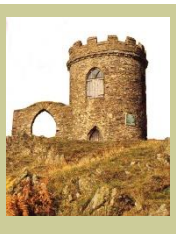
Charnwood U3A

December 2018

Update



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Welcome

A warm welcome to our **new members.** We hope you will soon be involved in U3A activities and making new friends.

To access the members' area of **our website www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk** you will need the user name and password which are bottom left and bottom right on the back of your membership card.

Monthly Meetings

Please make a note of these changes in your membership card:

January: "Tax, Care and Toy Boys" (was April)

April: "You're never too old to Rock and Roll" (was January)

Our December meeting is a Folk Duo, (12 December) as in your programme.

Please note: all monthly meetings **start at 2.30pm**, venue: Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough.

It was interesting to hear from Liz Robson, at our November monthly meeting, about how the Rothley Wine Estate was formed and how she made the journey from midwife to vintner. Afterwards the audience were able to sample some of the wines from the vineyard on our doorstep.

On Wednesday 12th December at 2.30pm in Emmanuel Church we are very pleased to welcome Fool's Gold, a husband and wife duo travelling down from County Durham, who present live music shows all around the UK (and beyond). They tell us that they are lucky enough to be kept very busy - that's because their shows have a difference that makes them unique - and are fully booked throughout 2019.

The shows are very engaging and involve the audience from the start. Singing along is almost mandatory! The content is often light-hearted, and always absorbing and informative.

The event will be followed by mince pies with your tea or coffee!



Neil Rowbotham

Monthly Meetings – when and getting there

The monthly meetings are open to all members of Charnwood U3A at no extra cost.

The church is open at 2.00pm and the meeting begins at 2.30.

There is disabled parking only in front of the church but parking nearby and in the Leisure Centre car park, which connects with the church via a foot bridge.

Please sign in at the U3A desk if you park in the church car park.

Bus routes are nearby.

Monthly Meetings – January 2019

2019 begins with a monthly meeting at Emmanuel on Wednesday 9th January but with a slight reshuffle in the programme.

Vince Eager cannot now be with us until April so we will be delighted to be informed by Chris Dingley on the intriguing theme of "**Tax, Care and Toy Boys**".



Charnwood U3A Christmas Tree

I had the privilege of being invited to the official opening of the All Saints Christmas Tree Festival on 27th November. Our U3A Treasurer, Bob Pyatt, came with me to mingle with the great and good of Loughborough. The event was attended by Michael Kapur, the new Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire who, in a darkened church, performed the switch on.
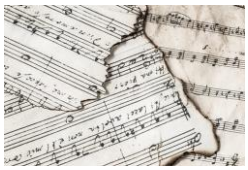
The Christmas trees burst into glorious light and we had the opportunity to look at them whilst being entertained by a talented young man playing saxophone, accompanied on the piano by his father. We enjoyed light refreshments as we had a closer look at the trees and we found 'ours' looking very stylish having been decorated by members Wendy Hoult and friends. Thank you for making such a good display of the multitude of activities embraced by Charnwood U3A.

Helen Davison



Group News

Classical Music Enjoyment Group:



meets this month on Wednesday 22nd August 2pm to 4pm at Loughborough Lawn Tennis Club, Ingle Pingle, off Forest Road, Loughborough, when the programme will be a "Bring Your Own" session.

Any enquiries about the Group to Group Leader, Martin Jones [redacted].

Proposal for a Creative Writing Group

I would like to be part of a creative writing workshop and I would be happy to facilitate one. Stories; Novels; Plays; Poems; Articles; History; Reporting; Essays. I am a writer myself, having published two books and several articles to the Quaker weekly, *The Friend*. However, I am not a teacher, so the group would be more of an exchange of ideas, of which there are excellent ones on Google. I am proposing that we would meet where we would have access to tables, and that would mean not at one of our homes. Perhaps at Tesco's, probably on the second or fourth Wednesday afternoon each month. Please email me, [redacted] with your interest, your experience, your ideas. *Anthony Gimpel*



WALKING GROUPS

In the first instance, please contact the Walking Groups Co-ordinator Elizabeth Steel [redacted] telephone [redacted]

Strollers and Amble Groups

Details of next walks will be sent out on e-mail. Chris Brown, [redacted]

Tuesday 6 Plus Walking Group

18th December - A circular walk from Quorn towards Swithland and back.

Park on Cradock Drive, Quorn (LE12 8EP), Grid Ref SK556163. Adjacent to the Cricket Club. Leaders Anne and Martyn.

En uiries to Mike Pearson [redacted]

'Les Sportives'

En uiries to Janet Butlin [redacted]

Parish Walk Group

A new walking group has been formed, 'The Parish Walks'. The walks will be at a leisurely pace and cover about 3 miles. The group meets every third Thursday.

Thursday 20th December - Walton on the Wolds circular. Park around The Green, just past the pub (593198) in Walton on the Wolds ready to start walking at 10.00.

