



**May 2024
Newsletter**



**Founded October 2000
Registered Charity No. 1181961**

**Bingham u3a meetings are held in the Methodist Centre,
Bingham at 2pm on the third Wednesday of the month**

**15th May – The Geology of Nottingham Caves with Dr Tony
Waltham**

**19th June – Drive On, a Workshop for Older Drivers with
Autumn Rose and Amy Longworth**



MONTHLY MEETING – THE HISTORY OF RAF NEWTON WITH TIM O'BRIEN



A large audience filled the hall on 17th April, expecting to find out the mysteries of Forensic Podiatry but were surprised to learn that the speaker had been suddenly incapacitated – that morning! But after a valiant effort by Linda and others, all obstacles were overcome and after a short delay the Monthly Meeting started with a presentation on the *History of RAF*

www.binghamu3a.org

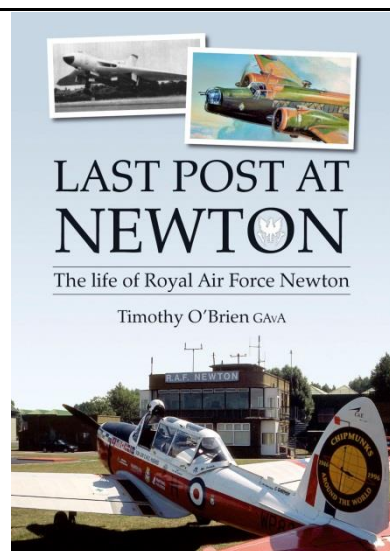
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Newton by Tim O'Brien.

Tim is a local, freelance artist, art-tutor, and author. You may be familiar with his artwork that features on the Horse and Plough pub sign and the maps he illustrated for the Bingham Town Guide. His interest in RAF Newton started when he joined the Air Training Corps there in the 1980s



where he started drawing the aeroplanes in the hangars. In 2009, he published a hardback book *Last Post at Newton* which covered the history of the airfield from when it opened in 1940 to when it closed in 2001. This was the main feature of his slideshow *The Many Ways of Remembering RAF Newton* which highlighted the road names featuring aircraft and the bronze statue of the Wellington bomber pilot and his dog that was unveiled in April 2023. The statue was designed by Tim and recreated by sculptor Tom Nicholls in his London workshop. It can be seen at the end of Wellington Avenue in Newton Village.



PROGRAMME NEWS

15th May – The Geology of Nottingham Caves

Dr Tony Waltham, the well-known local geologist, photographer, author and lecturer, will be giving a talk on the geology of Nottingham Caves. There is much more to the caves than the back room of The Trip to Jerusalem as the extensive system

runs under and behind much of central Nottingham.

19th June - Drive On, a Workshop for Older Drivers with Autumn Rose and Amy Longworth

Driving is an activity that changes with age and circumstances and so Via East Midlands' Road Safety team, in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council, have developed a workshop designed for the older driver. It aims to be a warm and light-hearted approach to this sensitive subject in a friendly and open way with encouraging ways to prolong and enhance our driving.

These sessions have run very successfully at other groups in Nottinghamshire, all with good feedback from those attending:

"Thank you for a really good presentation. It was so informative and really made everyone think."

"I would just like to give a big thank you to you and your team for the driving workshop that you put on for our members in Nottinghamshire. Those who attended were full of praise for the event and how worthwhile it was."

There will be a presentation to begin with which will last 45 mins to an hour depending on questions. Then people can look at the adaptations we have as examples, and have a go at the alcohol game (no actual alcohol used) afterwards.



SHORT COURSE ON LIP READING

We have been approached by a qualified person who offers a lip-reading talk within the community. It covers how hearing works, hearing loss, tools and techniques for managing hearing

loss and some practical lip-reading. The presentation was well received in West Bridgford, Wollaton and Beeston u3as.

