# Open Meetings

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Our Open Meetings take place on the first Thursday of each month from 10.00 a.m. at Beeston Methodist Church, Chilwell Road, Beeston.

We have a speaker each month who speaks for about 50 minutes from 10.45 following the notices. Refreshments are available, but we like to reduce our use of plastic cups by asking members to bring their own mugs if possible. If anyone has hearing difficulties, you are advised to sit downstairs or in the central area upstairs.

Find out about what’s happening with Beeston U3A when you come along. All are made very welcome!
Good morning everyone. I am delighted to welcome you to our 8th AGM. Thank you very much for attending.

Once again, we have had a very successful year with our membership continuing to grow significantly each month. Thanks to our publicity officer Steve Austin our meetings are well publicised in local publications and he keeps our website up to date. Our forever increasing membership means we need to work hard to keep our U3A vibrant by increasing the range of groups and activities that we provide. As I have said before, members sometimes ask if we are getting too big, but we are lucky that currently we can accommodate everyone who wants to come to the open meetings and if we continue to extend our range/number of interest groups we can continue to expand. The U3A philosophy is that no-one is turned away so if a U3A gets too big then a new one should be set up. Luckily, the new Wollaton group will help to relieve the pressure.

Using the U3A electronic Beacon System has helped significantly with the management of the large membership and we hope all group leaders will use Beacon by the end of the year. This includes using the ledger to keep group accounts which is very simple, and this would make life much easier for our very efficient treasurer at the end of the financial year. Training and support will be offered to group leaders who feel less confident. This year we are very grateful to Paul Pinnock for helping Malcolm to prepare the accounts and thanks to Eric Burdett for the auditing. Celia Billau, our communications officer has provided excellent training sessions on Beacon for group leaders and she will continue to do this in the future. For the first time this year members have been able to renew or join online and we are delighted that many folk have made the most of this opportunity. This has really helped Margot, our membership secretary, as renewal for so many members is a mammoth task. We are also very grateful to the members who have taken renewals at the Open meetings.

As a committee we have continued to work from a development plan achieving all our targets. A major area, as last year, has been to continue to make our U3A vibrant and appealing to all members by extending the range of interest groups, events and activities. We have also updated all the committee job descriptions in readiness for committee changes. Anne Pinnock, our welfare officer, has developed our accessibility and safeguarding policies ensuring U3A activities are as accessible as possible for all our members.

There has been a continued need for more interest groups. Chris Chater, who retires from her role as group co-ordinator this month, has continued to work very hard establishing new groups and supporting existing ones. We now have over 80 interest groups and when Chris took over the role 4 years ago there was less than half this number. Chris has been very supportive and worked very closely with Anne Pinnock and Kathy Shipway ensuring a smooth transition as they take over the role. They have also been meeting regularly with the group co-ordinators in the local cluster. They have continued to set up additional groups for the most popular ones e.g. table tennis, wine tasting and walking. John Scottow has taken over the leadership of Wine Appreciation 1 as well as Wine Appreciation 3. John is also the U3A National Subject advisor for wine appreciation. Piers Krause decided it was time to stand down after many years and I’d like to thank him for leading such a successful wine appreciation group which led to several wonderful holidays in France and Italy. Thanks also to other retiring group leaders who have handed over the reins. The Art History/Appreciation group has successfully moved to a team approach and has gone from strength to strength with many members giving presentations and leading discussions. Sessions continue to be held morning and afternoon. Celia has led training sessions for any members who need help with delivering an effective
We were proud when our ‘Between the Covers’ Book Group had a mention on the Jo Whiley show as they had reviewed a book for that part of her show.

The Group Fair, which had to be cancelled in March because of snow, was held in October. This was a very successful event held at the Pearson Centre for the first time. Group Leaders worked very hard to showcase their interest groups creatively and many of them signed up new recruits. All groups were able to have tables in the same room and the event was very well attended resulting in around 50 new members. Feedback from group leaders was very positive but there were difficulties for the performing groups because they couldn’t be heard. We will rethink this for the fair this coming October.

During the year, we have also held a range of evening social events and these have included another Fine Wine Tasting led by John Scottow and Adrian Shipway, a 60’s Disco, and a Quiz. Janis Patterson leaves the committee this time and I’d like to thank her for her hard work and the very enjoyable events she has organised. We celebrated Christmas with seasonal refreshments and entertainment by the Ukulele, Singing for fun and the Play reading groups. We were also entertained by the Attenborough handbell ringers. The winner of the short story competition was announced. Congratulations went to all the folk who had entered and the winner Sue Daly, a cluster member, won for the second year running.

Many groups including Garden Visits, History and Art Gallery visits have been out about and there have been many opportunities to visit local theatres. Lucy Beardsley continues to organise an excellent range of speakers and she and Breda Cooper have also arranged some outstanding visits over the past year. Breda has now retired from the committee and Lucy will no longer be the Speaker/Seeker, but she will continue to organise the outings for the next year.

We also strive to keep up to date with local and national U3A initiatives and then, where appropriate, feed back to you the members. This is certainly helped by the fact that Margot Gale is the County Contact and Vice Chair for the Nottinghamshire network of U3As and I am the secretary. We are also trained as National Volunteers to help with setting up new U3As locally. In this role we helped to establish Wollaton U3A which is going from strength to strength. In October there will be a Nottinghamshire conference open to all members entitled ‘Ageing Well’. This will be held in the School of Psychology at Nottingham University. More details will be available shortly. We are also involved in organising a regional conference to be held at Eastwood Conference Centre next year. The Nottinghamshire Network is always eager to share good practice and Di Fischer-Harman led a very successful Architecture peer support group for convenors current or prospective. We hope more groups may be able to offer this in the future.

We were well represented at the National Conference at Nottingham University in August and the main findings were reported in the Autumn newsletter. Any member can apply to the committee for sponsorship to attend the conference which includes the Third Age Trust AGM. Hopefully it will be held at Nottingham again at the end of August. We also feel it’s important to co-operate with the other U3As in our local cluster i.e. Long Eaton, Ilkeston, and Stapleford. The Chairs of these U3As meet every six months, so we can exchange ideas and learn from each other. Hopefully Wollaton will become part of the cluster next year.

As most of you will be aware, I am always reminding members that U3A is for the members by the members and one of our aims is to involve more people in the numerous tasks necessary in running a successful U3A. We are most grateful that we can fill the vacant committee posts and hope the new committee members will enjoy being involved in the future of Beeston U3A. I have already said how much we appreciate our group convenors and we held our annual thank you lunch and training session for them in January. We also held a training session on GDPR and our privacy statement. Both documents can be seen on our website. We couldn’t manage without our meeters and greeters,
the refreshment team led by **Elaine Neville** and those who sign members in, but more are always needed. Other really helpful people, as mentioned last year, are **Mike Allery** who has continues to do numerous IT tasks with such willingness, **Mike Johnson** who still takes our photographs even though he is now Chair of Wallaton and **Eve Gurd** who helps to set up the room for open meetings and looks after the signs we have on the tables. If you feel you could give a little help in anyway, please let us know. We particularly need people willing to work as a team to organise evening events.

We like to make all our volunteers feel valued and to let them know that we don’t take them for granted. To show our appreciation we held our annual thank you Christmas coffee morning at the White Lion. However, this was poorly attended and rather disappointing which resulted in a waste of food, so we are going to change the event and venue and hold something different in the summer which hopefully will be more appealing to our volunteers and at a quieter time of the year.

**Celia Billau** our communications officer continues to keep all members very well informed through emails, bulletins and the excellent newsletter. Please can you ensure that you tell us when your details change particularly your email.

This year we are adopting a new constitution. This has been written by the Third Age Trust and the Charity Commission. This will be discussed a little later in this meeting.

I would like to take the opportunity at this point to thank again all the retiring committee members (Chris, Elizabeth, Janis and Breda) for everything they have done for Beeston U3A. In this report I haven’t really mentioned the fantastic committee work done by **Elizabeth**. As well as being the most efficient and prompt minuting secretary she has been an expert in procedure and has had a great memory for decisions made in previous meetings. This has made my job much easier. All four retiring members have been instrumental in our success and their input will be missed at committee meetings. I wish them well and we look forward to continuing to see them as U3A members.

