



**March 2025
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**

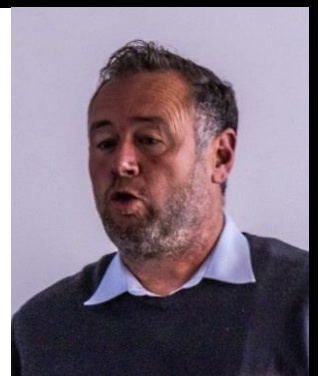
March 19th	<i>The River Trent with Michael Burton</i>
April 16th	<i>The Life and Work of Elvis Presley with Paul Lillie</i>
May 21st	<i>Notts Place Names with Paul Cullen</i>

MONTHLY MEETING REVIEWS AND NEWS



February *Fraud Protection with Richard Kubon*

Richard is a member of the East Midlands Special Operations Unit (EMSOU) which utilises specialist skills and capabilities to tackle the most serious, crimes. His talk at the February meeting covered fraud and how to protect yourself from on-line, telephone and courier scams. He recommended that even unsuccessful frauds should be reported either to the police or to Action Fraud at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk> .



www.binghamu3a.org

www.facebook.com/binghamu3a



March
The River Trent - England's Heart
with Michael Burton

England's prosperity was built along the waterway which, since ancient times, has been a great border - the country's north-south dividing line. Great men, great queens, and great innovation mark the Trent's history. Yet it is, for all that, a mysterious river; silently and secretly doing its own thing and not fully known or understood.



THIRD AGE TRUST BOARD ELECTIONS

The results of elections for additional members of the Third Age Trust (TAT) Board and for Regional Representatives on the new Council have been announced. The Board oversees governance and finance for the national organisation whereas the Council will represent the interests of the u3as..

- TAT Board

There were nine candidates for four Trustee positions and the successful candidates were: John Bent (Barnet u3a); Pauline Green (Stansted Mountfitchet u3a); Alan Russell (Worcester u3a); and Laurence Wale (Worcester u3a).

Your Committee voted for two of these candidates, but its other two choices failed to be elected.

- Council Regional Representatives

The two representatives for the East Midlands will be: John Lewis, who most of you know as a member of Bingham u3a and who will be continuing in the role; and Barry Appleby (Derby u3a and Burton-on-Trent u3a).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NETWORK OF U3AS

We have been encouraged to participate in a Notts Network Workshop where present and potential Group Leaders, Facilitators and Coordinators will be able to share their knowledge, skills and experience. The meeting will take place at Newstead Community Centre from 10am to 12:30pm on Monday 30th June. More details will be available soon on the [Notts Nework website](#) . Just follow the links to see the most recent Newsletter and articles describing activities at other groups within the East Midlands u3a Region.

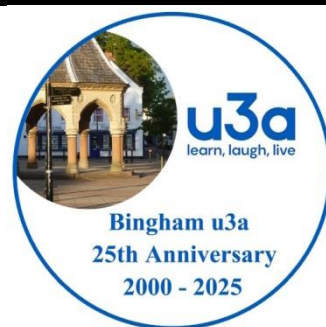
Social Events



Watch out for another disco session with a provisional date of the afternoon of Thursday 20th March 2025, venue to be decided.

BINGHAM U3A's ANNIVERSARY

As noted in the previous Newsletter, October 2025 marks the beginning of the Bingham u3a 25th year. To celebrate this milestone, your Committee is arranging a dinner dance in the Jubilee Hall at Bingham Arena on Saturday evening 18 October 2025, soon after the AGM on the 15 October. Please put these dates in your diary. Further information regarding the event and how to obtain tickets will be given in future Newsletters.



Following on from the November Wednesday talk from Ailish D'Arcy about Jane Austen, I asked which novel she would recommend. Ailish suggested that we try *Northanger Abbey*, one of Austen's earliest novels, and provided some notes as an introduction with talking points we might consider. When the group met, Ailish helped us discuss not only the content but the Gothic novel genre and the times in which Austen was writing. Along with the recent TV production titled *Miss Austen*, which followed Jane's family relationships, we were treated to an in-depth discussion. Several members are resolved to read more of similar books and authors despite them being "set books" when we studied them at school. Thank you to Ailish for being our guest and bringing Austen alive for us.



Scrabble Group

The Scrabble Group, which was discontinued some time ago, is relaunching this month with a new location and meeting days. The first session will be on Wednesday 12th March from 3pm to 5pm in Room 1 at Bingham Methodist Centre and will thereafter be on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The cost will be £2.50 per session. If you have not already put your name down but would like to join, contact Hazel at hajwghs@btopenworld.com.

Croquet Group

We are hoping to restart the Croquet Group on Thursday 24th April at 1:30pm. As usual, this will be weather dependent and will continue fortnightly from that date. The terms for using the Butt Field facilities (including toilets!) are unchanged at £25 per session divisible by the number of players so this should work out at approx. £2 each. Please



let us know if would like to join our friendly group, bring along refreshments and a comfy seat and enjoy! And sunshine too please.

For more information contact Jackie and Richard on 07443 595653.

1st Wednesday Walking Group

In February, John Perry led the group on a pleasant 5-mile walk starting at The Bromley in Fiskerton. The walk took us along the banks of the Trent for 3 miles before striking off on muddy tracks back to the Bromley for lunch.



