



Great Glen Newsletter

September 2018

Registered Charity No. 1099411

www.greatglenu3a.co.uk

A very warm welcome to our new members:
Julian and Kathy Bird, Katherine Boulter,
Elizabeth Browning, John Burford, Ann de Voil,
Julia Fry, Linda Osborne, Coleen Ramsey, David
Seddon, Alison Tasker, Iris Vizard and Sue
Wright.

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone.

It's September already and so all our groups are back in full swing. Have a go at something different this Autumn. In fact, I've just read in the newspaper that we oldies are more intelligent in September (yes, really!) so it's definitely a good time to start something new.

The Open Day was very worthwhile in showing what U3A is about. I'm pleased to welcome several new members as a result and if you are one of those then I hope you go on to fully participate in our broad range of activities and enjoy your membership of Great Glen U3A.

Again thanks are due to all who were involved in all aspects of putting on the Open Day.

The next subject won't go away I'm afraid; we do need more members willing to get involved with the Committee. If you think you might be interested then please contact a current committee member. Don't leave it until the last minute. As I've said before, several roles will become vacant at the end of this year. A reminder that our two new groups meet for the first time this month. The second Book Group starts on Thursday 27th and the Walking Without Stiles Group begins on Tuesday 25th. Also look out for notices about a possible Writers Group and also two possible Learn Something New one-off sessions on Astronomy and Making a Bead Bracelet. See this newsletter for details. If you have ideas for new activities then contact me or John Johnson and we'll see what can be done.

But above all make the most of your U3A membership and enjoy the company it brings.

Best wishes to you all

Peter Russell chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

Newsletter Editor - Applications Invited

As you read this month's newsletter reflect for a moment that this has been put together by one of our volunteers compiling submissions from group leaders and others. This role of editor has been carried out by several different volunteers over the lifetime of GGU3A, each doing it for a few years. The current

editor will be standing down at the next AGM and so it is vital that someone new picks up the baton. *I regard the newsletter as our most important means of communication to all members and it would be a real shame if we were unable to publish because no-one is willing to take it on.*

The editor's work is concentrated into a few days in the first week of each month compiling all submissions into a sensible layout, sending out copies using email where possible, and arranging for printed copies to be produced and delivered to the monthly meeting, Oadby and Great Glen libraries and to the Methodist Hall.

Please consider whether this is something you could do for the benefit of all members. Contact myself or the current editor, Robert Mansfield, as soon as possible if you would like to talk about it.

Peter Russell chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

Monthly Meetings

11 September 2018 ***Grandfather William Coltman VC
in WW1*** *Tim Coltman*

9 October 2018 ***The Driving Test!*** (factual but humorous!) *Brian Johnson*

13 November 2018 ***What Space has done for Us***
Professor Martin

Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month. Doors open 10.00 a.m. for tea

and coffee, event / speaker 10.30 a.m. **Coffee rota – see below.**

Coffee Rota

Coffee, tea and sugar are provided. Please bring milk (2 litres).

11 September – **History of Art Group**

9 October – **Line Dancing Group**

13 November – **Luncheon Club**

Open Day

(in lieu of August Meeting)

Our Group Leaders and their teams again showcased the U3A's activities brilliantly. We had an excellent intake of new members from those who visited.

OUTINGS

Garden Visit – Friday 21st September 2018

This is just to remind those who have booked and paid for the visit to Barnsdale on 21st September that the coach will depart from Great Glen Village Hall at 11.00 a.m. prompt! Barnsdale has just been awarded 'Best UK Garden' by the readers of *Garden News* magazine. Nick Hamilton tells me everyone there is delighted to have received this prestigious award, as

they were up against many of the best-known gardens countrywide. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Pat Tate

259 1001

LEARN SOMETHING NEW

Beautiful Bead Bracelet - Wednesday 24th October 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

If you would like to make this impressive piece of jewellery as a gift or to wear yourself, then sign up for this class now! Ray Hughes has many years' experience of creating beautiful beaded jewellery and ornaments and she has kindly offered to share her skills with us. This piece is much easier to make than it appears. Ray tells me that the only skills required are to thread a needle (with the aid of a needle threader) and to count to ten. You will be provided with a kit which includes everything you need to complete the bracelet. The cost will depend on numbers but at most it will be £8 for the kit plus the usual £1.50, so **£9.50** in total.

