



# NEWSLETTER

Issue November 2021

Web Address: [www.hucknallu3a.org.uk](http://www.hucknallu3a.org.uk)

## Message from our Chair

November means we are well into the autumn months.

An obvious sign all around us are the interestingly coloured leaves that slowly drop from trees and shrubs to blow about and carpet the ground. But why do some plants shed their leaves before winter? It turns out autumnal leaf drop is a form of self-protection. While evergreen plants in cold climates have thick waxes and resins to protect their leaves from freezing and fracturing, deciduous species generally have thin leaves that are susceptible to cold temperatures. By the end of summer, many leaves are insect-eaten, diseased, or otherwise damaged. Dropping them gives the plant a fresh start in the spring, and the nutrients from the decaying leaves are recycled to help grow the next leafy generation.

Some tree facts:

There are over 60,000 species of trees worldwide but in the UK we have just 32.

A mature tree can absorb more than 48 pounds of carbon dioxide each year, removing and storing the carbon while releasing the oxygen back into the air.

They also prevent soil from eroding into our waterways, reduce storm water runoff, and lessen flood damage.

Some of you may have read that the u3a are hoping to plant 5000 trees in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the UK u3a movement.

### u3a 40th Anniversary Woodland – Individual Trees

Choose to buy individual trees which will be planted to create our u3a Anniversary Woodland and help support the environment, wildlife and climate.

Every tree sold makes a difference and helps the movement get nearer its target of planting 5,000 trees by the end of the planting season in Spring next year. You will receive a specially designed certificate to download as a memento of your contribution to the environment and to the u3a movement. Please select the number of trees you would like to buy then click customise to add your name to the certificate. \*Please note the u3a Anniversary Woodland is located on the England/Wales border in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The trees – two-year old saplings – will be native, deciduous trees; a mix of native species will be appropriate to the chosen site. Your purchase includes planting the tree(s), plus 12 years of maintenance to ensure the tree(s) become established.

This is for **individual members** to choose to donate £7.50 for each tree.

This is the link for further information and purchasing details.

<https://u3abrand.org.uk/catalogue/item/u3a-40th-anniversary-woodland-individual-trees>

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...and finally, another type of tree

### **Hucknall Parish Church Christmas tree and Wreath 'Competition'**

We are preparing an entry into both of these events. Christmas Trees will be on display from Wed 1st December to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>. The wreaths will be on show from Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>. When in town please do call in the church and have a look.

**David Rose, Chairman**

## **NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The committee met on Wednesday 10th November at 10am

All members were present and we welcomed Sue Tedstone as an observer.

The minutes of the October meeting were agreed as a true record.

Siobhan reported that all the groups have resumed activities and she is exploring a suitable venue and meeting time for a new Flower Arranging group.

We spent some time discussing the unfortunate clash of 2 trips and the History Group meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>. To our knowledge it is the first time this has happened and rather than try to devise a complex system organisers are encouraged to share trip dates as early as possible for 2022.

The change in the order of the monthly meeting in October will continue this month. It was the first one and we anticipate making some small improvements in November

News from the social subcommittee is that all 110 tickets for the Christmas lunch on December 6<sup>th</sup> have been sold.

Angela gave an update on the website and our Facebook page.

Members are encouraged to occasionally look at both and to 'like' and share the Facebook page.

Christine had circulated the financial accounts in advance of the meeting.

Financial activity has increased now the groups are meeting and booking venues etc  
Overall we are in a 'healthy' position-see the final statement below.

Philip is in the process of finding another Notts u3a who may wish to purchase our portable stage which served us well since 2014 at the leisure centre.

Vice Chairman Melvyn summarised the current situation regarding members who have volunteered for roles on the new committee from April 2022

Greg reported 154 members at the October meeting and that we now have 449 full, 17 associated and 18 affiliated members with enquiries continually trickling in.

In any other business it was agreed to have a Christmas Film on Wednesday December 8<sup>th</sup> and at the same time have a 'final' book stall at the back of the hall at JGC.

