



Great Glen Newsletter

April 2020

Registered Charity No. 1099411

www.greatglenu3a.co.uk

**A warm welcome to our new members:
Derek Fussell, Brian Gallantree, John & Jill Chapman, Heather Bettles,
Anthony James and Christine Belcher**

Chair's Chat



Hello everyone

How our world has changed since I composed my last month's chat! I guess many of us will, like Patricia and me, have been bogged down in often frustrating and time-consuming efforts to sort out the essentials of life in isolation or social distancing. We are in a curious combination of both, as I am still taking the dog on zigzag walks as I take steps to avoid proximity with joggers, cyclists, shoppers, walkers, deliverers, dog walkers, front gardeners and miscellaneous front-line service workers, but otherwise we are isolated. Most people are helpful, but an ignorant minority seems to have little grasp of the prescribed 'two metres'. We are lucky though in having a garden of reasonable size, with easy access for our gardener (and occasionally others) through the garage. I really feel for those

with young families confined in tower blocks!

Clearly Covid-19 has put a considerable dampener on our U3A activities. But I have been heartened that many of our Group Leaders, as I do, are seeing this as a time to learn and put into practice some new ways of sustaining engagement and activity, and I congratulate all those who have made a start. We are recognised as a friendly U3A and this is certainly time to 'walk the talk'. Quite a number of groups are now using *Zoom* as a way to hold meetings or email to keep in touch. Your Committee recently succeeded in holding a video-conference using *Zoom*, though it did take quite a time for us all to be admitted. It may be invidious to single out individuals for recognition, but I think the following are of especial note. Alan Mawby has produced videos on You Tube to coach Uke3A in learning new numbers and has organised a video strum-along. You cannot easily play table top games (other than chess perhaps) remotely. But Helen Edwards is now setting weekly brain teasers and has organised a telephone tree (essentially a revolving rota by which members make a weekly phone call to two others). I have learnt a great deal from these calls already. Table Top Games would welcome more members. I hope we are going to see more of such ingenuity and more social contact in the weeks ahead. Maybe if a Group Leader is uncertain how to get things moving there are group members with ideas and experience that could help. And the Third Age Trust has published some great ideas and experiences upon which we can all draw, just by *Googling* 'third age trust'.

And, while on the subject of Group Leaders, I should like to pay tribute to Linda Hobart who is stepping down after a long period of organising garden visits. This has been a most successful group under her capable and conscientious leadership. While I understand that group members may be running out of gardens to visit within reasonable distance, I hope someone may be moved, when

For email. Replace / at / with @

we are back to normal, to consider setting up either a different sort of gardening group or a trips group (as many other U3As have).

To date about 75% of members have renewed their memberships for 2020/2021. As I think everyone knows, we have this year extended the period of grace for renewals to three months, so up to 30 June those who have not renewed will continue to receive the Great Glen U3A Newsletter and are welcome to take part in group activities. They will not however be eligible to vote at our AGM, unless they have renewed by around mid-May – see later article on AGM 2020 arrangements. I very much hope those who are ‘biding their time’ will renew quickly, because we shall get better at coping with current restrictions and we all look forward to the time when they are lifted and we can safely return to regular meetings. After all, being a member is of benefit not just to us but to our fellow members. It would be sad indeed if Covid-19 brings about a serious weakening of our capacity to continue to keep on learning, living and laughing together. Please contact Janet Fanko to arrange your payment at [membership/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:membership@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

Robert Mansfield

[chairman/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

270 8284

Arrangements for the 2020 Annual General Meeting

The pandemic has made it impossible for us to hold our next AGM as planned on 12 May, as part of a regular monthly speaker meeting. The Committee has therefore decided to postpone the meeting until 9 June 2020, as is permissible under our Constitution and charity law. The AGM this year will be conducted remotely, using email and postal services to distribute a voting form similar to that used for company meetings and to receive and answer members’ questions. This appears to be fully in line with the latest advice from the Charity Commission, and the Committee has taken a decision (to be properly recorded in the next minutes) to take this action in view of the extremities we currently face. At a future General Meeting, when there will be greater opportunity for debate, the Committee will recommend changes to our Constitution to cater for extreme circumstances. Attendance towards the quorum will be taken as the number of completed voting forms received by the due date from those entitled to vote, i.e. those members who have paid their subscriptions for 2020/2021. Please ensure that you have paid your subscription and that you complete and return your voting form, as without a sufficient response we might be forced to stop operating as a charity.

