



Items for the newsletter should be emailed to

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org

Deadline for July 2026 newsletter – 22nd June



Monthly meeting

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

12th Annual General Meeting of Eastwood & District u3a

Followed by guest speaker

Speaker: [Marcus Alton](#)

Subject: [Brian Clough](#)

Marcus was born in Nottingham and has multi-media experience as a broadcaster, reporter, producer and writer. His career has spanned more than 35 years with the BBC (TV, Radio & Online), commercial radio and print journalism. During his time with the BBC he presented several radio programmes, including his own chat show, interviewing celebrities, politicians and sports stars.

As well as being the author of five books about Cloughie (through various publishers), Marcus is the founder and editor of the non-profit making tribute website, brianclough.com, and its associated media channels.

Speaker Finder: [Margaret Naylor](#)

From the Editor

Deadline for the **July 2026** issue is **22nd June**. Please email all contributions to the address below.

Last month was a massive issue so a particular thank you to all who sent in your photos and articles. It was great to see info about groups who had not contributed before.

Thank you so much.

newsletter@eastwoodu3a.org.

[Melanie Weston](#)

Dates for the Diary

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

Date	Speaker
1 st July	Peter Rowlett Board Games and their analysis: from prehistory to today
5 th August	Elaine and Julia The Potty Plotters
2 nd September	TBA
7 th October	TBA
4 th November	Philip Drabble Travels with a Tiger - Riding the Western Front

Volunteers

Signing in Helen Baker, June Bingham

Meet & Greet Jeannette Wilson, Martin Daykin

Setting up Rita Needham, Rob Leam,
Patricia Whelan

Refreshments Linda Lambert, Georgia Hanson,
Heather Wright, Christine Reynolds

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

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 any further information. They will be happy to assist you.

Creative Crafts

Just a few of the different crafts that members of the group are working on at the moment. We work on our own projects, help one another and learn, have a coffee and chat. We meet in Rumbletums back room 1-2.30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday each month. New members are welcome.



Margaret Naylor

Gogglebox

We had a full meeting today, which was great. We discussed two programmes – **Power – The Downfall of Hugh Edwards**, and **The Other Bennet Sister**

Nearly everyone in the group found this particular programme difficult to watch because of its sensitive subject matter. It appeared to touch on a lot of people's own experiences in various ways. It was debated whether or not it was too soon to make a programme detailing such recent events. We also noted that it might have been a more comprehensive depiction of events if it had been shown from more than just the perspective of the victim. We also discussed where the history of abuse started, and asked if there was more than one victim in respect of this - we did not have any information about Huw Edwards childhood, and indeed, if at some point he was also a victim of abuse himself. We do know that Huw Edwards has issues around his mental health. We discussed how long the BBC may have known about the situation surrounding him, as it was mentioned that the Sun newspaper reported that he was being monitored on suspicion of abuse for 10 years prior to his arrest. We also wondered how true to the facts this version was. We commented that Huw Edwards was indeed a very good actor, deceiving everyone, and there followed a discussion about how we can be hoodwinked by such characters in the media. It was universally felt that Martin Clunes did a brilliant portrayal of Huw Edwards.

The Other Bennet Sister

This series was absolutely adored by all of the group, but for one exception. It is rare in our group to get so many people who thought that this series was exceptional. Some members of the group did not want it to end, and others are going to watch it again. We discussed the difference between the series and the original *Pride and Prejudice*, as most of us had read the book, and it was felt that the series was indeed authentic. We wondered if the storyline was slightly unrealistic, and asked if Mary would have had as many suitors as she had, given that she was so intelligent, and quite awkward in her manner. It was noted that perhaps Mary had a happier life than her sisters. We discussed the possibility of a different ending for Mary, and some members were slightly disappointed that Mary ended up getting married anyway, instead of following a career. Members felt that the casting was good, the half hour episodes were a good idea, and that the series provided escapism and was easy viewing. Overall, a highly rated choice.

Next month, we will discuss **Mint** and **The Cage**, both on BBC.

Ruth Brown

5 Mile Walks

Our annual bluebell walk which was lead by Ivan, saw a really good turn out of 25 members and we were lucky to have good weather too.



Susan Wheatley

Board Games

The Board Game group is no longer running. We would like to thank Nina for all her hard work in running the group.

Last Month's Speaker

Our speaker in May was Simon Croson who talked about The Beekeeping Year. As many people were interested in the various things that he talked about I thought you may be interested in his website www.sicroson.com.

He is also on Facebook.

Margaret Naylor

Theatre Group

In May a group of us went to see **Small Island** at The Nottingham Playhouse. This was a play adapted from a novel by **Andrea Levy** telling a story of 4 main characters in both the Caribbean and London dealing with issues from colonialism, WW2 and the Windrush generation. A very powerful play which vividly depicted racism and the desperation of people to improve their lives at a time when there was so much deprivation. Very deftly the play had lighter moments of humour and some genuinely heartbreaking scenes. Quite a few of us mentioned how relevant the themes are still to the current world situation.

Marianne Sparrow

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
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

Local History

At our May meeting, Jim Stirland gave a very interesting and detailed presentation about the **Pentrich Revolution in 1817**.

After the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, 300,000 soldiers and sailors were demobilised at the same time and were all looking for work. This was harder to find due to a post-war slump and the increasing pace of the industrial revolution, which was replacing labour with machinery. There was a recession in the textile and iron industries, which were among Derbyshire's main employers.

Parish relief was the only welfare system, and often difficult to obtain. Mill owners flourished using the new labour-saving machines and employed women and children for lower wages.

The monarchy was in disarray, due to the illness of the King, and the Regent, the future George IV, was a byword for extravagance and profligacy.

