

## News & Views



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## Welcome

...to the March edition of *News & Views*, the newsletter of Charnwood u3a. We hope you'll find it both entertaining and informative. The content is written by members, and details for sending contributions can be found on the last page.



**Our Next Monthly Meeting:  
AGM + Group presentations**



See page 2  
for details

## View from the Chair

Spring is definitely sprung!



Isn't it wonderful to open the curtains to daylight rather than what seemed only a couple of weeks ago like the middle of the night? I actually opened a window the other day. Didn't stay open for long, of course - it is only March! Nevertheless, Spring is surely on its way, with seed catalogues fighting for space in the letterbox, holiday ads all over the TV and summer fashions blossoming on the High Street. New fashions always bring new words and among the latest catwalk trends are 'skorts' and 'skousers'. Skorts, a combination of 'shorts' and 'skirt', I remember from my hockey days (though we didn't have the word then). 'Skousers' is (are?) nothing to do with Liverpool, but a garment which combines skirt and trousers. I guess it's for those of us who can't make up our minds what to wear.

Sorry to the men for going on about women's fashion but be assured you're not alone in your bewilderment! Actually, I did find one useful trend for everyone. It's called 'directional rainwear' and (I think) it means you have the fashion gurus' permission to wear your waterproof come rain or shine.

Not everything changes like fashion and weather. With March comes our AGM – time to check out what your committee has been up to over the past year and to look forward to the coming one. It's not too late to join our team of Cu3a Trustees who keep things ticking over, or nudge someone else into standing. You'll have received the nomination form. Just get it filled in and sent to Debra, our Secretary, by March 5th. And please do your best to come to the AGM (Wednesday March 12th, 2.30, Emmanuel Church), not least to ensure that we're quorate. If you can't come, you can register your vote on the voting form. Better still, you could find a proxy to come along in your place: send in the form and they'll not only vote for you, but you'll be counted in the attendance figures. Just as we did last year, instead of the usual outside speaker presentation, we've invited Cu3a groups to showcase their activities. So, after the AGM, there'll be presentations from some of our groups, along with displays in the foyer.

Hope to see you on March 12th. I'll be the one NOT wearing a skort under my directional rainwear.

All the best  
Pam  
[chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

### Our Website

Check out our website at: [www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk](http://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk) for lots of information about Charnwood u3a: our meetings, trips, all our Groups and much more.

## Our Monthly Meetings

The monthly meetings of Charnwood u3a are on the **second Wednesday afternoon, 2.15 for 2.30 pm in Emmanuel Church**, Forest Road, Loughborough. The main car park for the church is accessed via Ingle Pingle, to the west of the church. Our monthly meetings are free to all, and we welcome prospective new members attending a meeting as a 'taster'. New members are invited to arrive at 2 pm to meet other members before the main meeting. If you think you'll need any assistance at the meeting, please contact our Chair in advance on [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

Last month, we were entertained and informed by the Workhouse Storytellers (*pictured right*), who brought the Victorian workhouse to life, using material from the archives and wearing period costumes.

If you missed this meeting, you can catch up with it for a few more days via the YouTube link sent by our Chair on 10th February.



## Our Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th March

### AGM plus Groups Showcase

You will already have received official **Notice of the 2025 Annual General meeting of Charnwood u3a**, along with the papers for the meeting. Please note the deadline of **March 5th** for return to the Secretary of completed Committee Nomination Forms, Voting Form (if you are unable to attend) and Proxy Form (if you are unable to attend and wish another member to attend and vote in your place).

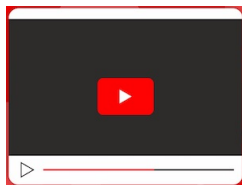
As well as the AGM itself, the meeting will include a few short presentations in the church and displays in the foyer, showcasing some of our groups' activities:

- Architecture Appreciation - Penny Bryce
- I.T. for everyone - Phil Bass
- Sustaining the Planet - Brian Waters
- Wine Appreciation - Mike Hood
- Display boards with information and photos of various groups' activities
- Display of the Painting Group's Spring Challenge artwork

We hope you'll come along and join us for what should be a very interesting afternoon.

