

Items for the newsletter should be emailed to  
[newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org)

**Deadline for June 2023 newsletter - Monday 15th May**

## MONTHLY MEETING

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023**

The speaker for the May meeting is Stephen Flinders. Stephen will be talking about the history of Stanton Iron Works.

*Linda Rothwell  
Speaker Finder*

## VOLUNTEERS

**Setting Up:** Keith Rowley, Rob Leam

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

**Signing In:** Tricia Dilley, Celia Dorkes.

**Meet and Greet:** Wendy Rowley Val Kennerell.

*Doris Fellows  
Volunteer Coordinator*

## 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.



## CREATIVE CRAFTS

Post Box Toppers at Newdigate Rd, Watnall and Valley Drive, Newthorpe

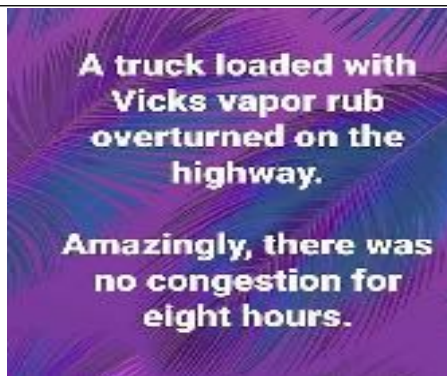
Thanks to Janet Fergusson & Mary Brown who sewed the chickens and rabbits onto the toppers.

## U3A PROJECTOR AVAILABLE

We have purchased a new projector, partly funded by the Photography group, for use at our sessions. This is a great new resource for us. If you are interested in using it at one of your U3A groups, then please contact Keith Sherwood.

## RESERVED SEATS AT THE MONTHLY MEETING

The reserved seats on the front row at the meeting are for members who are hard of hearing or have eyesight issues to enable them to enjoy the speaker. Please feel free to occupy one of the reserved seats if you would find it a benefit to you.



**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.

**THE NATIONAL TRUST**

The National Trust Group had their first outing of the year in March. This was a coach trip to Belton House in Lincolnshire.

Weather was mainly dry with a few rain showers but this didn't dampen spirits.

Belton House is currently undergoing restoration so only part of this was open, but the group were able to have a guided tour in two groups around the house.

The second outing in April was to Nostell Priory in Yorkshire. The weather was good with lovely sunshine, enabling us to enjoy the beautiful parkland and gardens before visiting the house. This included decorative interiors by Robert Adam, the world class collection of Chippendale furniture and the globally-renowned Dolls House.

Another successful and very enjoyable trip, many thanks to Yvonne for her 1<sup>st</sup> class organisation.

Barbara Sherwood



Coming soon to a street near you!

**Street golf**



**WANTED**

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

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

**"Not saying it's been windy out but my wheelie bin is booked on a speed awareness course next Tuesday"**

**GROUP COORDINATORS**

Anne's Groups	Madeleine's Groups	Marianne's Groups
1.Board Games	1.Art Appreciation	1. Bird watching
2.Bridge	2.Cafe Culture	2. Book group
3.Coffee Mates	3.Church History	3. Canasta
4.CreativeCrafts	4.Coffee and Co	4. Gogglebox
5.History of England	5.Creative Writing	5. Petanque
6.Pub Pals	6.Family History	6. Photography
7.National Trust	7.French Conversation	7. Social Trips
8.Strollers	8.Psychology	8. Theatre
9.General Gardening	9.RadioWaves	9. 5ml Walks
10. War Babies and Boomers	10.Spanish	10. Wine Appreciation
		11. Whist

"A flower blossoms for its own joy" – Oscar Wilde

"When spring came, even the false spring, there were no problems except where to be happiest" – Ernest Hemingway

"Some old-fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat" – Laura Ingalls Wilder

