



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

Deadline for March 2026 newsletter – 16th February



### Monthly meeting

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Speaker:** Jack Perks

**Subject:** Diary of a Wildlife Photographer

Born and bred in Nottingham Jack is primarily a freelance underwater & wildlife cameraman with a deep passion for the natural world. He's particularly interested in the less liked species such as reptiles, amphibians and fish but does occasionally pay attention to furry and feathery things. Starting out learning photography from 16 he eventually went to university in Falmouth earning a degree in BA (Hons) Marine & Natural History. Photography spending most of his days rockpooling and enjoying the local pubs.

Shortly after graduating Jack focused more on moving image and has since worked for dozens of wildlife and angling tv programmes including Springwatch, The One Show, Mr Crabtree Goes Fishing and The Great British Year. Jack also appears in front of the camera and has presented several films for Countryfile. He's gone on to work on David Attenborough's "Wild Isles" & Filmed in Alaska for an upcoming BBC series.

**Speaker Finder:** [Margaret Naylor](#)

### U3a AGM

#### NOTIFICATION OF EASTWOOD & DISTRICT u3a AGM

The 12th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood & District u3a will be held on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 during the monthly meeting. We're hoping to recruit new members to the committee. It's a great way to get to know more of the members and get involved. Please give this some consideration, as new ideas can bring a fresh approach.

Full details will appear in future newsletters. Descriptions of all committee roles can be found on the website.

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

For more info, please talk to any committee member.

### Membership Renewal

**Renewal of membership is due by 1 April 2026.**

Payment can now be made by: cash, cheque, card or bank transfer.

A Renewal Form must be completed whichever way you intend to pay.

These are available at the monthly meeting or you can download from our Website.

### Volunteers

**Signing in:** [Pauline Clayton, Barbara Bailey](#)

**Meet & Greet:** [Barbara Wass, Wendy Bull](#)

**Setting up:** [Geoffrey Gration, June Bingham, Chris Garratt](#)

**Refreshments:** [Linda Lambert, Ann Wright, Susan Whittamore, Janet Parnham](#)

**Volunteer Co-ordinator:** [Janet Lander](#)

### Dates for the Diary

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at St Mary's Church, Church St., Eastwood.

Date	Speaker
4 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>David Templeman</b> 2 Queens and a Countess
1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Lydia Leaf - Nearlyblindartist</b> My Story - Art is my Anchor

### From the Editor

**Deadline** for the **March 2026** issue is **16<sup>th</sup> February**. Please send me all your wonderful article and photo contributions showcasing what you have been up to. Any Christmas celebrations still outstanding?

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

**Melanie Weston**

### Audio Loop

Please note that audio loops are available at the monthly meetings in the church. Please see the technician's team at the front of the church to the right of the altar for further information. They will be happy to assist you.

## Wine Appreciation

The wine appreciation group had its first meeting of the year when 6 bottles were sampled; a Spanish fizz a delightful white wine from Hungary and 3 varied bottles of red wine. The evening was completed with a bottle of Madeira. The meeting was enjoyed by all and we had the opportunity to discover new wines to try.



Keith Sherwood

## Poetry

### My year in diets

Veganuary  
Fibreuary  
Starch  
Cakepril  
MaycoroniCheese  
June&tonic  
Julicecream  
Augistickytoffeepudding  
Septembeer  
Octoblerone  
Doughvember  
Decemburger



Brian Bilston

## 5 Mile Walks

### January

Just twelve of us braved the elements for a short snowy walk from Brinsley Headstocks car park, along the disused railway track, along the main road as far as the Underwood sign, then up into the fields and back to the main road. We then went back along the railway track and beside the Brinsley Brook to the new orchard. Well worth a visit. Looking forward to trying the different apples and damson in the autumn.



Maureen Ward

There's no need to feel **cold** and **lonely** this winter!  
Feel free to come along to one of the local

## WARM SPACES

for refreshments and a friendly chat.



