



NEWSLETTER

Issue August 2022

Web Address: www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

Message from our Chair

Welcome to our August Newsletter

Our next monthly meeting is on Weds 10th August, look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Please ensure that you enter the building from the car park rear entrance and book in at the desk.

Please try to remember to wear your name badges so that folks (especially new members) know who you are, if a group leader or committee member, again please wear your ID so that others know who they are talking to.

I would remind us all (myself included) to either turn off or silence our mobile phones, we had several ringing last month during our guest speakers talk, not nice.

I trust that we are all coping with the very hot weather, whether at home or on holiday, please remember to use plenty of sun block and drink a lot of fluid.

This month's guest speaker is David Skillen, talking about 'Gretton Girls and Devils Porridge' sounds intriguing.

After our coffee break a couple of our group leaders will be telling us about their group's activities.

If you are a new member, looking for activity groups to join, talk to Sue Tedstone our groups co-ordinator.

As always, thanks to Steve for preparing and editing our newsletter, we are very lucky, not many u3a's have monthly newsletters, HOWEVER, even Steve has to have a holiday, so we are looking for a volunteer to be deputy newsletter editor. Please talk to either myself or Steve.

Melvyn Francis, Chair

Please forward articles for the next Newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk by 2nd September 2022
Please also send a copy of your article to webmaster@hucknallu3a.org.uk for inclusion on our website.

NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING

John Godber Centre 3rd August 2022

Apologies rec'd from Sue Tedstone

Minutes of previous meeting was approved with no matters arising.

We are to take part in a John Godber Centre open day, to be held on Sunday 21st August, between 11am and 2pm, Display boards and leaflets to be available. Volunteers sought.

A position of Deputy Editor to be sought to cover for Steve when he is unavailable to ensure continuity of the newsletter. We have had a volunteer to edit and issue the October issue.

'Prompt Slips' to be tried over the next few months to try and gender increased support for various issues.

Our guest speaker for our August monthly meeting is David Skillen, talking about the 'Gretton Girls and Devil's Porridge', followed by a short talk from three of our group leaders, covering six of our groups, after our coffee break.

The group leaders meeting arranged by Sue was a great success, with much import and many new suggestions, including a revamped back page for the newsletter, which was discussed and agreed.

Our webmaster as always assured us that all was up to date, we discussed the possibility of recording short videos as a means of promoting individual group activities and also our u3a as a whole on Facebook.

The treasurer's report was tabled, discussed and accepted. Thankfully Barclays have at long last finalised our bank mandate, so full steam ahead. Authorisation of payments was discussed and the need to have invoices passed prior to payment.

A letter has been sent to the Lovelace Theatre Group to see if they would be interested in procuring the collapsible stage from us, no reply yet received.

John Godber Centre is still to purchase the defibrillator, so until bought we cannot run a course on how to use it, we are to chase them to query when this is expected to be obtained.

1st Aid Course has been investigated, however, is very expensive, project put on hold, pending further enquiries.

U3a Notts Network 40th Anniversary Flash Mob to be held on Saturday Sept 24th has had to be relocated to The Highfields Park on University Boulevard, setup starting at 12 noon, a Steel Band at 13.00, Beacons and banners arriving at 13.30, short speeches. Flash Mob at 14.00, Steel Band at 14.30, 15.30 finish. A video of the Line Dance is expected shortly and will be sent to all participants. At present we only have six participants, more to be sought at next meeting. All current participants to be notified of new location.

Members update shows a total of 485 members, being 442 full, 21 associated & 22 affiliated. A future meeting for recent new members to be arranged and possibly (re)introducing a temporary 'buddy' system, also contacting new members after a few months to enquire how they were getting on.

Meeting closed 12 noon

Melvyn Francis

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Monthly Meeting – Weds August 10th

Safety

As always, Covid is still amongst us with the latest 'Omicron' variants, quite a few folk among us are still catching it.

If you have any of the symptoms, High Temperature, Persistent Cough, loss of sense of Taste and Smell, Sore Throat or Cold like symptoms, please do not attend the monthly meetings or indeed any group meetings / activities.

