# Open Meetings

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<td>Music and stories supported by projected visuals on the theme of “Unsung Heroes”</td>
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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 45 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!
**Chair’s Chatter**

This is my first chair’s chatter so I thought I should take the opportunity to introduce myself a little. We have lived in the area for over 35 years with our 2 daughters who are now both married and keep me very busy helping with our grandchildren. I taught at a local junior school for many years and I can just hear you saying, typical teacher, always having to organise everything!!!

My first month as chair proved to be quite challenging due to the sad closure of The White Lion Pub. We were all very sorry that Sergio has closed his doors as he has always been so supportive of Beeston U3A and we wish him well in his future undertakings. Happily, all the groups who lost their venues have been rehoused and hopefully are happy with their new accommodation. My thanks must go to Kathy and Anne who have really worked hard to make sure that the transition of group venues has gone as smoothly as possible.

We have been made aware that email addresses published on our public web site are available to anyone who wishes to gather email addresses for whatever purpose. We are moving towards tightening this up by using the groups@beestonu3a.org.uk as the main link for members of the public to find out more about our groups. We are also aware that group leader details are available elsewhere on the web site, and we are working towards having greater security installed. You can of course continue to contact your group leaders using the personal email address that is already known to you.

Finally, I am putting a plea out for some additional volunteers to come forward to stand as committee members. We have three available places for members to be co-opted on to the committee, in the initial period to just gain a better understanding of how Beeston U3A functions, and to see where their skills would best fit into the committee roles. As we grow larger it is so much easier for us to work in teams and as some of the committee are coming to the end of their tenure, we will need members to shadow the roles with the view of taking them over in the future. If you feel you would like to have some more information about the committee roles and responsibilities, please contact me at chair@beestonu3a.or.uk

**Margot Gale**

**Events**

Our new Events Organiser is Elaine Neville, and she has been busy organising our next Social events. Tickets are available for purchase for the following two events at the Open meetings from Janis Paterson or email Janis on janis_patterson@sky.com

**Fine Wine Tasting**

Friday 6th December 2019
The Resource Centre, Middle Street, Beeston
Tickets £15 per person  7.00pm onwards

**Quiz Night**

Friday 25th October 2019
Chilwell Manor Golf Club
Tickets £10 per person  7.30pm onwards

Tickets available now!

There is also a plan to run a Gin Tasting event on Friday 27th March 2020. Watch out for further details coming up.
Reviews of the speakers at the monthly meetings:

June—Graham Hayes—Titanic: The Ship That Never Sank

Graham started his talk by reminding us of conspiracy theories concerning various tragedies. He proceeded to give us facts about the Titanic disaster when 1512 people lost their lives on the 14th April 1911 when the ship hit an iceberg on its maiden voyage to New York. He then gave details of reasons to doubt that the ship which sank was actually the Titanic.

The ship belonged to the White Star Line which was said to be in financial difficulties and had had several mechanical problems before she set sail. The theory was that the Olympic, the sister ship, had been switched for the Titanic for several reasons. Graham showed us slides of supporting evidence for this theory and then apparently concluded his talk by asking the audience how many people accepted this theory. A show of hands suggested that the majority of us thought that there could be some truth in light of the facts presented.

However, Graham continued his talk gradually countering each piece of the evidence for the switching theory. The White Star Line was not in financial difficulties and there were apparently no mechanical problems revealed during sea trials. One of the main causes of the disaster seems to be the incompetence of Captain Smith who had been involved in numerous maritime mishaps during his career. Sadly, he went down with the Titanic so he was unable to refute the accusations. Following the disaster, many new regulations were brought in for the safety of passengers at sea including an increase in the number of lifeboats. It was interesting that we can start to believe any conspiracy theory until we are presented with detailed evidence which disproves that a conspiracy took place at all. We certainly questioned the way we think about the Titanic disaster, having evidence presented which supported either view.

Anne Allery

July—Dr John Dornan—Shackleton—A Polar Explorer With a Mission and a Hidden Secret

It is difficult not to be impressed by a character who includes 12 crates of Scotch in his supplies for a trip to the Antarctic – and has 11 left at the end. Shackleton is renowned as an explorer of great vision and determination and it is no coincidence that RAF Coastal Command has long used the “Shackleton” as a search aircraft.

Shackleton was born in Ireland and as a child spent many hours by the docks in Dublin admiring the ships he saw coming and going. Later the family moved to London where, still inspired by ships, he joined the Merchant Navy as a cadet. His first job was with the Union Castle line where he became friendly with a fellow sailor whose father happened to be a financier.

Throughout his boyhood the aim of explorers was to reach the South Pole and he was accepted on Scott’s expedition – ‘Discovery’ (1901-1904) – but was sent home early on health grounds. It was an ill-fated expedition. Bad conditions caused most of the dogs to die, poor diet resulted in many of the crew succumbing to scurvy and weather was MOST inhospitable. Shackleton became ill with scurvy and a persistent cough, hence his repatriation.

Not a person to give up easily, he raised money for a new expedition, the Nimrod Expedition. On this occasion things went pretty well, and he got very close to the Pole. Unfortunately supplies again were a problem and his team suffered from lack of vitamins, fresh fruit and vegetables; in short, the expedition was defeated by inadequate nutrition. Morale was not helped when they heard that Admunsden had beaten them to the Pole.

With the Pole no longer a target Shackleton decided his next adventure would be to cross Antarctica from sea to sea via the Pole. This time his boat was the famous Endurance. He addressed the problem of supplies by arranging for an Australian boat to place food at various depots along his proposed route.

This would have been successful if the Endurance had not become trapped by ice. Shackleton decided to abandon ship with all the supplies the crew could salvage. They lived on a diet of penguins and seals. Shackleton went off with five men, including an
expert navigator, to get help. Eventually they reached Stromness whaling station in poor physical condition but able to explain who they were and what they needed.

They took a ship to the Falklands and then continued to Chile, where they arranged for an iron ship to take them back to the crew on Elephant Island, who had all survived their ordeal. They then returned to England.