If there is sufficient interest, Bingham u3a would consider holding a one-day course on this subject which does not necessarily apply only to those with hearing problems. Please contact Linda Molineaux at bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com or at the next Wednesday meeting.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP OF u3as

u3a
learn, laugh, live

u3a
North Notts Neighbourhood Group

**INVITE YOU TO A
PICNIC IN THE FOREST**

WEDNESDAY 26th JUNE

**AT SHERWOOD FOREST VISITOR CENTRE
EDWINSTOWE, MANSFIELD NG21 9RN**

This is a FREE EVENT from 11 - 3

ALL DAY CAR PARKING £5

all welcome to join us for a Fun Day of

Activities Musical Entertainment Prizes
Games Cafe On Site Walks

Bring your own tables, chairs, blankets & picnic



More information available in newsletter

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National u3a Festival

Tickets for the first National u3a Festival are now on sale. This event, at the University of York from 18–20th July will give you the opportunity to participate in a huge range of activities run by fellow u3a members. Talks, sports, musical entertainment, including Juke Box Jury should make it a weekend of fun and learning not to be missed. There are lots of ticket options depending on how much of the festival you would like to attend. For more information and a booking link, visit u3a.org.uk/festival-2024, but hurry as tickets are selling fast.

u3a Friends Extra

The Third Age Trust has launched a benefit scheme to give discounts on goods and services to members and friends who sign up to the Friends Newsletter. If you do not already receive the free monthly online newsletter, you can subscribe via the website www.u3a.org.uk. Non-members who would like to support our organisation can also receive the Friends Newsletter.

u3a Podcast

Did you know there is a regular u3a podcast available on YouTube and popular podcast platforms? Coming up in the next few months, you can enjoy fascinating stories from u3a members, ranging from aviation to mindfulness, alongside interviews with some famous names from radio and television. If you have a story to share, contact the podcast team by emailing communications@u3a.org.uk.



Online Learning

Some May events that may be of interest to members:

17th May, 2pm *Deportation of Hungarian Jews*
22nd May 9.30am *Science Network: AI in a scientific context*
28th May 2pm *Deafness and beyond: the tribulation and triumph of Ludwig van Beethoven*

For more events, or to book these, go to www.u3a.org.uk/events.



INTEREST GROUP UPDATES



Tech Workshop

The latest workshop divided into two parts, one dealing with Apple devices and the other with connecting Microsoft laptops and desktops to tablets, SD cards and wireless mice etc. One-one help is available at these sessions and will deal with social

media in May. Contact Louise Hunt on sawdoc2002@aol.com for more information – or just turn up on the third Thursday 11:00 in Room 1 at the Methodist Centre.

Beer and Cider Group

The newly formed Beer and Cider Group had their second (successful) get together at The Chestnut in Radcliffe on Trent on 25 April. As well as plenty of tasting there was also a discussion about the varieties of beer and their history.



Our next gathering will be at the Newark Beer and Cider festival on Friday 24 May.

Book Club

The most recent book to be scrutinised by the Book Group was William Boyd's collection of short stories entitled *The Dreams of Bethany Mellmoth*. Although two members thought it was a light and amusing read, most of the group were disappointed. Some had read and enjoyed his many other titles but did not like this collection. Maybe short stories leave us feeling we want the story to continue, just as we were getting into it. One story concerned the break-up and aftermath of a romance, then the middle of it, then how the characters started out by meeting, full of promise. It was an interesting construct, telling the story in reverse. Overall, it was not a recommended read.

The next book is *Lady Fanshawe's Receipt Book* by Lucy Moore.

STEM Group

April's STEM Group meeting described the science and technology behind several medical imaging techniques, ultrasound; X-rays; CT (computed tomography)



and MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) with the focus on the physical processes within the body during a scan and then the digital processing of the signals to produce and store an image. At the end, we looked at the claimed benefits of Artificial Intelligence in medical imaging.

The next meeting will be on May 23rd and will deal with the history of the science of fluid mechanics – from Archimedes to Leonardo to Newton to Bernoulli ... and others.

History Group – Pros and Cons of the 2003 Iraq War

John Perry facilitated a remarkably interesting and healthy debate on the *Pros and Cons of the 2003 Iraq War*. He gave a brief background behind the conflict and the group explored the

reasons behind the UK backing the USA in invading Iraq which was led by the dictator Saddam Hussein. Most of us agreed that, however justifiable the reasons were at the time, the Government had not thought through the devastating impact of the War across the Middle East which we are still affected by today. The majority of the group felt that we should not have gone to war but recognised the pressure brought to bear by the USA and the increasing threat of terrorism to the world.

