

# Burton Joyce & District u3a Newsline



## Welcome to the August Edition of Newsline



### From The Editor

Anyone else feel they've lost their mojo a bit? Certainly dearly beloved and I have had to really push ourselves to go to things recently. It's not fear of Covid any more. In fact we both felt rather gung-ho after we'd had it. No, it's good old fashioned apathy. Yet when we have made the effort, we have thoroughly enjoyed whatever. Yes, even the Elvis film at nearly 3 hours in length. Perhaps we're holidayed out after nearly 3 weeks in France and then a week at the seaside watching a small boy mostly dig up Devon and a small dog chase every gull in Devon. Such enthusiasm and joie de vivre is exhausting.

On that note, I hope you find something in this Newsline to inspire you to get out and about. We'd love to have some more new groups to tantalise both new and existing members, but we need people to come forward and roll their sleeves up. Who knows you might find your mojo again!

#### STOP PRESS - HUMBLE APOLOGIES

My IT skills are not of the highest order and, in an attempt to work out why I hadn't received emails and photos from my highly paid, superannuated, cub-reporter, Hilary, I somehow wiped my entire inbox of emails. So if you sent me something for Newsline and it isn't in that's because I hadn't saved it and it's been wiped. If NS&I has emailed me to say I've won a fortune, I'll never know! Do I care? No. It's too hot.

*Judith Wright*

## Chair's Chatter



This will be the last Chatter before our AGM in August - do hope to see you there. I'd particularly like to thank all of our volunteers who have contributed to the success of this u3a over the past 12 months.

This includes our excellent committee members who successfully navigated this ship to safe shores with great amounts of laughter and a huge consumption of cakes.

A big thank you goes to Group Coordinators who are the backbone of our u3a for their continued support and commitment. I'm sure that all our members are extremely grateful. See later on this Newsline for ideas for new groups.

To all those who help at monthly meetings including Welcomers, Kitchen 'staff' and those who set out/dismantle tables/ chairs in the Village Hall. This commitment enhances the wonderful experience we share at these meetings.....and to anyone else who I've not mentioned above!

There is so much to look forward to in the next 12 months. We will build on the successes of previous activities and will look to introduce new ones. I hope that you will stay with me for the journey.

Stay safe,

Anna Moore

[chairman@bju3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman@bju3a.co.uk)



*In  
conjunction  
with*



***WHO WILL BE KILLED?  
HOW?  
CAN YOU SOLVE THE MURDER?***

**Our next Social Event will be in Burton Joyce Village Hall on  
Friday October 7th.  
Details to follow in due course**

## Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

As you will see from the photo, we were caked out at our stall in The Grove on the Saturday of the Jubilee Celebrations. Thanks so much to everyone who baked: they all went and it was obvious that by giving them away we created a lot of good will. All part of spreading the word of what a fantastic organisation we belong to.



## u3a 40th Anniversary Celebrations

How wonderful that our organisation has been going strong for 40 years now. Celebrations will be taking place all over the country but here in Nottinghamshire, beacons will be handed over from local u3as and delivered to the mass gathering at Highfields, University Park on Saturday 24th September, starting at 1pm.

Everyone is invited to attend and there will be a Steel Band and an official welcome by the Lady Mayoress of Nottingham which will be followed by a Flash Mob (you will have to be there!!)



### BJu3a's Event

This is currently in the planning stage. We just wanted you to hold the date: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are hoping to showcase some of our activities, raise the profile of our organisation and, most importantly, ENJOY OURSELVES.





# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

I am pleased to report that our u3a membership continues to increase and since the last edition of Newsline the numbers have gone past the 350 mark.

Please make the following new members feel very welcome. Some of them are featured lower down but if you meet them, do help with any questions they may have and encourage them to get involved:

Caroline Windle - Alan Swift - Jayne Smith - Maureen Richards - Jacky Kinsey - Viv Fountain - Gill Campbell & Basia Arch .