We will be keeping all of the windows open, so please dress accordingly. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so.

As always please use the rear doors off the car park for access and ensure that you register yourself as attending, if leaving before the end of the meeting, it is important for health and safety that you sign yourselves out.

Our meeting will start as normal at 2pm, with a few announcements, followed by our guest speaker David Skillen talking about 'Gretton Girls and Devil's Porridge', sounds interesting.

After our coffee / tea break, we will be reconvening to hear a couple of our group leaders telling us about their groups activities.

Please remember to sign yourselves out if leaving early.

U3A 40th ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the u3a organisation in the UK and The Notts u3a Network are planning a week of events from Sat 18th to Sat 24th September 2022 and are looking for participants.

Unfortunately, the organisers couldn't get the use of the Old Market Square in Nottm, however, have managed to book an area at **HIGHFIELDS PARK** which is situated on University Boulevard at Lenton, NG7 2RD and is accessible via the NET tram service from Hucknall.

The day's activities will be:-

12.00noon Set up
13.00 Steelband
13.30 Beacons & Banners arrive
14.00 Flash Mob
14.30 Steel Band
15.30 Finish

We will be sent details of the actual Flash Mon dance so that we can practice.

If you have already put down to participate, please confirm that you still want to take part, due to the change in venue.

Still time to participate if you are not already doing so.

Melvyn

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GROUP LEADERS MEETING

On Friday 22nd July I held a Meeting for all our Group Leaders.

We started with briefings on Beacon, the Website and the Newsletter, which we found very useful.

One purpose of the meeting was to look at how we advertise our Interest Groups.

We also redesigned the back page of the Newsletter, making it more user-friendly. This will be launched in the September Newsletter.

We also looked at the possibility of introducing some new Interest Groups. We have a long list of ideas, ready for the Committee to consider!

If any of you have any ideas for new Groups, please let me know. Sue Tedstone (Groups Coordinator)
coordinator@hucknallu3a.org.uk



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NEW GROUPS, GROUP NEWS, WORKSHOPS & OTHER NEWS

THIS MONTHS SCAMS UPDATE

The never-ending battle against fraudsters continues, we are still plagued with swindlers, fraudsters and scammers who are only too keen to relieve us of our well-earned cash. They also have absolutely no conscience and are more than happy to target the elderly.

Energy Crisis Scam

Due to the extreme increase in energy costs, scammers are exploiting the situation and our desire to cut costs by pretending to offer energy bill refunds to get your bank details and providing access to government grants to help with cost - BEWARE

Fake Energy Bill Rebate Scheme

It's not taken long for scammers to jump on the back of soaring energy bills. Emails using the logo of the energy regulator Ofgem claim to offer an 'energy bill rebate scheme' worth up to £450 per household. The email gives a link to click on which directs you to a fake online portal where victims are urged to share personal and payment details in order to claim their refund. As always do not open the link and give no details

Fake BP Fuel Credit Cards

A scam offering petrol and diesel at reduced cost, all you have to do is purchase a prepaid card to get your discount, just sign up and pay, – too good to be true? Always a scam.

Car Insurance

Getting a quote or quotes online for your car insurance, then just after receiving your quote receiving an email offering to undercut all previous quotes, again just supply your bank details and sign up. This is called Ghost Broking.

Never give your bank details to anyone you don't know or do not trust and never give your bank card PIN number to anyone you don't trust implicitly. Likewise, your PIN number should never be written down.

When drawing cash out of an ATM then always cover your hand as you enter your PIN number.

U3a HOLIDAYS (Hucknall, Ravenshead, Kirkby)

Historic Houses & Gardens of Kent 3rd July 2023

Staying 5 days at Kings Charles Hotel Gillingham town centre.

All rooms with private facilities. Half board.

Three full day excursions with all admissions included in the cost of your holiday

* Leeds Castle

* Chartwell

* Penshurst Place

Plus short trip to the spa town of Tunbridge Wells

This is a bespoke u3a tour, so we will be travelling straight to our hotel, no stopping at the interchange. Coach will pick up Hucknall, Sutton, Kirkby

£330.00 pp sharing double or twin, sorry no singles.

