

Forthcoming Monthly Speaker Meetings

Monthly speaker meetings are held at 1:45pm in Burton Joyce and Bulcote Village Hall, Trent Lane, Burton Joyce, Nottingham NG14 5EY. They are followed by refreshments, tea/coffee and biscuits. It's an ideal opportunity to socialise, sign up for Groups and chat to friends. Members should arrive in good time as latecomers can make it difficult for others to hear the Announcements.

TUESDAY 12th MARCH – REV CANON ALAN HAYDOCK **"IT'S BETTER THAN WORKING FOR A LIVING"**



Those of us who attended our speaker meeting in July 2023 will remember Canon Alan Haydock, one of the best speakers we had last year, when he delivered his "Confessions of a Country Vicar" talk. His charm, warm-heartedness, infectious and entertaining true-to-life funny stories and quick wit make him a very sought-after entertainer.

Born in Wigan and educated at the King's School, Ely, Alan trained at Kelham Theological College and was ordained in Southwell Minster in 1965. He became Canon of Southwell Minster in 1986. A keen sportsman, he follows both Nottingham Football Clubs and is a former member of Nottinghamshire Cricket Club's General committee. Over the past 32 years Alan has donated over £100,000 of his speaking fees to various churches, charities and sporting organisations.

TUESDAY 9th APRIL – DR ANN FEATHERSTONE **"THE BLACKPOOL WIDOW"**



1953: a year when the country celebrated the Coronation of Elizabeth II, when sweet rationing ended and when, for 5 months over the summer, newspapers were full of the mysterious death of a widow in the seaside town of Blackpool. Discover how one person was convicted, another released, and what Louis Tussaud's Waxworks had to do with it.

Ann Featherstone is a retired university lecturer and teacher as well as a writer. She writes non-fiction books and articles and is a historical novelist with two published novels to her name. She has appeared on local and national radio, "The One Show", and in documentaries on BBC4. She has twice been a guest expert on "Who Do You Think You Are?", once with Sheridan Smith and, in the 2017 series, with Sir Ian McKellan. In May 2019, she appeared in the second series of BBC1's "A House Through Time".

GROUP NEWS

www.bju3a.co.uk/groups

Table Tennis 2

Do you enjoy playing table tennis? If so, why not come and join us on the 1st & 2nd Thursday of the month 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the small hall at Burton Joyce Village Hall. You will find a friendly group playing for the fun of the game, not too competitive but we do like to win sometimes! You may not have played since your teens, but you will soon catch up. Come and give us a try!

For more information about Table Tennis 2 please visit the web page:- <https://bju3a.co.uk/table-tennis-2/>

- Christine Shepherd, Groups Facilitator

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For details all interest Groups, please visit our website at <https://bju3a.co.uk/groups/>



Our Website - www.bju3a.co.uk

As we no longer publish Newslines every month, I would like to emphasise the importance of utilising our website. It's where you can connect, engage, and access valuable resources.

There are some compelling reasons why you should explore the website. It's a treasure trove of knowledge. From upcoming events and announcements to information about our Interest Groups, future Monthly Meetings, Social Events and Outings, Policies, details of Committee Members, and copies of the minutes of Committee Meetings. Regularly check the website to stay up-to-date. It's like having a personalized library at your fingertips.



Perhaps you know someone who may be interested in joining? There's advice on how to join, how much it costs, and a downloadable Membership Application Form are all on the "Join Us" page.

Please "Bookmark" our website by adding it to the Favourites in your web browser. It's a gateway to help you get the most out of your membership. On the next page you'll see a list of the questions Committee members are often asked, along with links to the pages on the website where you can find the answers.

- Alan Comerie, Vice Chair

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. About BJu3a

- About the u3a in general and Burton Joyce & District u3a in particular.
- What the membership subscription is and how to join.

2. About our Interest Groups

- What are they?
- Is there an Interest Group you'd like to join?
- Who runs the Interest Group?
- When does the Interest Group meet?
- Where does the Interest Group meet?
- How to contact the Interest Group coordinator?

3. Meetings and Social Events

- When is the next Speaker Meeting?
- Who is the speaker and what is the talk about?
- What Social Events are planned and when they are?

4. News – Where can I see and download the latest News Bulletin?

5. Our Committee

- Who are the members of the Committee?
- What positions do they hold?
- How can I send a message to a Committee Member?

6. Committee Meetings

- Where can I view and download the minutes of Committee Meetings?
- Where can I view and download Bju3a's policies?

THE ANSWERS - PLEASE CLICK ON THE BLUE LINKS BELOW

1. About Bju3a - <https://bju3a.co.uk/about-us/>
2. About our Interest Groups - <https://bju3a.co.uk/groups/>
3. Meetings and Social Events - <https://bju3a.co.uk/events/>
4. News - <https://bju3a.co.uk/newsline/>
5. Our Committee - <https://bju3a.co.uk/contact/>
6. Committee Meetings - <https://bju3a.co.uk/reference/>

Potential Outings/Visits in 2024

British Horological Institute: Upton Hall, Upton, Newark NG23 5TE.