We would also like to welcome back to the fold two previous long-standing members - Michelle & Peter Price - Horne.

## NEW MEMBERS DROP IN COFFEE MORNING

All new members are invited to the Wheatsheaf, Burton Joyce on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 11.15 so that they can get to know each other and find out what our u3a has on offer.



Rupert Williams - Membership Secretary

## Spotlight on our New Members

Welcome to our recently-joined members, some of whom are mentioned below....

Jayne Smith

Jayne lives in Burton Pastures and when it came to joining a u3a the debate was whether it would be Carlton or Burton Joyce. Happily, she chose us! She has already been on a trip, to Trent Bridge, which she enjoyed and is looking at the range of groups on offer. Jayne is retired, from a career in education, and is the owner of 2 black Labradors so dog-walking is a very regular pastime!

Gill Campbell

As is often the case, Gill has joined u3a due to word-of-mouth recommendation. She lives in Burton Joyce, having moved from Lowdham 9 years ago. She's so pleased she decided to join, saying what a friendly bunch we are. Gill doesn't have plans to join any specific groups; rather the appeal is the monthly meetings. She rates the talks highly and similarly the tea and cakes! And she thinks what's offered by the u3a so far is great value for money.

Maureen Richards and Alan Swift

Maureen and Alan are already members of Arnold and West Bridgford u3a respectively but were prompted to join Burton Joyce to play petanque. Having joined, they have been tempted by other groups and have now joined the beer and cider group. Maureen is also looking at the ukulele and art appreciation groups.

Alan's interests include painting - he works in both water and oil, meteorology, birdwatching (he's a particular fan of swifts!) and scrabble -he plays in the West Bridgford scrabble group. Similar to a lot of other new members, they make a point of saying what a friendly welcome they have received.

Hilary MacCallum

# Monthly Meetings

## Speakers from August 2022

### Tuesday 9 August 2022 - AGM + Speaker

Our AGM will be followed by a talk by David Skillen, who delivered an excellent talk about Belper via Zoom during lockdown. David's subject this time is "The Gretna Girls and the Devil's Porridge". In 1915 a huge and top-secret factory was constructed to provide ammunition for the war effort. It was designed and built in a matter of months and staffed by women and girls from all over the UK and beyond. Two new towns, Gretna and Eastriggs, were built to accommodate the workers. The amazing achievement was vital in helping the British Army to final victory in WWI.



### Tuesday 13 September 2022 - James Grundey – National Association of Blood Bikes.

Members transport blood, platelets, samples, surgical instruments, Human donor milk and many other clinical products across the UK and Ireland and is staffed by unpaid volunteers, who provide this service to the NHS, free of charge.

### 11 October 2022 - Alec Thompson – Beekeeping.

Master Beekeeper Alec will take us through a year as a beekeeper and enlighten us about the life of bees. In the hive, the Queen bee is certainly very busy, so much so that eventually she is exhausted and replaced with a young Queen bee. The drones (the male bees) then have only one role to play, and you can hazard a guess what that is!

Alec will also advise us how we can help bees in our gardens by planting flowers such as sunflowers, asters, foxgloves, plus vegetables like peas and beans, flowering herbs – mint, rosemary and others, and he will bring along some honey produced in his beehives, which he markets as 'Trent Valley Honey'.





# GROUP NEWS

We are delighted that so many of our groups are back up and running, but we need MORE! If there is anything you would like to do, there are bound to be others wanting to join in. We just need the suggestions and then we can act upon them.

One idea put to us recently by a student set the task of how bju3a might invigorate itself after the pandemic had a brilliant idea: get people cooking together! The task was part of a Masters Programme at Nottingham Trent University (contact was through our University Interest Group) for students to research real organisations whose members are either older, or in vulnerable situations. These students then have to present their ideas in a formal situation to representatives of said groups. It is really quite impressive.

So a cooking club? Could be in someone's home, people taking turns, or in the Village Hall kitchen, possibilities are endless. Anyone.....??



