

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

Meetings are held in the Methodist Centre,
Bingham at 2pm

Third Wednesday of the month
NEXT MEETING : 15 February 2023

Bingham u3a



Founded October 2000

Registered Charity No. 1181961

LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE

UPCOMING MEETINGS

15 th February 2023	<i>Time Through The Ages</i> with John Hope
15 th March 2023	<i>Fire Safety</i> with Jack Hibbert
19 th April 2023	<i>The Gretna Girls and the Devil's Porridge</i> with David Skillen

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Many members will remember the proposal last September by the Third Age Trust to increase national subscriptions year on year by an index-linked percentage. This provoked a storm of protest from member u3a's and was heavily defeated at the National AGM, so that national subscriptions are frozen until April 2024.

Clearly, there is a problem with u3a members' understanding of the essential role of the Third Age Trust and the contribution of Regional Trustees to the governance, guidance, development and promotion of the u3a movement in the UK, possibly attributable to poor communications and lack of transparency and accountability. This problem needs to be solved as a matter of urgency.

The former East Midlands Regional Trustee, Jean Hogg, did not stand for re-election last September and there were no nominations for a successor, so that the whole of the East Midlands is without a Regional Trustee and therefore has no voice on the Third Age Trust Board of Directors, which is a sorry state of affairs.

Nominations from u3a's have been invited for the election of Regional Trustees in three regions in March 2023, and I have decided to stand for the East Midlands.

Nominations from u3a's in the Region close on the 15th February. Your committee has already approved my nomination, and another Notts u3a has agreed to second it, so the forms will be submitted online before the deadline. Should I be elected, Veronica Perry, Vice Chair, will step up to the mark to stand in for me when necessary.

I hope that all the members of Bingham u3a will support me in this decision, but if you have any comments to make, please feel free to contact me by e-mail or telephone

LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE!

John Lewis, Chairman



A National and International organisation that provides companionship and enables members to share many educational, creative and leisure activities.

Programme News

February 15th Time through the Ages, previously publicised.

March 15th Fire Safety with Jack Hibbert.

Jack will talk about his life and work in the Fire Service. He was in the Royal Marines and worked on a kibbutz and at a zoo. Promises to be an interesting and informative talk! Bingham U3A will be making a donation towards the Service in lieu of a fee.



April 19th **David Skillen** comes highly recommended from other u3As. His presentation is intriguingly entitled ***The Gretna Girls and the Devil's Porridge.***

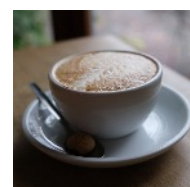
May 17th The welcome return of **Emma Sheardown**, to conclude her talk entitled ***There's no such word as can't.*** Emma was with us in January, when her talk was unfortunately shortened by an emergency. She has kindly agreed to return, with a brief cover of the story so far and the outcome.

Emma's talk will be followed by a quiz about the 1953 Coronation and opportunity to chat about our memories and view memorabilia, whilst having our usual cuppa.

If you were born before 1953, please seek out photos of yourself or family in 1953, relating to the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Souvenir mugs, pens, booklets, programmes etc could be displayed and shared between members on 17th May. Make a note in your diary! Thank you.

Do come along to the monthly meetings to hear these interesting speakers and maybe bring a friend to try Bingham U3A?

COFFEE MEETING reverts to 10.30 am on the second Monday of the month. All welcome.





TRAVEL GROUP



**Only U3A Members can go on U3A Holidays
or Excursions**

DAY TRIPS

The coach (Emjay Tours) will pick up in Bingham & East Bridgford

Wednesday 31st May or Tuesday 25th July

Sezincote House in the Cotswolds

**or free time at Bourton in the Water if you do not wish
to view the house & gardens**

Coach is booked but we are waiting for the visit to the house to be confirmed.