The kits will contain 25 grams beads, enough thread for the project, toggle catch plus wire guardians, small bead mat and pattern. You may be able to complete the bracelet in the afternoon, but you will have everything you need to finish it at home, if necessary.

Ray will provide her contact details and will be happy to give you additional help, should you need it.

Places are limited. To sign up, either contact me (details below) or come along to the monthly meeting on Tuesday 11th September when you will also be able to see the bracelet.

Sue Russell lsn@greatglenu3a.co.uk 01572 822198

Beginners' Astronomy

Are you interested in a beginner's guide to Astronomy? Would you like to come to a taster session to find out more about the skies above us? If you remember with fondness *The Sky at Night* you may be interested in finding out a bit more. We have had some interest so far, but not quite enough to make it viable, so this is your last call! If you are interested, please put your name down and we will try to put together a Learn Something New session in the autumn. to learn more about the pleasures of looking more closely at the night sky. Sign up at Monthly Meeting or contact me to put your name on the list and I will keep you informed.

Sue Russell lsn@greatglenu3a.co.uk 01572 822198

Creative Writing

You may have seen an appeal in last month's Newsletter for anyone interested in forming a Writing Group to contact me. So far, I have only heard from a

couple of people and I'm sure there must be many more members who would enjoy writing and sharing their stories, articles or poems with others. If you have even a tiny creative literary streak and are just waiting for an opportunity to express and develop it, then this is for you. Sign up at Monthly Meeting or contact me to put your name on the list and I will keep you informed.

Sue Russell lsn@greatglenu3a.co.uk 01572 822198

GROUP NEWS

Art Group

We begin again on Thursdays 6th and 20th September at 2 o'clock in the Ruth Warner room. The theme is "Harvest". Any newcomers will be very welcome.

Rachael Snashall art@greatglenu3a.co.uk 259 2830

Book Group (Thursdays)

As we had new signings at our recent Open Day we are ready to start our new group on Thursday 27th

September from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Ruth Warner Room at The Methodist Hall. Our first book is 'The Siege' by Helen Dunmore. If anyone else is interested please contact me direct.

Patricia Mansfield patriciamansfield@btinternet.com
270 8284

Carpet Bowls

Why not try your hand at carpet Bowls? We meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. in the

Village Hall. No experience necessary. We are a friendly group and you will be made most welcome.

Peter Stanley carpetbowls@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2152

Croquet

For the first time in many years we have places available for the 1.30 till 3.00 p.m. croquet session on Tuesdays, and for the 10.00 till 11.30 a.m. session on Thursdays. Coffee/tea is available and included in your £1.50. You will not get wet and the hall is warm in winter. We play on the carpet in the Chapel Hall.

John Lawson croquet@greatglenu3a.co.uk 259 3421

English Country Dancing

After a break during the hot weather of July and August the English Country Dancing Group resumed its regular Tuesday afternoon meetings, 1.30 to 3.30pm in the Youth Centre/Sports Hall, on 4th September. We are pleased to welcome some Associate members from Leicester U3A but still have space for a few more people, so we warmly invite any other members of the U3A who would like to try this fun and social activity to come along.

No previous experience is needed as all the dances are fully explained, the moves are walked through before setting them to music and the dances are called throughout. Also, no special clothing needed – just light-weight shoes or sandals and comfortable clothing suitable for gentle dancing. Nor do you need to come

with a partner; singles of both sexes are welcomed, and we often change partners during the dances so that everybody is involved. The only requirement is to be prepared to join in, enjoy yourself, and laugh – a lot! The start of the new dancing year always features a number of Dances, Ceilidhs and Costume "Playford" Balls at various Folk Dance clubs in the local region, at which members of the group will be very welcome. We always try to obtain copies of the dancing programmes beforehand so that the group can practise some of the dances in case anybody does decide to attend. Even if you think you have "two left feet", why not come and give it a try – you will enjoy it!

Peter Meacock ecd@greatglenu3a.co.uk 279 2600

Evening Bridge

Do you enjoy bridge? Why not join us?

We are a friendly (non-League) social bridge group playing Duplicate Bridge every Tuesday evening in the **Great Glen Methodist church hall** (except the third week of the month when we meet at the **Great Glen Community Library**). We would love to meet new members to enlarge our group. You will be made most welcome.