## Famous Cooking Quotes:-

*A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand. – Barbara Johnson*

*A party without cake is just a meeting. – Julia Child*

*A recipe has no soul, you as the cook must bring soul to the recipe. – Thomas Keller*

*All happiness depends on a leisurely breakfast. – John Gunther*

*Anything is good if it's made of chocolate. – Jo Brand*

*Cooking is an observation-based process that you can't do if you're so completely focused on a recipe. – Alton Brown*

*Cooking is at once child's play and adult joy. And cooking done with care is an act of love. – Craig Claiborne*

*Cooking is the art of adjustment. – Jacques Pepin*

*Cooking is truly an act of love. – Jacques Pepin*

## Focus on - Discussion and History Groups

Those of you who are avid readers of Newsline will know that we are trying to spotlight those groups where there are spaces for new members, and so it was that I went to interview a convalescing Tom Klima, the co-ordinator of both Discussion and History.

Tom is currently recovering from a knee replacement (flowers, chocolates, sympathy all gratefully accepted!) He told me that he had sort of “fallen into” being the co-ordinator of both groups, but if you know Tom at all, you will know that he is an organiser and a committee person. Indeed, to quote him verbatim, “if you don’t contribute to an organisation it will die”: Music to our ears!

The Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of the month at 2 p.m., usually at Tom’s house. Past topics have included: the funding of health and social care, the appropriateness of sanctions against Russia, the maximum age appropriate for the President of the USA; so you can see that they respond to current affairs, although Tom was keen to point out that they try to keep politics out of it and try to concentrate more on the ethics and philosophy of the topic.

The History Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 10.30 a.m., again at Tom’s. They base their sessions around the reign of an English monarch but then widen the remit to cover events in the wider world. At the moment they are in the 17th century. Topics are allocated according to interest so, for example, individual members have researched the Conquistadors and the Huguenots. Tom stressed that he is not an historian, so they all learn together.



Tom and his wife, Margaret, are in Film for Fun and separately in Aerobics and Kurling (when will this restart he asked?). When I asked Tom what he felt were the benefits of belonging to u3a he became reflective. He said that as a couple they were aware on retirement that they needed to widen their activities so that as and when one of them was left alone, (an inevitability, but one we push to one side) they would both already be part of an active social life.

If you are interested in either group, please contact Tom direct.

Tom’s Mobile number is 07766 600 205

*Judith Wright*



# Groups

Click [here](#) for an up to date list of all our Groups

## Art Appreciation trip to The Harley Gallery

Cave Art to Contemporary Art Walking Trail – exploring the Notts and Derbys Countryside



Our next trip will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August to the Harley Gallery for their new Art Trail. The horses above have been sculpted by local artist, Michelle Reader, and then the trail leads to Cresswell Craggs with tree sculptures by Martin Smith and interpretive panels along the way. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please contact me.

Judith Wright  
0115 931 2805

## Birdwatching

In late March the birdwatching group spent a gloriously dry and sunny morning in Rufford Country Park....oh, the joys of not slithering on muddy pathways and not a scarf or glove in sight either! Parking is easy there but note, if planning to visit, no cash accepted, just credit card for the £5 charge.

The walk took us through woodland and then around the lake. Highlights included seeing the chiff chaff, in full song - the first this year for many of us - and watching a nuthatch making a nest in the hole of an old tree. But the usual suspects were there on the lake, all in their evolving breeding plumage. We have had several new members join us recently but always room for more!



*The Common Chiff Chaff*

Hilary MacCallum  
<https://bju3a.co.uk/bird-watching/>



All welcome to this friendly (and sometimes inebriated) group.