After the war Shackleton set out on another Antarctic expedition in 1921 to sail round the continent but was taken ill. He died in South Georgia. A post-mortem showed that he had a hole in his heart – this could go a long way towards explaining his earlier ill health. At his wife’s request he was buried in South Georgia.

A remarkable man who led from the front, was a good communicator and was voted the 11th Most Popular Englishman in a poll of 100 greatest Englishmen in 2002.

Rosemary Pickering

August—John Whitfield—All About Lord Mountbatten

We were treated to a very interesting talk about the “controversial” Mountbattens from our very knowledgeable speaker, who delivered the whole thing without slides or notes. Both Louis “Dickie” Lord Mountbatten and Edwina (nee Ashley) Mountbatten were exceedingly well connected, and both were clearly “larger than life” people, making their mark in the world for very different reasons.

Edwina was the daughter of a wealthy businessman who turned out to be a Nazi sympathiser. She led a rauous life as a society playgirl, and even marriage to Louis didn’t calm down her galivanting. She was continually unfaithful, and yet managed to provide two daughters to the Mountbatten dynasty. She inherited £2.2 million which helped to sustain the lifestyle to which they had become accustomed.

Louis pursued a naval career, he was a great leader, charismatic and ambitious. He was also highly manipulative and therefore managed to avoid blame when things went wrong, and take credit for when they go right. The sinking of his ship off Crete during the war became the basis of the film In Which We Serve, mostly due to his friendship with Noel Coward. A poor naval operation became a story to provide propaganda to support the war effort.

He may have been an awful soldier and strategist, but he made a good diplomat, and during the war he became Supreme Commander in Asia, later becoming the Viceroy of India and overseeing the 1947 move to independence. He held high office for many years afterwards, playing his part in the Suez crisis, the British nuclear deterrent negotiations with the US and the decision for Prince Charles to marry Lady Diana. As the Duke of Edinburgh’s uncle, he was considered to be close to the Royal Family and was very influential.

He was murdered in 1979 when the IRA placed a bomb in his boat while he was on holiday off the coast of Ireland.

Celia Billau

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**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 mark it as Not Spam.

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

Celia Billau
Trips and Excursions

**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**

With over 1200 performers, the international tattoo is returning to the Arena in Birmingham bringing together marching bands, exciting displays and culminating in the spectacular Grand Finale featuring all the performers in a spectacle of pomp and pageantry.

Led by the world-famous Band of Her Majesty’s Royal Marines, international marching bands from France, Poland and the Netherlands will join our own British bands in a three-hour spectacle for all the family.

**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 lucybrdsly@yahoo.co.uk or see her at the Open Meetings**

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

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**Discounts and benefits for U3A members (updated August 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

**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, on production of a valid membership card.

**Riviera travel** - 10% of the final holiday cost will be donated to your local U3A. Please nominate your U3A when you phone Riviera to book.

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
Groups Co-ordinators’ news

What happens if I email groups@beestonu3a.org.uk?

When you send an email to this address, either Anne Pinnock or Kathy Shipway, Beeston U3A’s Groups Co-ordinators will receive it.

If it is a general enquiry about Beeston U3A’s Interest Groups, Anne or Kathy will reply to you.

If it is a query about a specific interest group, they will normally forward it to the relevant group facilitator.

Over-subscribed groups

We are attracting new members every month and hope to attract even more at the groups fair in October. It is very disappointing if they apply for a group and find that it is full. So, in the Autumn we will be starting a campaign to encourage existing members of popular groups to start a second, third etc group. Leading a group is not a one-person job as the tasks of group facilitator can be easily shared between several people. We hope that members who have benefited from a group will be willing to share this experience with more members.

Email Contacts for Interest Group Facilitators

The committee has decided that all the email addresses on our website will be generic rather than personal, to protect group facilitators email addresses from Spammers and Fraudsters. This means that any one enquiring about a group from the website will be contacting groups@beestonu3a.org.uk. This email will be opened by one of us, Anne Pinnock or Kathy Shipway, the joint Groups Co-ordinators. We will forward queries to the relevant group facilitator or answer them ourselves if appropriate.

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

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.
Groups that are full

Have you ever wanted to join a particular group only to be told that it’s already too full and names will have to go onto a waiting list? It’s frustrating for people, particularly new members, who have their choices diminished by this.

The solution is to open new groups, e.g. medium walks 2 and 3 etc but it’s not always easy to get people to help run the new groups. Being a kind and sociable U3A means helping new groups get started and supported to continue into the future. There may be existing members who would help make another group become viable by switching groups or helping a new group get established.

However, if some members are on the membership list of more than one of the groups, which means that there are no places available for others, it would be helpful if they are actively helping to start up new groups as well. Let’s all do our bit to help groups thrive and get new groups off the ground so that all members have the widest choice available to them.

Di Fischer Harman

We will very soon be saying our fond farewells to Di as she returns to her native Australia, to the house where she and her husband lived, before the globe-trotting began.

Di joined Beeston U3A in April 2015 and since then has become a larger-than-life figure participating enthusiastically in many aspects of our organisation. It was a suggestion from Jenny Seth and a chance meeting with Helen Stewart that encouraged Di to join up in the first place, after having tried several other pursuits such as the WEA and the Arts Society; anything to satisfy an inquisitive mind. Since then, Di has been a prolific group leader and participates with gusto in other interest groups and U3A events.

Di came to be here in Beeston by a circuitous route, beginning in Sydney, Australia, over to Norway where Peter worked with a Pharmaceutical company in a newly formed Drug Discovery group. Whilst there, Di was able to do a bit more professional acting work with playing Lady Bracknell in The Importance of Being Earnest, and post syncing for an award-winning animation. From Norway, they moved to Arbroath in Scotland, where Di undertook several “Highers” in various academic subjects such as Psychology and Sociology. The quest for more learning, particularly in the human condition, was developing strongly.