Andy Tyler eveningbridge@greatglenu3a.co.uk 259 2264, or *John Burnham* 264 0077

Family History

We shall restart on Wednesday 12th September at 9.30 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall.

Eric Orbell familyhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2095

Flower Arranging

Creating new arrangements as we move from season to season can be very rewarding and provides our homes with wonderful decoration. Come along and join us on the first Wednesday afternoon each month. New members will be very welcome.

Beryl Connolly

07423 311 013

French Conversation

By the time you read this Newsletter the Group will have returned, invigorated, to our studies.

Jim Picken frenchconversation@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2035

Garden Visits

NEWSTEAD ABBEY REMINDER

May I remind all members attending the visit to Newstead Abbey on 19th October that the coach **will be leaving the Great Glen car park at 10.00 a.m. promptly** so please be there in good time. Many thanks.

HELP PLEASE!!

I am now sending out a request to enquire if there are any members who would consider helping the Garden Visits Group to compile their annual programme. This would entail the organisation of visits to a few gardens

and then collecting names on a list of those wishing to go. There would be two, or at most three visits in a year to arrange and, basically, each would involve making one or two telephone calls. This is not a difficult task and I am very happy to help if there are any problems. If you feel you would like to join us please contact me. Thank you.

Linda Hobart gardenvisits@greatglenu3a.co.uk

319 8095

History

Many thanks to Sue Baxter for a great presentation on her family's links to the Coventry Silk trade. The next meeting at the Methodist Hall is on Monday 1st October at 2.00 p.m. when we shall have a DVD on one of the topics selected at the September meeting.

Peter Russell history@greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

History of Art

At the next meeting on Wednesday 19th September we shall be looking at the work of a Belgian painter, Frank Brangwyn. The meeting will be held in the Methodist Hall commencing at 10.00 a.m. All members are welcome.

David Brooke historyofart@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2520

Indoor Bowling

Indoor Bowls at Market Harborough Leisure Centre will start again on Tuesday 2nd October from 10.0 a.m.

until noon. New players and beginners are most welcome.

Ann Spray bowls@greatglenu3a.co.uk 281 0324

Learn French Together

Would you like to learn French? We are an informal, friendly, self-teaching group of beginners. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 10.00 a.m. in the Ruth Warner Room. Please contact me.

Jan Johnson frenchbeginners@greatglenu3a.co.uk
212 2469

Line Dancing

Line Dancing begins again after the summer break, on Thursday 6th September at 1.30 p.m. Looking forward to seeing our dancers again, and to see how much they have remembered! Welcome also to new members who showed an interest at the Open Day, and to anyone else who would like to give Line Dancing a try.

Jackie Jordan linedancing@greatglenu3a.co.uk
259 9199

Luncheon Club

Mo John will be taking your menu choices at the monthly meeting on Tuesday 11th September. If you are unable to attend the meeting and live in the village, I shall deliver the menus as usual.

See you all at the lunch on Tuesday 25th September.

Joyce Davies luncheonclub@greatglenu3a.co.uk
259 3436

Military History

We shall restart on Wednesday 3rd October at 10.00 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall, when we shall begin a study of the two Boer Wars.

Eric Orbell militaryhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2095

New Age Kurling

Why not come along and try your hand at this activity? It's very easy to play and it provides gentle exercise and lots of fun. We are back again on Friday 14th September at 10.00 a.m. at the Sports Centre next to Great Glen Village Hall.

Peter Russell kurling@greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

Papercraft

We start again on Monday 17th September when we shall try enhancing our creations with additional tags. To get you in the mood, one of the examples will be a Christmas card. Well, in card making terms time is running short already! I look forward to seeing you there.

Stella Orbell papercraft@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2095

Quiz Group

Our next meeting is at 2 o'clock on 24th September in the Main Hall of the Methodist Church. The question master is David Green. Any new members will be made very welcome.

Rachael Snashall quiz@greatglenu3a.co.uk 259 2830

Singing for Fun

The next session will be on Wednesday 31st October
2.00 p.m. in the Methodist Hall
The theme will be 'Musicals'
Everyone is welcome

Peter Russell chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

Sunday Singles Lunch

Meetings for the remainder of the year take place at the
Leicestershire Golf Club.

Judith Measom

279 1509

Swimming

We start swimming on Wednesday 12th September at
the usual time 1.30 p.m.