**BIRD WATCHING & WILDLIFE**

Our visit to Attenborough Nature Reserve on 16th March was forecast to be overcast with rain later, this proved to be incorrect as we had some sunshine and dry all morning. 19 of our group of bird watchers gathered in the car park. Setting off into the reserve we observed a Cormorant diving for breakfast, breaking the surface with fish in beak. Down he went again returning this time with a frog. Down he went again returning with yet another fish. Walking along we saw our regular ducks and geese and then heard a Chiff Chaff. This was either an early migrant bird returning or a bird that has stayed overwinter, which is beginning to happen more regularly due to global warming. Turning off the main footpath, venturing between the lakes it became a little muddy. We continued observing birds that some of the group members had not seen before or not been able to identify as we continued notching up the different species, heading back to the car park and lunch. The drinks and lunch were very pleasant as we all caught up with the morning events. In total we saw 32 different species at Attenborough which in the three outings this year we have seen a total of 45 bird species. The top two birds seen at Attenborough would probably be the Smew and Reed bunting. A great morning was had by all.

Paul and Chrys Millington

**DISCO**

The first social event since lockdown took place in March; this was a disco at Greasley Miners Welfare which was attended by over 60 members. The music was enjoyed by everyone either on the dance floor or in their seats. The DJ played all requests for songs from the 60's onwards. There was also a raffle draw with many lovely prizes. A fabulous time was had by all, with many requesting another one.

Barbara Sherwood



I feel I must say a big thank you to Janet and Andrea for organising the disco we had recently. It was a lovely, carefree, "let your hair down" night. Everyone I have spoken to enjoyed it. The disco was excellent. The DJ played music from the 50s – 80s and asked everyone to request their favourites. My sister Jean and I can't wait until the next one. Thank you again, Janet and Andrea.

Pauline Rollinson

**GOGGLEBOX**

We met on Tuesday and discussed Sort your life out with Stacey Solomon and The Piano. The group agreed that sorting out clutter was a good idea and had clearly proved beneficial to the families involved, who had allowed their possessions to take over their homes. The general opinion was that Stacey Solomon is an engaging presenter, but some found the constant hugging very annoying. Members shared how they had been tidying up recently, but we all drew the line at labelling! The Piano was a little more divisive, although everyone agreed that it was wonderful to listen to the music, and that it celebrated piano playing really well. The musicians were brilliant and playing at railway stations is a wonderful opportunity for performer and casual audiences alike. The judges were not liked and proved annoying, despite their fame in the music world, and the sad back stories of the performers were sometimes overdone. The eventual winner was outstanding and an inspiration to us all. The next programmes that we will discuss will be Great Expectations BBC1 and Radioactive on BBC2, a biographical film about Pierre and Marie Curie

Janet Lander

**PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

The Photography Group continues to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Brinsley Parish Hall 10.00 a.m.

With 20+ members attending and providing photographs to be shown at the meetings.

We are moving into the main room which is providing more comfort for members with tables, chairs and refreshments from the serving hatch to enjoy while viewing pictures on the screen.

We had our first outdoor shoot at Newstead Abbey in March. The weather forecast was terrible; however some members were happy to overlook this and were rewarded with some sunshine, with rain holding off until lunchtime.

Barbara Sherwood



**DOWNTON TABBY**

**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 Aldercar Flashes, Brinsley

NB. 15/06/23 Now meeting Codnor Reservoir car park NOT Jacksdale Community car park Contact Paul 07986 037 871

**Board Games** Upstairs Kimberley Library 2 p.m . 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday Contact: Pauline Dawkins 01159 383 530

**Book Group** Meet in Eastwood Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday/1<sup>st</sup> 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

**Café Culture** Meet in various venues on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @10.30 a.m. Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

**Canasta:** meet in the **Hayloft**, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday @ 11.00 – 13.00 pm. Contact Nina 01773 717 770

**Church History:** Contact Marianne 01159 134 077

**Coffee & Co:** meet in various venues on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 1-2.30 pm and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 10.00 – 12.00 noon. Contact Jackie 07580 340 014

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

**Family History:** meet in the Hayloft on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 11.00 – 12.30 pm. Contact Diana 0115 9 169 343

**French Conversation:** are now meeting at the Hayloft on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 10.00 am. **New members welcome!** Contact Pauline 01773 788 366

**Gogglebox:** meet in the Hayloft on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 at 10.00 am. New members, beginners and enthusiasts all welcome. Contact Barbara 01773 786 004 or 07977 109 451