Arriving in Nottingham in 2005, when Peter was offered the Chair in Medicinal Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy at Nottingham University, Di looked to expand horizons with administrative work as well as taking advantage of any learning opportunities. This quest for learning about new subjects, exploring new possibilities, and making lots of new friends epitomises what a U3A is all about, and Di has demonstrated the U3A ethos to perfection. We’re going to miss you Di, and the idea of bringing our mugs to open meetings will endure!

Parting is such sweet sorrow!

Now, where have I heard that before? A truism in my case.

I am having to say goodbye to the UK, more importantly though, goodbye to the Beeston U3A.

There are so many people to thank for all their enthusiasm, kindness, patience (you know who you are!) and a willingness to join in.

Firstly, to all the groups I have had the pleasure of joining past and present:

Religion & Philosophy – Nic Harrison and now Dave Smith as well as the late Geoff Bagley (he of immense patience!), delving into the human condition and the need for beliefs and rules to live by.

Yoga – Ken Morrel taking us through our paces, in the gentlest of ways, with a great sense of fun, I will miss my yogis (or is it yogii?)!

The Murder Book Group – Helen Stewart and co introducing us to the, sometimes, oddest writers and themes, to other categories sneaking in – the thriller - thanks to Jim Turner I am now hooked on Jack Reacher!
Scrabble – boy are they competitive, I started to worry when they whipped out thick volumes of specialist dictionaries and looking up words before declaring! What is the world coming to (oops ended a sentence with a preposition)? Needless to say, I only lasted 2 sessions.

Medium Walks - Alan Bailey, and the motley crew! Patience once again on their part, though I was at the head of the long line at times! Great conversations, views and walks led by members.

Long Walks – Mike Allery, how on earth he can be at the end of the long line and then run past us, up to the front ready with secateurs, plastic sheets and a delusion that the mountain ahead of us is just a gentle incline!!

The Gallery Visits Group – Barbara and Nadya, taking me to areas of the arts that was so rewarding, sometimes baffling, not forgetting those “the emperors’ new clothes” moments.

What the Papers Say – Karen Stainer now Mike Norman, bringing us into the world of politics, craziness (yes, still politics) but especially how the media present the facts (?) of a story to we mere mortals. Great fun and discussions along the way.

Patchwork & Quilting – with Elaine and Mary, another wonderful group of crafty members sharing their knowledge, talent and imagination.

The Cinema Group – Al Windsor, ever on the ball with just the right take on things.

Unfortunately, I was unable to continue with this last group as I had taken up with – The Architecture Group which met on the same day of the month.

A huge thank you to all who joined in, coming up with great ideas for site visits, doing research and presenting on all manner of topics to do with Architecture. This group will now be run by a great team, here’s to many more parts of the world to discover.

My first foray as leader of a group, however, was starting up Let’s Right Shakespeare! Another great array of people from all walks of life and knowledge (yes I am looking at you Bob!) to do with all things Will, now in better hands with Elizabeth Le Marchant-Brock.

Lastly Psychology & Sociology, what an amazing look we had into the working of the human mind, our hopes, wishes and dreams and how we get to grips with life. Thanks again to a wonderful group of people – plus the discussions, the guest speakers, a great time.

None of this could have happened without the support of Chris Chater as Group Squadron Leader, now in the good hands of Anne Pinnock and Kathy Shipway. The committee members, the group Leader’s Lunch (yummy), the Open Meetings, the Outings with Lucy Beardsley, the social events and that great Disco night organised by Janis Patterson, the long list goes on, and this missive!

A big group hug to you all and then some.

All success to everyone involved and keep up the good work with the Recycling Initiatives!

Di Fischer-Harman

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**CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3\(^{rd}\) 2019 10AM

BEESTON METHODIST CHURCH in the Guild Room

£30 PER PERSON WITH ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS.

To be run by Professional Gardener Rachel Barrowcliffe

Advisor at Hodsock Priory.

Tickets on sale at open meetings or email vicechair@beestonu3a.org.uk

NB Only 20 places available
Drive On course

We had a very informative morning with Via East Midlands to refresh and update our understanding of the Highway Code and were given advice to ensure that senior drivers remain some of the safest on the road. There have been lots of changes since most of us started to drive, increased traffic, complex junctions and changing highway rules, together with health problems to increase our difficulties. The aim of the course was to encourage driving whilst making us aware of aids available to prolong driving. We were asked various multiple choice questions, which were answered with an individual electronic device, giving the resulting numbers for each question (so no one needed to feel guilty about wrong answers). It certainly raised awareness of things that needed to be reported to the DVLA, which could invalidate insurance if not disclosed. The offer of a 45 min accompanied ride with a driving instructor was taken up by the majority off attendees, which I’m sure will give us all far more confidence to drive well into the Third Age.

If there is any further interest in doing this course, please contact Jo Muxlow by emailing Jo on jomuxlow@virginmedia.com

U3A National Conference and AGM

This takes place at the East Midlands Conference Centre at the University of Nottingham from 27—29 August and several members of Beeston U3A will be there to learn all they can about how to run, manage and improve our U3A. Reports of the workshops and meetings will be published in a Bulletin which will be distributed to all Beeston U3A members by email. Finding out about changes that are coming along and how other U3As are run is very helpful for our hard-working volunteers.

Groups Fair 3rd October 2019 at the Pearson Centre 10—12

Planning for this event is already well underway as we have to ensure that all of our groups are displayed to the members and the public to best effect. We get lots of new members joining us at each Group Fair, and it’s also an opportunity for existing members to plan for new interests and activities and check out all of the groups that Beeston U3A has to offer. Start a new hobby, learn a language, keep fit or pursue an interest you never had time for in the past—it’s all here!
News from the groups:

American History

June—We were treated to a talk from Richard all about the development of the American flag, which turned out to be a much more interesting evolution of design than simply adding a few more stars now and again.

July—We had two talks: the first from Carole who spoke about Harriet Tubman and the underground railroad which was used to rescue and free slaves; the second one was from Mike about the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad and the social effects resulting from the linking between the East and the West. A very entertaining afternoon.