Robert Mansfield

[chairman/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

0116 270 8284

Committee News

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 March 2021

I do hope you are keeping well during these worrying times. I would like to say a huge thank you to all members who have renewed their membership to cover the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. If you have not yet renewed I would like to remind you that your subscription was due by 31 March 2020. I look forward to receiving your subscription in the near future, although we are extending the period of grace until 30 June 2020. Your payment via bank transfer, if possible, would be appreciated. However, I am still able to receive cheques by post but NOT cash due to the risk of contamination. Take care everyone.

Janet Fanko

[membership/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:membership@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

4624679

THANK YOU LINDA HOBART – GARDEN GROUP LEADER

Linda has given seven years of sterling service as the Garden Visits Group Leader but has sadly decided that following a house move and all that that entails, together with a period of ill health, that she is relinquishing the role in December.

For email. Replace / at / with @

So thank you again Linda and we look forward to seeing you at the Garden Group meetings, and maybe at some of the other groups that could be of interest to you.

WANTED – GARDEN GROUP LEADER FROM JANUARY 2021

We are looking for someone to take on the role of Group Leader for the Garden Group. Currently this is based on visits to various local gardens throughout the year. It has proved difficult to find gardens each month that are open on a Friday when the group meets, and that are within a reasonable distance of Great Glen. Perhaps the focus of the meeting needs to change – visits in summer and other types of meetings in the winter months or alternating months for visits and other meetings.

If you are a member of the Garden Group or just another U3A member interested in Gardens who would be interested in this role, please contact in the first instance...

Robert Mansfield

[chairman/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

0116 270 8284

KEEPING BODIES AND BRAINS ACTIVE IN ISOLATION

None of us really enjoy the self-imposed isolation in place at present and no face to face social interaction family and friends but we still need to keep bodies and brains active for when we are released from this situation.

How about trying Joe Wicks workout - to take part simply need to head over to Joe Wicks official YouTube channel, [The Body Coach TV](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzPLreoxZ49PI5810Y0888g), before the **class starts at 9am**. This may be a bit energetic for some, so what about these more sedate offerings –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0873kvz>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ybVMu31DLQU>

For your brain, how about trying these:-

The National Theatre (<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>) is streaming recordings of plays free of charge every Thursday evening at 7pm, starting with 'One Man Two Guvnors' on 2 April

Wigmore Hall's past live streamed events are now available to view on demand (<https://wigmore-hall.org.uk/wigmore-hall-live/past-live-streams>).

The Royal Opera House (<https://www.roh.org.uk/>) is preparing a schedule of free broadcasts and live content, the first of which is the ballet, *Peter and The Wolf*, which is available on the website now.

A NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Committee has welcomed Elaine Batchelor as a new co-opted member. Elaine and her husband joined Great Glen U3A last year. She brings previous experience of being on a U3A Trustee Committee and will be standing for formal election at the AGM.

If there is anyone else who would like to join us now or when we get back to 'normal lives' please do contact me.

Robert Mansfield

[chairman/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

0116 270 8284

Accessibility and Welfare Officer

For email. Replace / at / with @

We advised you last month that Lynn Francis has taken up this role – as Disability and Welfare Officer – sorry my mistake it should be as shown above. If you need to discuss anything with Lynn please contact her by e-mail [welfare/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:welfare/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) or 0116 2592685

Monthly Meetings

COMING SOON

Sadly we have nothing coming soon for our monthly meetings due to the coronavirus situation. We will be back in action as soon we are permitted to return to some semblance of life as we knew it. We hope to see you all then, and until then look after yourselves and keep safe.