Monday 14th August

Coach tour of Cromer and Sherringham

Tuesday 26th September

Coach Tour of Derbyshire (area around Bakewell - details later)

Wednesday 25th October

Flamborough & Bridlington

Coach and lunch included

The coach and driver have been reserved for all these dates.

Prices and detailed itineraries to follow.

**Beryl Kemp and/or Carol Habieb will organise on behalf of the Travel
Group. Please contact Beryl at the monthly meeting or on 01949 839278
or Carol on 01949 20448.**



THEATRE NEWS



Please note that the payment date for Steel Magnolias is 13th February but there is availability so please let me know at the next meeting on 15th February at the latest if you would like to come.

Forthcoming visits

TITANIC THE MUSICAL on Saturday 29th May at 2.30pm at the Theatre Royal Nottingham

We all know the history of RMS Titanic but this Tony & Emmy award winning musical is focused on some of the real people who each boarded with hopes and aspirations regardless whether they were 3rd/2nd or 1st class passengers. With a stunning set this production is emotional and stirring.

Cost £44.50 Payment date 15th March

NEW - STEEL MAGNOLIAS on Saturday 15th April at 2.30pm at the Theatre Royal Nottingham

Hilarious and heart-warming comedy true story that inspired the hit film that starred Dolly Parton and Julia Roberts. Six women come together in a small town beauty salon in then American deep south and prove that female friendship can unite and conquer all!

Price £41 no discounts available. Payment date : see above note.

NEW - ANNIE THE MUSICAL on Wednesday 14th June at 2pm at The Royal Concert Hall

This production comes directly from the smash hit revival in the West End and stars Craig Revel Horwood as the tyrannical Miss Hannigan with an unforgettable score including "It's a hard knock life" and "Tomorrow".

Price £ 40/ 36.50 group rate or £46/£42.50 group rate. Payment date 15th March

NEW - BIZET'S THE PEARL FISHERS performed by Opera North on Saturday July 1st at 7pm at the Royal Concert Hall

A love triangle set against the backdrop of ancient Ceylon this concert staging of Bizet's imaginative music has magnificent choruses and tells the story of two men whose vow of friendship flounders on their love for the same woman, the priestess Leila.

Price £40.50 or £ 31.50 Payment date 28th March

Please contact me with any queries and information or ideas for future visits and let me know me when booking if you would like to have lunch before these outings. 07443595653 /01949 838140 email randjhutton@gmail.com

Jackie Hutton

GENERAL GROUP UPDATES

Wednesday Walking Group 2

January's walk was a gentle stroll to Wetherspoons where we planned a programme of walks for the coming year. We are looking forward to a variety of walks in 4 different counties, the next one being a 9 mile figure of eight near Cropston reservoir on February 8th. We meet at Old Church House at 9.30 . You will need a packed lunch and we use as few cars as practical for environmental reasons. Any not needed can be left behind or taken back home. We are a friendly group and would welcome any newcomers.

Esme Smith

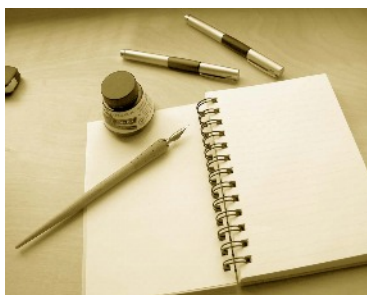
Wednesday Walking Group 4

This group, not put off by murky weather, enjoyed a lovely winter stroll, finishing up at the Starting Gate pub for refreshments!



WRITING GROUP

This group has been resurrected following COVID and intends to meet monthly, probably now on a Tuesday, the first meeting to take place on Tuesday 28th February, to share members' writings, often following an agreed theme.



The atmosphere is relaxed, helpful and non-judgemental with the aim of helping participants to improve their writing skills and to *enjoy* writing.

No previous experience is necessary, just the desire to write in whatever form. If anyone would like to join this group please contact Gordon Wallace at gwwallace@btinternet.com or on 07809 226285.

