

## News & Views



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### Our Website

Check out our website at: [www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://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 August 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: 'Wearing Tights for the Queen'



See page 2 for details.

## View from the Chair



Well folks, it's going to be mostly View from the Sofa this month. The weather is glorious, the weeds are invading the garden and I'm concocting every possible excuse to sit indoors. I blame the BBC. No sooner has Wimbledon finished than it's the Olympics. Ironic that the sight of all those people being active in so many amazing ways makes us (well - me, anyway) need to sit down and watch TV for hours on end.

Actually, I did leave the sofa recently - in between unmissable sporting events. I went to the first ever u3a Festival in York, one of 600-odd members from across the country having a go at all sorts of activities. Too hot (of course) for me to try walking netball or pétanque, but I did find out some Secrets of the Human Brain. I discovered that the female brain has a larger capacity for language than the male equivalent. Apparently there is no correlation between brain size and intelligence, but it's a perfect excuse to indulge my verbosity! I also learned how AI is going to do wonderful things for us - except weeding the garden and how to stay in shape while parked on the sofa. Then a talk on Richard the Third by a Yorkshireman aimed to persuade us that Richard should have been buried up North. I did actually manage to hold my tongue!

Though there wasn't time to try everything I wanted to, the Festival made me realise how many different group activities are happening across the u3a and whether we could steal some ideas. Walking sports like cricket, football and netball are really popular. Then there are all kinds of music groups: ukulele anyone? Perhaps there's a hobby or interest that you'd like to pursue? Remember that no single person needs to do everything - the u3a is all about sharing - and there's lots of help available for start-ups. On the subject of sharing, do have a look at page 8 where the Committee is appealing for help. If you'd like to get involved in any way, or would just like to know more, please get in touch.

There's no members meeting this month, so whether you're out being active or watching other people doing it for you, enjoy the sunshine and hope to see you in September.

All the best

Pam  
[chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

## Our Monthly Meetings

Following last month's enjoyable meeting at Emmanuel featuring a very entertaining talk by Dave Andrews about his 25 years at Radio Leicester, we are now taking our summer break which means there is

### NO MONTHLY MEETING OF CHARNWOOD U3A IN AUGUST.

We will recommence these meetings in **Emmanuel Church**, Forest Road, Loughborough on **Wednesday 11th September**, when we have a talk from Andrew Brown, former High Sherriff of Rurland, on 'Wearing Tights for the Queen'. Thereafter there will be a meeting every **second Wednesday afternoon of each month, all at 2.15 for 2.30 pm.**

The upcoming programme for the next 6 months is shown below. For information on each meeting, see the **Monthly Meetings** page under the 'Events' menu on our website <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk> (login needed to see details beyond title/speaker), and also future issues of *News & Views*.

### Monthly Meetings to February 2025

- **14 Aug: NO MEETING**
- **11 Sep: *Wearing Tights for the Queen - Andrew Brown***  
Andrew Brown, a Rutland farmer, spent a year 'wearing tights for the Queen' as High Sheriff of Rutland. He provides an insight into the role and history of the High Sheriff and a look into the future of British agriculture.
- **09 Oct: *A Tasting Journey Through Chocolate - Butterfly Chocolates***  
Bertie, a food scientist, and his wife a biochemist, along with their two young children, are the brains behind this chocolate manufacturers based in Pocklington, Yorkshire. Their chocolates are handmade with natural ingredients and have unusual flavours. This talk and tasting involves telling people about how the cocoa plant grows, how chocolate is made and the many different factors affecting the end flavours. There will be various samples to look at such as cocoa beans, cocoa nibs and shells and the individual components of chocolate. There will be a demonstration of how to professionally taste chocolate using all the senses, and everyone is given six different chocolate samples to work through the tasting process!
- **13 Nov: *How to Read a House - Janet Spavold***  
A talk by professional historian Janet Spavold, who will tell us how to discover lots of clues to the history of a building just by looking at it – if you know what to look for!
- **11 Dec: *Quorn Ukulele Orchestra***  
For our last meeting before Christmas, we are pleased to welcome the Quorn Ukulele Orchestra (the QUO) who will entertain us with their strumming.
- **08 Jan: *Active Charnwood***  
The Active Charnwood team delivers sport and physical activities throughout the borough, offering residents a wide range of opportunities to get out, get active and improve their health.
- **12 Feb: *The Workhouse Storytellers***  
What was Workhouse life really like? Using material from the archives, authentically costumed storytellers bring the Victorian workhouse to life.