David Brooke swimming@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2520

Table Tennis

As usual we shall take a break for the month of
August. Anyone interested is welcome to join our
short waiting list. After the break we start again on
Monday 3rd September.

Janet Freestone tabletennis@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2803

Table Top Games

Our next meetings are at 2.00 p.m. on 13th and 27th
September at the Methodist Chapel. New members are
always welcome to join us to play a variety of games.

Helen Edwards ttgames@greatglenu3a.co.uk 212
7547, or *Eileen Appleby* 259 251

Ukulele Group

The Ukulele group meets in the Ruth Warner room on the first and third Monday of each month, from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon. We are busy working on the playlist for our next performance.

Alan Mawby ukes@greatglenu3a.co.uk 259 2599

Walking Without Stiles

The first walk will take place in and around Foxton on Tuesday 25th September starting 10.30 a.m.

Meet outside the Foxton Village Hall on Middle Street, where parking is available. The length of the walk is approximately three miles so duration will be between two and three hours, with lunch available at a number of places in the bottom lock area. If you would like to participate please contact John Johnson. Further walks are being planned for:

- Tuesday 23rd October starting in Market Harborough
- Tuesday 27th November starting in Glen Parva.

For these walks contact Elizabeth Cooke. No walks are to be held in December, but we shall restart in January 2019.

John Johnson 212 2469 or 07527 520504

Elizabeth Cooke walking@greatglenu3a.co.uk
270 4524 or 07957 288060

A Date for your Diary

Leicester Grammar School is proud to be hosting the inaugural Leicester History Festival on Saturday 29th September 2018. The aim of the event is to provide a spectrum of historical exhibits and activities focused around a broad range of historical periods. Among the exhibitors confirmed are RAF Museum Cosford, the Sealed Knot Civil War re-enactment group, a range of academic speakers debating the big questions of World War One, a Roman Soldier and a team from Great Glen U3A! Why not visit this prestigious event, learn something new and enjoy a great day?

Toni Smith

Sunbeam 2

A boat trip on Wednesday 12th September along the rivers Soar and Wreake with a stop for lunch at Waterside Mountsorrel (bring a picnic if you wish). Sunbeam 2 is a new boat this year and is specially adapted for disabled passengers. If you have one or more friends who would like to join us they will be welcomed. This is not a U3A trip, but morning coffee and afternoon tea are included in the £10 donation to 'Mosaic'.

Meet in the Great Glen Library car park where we shall leave for the Hope & Anchor by private cars at 9.30 a.m. and be back about 4.30 p.m. If you are interested

please ring me. You may miss this boat but there may be another trip later!

John Lawson

259 3421

Tailpiece

A retired physician, Doctor Gordon Geezer, became very bored in retirement and decided to re-open a medical clinic. He put a sign up outside that said: "Dr. Geezer's Clinic. Get your treatment for \$500 - if not cured, get back \$1,000."

Doctor Digger Young, who was positive that this old geezer didn't know beans about medicine, thought this would be a great opportunity to get \$1,000. So he went to Dr. Geezer's clinic.

Dr. Young: "Dr. Geezer, I have lost all taste in my mouth. Can you please help me?"

Dr. Geezer: "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in Dr. Young's mouth."

Dr. Young: 'Aaagh! -- This is Gasoline!"

Dr. Geezer: "Congratulations! You've got your taste back. That will be \$500."

Dr. Young gets annoyed and goes back after a couple of days figuring to recover his money.

Dr. Young: "I have lost my memory, I cannot remember anything."

Dr. Geezer: "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in the patient's mouth."

Dr. Young: "Oh, no you don't -- that is Gasoline!"

Dr. Geezer: "Congratulations! You've got your memory back. That will be \$500."

Dr. Young (after having lost \$1000) leaves angrily and comes back after several more days.

Dr. Young: "My eyesight has become weak --- I can hardly see anything!"

Dr. Geezer: "Well, I don't have any medicine for that so, "Here's your \$1000 back" (giving him a \$10 bill).

Dr. Young: "But this is only \$10!"

Dr. Geezer: "Congratulations! You got your vision back! That will be \$500."

**Moral of story* -- Just because you're "Young" doesn't mean that you can outsmart an "old Geezer"*

**Remember:* Don't make old people mad. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to tick us off.*

ENJOY YOUR DAY!!!