



NEWSLETTER

Issue –February 2024

Web Address: www.hucknallu3a.org.uk

Next Monthly Meeting

Next Meeting 14th February 2024

Guest Speaker: Graham Keal

Oprah & Co. This is based on amusing anecdotes from celebrity encounters during my 35 years as a showbiz reporter and also features Keith Floyd, Sir David Attenborough, Liz Hurley, Frank Ifield (who had Nottingham connections), Eric Morecambe and many more.

Note – Deadline for submission of Articles for the next edition of the newsletter is 1st March 2024

Please forward articles for the next newsletter to hucknallu3anewsletter@live.co.uk and remember to send a copy to the webmaster@hucknallu3a.org.uk for inclusion on our website

Message from our Chair

Welcome to our February Newsletter.

Greeting to you all, what mixed weather we have had in January, three named storms, the coldest weather, the hottest weather and the wettest weather on record, still, it gives us something to discuss and moan about, something we are all very good at, complaining about the weather.

Last month, I reminded you all about Notts CC consultation on removing the free tram concessions. I have had a couple of responses from our erstwhile councillors, one from an opposition councillor stating that he and his colleagues were arguing strongly against it and one from a member of the governing party saying, don't worry, if they do get rid, then it will transfer to the new regional mayor's office when and if it happens. I think we will have to wait and see and hope for a good outcome. Thanks to all of you for taking part in the consultation.

Sorry that those of you at the rear of the building struggled to read the writing on the screen of our speaker at our last meeting, I thought the same as quite a few folks that whilst the talk was good, it was a bit highbrow, concentrating on word origins, rather than the actual history of Nottinghamshire. John Godber Centre are looking into obtaining a large pull down screen, which would solve a lot of our problems.

Our Social Sub Committee have worked hard to sort out this year's activities, please see their details in this newsletter and reserve the dates, some great activities planned.

Our next meeting co-insides with St Valentines Day, he was a 3rd century Roman saint, a priest in the Roman Empire who ministered to persecuted Christians, refusing to worship an idol, he was martyred by being beheaded and his body buried on February 14th. He was made a saint for curing a child with epilepsy and is the patron saint of epilepsy, beekeepers and of course 'courtly love' which has been celebrated since the 8th century. (thank you Wikipedia)

I may well be asking who has received a valentines card, to see if the 'courtly love' is still strong amongst us older ones. So make sure you make an effort to buy your valentine a card.

Did anyone make a News Year resolution, and has anyone managed to keep it. I have, mine was not to make a resolution! I also decided that out of concern for publicans I would not take part in Dry January, I found that quite satisfying.

God Bless

Melvyn Francis, Chair

Monthly Meeting – Wednesday 14th February

Safety

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.

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, then please make your way to the rear car park by means of the rear doors if possible. The assembly point is the Scout Hut in the far corner of the car park.

We will be starting with news and notices, followed by any group announcements, then our Tea/Coffee break. Our guest speaker after our break will be Graham Keal, talking on "Oprah & Co – Celeb Encounters", sounds interesting

Please wear your name badges, it is far easier to strike up a conversation if folk know your name.

Please remember to volunteer for the tea & coffee rota if you are able.

Future Speakers

March - Emma Sheardown – No Such Word as can't
April – Geoff Harris – Folklore, Folk Tales & Funny Folk
May – Nina Dauban – What you didn't Know about Charities

Notes from the Committee

Just two items to bring to your attention from the February Committee Meeting

1. We are having a 'One Off' talk titled "Tax Law and Toy Boys" a light-hearted talk about money, tax and wills on Weds 24th April 10.30am to 12 noon at the John Godber Centre in the main hall – book the date.
2. Our Drama Group will be giving us a demonstration at our next monthly meeting on Weds 14th Feb before the tea/coffee break.



SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Put These In Your Diary

Friday 12th April 2024

JOHNNY VICTORY sings the sounds of the 50's, 60, & 70's

Friday 21st June 2024

U3A INDOOR GAMES NIGHT

Friday 20th September 2024

SQUARE DANCE with Emma Horsefield as Caller

Monday 2nd December 2024

THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH & SOCIAL

COME ALONG AND JOIN US



HUCKNALL DISTRICT U3A



invites you to an evening
of entertainment & dancing with



JOHNNY VICTORY



"Singing the sounds of the 50's, 60's & 70's"

on

Friday 12th April 2024

at the John Godber Centre
from **7.45pm** until **9.45pm**

Doors will open at **7.00pm**

Starts at **7.45pm** with a break at **8.30 -9.00pm** for drinks and food
The performance will resume at **9.00 – 9.45pm** + encore

Tickets will on sale for **£8** at the
February & March Monthly Meetings

Please note: There will be no catering at this event
but you are welcome to bring your own food

50's /60's Fancy Dress - Optional



Tickets will be on sale at the February and March meetings.

Payment can be made using our u3a card machine or payment by cheque payable to 'Hucknall and District u3a' or by cash Social Sub Committee.

News From the Groups

Film & Culture Group

This Group exists simply to notify members of Hucknall u3a what films are available locally and when, plus information on other musical and Drama events. To receive this information please forward your email address to alansnape@hotmail.co.uk and I will forward the latest bulletin.

Advance notice - at The Arc Cinema here in Hucknall a live performance from The National Theatre of Vanya on Thursday 22nd February at 19.00 also recorded live version of Madame Butterfly from the Royal Opera House being shown on Tuesday 26th March. The film The Great Escape with Michael Caine on Thursday 15th Feb.

Also watch for details of The Life story of Bob Marley being released nationally in cinema's from Feb 14th starring Kinsley Ben-Adir as Marley and Lashana Lynch as his wife Rita.

Fun with Languages Group

Our first German session of introduction began well in January. It was lovely to see some familiar faces return to the group also. There is still room for more if you want to have a go at learning basic German. We enjoyed New Year nibbles also and had a quiz which opened the eyes of many to facts about Germany as a country.

Our next session will be on Thursday 8th February at JGC at 10.30 till 12 noon in the Byron suite, when we shall continue to explore more basic German. We hope to see you there!.

Auf wiedersehen, Liz and Ann xx

Gardening Group

February 20th is our first meeting of the new year and we welcome Rachel Barrowcliffe, a garden designer. We meet as usual at the John Godber Centre from 1.30 to 3.30 . We are an open group so everyone is welcome.

On March 19th we meet again in the John Godber Centre for an NGS online talk. We will be taking names and monies for our trips this year at our group meetings, and it will be on a first come first served basis as the coach we use will be a limited size.



There are some NGS gardens opening this month that you may be interested in –

The Dower House at Melbourne, Derbyshire, on 11 Feb.
Oak Cottage, Swadlincote, Leics. on 18 Feb .
Church Farm , Retford on 18 Feb.
Norwood Park, Southwell, on 18 Feb and
10 Chestnut Way, Repton, Derbyshire, on 18 Feb.

Enjoy, Anne

History Group

The History Group always welcomes all u3a members especially new ones. Our indoor meetings take place at Central Methodist Church on Baker Street: time 2pm - 4pm. It is always on the third Wednesday of the month in February it is 21st.

Peter Amour came in January to tell us how he was Wandering in and Around Wiltshire. We went with him to many National Trust buildings and gardens and English Heritage sites as well on a photographic tour.

In February we have one of our favourite speakers Stephen Flinders with us again. This time he is coming to bring an original film and tell us about a wartime engineering factory called 'Stanton at War'.

At the February meeting Kathy and Sue will be collecting bookings and money for our visit to Pleasley Pit on 17th April. Cost is £10.

Maureen Newton

Litter Picking Group

Despite medical issues and poor weather members of the litter picking group still managed to clear 32 bags of rubbish from our countryside, paths and parks during January and for that I thank them. It can actually be quite addictive. Some members set themselves a time limit of perhaps half an hour or so but when that time is up they see another piece of litter which just *has* to be picked up, then another, and another..... and before long they've been out much longer than anticipated. Others set themselves a goal of clearing a particular area whilst some take their litter picking stick and plastic bag (and dog!) with them when going out for a gentle walk thus killing two birds with one stone. Any of them with a Fitbit are certainly getting their steps in!

Should anyone wish to join the group or require further details please contact me as per the group information at the end of the newsletter.

Val (Gant)

Lunch Group

Hoping to follow in Sandra's footsteps, the lunch group met for the first time in 2024 at the Badger Box at Annesley. The event was well attended by 35 members who all enjoyed the meal. The quiz was provided by Siobhan and was won by Doreen Werle and Sandra Jones.