Music Appreciation Group

Our December meeting brought forth a wide selection of Christmas music – and not just the more traditional carols – and so was greatly enjoyed by those who came.

The January meeting at Esme's was a feast of mainly choral music starting with music through the centuries which demonstrated how choral singing and harmony developed quite dramatically; we also had a few modern songs and some organ pieces which demonstrated the range of sounds that the organ can produce and the brilliance of the performers.

The afternoon finished with the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony – the Choral – performed at last year's Proms by the Chenike Orchestra and chorus who sang the whole piece from memory – an amazing achievement.

The February meeting on the 16th will be at Elizabeth & Anthony's home at 11 Grove Road, Bingham when we will be watching and listening to a vintage recording of Madame Butterfly (VHS tape!). We haven't seen any opera for quite some time – 3 years to be precise – so it is long overdue. Covid has a lot to be blamed for.

Please ring Anthony on 01949-875968 if you would like to attend.



Bingham u3a STEM Interest Group

The next session of the Bingham u3a STEM Interest Group will be on Thursday 23rd February at 11:00 in Room 1 of the Methodist Centre when we will discuss Navigation, its history, mathematics and technology. **All u3a members are welcome.**



The early history of navigation relates to the science of directing ships at sea through the establishment of latitude and course by means of geometry, astronomy and instruments such as the astrolabe (200 BC), sextant (1759) and compass (200 AD). Later, with the introduction of increasingly accurate clocks (Harrison's H4 in 1761), it was possible to measure longitude as well. In the 20th century, radar (Loran, WWII) and later satellite systems such as GPS (1993) revolutionised navigation.

Finally we will cover the use of latitude and longitude and other measures of location (e.g Great Britain Grid References) in conjunction with the various styles and projections of terrestrial maps.

Dave Hobson

HISTORY GROUP

We are thinking of restarting the History Group but with the intention of looking at a wide range of topics.

We want to hold an introductory meeting, to gauge the level of interest, and to decide (if there is enough interest) how best to proceed. Some of the things we might want to consider at this meeting are:

- who will talk on what?
- just talks, or maybe visits?
- national /international history, local history or both?
- when/where to meet and how often will be up for discussion.

If you want to be involved in this group or have been involved previously, please contact John Perry via bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com.

A couple of reminders from your Committee:

Membership Fees

*Not all members have paid up for 2023 and the deadline is the end of February. Please ensure you pay your fees by that date. Anyone benefiting from group activities must be a member and all group leaders are obliged to keep a list of members in their groups and to periodically check this. **Please do not embarrass your group leader by not paying your fees.***

Anyone who is not a paid up member by the end of February will be removed from Bingham u3a membership list. Also please note, anyone participating in a group activity without being a paid up member is also not covered by our group insurance in the event of any accident or medical emergency.

Committee Changes

We have previously let you know that at the AGM in October several key members of the committee will be relinquishing their roles. We need members to step forward to fill the following posts:

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Newsletter Editor

Without these roles being filled, the organisation of our branch will grind to a halt. It would be very much easier to have time to show volunteers “the ropes”, come along to meetings to see how it all works etc before October.

Who will step forward?

So what does a u3a secretary actually do?

Loud chorus of 'attends meetings and writes minutes, of course' Well yes, but that is only part of it. Keeping the rest of the committee, and sometimes all the membership, informed must be a top priority. Who should decide which of the communications we receive from our national office need to be passed on to the committee for action or consideration? Who completes annual returns and updates of committee changes for the Third Age Trust? Who has the knowledge to restrain the Chair from acting unconstitutionally? Who else but the secretary!



From booking meeting rooms to helping to set up the monthly meeting, to keeping records of accidents and incidents, copies of insurance certificates, policies and other vital documents, the role is varied and essential, but not burdensome (less than 4 hours a month).

Why do I do it? First and foremost to be involved in our fantastic organisation. and to enable my own voice to be heard in the running of it. It's a great way to get to know other members and to share friendship, fun and co-operative working with other committee members. And finally, because it adds purpose into my u3a membership, in the spirit of 'by the members for the members'.