**BJDu3a**

## **Beer & Cider Tasting Group**



**Planned evening outings...**

**Aug 18th - Carlton Hill – The Brickyard**

**Sept 15th - Southwell – The Coach House**

**Oct 20th - Lowdham – The Old Ship**

*For details of this group, see our website - <https://bju3a.co.uk/>*

## **Focus on Ramblers 2 and Hikers Groups**

In this month's issue we are focusing on two walking groups – Ramblers 2 and Hikers. Both these groups are led by Paul Geeson, although Paul has recently relinquished the lead of the Hikers group. He is a long-established member of Burton Joyce & District u3a, having joined about 12 years ago when he retired from his career in civil engineering. He had spent the last 10 years of his working life in Poland before returning to his home in Burton Joyce.

### **Ramblers 2 group**

Paul became a member of the Ramblers 1 group when he joined u3a. This group was – and indeed is still – typically offering walks of about 5 or 6 miles and was very popular, with often over 20 people walking at a time. The value of a second ramblers group was recognised which could offer another walking opportunity of similar distances each month and this group has proven to be as successful as the first. Both groups walk one Wednesday per month with Paul's Ramblers 2 group being on the third Wednesday of the month\*. He confirms that dogs are permitted on these walks. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Paul on [paulgeeson@me.com](mailto:paulgeeson@me.com)



\*Ramblers 1 group, run by Keith Bowker is on the last Wednesday of each month. >>>(Contd)

## Focus on Ramblers 2 and Hikers Groups (Continued)

### Hikers group

In 2011 Paul was prompted to start this group to offer longer walks of 10 to 12 miles. It was forged with Arnold u3a, where Brenda Draper, another keen walker and part of BJU3a, is a member. Over the years the group has undertaken monthly walks including in the Peak district and a few years ago completed the 105-mile-long Robin Hood Way twice, in 10 sections – forwards & backwards!

The group has a steady, established membership across the 2 organisations and includes members who volunteer to lead the various walks, though this is not an expectation should you be interested in joining. The walks are monthly, on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Please note this group does not permit dogs.

Having led this group for over 10 years, Paul has now handed the baton over to Chris Helmore, a long-standing member of the group.

Chris says that if you are interested in joining the group he can be contacted by email on [chris@thegallerybj.co.uk](mailto:chris@thegallerybj.co.uk) He says recent walks have been rather less in distance (8-9 miles) and can be anywhere in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire or Leicestershire.

Both of these groups have a 10.00 a.m. start, meeting at the start point. Car sharing was a regular activity pre lockdown and is becoming increasingly possible again as time goes on.

Paul is a firm believer of the positive impact that regular walking and hiking can have, both psychologically and physically. Walking and talking with folk develops friendships and, as he says, is so good for the spirit.

Hilary MacCallum

## CALLING ALL QUIZZERS

One of our members, Mike Storr, is hoping to arrange an inter-u3a quiz, probably in October this year for the first round.

Each u3a can enter 1 or 2 teams of 4 members (names not needed just yet). If there are enough entries, he plans to run heats with the top 10 u3as going forward to a Grand Final. *Rumour has it that prizes include a week's holiday in Barbados – Ed!*



So far, Ashfield, Carlton & Gedling, Dukeries, Ravenshead, Retford, Ruddington, Southwell and Wollaton are competing. So we need to see Burton Joyce represented, don't we?

As you can imagine, this is quite an administrative task he is setting himself and we admire his enthusiasm. The information he needs BY 31st AUGUST IS:-

Name of u3a

Contact details, email and phone, of one member of the proposed team.

Please contact Mike direct [mike@mikestorr.co.uk](mailto:mike@mikestorr.co.uk)



# OUTINGS

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We are extremely fortunate to have such an able organiser as Alwyn who has planned a series of very successful outings so far with more to come. Trips to Middleton Hall and Wedgewood were a great success, as was the tour of Trent Bridge Cricket Ground, featured below.