If interested contact Elizabeth Steel on [redacted]

Little Xtras

These are the Little Extras walks scheduled for December. As usual, both start promptly at 10.00am. - come prepared for cold weather and muddy paths.

December 13th – "Belvoir Away". Meet at The Old Black Horse, Grimston. Postcode LE14 3BZ; Grid Reference SK684219. Please park considerately around the village green as there is limited parking by the pub. Leader - Mike Pearson.

December 27th – "Don't Quarry - Be Happy..." Meet at The Old Thatched Inn, Stanton under Bardon. Postcode LE67 9TQ; Grid Reference SK466101. Car park by the pub. Work off those extra Christmas pounds before the turn of the year. Six miles - some hilly sections, a number of stiles and some muddy bits. Leader - Malcolm Otter.

Any questions, please contact Malcolm Otter on [redacted]

Saturday 5+ Miles

1st December - 10am, Zouch car park. Leader Ruth.

Enquiries to Sue Griffiths [redacted]

10+-Mile Walk

4th September - Leader: Gordon Murray. The walk will start at 10.30 from the Rugby Club car park at Cromford (nearby on-road parking may be possible). Nearest Post Code DE4 5JY. Gridref: SK300571. Lunch will be at Jug & Glass in Lea. Note the later start time for this walk. Enquiries to Peter Mill [redacted] Any new members must make contact prior to joining a walk.

Activity List

There is an up-to-date Group Activities sheet on the Members' Area of the Charnwood U3A website www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk.

Please make the above two changes to your activity list:

Items for Update

The deadline for publishing is normally the last day of the previous month. The next issue of **Update Extra** will be published in January 2019 and the deadline for items is **Monday 31st December**. There is a limit of around 500 words per item, and photos are welcome. The Editor reserves full editorial rights as to length and suitability and the Editor's decision is final. Update Extra is published quarterly.

Please send your contributions to: newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk or to Update Editor Linda Lawson, [redacted] Please ma e sure you nc ude your contact details with your item, and try not to leave it until the last minute if at all possible.

Update is sent to all Charnwood U3A members by e-mail or by post before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood U3A website each month at **www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk** (you will need the new user name and password which are bottom left and bottom right on the back of your membership card).

Thank you!

The Whole True Story of the Founding of Charnwood U3A (then not named) from Millie Middleton, Founder Member of Charnwood U3A

When I was widowed for the first time around 1997 it was suggested to me that I should take part with a group to form a new U3A. Notices in the Echo and Loughborough Library encouraged a mixed group to gather in Emmanuel Church Hall. About 60 noisy, interested persons were encouraged by an official from Third Age Trust National Office. I attended with Joan Allen (are you still with us Joan?).

At this meeting we agreed to form a Steering Committee. At his home, Nigel Leicester and his wife Melitta had room for a group of 10. Nigel was made Chairman of the Steering Committee and I became Vice-Chairman (I suspect because I was female).

We not only chose a name for our group, Charnwood U3A, but Brian Williams designed an attractive motif and Eileen Garner welcomed visitors from an early date.

Once the group was launched the Steering Committee worked all hours, while people volunteered to lead groups and decided what to do. My speciality for many years was Gardening and I became a Group Leader. Now I can barely stand up! And I am housebound. Old age has crept up on me but I used to regularly see U3A members around the town. My twin grand-daughters would say "Grandma, you know everybody!". At the very last meeting of Group Leaders that I attended, I met Nigel and Melitta and I am told other early members are also still active, especially Eileen Garner.

When I had an unhappy incident about 18 months ago, I told the ambulance men "No I cannot go into hospital! I am starting a new U3A group tomorrow! There will be members waiting for me!" And I did start it! But after that first meeting my heart protested and Barbara Aris stepped in. I have now given up my membership of Charnwood U3A but it was such a big part of my life; I shall never forget old friends even though now I can't really leave my house.

Addendum: It was on a brief holiday to Prague that I met a U3A widower and changed my name from Esmond to Middleton. Now he too is dead. Well, that's life I suppose.

BITS AND BOBS

Celebrity Speaker at Newtown Linford

Our evening with Bunny Guinness at Newtown Linford last month proved very popular. Our next celebrity evening is on February 26th when our speaker will be Matthew Biggs who is a regular panellist on Gardeners' Question Time. We again invite visitors to join us on that occasion and tickets will be £12.
Tickets may be obtained from David Couling by ringing [redacted] or by email on [redacted]

Macaulay Lecture, 9/1/2019 at Rothley

My name is Rakesh Ankit and I have recently joined Loughborough University as a lecturer in History. I write to you about the 3rd Macaulay Lecture that is being organised from 5-7pm on Wednesday, 9 January 2019 at Rothley Court Hotel, and would be grateful if you would inform your members about it.

The Eventbrite link for free registration, and including other details, is pasted below. Dr Javed Majeed (KCL) will be speaking on 'Macaulay and the English language in India'. Previous speakers of this lecture series were Profs Catherine Hall and Sir Christopher Bayly.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-third-macaulay-lecture-tickets-51163845439