MONDAY	pm
9.00 am to 12 noon - Eastwood Library	12 noon to 6.00 pm - Eastwood Library
10.00 am to 12 noon - Tea & Coffee The Hub, Eastwood Baptist Church	12.30 to 1.30 pm - Warm Space Newthorpe Baptist Church
	1.00 pm to 2.30 pm - Free Tea & Coffee St. Mary's Church Food Club, Church St.
TUESDAY	pm
9.00 am to 12 noon - Eastwood Library	12 noon to 1.00 pm - Eastwood Library
10.30 am to 11.45 am - Soup & Roll (Free 70+) Halo Café, New Horizon Church Free Tea & Coffee	
WEDNESDAY	pm
10.30 am to 11.45 am - Soup & Roll (Free 70+) Halo Café, New Horizon Church Free Tea & Coffee	10.30 am to 2 pm - Free Food & Drinks Eastwood People's Initiative, Scargill Walk
THURSDAY	pm
9.00 am to 12 noon - Eastwood Library	12 noon to 6.00 pm - Eastwood Library
10.30 am to 11.45 am - Soup & Roll (Free 70+) Halo Café, New Horizon Church Free Tea & Coffee	2.00 pm to 3.30 pm - Free Tea & Coffee Places of Welcome, Eastwood Library
FRIDAY	pm
9.00 am to 12 noon - Eastwood Library	12 noon to 2.00 pm - Eastwood Library
	2.00 pm to 4.00 pm - Coffee and Chat Eastwood Baptist Church
	12.30 pm to 1.30 pm - Warm Space Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Hill Top (First Friday of the Month only)

Warm Space with Tea/Coffee to purchase

## Café Culture

Members of the Café Culture groups enjoying a Christmas Lunch at The Royal Oak, Westwood.



*Margaret Naylor*

## Art Appreciation

Month	Topic	Lead
16 February	<b>Favourite photograph</b>	All to bring photo meaningful or admired to share
16 March	<b>Andy Warhol</b>	<b>Helen</b> - hoping to arrange follow-up visit to the Djanogly Gallery for an exhibition of his work
20 April	<b>Rossetti</b>	<b>Janet L</b>
18 May	<b>Pugin</b>	Group visit to St Barnabas' Cathedral, Nottingham to learn about the work of Pugin
15 June	<b>Bloomsbury Group</b>	<b>Margaret N</b>

*Janet Lander*

## 5 Mile Walks Programme 2026

**Programme is provisional and subject to change.**

Other suggestions include Dale Abbey or Straws Bridge - West Hallam, if anyone wishes to change a venue.

**NB:** Please remember to carry a card bearing next of kin information. Thank you.

*Angie Shaw*

Date	Walk	Leader
February 2026	Shipley car park	Angie
March 2026	Attenborough Nature Reserve carpark	Heather
April 2026	Awsworth-Cossall park Newtons Lane	Sue, Barbara I
May 2026	Bluebell walk (possibly Strelley, TBA)	Ivan
June 2026	Durham Ox, Brinsley road parking	Barbara M, Pauline
July 2026	Linby-Newstead road parking	Angie
August 2026	Greasley Church park lay-by	Maureen
September 2026	Cromford Canal Mill car park	Linda
October 2026	Stoneyford Ponds park Jacksdale Garden Centre	Barbara, Pauline, Angie
November 2026	Trowell Garden Centre Bramcote Hills car pk	Heather
December 2026	Beauvale Priory	Ivan

## Board Games

The first session of this **new monthly group** will take place on **Thursday 12th February** from **1.30-3.30pm** at **The Hayloft** and will continue on the **second Thursday** of the month thereafter.

This group follows immediately after the Canasta Group at the same venue.

The group contact is the same for both groups too. See the group information section on page 5 for more details.

**New members are welcome.**

*Nina Moore*



## Gogglebox

We had a full house at the last meeting, and another lively discussion! Most people enjoyed **The Night Manager**, although they did not feel that it quite matched the first series. It was felt that it was pretty complicated at first, but greatly improved once Hugh Laurie as Richard Roper came back on the scene. Some thought that Tom Hiddleston would make a good Bond, but once again, it is Hugh Laurie who steals every scene, playing against type as a sinister baddie. We commented that it must have required a big budget and represented a significant investment for the BBC, with a third series possibly already commissioned.

