



Great Glen Newsletter June 2019

Registered Charity No. 1099411

www.greatglenu3a.co.uk

June sees the arrival of the Summer Solstice – the longest day of the year on Friday 21 June. In centuries past hazel branches were cut to be used to search for gold, water, and precious jewels – so if you are short of something to do...

Chairman's Chat



Hello everyone

As I try on the Chairman's boots for size, I realise that I am fortunate to have been able to observe at close quarters the ways in which my most recent predecessors – 'er indoors and Peter Russell – have performed this role with distinction. We were happy last month to mark Peter's contribution with the presentation of a gift and a Certificate of Appreciation. Both recent past chairmen, in their different ways, have set the bar high. I would not wish it otherwise. Great Glen U3A has seen steady growth in numbers, despite the attrition to be expected in a membership with our profile. Our finances are sound. We enjoy an excellent reputation as an accessible and welcoming club. This

naturally reflects the continuing efforts of all those in leadership roles: Group Leaders, the Trustee Committee and others willing to 'do their bit' in all sorts of ways.

I am of course on a steep learning curve, looking forward to a meeting with Group Leaders on 14 June at which, among other things, we shall start detailed planning for our Open Day. Please note, everyone, that we have had to move the Open Day to Tuesday 03 September because this year the Village Hall and the Sports Hall were reserved for other activities on the planned date of 13 August. The printed programme is therefore out of date in this respect. So there will now be no meeting in August and two in September: the Open Day and then on 10 September the usual monthly meeting with a speaker.

I look forward to serving you to the best of my ability during the next stage of our progress and development.

Robert Mansfield

chairman/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

270 8284

Committee News

The Annual General Meeting – it Really Matters!

As those who were at our May monthly meeting know, the numbers present at the start were too few to allow the Annual General Meeting to proceed. Additional members had to be found and 'press ganged' into making the numbers up. I know many people believe attendance is not for them, because they do not consider the business of interest so let me explain why the AGM matters. Great Glen U3A is a registered charity operating under charity law. We are required to hold an Annual General Meeting to allow members to appoint Trustees and to scrutinise their

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performance and plans. Our constitution, as required, specifies the minimum number necessary (the quorum) for the AGM to be legitimate. If the quorum is not met, the AGM cannot appoint any Trustees, and because there would be no Trustees, there would be no Committee to appoint Officers. With no Officers the charity cannot continue to operate i.e. Great Glen U3A would have to disband or be taken over. Next year, in an effort to make the meeting more appealing, we shall hold a regular monthly speaker meeting with a short AGM included. I hope we shall then have enough members present who care about the future of Great Glen U3A.

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

Membership – a thank you and help needed

Firstly, a very big thank you to all who have renewed their membership, returned their forms and collected their membership cards. Now I would be like to ask if you could help me in my new role as membership secretary. There are quite a number of membership cards that have not been collected – if you have not received or collected your card please can you contact me.

Some renewal payments have been received direct into our bank account but it appears that Membership Renewal Forms have either not been completed, or, gone astray and not reached me. Again could you please contact me if you have not completed a Membership Renewal Form.

It is very important that we have up to date information on our database as we cannot arrange for you to receive the U3A magazine, the cost of which is included in your annual subscription, if you do not tick the box on the form agreeing to us sharing your information with them.

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

Monthly Meetings

**At our meeting on 11 June 2019 we will be hearing about
'Women in the Great War'
a talk given by David Humberston**

11 June	2019	Women in the Great War	David Humberston
09 July	2019	The life of a Wimbledon Umpire	Alan Gray
13 August	2019	There will be no monthly meeting on this date	
03 September	2019	Open Day in village and sports halls	

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 June	– Table Tennis Group
09 July	– Table Top Games
03 September	– Tai Chi

OUTINGS

See Garden Visits

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GROUP NEWS

Art Group

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Our last meeting for the summer is on June 20th and we will recommence on August 15th after our summer holiday.