We also discussed raising money towards a portable defibrillator for general use at the JGC via individual donations and group events,-again more on this later.

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Finally we are indebted to our Business Secretary Mark who produced a detailed analysis of our u3a financial position covering income and expenditure comparisons from 2017 to 2021 with a projected forecast for 2022.

The outcome is that we can confidently set the renewal subscription for full membership 2022 to 2023 at £15.00.

The meeting closed at 11.50am.

David Rose

## **November Monthly Meeting**

This month's meeting will be held at the John Godber Centre starting at 2pm on  
Wed 10th November

Please continue to use the rear car park entrance and note the doors will not be open until 1.30pm.

It is important that we all sign in on entry and if leaving before the end of the meeting sign out .

### **The presentation by our speaker will start at approximately 2.10 pm**

The speaker is Dr Stephen Walker who is the Chairman of 'The Friends of Moor Pond Wood' group and his talk is summarised below.:

'A thread in the web of time': the archaeology of the 18thC cotton mills at Papplewick.

Over the last 20 years archaeological exploration has provided evidence about how the cotton mills in the Leen Valley were supplied with water, and how the system was modified to account for changing circumstances. The talk will report and discuss the progress of the work.

## **U3A Christmas Film Show Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 1.30 to 4pm JGC**

### **The Man who invented Christmas – a modern classic**

#### **Film Summary:**

In 1843, the celebrated British novelist, Charles Dickens, is at a low point in his career with three flops behind him and his family expenses piling up at home. Determined to recover, Dickens decides to write a Christmas story and self-publish it in less than two months. As Dickens labours writing on such short notice, his estranged father and mother come to stay with him. Still haunted by painful memories of his father ruining his childhood by his financial irresponsibility, Dickens develops a writer's block which seems to have no solution. As such, Dickens must face his personal demons epitomized through his characters, especially in his imagined conversations with Ebenezer Scrooge. Now with a looming deadline, Dickens struggles for inspiration against his frustrations and his characters' opinions in a literary challenge creating a classic tale that would define the essential soul of modern Christmas.

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Running Time 1 hour 40 minutes, colour, PG with subtitles

Enjoy a drink and mince pie during an interval.

Please browse the book stall at the back of the hall it is our clearance sale!

**Pay on the door, £3.00 to cover the cost of the refreshments, hall and sound system hire. Please note enter the hall only from the car park rear doors.**

## **NEW GROUPS, GROUP NEWS, WORKSHOPS & OTHER NEWS**

### **Recycle and Reuse**

We are collecting various items – Two to recycle and one to be reused and made into something new.

#### **Crisp Packets**

Thanks for keeping up the good work by bringing your empties to the monthly meeting. It helps the staff at Rumbletums if they can be packed flat (as most of you already do)

#### **Medication Blister Packs**

Siobhan will be collecting medication blister packs. (Not the made up trays). Please bring to the monthly meeting or contact her directly.



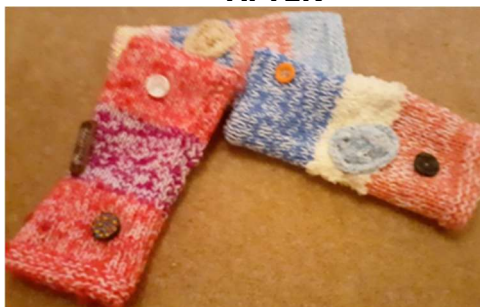
### **Wool**

Jean Green writes requesting donations of wool. Contact Jean at: [jeangreen15@virginmedia.com](mailto:jeangreen15@virginmedia.com) or 0115 9055708.

I have been making twiddle muffs for charity for a number of years mostly for care homes and a few private due to love one's having dementia it seems to help them. Also I knit knee blankets for cancer patients and heart patients. I am very grateful to those who have donated wool but I always looking for more.

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**BEFORE****AFTER**

## Books

There will be a final clearance book sale at the Christmas film show on Wednesday 8th December from 1.30pm.