Nearly everyone was watching **Traitors** with bated breath, and we agreed that we had been hooked into this series by the secret traitor twist at the beginning. Newbies to the programme commented upon the much more aggressive behaviour in this series, compared to the genial **Celebrity Traitors** version. Claudia's outfits were much admired, and we forecast who we thought would/should win. This is a programme that is not for everyone, but attracts a lot of interest and discussion.

Next month, **February 17th**, we will discuss **Michael Palin in Venezuela/Iraq** on Channel 5 and **After the Flood** on ITV.

Other recommendations include:

**Banjo and Ro's Grand Island Hotel** (iplayer),

**Blackshore** (BBC4)

**Monty Don's Rhineland Gardens** (BBC)

*Janet Lander*

## Poetry

### The Kitchen 1948

A room of wonder and of true antiquities compared to appliances of our modern age. A blackened gas stove took up pride of place; would pop with a gas smell when put into use. A dreaded and frightening device.

A brick built copper in the corner standing, from an earlier time and so out of date but s'posed to fill the bath next door; a bath which was not plumbed in with taps: but it saved my birthday ice cream cake from melting.

An Ascot heater, a modern touch then, with long chrome spout which moved about. It always dripped when it was turned off; the cat jumped up to lick the drips. Instant hot water, though, for our domain.

For veggie prep there was a generous table, wooden and worn, but a vital addition for use as a perch when a knee needed tending or for an ex - soldier who came once to visit; a man with no legs whom the war had disabled.

On wash day, a mangle as big as a bus with great wooden rollers would squish out the water. A wrought iron handle was heaved round and round while water cascaded into a tin bath, ensuring that washday was chaos and fuss.

This room, for it's time, was as good as it could be. But the height of convenience it surely was not. Hard work for my mother with family to raise but I think she was thankful and sang as she worked. She'd marvel at our modern ways. A success she'd agree.

*Pat Potter - July '25*

## Jewellery

### January

At this meeting some members concentrated on making earrings and bracelets, learning new skills. Others had brought in pieces of jewellery which needed fixing. One member is experimenting with crocheting jewellery.

Most of the beads we use are recycled from old jewellery brought from home or from charity shops and donations. We then take these pieces apart and sort into trays to use at future sessions.

It is a friendly group who like to sit and chat with a coffee and make beautiful things out of old broken items.



*Melanie Weston*

## Group Information

If you have any ideas for new groups or need any further information please contact the group co-coordinators **Anne Steel** and **Sharon Dudley**:

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

**Key:** Text highlighted in **yellow** means there is a change of information since last month's newsletter

**Art Appreciation:** meet in Brinsley Parish Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 10:30 am. **New members welcome!**  
Contact Helen 07535 785061

**Board Games:** meet in The Hayloft 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 1.30-3.30  
**First meeting: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February.**  
Contact Nina 01773 717770

**Book Group:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday @ 11.00 am in Eastwood Library.  
Contact Sue 01773 717676 or Pauline 01773 788366

**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 am  
Contact Nina 01773 717 770

**Church History:** Meets in Rumbletums 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday @ 1:00 pm  
Contact Marianne 0115 9134077

**Coffee & Co:** meet in various venues on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ 11.00 am.  
Contact Barbara 0115 9468721

**Creative Crafts:** meet in Rumbletums 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @ 1-2.30 pm.  
Contact Margaret 07828 155086

**Creative Writing:** meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @ 2:00 – 3:30 pm  
**New members welcome!**  
Contact Chris 07891 032300

**Family History:** meet in The Hayloft on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday 11.00 – 12.30 pm.  
Contact Diana 0115 9169343

**French Conversation:** meet in The Hayloft on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 10.00 am. **New members welcome!**  
Contact Pauline 01773 788366

**General Gardening Club:** meet 2:30 – 4:30, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, April - September @ different member's garden each month.  
**Contact Sue** [susancarol44@btinternet.com](mailto:susancarol44@btinternet.com) **07866 604450**