Deposit of £60.00 pp cheques made out to ALFA Travel

Contact Caroline Rhoades, Ashfieldu3a Holiday Organiser

To secure your place and for more information :07724210573

crhoades159@gmail.com

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

FILM AND CULTURE GROUP

Please contact me if you would like to be included in the circulation of the calendar each month at 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. Alan Snape.

FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP



We were very depleted this month due to illness - the dreaded Covid struck again, but 6 members created some lovely triangular arrangements using a variety of both shop bought and home grown flowers.

Anne from the Gardening Group provided us with some very tasty no calorie cakes which were very morish. August's arrangement will be a Hogarth Curve. If you are interested and are not part of the group yet please contact Siobhan for details of what to bring.

The next meeting is August 1st, John Godber Centre 1.30 - 3.30.

Look forward to seeing you there Siobhan

GARDENING GROUP

Our July meeting turned out to be on the hottest day of the year – so far, when we heard all about Chocolate! A big thank you to all those who turned up to hear about the history of both the beverage and the solid forms that we all enjoy. Sadly our climate is neither warm enough nor wet enough for us to grow our own cacao tree, although there is one at Kew Gardens. We heard about the many different chocolate plants that we can grow, some of which even smell of it.



The next meeting will be on Tuesday August 16th when we go to Wollerton Old Hall in Shropshire. The coach leaves Ogle Street at 9.00 am and returns at 6pm, cost £17.30. The September meeting is another trip, to Newby Hall, North Yorkshire, leaving at 9.30 am and returning 5pm, cost £23.90. Both of these places have lovely gardens to explore. All are welcome.

Anne

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GROWING OLD DISGRACEFULLY GROUP



In June, 14 ladies visited the Nottingham Croquet Club where we learned to play Croquet. Many of us had played before the pandemic but couldn't remember the rules.

We were met by our 4 helpful hosts, who kindly volunteered to introduce us to the delights of the game, starting with a potted history. It transpires that it is an ancient game, widely practised in France since the eleventh century under the name of 'jeu de mail'. "Borrowed" by the British around 1300, it was modified over the centuries including the Scots making golf out of it and the Irish developing it into the game we know as croquet.

Finishing the day off with a lunch in Nottingham, an enjoyable day was had by all. So much so that we are organising another trip later this year.

HISTORY GROUP

The History Group always welcomes all U3A members especially new ones. Our usual meeting place is Central Methodist Church: time 2pm – 4pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Meetings are now in the Church Room which it is hoped will be much better for those members who have hearing problems. I have asked for us to continue with this booking.

No History Group meeting in August

At the September main meeting at John Godber we will be taking bookings for the trip to Derby Museum on October 19th costing £10. First we get a talk about Joseph Wright of Derby (famous artist) and afterwards a self-guided tour of the museum. (Don't forget to look for the ancient dug out boats which were a special item for me) Kathy has decided to retire from helping with visits but we say a grateful thank you for her expertise over the years. Kathy will continue with the help of Sue Knight.

The autumn season will commence on September 21st, Denis Hill who is a brilliant speaker is coming to tell us about 'Victorian Housing Conditions' which is a century or so before most of the bureaucracy and health and safety rules came into being. It would no doubt cover the lifetimes of our great grandparents.

Kathy & Sue will again be taking bookings, just in case you missed the main meeting, for the trip to Derby Museum costing £10.

Bye for now – Maureen

LITTER PICKING GROUP

At the time of writing 15 bags of litter have been collected by the group in July. Unfortunately there is still plenty of litter out there so if anyone is troubled by the amount of litter in a particular area please let us know and we will do our best to get rid of it for you. However, sadly we can't guarantee that it will stay litter free.

There is no limit to the number of people in the Hucknall u3a Litter Picking Group so if anyone else would like to join or for further information please contact me by telephone or by email at litter@hucknallu3a.org.uk Tabards and basic equipment will be provided.

