



October 2026 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.
18th November - *Juke Box Jury* with Roger Prescott
16th December - *Shakespeare's Magical Avon* with Michael Burton



REMINDER - NOTICE OF AGM

The 26th Annual General Meeting of Bingham u3a will be held on Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 2pm in Bingham Methodist Centre, Union Street, Bingham, NG13 8AD.

Agenda

1. Welcome remarks by the Chair
2. Apologies for absence - Secretary
3. Minutes of the AGM held on 15th October 2025 - Secretary
4. Matters arising - Secretary
5. Annual Report - Chair
6. Annual accounts for the year 2025/26 - Treasurer
7. Motions from members - Secretary
8. Membership Report - Membership Secretary
9. Report from Groups - Groups Coordinator
10. Election of Officers and Committee Members
11. Any Other Business

Afterwards, there will be a social gathering, including a quiz, giving you a chance to chat with Committee members and Group Facilitators and enjoy tea and cakes.

COMMITTEE NEWS



Interview for 103 The Eye

On 20th September, our Business Secretary John Perry gave a live interview with 103 The Eye, the community radio station serving Melton Mowbray and the Vale of Belvoir. He talked about Bingham u3a, which was founded in October 2000, and its more than thirty interest groups from ambling to writing, from book reading to wine tasting, from raquet sports to science ... and many more.

SOCIAL EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Thursday, 22nd October - MBTA Workshop
- Friday, 20th November, 7.00 for 7:30 - Bingham u3a Quiz at the Rugby Club Pavilion, £2. Please register your team of up to six people with John Perry, 01949 875231, jkp1951@gmail.com
- Friday, 18th December - Christmas party.

MONTHLY MEETING REVIEW



16th September - *Forever Notts* with Freddy Heppell

Forever Notts (formerly the Nottinghamshire Community Foundation) is a local independent charity founded in 1997 that encourages philanthropy and distributes grant funding of over £1m to voluntary and community groups across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire annually.



Freddy talked about the organisation and explained how it connects local donors with charities and community groups, helping money raised locally to stay within the county.

U3A MBTI WORKSHOP: FIND YOUR PERSONALITY TYPE



Venue: Methodist Centre

Date: 22nd October

Length: 2pm until 4pm

Tutor: Jo McHugh (Licensed Practitioner in MBTI)

Curious about what makes you, *you*? Join us for an informal, interactive and friendly workshop where you'll explore your personality using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI).

If you would be interested, please contact Linda Molineaux on 07855 762775 to reserve a place.



BINGHAM U3A OPEN DAY

On 19th September, we held an Open Day for all prospective and current members to provide more information on our Interest Groups' activities, u3a events and a chance to meet some of our volunteers.

On the day, we signed up twelve new members, with others expressing their intention to join at a later date, and several Interest Groups have reported that they have gained additional participants, so I think we can regard the event as a success as far as recruitment is concerned. I hope that we were also able to raise the profile of u3a amongst the wider population of Bingham, which was the main objective during National u3a Week.

Of course the event could not have taken place without the hard work and enthusiastic support of many of our Interest Group Facilitators and other u3a members. Several visitors remarked on the friendly atmosphere in the hall. So well done to everyone who attended.

Ann Lewis, Groups Co-ordinator



Bingham u3a Open Day photos



INTEREST GROUP UPDATES



Wine Group 2

The Group met last Thursday for a wine tasting by Majestic Wines at The Wheatsheaf in Bingham. We were treated to a selection of

Sauvignon Blancs from various areas of New Zealand. It was fascinating to see the difference in quality and flavour from the different areas. We were also treated to a good selection of foods. A great evening followed by a brief visit to The Buttercross in the Market Square to discuss the visit.



