



Workshop and District u3a

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2026

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**Please send contributions for the
AUGUST Newsletter to:
sheilamassey123@btinternet.com
By 31st July**

COMMITTEE

November 2025 – November 2026

Officers

CHAIR

Alison Morton

Vice-chair

Chris Coldwell

Business Secretary

Linda Butterfield

Treasurer

Liz Short

Members

Membership Secretary Shirley Parkin

Minuting Secretary Claire Culpan

Speaker Finder John Dixon

Accessibility Officer Carol Bower

Groups Coordinator Steve Dobson

Nigel Carpino

Vin Hooton

Jenny Moss

Lynn Ridley



Although we're still enjoying the summer, it's already time to start thinking ahead to November and our AGM.

This year, several of our valued committee members will be stepping down as their terms of office come to an end. Our committee is a friendly and supportive team, dedicated to helping our u3a continue to grow and thrive. We meet just once a month for a couple of hours, and we're always keen to welcome new members with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

If you think you might be interested in getting involved, why not come along to a committee meeting and see what it's all about? There's absolutely no obligation to join – it's simply an opportunity to meet the team and find out more.

To arrange a visit, please contact our Business Secretary, Linda Butterfield, at lindabut39@gmail.com.

Festival in the Forest

In spite of the day starting with spots of rain and drizzle, members of Ashfield, Dukeries, Forest Town, Mansfield, Rainworth, Sherwood and Worksop u3as arrived early morning at Sherwood Forest, with their cars full of equipment. This was unloaded and erected and within an hour, the amphitheatre and picnic area of Sherwood Forest, was transformed into a blue and yellow u3a Festival.

The live music, which showcased how professional our musicians are, started with Irene and Wynn, a musical duo from Forest Town u3a. After a well-choreographed changeover, the 25-strong Jubilee Ukulele Band (Dukeries u3a) had our feet tapping with their melodies and songs. After lunch, the pace was picked up again with sounds from the Banjoleers from Dukeries u3a and the programme was completed by the Guitar Group from Worksop u3a, who concluded the day with encores!

The high standard of the music, clearly the result of hard practice and rehearsal, was greatly appreciated by the surrounding audience and anyone coming into Sherwood Forest on the day was greeted by high quality tunes which brought smiles to lots of faces.



Members of the audience on their feet to the inspiring sounds of Worksop & District u3a Guitar Group



Chair's Chat: June 2026

Moving on....

Like everything else, our organisation is constantly changing and evolving. We always welcome your suggestions and, whenever possible, we try to introduce new groups to reflect members' interests. Of course, this also means that sometimes groups naturally come to an end.

This month, we're saying goodbye to our Cinema Group. Over the years, members have enjoyed private screenings of many popular films, complete with discounted tickets and free refreshments. However, with the rise of streaming services such as Netflix, Disney+ and Prime Video, along with cinema offers like Meerkat Movies, attendance has gradually declined. In fact, only three members attended the June screening.

As The Savoy is a business, it has to carefully consider its costs, and it has therefore made the difficult decision to cancel any future u3a screenings.

The good news is that The Savoy still offers its popular 'Silverscreen' every Wednesday morning for the over-50s. This includes discounted admission and free refreshments. Check The Savoy website for full details.

So, out with the old and in with the new...

If you have an idea for a new group and would like some help getting it started, please contact our Groups Coordinator, Steve Dobson (steve.w.dobson@btinternet.com).

Whilst we're always keen to hear new ideas, it's worth remembering the ethos of the u3a and the guidelines we work within. Group leaders must be u3a members, and we are not permitted to pay teachers or instructors.

That doesn't mean there aren't plenty of opportunities to learn! Our membership is full of talented and knowledgeable people who are more than happy to share their skills and experience. Need help shortening a hem or altering a garment? You'll find plenty of advice and encouragement in our needlecraft groups. Fancy a game of badminton but haven't picked up a racquet for years? All our sports groups include members of all abilities, so there will always be someone happy to help you get started.

And remember, if there's a group you'd like to join that isn't available in Worksop and there aren't enough people to start one locally, it's worth checking what the other North Notts u3as have to offer. Thanks to our reciprocal agreement, members can attend groups run by other North Notts u3as without paying any additional membership fees.