Richard Adams - Rutland – Multum in Parvo (Much in Little)

At our March Monthly Meeting, Richard Adams gave us a memorable morning by presenting the visual beauty of the County of Rutland through a selection of short films of his own making.

Richard's professional background was in Town and Country Planning and in 1974 he became the Chief Planning Officer for Rutland. He thus developed an intimate knowledge of the County including its administration, economy, transportation, tourism and so on. However, it was the beauty of the Rutland landscape and natural and made environment that really captured his imagination. Richard combined his love for music and photography (developed since his twelfth birthday when he was given a box Brownie camera) and started producing a variety of short films to capture and present the qualities of the County.

Richard's talk to us described many of the great variety of attractions found in Rutland. The accompanying visual presentation using slides and videos combined with musical sequences was technically excellent and breath-taking. It is impossible to describe these in words but they ranged from scenic views presented as calendars, seasonal landscapes, specific rural events and concluded with a stunning Starling Murmuration over Rutland Water. All of these can be viewed for free on www.youtube.com/users/adampics

If you are able, I highly recommend that you view these film and music sequences to escape from the distressing times that we are all currently experiencing.

Bill Maxted

GROUP NEWS

Using Zoom for Group Meetings

It is important in the current lockdown to try to maintain contact with other people.

In the last week or so Sue and I have been helping members get started on Zoom video meetings.

Zoom is an app that is available for all PCs, tablets and smartphones and it lets you hold virtual meetings with other members who you can see and hear.

At the time of writing, there has been a full Beginners French meeting lasting 2 hours and familiarisation meetings for members of the Kurling Group and the History group and a start made in family history.

Some members have got themselves going with Zoom and others have been assisted in setting up Zoom on their device. We have had the occasional difficulty but in most cases reached a successful outcome.

National U3A has produced user guides for installing Zoom. These are available on the front page of our (Great Glen) web site www.greatglenu3a.co.uk . But if you would like help in setting it up on your device then Sue and I are happy to help on a one-to-one basis over the phone.

For email. Replace / at / with @

I don't think you need a plan of action to get involved in this sort of meeting. It is just very enjoyable to talk to others that you know in a group setting. It is up to group members to decide whether they want to do something educational or just meet for a chat. And if members just want to meet other members regardless of groups then I'm sure we can arrange such sessions.

Peter Russell [webmaster/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:webmaster/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 01572 822198

Groups Learning and having fun!

Art Group

This group meets on the first and third Thursdays each month in the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm

Rachael Snashall [art/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:art/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 259 2830

Writing for Pleasure

This group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm

Writing for Pleasure – More 'Memories' Contributions wanted!

Despite the difficulties of being unable to meet, work continues on our compilation of distinctive memories of our youth. We should like to have pieces looking back over the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s and possibly even the 1960s from different perspectives. The aim is to self-publish a book so that the experiences of 'ordinary people' growing up in those times are recorded for later generations. We are looking for pieces of around 1,000 words. The only criteria really are that there should be references to the world as it was then and clear descriptions of our recollections of contemporary events: 'the Coronation' or 'early school days in 1945' could be examples. **If you have something to share and would like to be published, please contact me.**

Robert Mansfield [chairman/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 0116 270 8284

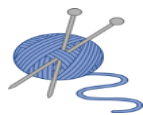
French for Beginners – Lets Learn Together

This group meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 10am.

As with all the U3A meetings, we are all self-isolating and so not meeting in person. For those of the group with an internet connection we are still learning some French and having meetings using Zoom which is a free App that can be downloaded from the internet.

Jan Johnson [frenchbeginners/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:frenchbeginners/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 212 2469

Needles and Pins



This group meets on the second Monday of each month at 2.00pm

Beryl Connolly [needles/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:needles/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 07423
311013

History

This group meets on the first Monday of each month at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm.

We have started using Zoom for meeting to help us keep in touch.