David Rose

## NOVEMBER SCAMS UPDATE

### How to spot a scam

Ask yourself the following questions. If you answer yes to any of them, there's a good chance it's a scam.

#### 1. Have you been contacted out of the blue?

Cold calls or unexpected emails or messages should raise suspicion, especially if you're asked to give personal or payment details. It's very unusual for legitimate organisations to contact you and ask for sensitive information if you're not expecting them to. If you're not 100% convinced about the identity of the caller, hang up and contact the company directly.

#### 2. Have you been asked to share personal details?

Never share your personal details with anyone if you can't confirm they are who they say they are. Phone scammers will often try and get valuable personal data from you, and they can use this to steal your money, or even to use your identity to use fraudulently.

#### 3. Are you being asked to keep it secret?

It's important you can discuss any agreements with your friends, family or advisors. Asking you to keep quiet is a way to keep you away from the advice and support you need in making a decision.

#### 4. Are you being pressured to make a decision?

Fraudsters often try to hurry your decision making. Don't let anyone make you feel under pressure - it's OK to take a break and think things through if you're not sure. Sales staff should always give you time and space to make an informed decision; anyone who tries to rush you should not be trusted.

#### 5. Are there spelling and grammar mistakes?

Emails or messages littered with spelling and grammar mistakes are a scam giveaway. Legitimate organisations will rarely, if ever, make spelling or grammatical mistakes in their emails to you because they've been put together by professionals and checked before they're sent.

David Rose

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## NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

### ARTS & FILMS INFORMATION GROUP

Although there is insufficient reliable information on concerts and such to warrant a bulletin of planned program's; film information is a much more positive situation. All cinemas in our area are now showing films all being that they are being to restricted audiences with a heavy emphasis on protection. Our two local venues of The Arc and The Bonington are both issuing program's and in the past month Colleen and I have enjoyed 4 showings sitting safely spaced out over 25% of the theatres.

Please contact me if you would like to be included in the circulation of the calendar each month at [alansnape@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alansnape@hotmail.co.uk) or 07940146542. This year I plan to separate off the cinema section into The Film Club and I will attempt to include a description of what each film is about and who is in each film.

When booking seats at The Bonington online you are asked to select your seats from a seating plan which only offers safe seats. The bar is open and drinks both alcoholic or coffee are available to take into the film with you.

Alan Snape

### CHOIR GROUP

No news is not good news in this instance, I continue trying to interest someone with the necessary skills to guide the choir, but so far without success. I'll carry on, because we can't return to practise yet, so I may as well! Please pass on the word if you can, we are not of a standard to need expert tuition, but we will need someone to play for us. The NG15 has not come out yet, which has a wider circulation, so we may yet be lucky, and they'll be lucky too, we're a lovely group, and it could be a super, fulfilling interest for someone with the musical knowledge and a little time to give.

On the other hand, I haven't heard any bad news, so assume everyone is well and in good spirits. Please bear the needs of the choir in mind, we'd love to be able to get back together when we can. Thank you.

### FUN WITH LANGUAGES GROUP

Our meeting in October was well attended and we welcomed a new lady to join us. We revised some of Ma France to get us into the spirit of French after our work on Spanish. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 11th November at 10.30 in JGC in the Byron Suite.

Please come with relevant worksheets, pen/pencil, wearing a mask and with warm clothes as we will have ventilation. Some of you may find this OTT but the virus is still very much around and we need to protect each other please.

We will have a meal out on Tuesday 23rd November 6.30 at Bistro Pierre and by now Liz will have contacted those who are going to that.

Our meeting in November will continue and extend our Ma France adventures and we will work on some role play to build up conversational confidence.

Ann and Liz.