The eruption of the Tambora volcano in Indonesia in 1815, also had a devastating effect on agriculture and ruined crops across the world. In 1816, "the year without a summer", starvation loomed for many people.

Against this background, underground societies sprang up across the country, called Hampden Clubs, and this included one at Pentrich, near South Wingfield.

On June 8th, 1817, Jeremiah Brandreth, the "Nottingham Captain" addressed a meeting at the White Horse Inn. He urged those attending to march on Nottingham, where he said they would be joined by hundreds of others, and move along the River Trent to Newark and on to London. He promised each man 100 guineas, bread, beef and a pint of rum when they arrived in Nottingham. Two other leaders were Isaac Ludlum, a 52 year old Methodist lay preacher, with many children, and William Turner, a former soldier.

Unfortunately, their information about a national uprising came from William Oliver, who had been introduced to the group by Thomas Bacon, a veteran radical who was, in fact, a paid informer travelling the country in the employ of the Home Secretary, Lord Sidmouth. The government's plan was to incite would-be revolutionaries and make an example of them.



Confrontation at Butterley Gatehouse. Print by Simon Waller

[Kamone8@aol.com]

At 10pm that night, they set off from Hunt's Barn in South Wingfield, hoping to gather men and arms on the way to Nottingham. The men were not well organised and it is said that they stopped at many public houses on the way. At one home, a servant was killed by Brandreth. In Eastwood, some of the villagers locked their doors and others tried to make them see sense and go home.

By early morning, the group had marched 12 miles & were close to the village of Kimberley at Giltbrook when they saw the mounted men of the 15th Regiment of Light Dragoons. The marchers dispersed in panic, and the Revolution was at an end. 47 men were arrested and stood trial. Four of them were sentenced to death for treason and 23 transported to Australia. One man's sentence was commuted, but the other three were hung and beheaded in Derby. Local landowners, including the Duke of Devonshire exacted a terrible revenge on the families, evicting them and demolishing their properties.

A moving note to this terrible tale is that 17 years later, supporters of the Pentrich revolutionaries petitioned parliament and obtained a full pardon for them. The group felt that this was a very shocking part of our past history, and the revolutionaries deserve to be remembered.



Janet Lander

Creative Writing

A Sevenling Poem

The breeze dances its way across the golden cornfield
 Skylarks bounce up and down against a clear blue sky
 All is well in our land of milk and honey

Bombs fly through the air followed by screams of terror
 Mothers cry Hold tight my little ones Cover your ears Close your eyes
 Dream of a land of milk and honey

A world of War and Peace

Madeleine Fletcher

National Trust

National Trust visit to Lyme Park in Cheshire.



Georgia as Lady of Lyme.

Georgia Hanson

Poetry

Deliverer's lament

Hi, it's that time of year,
 put on your hi viz, get into the gear.

The community news needs delivering again
 out in all weathers come shine and rain.

What wonders behold in letter box world
 into the unknown I am hurled.

Some are happy,
 some are snappy.

Some are sad,
 some are just plain bad.

Some are like a petulant child,
 really wild.

Some have an off day and won't play ball,
 some are frozen, some are loose, a danger to all,
 sometimes there are no letter boxes at all!

Some on the gates, beware of the dog what's that?
 Have you ever seen one beware of the cat?

Some snatch your fingers, beware being crushed,
 and the dog who will not hush

Some are at the top and on tippy toes I stand
 some in the middle, a good choice for my hand

Some at the bottom – oh my poor knees!
 some are even sideways, oh what a breeze

Some look unloved, some are pristine,
 some not big enough, a burglars dream
 so it would seem.

Next time you see the Community News safely on
 your mat,
 just think of the trouble to achieve that!

Anne Steel

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

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

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

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

Café Culture meet in various venues on the 2nd Wednesday @ 10.30 a.m.
Contact Margaret 07828 155 086

Canasta: meet in The Hayloft 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 11:00 am
Contact Nina 01773 717 770

Church History: Meets in Rumbletums 2nd Friday @ 1:00 pm
Contact Marianne 0115 9134077

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

Creative Crafts: meet in Rumbletums 2nd Wednesday @ 1-2.30 pm.
Contact Margaret 07828 155086

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

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

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

General Gardening Club: meet 2:30 – 4:30, 3rd Friday, April - September @ different member's garden each month.
Contact Sue susancarol44@btinternet.com 07866 604450

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

History of England: meet in The Hayloft, 1st Thurs @10.00am
Contact Karen 07749 164039 or karenmrea@hotmail.com

Group Information

Jewellery Making: meet in The Hayloft 3rd Thursday @ 10.00-11:30am. **Next meeting Thursday 18th June.**
Contact Melanie 07722 177820

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

Local History: meet in Brinsley Parish Hall 2nd Monday @ 10:30 – 12:00
Contact Janet 07889 976342 janet_lander@yahoo.co.uk or Julie Matthews 07929 914230 juliemattuk@yahoo.co.uk

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

Naturewatch: meet on 4th Monday @ 1pm.
Contact Barbara 07977 109451 for further information.

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

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

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

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

Rediscovering Nottingham Group 1: meets the 4th Tuesday of the month.
Contact Andrea Sadler on andreahsadler@gmail.com

Rediscovering Nottingham Group 2: meets the 4th Friday of the month.
Contact Andrea Sadler on andreahsadler@gmail.com

Spanish: meet on the 2nd & 4th 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 the 1st Tuesday at 10am. **Tuesday 2nd June. Durham Ox, Brinsley. Park opposite.**
For further information contact
Susan on 01773765484 / 07866 604450 or
Angela on 01773 786896

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

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

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