August—Our guest speaker David Skillen delivered a talk entitled A Line In The Sand— the fall of the Alamo and the rise of Texas. This was full of detailed information about the Mexican wars and David certainly knows his stuff. We ended up with that famous song in our heads: “King of the wild frontier”, you know the one!

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

Celia Billau

Art Gallery Visits

May’s visit was to the Harley Gallery to see ReCollecting – by Belgian artist Sylvie Franquet whose inspiration for the exhibition was taken from the Welbeck Estate’s vast Portland Collection. Working in different mediums of needlework, collage and sculpture the exhibition’s introduction stated “Franquet combines classical imagery with a punk aesthetic.”

We were intrigued, bemused, impressed and amused by vibrant reworked tapestries oversewn with historic texts, poetry and strong feminist statements. Other exhibits included small birdlike rock and textile sculptures and sewn herbariums. This eclectic exhibition attracted a wide divergence of opinion over tea and cake!

Also on display that day - Loss, Rediscovery and Rearrangement by jeweller Romilly Saumarez Smith. Specialising in jewellery made from lost treasures and metal detected items she finds on e-bay, the exhibition featured beautifully crafted rings and elaborately decorated boxes. Stunning.

June’s visit was to Nottingham Contemporary to view the exhibition Lis Rhodes: Dissident Lines: a retrospective of her works from the early 1970’s to today. Lis Rhodes is an artist, filmmaker, women’s rights campaigner and since the 1990’s has responded to geopolitical events. It was not always comfortable viewing.

Much of her work was experimental. It was fascinating to experience sounds and patterns that resulted from her ‘drawing’ on 6mm film and the audio strip. There was a mixed response from the group to a darkened room where we walked, danced or scurried through light beams from two cameras. Delight for some, whilst others left very quickly!

Everyone was moved by a very long wall listing refugees who had died attempting to escape to a better life, a list still being added to. It was harrowing to read the circumstances in which migrants and refugees, both adults and children, had perished.

We were grateful to our guide David, who talked us through the different media and highlighted the issues we experienced. There was certainly plenty to discuss over tea at the end.

July- off to explore the Yorkshire Sculpture International (YSI) – a ‘festival of sculpture’ covering locations across the Leeds and Wakefield area. We were joined on this visit by members from the Art History and Appreciation Group and the Architecture Group.
Arriving at the Hepworth Gallery the day started with coffee and biscuits followed by excellent guided tours looking at the works of Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore. Some free time allowed us to explore other exhibitors on display as part of the YSI.

The weather held, the sun emerged as we went on to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Free time for everyone to explore the park with some new installations, including several by Damian Hirst, or to visit the gardens and gallery – on display over 50 works by the American sculptor David Smith covering 4 decades of his life.

Thanks to all who came - it was a lovely day out, we learned a lot, walked a lot and lost no-one!

(The YSI continues until 29th September)

Nadya and Barbara

Art History and Appreciation

May - “Constable in France”

Professor Nick Alfrey’s talk covered a short period in the life of possibly our most famous English artist. Constable did not find fame until he was in his 40s when he painted “The Hay Wain”. To produce such a large painting was an expensive investment in both time and materials, especially as he had a sick wife and seven children to support. Fortunately he was “discovered” by Theodore Gericault, who had come over from France to promote his own work. He was so impressed by “The Hay Wain” that he persuaded Constable to go to Paris to exhibit in the Salon. The painting was very well received and Constable received a gold medal and was greatly lauded for the next few years. However, the success was short lived. He never again achieved such acclaim and after a while his style fell from favour. “The Hay Wain” was sold, changed hands again and was not seen until 1880 when it was hung in the National Gallery, over 50 years after Constable’s death.

A fascinating piece of Art History and many thanks to Prof Alfrey for such an entertaining talk.

June - Interactive session - Pottery

On one of the wettest days in June, 36 intrepid members arrived bearing mysterious parcels, each containing a piece of pottery, china or ceramic for our interactive session which was organised by Sue Blackley. We were asked to bring something to show to the group – a piece which held either a special memory, happy or poignant, or a family or holiday connection – something with a story to share. We thoroughly enjoyed looking at and handling the diverse range of articles and hearing the entertaining stories behind them. They ranged from large pots and plates to the tiniest pottery cottage and came from places as far flung as China, Japan, Botswana – and Radford!

Thanks to everyone for their contributions and for braving the weather.

July - Two totally different presentations - Elizabethan portraits & Railway art!

Fran Weden gave us an insight into the life and times of Marcus Gheerhaerts the Younger (1561-1636), who fled to England from Bruges to escape persecution. He painted portraits of the nobility, including many of Elizabeth I herself. His paintings not only give us an insight into the politics of court, favourites coming and going, but also show the development of techniques and materials. He began painting on canvas when others were still using
wood panels and the extra depth and rich colour achieved is reflected in the beauty of his work. He also painted real facial expressions rather than the bland looks produced by other artists. Particularly lovely was “Portrait of an Unknown Lady” which hangs in Woburn Abbey.

Many thanks to Fran for her most interesting presentation.

Railway Art

Karin Williams talked about the development of railway art – from paintings of the navvies building the tracks to how a whole new genre of art came to be. As this new mode of transport became more comfortable and widespread, and with Queen Victoria becoming a keen rail traveller, more people used the railways, bringing together different social classes and enabling people to traverse the country more quickly. Naturally paintings and art forms followed. Thomas Cook arranged trips to events around the country, producing advertising posters for them which were shown in stations and on trains. This led to many more trips abroad and the delights of these new places came available to many more people. Trains themselves started to become known by names such as The Flying Scotsman and The Orient Express, so not only was poster art developing but also the interior decoration of the carriages was becoming an art form in itself. People went to stations just to see these trains go by, and they still do! Apparently, The Flying Scotsman passed through Duffield only recently, which was cheered by an enthusiastic crowd!

Thank you to Karin for encapsulating such a wide ranging subject into such a fascinating talk!

Janet Hunt

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**Book Group 1**

Attention All Book Lovers!

Our group has been meeting for about 7 years and was the first Beeston U3A book group, that's a lot of reading! We now have some vacancies and are pleased to be able to welcome new members.