You will be made very welcome.

Val Gant

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LUNCH GROUP

On 24th August, at a member's request, we are going to Mr Mann's Chinese Restaurant at Wollaton Park; if you have your name down I must have your menu choices before or at the August meeting. On the 28th September we shall be going to Ego At The Ashfields for which again a £5 deposit is required. The menu will not be available until the September meeting.

I know it seems early but I am taking names for our CHRISTMAS LUNCH! As usual we shall be going to the Albert Hall on Wednesday, 21st December. We are always made so welcome there and our regulars always look forward to this event, so please come and join us. I now have the menu which is a three-course meal for £21.50.

NATIONAL TRUST GROUP

On the day that the two day heatwave ended the National Trust group set off for Waddesdon Manor, in Buckinghamshire. The venue owned by the Rothschild Family is certainly one of the jewels in the National Trust portfolio.

Despite several diversions due to road works close to the venue we arrived safely at the venue for 11.00am.

A visit to the Stables cafe was then followed by a timed tour of the Manor itself. Set over three floors the Manor had an enormous number of rooms to view. The volunteer guides and an excellent guidebook providing all the information needed.

There was a special exhibition devoted to Alice de Rothschild, a display of Gainsborough paintings and so many special rooms to explore most members were inside the Manor for over two hours.

Once outside there were beautiful gardens to explore and over the day a film crew arrived to set up to begin filming a period drama during the following two days. Staff were generally tight lipped about the name of the production but a new Netflix programme or Bridgerton were mentioned.

After a lovely day we set off for the return journey at 4.00 pm.

NATIONAL TRUST GROUP - OCTOBER VISIT.

Our October visit on Monday 10th will now be to Quarry Bank Hill in Cheshire.

The site reflects the thriving cotton industry which existed for over two hundred years and still hums today with the sight and sounds of the people who worked there, with the heritage machinery still operating. The mill was powered by the most powerful wheel in Europe. Although production stopped in 1959 you can still walk to the village of Styal to see where the workers lived. The mill owners house can also still be toured. There are also gardens and the other usual features of a National Trust site.

Times and prices will be sent out soon.

Barrie

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PUB QUIZ & LUNCH GROUP

The Monday, 11th July Pub Quiz was attended by 21 members and was won by Team 3 Plus 1. The next Pub Quiz will be on Monday, 8th August at The Nabb Inn at 12 noon. All welcome – we can always add another person to a team if you would like to attend but haven't got a team of your own.

Here are the answers to the July newsletter quiz,

1. What is the name of the Greek dip consisting of yoghurt and cucumber? **Tzatziki**
2. In Indian cooking, what is a Tandoori? **A cylindrical clay oven**
3. What is a mocha? **Coffee made up of espresso and hot chocolate milk.**
4. In the UK it is sweetcorn, but what cereal grain is it a variety of? **A variety of maize**
5. Enchiladas originated in which country? **Mexico**
6. In French cooking, what does 'en Croute' mean? **Encased in a pastry shell**
7. What are the two main ingredients in a bellini cocktail? **Pureed white peaches and Prosecco**
8. The beer brand 'Old Speckled Hen' was acquired by which brewery in 2000? **Greene King**
9. Which fast food company used the advertising slogan "I'm Lovin' it"? **McDonalds**
10. What is unusual about the tomato-based soup known as Gazpacho? **It is a cold soup**
11. What body of water separates Saudia Arabia from Africa? **Red Sea**
12. Catalonia is a region of what country? **Spain**
13. What is the largest island is the Caribbean Sea? **Cuba**
14. What are the five boroughs of New York City? **Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx & Staten Island.**
15. Which country has the longest coastline in the world? **Canada**
16. In what mountain range is Mount Everest located? **Great Himalayan Range**
17. In which English county is the town of Stevenage? **Hertfordshire**
18. Sofia is the capital of which country? **Bulgaria**
19. What are the three official languages of Belgium? **Dutch, French, and German**
20. In which city is the Vatican City? **Rome**

And the August quiz is as follows:

1. The title of which popular 1898 Italian song, often played by ice cream vans, means "my sunshine" when translated?
2. Animals that are classified as arboreal have adapted to life in which environment?
3. Translated, which Japanese martial art means "sword path" or "way of the sword"?
4. The following is the opening line from which 1991 Hollywood film?
"Three billion human lives ended on August 29, 1997."
5. Which small shark with an unusual bite is named after a baking implement?
6. In 2006, who became the first player ever to be sent off in a UEFA Champions League final?
7. With 85 m, the world's shortest land border is shared between the Spanish territory Penon de Velez de la Gomera and which other country?
8. The name of which famous automobile manufacturer means 'blacksmith' when translated?
9. Which European country abolished its monarchy on June 1, 1973?
a. Albania b. Italy c. Greece d. Portugal
10. Constantinople and Moscow excluded, what were the five most populated European cities in the year 1700? One point for each correct answer.
11. What is the commonly used French word for scampi?
12. Which company, headquartered in The Hague, is usually found in the worldwide top 10 in terms of revenue?
13. In biology, which taxonomic category lies between Kingdom and Class?
14. What was the first song by The Beatles to use backwards vocals? (One word)
15. Name the film in which Dustin Hoffmann plays a character married to a character played by Meryl Streep?
16. What is the name of the whale with the distinctive unicorn like spiral tusk?
17. Gregor Samsa does not recognise himself in which famous novella?
18. Located in Chile and Peru, what is the name of the desert which is considered to be the driest place on Earth?

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READING GROUP

The set book for July discussion was "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte which was hard going in parts due to the dialect but most still enjoyed it. In August we shall be discussing a book from a fairly new author – "A Trick of the Light" by Ali Carter.

REAL ALE GROUP

Byron's Rest - Mini Beer Festival Thurs 28th July



Regrettably the CAMRA Beer Festival at the John Godber Centre to be held at the end of July had to be cancelled, mainly due to the current hot weather and not being able to keep the casks of beer cooled.

Pleased to say that one of Hucknall's micro pubs, The Byron's Rest (voted CAMRA's pub of the year 2022) came to the rescue and organised a Mini Beer Festival from 28th to 30th of July.

Eleven of our members rose to the occasion and spent Thurs evening sampling a selection of the 12 different beers available, all of which were announced as very acceptable.

We will be having a break in August and gathering in September to make a trip on the tram to visit some hostelrys in Beeston

SCIENCE GROUP

Friday July 15th was the date of the Science Group annual visit to a place of scientific interest.

Previously we have ventured to Jodrell Bank, Woolsthorpe Hall (the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton) and guided tours of Papplewick Pumping Station and Bestwood Winding House.

This year we paid a visit to The George Green Windmill and Science Centre in Sneinton.

George Green was 14 years old when his father built the windmill and for much of the rest of his life George worked in the windmill. But George Green was also a brilliant mathematician and physicist who from the age of 40 spent 6 years at Caius College at Cambridge University.

We were split into 2 groups for a guided tour of the Windmill; the group not on the tour were able to spend time in the science centre and the community garden.

Our guide Sam Boote who is a member of Keyworth u3a was very knowledgeable and this is what he wrote to me a day after the visit:

"Hello David, Thanks for your comments, and it was a pleasure to meet your members and show them round the mill. Your 2 groups were the most attentive and engaged that I have yet encountered."

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It was a good day out and recommended for a family visit especially if you have the pleasure of grandchildren over the school summer break.

Following the visit many of us enjoyed a prearranged meal on the way back at The Arrow in Arnold.

Next Meeting: August is a summer break: September 16th we are back at JGC at 10am

David Rose

SINGALONG GROUP

Due to the high temperatures on Tuesday 19th July we cancelled the Singalong which was due to be hosted by Chris and Dave Vincent.

As there is no Singalong in August our next meeting will be the 20th September when Chris and Dave Vincent will present Songs from the shows.

Keeeeeep Singing!