If your interest is aroused by this, we would love to see you at our next committee meeting on Tuesday 7th March at 9.30 in the Old Court House to see how it works in practice; or speak to myself or any other member of the committee.

PHISHING, TROJANS, AND OTHER INTERNET MALWARE

Once again this annoying and sometimes dangerous phenomenon has raised its ugly head. Here are a few reminders and tips to be aware of:-

DO'S AND DONT'S

- **DO** Hover your cursor over the sender. This should bring up the address from which the message has been sent. If it's not **EXACTLY** the same as the address of someone you were expecting to hear from [the differences can be very difficult to spot], **BLACKLIST** the sender and **REPORT** them to your internet service provider.
- Whatever you do, **DON'T** open the message and **DON'T** reply.
- **DO** check that your antivirus software is adequate and up-to-date and that your firewall is set high enough to block messages from domains registered in unfamiliar parts of the world.

GROUP CONTACT DETAILS AND MEETING TIMES

Monday am:

Group	<u>Ambling 1</u>	<u>Coffee Social</u>
Contact	Miriam Bingham	Any committee member
Telephone	01949 836390	01949 839946
Venue	by Church House	Buttercross Pub
Frequency	Weekly	2 nd
Time	10.30 am	10.30 am

Monday pm:

Group	<u>Cinema</u>	<u>Table Tennis</u>	<u>Board Games</u>	<u>Welsh</u>
Contact	Lindsay	Chris Skingle	Jeff Peters	Beryl Kemp
Telephone	Evet	01949 876221	01949 875406	01949 839728
Venue	01949 851115	Leisure Centre	Bowls Club	Library
Frequency	Butler's Coffee Hse	1 st & 3 rd	Oct to April	2.30pm
Time	2nd Monday 2.00 pm	4 pm to 5 pm	2 nd Monday	
	<u>Spanish Conversation</u> Laura Rennie's house 2pm - alt weeks 07722499111	skinglec@gmail.com	7 pm	<u>Wine</u> Lynne Barnett 01949 875151 Various 3 rd or 4 th 2.30 pm

Tuesday am:

Group	<u>French Improvers</u>	<u>KNIT & NATTER</u>	<u>Writing</u>
Contact	Joanne Collie	Beryl Kemp	Gordon Wallace
Telephone	01949 831899	(839728) or Judy	07809 226285
Venue	Venue TBC	Soar (837108)	Scarrington
Frequency	Every other Tuesday	Bingham Library	Monthly
Time	10 am	Weekly	12.00
		10am	

Tuesday pm:

Group	<u>Ambling 2</u>	<u>Gentle Exercise</u>
Contact	Jackie Hutton/Sue Eaton	Linda Walden
Telephone	01949 839728/837376	01949 836717
Venue	Car Park	Old Church Ho.
Frequency	Fortnightly @ 1 pm	Weekly
Time		1-2 pm
Group	<u>French Conversation 2</u>	<u>Book Club</u>
Contact	Barbara Savage	Linda Molineaux or Veronica Perry
Telephone	01949 838782	01949 875231 or
Venue	Various	07855 762775
Frequency	2 nd & 4 th	Every 4 th Tuesday
Time	2-4 pm	Library
		2pm

GROUP CONTACT DETAILS AND MEETING TIMES

Wednesday am:

Group	<u>Walking 1</u>	<u>Walking 2</u>	<u>Walking 4</u>
Contact	Judith Williams	Esme Smith	John & Glyn Greenwood
Telephone	07523 645105	01949 875148	01159 899798
Venue	By Church House	Church Ho./Car Share	Church Ho./Car Share
Frequency	1 st	2 nd	4 th
Time	10 am	9.30 am	9.30 am

Wednesday pm:

Group	<u>Spanish</u>
Contact	Jean Oates
Telephone	01949 850864/07898895274
Venue	Old Courthouse
Frequency	fortnightly
Time	2 - 3 pm