We are a friendly group, read a wide range of literature, mainly fiction but the occasional classic and biography; books are decided by the members and availability from Beeston library. Our discussions are informal, sometimes lively and it's really interesting to hear the often very varied reactions to our chosen book.

We have recently read Reservoir 13 by Jon McGregor, The Moonfield by Judith Allnott and our favourite so far this year, A Man Called Ove by Fredrick Blackman.

Books planned for the next few months are The Librarian by Sally Vickers and The Dry by Jane Harper.

On the social front we like our coffee and cakes, there is usually a contingent heading to one of Beeston's many cafes after the thirsty work of discussing the months book; we also have a Christmas lunch and other events during the year.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 10.30 in the Methodist church, so why not come and join us. Firstly and for more information please contact Angie Rosser at angierosser35@gmail.com

Angie Rosser

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Speaking of books...

Do you prefer Kindle (or alternative electronic book device) or physical book?

Do you buy books or borrow them from the library?

Did you know we have 5 book groups in our U3A? Clearly a very popular activity!
Craft

The group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month in the Guild room. We continue to try out different crafts each month. So far this year we have made 3 dimensional cards, gift boxes, tried our hand at using weaving sticks, sewn owl pincushions or doorstops - depending on size. Last month we tackled hand pieced English patchwork. If you would like to join us please contact Carole at c.brown929@btinternet.com

Carole Brown

Cinema/Film Group

Cinema Group continues to thrive after our enforced move following the closure of the White Lion. We now meet in the Resource Centre on Middle street, at 10.30 on the last Tuesday of the month. We gather in the very comfortable 'stain glass' room and discuss the films we saw in the previous month. We then go on to suggest films to see in the forthcoming month.

In talking about films we’ve seen there is but one simple rule. Whoever starts the discussion on a particular film closes the discussion by giving a score out of a possible 5 points. Then we move on to the next film. Note: We have had negative scores, and we have had scores above 5 points, at the discretion of the Group Leader. The Group Leader writes up a ‘Newsletter’ and circulates it to all the members of the Group (not just those who attended the meeting).

Below is an extract from the most recent Newsletter:

Films watched at Multiplex cinemas included:

‘Yesterday’
The World forgets the Beatles, all except our hero. He goes on to fame & fortune performing as if he wrote the songs. Good plot idea, nice way to compendium back catalogue. Spoiler - it's a love story !!! Score 4½/5

‘In Fabric’
A haunted (indestructible) dress causes harm to those who possess it. It is a highly desirable red dress, & many people fall under its power. Score 5/5

‘MidSommar’
Bored & on the point of marriage break-up, a couple go to Sweden & get embroiled in weird rituals. Very graphic scenes of mutilation. Yuk! Score 4/5

‘The Dead Don’t Die’
A mundane zombie film. Score is third party report hence quotes. Score “1”/5

‘Aladdin’
Like a Playhouse panto. Will Smith is irritating. Good action scenes. Score 3/5

‘Toy Story 4’
Very funny. Gags for kids and for adults. Woody is devastated when Bo Peep is taken away by a nasty girl. Same girl makes a doll at school and discards it. Our Toys adopt her and Woody finds Bo. Now go to sleep, children ... Score 4/5

‘Apollo 11’
High quality film of journey to & landing on the Moon. Made even better by having heard Radio 4 sound archive. 18 sec of fuel remained! Score 5/5

‘Marianne & Leonard’
Cohen’s life on Hydra in 60s captured on amateur 8mm movie. Score 5/5

‘Priscilla—Queen of the Desert’
3 drag queens journey from Sydney to Alice Spring in an old bus called Priscilla, to do a season of shows. Fab costumes and naughty talk! Score 5/5

Al Windsor
**Cinema Visits Group**

We attend a Silver Screening at the Broadway once a month.
Buy your tickets either in advance from the Broadway Cinema website or on the door at Broadway, 14-18 Broad Street, Nottingham NG1 3AL.
Sometimes Silver Screenings are very popular and are sold out in advance.
Remember to claim the U3A discount.
Discount on parking in The Lace Market car park if you get the parking ticket validated at the cinema.
Let us know if you are coming so that we can look out for you after the film.
After the film we have a discussion in a nearby café or bar, usually The Lord Roberts Pub, 24 Broad St, Nottingham NG1 3AN.
For more information and to join us for our next meeting please contact:
Alice on alicekirwan@gmail.com or Mikky on mikkyquinn@gmail.com
Alice Kirwan and Michael Quinn

**Family History / Genealogy**

The May meeting began with a short talk by Chris on "the top 10 sins of a family historian". Let's try and avoid them in our research!
This was followed by a presentation by Dave, who has done extensive work on the ancestors of his mother's father. The family originated from Oakham in Rutland, and it was interesting to see how people changed their occupations over time. Dave’s findings illustrated the use of several different sources and included the impact of WWI on the family.
The June meeting began with a discussion of a problem raised by Pauline. We were looking for ancestors Thomas and Nancy in the 1851 census. We tried a number of possibilities using internet sites but unfortunately were unsuccessful. It was a reminder that the Internet doesn't always provide quick solutions to family history problems.
We were then pleased to welcome guest Michael who spoke about his father, who was a submariner. Michael had traced his career in some detail and had also investigated some of the men that he worked with. As is often the case in family history research, Michael hopes to continue finding out more.
In July Mike talked about the DNA test he had in April last year, which he had previously explained to the group. He then went on to show how Ancestry had added more software which had enabled him to research possible 3rd, 4th and 5th cousins. Ancestry does this by comparing family trees and looking for common ancestors to suggest possible links.
Godfrey then gave our main talk, entitled “Don’t believe all you are told”. He started by saying that his surname, Graver, was fairly uncommon (about 150 in UK) which allowed him to research all of the Gravers in the records. His mother’s side was relatively straightforward but it was only after his father’s death that he was able to started his research on that side. An aunt provided much information, some of which turned out to be incorrect. His extensive and fascinating research revealed many problems like people using different surnames in different official documents and missing marriages in the records. However, he now has a much more complete family tree.
Chris O'Brien

**Find us on Facebook**

Beeston U3A has a Facebook page which is a closed, and therefore secure, group. Community events and any interesting feedback can be shared with all the other Beeston U3A members through this page. Had a great visit – share your experience! Enjoyed a U3A activity – share it! Got ideas on what we could do – get it off your chest! If you’re a Facebook user, ask to join the group.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/1296558657101544/
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.