### **To attend this meeting:**

If you wish to attend the meeting in person, no prebooking is required - just turn up on the day, with your Cu3a membership card, if you have one. **If you are a new member, or attending a monthly meeting for the first time, you are invited to arrive at 2 pm.** Otherwise, please aim to arrive about 2:15 for a prompt start at 2:30 pm.



If you are unable to attend in person and would like to follow the meeting online (via YouTube), again no prebooking is required. All members who have supplied an email address will be sent a link to the live stream a few days beforehand in a reminder email from the Chair.

### **Looking Ahead:**

Next month, on **9th April**, we welcome Peter Posner, Past World President of the YMCA, who will talk to us about the 180 year history and global spread of the YMCA. Then in **May**, local historian Brian Johnson will tell the stories of businesses with humble local origins which have since become household names, while our **June** meeting sees a talk by Adrian Allsopp on the Glenfield Secret Garden.

More information on upcoming meetings will appear in future issues of News & Views and also on the **Monthly Meetings** page under the 'Events' menu on our website <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk> (login needed to see details beyond title/speaker).

## Group News

### Current Affairs group discusses reform of the House of Lords

Reform of the House of Lords was the chosen topic for the February 2025 meeting of the Cu3a current affairs group. After some weighty topics in recent months (such as the US election) the group opted for what it hoped would offer some light relief. And so it did. There was plenty of laughter as we considered whether a second chamber was needed at all, and if so, what its role should be and how its members should be chosen.

Most members of the group felt that a second chamber could play a useful role, not in initiating legislation but as a revising chamber – similar to the role played at present by the House of Lords. No-one favoured retaining the name 'Lords' either for the chamber or for its members.

For a bit of fun, we decided to vote on various options. On the question of whether a second chamber was needed at all, the vote was 6 to 3 in favour of a second chamber. On whether members should be elected or appointed, 8 favoured appointment with one abstention. As for whether leaders of religious bodies should be included, the vote was one in favour, 7 against and one abstention.

The group also felt that the current House of Lords had far too many members: by a margin of 8 to 1 the group agreed that the number of members should not be greater than one-third of the membership of the House of Commons (meaning no more than 210 members.) Finally, it was unanimously agreed that the members should be subject to term limits.



*The Telegraph, 6 Aug 2020, Credit: Toby Melville/Reuters*

As for the profile of members, if they are appointed, it was felt that regional and demographic diversity was important, as well as experience in different walks of life. The mechanism by which they get appointed would be crucial. It was suggested that Parliament would need to establish a committee to begin the process, and potential members of that committee could be the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and the regional Mayors.

So, is a second chamber needed and how would it be constituted? What would the members be called if we dropped the title 'Lord' or 'Lady', and should religious bodies be represented? How many members do you think there should be, and how long should they be allowed to serve before making way for others? If you have opinions about these issues, let us know your thoughts, by emailing Chris and Sue at [CurrentAffairs@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:CurrentAffairs@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) and we'll report back in the next *News & Views* if there is sufficient interest.

## Outdoor Bowls



The Outdoor Bowls Group will start again on Thursday 17th April and run through the Summer months.

The Group will meet on a Thursday at 2 o'clock for a two hour session at the Brush Bowls Club green on Watermead Lane (off Nanpantan Road).

**New members will be very welcome** to come along and join us for a fun afternoon of gentle exercise with tuition and guidance provided. No previous experience is necessary and coaching will be available.

Please contact Dave Saunders on 07767 672341 or email [BowlsOutdoor@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:BowlsOutdoor@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) for further information.

If any u3a member has or knows of bowls that they no longer need and would like to lend or donate them to the Group, please let Dave know using the same contact details.

### Painting Group Spring Challenge

The Painting Group recently completed their Spring Challenge, a theme that proved very popular. Here are some examples of their beautiful work, celebrating the coming season.

These pictures, together with the rest of their colourful creations, will be on show at the AGM for us to enjoy.



## Out and About

### Days of Interest Group – Our Meal at Longcliffe Golf Club

Our first event of 2025 was our annual lunch at Longcliffe Golf Club.



Almost 50 of us gathered together to enjoy a meal and catch up with our Days of Interest companions we hadn't seen for a few months. As ever the food, service and company were excellent, and there were even sparkly lights on the ceiling. I am not sure many of us needed tea that afternoon.



Our March trip to Lincoln and our May trip to York are now full, but we do have places left on our April trip to Bletchley Park. The trip is now open to all Charnwood u3a members; see details below.