Our next outing is to The Broomhill in Hucknall on Wednesday 28 February and for March we are hoping to venture to Sutton in Ashfield to the Watermill for a carvery.

Sandra set very high standards and we will always be indebted to her for her organisation and generosity, we hope to continue.

National Trust Group

The National Trust group start their monthly 2024 visits in April and as usual will conclude with the October visit. The programme is as follows.

Monday 15th April, Visit to Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire.

Tuesday, 23rd April visit to Snowhill Manor in the Cotswolds.

Wednesday, 22nd May visit to Gunby Estate in Lincolnshire.

Thursday, 20th of June visit to Tatton Park in Cheshire.

Monday 22nd of July visit to Belton House in Lincolnshire.

Monday 19th of August visit to Speke Hall on Merseyside.

Wednesday 25th of September visit to Erddig near Wrexham

Thursday 24th of October visit to Nunnington Hall near York.

Further details concerning each trip will be sent by email nearer the date. For the small number of NT group members who do not have email we will also be sending out a text message.

Sadly, for the group I have been informed by June the owner of J B Tours that she is retiring at the end of August and selling off the coaches so I am presently in the process of finding another local coach company to take over. I know that regulars will also miss our driver Paul who is very well liked by the members.

Finally, a big thank you to Anne and Steve Lawrence who have helped Sue and myself select the venues and have also done the bookings for the last four visits, something that really helps with the workload for the trips.

Barrie and Sue

Reading Group

We are in the process of trying to set up a new Reading Group. This will probably need to be quite a small group.

As a new group, you would need to appoint a Group Leader but this can be a shared responsibility. If anyone is interested, I can help you set it up, but it would be for the group to decide on how they wish to run it.

If you are interested, please let me know, either by email or at the u3a Meeting.

You will find my contact details on the Newsletter.

Sue Tedstone (Group's Coordinator).

Real Ale Group

Our January outing on Thursday 25th took 13 of us once more to Nottingham, this time to the area around Nottingham Castle.

We met a usual to catch the 6.30pm tram, quite entertaining when one member (who will remain nameless) got separated from his pass and the tram, quickly sorted by Christine, getting off at the first stop and returning to Hucknall to reunite David J with his pass.

Getting off the tram at the Old Market Square, we walked up to Stony Street to The Roundhouse, which used to be part of the maternity wing of the General Hospital, that was surprisingly busy for a Thursday evening, then across the road back to The Crafty Crow, both these public houses have been closed for most of 2023, but thankfully now both under new management.

We then made our way to Ye Olde Salutation Inn, known as the 'Sal' allegedly open since 1240 AD before finishing at The Barrel Drop in Hurts Yard a micro pub owned by the Magpie Brewery.

An excellent night, with some outstanding real ales on tap, tram back to Hucknall and home.

Science Group

To accomodate the pantomime at JGC we met a week early on the 12th January and we continued the photography theme.

Firstly we looked at an early method of producing a photographic image called Cyanotype. All members of the group attending in February will be carrying out this process to make their own.

Here's one I made earlier.....



Following on from this John Tedstone gave a presentation about a Victorian photographic pioneer named Julia Margaret Cameron who was one of the most important figures in early photography.

She lived at Dimbola, on the Isle of Wight, in the 1860s. The photographs she created remain among the most famous images of many Victorian celebrities.

Finally we had a 'slide show' about Oxford and the science museums as a prelude to our visit on April 19th.

February Meeting Friday 16th

A practical session to make a cyanotype image

Part 2 of David Vincent's presentations about 'The Greening of Nottinghamshire'

David Rose

Singalong Group

The group continues to be popular.

Over the past few months we've enjoyed various themes from the 1950s onwards. It's difficult to find songs from the 21st century which we can actually sing along to as a group, but we keep searching!

For any new members who may be interested in joining us, we sing as a group to music and words projected onto a screen, no solos!

New members welcome anytime!.

Theatre Group

The theatre news list as follows:

Dr. Michael Mosley & Clair Bailey Monday 26.02.24. Concert Hall 7.30pm Tickets £30.50. Please note this is also a one off evening performance.