Film Group - & Sons (2025)

Bill Nighy plays an irascible, aging writer facing his own mortality and concerned about what might happen to his youngest son, who's still at school. He contacts his two, estranged, elder sons to consider what might be done. He wants things

to be different for his youngest son but can they be? His desire for things to be different is made more complex by a shocking twist to the story, which makes it more interesting and thought-provoking. Good performances all round from a great cast and an award-worthy performance from Nighy.

Lindsay Evett

History Group - *The Life and Art of Dame Laura Knight*

Jo McHugh gave us a very interesting, illustrated talk on the life and art of Dame Laura Knight, Nottingham-born and one of the most famous English artists of the 20th century.

She trained at the Nottingham School of Arts and spent time in Staithes and Cornwall as part of the Newlyn group of artists. She is well known for her coastal scenes, and was commissioned to paint pictures of the Nuremburg trials in 1946.



Beer and Cider Group

September's meeting took place at The Castle pub which is just below Nottingham Castle. Ten members met up and enjoyed sampling the good range of beers and ciders before catching the bus home.

Our next meeting will be at the Poppy and Pint in Lady Bay on Thursday 22nd October.



Garden Group

The group visited Honey Trees garden in Bottesford on 30th August. It is a tropical inspired garden with beautiful plants including rare species from around the world. There are some great lookouts over the Vale of Belvoir, some interesting glass houses and a plant sale.

We had plenty of tea and cakes too. If you are interested in joining our group please email Jo McHugh at Jomchugh@outlook.com.

Book Club 1 - *Three sisters* by Heather Morris

This book recounted the true story of three Jewish sisters who were imprisoned in Auschwitz during WWII. The youngest, Livia (15), and Cibi (19) were from Slovakia and were kept at the camp for over two years in terrible conditions. They were later joined by Magda (17) and they witnessed their mother being sent to the gas chamber. They stuck together and supported each other as they had promised their father. When the war ended, they escaped the death march and travelled to Israel where they all married other internees from the war and then lived in Israel supporting each



other and their children.

We had an interesting and lively discussion on how they survived the horrors of internment and compared the book to other stories of the Nazi death camps. We then related this to the present day situation in the Middle East. We all found it a good read despite the horrors the sisters encountered and the way they managed to escape the gas chambers.

Elaine Hobson

Book Club 2 - *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty

We had an interesting discussion this month about our latest book *Apples Never Fall*. A new member, Mary who hadn't read the book described how there was a TV series on BBC1 based on the book, set in America rather than Australia which is where the original book was set.

The book is a mystery and family drama about the disappearance of Joy Delaney and the dark secrets of her tennis-obsessed family. Of the seven members at the meeting two really enjoyed the book. Fiona thought the characters were well drawn and a good read and enjoyed the details of life with the tennis -obsessed family. Kathleen also enjoyed the book, especially how people were examined in different families, how genetics have an effect but also the social situations that families are subjected to. Sue really didn't like the book and felt that there were a lot of words that could have been sorted out. The other Sue in the group was equally scathing and said that she kept reading bits and putting it down. Jane read it quickly so that she could pass it on to me and commented that the whole family had problems and she did not find it interesting

When I first started reading the book in August, I realized that, though I had read it four years ago, I couldn't remember much about it, except that I knew it was about tennis, not a particular interest of mine. So I put the book to one side but then I thought that, as I was leading a book group, I should read it again. I probably enjoyed it more this time though I did skip over a huge chunk in the middle.

The disappearance of Joy Delaney took up a lot of the book and we weren't sure what had happened to her. Her husband was prime suspect and I thought the book dealt with a long term marriage and what goes on behind the facade quite well.

The sibling rivalries between the four children were quite understandable and the competitiveness of the children's upbringing carried on into their adult life.

Savannah was a puzzle as she arrived into the story complicating all the relationships. In some ways, she was a likeable character and in other ways horrendous. As a group we felt there may be a sequel as the end left us rather wanting more even though we didn't all enjoy the book,

I think the book showed clearly that the way we develop as adults can often be explained by the family we have come from.