The coming year will hopefully see us continue to build on our success.

Developments for the coming year are:
To further develop the use of the Beacon system and encourage all group convenors to use it both for their membership lists and keeping their accounts.

To ensure all new committee members are well inducted and supported.

To continue to extend the range of interest groups.

To encourage members to attend regional and national conferences

To look for ways to encourage more members to take an active role within our U3A.

To continue to plan for the challenges brought by the ever-increasing membership.

To explore the possibility of introducing electronic membership cards.

To develop a new website.

To implement the new constitution.

This is the last time I'll stand here as Chair. I have really enjoyed the last four years even on the few occasions when the road has been a bit rocky, but the current constitution only allows me to be in the role for this length of time. It's been a privilege to work with such a dedicated group of committee volunteers who have supported me and kept my feet on the ground when I may have had a few wacky ideas! I've also really enjoyed meeting and getting to know so many members. I'm very pleased to be handing over the reins to Margot and I know Beeston U3A will continue to flourish and grow.

Sue Blackley

A Vote of Thanks from Our New Chair

Following Sue’s last Chair’s report I feel that it is important to echo what I said at the May AGM when I thanked her on behalf of both the membership and committee of Beeston U3A for her dedication and commitment to our organisation.

Sue began her term of office in 2015 when our membership stood at around 500 and has taken it to the extremely successful U3A it is today at over 800 members. During these four years there has been a great amount of change within the U3A, much of it centred around GDPR and the introduction of a whole range of policies which we have had to implement. Sue has approached this work with professionalism and expertise and at times must have felt that she had never left her previous working life as a Head Teacher!

She has also driven forward Beacon which has enabled our U3A to function much more smoothly and has lessened the workload of many of the committee members.

Sue is also extremely involved with the wider life of the U3A as secretary to the Nottinghamshire Network and also as a Trust volunteer in which role she has been pivotal to the setting up of the new U3A in Wollaton.

As the new Chair of Beeston U3A I am delighted that we have been able to persuade Sue to stay on the committee as we really don’t want to lose the wide range of knowledge and commitment which she brings to everything she tackles.

On behalf of our U3A we would like to thank Sue for all she has done for Beeston U3A over the past four years and for the enthusiasm and professionalism which she has brought to the role.

She will certainly be a hard act to follow!!

Margot Gale (Chair)

Our new committee is shown on the next page...
Margot Gale—Chair
Malcolm Brookbanks—Treasurer
Sue Blackley—Vice Chair and Speaker Seeker
Lucy Beardsley—Outings
Steve Austin—Publicity
Richard Eddleston—Business Sec
Alison Wilson—Membership
Anne Pinnock—Groups/Welfare
Jo Muxlow—Social Treasurer
Kathy Shipway—Groups
Celia Billau—Communications
Elaine Neville—Social Events
Reviews of the speakers at the monthly meetings:

March—Nelson Blackley—What’s happening in the UK Retail Industry and Why?

Nelson, who is a Retail Research Associate at Nottingham Business School, began his talk by explaining what a massive impact the Retail Industry has on all our lives – there aren’t many days when we don’t visit a shop, a high street or go online to purchase our needs for goods and services. Retail also employs a large number of people, and certain individuals have become famous just by being high profile in the retail industry, such as Mary Portas, or more infamously, Sir Philip Green.

Our habits evolve, as does the technology. Where we were buying 2% of our requirements online 10 years ago, this has now increased to 20%, and could well be 30% by 2023. However, it’s not all rosy with internet shopping as almost 25% of fashion goods bought online are returned. The online grocery market is also unprofitable, and of course, the buyer must be in to receive the goods. It also doesn’t spell the end of the high street as some people warn. Retail is evolving to become involved in “retailtainment” where shopping is integrated with leisure activities, cafes and learning experiences. Ikea, for example, will offer classes in how to build their flat-pack furniture. Many people enjoy the shopping experience, and certainly there’s no better way to buy shoes than to try them on and walk up and down the shop in them.

Celia Billau

April—Robert Williams—William Shakespeare: His Life and His Plays

This talk presented a wealth of fascinating facts about the life of our most famous playwright together with fine eloquence of some of the most famous lines taken from his plays. Robert clearly knows his stuff and is passionate about Shakespeare and has clearly previously acted in performances of his plays.

Shakespeare survived the bubonic plague as a child and studied Latin at school. He met and married Anne Hathaway, who was a widow and 8 years his senior and he had 2 children with her. He then disappeared for 7 years and that is still a mystery as to how he spent his time. He may have travelled the country as an actor with a travelling troupe. His association with Christopher Marlowe in London helped him develop his writing skills, but his first play, Two Gentlemen of Verona, was rather badly written. It included a journey by sea between Verona and Milan showing a distinct lack of geographical knowledge.

The politics of the day urged him to write in a way that presented England as gallant and brave, and his portrayal of Richard III showed him to be maligned rather unfairly. The comedies have been much enjoyed by audiences through the years. He wrote the Merry Wives of Windsor especially for a famous comedian of the day, who unfortunately died before he could act the part of Falstaff. There was also witchcraft in many of his plays which shows Shakespeare’s fascination with all things mysterious, and many of his later plays became quite dark and menacing.

He died on his birthday, also St. George’s Day, 23rd April in 1616 at the age of 52, and his wife outlived him by a further 7 years.

Celia Billau

May—Anne Allery—A Passage to India

Anne started by explaining that she had been a member of the Girl Guiding Movement since she was a Brownie. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts has five world Centres, one of which is Sangam near Pune in India, established in 1966. She first visited this Centre with a group of fourteen Guiders from Nottinghamshire in
1990, developing a love of the country and its people. This led to her joining Friends of Sangam (FoS) UK. She is currently the treasurer for FoS (UK), which raises funds to help to support the Centre. After three aborted attempts to make a second visit, she finally managed it in 2016 with a friend to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Sangam. The talk explained the development of the Centre and showed the improvements, such as a new swimming pool, that had been made since her first visit. She also explained the international nature of the Centre. It was suggested that participants in the 50th celebrations should take part in several challenges to leave their comfort zones. Visitors to the Centre are often involved in working with Community Partners. All of these were set up to support the poor and deprived members of the surrounding locality. Many of them encourage girls and women to empower themselves and Anne visited several of them during her trips to India.

Mike Allery

New Groups News

We, Anne Pinnock and Kathy Shipway, are introducing ourselves as your new Groups Co-ordinators.

Beeston U3A now has about 80 interest groups, so hopefully, there should always be something that you like the idea of trying out.

However, we are always keen to hear from you about any suggestions you have for setting up new groups. Once a new group idea has been approved by the committee, the next step is to advertise it on the monthly rolling notices, in order to start compiling a list of interested people. We then usually organise a meeting for those people to get together to discuss the best way forward to get the group up and running. We always try to encourage a team approach to running a group, so that the responsibility doesn’t fall on to just one person.

Groups that are currently in the early stages of development are: Backgammon; Tennis; Yoga (not beginners); Croquet; Chess; Cinema Visits; and Calligraphy.

If you are interested in any of these groups, or have a suggestion for a new group, please email us at groups@beestonu3a.org.uk

Beeston U3A on the radio!

One of our book groups, Between the Covers, was recently featured on the Radio 2 Book Club feature, which is hosted by Jo Whiley. Here is a bit of background about how it all came about:

One of our members, Debbie, is an avid reader and wondered if Between the Covers could get involved with the Radio 2 book club. On making contact with the show, events unfolded extremely quickly, and within a few weeks it was all systems go!

A few of us blindly and bravely agreed to get involved. At the time, we had no idea what category of book we were going to be asked to review, when we would receive it, nor did we have details of the likely format of the recording session. As it turned out we had very little time within which to read the book and the recording format would unfold on the day!!

Towards the end of March we met at our regular venue and a very patient Radio 2 researcher/producer turned up microphone in hand. After a few introductions and false starts, we continued with our usual format to discuss our various thoughts on the book – with the exception of a microphone being thrust under our noses!!