**Saturday 26th April – Bletchley Park - including entrance to Bletchley Park** - Price per person £41  
We leave Park Road Tesco at 09:00.

Bletchley Park was the principal centre of Allied code-breaking during the Second World War, where according to the official historian of British Intelligence, the "Ultra" intelligence produced at Bletchley shortened the war by two to four years, and without it the outcome of the war would have been uncertain. Now it's a museum dedicated to the code breakers and featuring interpretive exhibits and huts that have been rebuilt to appear as they did during their wartime operations. You may be able to test yourself to see if you could have been a code breaker. There is also a new exhibition for 2025: "The Age of AI" – which should give us all food for thought.

Please note Tesco allow us to park our cars for the duration of these trips without payment. For more information please contact Pauline May – details as below.

**If you are interested in coming along to Bletchley Park or joining the Days of Interest Group, for details please contact Pauline May:**  
by email at [DaysofInterest@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:DaysofInterest@charnwoodu3a.org.uk) or by telephone on 07455 167929

### University Libraries Open to Public

Universities in Leicestershire, in partnership with local councils, have launched a scheme to open their library doors to non-students for the first time.



Libraries at the University of Leicester, De Montfort University and Loughborough University will be available to anyone who lives, works or studies in Leicester, Leicestershire or Rutland.

People will be able to access library services seven days a week, borrow up to 10 books at a time from any of the university libraries and use open study spaces.

For more details, see:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp82pd6p2jno>

Thanks to Char March for alerting us to this news item.

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

At our recent EDI team meeting on 10 February, we concluded the annual review of our EDI Policy, and our recommendations for amendments will go forward to the Committee for approval.

If you have any comments or suggestions on EDI matters, or if you might be interested in joining the EDI team - who normally meet once every two months at Gorse Covert - please email [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)