## Group News

### Curtain Up on New Group

A new Charnwood u3a group looking at **drama and theatre** will have its inaugural meeting on **Wednesday September 4th at 10am at the Tesco Community Room on Park Road, Loughborough.**

The first meeting will be to discuss what the members would like to do in the group. Read plays and discuss them, or maybe even perform them?

It will be up to the members to steer the aims of the group.

Initially the group will meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Tesco, 10am to midday, but other meetings may be added.

Quite a few people have already expressed interest in the new group and if you'd like to find out more then email the group leader, Graham North on [Northstar2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Northstar2@tiscali.co.uk) or just turn up on the day.

### Parlez-vous Français?

Have you been watching the Olympics in Paris? Has it brought back memories of school French lessons – heureuses or malheureuses? Perhaps you already speak 'un peu', or even 'un petit peu', but would like to do more? The **French Improvers** group is now meeting in the Community Room at Tesco, Park Road, so we have room for more members. We're a friendly, informal group, at different levels of expertise, sharing our knowledge and having fun while we do it – so not at all like school!

We meet every first and third Wednesday afternoon, 2-3.30. If you think you'd like to join us, or want to come along for a 'taster' before joining, drop Pam a message on [frenchimprovers@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:frenchimprovers@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or give her a call on 07974 946007

### Opera Visits

**August** - no meeting.

**Sunday September 8th at 4 pm at the Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham**

For the first time, the BBC are spreading the world-famous Proms (broadcast right now) around seven UK cities.

The Nottingham programme includes local Claire Hammond and music by Korngold and Sibelius. For details, see the July issue of *News & Views* or follow the link at the bottom of the Opera Visits group page on our website.



Exterior of Royal Opera House, Nottingham

Tickets £36 or less.

If you want to join us (with a free lift from Loughborough if requested) please telephone Diana Harvey on 01509 232227 **as soon as possible.**

### I.T. For Everyone

These days, knowing how to use Information Technology is an essential life skill. Too often, though, it seems unnecessarily complex and can be immensely frustrating. If you find little annoyances keep getting in the way when you use your computer, or the apps you use have a knack of making simple things difficult, the **I.T. for Everyone** group will be there to provide help and guidance.

Come along to our inaugural meeting at **3 pm on Friday, 16th August, in the Gorse Covert Community Centre**, when we will set out how we can help you to Fix I.T., Master I.T. and, ultimately, Enjoy I.T.

Phil Bass  
[webmanager@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:webmanager@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)



### COMING SOON:

A new weekly **LINE DANCING** group led by Eileen and Jane, starting **Thursday September 12th** at the Brush Bowls Club, Nanpantan Road, Loughborough, 10am - 12 noon. From Thursday October 3rd we will meet in the afternoon 2 pm - 4 pm.

For details please contact Jane North - email [northstar2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:northstar2@tiscali.co.uk)



## Out and About

### English Parish Churches Group Summer Visits

The group is out and about from May to September and in July about 25 members spent the day exploring four superb churches just over the border in Rutland and Northants.

There can be very few parts of the country where one can see churches reasonably close to each other which between them reflect the medieval period. Elizabethan Protestantism, the religious crisis which in part led to the Civil War and the arrival of full-blown decorated interiors of the Victorian period, a palimpsest of church history before one's eyes, but also in beautiful ironstone and limestone villages.

Some members even managed a half-price main course offer at The Old White Hart at Lyddington, though that was only available for July!

St Peter's, Brooke, is just about the only church where a virtually complete rebuild of 1570 has left us with an Elizabethan interior (*pictured right*) complete with all the fittings needed for the then new Protestant Prayer Book services.



The motto of Rutland is 'Multum in Parvo', 'Much in Little', and the same could be applied to St Andrew's, Stoke Dry, where the interior takes us right through from Norman carvings to medieval wall paintings to changes brought about by the Reformation, not to mention its connections with the Digby family, Catholics who got caught up with the Gunpowder Plot.