The book we were asked to review was a new release by Michelle Paver - ‘Wakenhyrst’ a gothic thriller. The author and book (plus our pre-recorded review) featured on the Jo Whiley Radio 2 Book Club on 1 April.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience ... after the event!! It was very interesting how a 40-minute recording session was condensed into just a few minutes airtime. Thanks go to Debbie for suggesting we get involved in the project and agreeing to front the live radio phone-in segment.

Elaine Neville
Trips and Excursions

Visit to Derngate, Northampton 27th June

Travel to Northampton to see the house designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Food available in the boutique restaurant onsite. Must be booked in advance. Unique architectural styles and art exhibitions in this meticulously restored 19th Century property.

Cost £21 per person

Nottingham River Cruise 12th September

Afternoon Tea included (wait-on service)

Sample menu: Selection of freshly made sandwiches with salad garnish and crisps. Warm scones, clotted cream and jam. Tea and coffee. Vegetarian options available on request.

Cost £28 per person

Early booking required in order to retain boat booking.

Birmingham Tattoo Saturday 23rd November

Britain’s biggest Indoor International Tattoo, with over 1,200 performers, is returning to Arena Birmingham in 2019 bringing together marching bands, exciting displays and culminating in the spectacular Grand Finale featuring all performers in a spectacle of pomp and pageantry.

Cost £48 per person

These places must be booked and paid for in order to secure the tickets from the Arena.

Contact Lucy Beardsley by email lucybrdshly@yahoo.co.uk or see her at the Open Meetings

Please note: deposits are non-refundable unless the place is taken by another member.

Discounts and benefits for U3A members (updated May 2019)

I have seen the following discounts and benefits for U3A members advertised recently:

- **Cotswold Outdoor** - 10% discount for U3A members on full price items
- **Fred Olsen Cruises** - 10% membership discount (on top of any other offers) on your first sailing with them; 5% in addition to 5% Loyalty Club discount for existing customers.
- **Viking Cruises** - 5% extra discount for U3A members, friends and family, on All Viking Cruises booked via Northumbria Travel before June 30th 2019
- **Revitalise Respite Holidays** - 10% discount for U3A (use code 3A182)
- **Magic Mountain** – Outdoor clothing factory shop, (Sprayway, Trekmates etc), Vernon Avenue Beeston. 25% discount for U3A members when spending over £10
- **Broadway Cinema** - 50p discount for U3A members for Silver Screen tickets
- **Riviera travel** - 10% of the final holiday cost will be donated to your nominated local U3A.

If anyone knows of any other discounts/benefits, do let me know, and I will add them to the list. Also, please let me know if you find that any of these discounts have now been withdrawn

Anne Pinnock
News from the groups:

American History

March – Jim Lyons did a presentation about the Lewis and Clark Expedition between 1804 and 1806 when the two explorers met up in St Louis, mainly to find a water route to the Pacific. A number of interesting historical facts emerged, including the fact that a slave who came along with the expeditionary party, and an Indian with her baby were allowed to vote with the group on where to camp – this being the first time a black man and a woman were allowed a vote on anything! The route covers some amazing American scenery and has become a famous trail, now managed by the National Park Service.

April – the second part of Richard Taylor’s presentation about Colonial America, this one covering from 1620 to 1763 and up to the American Revolution. This period was covered in a series of themes which covered the relationship with England, the growth of towns, religion, government and slavery. There was so much information included here, and we all learned such a lot about this period of American history.

May – the Watergate incident, and a study of a corrupt President. What did he know and when did he stop knowing it? All the president’s men were clearly deeply involved in the great cover-up. So Nixon bugged his own office and refused to release the tapes. It forced the president to resign in disgrace, although he seemed to never have any remorse for what he and his henchmen did.

If you wish to join the group, please email Celia on communications@beestonu3a.org.uk

Celia Billau

Art Gallery Visits

Our last 3 visits have been extremely different ......

February – Derby Museum and Art Gallery - Leonardo Da Vinci: a life in Drawing - the exhibition saw members take a trip along the A52 to view part of the Royal Collection's drawings from the Renaissance Master to mark the 500th anniversary of his death.

Reflecting many of the artist's interests the drawings covered such areas as anatomy (human and animal), engineering and botany to name but a few. Breathtakingly detailed one needed a magnifying glass (supplied by the gallery) to appreciate these amazing works. All who came left awestruck at such talent.

March – The Djanogly Gallery – to visit Homage to the Bauhaus, an exhibition drawn from the Jack Kirkland Collection. Elaine from the gallery staff gave us an informative guided talk and insight into the movement and how its experimental approach to art, architecture, design and typography has influenced artists (through the 20th century and into the 21st) since the founding of the Bauhaus art school in Weimar 1919 to its closing in 1933 when it was considered degenerate by the Nazi regime.

Exhibits ranged from a diagram of concentric circles outlining the 3 year syllabus for students covering such mediums as clay, wood, textiles, glass and building and design to works by Bauhaus pioneers Anni Albers, Laslo Maholy-Nagy and included a work by Larry Bell called Untitled – a vacuum-sealed glass cube which fascinated viewers from all angles, so much so that shortly after the exhibition's opening it had to be roped off for protection.

It was a superb exhibition and certainly merited a second visit!
April - The Bonington Gallery - C/J: Chloe Maratta and Joanne Robertson.

Two artists - given free range to interpret and reflect the High Street Fashion Archive held by Trent University since 2000. Chloe exhibited abstract paintings to complement Joanne’s interpretation of High Street Fashion on the mannequins. Interesting!!

Nadya and Barbara

Art History and Appreciation

The AHA group has enjoyed an absolutely fascinating three months of presentations by members.

In February, Eve Gurd talked about her links with the artist Evelyn Gibbs. By chance, Eve discovered that she had been painted as a child by Evelyn. She had eventually managed to acquire this painting from Evelyn’s family after her death, and was justifiably proud to be able to bring it along to show us.

Anne Allery spoke about Ralph Balson, who is often described as the founder of modern art in Australia. The group were astonished to learn that Ralph was a relative of Anne’s, and were delighted with the details and insight that she was able to give us about the man and his work.

At the March meeting of this group we were entertained by two superb presentations:

Hilary Sutherland spoke on “Van Gogh in Provence”, which encapsulated the last few years of this artist’s short life and coincided fortuitously with the current “Van Gogh in Britain” at Tate Britain.

After living in Paris, Vincent (as he usually signed his work) moved to Provence, where he rented a room in Arles and it was this time, his most prolific painting years, that Hilary concentrated on. He was influenced by Japanese blossom paintings and painted some exquisite and delicate cherry blossom trees & red plum blossom. He began to use primary colours in dramatic, swirling brush strokes (“Starry Night over the Rhone” is a wonderful example of his style) & his paintings from Arles show vibrant blues in his skies and water, almost startling yellows in his cornfields & buildings & rich red in “The Red Vineyard” & the red walls of billiard halls.

The second presentation by Elizabeth Brown featured the De Stijl group of artists. –(The Style in Dutch.)

From 1917, this group produced a quarterly journal in Utrecht showing their work. They were a group of artists and architects, later described as “one of the most important and influential movements that no one knows about! Their aim was to “find the laws of equilibrium and harmony to apply to life as well as art”. Members of the group included Piet Mondrian, Theo Doesburg & Gerrit Rietveld.

Mondrian (1872-1944) became one of the most influential artists between the wars, demonstrated as Elizabeth traced his development from his early more natural work such as landscapes and local scenes, gradually restricting his palette to fewer colour combinations (eg “Composition in Brown & Gray“ in 1913) and more geometric shapes. As he developed this style, he introduced straight lines, squares & rectangles, and blocks of colour, gradually restricted to primary colours and black and white.
Elizabeth showed many examples of his style influencing buildings & fashion— including, not far from home, in some of the University buildings—straight lines, rectangles & simple colours.

His last painting circa 1942 was entitled “Broadway Boogie Woogie”!

Many thanks Elizabeth for such a fascinating talk - an eye opener for many of us -- We will be looking for Mondrian’s influence wherever we go!

Then, in April, Lucy Cooper gave an extremely interesting presentation on Hogarth. Everyone learned so much about his work, and were by turn, amused, fascinated and shocked by his daring to tackle subjects often considered taboo. His work is still relevant today; and Lucy showed that the themes common to political scandals in Hogarth’s time, are much as the same as today’s in the 21st century!