Helen Reid

## March 2025 Calendar

| MON   | TUE   | WED   | THU   | FRI  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>3 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Yoga<br/>10.00 Craft+Self Help<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 1<br/>13.30 Canasta 2<br/>14.00 Chess<br/>14.00 Current Affairs</p>   | <p>4 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Pilates 2<br/>10.00 10+ Walks<br/>10.00 Spanish<br/>10.45 Fix I.T. Clinic<br/>10.45 Pilates 3<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 2<br/>12.00 Pilates 4<br/>14.00 Canasta 1<br/>14.00 Canasta1Quorn<br/>14.00 Sing4Pleasure<br/>15.30 Pickleball</p> | <p>5 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Drama<br/>10.00 German<br/>10.00 Golf<br/>10.00 JigsawBookEx<br/>10.00 Scottish Dance<br/>10.30 Papercraft<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 3<br/>14.00 Cribbage 2<br/>14.00 French Improve<br/>14.00 Reading Group<br/>14.00 Scrabble 2<br/>14.00 Sustain Planet</p> | <p>6 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Parish Walks<br/>10.00 Sci &amp; Tech<br/>10.00 Spanish Conv<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 4<br/>14.00 Bowls Indoor<br/>14.00 French Conv<br/>14.00 Line Dance 2<br/>19.00 Canasta 3</p> | <p>7 Mar</p> <p>09.00 Badminton<br/>10.00 German: RTC<br/>10.00 Line Dance<br/>10.00 Mah Jong<br/>10.00 Table Tennis 7<br/>10.30 Photography<br/>10.30 Tai Chi<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 5<br/>12.00 Lunch Club<br/>12.00 Table Tennis 6<br/>13.30 Pilates 1</p>    |
| <p>10 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Yoga<br/>10.00 Craft+Self Help<br/>10.00 Poetry 1<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 1<br/>14.00 Archaeology<br/>14.00 Digital Imaging<br/>14.00 Quiz group</p>              | <p>11 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Pilates 2<br/>10.00 Scrabble 3<br/>10.30 Fix I.T. Clinic<br/>10.45 Pilates 3<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 2<br/>12.00 Pilates 4<br/>14.00 Canasta 1<br/>14.00 Eng Parish Ch<br/>15.30 Pickleball</p>   | <p>12 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Committee<br/>10.00 Golf<br/>10.00 Mini Tennis<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 3<br/>14.30 Monthly Meet<br/>19.00 Canasta2Quorn</p>   | <p>13 Mar</p> <p>11.00 Table Tennis 4<br/>14.00 Bowls Indoor<br/>14.00 Line Dance 2</p>   | <p>14 Mar</p> <p>09.00 Badminton<br/>10.00 Line Dance<br/>10.00 Mah Jong<br/>10.00 Needlecraft 1<br/>10.00 Scrabble 1<br/>10.00 Table Tennis 7<br/>10.30 Tai Chi<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 5<br/>12.00 Table Tennis 6<br/>13.30 Pilates 1</p>                       |
| <p>17 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Yoga<br/>10.00 Craft+Self Help<br/>10.00 Enjoy I.T. talk<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 1<br/>13.30 Canasta 2<br/>14.00 Chess<br/>14.00 Gardening<br/>14.00 Painting</p> | <p>18 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Pilates 2<br/>10.00 6+ Walks<br/>10.00 Recorder<br/>10.30 Fix I.T. Clinic<br/>10.45 Pilates 3<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 2<br/>12.00 Pilates 4<br/>14.00 Canasta 1<br/>14.00 Sing4Pleasure<br/>15.30 Pickleball</p>                        | <p>19 Mar</p> <p>10.00 German<br/>10.00 Golf<br/>10.00 Mini Tennis<br/>10.00 Poetry 2<br/>10.00 Scottish Dance<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 3<br/>14.00 Cribbage 2<br/>14.00 Family History<br/>14.00 French Improve<br/>14.00 Italian Conv<br/>14.00 Scrabble 2</p>                    | <p>20 Mar</p> <p>09.45 CC Walks<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 4<br/>14.00 Bowls Indoor<br/>14.00 French Conv<br/>14.00 Line Dance 2<br/>14.15 Scrabble 4</p>   | <p>21 Mar</p> <p>09.00 Badminton<br/>10.00 German: RTC<br/>10.00 Line Dance<br/>10.00 Mah Jong<br/>10.00 Table Tennis 7<br/>10.30 Photography<br/>10.30 Tai Chi<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 5<br/>12.00 Table Tennis 6<br/>13.30 Pilates 1<br/>14.00 Art Apprec'n</p> |
| <p>24 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Craft+Self Help<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 1<br/>14.00 Local History</p>   | <p>25 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Pilates 2<br/>10.00 ETHEL<br/>10.00 Scrabble 3<br/>10.30 Fix I.T. Clinic<br/>10.45 Pilates 3<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 2<br/>12.00 Pilates 4<br/>14.00 Canasta 1<br/>14.00 Philosophy 1<br/>15.30 Pickleball</p>                          | <p>26 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Golf<br/>10.00 History<br/>10.00 Mini Tennis<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 3<br/>14.00 Classical Music<br/>14.00 Travel Group<br/>18.30 Supper Club</p>   | <p>27 Mar</p> <p>10.00 Philosophy 2<br/>10.00 Thurs 6 Milers<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 4<br/>14.00 Architecture<br/>14.00 Bowls Indoor<br/>14.00 Line Dance 2</p>  | <p>28 Mar</p> <p>09.00 Badminton<br/>10.00 Line Dance<br/>10.00 Mah Jong<br/>10.00 Scrabble 1<br/>10.00 Table Tennis 7<br/>10.30 Tai Chi<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 5<br/>12.00 Table Tennis 6<br/>13.30 Pilates 1<br/>19.30 Wine Apprec'n</p>                       |
| <p>31 Mar</p> <p>09.30 Yoga<br/>10.00 Craft+Self Help<br/>11.00 Table Tennis 1<br/>14.00 Chess</p>  |   |   |   |  |

**PLUS at Weekends:** Sunday Lunch Club (9th Mar); Days of Interest trip to Lincoln (15th Mar)

*Please note: Whilst every effort has been made to show the dates/times of meetings as accurately as possible, errors and changes may occur, so you should check with group leaders for confirmation.*

*Please send any amendments for future issues to: [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)*

## Robert's Recommended Reads

Cu3a member **Robert Jackson's** book recommendations for March are two of his all time favourites from the Booker Prize for Fiction 'library' of shortlisted novels: one won the prize in 2000 and the other perhaps should have won in 2021.