Frances Bailey

Michael and Colin's Ping Pong Marathon Challenge for Dementia Support

Michael Rose and Colin Richardson are going to be playing table tennis for eight hours on Saturday 24th October 2026 at Bingham Methodist Church to raise funds for two dementia causes - [the Bingham Methodist Church](#) Memory Café and [Reading Well for Dementia](#) in Derby City Libraries.

They will be playing each other and taking on all-comers who will pay to play from 9am to 5pm.

Drinks and cakes will also be available to buy, with proceeds also going towards funding these dementia-support initiatives.

If you would like to you can sponsor them at: [Michael and Colin's Ping Pong Marathon Challenge for Dementia Support.](#)



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November 2026 edition is 31st October. 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 Sue Eaton, susaneaton6@gmail.com, 01949 839946

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.

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

Wine Group 1. Contact Lynne Barnett on 01949 875151 or lynnieb.barnett@gmail.com.

Tuesday am

Knit and Natter Group meets at the Methodist Centre weekly from 10am to noon. 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

Book Club 1 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 Veronica on 01949 875231 or vperry1951@gmail.com

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 2pm to 3pm. Contact Ann Lewis on 01949 831530 or

bingham.u3a.vicechair@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 the second and fourth Wednesdays from 10am to 12pm 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 .

Walking Group 2 meets at Church House (car share) on the second Wednesday at 9:30am. Contact Esme Smith on 01949 875148 or esmesm74@yahoo.co.uk.

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 Jones, hajwghs@btopenworld.com, 01949 831908

Spanish Improvers Group meets in the Old Court House fortnightly from 2pm to 3pm. Contact Jean Oates on 01949 850864, 07898 895274 or us@theoates.net.

Book Club 2 meets on the last Wednesday of the month from 3pm to 4pm. Contact Frances Bailey, 07796546035, francesbailey0@gmail.com

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 12pm. Contact Dave Hobson on 01949 836042 or appletrees.hobson@gmail.com.

Bridge Group meets at the Bowls Club every week from 10am to 12pm. 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 in late April or early May at 1:30pm until September. Contacts - Jackie Hutton, 07443 595653 and Judith Wilkin, 07769 293621.

German Conversation Group meets fortnightly at 2:30pm. Contact John Orley at john.orley@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.

Wine Group 2 meets on the third Thursday of every month. Contact Veronica Perry on 01949 875231 or vperry1951@gmail.com.

Creative Stitching Group meets every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm at the Bingham Arts Centre. All levels and types of embroidery and patchwork etc. Contact Mary Ball on 01949 851110 or ballmary394@gmail.com.

Friday am

Pickleball Group meets at Cotgrave Leisure Centre or Saxondale Pickleball from 10am to 12pm. Contact: val.moreland@hotmail.co.uk or jl875925@gmail.com.

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 10:30am to 11:45am. 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

Garden Group meets at 2pm in each other's gardens on a monthly basis from April to October inclusive. Contact Jo McHugh, jomchugh@outlook.com.

Various days

Explorers Visits Group - contact Ann Lewis, 01949 831530

Position	Name	Contact number and email
Chair	Veronica Perry	01949 875231 bingham.u3a.chairperson@gmail.com
Vice Chair & Groups Co-ordinator	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	Leila Kirkham	07772 303328 bingham.u3a.treasurer@gmail.com
Membership	Christine Butler	01949 851860 bingham.u3a.membership@gmail.com
Programme Speakers	Linda Molineaux	07855 762775 bingham.u3a.programme@gmail.com
Database/Data Protection	Robin Wilkin	07767 603799 bingham.u3a.database@gmail.com
Website*	Gaynor Wilkin	binghamu3a@gmail.com
Newsletter	Dave Hobson	01949 836042 bingham.u3a.newsletter@gmail.com
New Member Support	TBA	
Co-opted member	John Watson	07598 470437 jrwatson508@gmail.com
Refreshments*	Sue Eaton	01949 839946

*Non Committee

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