmore, Tue 2 Jul at 2 pm
- **Rembrandt at 34: A Mirror to the Soul** with Catherine Stevenson, Newcastle u3a, Fri 5 Jul at 11 am
- **Exploring World Faiths: Forgiveness** - from a Baha'i, Jewish and Sikh perspective, Mon 15 Jul, 10 am
- **Numbers with Shapes with Dr Knott:** Thu 25 Jul at 2 pm
- **Modern Britain: A Story Told Through Stamps** with Diana Laffin, Fri 26 Jul at 2 pm
- **Secrets of the Human Brain: Brain Research, Imaging and Scanning** with Dr Bob Pullen, Prudhoe u3a, Wed 31 Jul at 2 pm.

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

Friends Newsletter and More:

Register to receive the National u3a 'Friends' newsletter regularly at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter> where you will also find a link to recent issues.

There are more learning initiatives on the u3a National programmes page at: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes> - now arranged into handy sections on photos/art, puzzles/games, connecting with members, etc.

Also, the u3a learning blog **Sources** includes a large collection of articles, posted by u3a members, covering a wide range of topics. This can be found at: <https://sources.u3a.org.uk>

Our impact (<https://www.u3a.org.uk/our-impact>) is about using our voice to make a difference and influence change, locally and nationally, beyond what we do in our u3as.

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 **August** issue of **News & Views** will be **Monday, 29th July (12 noon)**.



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: 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 <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk> under the News menu.

Thank You!

Helen Reid
Newsletter Editor
Charnwood u3a



Committee, Support Teams and Group Leaders' Details

Names, photos and email links for all the current Committee members can be found on our website under 'Contact', along with details of our Support Teams. In the case of our Membership Secretary and Site Administrator, phone numbers are also given, as are those of our IT Help Desk Team.

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

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) in John Storer House, 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

Some other useful u3a web addresses:

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

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

