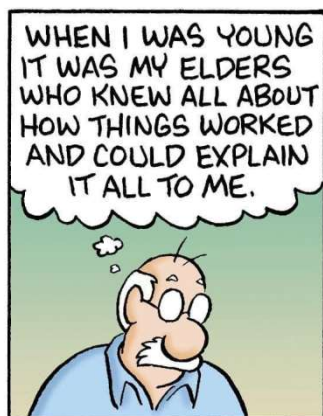


Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

[newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org)



**Deadline for May 2023 newsletter - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April**



## SOCIAL TRIPS - SOUTHWELL & NEWARK

Our next social trip is planned to visit Southwell and Newark on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May. The price for this trip is £15 pp. You will have free time in Southwell before moving on to Newark.

There is plenty to do for all on this trip; be it visiting Southwell Minster, museums, castles, gardens, sightseeing or shopping. Please reserve your seat asap as I am expecting interest to be high.

There are a couple of places left on the bus for the April 20<sup>th</sup> trip to Liverpool. Contact me if you're interested.

Sandra Burns 07930 752 808

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Membership subscription renewals are now due.

Renewal forms are available on the website

[www.eastwoodu3a.org/forms](http://www.eastwoodu3a.org/forms)

**Whichever method you use to pay your subscription you MUST fill in a renewal form.**

If there are no changes to your details, fill in your name, membership number and date and sign the top section of the form. You must then complete the Privacy Statement to confirm your consent to the storage and use of your data.

The current subscription is £20 for the year, £17 for Associate Members.

## WAYS TO PAY

If possible please pay your subscription by Bank transfer - a one off - bank payment. You must also complete a renewal form and email the treasurer to confirm payment.

Name of payee: Eastwood & District u3a

Sort code: 60-07-28

Account no: 456 35 714

Reference: Your name & membership no (this is essential for the treasurer to pick out who has paid)

Amount: £20

**You can pay by Bank transfer through your local post office if you don't bank online.**

If you want to pay by cash or cheque please contact Barry Doran [membership@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:membership@eastwoodu3a.org)

tel: 07565 928 992

## JOINT GIFT AID

If you have signed a gift aid form for yourself and others in your household, the person who completed the gift aid form must pay the full joint amount and sign the renewal form.

## MONTHLY MEETING

**April 5<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Reverend Barbara Holbrook  
talking about Guide Dog  
Puppies

## VOLUNTEERS

**Setting Up:** Rob Leam, Ernie Thornhill

**Refreshments:** Linda Lambert, Christine Reynolds, Janice Matthews, Georgia Hanson.

**Signing In:** Sue Parkin, Barbara Ingall

**Meet and Greet:** Barbara Moir, Pauline Daws.

Many thanks to our volunteers. It would be really helpful if you could arrive between 9.00 and 9.15 am.

Doris Fellows, Volunteer Coordinator

## RESERVED SEATS AT THE MONTHLY MEETING

At the monthly meetings, there will be reserved signs on some of the front seats, so that it will be easier for any who are especially hard of hearing, or have eyesight issues, to enjoy the speaker. Please feel free to sit on one of these seats if it would be of benefit to you.

Janet Lander

**NOTIFICATION OF EASTWOOD & DISTRICT U3A AGM**

The 9th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood & District U3A will be held on the 7th June 2023. Please consider whether you are able to put your name forward to be on the committee. Descriptions of all committee roles can be found on the website

<http://eastwoodu3a.org/committee/descriptions-of-committee-roles/>

If you want more information, please talk to any member of the committee.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

The following members are willing to be nominated for the coming year:

Barry Doran,	Chairman/Membership Secretary
Marianne Sparrow,	Vice Chairman/Groups Coordinator
Janet Lander,	Business Secretary
Keith Sherwood,	Treasurer

Anne Steel,  
Doris Fellowes,  
Madeleine Fletcher

The following non-officer posts will be vacant: Welfare Coordinator, Publicity & Recruitment Coordinator, Speaker Finder\*, Newsletter Editor\*, Webmaster\*

\* can be non-committee roles.

We now need nominations for these members and others. Nomination forms will be displayed in the Church at the Monthly Meeting.

Where 2 or more members are nominated for the same officer position a ballot will be held.

**WALKS, 5 MILES**

Newstead Abbey, March 2023

Roger Reynolds

**I've just invented a  
telepathically controlled air  
freshener**

**Makes scents when you  
think about it.**

**Research has shown that  
laughing for 2 minutes is just as  
healthy as a 20 minute jog.**

**So now I'm sitting in the park,  
laughing at all the joggers.**

**GROUPS COORDINATORS**

Anne's Groups	Madeleine's Groups	Marianne's Groups
1.All things environment 2.Board Games 3.Bridge 4.Coffee Mates 5.Creative Crafts 6.History of England 7.Pub Pals 8.National Trust 9.Radio Waves 10.Strollers 11.General Gardening (out of season) 12.War Babies and Boomers	1.Art Appreciation 2.Bowls (no longer meeting) 3.Church History 4.Coffee and Co 5.Creative Writing 6.Family History 7.French Conversation 8.Local History (no longer meeting) 9.Poetry (no longer meeting) 10.Psychology 11.Rediscovering Nottingham (maybe starting in the Spring/Summer) 13. Spanish	1. Bird watching 2. Book group/s 3. Canasta 4. Gogglebox 5. Petanque 6. Photography 7. Theatre 8. 5ml Walks 9. Wine Appreciation 10. Geology - not running now 11. Skittles (suspended) 12. Social Trips 13. Ukulele (suspended) 14. Whist





