



**November
2023
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 November, James Prior Kirk – Out of the Shadows
20th December, Radcliffe Male Voice Choir**

REPORT OF BINGHAM u3a AGM



The 23rd Annual General Meeting of Bingham u3a was held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 in Bingham Methodist Centre followed by presentations by Group Facilitators, tea and cakes.

- With the agreement of those 57 members present, those offering to stand for the Committee were voted in – details can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

- A report by John Lewis, who had stepped down as Chairman when appointed as Regional Trustee, was read out. In it he reviewed his three years in office, highlighting the u3a's recovery from the pandemic, and his personal highlights of his tenure. He gave his good wishes to the incoming Committee.
- There are now 288 members, 38 having joined this year.
- There are currently 28 active groups, four of which have been set up this year: Creative Writing, History, Book Club and Embroidery.
- Five groups have stopped running: Table Tennis, Theatre, Real Ale, Pop Music and Welsh.



BINGHAM u3a QUIZ

In September, we had a very sociable Social Quiz Night at Bingham Rugby Club, hosted by the Committee with John Perry as Quizmaster. Ten teams of six people competed for generous prizes and a small profit was made!



TEA AND CAKES FOR VOLUNTEERS



As a thank you, the Committee invited u3a volunteers for tea and cakes at the WI Hut on the 26th October. Here are some photos.



BEETLE DRIVE

We will be holding a Beetle Drive, open to all members, on 22nd November from 2pm at the Methodist Centre. No experience is necessary and the rules will be explained on the day. Contact Linda Molineaux at lindamolineaux46@gmail.com.

Bingham u3a has a variety of equipment held by members for their use, for example, a projector. Judy Soar is trying to compile a definitive list to be published next month, so if any member currently has anything to declare, can they please contact Judy on 01949 837108?

INTEREST GROUP UPDATES

NEW – Computer Workshop

There has been a request to run workshops to assist members with computer problems and to develop their technical skills. Is there a techie member who would be prepared to help with this? Please contact me if this sounds like you.

NEW – Art Group

Several members have suggested setting up an Art Group. If you are interested, please contact me and I will set up a meeting to discuss its formation. Before the pandemic, Karen Peters ran a popular group, but unfortunately was not able to restart the sessions.

If you can help with the first and are interested in the second, Please contact Ann Lewis, Groups Co-ordinator



Creative Writing Group is now up and running. Please contact Veronica Perry on 01949875231, bingham.u3a.chairperson@gmail.com or Lynne Boardman, southam2610@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

Music Appreciation Group

The November meeting on the 14th will again be at Maisie's home at Newlands, The Saucers in Scarrington. As the weather in November may be warning us of colder times to come, Jennifer David will be cheering us up by presenting her selection of music with a 'Humour in Music' theme. I'm sure that Flanders and Swan will be there somewhere. An interesting theme which should provide some real cheerfulness on a dull afternoon.

Please ring Maisie 01949 850402 if you would like to attend.



Book Club

The October meeting of the Book Group involved a last-minute change of venue, moving from the damaged library to a member's house. Although the book group is now over-subscribed, only five members have been at recent meetings, due to individual circumstances. At the time of writing, we are not able to access the selected books for next month, so we continue as best we can.

We read Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. Comments were mostly favourable; it was easy to read, interesting, a happy book with humour and likeable characters. It was felt that the book would make a good film, indeed it is currently available on Apple TV. There was one strongly held opposing view, but that is why the group find it interesting to discuss their perceptions of books.

Please contact Linda Molineaux on 01949 21060 or bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com.

Explorers Group

Members of the Group will be visiting Nottingham Castle on 9th November to view the refurbishment and new galleries. Other future visits being planned include Nottingham Contemporary, Holme Pierrepont Hall, Derby Museum of Making, the National Arboretum, Matlock by train and East Midlands Aeropark to name but a few. Something for everyone! Some of the visits still need volunteers to organise the trip, so please get in touch with me if you are able to help.