### **Great Circle** **by Maggie Shipstead** published in 2021

Each year, I look forward with great anticipation to acquiring and reading the latest six novels shortlisted for the annual Booker Prize for Fiction. I am then in a position to see whether I concur with the Booker judges' choice of winner. Rarely do I agree with the judges: 2021 was no exception!

In my opinion, American author Maggie Shipstead's inventive and hugely satisfying third novel should have won, rather than Damon Galgut's *The Promise*.

*Great Circle* is the fictional story of Marian Graves, who is obsessed with flight and the desire to become a pilot. From a somewhat 'wild child' growing up in prohibition America, Marian becomes a forthright, determined and independent spirit, hurdling the many barriers to achieving her goals.

Having qualified as a pilot and gained experience flying all manner of aircraft, Marian begins to plan and put into place her greatest ambition: to circumnavigate the globe from pole to pole. On the verge of achieving this daunting and perilous undertaking, Marian crash lands and is lost in a desolate, icy wilderness.

Over half a century later, movie star Hadley Baxter is drawn inexorably to portray Marian Graves on screen. It is a role which will lead Hadley to a startling discovery.

*Great Circle* delivers truly exceptional storytelling, full of adventure, passion and tragedy. Shipstead's beautiful phrasing and descriptive prowess combine with her powerful and memorable characters in this glorious novel. And what an ending!



*Maggie Shipstead  
pictured in The Guardian,  
3 June 2022  
Photo: Matt Crossick/  
Empics Entertainment*

### **The Blind Assassin** **by Margaret Atwood** published in and winner of the Booker Prize for Fiction, 2000

Canadian Margaret Atwood is one of only two authors, along with Iris Murdoch, to be shortlisted no less than six times for the Booker Prize for Fiction. Atwood is also one of four writers to win the coveted prize on two occasions. The other three 'double winners' being Australian Peter Carey, South African J. M. Coetzee and the brilliant, sadly missed Hilary Mantel.

In my opinion, *The Blind Assassin* is Atwood's finest novel. This complex, multi level narrative with flowing prose and gripping plot development also has one of the most memorable opening sentences in the Booker library:

*"Ten days after the war ended, my sister Laura drove a car off a bridge".*

Iris Chase, Laura's older sister, formerly a wealthy socialite, is now aged eighty two, poor and living in the town where her family were once prosperous manufacturers. Iris, reflecting on the life of her sister, gradually reveals the details of Laura's affair, in the 1930s, with a man on the run. During their secret meetings, Laura and her lover invent a science fiction story, set on the fictional planet Zycron.

Atwood's intriguing and skillful rotation between the fictional events in Laura's story and those of the sisters' real life between the wars, is done with precision and momentum. The narrative twists through love, betrayal and sacrifice, with Atwood's trademark blend of rich, sensitive prose and peerless character development.

*The Blind Assassin* is a thought provoking, hugely enjoyable book from one of the true giants of contemporary literature.

*Margaret Atwood  
pictured in  
The Independent,  
18 July 2017 (Reuters)*



*Above reviews written by Robert Jackson.  
Next month: David Lodge and Colm Toibin.*

### *Your Heritage, Your Voice!*

#### What does Heritage in Loughborough mean to you?

Pegah, a PhD student in The Impact Hub (Healthy and Innovative Loughborough) is conducting a **heritage survey**, and is looking for Loughborough residents (aged 18+) who currently live or have previously lived in the town (excluding the University campus) to take part in this quick survey (which should take no more than 20 minutes) to share what Loughborough's heritage means to them.

Your insights will help map Loughborough's heritage and provide valuable input for discussions on the town's future planning, ensuring that community voices are central to how we preserve and celebrate our town.

To thank you for your participation, you'll be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win one of six £10 Love2Shop vouchers.

**To access the survey, see panel below.** For any queries, or if you'd like a paper questionnaire posted to your mailbox or dropped off at your preferred local community centre, please contact [p.aftabi@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:p.aftabi@lboro.ac.uk)



LEON ID: 21255

Scan this QR code to access the survey or send an email to [p.aftabi@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:p.aftabi@lboro.ac.uk) to receive the online survey directly.

### *Retirees' Eating Habits*

We have recently been contacted by Alicia Oldfield, a final year Psychology student in the School of Sport, Exercise & Health Sciences at Loughborough University, for our help with her final year project. She is asking for people to fill out her online survey on support for retirees' eating habits.