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## GARDENING GROUP

"To forget how to dig the earth and tend the soil is to forget ourselves." So said Mahatma Ghandhi. Maybe we do not do so much digging these days, as we adopt no-dig principles but at least we can still tend our pots and plots and bring much needed colour and fragrance to our world. I am always surprised by the colour and durability of plants at this time of year, just when we think everything is slowing down and dying back. As I write I still have sweetpeas, larkspur, roses, salvia, bellis, cosmos, geraniums and marigolds flowering. There is also a positive purple theme with the Verbena Bonariensis, saffron crocus and asters all flowering together!

It will be time this month to get the tulips in, with suitable anti-squirrel measures in place!

It was good to meet everyone at our first meeting back after Covid last month, and to welcome new members too. We will be meeting again at the JGC on Tuesday 16 November, at 2.00pm and all are welcome. We will have the freebie table available so if anyone has gardening magazines, etc to give away please feel free to leave them for members to help themselves. Every year we also have a plant swap, to share spare seedlings/cuttings, and we will be doing this at the May meeting next year. We look forward to seeing you in November.

Anne



## HISTORY GROUP

The History Group always welcomes all U3A members. Our usual meeting place which is Central Methodist Church should be fully open, including kitchen, for our next indoor meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime on November 17<sup>th</sup> we have a visit to Richard III & Leicester Cathedral. Leave Hucknall 10.30am. Leave Leicester 4pm. Return Hucknall 5.30pm (ish). I searched back through the records and found the History Group visited Richard III in 2015 – 6 years ago. We had quite a few disappointed members who have not made it on to the coach for the visit this year but if enough members would like to go maybe another tour could take place in a couple of years. Let me know.

A full list of meeting dates for the group with details of speakers and visits is available on the website and copies can be picked up at meetings.

The visit to Sharpes Pottery and the Magic Attic was really interesting despite a close call with Morrison's supermarket. The Magic Attic reminded me a little of the storage areas of Nottinghamshire Archives office. Thank goodness the volunteers are being so professional in looking after the all their archive material, especially the local newspapers, for the benefit of family and local historians. A lot of Hucknall people must have connections with the area since so many miners families came over from Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire when local collieries opened. There were other similarities with Hucknall due to the mining industry and subsidence. I am sure members would like to thank all the people there helping who volunteered on a day when they are not usually 'working'. Incidentally Hucknall newspapers, which are on microfiche, can be viewed at Hucknall Library and they include those printed before the Dispatch began in 1903. The newspaper archive for the whole country is now held at Boston Spa in Yorkshire – could you fancy a visit?

Bye for now, Maureen

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## LITTER PICKING GROUP

The Litter Picking Group continues to be kept very busy with at least 19 bags of rubbish collected so far this month across the Hucknall, Linby & Annesley areas. One slight problem that some of us are having is that when the bags get full they either split underneath or fall out of the hoop holders. With this in mind if any u3a members have got any unwanted shopping trolleys they could donate to the group it would make litter picking a little easier. If you can help with this request please contact the group leader Val Gant, email [litter@hucknallu3a.org.uk](mailto:litter@hucknallu3a.org.uk)

## LUNCH GROUP

The first Lunch Group in over eighteen months was on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October at Miller & Carter, Papplewick when 24 sat down to dine. As I was away in Scotland, Rose Ridley kindly was in charge and I hope everything went well. Luckily the restaurant did not want our pre-orders or any deposits so it was a bit easier for our first time out in ages. Sprinters at Arnold (part of the Stadium Leisure company and similar menu to that at The Broomhill) is the November 24<sup>th</sup> lunch and I will email everyone with the menu soon so please let me have your choices by return. I am also taking names for the Christmas Lunch at the Albert Hall on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, 3 courses for £19.95. We always enjoy a lovely meal at the Albert Hall with silver service by welcoming staff. There are still places left but I will need the balance of the cost at the November meeting if you have just paid a deposit, or the full cost if you are only just putting your name down. I shall be looking for a local venue for January in case we have snow (you never know!)

Sandra Green

## NATIONAL TRUST GROUP

Visit to Calke Abbey 20th October.