St Andrew's, Lyddington stands next to the remains of one of the palaces of the medieval bishops of Lincoln so is a prestigious church, but it is its unique communion-table and rails lay-out of the 1630s which take us right into the differences of religious opinion which helped significantly to bring about war between an Anglican King and a Puritan House of Commons.



Finally at St Mary's, Ashley, we are in the world of Victorian restoration and re-ordering of a medieval church paid for by the squire/rector who employed the most eminent Victorian architect, George Gilbert Scott and the firm of Clayton and Bell. The result is the most lavishly decorated chancel in the East Midlands with stained glass, wall paintings and much besides (*see picture on left*).

So, if I have whetted any u3a members' appetites for an interesting day out in beautiful, quiet countryside, this is my recommendation. All four churches are unlocked daily.

Roger Willson

## Further Out and About

### Travel Group Holiday to Shetland 27 June - 2 July

The first day of our Shetland holiday was eventful! After check-in at Birmingham airport, we found ourselves in a massive snaking queue to get to security so much so that there was no time for refreshment before we were called to board!

On Friday morning, Day 2, we met our guide for the week and went to Clickimin Broch, a type of stone-built round house found only in Scotland, dating back 3000 years. Then, into the town of Lerwick for a walking tour, including a stop at the house lived in by Jimmy Pérez, in the series, Shetland (*pictured right*). We spent an interesting time in the excellent Shetland Museum before having some free time to explore the town.

On Saturday, we had a very early start, leaving the hotel at 7.45. We were going to Unst which meant catching 2 ferries, one to Yell and



then on to Unst. Our first stop was a gin distillery, where we were given a talk and had a gin tasting. Of course, at the end, there were some purchases by members of the group! Then on to Unst Heritage Centre, where we saw local artefacts and examples of spinning and local lace knitting. After lunch, we went to Boat Haven, where Shetland's rich maritime history has been preserved. Before leaving Unst, we stopped to visit replicas of a Viking longhouse and ship (*see left*). A long but interesting day.

Back to a more normal start on Sunday, we headed South to explore Sumburgh and the South Mainland. We spent some time at Sumburgh Lighthouse and Visitor Centre and many of the group spent time looking for puffins on the cliffs nearby. The cliffs were teeming with nesting sea birds and yes, some of us did see puffins after a patient wait! We also visited Jarlshof, a complex of ancient settlements which span more than 4000 years. After lunch, we spent a short time at Quendale Mill, a restored 19th century water mill, before finishing the day with a visit to Shetland Croft House Museum, a restored 19th century thatched cottage showing how Shetlanders would have lived in the 1870s.



Monday was our last day and a wet one! We started off at Lerwick Brewery for a tour and beer tasting. Then onward to Scalloway to visit the museum, which tells the story of Scalloway and its people from the earliest settlers to the present day. The highlight of the museum's displays is the section dealing with the wartime operation known as the Shetland Bus, aiding the resistance of the Nazi occupation of Norway. Sadly, many young men lost their lives and are commemorated on a memorial in the village (*pictured left*). After lunch, we were supposed to have a boat trip round the island of Mousa.

Unfortunately, the weather worsened, and we were unable to go.

We returned home Tuesday afternoon after spending the morning in Lerwick.

Many thanks to Avril for organising a lovely trip and to Sue for quietly supporting us in various ways.

Judith Sismey





## Out and About Again

### Days of Interest - Wrest Park and Ascott House

We had had two destinations on our July trip.

Our first stop was at Wrest Park, an English Heritage site in Bedfordshire, with both a house and extensive grounds to explore. The house was built in the 1830s, used as a military hospital in WW1, the headquarters of Sun Alliance in the Second World War and finally an agricultural research centre before being taken over by English Heritage in 2006. The house has Rococo interiors, which means it's flamboyant, with lots of ornamentation, not many straight lines and quite a few cherubs. The house is set in stunning gardens and parklands. There are formal gardens, parterres and woodland to explore, with stunning walks to the Archer Pavilion with its really interesting wall paintings. Both the House and the Parklands are grade 1 listed.



Our second stop was at Ascott House and gardens in Buckinghamshire, a National Trust property once owned by the Rothschilds. The property was given to the National Trust in 1947, but a member of the family lived there until 2022 and it is still visited by other family members. Much of the collection on show is owned by the family.



