

Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

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

**Deadline for July 2023 newsletter - Monday 19h June**

## MONTHLY MEETING

**7<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**There is no speaker this month.**

*Linda Rothwell  
Speaker Finder*

## VOLUNTEERS

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

**Refreshments:** Linda Lambert, Heather Wright, Sue Whittamore.

**Signing In:** Tricia Dille.

**Meet and Greet:** Janet O'Neill

*Doris Fellows  
Volunteer Coordinator*

**NB. Some of you may have noticed that the temperature in the hall has been quite cool. The committee have investigated the reasons for this and it should be much warmer from now on.**

## NOTIFICATION OF EASTWOOD & DISTRICT U3A AGM

The 8th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood u3a will be held on 7th June 2023. NB. The AGM will be in the church. We will still live stream the meeting on Zoom for those who cannot or prefer not to come into church. There will not be a speaker at this event, but there will be CAKE!

## PARKING

A reminder to be considerate about where you choose to park. It can be difficult for local residents if both sides of their roads are full of parked cars, making access difficult. There is parking available at £1 below The Sun Inn

## DONATIONS FOR REFRESHMENTS

Many thanks to those who have regularly contributed each month. The suggested donation for refreshments is 50p. This money goes towards the cost of the tea, coffee, milk etc.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees can be paid by cash, cheque or through BACS, but it is not possible to pay through Beacon.

## 5 MILE WALKERS

Our May walk is traditionally a Bluebell Wood Walk, this year we did Watnall Woods passing the graveyard of Sir Lancelot and Lady Maud Rolleston and Sir Lancelot's brother. Another bit of information is that the Queen's Head pub was gifted to Joe Haywood, Col. Rolleston's Batman during the Boer War, who saved a very grateful colonel from his wounds on the battlefield.

Picture below of our May walk.

Roger Reynolds



## 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 of benefit to you.

## 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. 07977 117 345

**IN BLUEBELL WOOD**

Lakes of blue on the forest floor!

I've seen, with eager eyes, as Spring unfolds it's promise,  
the first shy celandines; seen dainty daffodils mincing in the breeze.

bride- like wood anemones in white arrayed.

And now the bluebells, soft and misty, here and there  
amongst the trees.

in the distance far, and near the path; singly or grouped  
close like small puddles.

A blue like no other ever seen.

I never saw the equal in painting or sketch do justice to this  
natural soulful beauty.

For too few days in May they bring all joy and delight.

Pat Potter

**PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP**

The Photography Group visited Nottingham University Park on 25th April.

Members took a variety of pictures to be shown at the monthly meeting held at Brinsley Parish Hall.

The weather was kind to us with a fair amount of sunshine, which we took advantage of by sitting outside the tearoom for coffee and cake before heading for home.

The picture below shows a group of happy members at the start of our walk.

Barbara Sherwood

**WANTED**

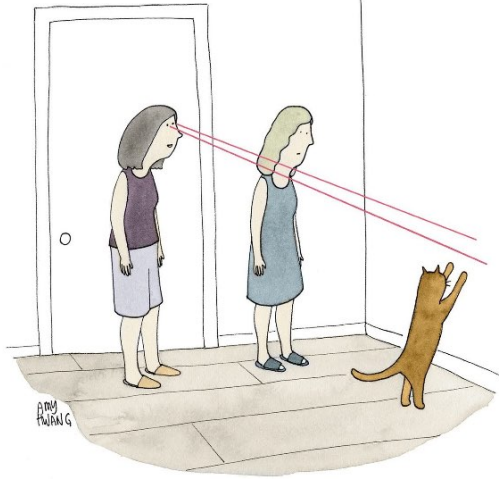
We are looking for volunteer(s) to help prepare the newsletter each month. If you are interested, please let us know. Training in how to put the elements together will be provided if necessary.

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.

**GROUP COORDINATORS**

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





*"My laser eye surgery was expensive but worth every penny."*

### Gogglebox

We first discussed Rain Dogs. This is a hard-hitting drama with very dark underlying humour, that divided opinion in the group. We discussed the relationship between educated single mum Costell, her daughter Iris and her rich, entitled friend Shelby, as they negotiate homelessness, poverty, abuse and mental health. We learned that the story was drawn from the writer's own experiences and we questioned whether a second series could have the same impact. The Big Interiors Battle was less controversial. Although the format was similar to that of other shows, we enjoyed watching the room transformations and thought it was an easy watch.

Next month we shall discuss "Ten Pound Poms" on BBC 1 and "Colin from Accounts" on BBC 2

Janet Lander

## HISTORY OF ENGLAND GROUP

### LONDON BRIDGE

Did you know that our very own London Bridge now stands in a remote Arizona desert city?