Close by, just the other side of Southwell, full of interest and situated in a Grade II Listed Building. The Institute is the representative body of the horological industry in the UK, founded by a group of clockmakers in 1858. Members began collecting clocks, watches and other timepieces, tools, instruments, photographs and archives containing over 5,000-6,000 valuable documents, plus a library of 4,000-5,000 books. From minuscule mechanisms and precision engineering to colossal constructions and atomic devices, with highlights comprising the first successful electric timepiece from the 17th century, to the personal watch of Captain R.F. Scott (of Antarctic fame). There are exhibits for all to see and enjoy, of long case clocks, monastic clocks to regulators, decorative, elaborate and mesmerising examples that chime and ring on the hour.

The development of watches is illustrated in the Watches Gallery with the Early Timekeeping Gallery showing methods of timekeeping predating mechanical timepieces, including sundials, sand glasses, water clock and astrolabes. The journey through the world of timekeeping is fascinating.

Though presently closed for the winter until 31st March, Group visits are available and will continue after the re-opening.



Burghley House, Stamford, Lincs.

Just an hour's journey to this grand, imposing, 16th century Grade I country house just outside Stamford, built and still lived in by the Cecil family. It is set in magnificent parkland laid out by Lancelot Capability Brown, the lake covering 26 acres. Its design gives the impression of a meandering river. He also designed the Lion Bridge, built at a cost of 1,000 guineas (£1,050). He was paid £23,000 in total for all his work and his landscape has been conserved by planting 30,000 new trees between 2012 and 2016.



Built between 1555 and 1587, costing £23,000 at the time, the House retains its Elizabethan appearance and the interior displays a circuit of grand and richly furnished state apartments. The main part of the house has 35 major rooms on the ground and first floors. There are more than 80 lesser rooms and numerous halls corridors, bathrooms and service areas.

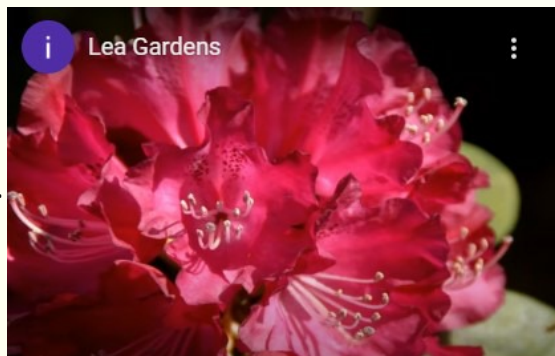
Although depleted of a number of important pieces by death duties in the 1960's, the Burghley art collections are otherwise mainly intact and are very extensive. Several hundred paintings are still displayed, a large proportion bought in the 17th century by John Cecil, 5th Earl of Exeter and

by Brownlow Cecil, 9th Earl. The large collection of Japanese export porcelain is especially important because pieces still in the house and others sold in 1888 and 1959 can be identified. These are the “earliest recorded pieces in Europe and are of great interest to scholars”. There are also a number of outstanding pieces of furniture including works by celebrated 18th century London cabinet makers. In addition to silver, tapestry and collections of other porcelain there is much on public display in the state rooms.

At least 3 hours is needed to go round the house. There are of course refreshment facilities available to visitors. After visiting the house and gardens, there may be time to visit the nearby historical town of Stamford with its acclaimed 16th architecture.

Lea Rhododendron Gardens, Matlock.

Just outside the village of Lea in approximately 3.5 acres situated within a woodland area with access paths which allow visitors to see 500 or more varieties of rhododendrons, azaleas and other plants and shrubs. There is a teashop to enjoy as part of the visit, serving tea, coffee, cold drinks, home-made cakes and light lunches, with stunning views of the gardens.



The gardens have been owned by the Tye family since 1960 and were founded in 1935 and laid out in 1920. Additional plants include kalmia and many collected from across the world. A wide variety of alpines, acers (Japanese maples) dwarf conifers, heathers and spring bulbs are to be found in the rock garden. The Gardens are situated on the remains of a disused medieval millstone quarry, located on a woody hillside on a south-west-facing slope, on the northerly edge of the Amber Valley, looking across to one of the 1,000 feet peaks of the Pennine chain.

A most picturesque setting for such wonderful plant species and very popular with local tourists during the spring when the plants are in full flower. Not to be missed and likely to entice a repeat visit! BJU3A Garden Groups have been on a number of occasions over the years.