Thank you to our talented group members for putting so much hard work into producing such excellent, professional presentations.

Anne Pinnock

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**Between the Covers Book Group**

As we moved into our third year sadly we lost a couple of our founder members but happily gained a few new ones. We continue to meet on the third (3rd) Monday of each month - 1.30 pm at the Pearson Centre for Young People, 2 Nuart Road, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 2NH.

The nature of the book group is to read and enjoy literature by various authors, across all of the genres. We are a smallish but very friendly group who come together for cordial and relaxed discussions about the month’s book choice.

The group’s preference is mainly for fictional works, although we do have the odd one or two autobiographies/biographies. Group members put forward book suggestions anonymously ... and as with all book choices we have the marmite factor!!

In the past, members have volunteered, to give a brief talk on their favourite author, or a particular book, or what/whom inspired them to become bookworms. We have had some very interesting talks, which have led members to venture into new genres and authors. We are exploring the possibility of inviting local authors to come and talk to the group about their novels and their venture into writing arena.

In March a few of us blindly bravely agreed to review a new book release (‘Wakenhurst’ by Michelle Paver) for the Jo Whiley Radio 2 Book Club. At the time we had no idea of the category of book we were going to be asked to review and, as it turned out, had very little time within which to read it!! We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience ... after the event!! It was interesting how a 40-minute recording session was condensed into just a few minutes airtime. The author and book (plus our pre-recorded review) featured on the Jo Whiley Radio 2 Book Club on 1 April. Thanks go to Debbie for suggesting we get involved in the project and fronting the live radio phone-in segment. Thanks also go to Alison who joined the recording session from one of our other U3A book groups, Readers Rendezvous.

So far this year have ploughed our way through:

January : ‘Just a Little Run Around’ the World by Rosie Swale-Pope
February : ‘The Book of Dust - La Belle Sauvage’ by Philip Pullman
March : ‘The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society’ by Mary Ann Shaffer
April : ‘Conclave’ by Robert Harris
May : ‘The Couple Next Door’ by Shari Lapena

In forthcoming months will be reviewing:

June : ‘Broken Ground’ by Val McDermid
Family History / Genealogy

Our **February** meeting kicked off with a presentation by Chris on the 1841 census. This was based on an article where a historian described how he had found a box of household schedules from the 1841 census and was able to compare them with the census enumerator books that we are familiar from ancestry.co.uk etc.

Then Sue gave a presentation on the life of Leslie Potter, who was killed following the sinking of aircraft carrier HMS Glorious in 1940. He was buried on the Faroe Islands. Sue used information from a variety of sources, including the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website and the enquiries into the sinking of the ship.

In **March** Margaret spoke about her mother and her ancestors, going back to Robert Phipps, born in 1797, who fought at Waterloo. Philip then gave a brief update about two books that relate to family history and house history as featured on television.

This was followed by David telling us about his family history, further back than he had previously been able to establish, and finding that they had moved about the country and, in one instance, emigrated to Canada.

Pamela started our meeting in **April**, telling us about her father’s diary when he was in Singapore in 1945. In addition to some vivid memories of his experience there, he had some amazing photographs about the end of the war, which Pamela was able to display.

Then Richard gave a presentation about the one-name-study of his surname. He collates all references to his name, from sources such as parish records, the General Register Office index, census records and wills. In total his records contain information on nearly 20,000 people. The family comes from north-east England and Richard was able to become a Freeman of the City of York. Richard showed how some of the trends over the years matched trends in social and political history.

*Chris O’Brien*

**U3A National Conference and AGM**

Every year the U3A holds a conference at the East Midlands Conference Centre at the University of Nottingham. The AGM is held on Thursday 29th August at 11.30 and members are invited to apply to attend this if they wish, and attendance is free of charge. Some members of the committee will attend the whole conference as there are also workshops which help to develop the skills and experience of the team to help them run Beeston U3A. It’s rather nice that it’s only down the road for us, whereas other delegates come from all over the UK to attend! **Watch out for reports coming from the conference about how the U3A Trust is developing and what discussions emerge.**

Go to the following link for more information on how to book your place at the AGM: [https://conference.u3a.org.uk/](https://conference.u3a.org.uk/)
**Knitting, Crochet and Natter Group**

We are now in our new venue and meet twice a month:

The First Tuesday and Third Thursday at 2 to 4pm in the Pearson Centre. You can attend on either day or both.

This is a social group with a learning and sharing atmosphere. It’s not a formal lesson but members help each other whilst learning to knit or crochet, or just carrying on with their own project and enjoying a like-minded chat.

If you are an experienced knitter or crocheter, or picking the needles up for the first time, please come and join us. We have plenty of free spaces, and it’s an ideal time to finish off any projects you’ve previously neglected.

Please contact Sheila if you require more information.

Email: sheilaschierbaum@btinternet.com

Sheila Schierbaum

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**History**

Ivan’s fascinating talk in April “Building a Mediaeval French Castle” today was just that – some wealthy enthusiasts with land started in the 1990s – employed people to make the tools, fell and prepare trees, build carts, clear the site, build huts for cooks, weavers, clothiers, laundresses, build stables for heavy horses etc! They employ quarrymen, masons, carpenters and after twenty years the chateau is rising like a phoenix. The site is open to visitors.

Because of overcrowding the group has sadly moved to the Pearson Centre, which is less convenient, especially for members with mobility problems but holds more people. John Orton was the opening speaker in the new venue and true to form there were teething difficulties – his memory stick refused to “talk” to the laptop – every speaker’s nightmare! Fortunately for us, John is an experienced speaker and was still able to present an interesting talk on “Witches” with special reference to the Flower family of Bottesford who were employed by the Earl of Belvoir.

There was an interesting discussion on “white witches” or herbalists and “evil” witches who caused trouble. After Mother Flower and her two daughters were sacked for “loose living” the Earl’s sons died and the women were tried and found guilty of killing them in revenge by witchcraft – mum died in prison and the daughters were hanged. We needed a coffee afterwards!

Judith Foxon

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**Newsletter**

Our quarterly newsletter is sent out by email. If you are not on email, and you attend the meeting, please collect your copy from Celia at the monthly meetings in March, June, September and December. This will save on postage costs, which are quite considerable. If you haven’t attended the Monthly meeting, a copy is posted to you. Copies will be made available for anyone who has difficulty reading the pdf document on screen, or for anyone who would prefer a printed copy.

**Bulletins and other announcements**

Other U3A news and announcements are made by email only.
**Patchwork and Quilting**

The Patchwork & Quilting Group continues to meet at The Pearson Centre, on the 2nd Monday of each month between 10.00 am – 12.00 noon.

So far during 2019 various group members have provided a number of taster session. These sessions have been designed to give those new to patchwork and quilting a flavour of the breadth of techniques and hopefully find something that suits their particular skills set.

**January:** Tips on selecting appropriate fabrics, use of a colour wheel and advice how to create your own block designs.

**February:** Machine and hand quilting designs/techniques.

**March:** Wholecloth Quilting.

**May:** Foundation Piecing.

Our programme for the rest of the year is equally impressive – Needle Turn Appliqué; Quilt As You Go; Disappearing 9 Patch!!

Some examples of the members’ work so far are shown here.

Elaine Neville

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**The Shakespeare Group**

At last a worthier leader (and name) for the group, is taking on Will and all that entails. I have been a total fraud all these years, I am not all that enthralled with the writer, so this group is now in better hands with Elizabeth Le Marchant Brock.

A huge thank you to those who have come along to our monthly meetings over the years, bringing with them enthusiasm and more importantly, a role in taking a deeper look at the man and the works attributed to him. Plus the brave members who performed at the Xmas concert, an even huger thank you to Bob Williams, our resident expert and “go-to” guy for all things that Shake, who has enthralled us with the background stories to the plays/sonnets/poetry, and of course all the William Shakespeares!

Di Fischer-Harman

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**Singing for Fun**

We sorely missed our “Fun Singalong” in April when Margaret was unwell. We all wished her a speedy recovery and were pleased to see her at the A.G.M. in May. You can’t keep a good woman down!