For 2000 years there have been wooden bridges over the river Thames and the Roman founders of London built various wooden bridges from AD 50 – 1176.

A military campaign by the King of Norway was a sea-based attack and in 1014 pulled down one of the wooden bridges.

This was replaced by another wooden bridge and despite requiring frequent repairs, survived for more than 600 years.

The London bridge of nursery rhyme fame was a stone bridge which had houses on it; it was built between 1176 and 1209 by Peter of Colechurch who was an architect and priest. This had a grisly period as, at the southern gateway, between 1305 and 1660 it was the custom to display the heads of wrongdoers on pikes. William Wallace who led the wars for Scottish Independence was the first head to appear. Other heads included Sir Thomas Moore and Bishop John Fisher in 1535 and Thomas Cromwell in 1540. A visitor to London in 1598 counted over 30 heads displayed. The old London Bridge fell into severe disrepair and was blocking river traffic so in 1799 a new bridge was designed by John Rennie and was dedicated on August 1, 1831.

This bridge, due to the weight of horse drawn carriages and automobiles in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century began sinking into the Thames at the rate of an inch every eight years and by 1924 the east side was three to four inches lower than the west side.

McCulloch and Vanderbilt placed a winning bid of \$2.4 million on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1968, to buy it and take it to America where they set up Lake Havasu City Resort where they rededicated the bridge in October 1971.

Pat Potter



**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

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

**Book Groups:** 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

**Café Culture** Meet in various venues on the 2nd Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

**Canasta:** meet in the Hayloft, 2nd & 4th 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 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. Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

**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 0115 9 169 343

**French Conversation:** are now meeting at the Hayloft on 2nd & 4th Tuesday 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 The Hayloft, 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:** New venue will be announced asap. 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 Rumbletums 4th Wednesday at 1.00 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:** 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 2nd Tuesday 1.00 – 3.00 pm. Contact Marianne 01773 717 500

**Walks, 5 Miles:** Meet on Tuesday 6th June at 10 a.m. Bramcote Hills Park, car park. 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 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 2.00 p.m. Contact Glenis 01773 715 040

**Wine Appreciation** Now meeting in the Hayloft the 1st Monday in the month 7 p.m. Contact Tom 01773 762 333

**CREATIVE CRAFTS**

We would like a few new members on the Wednesday afternoon. In this group the members are doing quilting, patchwork, tapestry work, cross stitch, knitting and crochet. Help is available if you want to learn any of these skills. If you are interested in joining or would like further information contact Margaret 07828 155 086.

**CAFÉ CULTURE**

This new group meets at 10.30 am on the 2nd Wednesday each month for coffee and chat (plus cake?) at various coffee shops in the area. We have room for a few more people so if you would like to join us, please contact Margaret 07828 155 086



*"It keeps me from looking at my phone every two seconds."*

**What's the difference between a cat and a comma?**

A cat has claws at the end of paws;  
A comma is a pause at the end of a clause.



*"Is there a health-care representative in the house?"*



**ART APPRECIATION**

Chris introduced the topic of photography with a display of a dozen or so photographs. Central to the display was the question: Is It Art? This led to a lively discussion where Chris revealed she thought a collage of photos arranged by David Hockney was art as she understood it. A range of views was exchanged on this intriguing subject. References were made to the kind of art installations favoured by bodies like the Turner Prize. The key ingredient seemed to be the creative impulse whatever the end product. A thought-provoking meeting.

David Hale

**PÉTANQUE GROUP**

It was a sad day on 17th May for Eastwood & District u3a Pétanque Group. They held their last meeting on the Pétanque court at the Forester's Arms, Newthorpe after being given notice to quit by the Landlord. This was particularly disappointing given that the u3a members had constructed the court on what was then derelict land. Picture below of members who enjoyed their last game.

We will update members when a new venue is available.

Barbara Sherwood



Two old ladies Dolly and Ruby were talking about their grandchildren. Dolly said, "Each year I send each of my grandchildren a card with a generous cheque inside. I never hear from them... never receive a thank you message."

Ruby replies, "I too send my grandchildren a very generous cheque I hear from them within a week after they receive it. In fact, they each pay me a personal visit." "Wow! How come?" remarked Dolly. "Very simple solution... I don't sign the cheque"

**Clock for retired people****SOCIAL TRIPS ~ BEVERLEY & BRIDLINGTON 13<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023**

Tickets will be available to purchase for the Beverley & Bridlington trip at the monthly meeting. Tickets will be £20. All welcome. Please contact Sandra to reserve your place. 07930 752 808, email – 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)**