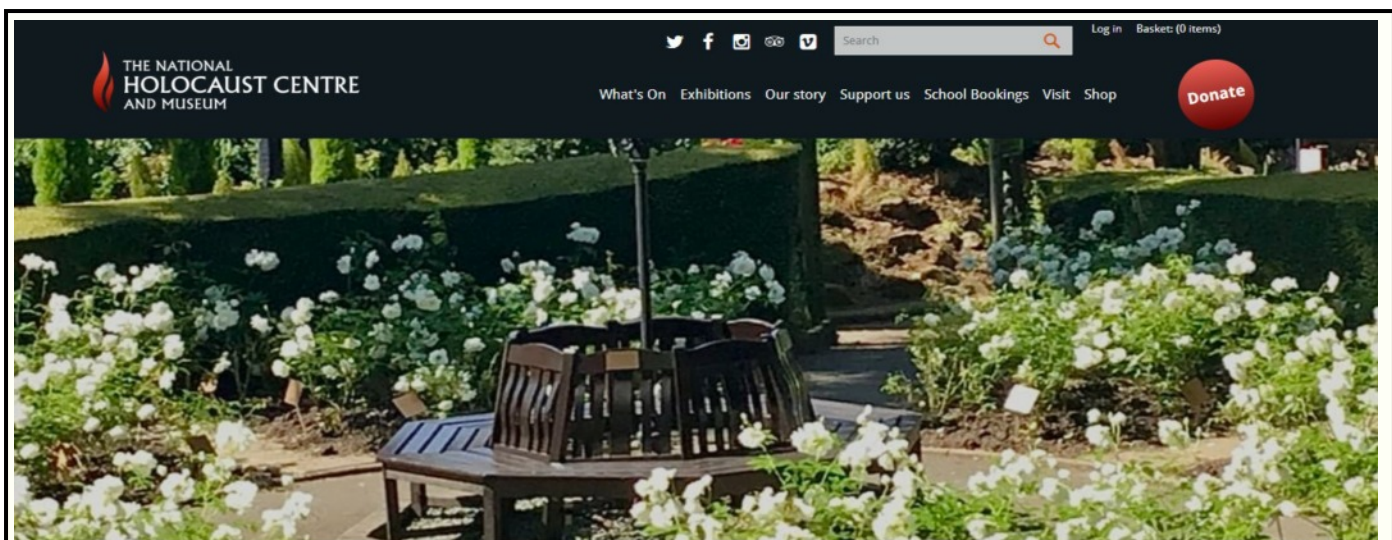
The Great British Car Journey.

Situated at Ambergate, in the Derbyshire Dales, it is a tour through British motoring history. The journey features over 130 British classic cars, taking you through the golden ages of British design and manufacturing starting with the Austin Seven, through to the Morris Minor, classic Mini, Ford Escort, and everything in between, covering production cars from 1922. If a guided tour is not available, visitors are guided round by an interactive tablet.



Opened on 22nd May 2021, the Journey has already received Tourist Industry accolades.

There is a great cafe where visitors can relax after the remarkable tour through time. A great outing down memory lane!



The National Holocaust Centre and Museum, Laxton , nr Ollerton.

This is so much more than a museum. It is vibrant memorial, a place of testimony and a centre of learning for communities of all faiths, or none, across the UK. Since the Centre was established in 1995, in the grounds of a former farmhouse in the village of Laxton, on the edge of Sherwood Forest, it remains the first and only place of its kind in the UK.

Dedicated to Holocaust remembrance and education, the surrounding countryside provides a peaceful setting and the Centre itself is surrounded by a beautifully landscaped Memorial Garden. The scent and sight of more than 1,000 white roses in full bloom stands as a poignant living commemoration of the Holocaust. Each individual rose carries a precious reminder and together they make a powerful statement.

The Children's Memorial, dedicated to the young people murdered in the Holocaust, is being built slowly over time by visitors to the Centre. Visitors are invited to select a stone from the trough and place it on the memorial in tribute to one of the 1.5 million individual children who died. The garden is a unique space of healing, reflection and contemplation for all to share.

Both exhibition areas are infused with survivor's testimony and artefacts, providing a human and personal perspective on pre-war Jewish life in Europe, the rise of National Socialism, the Holocaust survival and post-war justice. The Journey, Europe's first and only Holocaust exhibit aimed specifically at primary school children follows the story of Leo, a fictional German-Jewish boy living in 1938 Berlin. His story unfolds in a series of rooms, which not only detail his experiences but also historical events that characterised the Nazi domination of Europe and its children during the Holocaust and survived.

But what makes a visit particularly unique is the opportunity to meet a survivor of the Holocaust and hear their story. The Centre is privileged to hear survivors on a daily basis during term-time and most Sunday's during summer, all of whom share their experiences with visitors and answer their questions from young and old alike. They have made the National Holocaust Centre and Museum what it is today by their strength and commitment.