Peter Russell [history/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:history/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 01572 822198

Family History

This group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month at the Methodist Church at 09.30am

I am racking my brains to think of something. I don't think Zoom is the answer at the moment but am open to any suggestions. Would you like me to set you a small project and for us all to share the results? Would EVERYBODY please let me know what you think.

For email. Replace / at / with @

Eric Orbell [familyhistory/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:familyhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259

2095

Flower Arranging

This group meets on first Wednesday of the month in the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm

Beryl Connolly

07423 311 013

Papercraft

This group meets on the third Monday of the month at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm

I hope you are enjoying your crafting at home. I will let you know when we re-start.

Stella Orbell [papercraft/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:papercraft@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2095

Military History

This group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Methodist Church at 10am



I will let everyone know when we are able to recommence our study of military history.

Eric Orbell

[militaryhistory/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:militaryhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259

2095

French Conversation

This group meets every Wednesday in the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 10.30

Jim Picken

[frenchconversation/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:frenchconversation@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2035

Groups that Exercise and have fun!

New Age Kurling

This group meets on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the Sports Centre at 10.00am

We have started using Zoom for meeting to help us keep in touch.

Peter Russell

[kurling/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:kurling@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

01572 822198

Walking Without Stiles

This group meets on the fourth Tuesday every month, weather permitting, at venues in and around Great Glen



Leicestershire Golf Club

The Walking Without Stiles group is not meeting as it is not viable to walk together nor to have refreshments together!

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However if anyone has any favourite walks they are still able to do in the Great Glen/Oadby areas and you would like to share them please send me a short contribution for next month's newsletter saying where the walk is, why you like it, and what you see – thanks in anticipation.

Elizabeth Cooke walking/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk 2704524 or 07957 288060

Indoor Bowls

This group meets at the Market Harborough Leisure Centre every Tuesday from October until March at 10.00am

Ann Spray

281 032

Croquet

This group meets on every Tuesday at 1.30pm. and every Thursday at 10.00am and 11.30am at the Methodist Church Hall.

There are three separate Croquet Groups:

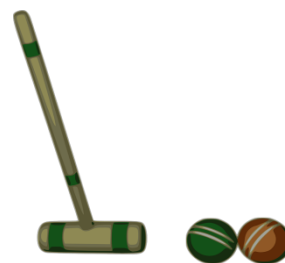
Group A Thursday morning 10.00 a.m. till 11.30 a.m. Tony Baxter

Group B Thursday morning 11.30 a.m. till 1.00 p.m. Len Sumpter

Group C Tuesday afternoon 1.30 p.m. till 3.15 p.m. Brian Purkiss

We will let you know when we will restart

croquet/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk



Carpet Bowls

This group meets every Thursday afternoon at the Village Hall at 2.00pm

Hope everyone is keeping well. Phyllis and I are self-isolating and are keeping busy. Let's hope this virus will not last too long and we will all be back playing bowls.

Peter Stanley

carpetbowls/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2152

Table Tennis

This group meets every Monday at the Youth and Sports Centre at 10.30am

We are full at present but there is a short waiting list – please let me know if you would like to put your name on the waiting list.

Janet Freestone

tabletennis/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2803

Swimming

This group meets every Wednesday at the Leicester Grammar School during term time.



We are dependent on the Grammar School re-opening its pool to us, hopefully in September, for the Group to reconvene.

Frank Wilcock

swimming/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

431 9706

Line Dancing

This group meets every Thursday at the Sports Centre at 1.30pm

Jackie Jordan

linedancing/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 9199

English Country Dancing

This group meets every Tuesday afternoon at 1.30pm at the Sports Hall.

As a close contact activity involving hand-holding, swings and other couple-moves, English Country Dancing could potentially carry a high risk of corona-virus transmission. Therefore all meetings of the ECD group were cancelled at the first reported outbreak in mid March, and the group will remain suspended until further notice. In the present situation it seems unlikely that we shall be

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able to dance again until September or October, possibly later, dependent upon governmental health advice.