We like our new venue where we can sit around a table in a social circle so that no one is left out thereby enabling members to observe what others are knitting or crocheting whilst enjoying a like-minded chat. I am busy giving one-to-one tuition if needed usually in crocheting, helped by one or other members. One of the members is learning to knit socks using the magic loop method on a long circular needle—much easier than DPNs (double-pointed needles) which easily drop out onto the floor...easy to injure one’s hip or back picking it up.

Having said that other members are happy to carry on with their own projects passing on hints and tips whilst having a chat covering a wide range of topics.

The group has a sharing and learning atmosphere and is open to knitters and crocheters whether experienced or complete beginners—all very flexible.

Members are welcome to come for a taster session. We need more members so if you know of anyone who would benefit from the company they would be welcome.

Please contact Sheila if you require more information.

Email: sheilaschierbaum@btinternet.com

Sheila Schierbaum

History

On 20th June 25 members of our History Group enjoyed a day out in Birmingham starting with coffee followed by a guided tour of the Jewellery Museum, which gave us a fascinating insight into how one family firm, which exported gold and silver jewellery world-wide operated from a tiny office and workshops, (but with a beautiful spiral staircase!). Jewellery was often chosen from a pattern book but unique pieces could also be ordered then they were sent all over the world in small cardboard boxes!

Apprentices moved round a wooden table using different machines as they became more skilled and taking their custom made stool with them to avoid back strain! How delicately their hands must have moved to produce the delicate broches! Conditions were cramped and some chemicals used toxic but a mutual loyalty bound workers and owners together and even in the early days there was a form of disability benefit paid to people injured at work.

After lunch we were given an amusing and informative tour of Matthew Boulton’s home, which has stately rooms yet is compact enough to feel like a family home. Because of James Watt’s two hundredth anniversary, our tour focussed on the great inventor and steam engine designer and how his innovations and partnership with the industrialist and entrepreneur Matthew Boulton led them to play a major role in the early days of Britain’s Industrial Revolution.

We also saw the room where the Lunar men met on days when the full moon enabled them to travel home safely. It was wonderful to imagine the ebb and flow of heated discussions as men such as Bolton, Watt, Erasmus Darwin, Josiah Wedgwood, and Joseph Wright of Derby and many others exchanged ideas and plans. I wish I could have been a fly on the wall! We can heartily recommend the tour!

Judith Foxon
Walks (Long)

In May, Alice led 23 of us on a 16 km (10 miles) walk from Whatstandwell.

This was a walk with several options. About 8 walkers travelled by train to help save the planet. 2 opted to return from Ambergate by train after about 11 km (7 miles), 9 returned from Ambergate along the canal towpath (total 14 km, 9 miles) and the remaining 9 completed the full walk via Crich. On an almost perfect sunny, warm day, we started from the canal car park at Whatstandwell, crossing the busy A6 to climb up and over to Watergate Farm and Bunting Wood. Turning southwards we crossed the fields, stopping beside Long Wood for coffee before going on to Alderwasley and Kennel Wood. Many of the wooded areas had lovely carpets of bluebells and some of the fields even had carpets of dandelion clocks. Lunch stop was at the entrance to Peat Pits Woods after which we descended to Ambergate, where the group split into three. Those that walked along the canal towpath saw plenty of wildlife and wild flowers. The rest of us took the long climb up through Crich Chase and The Tors to the very top of the village. After a quick stop for refreshments at the village store we returned via fields and steep steps to Whatstandwell.

In June, I led 8 of us on a 13.5 km (8.5 miles) walk from Gotham.

The original walk this month was to be from Carsington. However, as so many people were on holiday, it was decided to postpone this and substitute a local easier walk from Gotham. After almost a week of continuous rain, the weather was improving but still on the distinctly showery side. Although we set off from Gotham in one of these showers, it soon stopped, giving us a reasonable day. From the village we climbed up to the top of Gotham Hill to see the extensive views from Nottingham City round to Long Eaton and beyond. As we approached the ridge, Sue pointed out the site where villagers used to have to collect fresh water from a spring until Earl Howe installed piping. We then walked alongside the woods to Cottagers Hill where we turned south east down to Wood Lane and up to the remains of Cuckoo Bush Farm. Turning south west, we went through Leake New Wood where we stopped for coffee with more views to the east. A step descent of the West Leake Hills and several fields brought us into West Leake village where we had lunch in the church grounds. After walking through the main street, we took the Midshires Way up to Crow Wood Hill with more extensive views over East Leake and beyond. From here we returned to the Cuckoo Bush area to read the notice giving the amusing story behind the name. We also looked at the Neolithic tumulus which is supposed to be the original site of the bush. The descent to Gotham gave us more views towards Belvoir and finally a welcome thirst quenching drink in the Sun Inn.

In July, Sue and Nelson led 25 of us on a 13.5 km (8.5 miles) walk around Ticknall.

After leaving Ticknall Village Hall car park and walking a short distance along the high road, we turned northwards across fields to go through Stantons Wood. Continuing across more fields and skirting around several small woods brought us to Ingleby Toft where we turned westwards and walked to Woodend Cottage. A turn towards the south took us into West Wood where we stopped for a coffee break before going down through Robin Wood and Gorsey Lees. Skirting around Vees, Nut and Smiths Woods and crossing two main roads brought us to Staunton Harold Reservoir Visitors’ Centre where picnic tables were convenient for a lunch stop. Suitably refreshed, we continued down the west side of the reservoir with good views of the water to reach Calke Abbey. The return to Ticknall was through the grounds of Calke Abbey Park. The small amount of rain we had at the start of the walk did not dampen an enjoyable day through very varied countryside.