The purpose of the study is to gain information relating to eating and food choices around the transition to retirement, with the aim of understanding more about eating behaviours and available support during this time of change.

Alicia is looking for anyone who has **retired in the last ten years**, and would really appreciate your help to complete her short anonymous online survey which should take no longer than 15 minutes and will help you to learn more about your eating habits.

The survey - with full explanatory information - can be accessed at: [https://loughboroughssehs.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1YcD3KZtuN1Wtg2](https://loughboroughssehs.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1YcD3KZtuN1Wtg2)

If you have any questions about this study, please email [a.i.oldfield-21@student.lboro.ac.uk](mailto:a.i.oldfield-21@student.lboro.ac.uk)

### *How do you interact with digital technology?*

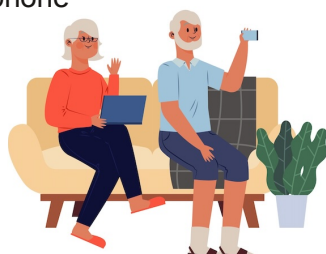
As featured in last month's *News & Views*, **Jikun Yin** (pictured right), a PhD student in Loughborough University's Design School, is still looking for a few more participants to help with her research into **how older adults use and experience digital technologies**.

#### Regardless of skill level!

Anyone aged 65+ who goes online with a computer, tablet or smartphone

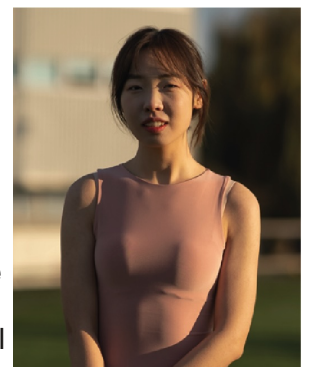
#### One Hour Study

- Interact with Screens
- Fill in a Questionnaire
- Attend a short Interview



#### Join the research:

Jikun is at **John Storer House every morning**. You can meet her there, at the Design School or any other convenient location. To book a meeting, contact Jikun via:  
Email: [J.Yin@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:J.Yin@lboro.ac.uk)  
Phone: 07840302911



or scan the QR code:

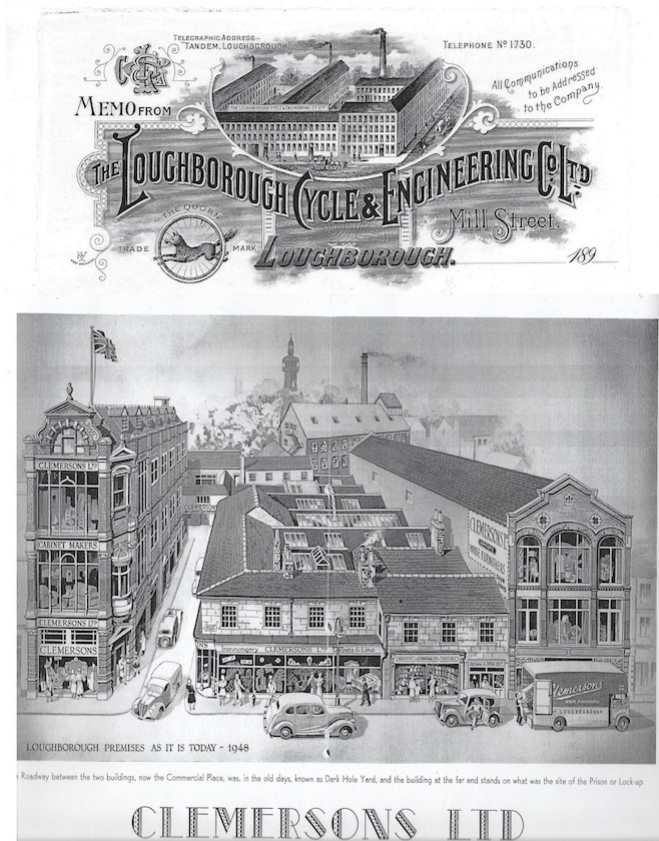


## Upcoming Local Events

### Lost Shops and Businesses of Loughborough

An Exhibition By

Loughborough Library Local Studies Volunteer Group



**Free Admission During Library Opening Hours**

**From 10th February to 29th April 2025**

### Charnwood Orchestra

**Saturday 22nd March at 7:30 pm  
Emmanuel Church, Loughborough**

A reminder of Charnwood Orchestra's next concert, 'Romantic Carnival', when pianist Robert Markham will perform the Rachmaninov Rhapsody on a theme by Paganini. The orchestra will also perform Dvorak's Carnival Overture and Brahms' symphony No.4. (See last month's News & Views for details).

