

Previous Monthly Meetings

In 2025

January	Active Charnwood	This was an opportunity to find out more about the Active Charnwood Alliance which a network of sport and physical activity partners who work collaboratively to advocate and develop inclusive sport and active recreation activities for everyone in Charnwood.
February	The Workhouse Storytellers	Bringing the fate of the poor living under the 19th century Poor Law vividly to life, using material from the archives and authentic costumes to 'Tell Tales that inspire, challenge and inform'. They challenged commonly held views of the Victorian workhouse and whilst not all their stories ended happily; some induced hilarity, others were cruel and scandalous – but they were both entertaining and informative.
March	AGM plus Groups Showcase	As well as the AGM itself, the meeting included a few short presentations in the church and displays in the foyer showcasing some of our interest group activities.

In 2024

January	All At Sea with Anette Taylor	Anette's talked of her 30 years' experience as a cruise director and travel manager are fast becoming a favourite on the speaker's circuit. Her knowledge of both ocean and river cruising are second to none and provide the backdrop for the wealth of stories she has accumulated.
February	Secret Love with Holly Reynolds	A special Valentine's Day celebration of love songs from the 50s and 60s.
March	AGM plus Groups Showcase	As well as the AGM itself, the meeting included a few short presentations in the church and displays in the foyer showcasing some of our group activities.
April	The Woodland Trust with Ian Retson	Ian is very familiar with our local woods, having surveyed and recorded significant trees in Budden Wood, Quorn and the National Forest. He spoke about the aims and activities of that organisation to care for our precious woodland.
May	'Magic' with John Constantine	John, a professional magician from Leicester, gave an entertaining talk on magic, which included one or two routines for additional entertainment value.
June	'Tea and Empathy' with ZamZam Yusuf	ZamZam Yusuf, a Somalian refugee, shared her extraordinary story of her journey from Somalia to the UK.

July	My 25 Years at BBC Radio Leicester with Dave Andrews	An entertaining talk by Dave Andrews about his 25 years working as a presenter, commentator, and producer at BBC Radio Leicester. He looked at some of the high spots (and low spots), interesting interviewees and big events.
September	Wearing Tights for the Queen with Andrew Brown	Andrew, a Rutland farmer, spent a year 'wearing tights for the Queen' as High Sheriff of Rutland. Andrew provided an insight into the role and history of the High Sheriff, along with a look into the future of British agriculture.
October	A Tasting Journey Through Chocolate with Butterflies Chocolates	The 'Tasting Journey Through Chocolate' talk and tasting involved being told about how the cocoa plant grows, how chocolate is made and the many different factors which affect the end flavours in chocolate.
November	How to Read a House with Janet Spavold	We were told how to discover lots of clues to the history of a building just by looking at it – if you know what to look for!
December	Quorn Ukulele Orchestra	The much sought-after Ukulele Orchestra of Quorn played for us. Their programme included Christmas songs, carols, and a few sing-alongs. There was something for everyone to put us in the festive mood!