There are room screens at the bottom of the staircase to stop you meandering into the family's area. We had much debate – our members and staff – as to how exactly some of the rooms were decorated. The hand painted wallpaper in one room looked almost as if had been painted in situ, and the tiled room wasn't tiled at all but the walls had been covered in clay and made to look like tiles. The collections of porcelain were stunning. There were again fabulous and extensive gardens to see – although quite a few of us got a bit lost – the map was not good!

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](mailto:ppc.wat@ntlworld.com) or phone 01509 552834 or 07455 167929 for details.**

### Local History Visit to Burton Walks

Our July visit was very local. John Weitzel, the Loughborough Grammar School archivist, took us on an interesting guided tour along Burton Walks to look at the 7 houses and learn about their history. They were built between 1880 and 1929 for private individuals, until Loughborough Endowed Schools bought them all at various times up to 1998.



We went inside the Red House (No.5), and heard about how local Suffragettes tried to firebomb the building in 1913. Apparently the then Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII, used to stay there with his mistress, so the Suffragettes regarded it as a Royal residence and thus a legitimate target. Though they only succeeded in causing minor damage to the staircase, the event was widely reported in the papers, and this link with the Suffragette movement led to it becoming something of a tourist attraction. Other buildings also had interesting histories and some well-known residents.

The final part of the tour took us into the school library, where there was lots of fascinating archival material on display, including very detailed original architects' drawings, deeds of sale, letters, photos and newspaper clippings. Everyone on the tour was also offered a free copy of our guide's illustrated book 'The Houses and Residents of Burton Walks' to remind us of what we'd seen and heard and to provide further details. A very interesting afternoon, and the weather was good too!



## August 2024 Calendar

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p>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: <a href="mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk">newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk</a></p>				
<p>5 Aug 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Chess 14.00 Current Affairs</p>	<p>6 Aug 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 15.30 Pickleball</p>	<p>7 Aug 10.00 German 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.30 Papercraft 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 French Improve 14.00 Reading Group 14.00 Scrabble 2</p>	<p>1 Aug 10.00 Parish Walks 10.00 Spanish Conv 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor 19.00 Canasta 3</p> <p>8 Aug 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor</p>	<p>2 Aug 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Knit &amp; Natter 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Lunch Club 12.00 Table Tennis 6</p> <p>9 Aug 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Line Dance 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</p>
<p>12 Aug 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 10.00 Poetry 1 11.00 Table Tennis 1 14.00 Digital Imaging 14.00 Quiz group</p>	<p>13 Aug 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 14.00 Cribbage 1 <i>visit</i> Eng Parish Ch 15.30 Pickleball</p>	<p>14 Aug 10.00 Committee 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Laughter Club 11.00 Table Tennis 3 19.00 Canasta2Quorn</p>	<p>15 Aug 09.45 CC Walks 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor 14.15 Scrabble 4 18.30 Supper Club 2</p>	<p>16 Aug 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 14.00 Opera Visits</p>
<p>19 Aug 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Chess 14.00 Gardening 14.00 Painting</p>	<p>20 Aug 10.00 6+ Walks 10.00 Needlecraft 2 10.00 Recorder Group 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 14.00 Canasta 1 15.30 Pickleball</p>	<p>21 Aug 10.00 German 10.00 Golf 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Poetry 2 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 French Improve 14.00 Italian Conv 14.00 Scrabble 2</p>	<p>22 Aug 10.00 Philosophy 2 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Architecture 14.00 Bowls Outdoor</p>	<p>23 Aug 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Line Dance 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 19.30 Wine Apprec'n</p>
<p>26 Aug 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Craft+Self Help 11.00 Table Tennis 1</p>	<p>27 Aug 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 Cribbage 1 14.00 Philosophy 1 15.30 Pickleball</p>	<p>28 Aug 10.00 Golf 10.00 History 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Stitch &amp; Sew 11.00 Laughter Club 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Classical Music 18.30 Supper Club 1</p>	<p>29 Aug 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Outdoor</p>	<p>30 Aug 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6</p>

**PLUS at Weekends:**

Days of Interest trip to Harrogate (17th August), Sunday Lunch Club (11th August)