Since the last bulletin, Margaret has arranged for “Fernando” and “Hernando” to meet up in his “Hideaway”. Meanwhile, before “Delilah’s” dramatic demise, she has been enjoying “What a Beautiful Morning” before “Singing in the Rain”. Some of us enjoy a “Walk Down Lambeth Way” whilst others dream on a “Yellow Bird high up in banana tree” or muse on “The tax man’s taken all my dough” on a “Sunny Afternoon”. Recently we’ve gone up beat and had a lot of fun trying to grasp the beats/rhythms of ABBA’s “Waterloo” and “Dancing Queen”. As Wilfred (Pickles) used to say “Come and have a Go!” – 4th Thursday of the month, 10.00 to 11.30 at B.M.C.

Haydn Boothroyd
Theatre Outings

From June last year to March this year, the group (which varied in numbers who came to see the productions), saw very different offerings – some excellent, some quite good and some rather mediocre. However, this all gave us plenty to discuss.

The musical “Top Hat” was well received, as was “Chess” too. “She Stoops to Conquer” was ok, whereas “Wipers Times” was excellent! “Kinderttransport” was very thought-provoking, and “Abigail’s Party” held many memories for some of us. The stand out play was “The Madness of George III” and we were lucky to see such a prestigious production. “Calamity Jane” the musical was not such a success, but “A Streetcar Named Desire” and “The Cemetery Club” were both very well received.

So, an eventful year for us all, and we look forward to seeing many more productions during the next 12 months.

Eve Gurd

Welfare Officer

Just a reminder that Beeston U3A has a Welfare Officer who is also a member of the committee. My name is Anne Pinnock. My aim is to be a point of contact so that any U3A member can raise issues connected to welfare and accessibility, in order to increase involvement and enjoyment. This includes supporting members with hearing impairments, visual impairments and mobility issues, both at monthly open meetings, as well as being able to access the interest groups they wish to join. A small budget is available to assist in meeting these needs, and an application form to request funding is available on the Beeston U3A website.

Beeston U3A has formulated policies to help ensure we keep accessibility and individual needs high priority, and always welcome anyone with additional needs. We aim to do whatever we reasonably can to help every Beeston U3A member get the most out of their U3A. These policies are all on our website. National U3A also has a team to advise on accessibility called “U3A plus”. Details are available on their website.

However, we can only help if we know about any issues that are causing problems. Please do contact me if you, or any member you know has a suggestion about how we can improve things. Do contact me at anne.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk. I am also the Joint Group Co-Ordinator so you’ll often find me in the Foyer at monthly open meetings, if you would prefer to chat in person.

Anne Pinnock

Are you getting your emails?

As more and more group leaders are moving towards using Beacon to email members of their groups, we keep the one and only official record of members’ details on Beacon, and we need your help in keeping it as up to date as possible.

Please let us know if you change your email address or any other of your personal details. We can update the record on the Beacon system.

If your emails through Beacon are not getting through, you may be missing some important information. The email could be going into your Spam inbox. Check for the email address noreply@u3abeacon.org.uk in your Spam and check it as Not Spam.

Contact me by email at communications@beestonu3a.org.uk if you wish to update your details.

Celia Billau
Walks (Long)

In February John led 18 of us on a 9 ¾ mile walk along the river Trent and the canal. We started at Beeston Marina and followed the Trent Valley Way eastwards until we reached Clifton Bridge where the long distance path swaps over to the south bank. We continued along the north bank to re-join the Way for the short distance to the Wilford Suspension bridge. Coffee stop was on a very convenient low wall close to the river near the Meadows recreation ground. Continuing to the pedestrian suspension we crossed it into West Bridgford and turned westwards along the south bank of the river. Lunch stop was beside a small pond just before Wilford Toll Bridge also known as Halfpenny Bridge. For the first part of the walk we had warm sunshine, which made it very pleasant walking beside the river. In the afternoon, it turned cloudy which made for a colder walk for the return to Beeston. Using the Toll bridge we crossed the Trent once again and turned eastwards to follow the path beside the River Leen to reach Gregory Street. Here we dropped down onto the canal towpath for the final leg back to Beeston Marina.

In March Tina led 20 of us on a 9 ¾ mile walk from Eyam. Starting from the car park, we walked through the village and across the fields to Stoney Middleton but stopped on the way to look at the boundary stone. This was where the villagers had exchanged money for food during their self-isolation to prevent the spread of plague in 1666. On leaving Stoney Middleton, we climbed the hill to go over to walk beside the river Derwent stopping for a coffee break before crossing Over Froggatt Bridge and into the village. Turning northwards, we followed the Derwent Valley Way for several miles, walking through wide grassy fields near the river. Lunch stop in the pleasant sunshine was just before Leadmill Bridge. After crossing the bridge and turning south, we enjoyed washing our packed lunch down with refreshments in the garden at the local pub. That was the end of walking along the flat river valley. We had to climb 850 feet in 2 ½ miles up to the top of Eyam Moor but the views were well worth the effort. The final section was a gentle descent down Bole hill and back to the car park. A very enjoyable day walking in the sunshine.

In April, Mike led 26 of us on an 8 ¾ mile walk from Portland Training College. I led a group of 26 on an 8 ¾ mile walk from Portland Training College on a cool but sunny day. Starting from the car park, we walked south in Harlow Wood to join the Robin Hood Way (RHW) towards Blidworth and alongside Rainworth water. Just above Providence Farm we diverted from the RHW to walk across the fields, spotting a considerable number of wild flowers. We stopped for coffee before the village of Blidworth in a neatly mown area with benches. After entering the village, a short walk up the main road took us once again into the fields heading back towards Harlow Wood, with fine views to the south. Crossing our original path along the RHW, we went through a short section of the wood and then along its edge and on to Lindhurst Farm. The good views were now northwards towards Mansfield as we completed a square section just skirting the busy A617. This brought us back to a wide track through Harlow Wood and to the car park.

Mike Allery
**Wine Appreciation—new 4th group**

As already mentioned by Sue in her Chair’s AGM review, Piers Krause has now stepped down from running the first Wine Appreciation group. The growing popularity of wine appreciation has led to more groups being formed, as well as some very popular evening events and also holidays to France and Italy. John Scottow and Adrian Shipway have led these groups successfully, and due to our growing numbers and the popularity of wine tasting, it is proposed to start a new 4th group which will be at 2:00pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the White Lion Pub in Beeston.

Adrian Shipway is happy to lead this group in the same way as he takes Wine Tasting Group 2 but there is the option of changing the format so that two different members choose and research the wine for each month. This can be discussed and decided on by the members who come to our initial meeting.

If you are interested in joining Wine Tasting group 4 then please contact Kathy Shipway at groups@beestonu3a.org.uk

*Kathy Shipway*

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**Writing for Pleasure**

Our May meeting saw the return of Becky Cullen to lead the group in writing poetry. Just by accident the meeting coincided with Nottingham’s Poetry Week. Becky has worked with us twice before and we knew to expect a brilliant session. We were certainly not disappointed as her inspirations ranged from walking, to eating, to animals who convey the characteristics of the seven deadly sins. Our senses were challenged throughout and were certainly assisted by the sweets and fruit she brought with her as stimulus. Several members had previously voiced their concerns about writing poetry but after an amusing and thoughtful morning everyone judged it a tremendous success. Becky is an excellent poet and an inspirational teacher and we are planning to see more of her next year.

We have now launched our third short story writing competition. The theme for this year is to write about one or more of the Seven Deadly Sins. From comments overheard this subject is proving to be rather more difficult than previous topics.  Mars is taking on the administration so we are grateful to her for doing that onerous task. Invites have gone out to writing groups in our cluster U3As so we hope that we have a diverse range of stories to judge in October. For further details please contact helen.stewart1@btinternet.com.

Topics covered this year so far have included "Less is More", how to work towards an ending and the romance/sex genre. All of these were led by members of the group and created much fun and new pieces to add to our website: beestonwriting.com. We also began in January with a grand and hilarious reading of our pantomimes which were written in December.