Mike Allery
**Music Appreciation**

Since our last Newsletter entry our group has proved yet again that small numbers can provide big ideas! Our subjects have included Vinyl and 45s, Trees and Mountains, Showtunes and Spain!

The Vinyl section is possibly the most prolific and grateful thanks to Jenny Chapman who brings her large turntable and equipment, so we can enjoy the likes of Steeleye Span, Mamas and Papas and even Charles Trenet! The other subjects turned out gems such as "Going To Build a Mountain" by Sammy Davis Junior and "On The Trail Of The Lonesome Pine" from the comedy duo of Laurel and Hardy.

Impossible to list everything here for every month but I must make special mention of the English Folk Music which was the topic for the June offering. There were some very funny but slightly risqué words in some of the songs but our very own John McCormack entertained us by singing and accompanying himself on the banjolele! We all agreed that we must have another session like that in the future as it was so good.

Information about the group can be obtained from the U3A Groups Coordinator or from me direct. We still meet at 10.00am on the third Thursday each month in the Guild Room at the church.

Karin Williams

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**Murder Book Group**

Rather than concentrate on the books we have covered since our last contribution to the newsletter, I would like to use this occasion to thank Sergio for his many years of hospitality at the White Lion. Also, to wish him and his family all the very best in the future.

From the moment we started The Murder Book Club, we have held our meetings at The White Lion pub in Beeston. Sergio was extremely accommodating. He would allow us to move the furniture; he turned down the pub "music" so we could hear each other speak and he would produce food for us. In fact, his £8.00 buffet was probably the best value in Beeston. Who could forget the Pastéis de Nata, the Portuguese cakes, he would sell at the bar or make for Christmas?

He struggled to keep his pub open during the disruption of the tram lines being built outside. It was thought that he might have given up then. It was whilst asking about hosting a poetry evening at the White Lion in 2020 that he dropped the bombshell; he would willingly do so as long as he was still there. He explained that it was all hard work and that his children were growing up and he hardly saw them so a decision about quitting was to be taken at the end of the year. Unfortunately, that decision came sooner than was expected.

Thank you Sergio for your hospitality. Thank you for the delicious tapas. Thank you for the fascinating discussions about politics. We shall all miss you.

Future meetings of the Murder Book Club will be held at the Crown Inn in their "snug". My thanks to Margot for arranging that with the landlord. There are a couple of spaces available for members who enjoy reading crime novels.

Helen Stewart

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**Writing for Pleasure**

We are all busy with our third Short Story Writing competition either as writers or as judges. The theme for this year is "The Seven Deadly Sins".

The group, however, has decided that in 2020 we shall take a break from running this competition. Instead, we hope to run a poetry evening for family, friends and members of the U3A which will coincide with Nottingham's Poetry Festival. At the moment no date or venue have been selected so watch this space for further information.

Helen Stewart
News from Notts Network of 32 U3As in Nottinghamshire

Coin Collecting
Are there any U3A members who are interested in coin collecting, who would like to meet with an Arnold U3A member to share their mutual interest?
If so please email Jean Cussons, Arnold U3A groups co-coordinator, at jicussons@outlook.com and she will put you in touch with the member.

Thursofd Christmas Spectacular, Friday 8th November 2019.
This is a most popular extravaganza, of non-stop singing, dancing, music, humour and variety: a fast-moving celebration of the festive season featuring an eclectic mix of both seasonal and year-round favourites. With a cast of 120 professional singers, dancers and musicians, most of whom are straight from the West End, this is the biggest Christmas show of its kind in Europe! It is set in the magical surroundings of mechanical organs and fairground carousels with the auditorium impressively ablaze with colour. It features famous and much loved chart toppers being performed alongside traditional carols. The Christmas Spectacular 2018 was the biggest yet. Up to 50 coaches per day travel from many part of the country and many of the 5.7 million patrons to date have visited year on year. Thursford is near Fakenham, in Norfolk.
There are still a few seats available for other U3As to join us on what promises to be a most varied, enjoyable day. We shall leave by coach, which has WC facilities, from outside the charity shops in the parade of shops on Main Street, Burton Joyce, at 8.30am, then after a break during the journey, will arrive at The Refectory at Walsingham Priory for a 2-course roast lunch, with mince pies, tea or coffee. The hamlet of Thursford is only a short distance away and after lunch we will continue our journey in readiness for the 2pm matinee performance. At the end of the performance we will board our coach for the return journey to Burton Joyce where we expect to arrive around 7.45pm.
The cost of £67, made up of £13 per person for the coach, £14.50 roast lunch and £39.50 for the performance seat. You are welcome to join us so please contact Alwyn Foster by phone on 0115 931 2571 or e-mail Chairman@BJU3A.co.uk
You will be sent further information, particularly on parking arrangements in Burton Joyce, on receipt of confirmation you would like to join us. If you have any questions please phone or e-mail.
Alwyn Foster,
Burton Joyce and District U3A

Beacon membership system
Our membership system is working a treat, and with nearly 900 members, we need a system which works well. However, the information stored for each of our members is only as good as you tell us. The Beacon database is the one correct system that we can all rely on, so please tell us when you change your email or if you’re not receiving emails. The system sometimes bounces emails back to us so we may need to check.
More and more group facilitators are using Beacon to communicate with their members. Cluster members need to complete a membership form in order to be included on Beacon and therefore receive emails. They can also join online, but they will need to pay a fee of £0.01 in order to complete the transaction through Paypal.
The system also includes a calendar and a ledger system, and these are being used more and more by Group Facilitators. Further training is being offered for anyone who wants to help administer groups using the Beacon system.
The system is due to be upgraded next year, and we will therefore see a much more sophisticated system which has none of the glitches previously identified.
If anyone has any questions about Beacon, please contact Celia on communications@beestonu3a.org.uk
### 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 Blue Bell at Attenborough. 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 20th September.**