Everyone was waiting and ready to go as the coach pulled up at Hucknall Market ready for a 9.30 am departure. Unfortunately two members had to withdraw at the last moment but forty eight of us left on the coach.

The weather forecast was very bad but we had a mainly dry day save for a huge downpour during the afternoon in which the majority managed to find some shelter.

Over the day we toured the magnificent family house which was bought by the National Trust in 1981 and has been left untouched ever since.

There was also the opportunity to join a tour of the gardens, visit the Church or enjoy the restaurant. There was also a network of walks to explore but the uncertain weather meant that most of the group did not venture too far from shelter.

The book shop and gift shop proved popular before we left for home at 4.00pm.

A special thank you to our driver Philip who had left his home in Barnsley at 6.00am to come down to Hucknall to drive the coach for us. (Yes, there is a shortage of coach drivers)

## National Trust 2022

Members of the group will receive a full list of dates in the January Newsletter and on the website so that they will have plenty of notice regarding the visits from March to October.

## NATIONAL TRUST- VISIT TO BELTON HOUSE FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

For those members without access to email may I let you know that there are still places available on the visit to Belton House Christmas Light Trail on Wednesday 15th of December.

On this occasion the price is the same for everyone whether you are a NT member or not. The price is £28, £20 for entry to the Light Trail and £8 for coach travel.

We will be leaving from Hucknall Market at 2.30 pm and have timed entry to the Trail starting from 4.15pm. We will be leaving Belton House at 7.30pm.

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The Trail consists of over one million lights based on Christmas themes plus the sounds of Christmas with the usual food and drink stalls.

If you would like to book please ring me on 0115 9559842.

Barrie

## PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

We are looking forward to November 8<sup>th</sup> when once again our Pub Quiz re-starts; it will be interesting to see the refurbishment of the Nabb Inn. Then on 13<sup>th</sup> December we will have our Christmas Pub Quiz. Seating is limited to 32 members so please let me know if you would like to attend. Just to remind you, on arrival please make a note of your table number then order your lunch/drinks at the bar. However it's not necessary to have a lunch if you don't wish to eat. We start with a short table puzzle, then on to the main quiz. After lunch we get the answers! We usually have a small free raffle for which prizes would be gratefully received. There is a charge of £1 per head, the total of which (less expenses) is divided between the winning team and the runners up.

Here are the answers to the October quiz.

1. Which very wise and enchanting fictional character's name is the Old English for any insect that flies with a loud humming noise? **Dumbledore**
2. What is the most eastern E.U. capital city and what is the most western E.U. capital city? **Nicosia (Cyprus) and Lisbon (Portugal)**
3. What kind of heavenly marriage is 'Hierogamy'? **A marriage between a god and a goddess**
4. There was literally peace on Earth at 06:00 UTC, March 23, 2001. Explain. **The MIR space station hit the Pacific Ocean. MIR means 'peace' or 'world'**
5. The four Beatles we all know, George, Paul, John and Ringo were all born in Liverpool. The other two, Stuart Sutcliffe and Pete Best were not. In fact, both were born outside of England. In which country was Stuart Sutcliffe born and Pete Best born? Two answers **a. Scotland (Edinburgh) b. India (Madras)**
6. Which six letter word describes both a rupture and the leap out of the water made by a whale? **Breach**
7. What are the first four words to both the original and classic Hippocratic Oath? **"I swear by Apollo"**
8. The following lyrics about money are from which song? "Always sunny in a rich man's world"  
**Money Money Money (ABBA)**
9. The title of which extremely popular film is the Hindu word for a god or goddess that comes to earth? **Avatar**
10. Fruit flies were the first animals to do what in 1947? **Go into space**
11. What was the name of the doctrine, jokingly coined by Mikhail Gorbachev in October 1989 as his Soviet Union 'faced the final curtain', that was seen internationally as Moscow giving permission to its allies to decide their own futures? **The Sinatra Doctrine** (The name alluded to the Frank Sinatra song "My Way" - the Soviet Union was allowing these nations to go their own way)
12. Who wrote books under the pen name Eric Arthur Blair? **George Orwell**
13. What do the following places have in common? San Marino, Colombia, Bolivia, the Philippines, Israel, El Salvador and Bermuda? **All named after people:** San Marino (Saint Marinus), Colombia (Christopher Columbus), Bolivia (Simón Bolívar), the Philippines (Philip II of Spain), Israel (Jacob, alternate name), El Salvador ("The Saviour", Jesus) and Bermuda (Juan de Bermúdez)
14. Which dated word meaning 'nonsense' stems from a combination of the Dutch word for doll and an old English word for excrement? (Nine letters) **Poppycock.** Pop is Dutch for doll, Cack is old English for excrement