1st Wednesday Walking Group

The weather has improved at last and the First Wednesday Walking Group enjoyed a lovely walk, led by Judith, from the Ferry Boat Inn at Stoke Bardolph to the Netherfield lagoons.

Judith, supported by Kevin, has co-ordinated and led some wonderful walks over the last 8 or 9 years but has now decided



to step down from the group leadership, to allow a little more time with her grandchildren and looking after the garden and allotment.

After lunch at the Ferry Boat, members of the group

expressed their grateful thanks and appreciation to Judith and Kevin and presented her with a card and a garden voucher. Judith appreciated the gesture and reminded us that she would still like to lead walks from time to time.

We are hoping that the 1st Wednesday Group can continue, perhaps with a new coordinator and different members leading each walk – in much the same way as the 4th Wednesday Walking Group operates. In the meantime, members of the 1st Wednesday Group are most welcome to join the 4th Wednesday Group.

4th Wednesday Walking Group – Wysall and Bunny Old Woods Bluebell Walk

Lindsay arranged an enjoyable 4.2 mile morning walk from the Plough Inn at Wysall to the bluebells and spring flowers in Bunny Old Woods. It has been the wettest period ever recorded but the woodland paths were just about passable. We stayed on the minor roads rather than risking the waterlogged field paths back to the Plough Inn where we enjoyed their excellent, good value, lunch and drinks.



The weather was again kind – we knew more rain was forecast but it did not start until we were safely back in the pub enjoying our lunches.

Thanks to Lindsay for organising and leading a lovely spring walk. Please contact John and Glyn Greenwood (4th Wednesday Walking Group coordinators) if you would like to join us.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the June 2024 edition of the Newsletter is 26th May. Please send any copy to Dave Hobson at appletrees.hobson@gmail.com. The Newsletter will be available on our website at www.binghamu3a.org from the beginning of the month, from Bingham Library and at the Monthly Meetings.

GROUP CONTACT DETAILS AND MEETING POINTS



Monday am

Ambling Group 1 meets at Church House weekly at 10:30. Contact to be advised.

Coffee Social Group meets at the Buttercross Pub on the second Monday at 10:30. Contact any Committee member or 01949 839946.

Monday pm

Cinema Group meets at Butler's Coffee House on second Mondays at 2pm. Contact Lindsay Evett on 01949 851115 .

Spanish Conversation Group meets at Laura's house on alternate weeks at 2pm. Contact Laura Rennie on 07722 499111

Board Games Group meets at the Bowls Club from October to April on the second Monday at 7pm. Contact Jeff Peters on 0744 3528048 or jeff.peters369@gmail.com .

Wine Tasting Group. Contact Lynne Barnett on 01949 875151 or lynnieb.barnett@ntlworld.com .

Tuesday am

Knit and Natter Group meets at Bingham Library weekly at 10am. Contact Beryl Kemp on 01949 839728, bkemp1910@gmail.com or Judy Soar on 01949 837108.

Tuesday pm

Ambling Group 2 meets in the main car park fortnightly at 1pm. Contact Jackie Hutton on 01949 838140 or Sue Eaton on 01949 839946.

French Conversation Group 2 meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 2pm to 4pm. Contact Barbara Savage on 01949 838782 or savagepeterm@hotmail.co.uk .

Gentle Exercise Group meets at Old Church House weekly from 1pm to 2pm. Contact Linda Walden on 01949 836717.

Book Club Group meets in Bingham Library on the fourth Tuesday at 2pm.