## SOS from your Committee

Don't worry, we're not drowning yet! But we would like some help. We have well over a thousand members now and thanks to a wonderful team of Committee members (not forgetting our group leaders and various support teams) we keep things ticking along. But the u3a has always existed 'by the members for the members' and we would very much like to involve more members. So perhaps we can change the meaning of SOS to:

### SHARING OUR SKILLS

Of course, we already do that in our activity groups, but we'd really like to extend it to our Committee work. There are areas where we could do with immediate help:

- Minutes Secretary
- Newsletter publishing
- Maintaining equipment records

But there are plenty of other ways to help our role holders, who are all listed on the **Contacts** page of our website: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/>

Alternatively, you might like to join one of the teams that make recommendations to Committee:

- The EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) team
- The Website team

You don't need to be a Committee member, though of course you'd be very welcome!

So if you have the odd hour to spare and would like to find out more, please get in touch.

Pam  
[chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk), 07974 946007

## My Life in Books

By now you should have received in the post your copy of the Summer edition of **u3a Matters**, the national magazine for all u3a members, published by the Third Age Trust. In that issue, you might have noticed a piece by one of our own members, **Robert Jackson**, where he shares his book recommendations:

- **Best childhood book:** *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
- **Favourite book of all time:** *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara
- **Current read:** *An Insular Possession* by Timothy Mo

To read Robert's comments on why he recommends these books, go to page 64 of the Summer 2024 issue of *u3a Matters*.

It's always nice to see our members getting national recognition. You are also invited to submit your own recommendations for books in the above three categories, by sending an email headed BOOKS to [editor@u3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@u3a.org.uk)



## Stamps Galore!

Sharon Davison was surprised to receive a booking form for a Gardening Group trip, with its envelope adorned with a dozen colourful 13p stamps - all 'special issues' dating from 1975-1980 - as shown in the photo below. Ordinary stamps without bar codes are no longer valid for postage, but special issue stamps like these remain valid, and it was delivered the day after posting. Hopefully it made the postie smile!





## July EDI Meeting

At the EDI meeting on 8 July, discussion centred on ideas for welcoming new and recently joined members, as well as those who had never been to a monthly meeting, or who had attended a monthly or group meeting and had not had a positive experience.



### Practical suggestions:

- **Coffee & Chat** sessions at John Storer House café
- **Monthly Meetings:** members attending their first monthly meeting to be invited to arrive at 2 pm to meet up with others before meetings.
- **Group Leaders** to ensure new members feel welcome
- **Group Fair:** a biannual event for members to meet group leaders and find out about group activities.
- **Noticeboard in foyer at Emmanuel** with details of group activities and contacts.
- **New Leaflet:** for new & prospective members

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 - next meeting 16 Sept), please email Pam: [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or Helen: [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

## ArtSpace Loughborough: Forthcoming Exhibition

Ingrid Kleins-Daniels, a member of Charnwood u3a (you may know her from our French and Spanish groups) and also of ArtSpace, has alerted us to their latest exhibition entitled '**Edges and Transitions**'. This will be held at Stamford Arts Centre from 6th August until 17th August, 9 am to 5 pm.

ArtSpace is a local group of 23 artists living in and around Loughborough who exhibit regularly as a group in Leicestershire and throughout the Midlands.

They also exhibit regularly as individual artists, both locally, in most of the regional open exhibitions, and in London.

See the poster on the right for contact details, and for further information check out their website at: <https://www.artspace-lboro.co.uk>

**ArtSpace**  
Loughborough

**Stamford**  
Arts Centre

# Edges and Transitions

An exhibition by  
ArtSpace Loughborough

**Tuesday 6  
– Saturday 17  
August**

Open Mondays to  
Saturdays 9am - 5pm

**Stamford Arts Centre**  
27 St. Mary's Street  
Stamford PE9 2DL

Telephone: **01780 763203**

[www.artspace-lboro.co.uk](https://www.artspace-lboro.co.uk)

**Stamford Arts Centre**



## Upcoming Local Events

### *All Saints Church Library: Free Exhibition in The Old Rectory Museum & Free Workshops*

**Open Saturdays in  
July and August  
11am to 3pm**

An 18th century Rector of All Saints Parish Church, Loughborough, Rev. James Bickham D.D., Rector 1761-1785 [memorial in the Burton Chapel], amassed a library of about 800 volumes which he willed to subsequent rectors. Housed in the rector's study in the Old Rectory until the 1960s, this important collection is now safely housed in the Manuscript Department of Nottingham University and can always be seen by appointment.