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>
</tr>
<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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<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Mike Norman <a href="mailto:groups@beestonu3a.org.uk">groups@beestonu3a.org.uk</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>
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<tr>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>Anne and John Dubbury 01159 226470 <a href="mailto:johndubbury@btinternet.com">johndubbury@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Weekly each Wednesday. 10.30 – 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 Snug, Crown Hotel, Beeston</td>
</tr>
<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>Beeston Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Group 5 The Fifth Chapter</td>
<td>Ginny Lawes 07968 721487 <a href="mailto:ginny.psy@ntlworld.com">ginny.psy@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly. 2nd Wednesday 10.00-12.00</td>
<td>Contact Ginny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowls</td>
<td>Peter Noon 0115 9288131 <a href="mailto:peternoon70@gmail.com">peternoon70@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>A 4 week course of tuition. Individuals may continue independently</td>
<td>Nottingham Indoor Bowls Club</td>
</tr>
<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. 10.00—11.30am.</td>
<td>The Corn Mill, Chilwell</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Contact Name</td>
<td>Contact Email</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<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>3rd Tuesday 10.30</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:alicekirwan@gmail.com">alicekirwan@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Attend the Silver Screening each month (as advised)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft</td>
<td>Carole Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:c.brown929@btinternet.com">c.brown929@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 4th Thursday. 1.30pm-4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring Spirituality</td>
<td>Richard Eddleston</td>
<td><a href="mailto:riedd@btinternet.com">riedd@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 3rd Tuesday. 10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family History/Genealogy</td>
<td>Chris O’Brien</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact.cob.uk@gmail.com">contact.cob.uk@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Monthly 3rd Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Conversation (not for beginners)</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>
</tr>
<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:rosiemccoy55@yahoo.co.uk">rosiemccoy55@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>Sue Blackley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vicechair@beestonu3a.org.uk">vicechair@beestonu3a.org.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 (SALI)</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>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 Group</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>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>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>
</tbody>
</table>


<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 Dave.smith31@ virginmedia.com | 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 of 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> | Carol Philip <a href="mailto:carolephilip@hotmail.co.uk">carolephilip@hotmail.co.uk</a> Duncan Leadbetter <a href="mailto:duncanleadbetter1944@gmail.com">duncanleadbetter1944@gmail.com</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 Blue Bell, Attenborough |
| <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 | Epworth Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Rummikub</strong> | Pauline Tilley 0115 9257836 <a href="mailto:pautilli3@gmail.com">pautilli3@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 brian <a href="mailto:tuck@btinternet.com">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 | Epworth Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| <strong>Singing For Fun</strong> | Brenda Robinson <a href="mailto:Beestonu3a.funsinging@gmail.com">Beestonu3a.funsinging@gmail.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>Leader/Contact Information</th>
<th>Frequency/Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Strollers                        | Tony and Janet Truman  
Ttruman2003@yahoo.co.uk | 3rd Monday of the month               | Various                      |
| Table Tennis 1                   | Sheila Vellacott 0115 9229628  
sheilavellacott@hotmail.com | Every Monday in term time              | Pearson Centre               |
| Table Tennis 2                   | Kathryn Deane 0115 9222926  
kcadeane@hotmail.co.uk | Every Monday in term time              | Pearson Centre               |
| Table Tennis 3                   | Kathryn Deane 0115 9222926  
kcadeane@hotmail.co.uk, Ian Plumb  
ianplumb@hotmail.co.uk | Every Thursday in term time            | Pearson Centre               |
| Table Tennis 4                   | Ian Plumb  
ianplumb@hotmail.co.uk | Every Friday in term time              | Pearson Centre               |
| Theatre Outings                  | Evelyn Gurd 0115 281983  
evugurd@yahoo.com | 1st Tuesday of the month              | Guild Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| Ukulele Group 1 “Ukulele Strummers” | Steve Mason  
steve.mason2018@btinternet.com, Rob Hill  
Bobhill29@hotmail.com | 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month    | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| Ukulele Group 2 Intermediate     | Lynn Goulding 07968228946  
Dorothy Atherton  
dorryatherton58@gmail.com | 2nd and 4th Weds 10.00 – 12.00        | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| Understanding the landscape      | Richard Dinsdale  
dinsdale1@ntlworld.com | 4th Tuesday each month 10.00 – 11.30  | Beeston Library              |
| Walks (Long)                     | Michael Allery  
mushnpuss@gmail.com | Once a month, early in the month.     | Various Venues               |
| Walks (Medium) Group 1           | Alan Bailey 0115 9164574  
alanbailey55@icloud.com | Last 2 weeks of the month, Tue, Wed or Thur | Various Venues               |
| Walks (Medium) Group 2           | Naomi Milner 01158 773233  
andrewmilner01@gmail.com | Various                           | Various Venues               |
| Walks (Medium) Group 3           | Shirley Pyke  
spyke9399@gmail.com | First week of the month Various days  | Various Venues               |
| Walks (Short)                    | Stephen Horner  
shorner98@sky.com | Second week in each month, day varies | Various Venues               |
| What the papers say              | Mike Norman  
mike.norman2507@gmail.com | 3rd Friday of the month 2.00          | Beeston Library              |
| Whist                            | Barbara Rawlinson  
b.rawlinson1@ntlworld.com | Second Friday each month 10.00 – 12.00 | Wesley Room, Beeston Methodist Church |
| Wine Appreciation 1              | John Scottow 0115 875 9524  
j.l.scottow@gmail.com | 1st Thursday of the month 2.00       | Pearson Centre               |
| Wine Appreciation 2              | Adrian Shipway  
arshipway@yahoo.co.uk | 2nd Tuesday of the month 2.00         | Pearson Centre               |
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.

<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>jomuxlow@ virginmedia.com</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>

And finally...

Sometimes, it’s nice to finish with a joke, a funny story or a quiz. I never know if they go down well or just get ignored. Indeed, is any of the newsletter read at all? I try and fill the 24 pages that is the usual length of the newsletter. I’d like to invite members to send in their contributions for an “and finally” slot. If you come across a funny joke or story or interesting piece of information that you’d like to share, please send to Celia on communications@beestonu3a.org.uk. Let’s see if anyone reads it.