Thursday am:

Group	<u>STEM</u>	<u>Petanque</u>	<u>Bridge</u>	<u>Cycling</u>
Contact	Dave Hobson	<u>(Seasonal)</u> Beryl Kemp	Dave Cobley	Charles Richardson
Telephone	01949 836042	01949 839728	07966370385	01949 831602
Venue	Venue TBC	The Grange	Bowls Club	The Buttercross, Market Place
Frequency	Last Thursday	Alternate w'ks	Alternate weeks	2 nd & 4 th
Time	11:00-12:00	10 - 12 midday	10 - 12 midday	10.30 am

Thursday pm:

Group	<u>Croquet (Seasonal)</u>	<u>German Conversation</u>
Contact	Trish Tilley	Valerie Morgan
Telephone	01949 837923	0115 9332353
Venue	Pavilion Butt Field	Various
Frequency	Fortnightly May to Sept.	Fortnightly
Time	1.00 pm	2.30 pm

Group	<u>Music Appreciation</u>
Contact	Anthony Watts/Derrick Gierth
Telephone	01949 875968
Venue	Various
Frequency	3 rd of the month
Time	2 pm

Friday am:

Group	<u>Mobility & Movement</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
Contact	Ann Lewis	Viv Dyer
Telephone	01949 831530	01949 838614
Venue	Methodist Hall	Old Court House
Frequency	Weekly	1 st & 3 rd
Time	10 - 11 am	10.30 - 11.45 am

GROUP CONTACT DETAILS AND MEETING TIMES

Friday pm:

Group **French Group 1**
Contact Lis Leslie
Telephone 01949 831602
Venue Various
Frequency Fortnightly
Time 2 - 4 pm

Group **Gardening**
Contact Tina Patrick
Telephone 07801 150567
Venue Various
Frequency TBC
Time 2.00pm

Sunday:

Group **Sunday Lunch 1**
Contact Jill Kent
Telephone 0115 9334516
Venue Various
Frequency 1st
Time 12.30 pm

Groups meeting up on various days:

Group **Theatre visits**
Contact Jackie Hutton
Telephone 01949 838140
Venue Various Theatres

Group **Explorers Visits**
Contact David Heppenstall
Telephone Heppenstalldavid@hotmail.com 07885 200852

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?

Lots of photos, contacts and other information. www.binghamu3a.org

Why not follow us on Facebook? www.facebook.com/binghamu3a



Your Committee

POSITION	NAME	Contact Number	EMAIL
Chairman	John Lewis	01949 831530	bingham.u3a.chairperson@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Veronica Perry	01949 875231	bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com
Treasurer	Judith Axtell	01949 839097	bingham.u3a.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Ann Lewis	01949 831530	bingham.u3a.secretary@gmail.com
Programme	Linda Molineaux	07855 762775	bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com
Membership	Margaret Blythe	01949 831537	bingham.u3a.membership@gmail.com
Publicity	John Lewis	<u>01949 831530</u>	bingham.u3a.chairperson@gmail.com
Website	Dave Hobson		
Groups Co-ordinator	Veronica Perry	01949 875231	bingham.u3a.vicechair@gmail.com
Newsletter	Tina Tringham	01949 839153/07 941 279189	bingham.u3a.newsletter@gmail.com
Database Manager	Steve Aremia	01949 831537	bingham.u3a.database@gmail.com

POSITION	NAME	Contact Number	EMAIL
New Members Support	Beryl Kemp	01949 839728	bingham.u3a.beryl.newmembers@gmail.com
Equipment Handler (non-committee)	Judy Soar	01949 837108	
Refreshments (non-committee)	Sue Eaton & Volunteers	01949 839946	

***The deadline for the March 2023 edition is
Contact Tina Tringham 01949 839153/07941 279189
e-mail : bingham.u3a.newsletter@gmail.com***

27 February