**Psychology:** meet in The Sun Inn 4th Wednesday at 1.30 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:** Contact Sandra tel. 07930 752 808

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

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

**Walks, 5 Miles:** Meet on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 10 a.m. Lay-by St Mary's Church, Greasley if full Church Road. Contact Roger Reynolds for further information, 01773 788 169

**War Babies & Boomers:** Contact Ann [warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org](mailto:warbabies@eastwoodu3a.org)

**Whist:** This new group is meeting at the Hayloft Giltbrook on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 2.00 p.m. Contact Glenis 01773 715 040

**Wine Appreciation:** Meet in Sun Inn on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday @7.00p.m. Contact Tom 01773 762 333

**Groups**

It was wonderful to see so many members, old and new, joining groups at the launch. Some of these now have a waiting list. If you can, please contact your Group Contact to let them know that you are unable to attend a meeting / event. This will enable them to manage their numbers, and also invite members who are on the waiting list, when spaces become available. Now that so many groups are heavily subscribed, it might be a good idea for an existing member to explore the possibility of starting another branch of that group, with the help and support of the Group Contact. This would be a great way of encouraging our U3A to grow.

U3A Online courses

The U3A regularly run online learning courses on a range of topics. They are held in a Zoom format and need to be booked in and watched live. The link for this is

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>



**THE FIRST PRIMROSE**

I fear the February frosts  
that feast upon my budding face.  
I pray I will survive the nights  
of searing cold in this bleak place.  
My dwelling is a grassy verge  
within an ordered churchyard, where  
the mourners come; a mournful dirge  
within their hearts and many a care.  
My early primrose petals bring  
a smile, a hope, to boost their fate.  
I am the first to bring this joy  
while kin around me hesitate  
to bloom, till Spring gives sweet caress,  
then makes the verge a yellow cloud.  
All grief and woe is lessened then  
When Spring's own primroses abound.

Pat Potter Feb '22

### ART APPRECIATION – 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023

This month we met to listen to Marianne talking about “Hidden Women in Art”.

It is possible that some cave paintings may have been drawn by women due to the size and shape of the hands. Marianne concentrated on the period 1500–1800 (Renaissance to Enlightenment) and asked what artists we could name from that period. All the artists we mentioned were men and we agreed the women artists of that period are relatively unknown, being the “Hidden Women in Art”. Artists tended to employ family members in their studios, but the convention was for women to stay in the domestic sphere. If they did work in the studio, it was usually doing such as backgrounds and their skills were not recognised.

Marianne talked about the following women artists from that period: -

**Marietta Robusti** (1560 - 1590ish) Eldest daughter of Jacopo Tintoretto. Thought to have done much background work in her father's paintings.

**Sofonisba Anguisola** (1532 – 1625) Set a precedence by having an apprenticeship with an artist. Knew Michelangelo. Court painter to Philip II of Spain

**Artemisia Gentileschi** (1593 – 1656) Eldest daughter of Orazio Gentileschi. Known for depicting female figures with naturalism and drama. Self-portrait purchased by the National Gallery in 2018 (see below).

**Judith Leyster** (1609 – 1660) Similarities to Franz Hals in style. Works not attributed to her until 200 years after her death.

**Rosalba Carriera** (1673 – 1757) Pioneered work in pastels, but eventually went blind, possibly due to early work concentrating on painting miniatures.

**Elizabeth Vigée** (1755 – 1842) Became portrait painter to Marie Antoinette and created scandal by painting her in her chemise!

More details of the above artists and examples of their work are readily accessible online, including Wikipedia.

The National Gallery has only about 20 paintings by women artists in their collection of over 2300 works. Art UK has an interesting article online “The Eight Women Artists of the National Gallery”.



Artemisia Gentileschi – Self-portrait as St Catherine of Alexandria

### SOCIAL TRIPS ~ BEVERLEY & BRIDLINGTON

Following a very enjoyable trip to Liverpool we are planning an outing to Beverley & Bridlington on Thursday 13th July. Tickets will be £20. All welcome. Please contact Sandra to reserve your place. 07930 752 808, email –

[Sandra.burns@mac.com](mailto:Sandra.burns@mac.com)



### 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.

### 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)