Remember, we aim to 'Learn, Laugh, Live'... !

'Til next month
Alison.

Workshop & District u3a Speaker Programme 2026

August 20th

Sand between the Toes - Ann Featherstone

Join me to remember sunshine, sea and sand. Childhood holidays. Albert and his stick with the 'orse's 'ead 'andle (the finest that Woolworth's could sell). Enjoy a monologue, poems and recollections of a '60s family holiday in good old Skeggy.

September 17th

Workshop Manor - Mike Tagg (title to be confirmed)

Details awaited

October 15th

Steel Band Concert – Steelpantastic

A return visit from our favourite steel band with music to suit all tastes

November 19th

Ambucopter - East Midlands Air Ambulance Service

Over 1,724 missions, the crews transported patients to 26 different hospitals including Hull Royal Infirmary, Sheffield Northern General and Nottingham's Queen's Medical Centre.

Your JULY Meeting
Thursday 16TH July
1.30 – 3.30
Carlton Civic Centre
Keneth Moore: You'll Fly Laughing

A humorous account of my 34 years as a Navigator in the RAF. Involving burials at sea, working with our colonial friends and showing how 'old age and treachery will triumph over youth and skill'. Also includes an appearance by a well-known TV personality!

The presentation covers:

- Aircraft Flown:** Firsthand stories from his time flying legendary aircraft, including Avro Shackletons, Phantom F4s, Tornados, and Airborne Early Warning and Control (AWACS) planes.
- Humorous Anecdotes:** Comedic insights into military life, from managing perfectly timed toilet breaks mid-flight to navigating complex burials at sea.
- Aviation Insights:** Lighthearted looks at the mechanics of ejector seats and what modern combat aviators wear.

PLUS Refreshments
PLUS New friends
PLUS Raffle

GROUPS NEWS

To have YOUR Group featured in Groups News, just send in a short article, together with a photo if possible, to the Newsletter Editor by the end of the month.

It would be lovely to hear from more of our groups about what they get up to. It is good to share information here on the Newsletter, as members may not be aware of all the activities that are available in our u3a.

TRAVEL GROUP NEWS

Over 30 people boarded the coach for a day in Whitby.

Sun and heavy showers were on the menu as we made our way to the coast. Once we arrived there was no more rain, thankfully. It was a bit breezy at times, but sunny skies made for a perfect day.

Everybody went off to do their own thing and have a good day out. Most people returning to the coach had enjoyed fish and chips - rude not to!

We boarded the coach around 4.15pm for our return journey (just a few spots of rain at that point) and drew the raffle before setting off back to Worksop. Traffic was very good to us both ways so we arrived back just after 6.30pm.

Thank you to our coach driver Pete from Johnson Bros Tours and all our passengers for your ongoing support for this group and our trips.

Any suggestions for days out are always welcome. Please contact myself, Jenny Moss, or Mick Heathcote.

Jenny Moss



Ukulele Group - Highly Strung

We meet on a Wednesday afternoon at Crown Place Community Centre where we play and sing for a couple of hours and have fun.



We welcome seasoned players or beginners and anything in-between! If you have never tried a ukulele (only 4 strings), come along and give it a try, you will be made to feel welcome. If you are interested in joining the Group, please contact our leader, Barry, via our ukulele group page on the U3A website.

FILM GROUP IMPORTANT NEWS

Regretfully, due to low attendance, The Savoy say it is no longer financially viable to run this group. There will therefore be no u3a films showing for the foreseeable future.

If you still want a cinema fix, The Savoy have a weekly 'Silverscreen Club' every Wednesday at 11.30am. The admission fee of £5.15 includes a cup of tea/coffee.

TRAVEL GROUP

Mick Heathcote - 01909 732300 (theheathcotes@gmail.com)
Jenny Moss - Mobile 07814713803

'Princess' River Cruise on the Trent Wednesday, 9th September 2026



Enjoy a three hour trip on the River Trent with a 2 course meal and complementary tea or coffee.