Tickets may be reserved in advance from [tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk](mailto:tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk) or from their website at: <https://www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk>

£16 Adult, £14 Concessions, £5 Students/U18s.

### Woodhouse Eaves: Minor Myths and Mysteries

**A talk by Evelyn Brown  
Saturday, 8th March, 2 pm at  
St Pauls Church, Woodhouse Eaves**

Pubs that disappeared, strange road names, cottages not what we thought they were, a Woodhouse Eaves workhouse and (if time) a ghostly appearance. These are the myths and mysteries to be investigated in this talk.

St Paul's Church Heritage booklets will be available and there will be tea, coffee and cakes to follow!

Doors open at 1.30pm. Free entry from 1.30 pm with the talk at 2.00 pm. All welcome.

### Friends of Charnwood Museum Loughborough Workhouse

**A talk by Anne Speight (a Cu3a member)  
Thursday 20th March, 7:30 - 9:30 pm**

There is an enormous amount of written material about Loughborough Workhouse at the County Record Office. It's an eye opener to a different life with an extraordinary amount of detail recorded. Somewhat unusually on the 1881 census inmates are given their full names. Using various research tools it's possible to discover where they came from and what happened to them.

Members £3 and guests £5 - all welcome. Booking essential: Please visit the museum or call 01509 233754

### Lunchtime Concert at Emmanuel Church

**Thursday 20th March, 12:45 - 1:30 pm**

**A concert by musicians from Loughborough Schools Foundation**

Talented musicians from Loughborough Schools Foundation return with a programme of solos, duos and chamber music.

The concert starts at 12.45 pm but a Soup and Roll lunch will be served from 12.00.

**This is a free event, but donations are most welcome to cover expenses.**

<https://www.facebook.com/emmanuelconcerts>

## ***Gypsy Jazz by the Tim Kliphuis Trio***

**Saturday, 22nd March, 7 pm, Quorn Village Hall**

Experience the mesmerising talent of Dutch violinist Tim Kliphuis, hailed as “the successor to Stéphane Grappelli,” as he breathes new life into classical, gypsy jazz, and folk music.

Cabaret-style seating. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. There is further information on the Live & Local website:

<https://www.liveandlocal.org.uk/event/?id=8966&title=tim-kliphuis-trio>

Tickets £12.50. To book, please call 01509 458280, email [adminassistant@quorndon.org](mailto:adminassistant@quorndon.org), or enquire at Quorn Old School Tearooms.

## ***Nanpantan History***

A small, free exhibition about the History of Nanpantan is open to the public on **Monday 24th March, 5.30-7.30 pm, at Nanpantan Hall.**

Car Parking available.

Supported by Dr Pamela Fisher, a small group of volunteers have brought this to fruition.

It's an opportunity to learn about the old farms, the Charnwood Canal, the Temperance Hotel and more recent developments.



### **Charnwood Admiral Nurse Clinic**

Gorse Covert  
Community Centre  
Maxwell Drive  
Loughborough  
LE11 4RZ

**Life-changing  
advice and support  
for families affected  
by dementia**

If you care for someone with dementia, you can refer yourself to the clinic.

Call: **01509 271019**

Email: [CharnwoodClinic@dementiauk.org](mailto:CharnwoodClinic@dementiauk.org)

Visit: [dementiauk.org/charnwood](https://dementiauk.org/charnwood)

Opening hours: **first and third Friday of every month, 10am-4pm**

You can also contact the national Admiral Nurse Dementia Helpline for support with any aspect of dementia: **0800 888 6678** or [helpline@dementiauk.org](mailto:helpline@dementiauk.org)



**Stuart Kennedy,**  
Admiral Nurse

## News from the National u3a



### Trustee Board and Council Election Results

Results of the elections to the Board of Trustees and the newly-created Council were recently announced. The newly elected Trustees who will join Allan Walmsley and Derek Harwood on the Board from April are:

**John Bent**

Barnet u3a

**Pauline Green**

Stansted Mountfitchet u3a

**Alan Russell**

Worcester u3a

**Laurence Wale**

Worcester u3a

Together, they will oversee governance of the Trust and work with the new Council to ensure members' voices are at the heart of all that the u3a does.