Similarly, because of the outbreak all local folk dance club meetings, as well as national and international dancing festivals in the UK and overseas have all been cancelled for the whole of the spring and summer; 2020 will be a lean dancing year!

However, some members of the group did attend the costume "Playford Tea Dance" at Higham Ferrers Bede House on March 8 just before the outbreak was announced. Music was by the Northamptonshire violin and accordion duo *Childgrove* who accompanied a range of Playford-style social dances including such favourites as *Newcastle (1651)*, *Portsmouth (1670)*, *Shrewsbury Lasses (1765)*, *The Phoenix (1670)*, *The Hop Picker's Feast (1796)* and *The Emperor of the Moon (1690)*. All in all it was a most enjoyable afternoon, and a chance for dancers to show-off their period costumes



Costumed dancers at a Playford Tea-dance in Higham-Ferrers Bede House

Despite the temporary cessation of dancing activities group members remain in touch with each other through their agreement to share contact information. Also members can revisit dances that we have tried as a group by watching the many video recordings that can be found on the web. There is even one American web-site that features brand new "Corona-inspired" English Country dances for single persons, or couples in self-isolation. So people isolated at home can play the videos, turn the sound up and dance along!

Peter Meacock

[ecd/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:ecd@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

279 3600

Tai Chi

This group continues to meet but until a new qualified instructor can be found is unable to take new members

Lynda Woodford

[taichi/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:taichi@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2186

Groups that challenge our brains and still have fun!

Mini Bridge

This group meets every week on a Tuesday at 9.40am for a 9.45 start at the Methodist Church.

Just a brief update for anyone suffering from Mini bridge deprivation on top of the problems of Corona Virus. I hope everyone is managing to avoid the pandemic and is keeping in good health. A way of keeping your hand in (if you have a tablet or computer) is to download "Blue Chip Mini Bridge" the email address is www.bluechip.co.uk or alternatively you can find it using Google.

This is a free download - **make sure you choose the free version**

Hope to see you all back on a Tuesday as soon as we are given the all clear

Terry Evans

[minibridge/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:minibridge@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2102

Quiz Group

This group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm.

Rachael Snashall

[quiz/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:quiz@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2830

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Table Top Games

This group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays at the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 1.50pm for a 2.00pm start

While we are unable to meet I am setting a weekly challenge to keep brains ticking over. As I write our first week is coming to an end and three people have managed to find nine letter words from the letters of "table top games". Next week the challenge will consist of cryptic clues for a variety of sports, games and pastimes with the extra challenge of devising a clue for "canasta." Further challenges are yet to be decided; some will definitely have a numerical bent. You are welcome to become an honorary Games Group member. If you would like to join in the challenge, just drop me an email.

Some of us are starting a weekly phone tree where each member phones two others from the group and is phoned by a further two, all on a rota system. Actually it's more a phone sapling than a tree at present as only eight members have signed up, but there's room for growth! It will be good to get to know each other better, to have some more contact with real people and help to keep our group spirit of fun and friendship alive.

Now a plea. If there's anyone out there who can show us a simple way of becoming a virtual group, able to play games against fellow members, please come to our rescue. Volunteers are playing a wonderful role in this most difficult of times. This is your chance to volunteer in a very different way. Thank you.

Helen Edwards

[ttgames/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:ttgames/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

212 7547

Book Group (Mondays)

This group meets on the third Monday of each month at the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm

Our group of 12 are managing to keep in touch by email. We had a trial run last week with several members writing short reviews of our last book - "Arthur and George" by Julian Barnes. The reviews were emailed to me and I circulated them to the other members in a group email. This seems to be working. It is in no way compulsory to take part. Our next book for April is "The Muse" by Jessie Burton

Liz Adams

[books/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:books/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

271 6281

Book Group (Thursdays)

This group meets on the fourth Thursday each month at the Ruth Warner Room at the Methodist Church at 10.00am.