Matthew Bourne's Edward Sissorhands Saturday 02.03.24. Theatre Royal 2.30pm Tickets £54.00.

The Wizard of Oz Thursday 11.04.24. Theatre Royal 2pm. Tickets £44.50

Sensational 60's Sunday 28.04.2024. Concert Hall 3pm Tickets £33.50. Please note this is a Sunday performance.

Northern Ballet Romeo & Juliet at Theatre Royal on Saturday 04.05.2024 2.30pm Tickets £37.50.

Cluedo 2 at Theatre Royal on Saturday 25.05.2024 at 2.30 Tickets £42.50.

Pretty Woman Wednesday 04.09.2024 Theatre Royal 2pm Tickets £45.50.

Ukulele Group

We have had a slight change of format which seems to be working well.

Members are now able to access our Song Books online, meaning most of us bring our Devices to our meetings.(an excellent way of saving paper!)

Regardless of ability new members are always welcome, surprisingly the men outnumber the women!

Feel free to come along and see if it's for you!.

Vegetarian Cookery Group

The meeting this month will be on Monday February 26th , at 10.30 am , at St Peter and St Paul's church hall on Ruffs Drive. I have 3 delicious recipes for you to taste and then to try cooking them at home. We have a few spaces in the group so please contact me if you are interested. The aim of the sessions is to give you an alternative menu, not to turn you into vegetarians!

Anne Wilkinson

Walking Group (Short Length Walks)

Our walk this month is on the 15th February 2024

It was intended to be our January walk but we cancelled due to the severe cold weather and high probability of icy conditions underfoot.

The walk starts in Farnsfield

Details: 4.6 miles mildly undulating with 450ft ascent. Mainly fields and grassy paths, with a couple of short stretches of quiet road. There are 4 stiles along the route and we may possibly meet some mud!.

Meet: 9.45 am for a 10.00 am start.

Full details will be sent to the group before the 15th

David Rose

Walking Group (Mid Length Walks)

The start of the new year found 24 of us taking part in our latest City walk photo quiz, looking for a total of 28 building and architectural features scattered across the City Centre area. Some of the features were quite difficult to find, and the winning team was decided on a tie-break question.

As we have found on our previous events, there is a wealth of features to be seen around Nottingham, but generally they are only noticed when looking upwards or walking slowly!

We concluded with the judging and eating taking place at the Three Crowns pub on Upper Parliament Street, where the buffet proved to be very welcome, and slightly too much for even our seasoned eaters!

We are planning another in our series of City walks, probably in March, which will take in areas towards the east and south of the City Centre. In the meantime, our next walk will be on Monday, 19th February.

If you enjoy walks of around 6 – 7 miles and are not currently a member of the group, just use the email contact tab on our website – new members are always welcome.

John Tedstone

Weekenders Group

In January we had a planning meeting to share our ideas and suggestions for the group and create a list of forthcoming events. We held a celebratory birthday meal for Doreen, at the Broomhill Inn, on the 12th and on the 27th we have arranged for a coffee club meet up. In February we are looking to visit Brooke Farm in Linby, on the 3rd, and have been invited to the home of one of our members to have a lunch and social get together on the 10th. We have decided to book some day trips out by coach when the weather is a little warmer.