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And here's your November Quiz –

- 1.The price of amber increased tenfold after the release of which 1993 film?
- 2.In literature; Pemberley, Tara and Manderley are all examples of what?
- 3.Influenced by the Latin word for "iron", what is the name of the metal sleeve on a pencil that holds the eraser in place?
- 4.What did the members of the early 20th century movement or school known as 'Fauvism' do for a living?
- 5.Which Mr. and Mrs. live at number 4 Privet Drive?
- 6.Which 1975 pop song is the biggest selling palindromic song title ever? (3 letters)
- 7.What is the name of the Nike corporate trademark?
- 8.What are the two most populated cities in Sweden?
- 9.2013 the first year since 1987 in which there are no what?
- 10.What is the largest land mammal in South America?  
a. Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth b. Jaguar c. Screaming Hairy Armadillo d. Baird's Tapir
- 11.Lisbeth Salander is the unusual heroine in which 2011 film?
- 12.What is the official national fruit in each of the following countries? One point for each correct answer. a. India b. Mexico c. Jamaica
- 13.Which kind of dance style is mentioned in the Queen song 'Bohemian Rhapsody'?
- 14.Which fictional Mr. had the rare blood type T-negative?
- 15.What is the only absolute monarchy in Africa?

## READING GROUP

Last month we read "Wuthering Heights" by Emily Bronte – quite heavy going but a classic. And for November we have "The Child" by Fiona Burton, which was the librarian's choice. I would be happy to help set up a second Reading Group for U3A if enough members are interested, please let me know. A nice round number is eight members which gives time for everyone to review what they have been reading each month. Sandra Green

## REAL ALE GROUP



On Thursday 10th October, a few of us went to the Robin Hood Beer and Cider Festival organised by CAMRA, held this year at Notts Cricket Ground, quite a bit to travel.

I think it is fair to say that it was a very reduced affair compared to the last two years at the Motorpoint or indeed Nottingham Castle in previous years.

However, there was a good if reduced selection of beers and cider on offer, allegedly 600 varieties, so we still had plenty of choice and a good time was had by all.

We ended up at the Bibiana Indian Restaurant, in Hucknall to round off a very enjoyable evening.

Next month we will be going to Nottingham to sample the hostelrys around Nottingham Castle, meeting at the Crafty Crow at 7.15pm on Thursday 18th November, or meeting at Hucknall Tram station just before 6.30pm to catch that tram.

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## SCIENCE GROUP

Thanks to all contributors to the October meeting.

Meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>

Bob is preparing a Christmas Science Quiz activity and we will be revisiting the Christmas tree. If we have time we will watch 2 short video clips featuring Tesla and Elon Musk.

The science group is producing the tree for the annual Parish Church Christmas Tree competition.

Details:

Christmas Trees to be assembled on the Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December and will be on display until Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup>. We agreed that it would be a 'food bank' tree with additional decoration.

Please bring along your ideas and any items that would either hold it together or add to the Christmassy feel. If we can all donate 2 full tins (we now have enough empties) each it will be most appreciated.

We will need a few volunteers to assemble the tree on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

David Rose

## THEATRE GROUP

Theatre shows coming up next year. I was hoping to start booking again next year, but have heard recently that Covid numbers are going up. I am happy to book tickets for you and pay for them as normal but I probably won't be going myself, so you will have to collect tickets from the box office.