**Gogglebox:** meet in The Hayloft on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 11.00 – 12.30 pm.  
Contact Janet 07889 976342

**History of England:** meet in The Hayloft, 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs @10.00am  
Contact Karen 07749 164039 or [karenmrea@hotmail.com](mailto:karenmrea@hotmail.com)

## Group Information

**Jewellery Making:** meet in The Hayloft 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 10.00-11:30am. **Next meeting Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February**  
Contact Melanie 07722 177820

**KnitAid:** meet in Rumbletums, Kimberley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 10-12.00 noon. **New Members welcome!**  
Contact Margaret 07828 155086

**Local History:** meet in Brinsley Parish Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday @ 10:30 – 12:00  
Contact Janet 07889 976342 [janet\\_lander@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janet_lander@yahoo.co.uk)  
or Julie Matthews 07929 914230 [juliemattuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:juliemattuk@yahoo.co.uk)

**National Trust:** meet in The Dog & Parrot on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday each month @ 10.00 am.  
Contact Yvonne 07951 886195

**Pétanque:** meet in The Foresters Inn Newthorpe.  
Contact Jim 07977 415072 for further information.

**Photography:** meet in Brinsley Parish Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @ 10.00 am.  
**New members, beginners & enthusiasts all welcome.**  
Contact Barbara 01773 786004 or 07977109451

**Psychology:** meet in Rumbletums on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ 1.00 pm.  
Contact Jim 07977 415 072 or Diana 0115 9169343

**Pub Pals:** meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month @ 7.00 pm in various locations  
also 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month @ 12 noon in various locations.  
Contact Janet 07961 832864 or Rob 07845 177500

**Rediscovering Nottingham Group 1:**  
meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.  
Contact Andrea Sadler on [andreahsadler@gmail.com](mailto:andreahsadler@gmail.com)

**Rediscovering Nottingham Group 2:**  
meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.  
Contact Andrea Sadler on [andreahsadler@gmail.com](mailto:andreahsadler@gmail.com)

**Spanish:** meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10.00 am - 12.30 pm @ Julie's Tea Rooms. **New members welcome!**  
Contact Paul 0115 9133449

**Strollers:** meet on the last Wednesday from April to Sept.  
Contact Jill on 01773 765735 or 07979 964091  
for further information.

**Walks, 5 miles:** meet on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**  
**Meet @ Shipley carpark**  
For further info contact Susan on 01773765484 / 07866 604450 or Angela on 01773 786896

**Wine Appreciation:** meet in The Hayloft @ 7.00 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.  
Contact Chris 07779 375865

Day	1 <sup>st</sup> in the month	2 <sup>nd</sup> in the month	3 <sup>rd</sup> in the month	4 <sup>th</sup> in the month
M o n d a y	<b>10:00</b> National Trust meeting	<b>10:30</b> Local History	<b>10:30</b> Art Appreciation	<b>11:00</b> Family History
	<b>11:00</b> Book Group			
		<b>19:00</b> Wine Appreciation		
T u e s d a y	<b>10:00</b> 5 mile Walks	<b>10:00</b> French Conversation	<b>10:00</b> Photography	<b>10:00</b> French Conversation
			<b>11:00</b> Gogglebox	<b>10:30</b> Rediscovering Nottingham
			<b>14:00</b> Creative Writing	
W e d n e s d a y	<b>10:00</b> MONTHLY MEETING	<b>10:30</b> Café Culture		<b>10:15</b> Strollers
		<b>10:00</b> Spanish		<b>10:00</b> Spanish
				<b>11:00</b> Coffee & Co
		<b>13:00</b> Creative Crafts		<b>13:00</b> Psychology
T h u r s d a y	<b>10:30</b> History of England	<b>11:00</b> Canasta	<b>10:00</b> Jewellery Making	<b>11:00</b> Canasta
			<b>10:00</b> KnitAid	<b>12:00</b> Pub Pals
		<b>13:30</b> Board Games	<b>13:30</b> Pétanque	
		<b>19:00</b> Pub Pals		
F r i d a y				<b>10:30</b> Rediscovering Nottingham
		<b>13:00</b> Church History		

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