Lindsay

HUCKNALL & DISTRICT u3a INTEREST GROUPS

Group	Leader	Contact E-Mail
Bridge	Sue Tedstone	bridge@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Calligraphy	Glenna Gash	calligraphy@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Canasta	Sue Foss	canasta@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Craft	Jo Hackland	craft1@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Crafty Knitters	Barbara Hill	craftyknitters@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Cycling	Jim Spray	cycling@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Discussion	Christine Beer	discussion@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Drama	Janet Stevenson	drama@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Easier Cycling	Angela Cornish	easiercycle@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Flower Arranging	Siobhan Lee	flowers@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Fun with Languages	Ann Murray	languages@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Gardening	Anne Wilkinson	gardening@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Growing Old Disgracefully	Christine Berrill	god@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Grumpy Old Men	John Tedstone	grumpy@hucknallu3a.org.uk
History	Maureen Newton	history@hucknallu3a.org.uk
International Dining	Marilyn Gretton	internationaldining@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Kurling	Sue Foss	kurling@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Late Breakfast	Geoff Cree	latebreakfast@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Litter Picking	Val Grant	litter@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Lunch	Rose Ridley / Ann Lambert	lunch@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Mah Jong	Val Grant	mahjong@hucknallu3a.org.uk
National Trust	Barrie & Sue Saunders	nationaltrust@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Not So Grumpy Old Men	Barrie Saunders	notsogrumpy@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Pickleball	Bob McEwen / Terry Moulton / Vaughan Gallagher	pickleball@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Pub Quiz	Angela Cornish / Christine Eagle	pubquiz@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Real Ale	Melvyn Francis	realale@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Rummikub (1)	Kate Jackson	rummikub@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Rummikub (2)	Sue Foss	rummikub2@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Science	David Rose	science@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Scrabble	Val Grant	scrabble@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Seated Exercise	Anne McDowall	exercercise@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Short Courses	Tina Holmes	shortcourses@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Singalonga	Liz & Philip Attenborough	singalonga@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Table Games	Sue Spolton / Margaret Nunn	games@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis	Alan Hodgkinson	tabletennis@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Theatre	Barbara Ives	theatre@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Ukulele For Fun	Philip Attenborough	ukulele@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Vegetarian Cookery	Anne Wilkinson	vegcookery@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Walking (Long)	Mark Thornley	longwalks@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Walking (Medium)	John Tedstone	midwalks@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Walking (Short)	David Rose	shortwalks@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Watercolour	Margaret Huckerby	painting@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Weekenders	Lindsay Smith	weekenders@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Wine Appreciation	Mark Jackson	wineappreciation@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Wine Lovers	Tina & Gary Holmes	winelovers@hucknallu3a.org.uk
Wine Tasting	Sue Tedstone / Marilyn Gretton	winetasting@hucknallu3a.org.uk

HUCKNALL & DISTRICT u3a INTEREST GROUPS - Calendar

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	11:30 - Pickleball 13:45 - Discussion 14:00 - Water Colours	10:00 - Walking (Long) 13:00 - Rummikub 2	09:15 - Cycling 10:00 Committee Meeting	10.00 - Calligraphy 14:00 - Pickleball	09:30 - EasierCycling 09:30 - Late Breakfast 14.00 - Table Tennis 19:00 - Canasta		
2	10:00 - Ukulele 11:30 - Pickleball 12:00 - Pub Quiz & Lunch 14:00 - Rummikub 1 14:00 - Seated Exercise	13:00 - Rummikub 2 14:00 - Crafty Knitters 18:30 - Bridge	09:15 - Cycling 13:45 - Members Meeting	10:30 - Fun with Languages 14:00 - Pickleball	09:30 - Easier Cycling 14.00 - Table Tennis 19:00- Mah Jong		
3	10:00 - Walking (Medium) 11:30 - Pickleball 13:45 - Craft 19:00 - Wine Lovers 19:30 - Wine Appreciation	10:30 - Singalonga 13:00 - Rummikub 2 13:30 - Gardening	09:15 - Cycling 14:00 - History 19:30 - WineTasting	10:00 - Walking (Short) 14:00 - Pickleball	09:30 - Easier Cycling 10:00 - Science 14.00 - Table Tennis 19:00 - Table Games		
4	10:00 - Ukulele 10:30 - Vegetarian Cookery 11:30 - Pickleball 13:30 - Flower Arranging	13:00 - Rummikub 2 18:30 - Bridge	09:15 - Cycling	14:00 - Pickleball 14:00 - Scrabble	09:30 - Easier Cycling 10:00 - Drama 14.00 - Table Tennis 19:00 - Canasta	14:00 - Week-ender's Coffee	15:00 - Kurling
5	11:30 - Pickleball	13:00 - Rummikub 2	09:15 - Cycling	14:00 - Pickleball	09:30 - Easier Cycling 14.00 - Table Tennis 19:00 - Canasta		

Various Dates:

Growing Old Disgracefully; Grumpy Old Men; International Dining; Litter Picking; National Trust; Not So Grumpy Old Men; Real Ale; Theatre; Weekenders

If there's an Interest Group that you'd like to see here, please contact the Groups' Co-ordinator, who will be happy to help (coordinator@ hucknallu3a.org.uk).

If you are unable to e-mail the group leader, Please speak to them at the monthly meeting or ask a committee member.