**GROUP INFORMATION**

If you have ideas for new groups or need further information contact:

[groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:groups.coordinator@eastwoodu3a.org)

**Art Appreciation:** meet in Brinsley Parish Hall, 3rd Monday @ 10:30 am. Contact Helen 01773 710 743

**Bird Watching & Wildlife:** meet 3rd Thursday @ 10.30 am. Contact Paul 07986 037 871

**Book Groups (1/2):** meet in Eastwood Library, 1st Monday/1st Saturday respectively @ 11.00 am. Contact Sue 01773 717 676 or Pauline 01773 788 366

**Bridge:** meet upstairs at the Horse & Groom on agreed Mondays @ 2.00 pm. **New members welcome!** Contact Maureen 07968 121 246

**Canasta:** meet in the Hayloft, 2nd Thursday @ 11.00 am. Contact Nina 01773 717 770

**Church History:** meet in Rumbletums on the 2nd Friday 1.00 pm. Contact Marianne 01159 134 077

**Coffee & Co:** meet in various venues on the 4th Wednesday @ 11.00 am. Contact Barbara 01159 468 721

**Coffee Mates:** members have a choice of dates each month. Contact Andrea 07927 660 408

**Creative Crafts:** meet in Rumbletums 2nd Wednesday 1-2.30 pm and 3rd Thursday 10.00 – 12.00 noon. **New Members welcome!** Contact Jackie 07580 340 014

**Creative Writing: New members welcome!** Contact Chris 07891 032 300

**Family History:** meet in the Hayloft on the 4th Monday, 11.00 – 12.30 pm. Contact Diana 01159 169 343

**French Conversation:** meet in The Hayloft on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10.00 am. **New members welcome!** Contact Pauline 01773 788 366

**Gogglebox:** meet in the Hayloft on the 3rd Tuesday, 11.00 – 12.30 pm. **New members welcome!** Contact Janet 07889 976 342

**History of England:** meet in Julie's Tea Rooms, Mansfield Road, Eastwood, 1st Thursday @ 10.00 am. Contact Janet 01773 770 183

**National Trust:** meet in the Dog & Parrot on the 1st Monday each month @ 10.00 am. Contact Yvonne 01773 712 530

**Pétanque:** meet at The Foresters, Newthorpe on the 2nd Thursday and 3rd Wednesday. Contact Colin 01773 715 493

**Photography:** meet in Brinsley Parish Hall on 3rd Tuesday @ 10.00 am. New members, beginners and enthusiasts all welcome. Contact Barbara 01773 786 004 or 07977 109 451

**Psychology:** meet in Rumbletums on the 4th Wednesday, 1.00 – 3.00 pm. Contact Jim 07977 415 072 or Diana 01159 169 343

**Pub Pals:** Contact Janet 07961 832 864 or Rob 07845 177 500

**Social Trips:** Day trips out to various locations. Contact Sandra tel. 07930 752 808

**Spanish:** meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday 11.00 - 12.30 pm @ Julie's Tea Rooms. **New members welcome!** Contact Paul 01159 133 449

**Theatre Group:** meet in Dora Phillips Hall, Eastwood on 2nd Tuesday 1.00 – 3.00 pm. Contact Marianne 01773 717 500

**GROUP INFORMATION**

**Walks, 5 miles:** meet on Tuesday 4th April at 10.00 am, Shipley Country Park, car park - near the visitor centre. Contact Roger 01773 788169

**War Babies & Boomers:** Contact Ann

[warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org)

**Whist:** This new group is meeting at The Hayloft, Giltbrook on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 2.00 pm. Contact Glenis. 01773 715 040

**Wine Appreciation:** meet in the Sun Inn on the 1st Monday @ 7.00 pm. Contact Tom 01773 762 333

**ART APPRECIATION**

For our February meeting we visited the Djanogly Art Gallery at the University of Nottingham to look at an exhibition of sculptures by Sophie Ryder. The sculptures consisted of large craggy bronze figures, mostly of recurring hybrid figures - the Minotaur, or the lady hare and the wild boar; all in various poses and embraces. In addition there were drawings and prints to admire; very often of Sophie Ryder's sleek greyhound dogs - clearly a favourite subject. There was also an intricate twisted wire sculpture. Finally in a room to itself we encountered an impressive installation - Temple to the 200 Rabbits - a thought provoking piece.

Before going in we watched a useful video, showing the sculptures in their open air setting. One had to admire the sheer logistics of mounting this exhibition, but one well worth doing.

Coffee in the Gallery Café completed the day.