*Helen Stewart*

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**News from Notts Network of 32 U3As in Nottinghamshire**

**Ageing Well Conference**

Please put 19th October 2019 in your diary. Planning is now well advanced for the first Notts Network Ageing Well Conference. A packed agenda is being planned—details to come later. Booking will open in June 2019. The conference is open to all Notts U3A members. It will take place at Nottingham University in the School of Psychology.

**An Introduction to the Culture of Indonesia**

A talk is to be given in Leicester, organised by Leicestershire and Rutland Network of U3As and all Notts U3A members are welcome. It will be held at the Sports Pavilion, Gynsill Lane, Glenfield, Leicester LE7 7AG on Friday 19th July 2.00—4.00pm. Booking is essential—email ken.patton@btinternet.com by 30th June.
**Indoor Games**

**Bridge**
We play friendly Rubber Bridge - ACOL system. We welcome all levels of Bridge players except complete beginners. It is quite different to many Bridge clubs in that we do talk to each other about the game, discussing different bidding techniques or how we could have bid!! - always in the friendliest manner and with no blame attached. If you enjoy bridge and want to improve and to meet similar minded Bridge players do please come and join us. Weekly attendance is not essential, just join us on the days you are free. We look forward to welcoming new members and if you would like further information, please contact me either by phone or email.
0115 9283707
hpbright23@yahoo.co.uk
Pauline Bright

**Canasta**
Briefly Canasta is played with 2 packs of identical cards and is an extension of rummy, where the aim is to make canastas or 7 cards of the same rank, sometimes with wild cards used to make up the set. The emphasis is to score points with canastas with comparatively little emphasis on going out. It is essentially designed for 4 hand partnership play making it popular with bridge players, but there are also 2, 3 & 5 hand versions. We meet on a Thursday morning on a fortnightly basis between 9.30 and 12.00 at the BMC. Whether a beginner or improver, if you are interested in joining, please contact me by phone or email.
paul.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk
Paul Pinnock

**Chess**
This is a new group and therefore the format will develop as new members join and the level of ability and desire to develop the skill of playing chess can be ascertained. A complicated game which can be enjoyed at any level, although it is best to compete against someone with similar skills to oneself. Please contact Neil Sheffield
neil_sheffield@yahoo.co.uk
Neil Sheffield

**Mah-jong**
Mah-jong is a very entertaining Chinese game played by 4 players. Beginners are welcome. The game has similarities to Gin Rummy but played with tiles. Learners can sit and watch initially, but nothing beats "having a go". We have a mixture of abilities in the Group including a good number who had never played before the Group was set up.
Contact Eleanor Hickie
0115 9701747
e.hickie852@btinternet.com
Eleanor Hickie

**Rummikub**
We continue to meet on the second Monday of the month at 1.45pm. Several members arrive at 1.30 to help set up the tables. We are a friendly and well attended Group. The game is fun and very easy to learn. New members are always welcome.
0115 9257836 or pautill3@gmail.com
Pauline Tilley

**Scrabble**
The Scrabble Group meets fortnightly on 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 2 pm in the Epworth room at the Beeston Methodist Church. We are a friendly Group and would love to have more players. Depending on numbers, we divide into groups of 2, 3, or 4 players. Learners are helped, and play against less accomplished players. We usually manage 2 or 3 games with an interval for refreshments.
If you are interested contact me by email
Mark Lymbery mark.twitchell@virginmedia.com
Mark Lymbery

**Whist**
The classic trick-taking card game, usually played in a group of 4 people. We play progressive whist and welcome all newcomers. We meet on the second Friday each month from 10.00 to 12.00 in the Wesley room at the church. Please contact Barbara Rawlinson by email
b.rawlinson1@ntlworld.com
Barbara Rawlinson