'The cruise takes in the views of our historic city between Holme Pierrepont and Wilford Church - the route on any particular day is always made by the Captain prior to departure on the day of the cruise' (information from the Princess River Cruise website)

Departure times:

The coach will leave at: **10.15am** from the Lock Keepers with a pickup point at the Cannon at **10.25am**.

We expect to arrive at **12 noon** in time to board the **Princess** ready for the **12.30 pm** cruise. The cruise lasts for **3 hours** during which time we will enjoy a **2 course** of a traditional roast dinner (Vegetarian options available), dessert and complimentary tea/coffee.

We will depart back home at **4.00pm** and should arrive back in Worksop around **5.30pm**.

If you would like to go on this outing please let us know **ASAP** (see contacts above).

The demand for 'places' on these cruises is very high and we have provisionally booked **35** places on the upper deck (fully covered roof with panoramic views) accessible only by steps/stairway)

Quirky Quizzers

St Joseph's Community Hall, Wingfield Avenue, S81 0SF

Wednesday 22nd July

2.00 – 4.00



Take your seats for quiz fun and games

- Give your little grey cells their monthly workout
- Make new friends
- Enjoy tea/coffee and the 'good biscuits'
- Prizes for winning team

Teams of 4 formed on the day.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Table Top Games

Tuesday 7th July (and every first Tuesday)

Balmoral Centre (off Valley Road)

1.30 – 4.00

Table Top Games has a wide variety of board games available to choose from. Just turn up and have fun!

Contact janjoneeny@me.com for more information

Mexican Train

Card Games

Bananagrams

Risk

Logos

Sequence

Rumikub

5 Crowns

Cluedo

Backgammon

And many more...



SCRABBLE GROUP

The u3a Scrabble group has space for more members.
They are a small, friendly group who meet on the 2nd and 4th
Friday in the month at Balmoral Community Centre from
9:30-12:00.

If you would like to come along to one of their meetings,
please contact me.

Linda Butterfield

Lindabut39@gmail.com

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Welcome to our new Newsletter feature: Photo of the Month.

Many thanks to member Ron Parke for suggesting that he would like to share some of his amazing wildlife photos with other members.



A perfect shot of a colourful kingfisher



Ryton Chorale
with Retford U3A
Recorder Ensemble
presents

Saturday
11th
July 2026
7.30pm

The Summer Concert

Conductor
Sierra Farquhar-Wulff

Assistant Conductor *Reuben Apostol*

Accompanist *Jack Pickford*

Programme includes:

*Settings of English Folk Songs
by Cecilia McDowall & John Rutter
plus Music for Recorder Ensemble*



VENUE: *The Priory Church, Priorswell Rd, Worksop S80 2BU*

Tickets £12 *Accompanied children under 16 free of charge.*

Tickets available from: Choir members.

Telesales: 07743 975225

tickets@rytonchorale.org.uk

or online ***www.rytonchorale.org.uk***

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Don't forget to visit our website.

It has all the latest information about our u3a.

Want to find out about a group? When and where they meet? Want to ask a group leader a question? It's all available via the website.

We have information about our trips out, with links to the venues' own websites too.

You can find out how we operate and can contact the committee.

And now you can see what the Third Age Trust (the national u3a) has to offer as we have listed all their online events. Fancy Laughter Yoga, Exploring World Faiths, or Aviation History the range is enormous. Check it out.

You can find us at <https://worksop.u3asite.uk>

Or scan the QR Code



Follow us on Facebook

Why not follow your u3a on Facebook too. Search for us on Facebook or scan this QR code to go to our page.

Please Follow Us and Like our posts. This will help promote the u3a to a wider audience.



Data Protection – Use of Photographs

Our Data Protection policy includes a section concerning the use and publication of photographs.

Members should be informed that photographs may be taken during u3a events and given the chance to step out of the frame if they prefer.

Before any photographs are published, such as in the monthly Newsletter, verbal consent should be obtained.

If you do not wish to grant permission, please contact your Group Coordinator or the individual taking the photographs.

**Please send contributions for the
JULY 2026 Newsletter to:
sheilamassey123@btinternet.com
By 30th June**