THEATRE GROUP

Jersey Boys Saturday 17th September 2022 at 2.30pm. Tickets £59.50

South Pacific Saturday 22.October 2022 at 2.30pm Tickets £59.00.

White Christmas .Wednesday 23.november 2022 at 2pm. Tickets £55.00.

WALKING GROUP (SHORT WALKS)

A pleasant and cooler walk was enjoyed by thirteen members in July.

Starting at the tram stop in Hucknall we made our way to Brooke Farm in Linby for refreshments. We were surprised to learn that some of us had never been there! We thought it was a popular U3A coffee stop!

Back through Papplewick Woods via Moor Pond and onto the path along the River Leen where the (almost) newly laid path was admired by some of us!

Back home by the bottom of the golf course to our starting point.

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WATERCOLOUR GROUP

August sees the group visiting Felley Priory gardens to take in the wonderful gardens instead of their usual monthly meeting on the first Monday of the month, when we meet at Titchfield Court, From 2pm to 4pm.

The gardens are usually closed on a Monday so Patrick Kelly our Watercolour instructor has arranged a special opening for our group members, we take all our equipment and refreshments and usually spend anything from a couple of hours to four hours to capture the numerous views available.

Enquiries to join the group should be addressed to Maggie Huckerby via the contact form.

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The Weekenders July Newsletter will be sent out on 1st August. Once again, many thanks to Margaret Wilde & Lindsay Smith for printing off copies for those members not on email and for delivering them on their morning walks.

We had a lovely day for our outing to Southwell where we started off at Reg Taylor's Garden Centre, had lunch there, followed by a visit to Southwell Minster for their short lunchtime concert in the Minster itself, followed by some of us shopping and other just enjoying a coffee in the sunshine. Our Coffee Club session for July 30th will have the topic "Places I have lived" which should be interesting.

Our next outing is on 4th August, to Boundary Mills at Rotherham, followed by an excellent lunch at Whitby's Fish Restaurant. We are then having a Garden Meet up at Siobhan Lee's home (many thanks to her) on the 18th August and our August Coffee Club will be on 27th – topic yet to be decided! Then some of us are visiting "The Arc" on 28th August to see an Andre Rieu concert.

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HUCKNALL & DISTRICT U3A INTEREST GROUPS

August 2022

For further details contact check the website at www.hucknallu3a.org.uk from there you can email the respective Group Leader

ARTS

DISCUSSION	1 st Monday 13:45
DRAMA	4 th Friday 10:00
HISTORY	3 rd Wednesday 14:00
NATIONAL TRUST	Various dates & times
READING (BOOKS)*	1 st Wednesday 14:00
SINGALONGA	3 rd Tuesday 10:30
THEATRE	various dates
UKULELE	2 nd &4 th 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 1	2 nd Sunday 15:00
KURLING 2	4 th Sunday 15:00
PICKLEBALL	Thursday 14:00
SEATED EXERCISE	4 th Monday 14:00
WALKING (LONG)	1 st Tuesday 10:00
WALKING (MID)	3 rd Monday 10:00
WALKING (SHORT)	3 rd Thursday 10:00

FOOD & DRINK

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

HOBBIES & PASTIMES

CANASTA	1 st & 4 th Friday 19:00
CRAFT 1 *	3 rd Monday 13.45
CRAFTY KNITTERS	2 nd Tuesday 14:00
FLOWER ARRANGING	1 st Monday 13:30
GARDENING	3 rd Tuesday 14:00
HOLIDAYS	various dates
MAH JONG	2 nd Friday 19:00
RUMMIKUB1*	2 nd Monday 14:00
RUMMIKUB2	Tuesday 13.00
SCRABBLE	4 th Thursday 14:00
TABLE GAMES	3 rd Friday 19:00
WATER COLOUR	1 st Monday 14:00
WEEKENDERS	various Sat & Sun.

LANGUAGES

FUN WITH LANGUAGES	2 nd Thursday 10:30
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SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

LITTER PICKING	Various
SCIENCE	3 rd Friday 10:00

*Indicates group full. If you are interested then contact Sue Tedstone 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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