*David Hale*

**GOGGLEBOX**

At our February meeting, we discussed The Light in the Hall and 24 Hours in A&E – set in the QMC. Most of us enjoyed The Light in the Hall, although it did seem a little drawn out, and we agreed that the actions of the main character were plausible as she was so traumatised by the loss of her daughter and the lack of any answers. Some of us did not watch 24 Hours in A&E, fearing it might be too gory, but we noted that a significant number of cases that reached A&E would have been better treated through a GP and specialist route, if they were available within a reasonable timeframe. In March, we will discuss Sort it Out with Stacey Solomon (BBC1) and The Piano (Channel 4).

*Janet Lander*

**PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

The newly re-established Photography Group is thriving, with monthly meetings every 3rd Tuesday at Brinsley Parish Hall, 10.00 am.

At the last meeting over 20 members provided photographs (up to 3) taken to be shown on the screen. The last 30 minutes was enjoyed by members having tea/coffee and a good old natter.

In addition to the monthly meetings, outings are being arranged for members to go out together with their cameras.

For details about joining the group contact:

*Barbara Sherwood 07977 109 451 or 01773 786 004*

**PSYCHOLOGY GROUP - CHANGE OF VENUE**

The Psychology group now meet on the 4th Wednesday, 1.00 – 3.00 pm at **Rumbletums, Kimberley**.

### CREATIVE WRITING

Last autumn the Creative Writing group were given a picture of a man and woman.

My couple were smiling into the camera and looked to be middle aged.

We were asked to write a story to include these people, I named them Celia and Ray.

#### Picture this!

At the spring committee meeting of the local u3a much of the time was spent discussing the problem of the dwindling membership numbers. The younger most recent members suggested the u3a should trial 'speed dating sessions' and in desperation a vote was held and at a close 6 to 4 in favour, the motion was passed. Those against this proposal hung their heads and muttered 'what is the world coming to?'

As advised by the younger committee members, the news of this new interest group was put on Facebook, resulting in the immediate positive response of 22 new members (20 of them were men). Once the logistics were sorted out it got off to a good start, with a room in the local pub providing a suitable venue. At first the atmosphere was a little tense with conversations whispered but this soon gave way to raised voices as many admitted they were a little deaf. From then on the questions sounded somewhat repetitive, as in 'can you hear me now?' Everyone was made aware that the rules stated that subjects like age and sex were banned and this seemed to present a bit of a stumbling block but soon naughty jokes could be heard which very often contained both these forbidden words.

The room at the back of the pub soon proved inadequate and the local sports centre was hired to cope with popular demand. The treasurer agreed to the purchase of a 'proper school bell' which was loud enough for the hard of hearing participants to know when the 5 minute rule on table swapping had to take place.

Our photograph shows us Celia and Ray who met at our first speed dating session and in spite of Celia's C&A Fair Isle tank top, Ray finds that this is love at first sight for him and Celia looks happy to share their good news whilst sitting on Ray's bicycle cross bar. So a successful outcome for Celia and Ray.

It was a surprise to the committee to learn that the local economy enjoyed the benefit of the success of this new u3a group. Sales of perfume, after shave and cosmetics soared and fashion outlets for both men and women's clothes enjoyed record sales. Hairdressers and barbers had to open late in order to cope. Over the summer the u3a found they had to appoint special welfare stewards to cope with the emotional fallout and even employed a bouncer to break up a couple of fights. Counselling was offered to those who found the dating game too stressful and 'not like it was in my day!'

Sadly this group had to be closed when due to winter approaching and Coronation Street storyline improving the numbers diminished once more. But it was fun while it lasted and good luck to Celia and Ray who have now decided to remain good friends. Ray realised that Celia's spare room was far too small for his train set and Celia couldn't give up her daily fix of the Archers.

Everyone enjoyed participating so much we already have a waiting list for next spring when the new sessions begin.

*Madeleine Fletcher*

#### DIRECTORY ERROR

The details for Church History are incorrect in the Directory. This group meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Friday**, 1.00 pm at Rumbletums, Kimberley.

#### WANTED

We are looking for volunteer(s) to help to prepare the newsletter each month. If you are interested, please let us know. Training in how to put the elements together provided if necessary.

We are also looking for someone who usually uses Zoom to attend the monthly meetings and who would be willing to act as a Zoom Controller, admitting those who are using the link. Again, training provided if necessary.

#### NEWSLETTER POSTAL CHARGE

Members who are not on the internet and would like the newsletter posted to them can do this by paying £10 with their annual subscription. This is less than the true cost but it reflects a commitment to receiving it.

#### MONTHLY MEETING TEA/COFFEE

The issue has been raised as to how the serving of tea coffee can be made more eco friendly than the present system of disposable cups. Alternatives have been suggested including using more eco friendly cups or purchasing china/pot cups and washing these after the meeting.

The first point to make is that using the present supply of cups is the most eco friendly course of action as these have already been purchased. The supply will probably last the rest of the year.

One issue with exclusively using pot cups is that this will create more work for the volunteers. I don't know many people who like washing up.

With regards to using pot cups some members already bring their own cups and take them home to wash. This is something other members may wish to consider

Any comments on the way ahead will be welcomed by the committee.

*Keith Sherwood*

#### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's newsletter. Please send your contributions for next month to:

**[newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org)**