If Covid news changes then I would love to go to these shows with you.

The Russian State Ballet of Siberia, Concert Hall, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 22, 2pm Tickets £39.50

Anton & Erin, Concert Hall, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 22, 3pm, Tickets £48.00

Johannes in Freedom, Concert Hall, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 22, 7:30pm, Tickets £42.50

Oti Mabuse, Concert Hall, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 22, 7:30pm, Tickets £39.50

Here Comes the Boys – Aljaz, Pasha, Graziano, Concert Hall, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 22, 7:30pm, £45.00

Strictly Ballroom the Musical with Kevin Clifton, Theatre Royal, 24<sup>th</sup> June 22, 2:30pm, £49.00

Apart from Strictly Ballroom all the above shows are only on for one day so tickets will go quickly so please let me know as soon as possible if you want to go.

I will be going to the following

Cinderella Panto, John Godber Centre, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 22, 2:30pm, Tickets £7.50

And

Robin Hood Panto, Ravenshead Village Hall, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January 22, 2pm, Tickets £9.00

Barbara Ives.

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## **WALKING GROUP (SHORT WALKS)**

Twenty one members took part in the October walk from the car park of the fairly new Annesley and Newstead Country Park.

Thanks to Phil Attenborough for arranging the route and leading the walk.

Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup>

We start the walk from the Nabb Inn on Nabbs Lane.

This will be led by Roy Brown and will cover some familiar ground over Beacon Hill and the Misk Hills. There are some uphill sections but generally it is not too demanding.

David Rose

## **WALKING GROUP (MID LENGTH WALKS)**

Our October walk began at Codnor Park Reservoir and 20 walkers set off along Cromford Canal in the direction of the Butterley Tunnel. We left the canal to look at a group of terraced cottages that were built to accommodate the workers who in the mid-1800s were employed in the Butterley foundries. Arriving at the tunnel entrance we climbed up 30 steps and entered the wooded tranquil site of The Golden Valley Woodland Burial Ground. Returning to the valley, we followed the line of the Midland Railway before turning south, to cross the Golden Valley Light Railway and through Jubilee Wood heading towards Codnor. In this section we came across The Brittain Colliery, had our first sight (for some) of the Jessop Monument and several stiles! Upon reaching Codnor we turned east and headed towards Codnor Castle. On a 'slippery' up-hill section we passed the Ormonde Fields golf course. Emerging onto a road we saw Codnor Castle in front of us; this medieval fortress is a shadow of its' former self. The castle's ghost didn't make an appearance, but the hilltop elevation afforded us views to the south in the distance of The Misk Hills. We then made the descent to the Erewash Valley Nature Reserve before turning north to meet Cromford Canal again, which we followed through Codnor Park and back to the reservoir.

After this 6.8 mile walk a well-deserved picnic lunch was taken, eagerly watched over by a wide variety of waterfowl!

A very enjoyable walk, led by Ian Raynor and Dave Kay.

## **WATERCOLOUR GROUP**

The watercolour group has now restarted following the lock down. Our first meeting was back in October and I am pleased to confirm the meeting was well attended. Lock down has given time to most of the members to continue painting in their own environment and what a wonderful array of pictures was displayed at our first session.

We are a group of like-minded people who enjoy creating paintings of all descriptions. We do it for our own enjoyment and if you feel you would like to join us, please contact the co-ordinator Rose via the website.

We normally meet every first Monday of the month (except when it falls on a bank holiday) at Titchfield Court, Orchard Street, Hucknall starting at 2pm till 4pm, we have a small break for refreshments. If you are a beginner, not to worry, Patrick our Tutor will show you how to go on.

The group contains people of all abilities and everyone is welcome.

Rose

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## WEEKENDERS GROUP

The November Newsletter has been sent out early November. Once again, many thanks to Margaret Whilde & Lindsay Smith for printing off copies for those members not on email and for delivering them on their morning walks.