Ann Lewis, Explorer Group Facilitator



Recorder Group



We are a "playing for pleasure" group of mixed ability playing descant, treble, tenor and bass recorders. Before joining the group most of us last played at primary school or were new to the recorder. We would welcome new members and are also

looking for help from anyone who is able to conduct for us. Contact Viv Dyer on 01949 838614 or vivien.dyer@ntlworld.com.

Fourth Wednesday Walking Group

Our thanks to Margaret and Lesley for preparing and leading a lovely figure of eight walk from the Plough Inn at Wysall.

We knew that, after the horrendous rains and flooding caused by storm Babet last Friday, the fields were likely to be muddy. However



Margaret (with Trevor's help) had plotted out a route which avoided any serious mud and the sun shone all morning. We even had a convenient break at the coffee trailer after the first loop (see picture).

The lunch at the Plough was really good value and tasted good too, with a cheery landlady making sure we were served promptly despite the pub being quite busy – always a good sign!



Embroidery Group

Embroidery is the art of decorating and/or manipulating fabric items with decorative stitching. Worldwide, examples can be traced back over 7 millennia. Personally I prefer the term “creative stitching” as it better describes a more modern practice. The main groupings of modern embroidery include freestyle, counted stitch, applique, smocking, and patchwork and quilting. Completed work (“projects”) may be two or three dimensional. Examples can include samplers, wall hangings, boxes, bags and book covers.

The group should be able to cater for all levels of skill and experience from absolute beginner to experienced stitchers in one or more techniques – this may not happen for the first few meetings but we’ll get there! It will not be a taught class, although at various times one or more members may be seeking coaching and/or advice for their current project/technique. This could be provided by anyone in the group but in the early meetings I suspect that may be me!

Members of the group will need to provide their own fabric, threads and notions, although it is likely that there may some “sharing”. Guidance and advice will be available. During each (or most) group meetings, we may be able to include a short session

on a topic of interest: for example explanations and discussion on needles, fabrics and threads as well as introducing different techniques.

The intention is that the group will meet fortnightly, possibly on a Thursday afternoon. Once the location has been finalised, the place and date/times will be e-mailed to all members. In the meantime, if anyone wishes to register their interest and/or ask any questions about the possible content, please contact me on 01949 851110 or maryannball@tiscali.co.uk



NEW MEMBERS

The committee would like to express a warm welcome to the following new or returning members: Janet Johnson, Sheila Cartwright, Valerie Chandrakumar, Michael Holding.

We hope they will enjoy being part of Bingham u3a and participating in the activity groups of their choice.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The deadline for the December 2023 edition is 18th November. Please send any copy to Dave Hobson on appletrees.hobson@gmail.com.

Monday am

Ambling Group 1 meets at Church House weekly at 10:30. Contact Miriam Bingham on 01949 836390 or miriam.bingham@yahoo.com

Coffee Social Group meets at the Buttercross Pub on the second Mondays 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 or lindsay.evett@outlook.com

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 01949 875406 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. Contact Beryl Kemp on 01949 839728 or bkemp1910@gmail.com .	
Walking Group 1 meets by Church House on the first Wednesday at 10am. Contact Judith Williams on 07523 645105 or judith10r@icloud.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 Church House (car share) on the fourth Wednesday at 9:30. Contact John and Glyn Greenwood on 01159 899798 or johnandglyn@btinternet.com	
Wednesday pm	
Spanish 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 alternate months from 11am to 12am. Contact Dave Hobson on 01949 836042 or appletrees.hobson@gmail.com .	
www.binghamu3a.org	www.facebook.com/binghamu3a

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 from May to September at 1pm. Contacts – Jackie Hutton, 07443 595653 and Judith Wilkin , 07769 293621
German Conversation Group meets fortnightly at 2pm. Contact Valerie Morgan on 0115 9332353, valdave_morgan@btinternet.com .
Sewing Group meets in Room 2 of the Methodist Centre starting on 23rd November. Contact Mary Ball, maryannball@tiscali.com.
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 4pm. Contact Lis Leslie on 01949 831602.
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 .
Creative Writing Group – Contact Lynne Boardman, Southam2610@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	bingham.u3a.meetings@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 0762775 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