Rachael Snashall

art/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2830

Astronomy Group



Astronomy is the study of celestial objects such as stars, planets, comets, nebulae, star clusters and galaxies, as well as other phenomena in the sky. Do you have aspirations to be the next Patrick Moore or just a happy star gazing



rabbit? Why not come and join us looking at the sky and learning about the stars above? No previous knowledge or experience required. To keep this group going we need more members so please come along and join us – you will be

most welcome. Our next meeting will be on Monday July 01 at 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church and thereafter every first Monday of the month. Anyone interested in joining this group please contact

John Johnson

astronomy/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

212 2469

Book Group (Mondays)

The next meeting of the Monday Book Group will be on June 17 at 2 p.m. We will be discussing "Suite Francaise" by Irene Nemirovsky. Our book for July is "A Foreign Field" by Ben Macintyre.

Liz Adams

books/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

271 6281

Book Group (Thursdays)

The Group's next meeting is on Thursday 27 June in the Ruth Warner room. We will be discussing "The Duchess" by Amanda Foreman. Our book for July is 'The Last Runaway' by Tracy Chevalier. We have one vacancy – if you enjoy a lively discussion come and join us. Anyone interested should contact ...

Patricia Mansfield

patriciamansfield/at/btinternet.com

270 8284

Bowling

Indoor Bowls at Market Harborough will end on 09 April for the summer, recommencing in October. Date will be advised nearer the time.

Ann Spray

281 0324

Carpet Bowls

We meet every Thursday afternoon in the Village Hall from 2.0 to 4.00 p.m. New members will be made most welcome. No previous experience necessary.

Peter Stanley

carpetbowls/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2152

Croquet

There are three separate Groups:

Group A Thursday morning 10.00am till 11.30am. We have 2 vacancies for this group Beginners or experienced players – all will be made welcome.

Group B Thursday morning 11.30am till 1.00pm. At present there are no vacancies

Group C Tuesday afternoon 1.30pm till 3.15pm. It is possible there will 2 vacancies in this group.

If you are interested in joining contact.....

John Lawson

jlawson123/at/btinternet.com

2593421

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English Country Dancing



On Tuesday June 04 the English Country Dancing Group joined up with the Beaker Folk Music Group of Kibworth U3A for an afternoon of dancing to live music. The dance programme included *Winstar Gallop* (a traditional English country dance), *Bonny Cuckoo* (a modern dance written to the beautiful tune *Sithbeg and Sithmore* by the blind Irish Harpist Turlough O'Carol, 1670-1738) and *Lilliburlero* (from Playford's Dancing Master 8th Edition of 1690). Other dances were *Circle Waltz* (to the folk song tune

Star of The County Down), *Leaving of Liverpool* (to the popular folk song tune of the same name), and *Marie's Wedding* (written by a local Leicester dancer to the well-known Scottish folk song tune).

The English Country Dancing Group will take a summer break during the warmer weather. We shall continue our Tuesday meetings until and including July 02, and then we shall then break during July and August. Our regular weekly dancing will resume on Tuesday September 10. However, we do plan to appear at the Open Day on Tuesday September 03 when the group will give a demonstration of two dances and then invite members of the audience to join in for another!

Country Dancing is great fun - it's friendly and social (you laugh a lot!), and good exercise for body and brain. No previous experience is needed as all the dances are explained and walked through before setting them to music. Nor do you need to come with a partner as we change partners during the dances so that nobody is left out; singles of both sexes are welcomed. Why not come, along and give it a try?

Peter Meacock

ecd/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

279 3600

Evening Duplicate Bridge

This is a very friendly social group who meet at 7.00 for a 7.15 p.m. start. Meetings are held at the Great Glen Methodist Hall, except for the third Tuesday in each month when we meet at the Great Glen Community Library. Duplicate bridge on Tuesday night will continue throughout the summer as normal. We should love to meet new members -you will be made most welcome.

Andy Tyler

eveningbridge/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

07879 234046

Family History

Meetings will be on June 12 & 26 at 9.30am in the Methodist Church Hall. There will then be a break until Wednesday October 9. Newcomers are always welcome.