Forthcoming trips to Bletchley Park, Bromley House Library, as well as the River Trent Cruise are at various different planning stages, so please contact Alwyn for more details of any you might be interested in either by calling 0115 931 2571, or email [outings@bju3a.co.uk](mailto:outings@bju3a.co.uk)

The last exciting Test match had a crowd of 18000 at Trent Bridge. Our u3a tour had a slightly smaller audience but we all had a fabulous time. Many thanks to Alwyn for organising our visit.



Keith Bowker.

## MONDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER, BLETCHLEY PARK, BLETCHLEY, MILTON KEYNES.



Bletchley Park is an English country house and estate that became the principal centre of Allied code breaking during the Second World War, containing a history of the extraordinary achievements of the men and women who worked there. It is also the birthplace of modern computing. Historians estimate the code breakers' efforts shortened the war. It was here that German Enigma messages were decrypted. The website contains a wealth of interesting information to look at before the visit. Click [HERE](#) to view the Bletchley Park website.

The National Museum of Computing, located on Bletchley Park, is an independent charity housing the world's largest collection of functional historic computers, including the rebuilt Colossus, the world's first electronic computer, and the WITCH, the world's oldest working digital computer. The museum enables visitors to follow the development of computing from the ultra-secret pioneering efforts of the 1940s through the large systems and mainframes of the 1950s, 60s and 70s, and the rise of personal computing in the 1980s and beyond. The museum runs a highly successful Learning Programme for schools and colleges and promotes introductions to computer coding amongst young people.

There are still a few places available. The cost is £34.50, comprising coach travel and driver's gratuity of £17.00 and entrance fee of £17.50.

# Committee Members

The minutes of the latest committee meeting can be found [here](#). At the date of publication of this edition, the members of the Committee are set out below.

Anna Moore	Chair	07891 221840	<a href="mailto:chairman@bju3a.co.uk">chairman@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Anne Hegarty	Treasurer	07981 705967	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@bju3a.co.uk">Treasurer@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Alan Comerie	Business Secretary	07581 456253	<a href="mailto:Secretary@bju3a.co.uk">Secretary@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Caroline Roberts	Groups Facilitator	0115 931 3679	<a href="mailto:Groups@BJu3a.co.uk">Groups@BJu3a.co.uk</a>
Christine Shepherd	Speaker Finder	07773 156813	<a href="mailto:speakers@bju3a.co.uk">speakers@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Anna Moore	Beacon Coordinator	07891 221840	<a href="mailto:Beacon002@bju3a.co.uk">Beacon002@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Elaine Bass	Social Secretary	0115 911 8756	<a href="mailto:socialsecretary@bju3a.co.uk">socialsecretary@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Rupert Williams	Membership Secretary	0115 931 3095	<a href="mailto:MembershipSecretary@bju3a.co.uk">MembershipSecretary@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Judith Wright	Newsline Editor	0115 931 2805	<a href="mailto:bju3anewsline@outlook.com">bju3anewsline@outlook.com</a>

## Additional administrative contacts

Alwyn Foster	Outings Support	0115 931 2571	<a href="mailto:outings@bju3a.co.uk">outings@bju3a.co.uk</a>
Grenville Shepherd	Fire & VH Keyholder	0115 9618840	<a href="mailto:grenshepherd@yahoo.co.uk">grenshepherd@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Colin Simm	Website Manager	07850 553133	
David Falkner	Welcomers' Coordinator		<a href="mailto:welcome@bju3a.co.uk">welcome@bju3a.co.uk</a>

**Please let us have any contributions for the August issue of Newsline as soon as you have them and at the latest by 15th October. We particularly want items that are looking at what is going to happen in the Winter. If you would like a “focus” on your group please let the Editor know by emailing to [bju3anewsline@outlook.com](mailto:bju3anewsline@outlook.com).**

### Would you like to promote or showcase your Group?

Any Group has the opportunity to publicise what it does in a brief slot before we introduce our monthly speaker. If you would like to address the BJU3a audience - usually 100 + members - please contact me via the e-mail address indicated in this Newsline.

- *Christine Shepherd .....Speaker Finder.*