There are still 420 books of the original collection, a rare example of an 18th century library virtually retaining its integrity and an insight into what an educated 18th century rector took an interest in.

This summer, facsimiles of parts of the books are on show in the **Old Rectory Museum, Rectory Place, Loughborough**. Take the chance to go and see them, especially if you are interested in the history of books or our local history.

You might also like to book one of the **three workshops** which Nottingham University is also offering, as shown in the poster on the right. Bookings can be made using the contact details shown.

Roger Willson



The University of  
**Nottingham**

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

Manuscripts and  
Special Collections



Loughborough  
Archaeological &  
Historical Society

## Loughborough Parish Library at The Old Rectory Museum: Free Workshop



**Join us for a hands-on workshop exploring Early Modern print culture using facsimile pages from the historic rare books. Decode the symbolism and powerful visual storytelling in images taken from Classical myths and Biblical stories.**

Dates: **Wednesday 28 August**

**Friday 30 August**

**Tuesday 3 September**

The same workshop runs on all three dates.

Time: **10am-12.30pm**

Venue: **Old Rectory Museum, Loughborough LE11 1UW**

To book please email

[mss-library@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:mss-library@nottingham.ac.uk)

by 23 August 2024



Image: Frontispiece of *Lucii Coelii Lactantii Firmiani opera* (1660), one of the books formerly held in the Library at the Old Rectory Museum © Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham



## Charnwood Orchestra

Charnwood Orchestra's 51st season commences at **Holy Trinity, Barrow on Soar, Saturday 28th September 2024 at 7:30pm**

The programme includes:

- Rossini: La Cambiale di Matrimonio Overture
- Mendelssohn: Intermezzo and Nocturne from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'
- Kodály: Summer Evening
- Bartók: Romanian Folk Dances
- Richard Strauss: Serenade for 13 Wind Instruments
- Mozart: Symphony No.25

Tickets may be reserved in advance from [tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk](mailto:tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk)

Prices are £16 Adult, £14 Concessions and £5 Students and U18s.

Further information on their website at: <https://www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk>

**Other local events at Discover Charnwood:**  
<https://www.discovercharnwood.co.uk/events>

**Loughborough University events are at:**  
<https://www.lboro.ac.uk/news-events/events/>



the  
Charnwood  
Orchestra

Music Director Nic Fallowfield  
Patron Thomas Bowes  
Est. 1973

**Late Summer Classics**

**Saturday 28th September 2024 7:30pm**

**Holy Trinity Church  
Church Street  
Barrow upon Soar LE12 8HP**

**Conductor Nic Fallowfield**

**Rossini** La Cambiale di Matrimonio Overture  
**Mendelssohn** Intermezzo and Nocturne from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'  
**Kodály** Summer Evening  
**Bartók** Romanian Folk Dances  
**Richard Strauss** Serenade for 13 Wind Instruments  
**Mozart** Symphony No.25



Nic Fallowfield

**Tickets:**

- The Orchestra website
- [tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk](mailto:tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk)
- Taylor's Florist, 17 High Street, Barrow upon Soar LE12 8PY
- Members of the Orchestra
- At the door, cash and card payments

£16.00 (£14.00 concessions)  
£5.00 -18s and under or NUS members

[f /charnwoodorchestra](https://www.facebook.com/charnwoodorchestra)  
[X /charnwoodorch](https://www.instagram.com/charnwoodorch)



## News from the National u3a



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

- **Cryptic Crosswords in Context** with subject adviser Henry Howarth, Wed 7 Aug at 10 am
- **Agriculture and Climate Change** with Ian Hawker, East Suffolk u3a, Thu 8 Aug at 10 am
- **From Monet to Modern: Exploring 'The Water Lily Pond' 1899 and Beyond** with Catherine Stevenson, Newcastle u3a, Thu 15 Aug at 10 am.

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 **September** issue of **News & Views** will be **Friday, 30th August (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 <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](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>