Eric Orbell

familyhistory/at/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

Our last meeting before the Summer Break will be on Wednesday July 10 and we will recommence on Wednesday September 04

Jim Picken

dipicken95/at/gmail.com

259 2035

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Garden Visits

Our next meeting is to a garden in Ingarsby called The White House Farm (although you are looking for a red brick house!) and the post code is LE7 9JD. If we go to Houghton on the Hill and cross straight over the A47 we go down Ingarsby Lane. At the bottom turn right and the house is a short distance on the right hand side. It is a former Georgian Farm in 2 acres of country garden. Box, yew and beech hedges divide a cottage garden of gaily coloured perennials and roses; a formal herb garden; a pergola draped with climbing plants; an old courtyard with roses, shrubs and trees. Herbaceous borders lead to pools with water lilies and informal cascade. Orchard, wild garden and lake. Admission and tea and cakes costs £8 and there is a farmyard where we can park our cars. If you have not put your name on the list and would like to come please contact me and let me know if you are in need of a lift or are going straight to the venue. We will be leaving the Great Glen car park at 2.00 p.m.

REMINDER of payment for the trip to Easton Walled Gardens on August 16.

I would be grateful for payment at either the next monthly meeting on June 11 or at the meeting as mentioned above as the July meeting is a little too late. If this is not possible please send a cheque made payable to Great Glen U3A to 102 Kingston Avenue, Wigston LE18 1HN. I am not available between June 04 and 08. Many thanks.

Linda Hobart

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

319 8095

History



We had an enjoyable and informative trip to Kenilworth on Monday 03 June. Thanks to Elizabeth Cooke for organising the outing.



The next meeting at the Methodist Hall is on Monday July 01, 2.00pm. There is no meeting in August. We're back again on 02 September. Everyone is welcome

Peter Russell

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

01572 822198

Learn French Together

French for beginners – as usual for June i.e. first and third Tuesdays in the month and our last meetings before our summer break will be 02 and 16 of July. No meetings will be held in August or on September 03 as this is the proposed date for the Open Day. New members will be made very welcome so if you would like to join this group please contact ...

Jan Johnson

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

212 2469

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Line Dancing

The line dancing group will be taking their annual summer break during July and August. Our last session before the break will be on Thursday June 27, and we will re-start on Thursday September 05 in the sports hall at 1.30pm.

We hope to be giving a demonstration of line dancing at the open morning. Those of you who do not know anything about it, can see how enjoyable that it is, and hopefully join in with a dance.

We look forward to seeing you there, if not come along to our first session on September 05 and give it a try. New dancers are always welcome. We are a mixed ability group and there is always a range of dances that everyone can do.

Jackie Jordan [jkj1506/ at /btinternet.com](mailto:jkj1506@btinternet.com) 259 9199

Lunch Club

We will not be meeting in June as several people are on holiday. The date for the July lunch is Tuesday 23. I look forward to seeing you all then.

Joyce Davies [mervjoycedavies/ at /btinternet.com](mailto:mervjoycedavies@btinternet.com) 259 3436

Military History

After our meeting on June 05, when we will be concluding the 'Fighting of the War in 1812', there will be no meetings in July, August or September. We will re-convene on Wednesday October 02 at 10.00am in the Methodist Church Hall when we will start to look at The Indian Mutiny.

Eric Orbell [militaryhistory/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:militaryhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk) 259 2095

Needles and Pins

We are looking for some new members, male and female. Why not come along bringing unfinished work or something new? We are a small friendly group that meets on the second Monday of each month.

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

New Age Kurling

No ice and no frantic brushing! Our stones run on castors on a wooden floor. 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. Everyone is welcome.

The next 3 sessions are on Friday June 14 and 28 and then July 12 at the Sports Centre (next to the village hall) at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome. We shall be taking a break during August and be back again in September.

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

Papercraft

We shall meet as usual on Monday June 17 and then take a break in July. Please let me know on the June 17 whether you will be coming to the meeting on August 19 when we will be hoping to prepare some work for the Open Day.

Stella Orbell [papercraft/ at /greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:papercraft@greatglenu3a.co.uk) 259 2095

Pub Lunches

All those wanting details of forthcoming pub lunches should contact ...

Margaret Hudson 271 5064

Quiz Group

For email replace / at / with @

Our next meeting is on June 24 when Magi Nipper will be asking the questions - please come long and support her. We will be taking a break through July and August and begin again on September 23.

Rachael Snashall

quiz/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2830

Singing for fun

The next session is on Wednesday July 03 at 2pm in the Methodist Hall.