We had a Broomhill Birthday lunch on 15<sup>th</sup> October for Anita Lingard, but our birthday lunch on 29<sup>th</sup> October for Lindsay Smith was cancelled through illness; there was a Bus Pass Day out on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Due to Covid concerns we have cancelled our usual Coffee Club on 31<sup>st</sup> October and we are our Fish & Chip Night on 13<sup>th</sup> November. However there will be another Bus Pass day out to the Craft Fayre at Southwell Minster on the 6<sup>th</sup> November. But we are *really* looking forward to our outing to the Blue Diamond Garden Centre at East Bridgford on 19<sup>th</sup> November, which usually puts us in the mood for Christmas! Let's hope the current Covid position does not worsen.

Sandra

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## **HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS**

### **November 2021**

For further details contact check the website at [www.hucknallu3a.org.uk](http://www.hucknallu3a.org.uk) from there you can email the respective Group Leader

#### **ARTS**

CHOIR 1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 13:20  
3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 11:20  
DISCUSSION 1<sup>st</sup>Monday 13:45  
DRAMA 4<sup>th</sup>Friday 10:00  
FILM CLUB Thursday 12:30

HISTORY 3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 14:00  
NATIONAL TRUST Various dates & times  
READING (BOOKS)\* 1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 14:00  
SINGALONGA 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 10:30  
THEATRE various dates  
UKULELE 2<sup>nd</sup>&4<sup>th</sup>Monday 10:00

#### **ACTIVE WELLBEING**

CYCLING Every Wednesday 9:00  
EASIER CYCLE Every Friday 9:00  
GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY\* Various  
GRUMPY OLD MEN Various  
NOT SO GRUMPY OLD MEN Various  
KURLING 2<sup>nd</sup>Sunday 3-5pm  
PICKLEBALL Thursday 14.00  
SEATED EXERCISE 4<sup>th</sup> Monday 14:00  
WALKING (LONG) 1<sup>st</sup>Tuesday 10:00  
WALKING (MID)\* 3<sup>rd</sup>Monday 10:00  
WALKING (SHORT) 3<sup>rd</sup>Thursday 10:00

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

INTERNATIONAL DINING As Arranged  
LATE BREAKFAST 1<sup>st</sup>Friday 09:15  
LUNCH GROUP 4<sup>th</sup>Wednesday 12:00  
PUB QUIZ & LUNCH 2<sup>nd</sup>Monday 12:00  
REAL ALE GROUP Various  
WINE APPRECIATION\* 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 19:30  
WINE TASTING \* 3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday 19:30

#### **HOBBIES & PASTIMES**

CANASTA 1<sup>st</sup>& 4<sup>th</sup>Friday 19:00  
CRAFT 1 \* 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 13.45  
CRAFT 2 2<sup>nd</sup>Tuesday 14:00  
GARDENING 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 14:00  
HOLIDAYS various dates  
KNITTING & CROCHET 4<sup>th</sup>Tuesday 14:00  
MAH JONG 2<sup>nd</sup>Friday 19:00  
POT LUCK \* 1<sup>st</sup>Wednesday 19:30  
RUMMIKUB1 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 14:00  
RUMMIKUB2 Tuesday 13.00  
SCRABBLE 4<sup>th</sup>Thursday 14:00  
TABLE GAMES 3<sup>rd</sup>Friday 19:00  
WATER COLOUR 1<sup>st</sup>Monday 14:00  
WEEKENDERS various Sat & Sun.

#### **LANGUAGES**

FRENCH CONVERSATION\* 3<sup>rd</sup>Tuesday 10:00  
FUN WITH LANGUAGES 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 10:30

#### **SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

SCIENCE 3<sup>rd</sup>Friday 10:00

\*Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Siobhan who will happy to help you set up a further group. Please be aware that some Interest Groups have a limited number of places due to activity, venue etc.

Group Leaders are normally available at the monthly U3A meetings to answer any questions that you may have about their group.

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