Contact Linda Molineaux at bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com .
Music Appreciation Group meets at 2pm on the second Tuesday. Contact Anthony Watts or Derrick Gierth on 01949 875968 .
Wednesday am
Petanque Group meets at The Grange on alternate weeks from 10am to 12am starting in May. Contact Beryl Kemp on 01949 839728 or bkemp1910@gmail.com .
Walking Group 1 meets by Church House on the first Wednesday at 10am. Contact John and Glyn Greenwood on 01159 899798 or johnandglyn@btinternet.com .
Walking Group 2 meets at Church House (car share) on the second Wednesday at 9:30. Contact Esme Smith on 01949 875148 or esmesm74@yahoo.co.uk .
Walking Group 4 meets at 10.15 on the fourth Wednesday at various locations. Car share may be possible from Bingham. Contact John and Glyn Greenwood on 01159 899798 or johnandglyn@btinternet.com .
Wednesday pm
Spanish Improvers Group meets in the Old Courthouse fortnightly from 2pm to 3pm. Contact Jean Oates on 01949 850864, 07898 895274 or us@theoates.net .
History Group meets at the Methodist Centre on the fourth Wednesday at 2pm. Contact John Perry at jkp1951@gmail.com .
Thursday am
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Group meets at Methodist Centre on the fourth Thursday of the month from 11am to 12am. Contact Dave Hobson on 01949 836042 or appletrees.hobson@gmail.com .
Tech Workshop Group meets at 11am on the third Thursday of each month in Room 1 at the Methodist Centre. Contact - Louise Hunt, sawdoc2002@aol.com .
Bridge Group meets at the Bowls Club on alternate weeks from 10am to 12am. Contact Dave Cobley on 07966 370385 or dfcobley@hotmail.com .

Thursday pm
Croquet Group meets at the Butt Field Pavilion fortnightly starting on April 25th at 1:30pm until September. Contacts – Jackie Hutton, 07443 595653 and Judith Wilkin, 07769 293621 .
German Conversation Group meets fortnightly at 2:30pm. Contact Valerie Morgan on 0115 9332353, valdave_morgan@btinternet.com .
Creative Writing Group meets on the first Thursday of every month from 11 am to 1 pm at the Wildflower Cafe, Coach Gap Lane, Langar. Contact Lynne Boardman, Southam2610@gmail.com .
Sewing Group meets in Room 2 of the Methodist Centre on the first and third Thursdays. Contact Mary on 01949 851110 or maryannball@tiscali.co.uk .
Friday am
Mobility and Movement Group meets at the Methodist Centre weekly from 10am to 11am. Contact Ann Lewis on 01949 831530 or annl_uk@yahoo.co.uk .
Recorder Group meets at the Old Court House on the first and third Fridays from 10.30 to 11:45. Contact Viv Dyer on 01949 838614 or vivien.dyer@ntlworld.com .
Friday pm
French Group 1 meets fortnightly from 2:30pm to 4pm. Contact Lis Leslie on 01949 831602 .
Practical Gardening Group meets at 2pm. Contact Tina Patrick on 07801 150567.
Sunday
Sunday Lunch Group meets on the first Sunday at 12:30. Contact Jill Kent on 0115 9334516 .
Various days
Explorers Visits Group – Contact Ann Lewis, 01949 831530 .
Beer and Cider Group – Contact John Perry at jkp1951@gmail.com .

Position	Name	Contact number and email
Chairperson	Veronica Perry	01949 875231 bingham.u3a.chairperson@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Ann Lewis	01949 831530 bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com
Business Secretary & Publicity	John Perry	01949 875231 bingham.u3a.secretary@gmail.com
Minutes Secretary	Jennifer Jones	01949 839572 jenniferlesley55@gmail.com
Treasurer	Judith Axtell	01949 839097 bingham.u3a.treasurer@gmail.com
Membership	Margaret Blythe	01949 831537 bingham.u3a.membership@gmail.com
Programme Speakers	Linda Molineaux	07855 762775 bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com
Database/Data Protection	Steve Aremia	01949 831537 bingham.u3a.database@gmail.com
Website	Dave Hobson	01949 836042 appletrees.hobson@gmail.com
Groups Co-ordinator	Ann Lewis	01949 831530 bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com
Newsletter	Dave Hobson	01949 836042 bingham.u3a.newsletter@gmail.com
New Member Support	Chris Butler	01949 851860 kenbutler1@btinternet.com
Refreshments (non-Committee)	Sue Eaton and volunteers	01949 839946
Equipment Handler (non-Committee)	Judy Soar	01949 837108

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