We shall have a mix of show and film songs and some with a look towards summer- 'Oh What a Beautiful Morning', 'Summer Nights' and 'Diamonds are Forever' are just a few so come along and have a go. Everyone is welcome.

Peter Russell

singing/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

01572 822198

Sunday Singles

Our next lunches will be at the Leicestershire Golf Club on June 09 and July 14. Gentlemen are welcome to join our usual members.

Judith Measom

279 1509

Swimming

Swimming sessions have finished for the school summer break. They will start again in September on a date to be confirmed, after a new letting contract has been agreed.

David Brooke has resigned as Group Leader after many years of dedicated service, for which swimmers, past and present are very grateful.

New swimmers of any standard are always welcome.

Frank Wilcock

swimming/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

431 9706

Table Tennis

Meetings as usual for July and we will take a break for the month of August and restart on Monday September 02.

Janet Freestone

alan.freestone/at/mypostoffice.co.uk

259 2803

Table Top Games

The advent of the holiday season & an unfortunate clash with the Great Glen Gardening Club trips has meant that our group is no longer viable. Consequently we are having an extended break during June, July & August, and hope to reconvene in September. Newcomers are always welcome to join us, but please phone so we know to expect you. No experience or knowledge is necessary. We need more members, so if you enjoy card and/or board games we hope you will join us in the Autumn. More details will be included in the newsletter once we have sorted definite dates.

Group members are happy to teach you new games.....or you can bring your own to teach us! In the meantime we hope all members & non-members enjoy their Summer break.

Helen Edwards tgames/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk 212 7547, or *Eileen Appleby* 259 251

Tai Chi

Tai Chi is continuing through the summer, unfortunately we are unable take any new members as we currently do not have a qualified instructor.

It is with great sadness we have been informed that our Tai Chi instructor, Rosie Nightingale, has passed away - she was an inspiration to us Tai Chi'ers and she will be greatly missed.

Lynda Woodford

uzupa63/at/gmail.com

259 2186

Ukulele Group

For email replace / at / with @

The group normally meets on the first and third Mondays each month. June meetings will be held at usual, with one meeting on July 01. We are taking a holiday after that so no meeting on July 15 or any in August. We will resume normal service with meetings on September 02 and 16.

Alan Mawby

ukes/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2599

Walking Without Stiles

Our next walk will be on Tuesday 25 June at 10.30 am starting from the car park at Bradgate Park Main Park Entrance on the park side of the Newtown Linford Car Park, Bradgate Park, Newtown Linford, Leicestershire, LE6 0HB.

We will be walking from here along a route following the main path or along country paths if people would prefer. The café in the car park and the café in the middle of the park should be open before we go and when we get back for various drinks, snacks and meals. Please me, Elizabeth Cooke, know if you intend to come so that we know you are coming and we can contact you if the walk has to be cancelled at the last minute due to unforeseen circumstances.

Elizabeth Cooke

walking/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

270 4524 or 07957

288060

Writing for Pleasure

The Writing for Pleasure Group is temporarily on hold due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to re-launch in September. If you would like to join the group then please contact me.

Stella Orbell

writing/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2095

And finally..

Why is June called June?

June ultimately comes from the the Latin *Iunius*, “of Juno (Iuno),” referring to the Roman goddess. The *J* sound for the *I* in Latin’s *Iuno* emerges in French, and its spelling with the letter *J* doesn’t settle in English until the late 1600s.

The name *Iuno* itself appears to come from the Latin *iuventas*, “youth,” which is related to words like *juvenile* and *rejuvenate*. In ancient Rome, *Iunius* was the fourth month of the year in a ten-month calendar.

While *Iunius* was sometimes used alongside *Ærra-Liðā* in Old English and Middle English, *June* takes over, along with the other ancient Roman names for the months of the year, with the spread of Christianity in England in the Middle Ages.

Who is Juno?

So, who is Juno, you ask? Identified as a counterpart to the Greek Hera, Juno was an important and powerful ancient Italian deity who became the protector of Rome, wife of Jupiter, queen of gods, and goddess of marriage, childbirth, and fertility.

Summer weddings are pretty popular, and they may have started because of the blessing that this goddess bestowed on those wed in her sacred, namesake month.