STEM Group Visit to Sherwood Planetarium Science Centre



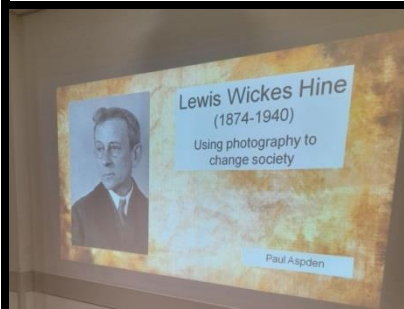
Not sure what to expect, on a dull, drizzly, cold February day I joined a group of members from Bingham u3a to visit the newly-opened Sherwood Observatory in Sutton-in-Ashfield. The Planetarium is built

over a splendid, brick-lined Victorian underground reservoir which now contains an exhibition space with displays and space hardware.

I had thought we might be peering through a telescope, but was surprised to find comfortable, reclining seats under a vast dome. We were treated to an hour-long show, zooming among the planets and discovering worlds beyond Planet Earth, to explore the possibility of forms of life other than our own. The narrator explained in easily-understood terms what conditions would be needed for life to exist and where this might be found amongst the staggering number of universes. Aliens would be far from being little green men (or women). The subject raised many unanswerable questions but the presentation was enthralling.

Discussion afterwards was lively, accompanied in the upstairs cafe by coffee and excellent chocolate brownies (!). We intend to visit again in the near future. Thanks to Dave for organising such an inspiring visit.

Linda Molineauux



History Group

In February, Paul Aspdon gave a talk on Lewis Wickes Hine (1874 – 1940), who used the medium of photography to highlight all the ills of child labour in America. His photographs, taken during times such as the Great Depression, captured the result of young children working in harsh conditions and played a role in bringing about the passage of the first child labour laws in the United States.

Beer and Cider Group

February's outing took members to the Wheatsheaf in Bingham. The Group meets monthly on Thursday evenings, the time depending on public transport and the venue. Contact John Perry on jkp1951@gmail.com or 01949 875231 for more information.



COMMITTEE NEWS



Insurance

The Committee are often asked, particularly by Walking Group Leaders, about the insurance cover for themselves and participating members. Now the Cover Note for the insurance is available on the [Documents](#) page of our website but a lot more information is available on this [FAQ document](#) that can be downloaded from the National u3a site.

Newsletter deadline

The deadline for the April 2025 edition of the Newsletter is March 28th. Please send any copy to Dave Hobson at appletrees.hobson@gmail.com.

GROUP CONTACT DETAILS AND MEETING POINTS



Monday am

Bingham u3a Coffee Mornings are held at The Buttercross in the Market Square at 10:30 on the second Monday of the month. Contact Chris Butler at kenbutler1@btinternet.com

Ambling Group 1 meets at Church House weekly at 10:20. Contact Ann Lewis, bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com, 01949 831530

Monday pm

Film Group meets at Butler's Coffee House on second Mondays at 2pm. Contact Lindsay Evett at lindsay.evett@outlook.com

Spanish Conversation Group meets every other Monday at Laura's house at 2pm. Contact Laura Rennie on 07722 499111 or laurare8305@gmail.com.

Table Tennis Group meets upstairs at Bingham Arena every 2nd and 4th Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30. Contact Lin Munroe at linmun.linda@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

Board Games Group meets at the Bowls Club from October to April at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Contact Jeff Peters on 01949 875406 or jeff.peters369@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 or at the start on the first Wednesday at 10am. Contact Veronica on 01949 875231 or vperry1951@gmail.com

Wednesday pm

Scrabble Group meets from 3pm to 5pm in Room 1 at Bingham Methodist Centre on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Contact Hazel at hajwgghs@btopenworld.com

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 the Methodist Centre on the fourth Thursday of alternate months from 11am to 12am. Contact Dave Hobson on 01949 836042 or appletrees.hobson@gmail.com

Bridge Group meets at the Bowls Club every week from 10am to 12am. Contact Dave Cobley on 07966 370385 or dfcobley@hotmail.com

Thursday pm

Beer and Cider Group meets monthly on Thursday evenings, the time depending on public transport and the venue. Contact John Perry on jkp1951@gmail.com or 01949 875231

Croquet Group meets at the Butt Field Pavilion fortnightly starting on April 25th at 1:30 until September. Contacts - Jackie Hutton, 07443 595653 and Judith Wilkin, 07769 293621

German Conversation Group meets fortnightly at 2:30. Contact Valerie Morgan on 0115 9332353, valdave_morgan@btinternet.com
Creative Writing Group meets on the first Thursday of every month from 11am to 1pm at the Wildflower Cafe, Coach Gap Lane, Langar. Contact Lynne Boardman at Southam2610@gmail.com
Ukulele Group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays at Bingham Methodist Centre, from 2pm to 3.45pm. Contact David Eagland on 01949831022 or davidmeagland@btinternet.com
Creative Stitching Group meets every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm in the Library. All levels and types of embroidery/ patchwork, etc. For details contact Mary on 01949 851110
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 2pm to 3:30pm. Contact Lis Leslie on 01949 831602
Canasta Group meets in Room 2 at the Methodist Centre at 2pm on the first and third Fridays. Contact is Martin Cox, martin.cox1@outlook.com
Practical Gardening Group meets at 2pm. Contact Jo McHugh, jomchugh@outlook.com
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

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	01949839572 jenniferlesley55@gmail.com
Treasurer	Leila Kirkham	07772 303328 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
Co-opted member	Robin Wilkin	07767 603799 robin@wilkinassociates.com
Refreshments (non-Committee)	Sue Eaton and volunteers	01949 839946
Equipment Handler (non-Committee)	Judy Soar	01949 837108

Printed by Wordprint Ltd, Newark NG24 4BQ