To keep our book group going we are reviewing each month's book. I will send all reviews to members of our group. So March book was 'Educated' by Tara Westover to which most members have responded. The others are asked to send their reviews to me as soon as possible. We are now reviewing April's book which is 'Not Quite Nice' by Celia Imrie. We find this is a way to keep together as a group.

Patricia Mansfield

[books2/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:books2/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

270 8284

Evening Duplicate Bridge

This group meets every week on a Tuesday at the Methodist Church Hall, apart from the third Tuesday of the month when it meets at the Great Glen Community Library at 7.00pm for a 7.15pm start

Andy Tyler

[eveningbridge/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:eveningbridge/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)

07879 234046

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Groups that socialise and have fun!

Sunday Singles

This group meets on the second Sunday each month at the Leicestershire Golf Club

I will let members know any new dates when we can again meet for our Sunday Lunch.

Judith Measom

279 1509

Singing for fun

This group usually meets on the fourth Wednesday each month, but alternative dates may be issued to suit when the group leaders are available, at the Methodist Hall at 2.00pm.

Peter Russell

[singing/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:singing@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

01572

822198

Pub Lunches

This group meets on the second Tuesday each month visiting local public houses

I will contact members when we are able to meet again.

Margaret Hudson

271 5064

Ukulele Group

This group meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at the Ruth Warner room at the Methodist Church at 10.00am



I have produced a You Tube video to coach Uke3A in learning a new piece. We have also held a Zoom based strum-along for 15 members. This keeps us in touch and keeps our skills with the ukuleles up to scratch!

Alan Mawby

[ukes/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:ukes@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2599

Luncheon Club

This group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at The Bell, Burton Overy.

Hello everyone. Hope you are all coping O.K. with our enforced isolation. We feel very lucky that we have our garden to enjoy and after last week's glorious weather it is looking rather lovely.

Our daily walks around the village have been made all the more enjoyable seeing all the children's painted rainbows in the windows. We are lucky to live in our village where help is available if required. Merv and I are fortunate to have a son in the village and another at Market Harborough - shopping sorted! Take care everyone and let's hope that we can all get together in the not too distant future.

Joyce Davies

[luncheonclub/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:luncheonclub@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

Garden Visits

This group meets on third Friday of each month meeting at the Village Hall Car Park at 2.00pm or if the weather is inclement we meet at the Methodist Church at 2.00pm. Otherwise the timing changes according to the length of time it takes to arrive at our destination. This is always inserted in the monthly Newsletter and is in the diary distributed to the members.

I am so sorry I will not see any of our friends at gardens for some time as the National Garden Scheme has informed us that gardens will be closed for the foreseeable future. As with everything during this strange time we do not know when any will open again, perhaps later in the year or maybe not until next year. It is a case of 'wait and see'. All we can do is what we are told and keep safe.

I am very sorry to inform you that after the December meeting (I do hope we can have a Christmas lunch together) I will no longer be leading the Garden Visits Group. This year's diary took a very long time to compile as we had difficulty finding enough gardens which opened when we were able to

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visit and not too far away. Also I moved house and hope, when this problem eventually leaves us, I can spend time getting the house as I want it. If there is anyone out there who would like to take it over please let me know and I will help with all the necessary details.

In the meantime my very best wishes go to you all and please - stay safe.

Linda Hobart.

[gardenvisits/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:gardenvisits/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk).

367 0766

And finally....



From Elizabeth Cooke, a picture of flowers by a garden wall to remind us in this difficult time that Spring is on the way, the birds are singing and life moves on.

And thanks to Peter Meacock's brother for these amusing teacher/pupil interactions!

Teacher: How old is your father?

Kid: He is 6 years.

Teacher: What? How is this possible?

Kid: He became father only when I was born.

(Logic!! Children are quick and always speak their minds.)

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now, Class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

(I love this child.)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir; It's the same dog.

(I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher.

**PASS THIS AROUND AND MAKE SOMEONE LAUGH!
LAUGHTER IS THE SOUL'S MEDICINE!!**

For email. Replace / at / with @
And finally, finally -