**Quiz**
There is a fun quiz which takes place on the 3rd Friday of each month at 10.30 am at the White Lion in Beeston. It consists of 40 general knowledge questions, and it is intended to be enjoyable and fun. Small groups aim to compete and there are small token prizes to be won. Come and join us. You will be most welcome. Just drop in. **Next meeting is 21st June.**
Tony Truman
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>LEADER &amp; TEL NO. &amp; EMAIL</th>
<th>MEETINGS HELD</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambling</td>
<td>Glenis Fisher 0115 8752336 <a href="mailto:glenis.fisher@yahoo.com">glenis.fisher@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 3rd Wednes in the month</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
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<tr>
<td>American History</td>
<td>Celia Billau <a href="mailto:communications@beestonu3a.org.uk">communications@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Monthly 2nd Tuesday 2.30-4.00</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Di Fischer-Harman 0115 9252353 <a href="mailto:difsch@btinternet.com">difsch@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 1st Tuesday 10.00</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Gallery Visits</td>
<td>Barbara Johnson 07973 338217 <a href="mailto:barbara.e.johnson@btinternet.com">barbara.e.johnson@btinternet.com</a>, Nadya Lancaster 0115 9257920 <a href="mailto:nadya.lancaster@btopenworld.com">nadya.lancaster@btopenworld.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 3rd Thursday. 2.00pm</td>
<td>Local gallery visits each month except August and December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History and Appreciation</td>
<td>Anne Pinnock <a href="mailto:anne.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk">anne.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk</a>, Frances Nugent <a href="mailto:Frances.nugent@btinternet.com">Frances.nugent@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 4th Tuesday 10.30 – 12.00 OR 1.30 – 3.00</td>
<td>Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>Anne and John Dubbury 01159 226470 <a href="mailto:johnanddub@btinternet.com">johnanddub@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Fortnightly 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. 10.15 – 11.30</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beeston Real Ale Group BRAG</td>
<td>Peter Lee <a href="mailto:peter.lee@ntlworld.com">peter.lee@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>4th Wednesday of each month</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birdwatching</td>
<td>Peter Sadler <a href="mailto:psadler197@gmail.com">psadler197@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>The 2nd week of the month (the day is variable)</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Group 1</td>
<td>Angie Rosser <a href="mailto:angierosser35@gmail.com">angierosser35@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 2nd Tuesday.</td>
<td>Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Group 2 Between the covers</td>
<td>Elaine Neville 01159 289146 <a href="mailto:eneville1@hotmail.co.uk">eneville1@hotmail.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 3rd Monday. 1.30</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Group 3 Murder Books</td>
<td>Helen Stewart <a href="mailto:Helen.stewart1@btinternet.com">Helen.stewart1@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>1st Wednesday of the month 1.30</td>
<td>The White Lion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book group 4 Readers Rendezvous</td>
<td>Alison Wilson 07966 630076 <a href="mailto:alison@solidus.co.uk">alison@solidus.co.uk</a></td>
<td>3rd Thursday of the month 2.00-3.00</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Group 5 The Fifth Chapter</td>
<td>Ginny Lawes 07968 721487 <a href="mailto:ginnypsy@ntlworld.com">ginnypsy@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 2nd Wednesday 10.00-12.00</td>
<td>The White Lion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowls</td>
<td>Peter Noon 0115 9288131 <a href="mailto:peternoon70@ntlworld.com">peternoon70@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>A 4 week course of tuition. Individuals may continue independently</td>
<td>Nottingham Indoor Bowls Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>Pauline Bright 0115 9283707 <a href="mailto:hpbright23@yahoo.co.uk">hpbright23@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Weekly. Monday. 2.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buddies</td>
<td>Zena Benson 0115 9727058 <a href="mailto:zezebe@msn.com">zezebe@msn.com</a>, Ivor Case <a href="mailto:case@onetel.com">case@onetel.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly Last Friday. 10.30am.</td>
<td>The White Lion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calligraphy</td>
<td>Jenny Caseldine <a href="mailto:eecas67@gmail.com">eecas67@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Conservative Club Beeston</td>
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<td>Canasta</td>
<td>Paul Pinnock <a href="mailto:paul.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk">paul.pinnock@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>2nd and 4th Thursday 9.30</td>
<td>Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chess</td>
<td>Neil Sheffield</td>
<td><a href="mailto:neil_sheffield@yahoo.co.uk">neil_sheffield@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinema and Film</td>
<td>Alan Windsor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alanwindsor@ntlworld.com">alanwindsor@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>The last Tuesday of each month 10.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinema Visits</td>
<td>Alice Kirwan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aliceckirwan@gmail.com">aliceckirwan@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Attend the Silver Screen each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Quinn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikkyquinn@gmail.com">mikkyquinn@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(as advised)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft</td>
<td>Carole Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carolebrown929@btinternet.com">carolebrown929@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 4th Thursday. 1.30pm-4.00pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring Spirituality</td>
<td>Richard Edleston</td>
<td><a href="mailto:riedd@btinternet.com">riedd@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 3rd Tuesday. 10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family History/</td>
<td>Chris O’Brien</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris.obrien123@gmail.com">chris.obrien123@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 3rd Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genealogy</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Conversation</td>
<td>Ivan Jones</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hemingtondla@aol.com">hemingtondla@aol.com</a></td>
<td>2nd and 4th Mondays of the month 9.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>(not for beginners)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden Visits</td>
<td>Sandra Banks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sandy.banks@talktalk.net">sandy.banks@talktalk.net</a></td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of the month 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Conversation</td>
<td>Rosie McCoy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk">rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 10.00-11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German for Beginners</td>
<td>Rosie McCoy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk">rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 10.00-11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Ron Jones</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ronhjones@outlook.com">ronhjones@outlook.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 2nd Friday 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Dance</td>
<td>Gillian Morral</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com">gill.morral@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 10.30 – 11.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SALI)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Brendan Murphy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com">brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Fridays 9.30 - 11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazz Appreciation</td>
<td>Sue Pringle</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sue.pringle@sky.com">Sue.pringle@sky.com</a></td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of the month 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knit, Crochet and Natter</td>
<td>Sheila Schierbaum</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sheilaschierbaum@btinternet.com">sheilaschierbaum@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>1st Tuesday 2.00 – 4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Thursday. 2.00-4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>Lindsay Litton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindsaylitton5@gmail.com">lindsaylitton5@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 3rd Wednesday 9.45 - 11.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin 2</td>
<td>Brendan Murphy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com">brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2nd and 4th Fridays of the month 9.30 - 11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Group 1</td>
<td>Glenis Fisher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:glenis.fisher@yahoo.com">glenis.fisher@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly in the last week of the month, varying day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Group 2 “Two Lunch”</td>
<td>Peter Lyons</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peterlyons7@ntlworld.com">peterlyons7@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly in the third week of the month, varying day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pamela Bayley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pamela.bayley247@gmail.com">pamela.bayley247@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Chess**: Neil Sheffield (neil_sheffield@yahoo.co.uk) - Tuesdays at The White Lion.
2. **Cinema and Film**: Alan Windsor (alanwindsor@ntlworld.com) - Last Tuesday of each month at 10.30 at The White Lion.
3. **Cinema Visits**: Alice Kirwan (aliceckirwan@gmail.com) and Michael Quinn (mikkyquinn@gmail.com) - Attend the Silver Screen each month (as advised) at Broadway Cinema.
4. **Craft**: Carole Brown (carolebrown929@btinternet.com) - Monthly 4th Thursday from 1.30pm-4.00pm at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
5. **Exploring Spirituality**: Richard Edleston (riedd@btinternet.com) - Monthly 3rd Tuesday at 10.00 at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
6. **Family History/Genealogy**: Chris O’Brien (chris.obrien123@gmail.com) - Monthly 3rd Wednesday from 10.00 – 11.30 at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
7. **French Conversation (not for beginners)**: Ivan Jones (hemingtondla@aol.com) - 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9.30 at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
8. **Garden Visits**: Sandra Banks (sandy.banks@talktalk.net) - 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10.00 at Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church And Visits.
9. **German Conversation**: Rosie McCoy (rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk) - 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10.00 at The White Lion.
10. **German for Beginners**: Rosie McCoy (rosiecmccoy55@yahoo.co.uk) - 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10.00 at The White Lion.
11. **History**: Ron Jones (ronhjones@outlook.com) - Monthly. 2nd Friday at 10.00 at Pearson Centre.
12. **International Dance (SALI)**: Gillian Morral (gill.morral@ntlworld.com) - Monthly 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10.30 – 11.30 at Church Of The Assumption, Church Hall, Foster Ave.
13. **Italian**: Brendan Murphy (brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com) - 1st & 3rd Fridays at 9.30 - 11.00 at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
14. **Jazz Appreciation**: Sue Pringle (Sue.pringle@sky.com) - 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm at Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
15. **Knit, Crochet and Natter Group**: Sheila Schierbaum (sheilaschierbaum@btinternet.com) - 1st Tuesday at 2.00 – 4.00 at 3rd Thursday. 2.00-4.00 at Pearson Centre.
16. **Latin**: Lindsay Litton (lindsaylitton5@gmail.com) - Monthly. 3rd Wednesday at 9.45 - 11.15 at Main Church, Beeston Methodist Church.
17. **Latin 2**: Brendan Murphy (brendanmurphy1000@gmail.com) - 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 9.30 - 11.00 at Youth Room, Beeston Methodist Church.
18. **Lunch Group 1**: Glenis Fisher (glenis.fisher@yahoo.com) and Shirley Cooper (shirley.cooper@ntlworld.com) - Monthly in the last week of the month, varying day at Various Venues.
19. **Lunch Group 2 “Two Lunch”**: Peter Lyons (peterlyons7@ntlworld.com) and Pamela Bayley (pamela.bayley247@gmail.com) - Monthly in the third week of the month, varying day at Various Venues.
<p>| <strong>Mah-Jong</strong> | Eleanor Hickie 0115 9701747 <a href="mailto:e.hickie852@btinternet.com">e.hickie852@btinternet.com</a> | 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month 2.00 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church, |
| <strong>Music Appreciation</strong> | Karin Williams 07811724109 <a href="mailto:kewilli@ntlworld.com">kewilli@ntlworld.com</a> | Monthly. 3rd Thursday 10.00-11.30 | Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Patchwork and Quilting</strong> | Mary Norris <a href="mailto:marynorris75@hotmail.co.uk">marynorris75@hotmail.co.uk</a> Elaine Neville <a href="mailto:eneville1@hotmail.co.uk">eneville1@hotmail.co.uk</a> | Second Monday each month 10.00 – 12.00 | Pearson Centre |
| <strong>Philosophy And Religion</strong> | David Smith <a href="mailto:Dave.smith31@virginmedia.com">Dave.smith31@virginmedia.com</a> | 1st Monday of the month 10.30 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church, |
| <strong>Photography</strong> | Regine Gunston 0115 9258098 <a href="mailto:regine.gunston@gmail.com">regine.gunston@gmail.com</a> | 4th Wednesday of the month 10.00 | Various Venues |
| <strong>Play Reading</strong> | Celia Billau <a href="mailto:communications@beestonu3a.org.uk">communications@beestonu3a.org.uk</a> | 3rd Friday of the month 2.00 – 4.00 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church, |
| <strong>Poetry Appreciation</strong> | Joan Whiting 0115 9226975 <a href="mailto:joan.whiting@ntlworld.com">joan.whiting@ntlworld.com</a> | 3rd Tuesday of the month 1.30 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church, |
| <strong>Practical Gardening</strong> | Janet Riley <a href="mailto:Janet.riley@ntlworld.com">Janet.riley@ntlworld.com</a> | 1st Tuesday in the month 10.00 | Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Practical Art Group</strong> | Celia Scottow <a href="mailto:cmhscottow@gmail.com">cmhscottow@gmail.com</a> | 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month | Conservative Club Station Road, Beeston |
| <strong>Psychology And Sociology</strong> | Di Fischer-Harman 0115 9252353 <a href="mailto:difschr@yahoo.co.uk">difschr@yahoo.co.uk</a> | 4th Monday of the month 10.30 | Pearson Centre |
| <strong>Quiz</strong> | Tony Truman <a href="mailto:janettruman@gmail.com">janettruman@gmail.com</a> | 3rd Friday of the month 10.30 | The White Lion |
| <strong>Recorders</strong> | Kathryn Coupland <a href="mailto:kathryncoupland@hotmail.com">kathryncoupland@hotmail.com</a> Louise Lee | 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month 2.00-2.45 | The White Lion |
| <strong>Rummikub</strong> | Pauline Tilley 0115 9257836 <a href="mailto:pautill3@gmail.com">pautill3@gmail.com</a> | 2nd Monday of the month 1.45 and 4th Tuesday 2.00 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Science</strong> | Brian Tuck 0115 9287302 <a href="mailto:brian.tuck@btinternet.com">brian.tuck@btinternet.com</a> Bill Pavlidis <a href="mailto:bill.pavlidis60@gmail.com">bill.pavlidis60@gmail.com</a> | 1st Wednesday of the month 10.00 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Scottish Country Dancing</strong> | Sue Morrison 0115 9164691 <a href="mailto:sue.morrison2@ntlworld.com">sue.morrison2@ntlworld.com</a> | 2nd, 3rd and 5th (if any) Thursdays each month at 10.00 | Church Hall, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Scrabble</strong> | Mark Lymbery <a href="mailto:Mark.twitchell@virginmedia.com">Mark.twitchell@virginmedia.com</a> | 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 2.00 | Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Shakespeare Group</strong> | Elizabeth Le Marchant Brock <a href="mailto:Eliz3le2ma1b@btinternet.com">Eliz3le2ma1b@btinternet.com</a> | 4th Monday each month 1.30 | Youth Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Singing For Fun</strong> | Elizabeth Le Marchant Brock <a href="mailto:eliz3le2ma1b@btinternet.com">eliz3le2ma1b@btinternet.com</a> | 4th Thursday of the month 10.00-11.30 | Church Hall, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Spanish Conversation</strong> | Irene Brown 01159 815658 <a href="mailto:irenenbrown28@gmail.com">irenenbrown28@gmail.com</a> | 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month 11.00-12.30 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church, |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Organizer/Contact</th>
<th>Frequency/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strollers</strong></td>
<td>Tony and Janet Truman <a href="mailto:Ttruman2003@yahoo.co.uk">Ttruman2003@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>3rd Monday of the month</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table Tennis 1</strong></td>
<td>Sheila Vellacott 0115 9229628 <a href="mailto:sheilavellacott@hotmail.com">sheilavellacott@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Every Monday in term time 10.00</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table Tennis 2</strong></td>
<td>Kathryn Deane 0115 9222926 <a href="mailto:kcadeane@hotmail.co.uk">kcadeane@hotmail.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Every Monday in term time 11.10</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table Tennis 3</strong></td>
<td>Helen Perbet <a href="mailto:helenperbet@btinternet.com">helenperbet@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Every Thursday in term time 10.00</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table Tennis 4</strong></td>
<td>Ian Plumb <a href="mailto:ianplumb@hotmail.co.uk">ianplumb@hotmail.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Every Friday in term time 10.30 – 11.30</td>
<td>Pearson Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theatre Outings</strong></td>
<td>Evelyn Gurd 01159 281983 <a href="mailto:evegurd@yahoo.com">evegurd@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>1st Tuesday of the month 2.00</td>
<td>Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ukulele Group 1</strong></td>
<td>Steve Mason <a href="mailto:steve.mason2018@btinternet.com">steve.mason2018@btinternet.com</a> Rob Hill <a href="mailto:Bobhill29@hotmail.com">Bobhill29@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month</td>
<td>Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ukulele Group 2 Intermediate</strong></td>
<td>Lynn Goulding 07968228946 Dorothy Atherton <a href="mailto:dorryatherton58@gmail.com">dorryatherton58@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2nd and 4th Weds 10.00 – 12.00</td>
<td>Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding the landscape</strong></td>
<td>Richard Dinsdale <a href="mailto:dinsdale1@ntlworld.com">dinsdale1@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>4th Tuesday each month 10.00 – 11.30</td>
<td>Beeston Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walks (Long)</strong></td>
<td>Michael Allery <a href="mailto:mushnpuss@gmail.com">mushnpuss@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Once a month, early in the month.</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walks (Medium) Group 1</strong></td>
<td>Alan Bailey 0115 9164574 <a href="mailto:alanbailey@virginmedia.com">alanbailey@virginmedia.com</a></td>
<td>Last 2 weeks of the month, Tue, Wed or Thur</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walks (Medium) Group 2</strong></td>
<td>Naomi Milner 01158 773233 <a href="mailto:andrewmilner01@gmail.com">andrewmilner01@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walks (Medium) Group 3</strong></td>
<td>Shirley Pyke <a href="mailto:spyke9399@gmail.com">spyke9399@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>First week of the month Various days</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walks (Short)</strong></td>
<td>Stephen Horner <a href="mailto:shorner98@sky.com">shorner98@sky.com</a></td>
<td>Second week in each month, day varies</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What the papers say</strong></td>
<td>Mike Norman <a href="mailto:mike.norman2507@gmail.com">mike.norman2507@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>3rd Friday of the month 2.00</td>
<td>Beeston Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Whist</strong></td>
<td>Barbara Rawlinson <a href="mailto:b.rawlinson1@ntlworld.com">b.rawlinson1@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Second Friday each month 10.00 – 12.00</td>
<td>Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wine Appreciation 1</strong></td>
<td>John Scottow 0115 875 9524 <a href="mailto:j.l.scottow@gmail.com">j.l.scottow@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>1st Thursday of the month 2.00</td>
<td>White Lion, Beeston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wine Appreciation 2</strong></td>
<td>Adrian Shipway <a href="mailto:arshipway@yahoo.co.uk">arshipway@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of the month 2.00</td>
<td>White Lion, Beeston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Members are encouraged to contact leaders for up-to-date information. Please be aware that members participate in all group activities entirely at their own risk.