For the new Council representatives, there were elections in three regions, but in the others - including ours, the East Midlands - the number of candidates who applied did not exceed the number of available vacancies, so no elections were held. **Barry Appleby of Derby u3a and Burton-on-Trent u3a** was elected unopposed to represent the East Midlands on the Council. The u3a Council will meet for the first time in April and will act as a conduit between u3a members and the Trust.

For more details, see <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/board-trustee-council-rep-elections>

### Free On-Line Events this Month include:

- **Apps to help seniors being out and about: A travel focus journey** with AbilityNet, Tue 4 Mar, at 2 pm
- **Exploring World Faiths: Faith and Water**, Mon 10 Mar at 10 am
- **Dorothy Levitt: The Fast Lady** - Edwardian lady driver who broke world speed record, Tue 11 Mar, 2 pm
- **The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare** - Overview of developments, Wed 12 Mar at 10 am
- **Sustainable Travel in Europe** with Margit Physant, Wed 12 Mar at 7 pm
- **Making your smartphone or tablet easier to use as you get older** with AbilityNet, Tue 18 Mar at 2 pm
- **Recording and Editing a Video on your Smartphone** with John Butler, Wed 19 Mar at 1 pm
- **How Many Letters in the Alphabet?** - writing systems of the world, Mon 24 Mar at 2 pm
- **Lung Disease in advancing age: identifying new treatments** with Professor Andrew Fisher and Dr Lee Borthwick, Tue 25 Mar at 11 am
- **A Glimpse of Anglo-India** with Former BBC Radio broadcaster Clare Jenkins, Wed 26 Mar at 10 am

For details of these and other upcoming free on-line events offered by the National u3a, including how to book, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

### More from the National u3a:

Register to receive the National u3a 'Friends' newsletter regularly at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>. This will also give you access to the Friends Extra website, with a range of discounts, offers and services. In addition to the u3a Friends newsletter, you can access the latest u3a news by going to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news>

You can find more learning initiatives covering a wide range of interests from challenges and projects to competitions at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/learning-activities>

The u3a learning blog **Sources**, containing posts by u3a members covering a wide range of topics, can be found at: <https://sources.u3a.org.uk>

## Items for News & Views

Do you have an announcement, story, poem - or even a short comment - to share with your fellow Cu3a members? All contributions are very welcome, and we can preserve your anonymity if you prefer that your name does not appear in the newsletter.

There is a limit of around 500 words per item, and photos are very welcome - but please ensure you have permission of anyone identifiable in the photos.

To enable the newsletter to be compiled in time for delivery to members at the start of each month, the deadline for receiving items will normally be the last day but one of the previous month. The deadline for the **April** issue of **News & Views** will be **Sunday 30th March (12 noon)**.



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: [newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)  
I always acknowledge all emails received, so if you don't get a reply within a few days, please contact me again as some emails do go astray!

Please make sure you include your contact details with your item, and try not to leave it until the last minute if at all possible.

The Editor reserves full editorial rights as to length and suitability and the Editor's decision is final.

*News & Views* is sent to all Charnwood u3a members by email link (or, for those without email, by post) before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood u3a website each month at <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk> under the News menu.

Thank You!

Helen Reid  
Newsletter Editor  
Charnwood u3a



## Committee, Support Teams and Group Leaders' Details

Names, photos and email links for all the current Committee members can be found on our website under Home -> Our Committee, along with details of our Support Teams. In the case of our Membership Secretary and Web Manager, phone numbers are also given, as are those of our IT Help Desk Team.

The names and generic email addresses of Group Leaders for each group can be found on that group's dedicated website page, accessed via the Groups Lists.



*Note: Where personal contact details appear in News & Views, these are included with permission.*

## Committee Meetings

Don't forget that members are always welcome to attend any of our Committee meetings on the **second Wednesday of the month** (10 am - noon) in John Storer House, by prior arrangement, as observers. If you would like to attend one of these meetings and see what we do, please contact our Chair on [chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk)

## Some other useful u3a web addresses:

National u3a: <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

The Association of East Midlands u3as: <https://www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk>