We are now able to offer about 80 groups, and additional new groups are just starting up which will probably need supporting. Where the group is full and unable to take new members, a second (or even fifth!) group may start up to accommodate new members.

Group Co-ordinators: Anne Pinnock and Kathy Shipway email groups@beestonu3a.org.uk

If anyone is aware of any errors in this list, please let either Anne or Kathy know so that the list can be corrected and updated.

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**Wine Appreciation 3**  
John Scottow 0115 875 9524  
**j.l.scottow@gmail.com**  
3rd Thursday of the month 2.00  
White Lion, Beeston

**Writing for Pleasure**  
Helen Stewart  
**Helen.stewart1@btinternet.com**  
1st and 2nd Wednesday of the month 10.00 – 12.00  
Community Room, Tesco, Swiney Way.

**Yoga**  
Kathryn Coupland  
**kathryncoupland@hotmail.com**  
This group is full at the moment  
Beeston Methodist Church

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**Beeston U3A Committee—Contact details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>EMAIL ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margot Gale</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chair@beestonu3a.org.uk">chair@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Blackley</td>
<td>Vice Chair / Speaker Seeker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vicechair@beestonu3a.org.uk">vicechair@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Pinnock</td>
<td>Joint Group Coordinator / Welfare Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:groups@beestonu3a.org.uk">groups@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Shipway</td>
<td>Joint Group Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:groups@beestonu3a.org.uk">groups@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Brookbanks</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@beestonu3a.org.uk">treasurer@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Eddleston</td>
<td>Business Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:riedd@btinternet.com">riedd@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Beardsley</td>
<td>Outings Organiser</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lucybrdsly@yahoo.co.uk">lucybrdsly@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alison Wilson</td>
<td>Membership Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:membership@beestonu3a.org.uk">membership@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celia Billau</td>
<td>Communications Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:communications@beestonu3a.org.uk">communications@beestonu3a.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Austin</td>
<td>Website/Publicity</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stephen.austin@ntlworld.com">Stephen.austin@ntlworld.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Muxlow</td>
<td>Social Fund Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jomuxlow@virginmedia.com">jomuxlow@virginmedia.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaine Neville</td>
<td>Events Organiser</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eneville1@hotmail.co.uk">eneville1@hotmail.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Watch out for evening social events to be announced in the coming weeks.

We now have several new people in committee posts bravely taking on new jobs. If you wish to volunteer for anything, there is always lots to do: Meeters and greeters, registration, putting out tables and signs at open meetings and putting them away again, writing reports of the speakers for the newsletter, helping with refreshments, helping to run interest groups and generally being a Really Useful Person. You would be Very welcome! We have vacancies for Co-opted committee members too.