



Great Glen Newsletter

June 2018

Registered Charity No. 1099411
www.greatglenu3a.co.uk

A very warm welcome to our new members:
Allan Palmer, Nigel Walley and Barbara Weller

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone

It's a privilege to have been re-elected as your chairman for a second year and I hope I can live up to the position as we go through the months ahead.

We welcome two new committee members this year, John Johnson and Bill Maxted, who are already getting to grips with the various responsibilities of committee activities. As you will see later in this newsletter, more committee changes are ahead and we are starting our search for additional trustees straight away.

Many thanks to Uke3A and to Toni Smith for their excellent entertainment at last month's AGM. These contributions help enormously to lift what could otherwise be quite a 'dry' session.

I see that some of our 'sporting' groups are seeing a fall-off in attendance recently – maybe the good weather is too much of a draw. So why not join in with Croquet, Carpet Bowls and Kurling and have a good time at any or all of them? Also, keep your eyes

peeled for information about a new Walking group and also a second Book group. We're hoping to get both of these going in the near future.

As you might know already, we shall be having an Open Day in August instead of our usual monthly meeting. So tell all your non-U3A friends to come along and have a look at what we do. But do try out something new at any of our groups. Make the most of your U3A membership and add another interest to your busy life.

Best wishes to you all.

Peter Russell chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk 271 0889

Notices for the Attention of Group Leaders

1 Groups Using the Methodist Hall

I've been asked by the church to remind all groups that the kitchen door is no longer an entrance to the building. Please use the front doors and make sure all doors are locked if you are the last to leave. Also please make sure that all lights including toilet lights are switched off when you leave. Recently there have been occasions when this has not been done. As I mentioned last month, the U3A Notice Board has been repositioned near the main hall door in the corridor. You will find membership forms, blank registers, a summary membership list and copies of the latest newsletter there as well as any notices about forthcoming events.

2 Group Leaders Meeting

A reminder that a meeting for all Group Leaders will take place at the Methodist Hall on Friday 29th June from 12 noon to 2.00 p.m. As Group Leader, if you are not able to attend then please ask one of your group to attend in your place and report back to you afterwards. If you have not done so already, please let me know who will be attending.

3 Visitors at Meetings

A reminder on the policy as stated in Group Leaders Guide, that a visitor may attend one monthly main meeting and one group meeting as a paying visitor before deciding whether to join our U3A.

Peter Russell chairman@greatglenu3a.co.uk 271 0889

Who Me?

Your Committee has just considered where will it be in a year's time. It seems likely that a number of our current members will have moved on. Currently too many roles are concentrated in too few hands, so the loss of Committee members presents a considerable threat. We have just recruited some new blood, but more capacity is needed for Great Glen U3A to survive and thrive. Some tasks could be undertaken without the added need to serve as a Committee member and Trustee. Some could perhaps be job-shared. There is a

wide range of roles, such as finding speakers for monthly meetings, registering and keeping membership records, looking after the website (ours now needs a complete rebuild, using the national U3A template), supporting group leaders and helping to bring new groups into being, keeping the records for Gift Aid claims, editing the newsletter, organising events, taking minutes, publicity, chairing meetings and so on. A great deal could be up for grabs by the time of the next AGM in May. Please think about how **you** could play a part beyond just attending group and monthly meetings or going on organised trips, and then contact our Chairman, Peter Russell, or Vice-Chairman, Patricia Mansfield, for a confidential chat.

Robert Mansfield

Second Book Group

There appears to be sufficient interest to form a second book group. Meetings will be held at 10.00 a.m. in the Ruth Warner Room, the first meeting taking place on Thursday 27th September. Prospective members – both men and women most welcome – please contact me direct.

Patricia Mansfield patriciamansfield@btinternet.com

270 8284

New Walking Group

Plans are progressing well to launch a new walking group. Dates/days have to be decided but **routes will be chosen which do not require climbing over stiles**, and this may involve travelling out of the immediate locality. All those interested are invited to contact me as soon as possible **after 17th June**.

John Johnson john.b.johnson@icloud.com 212 2469

Monthly Meetings

Our meeting on 12 June features a talk by John Martin on Sherlock Holmes. Gentlemen should note that deerstalkers may be worn but meerschaum pipes are sadly no longer permitted.

12 June 2018	<i>Sherlock Holmes</i>	<i>John Martin</i>
10 July 2018	<i>Masters of Mirth</i>	<i>Mike Storr</i>
14 August 2018	<i>Open Day</i>	

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).

12 June – Flower Arranging, Needles and Pins and Art Groups

10 July – Bowling Group

14 August – History Group

A Penny for Your Thoughts ...

If you have a memory, ‘thought piece’ or anecdote you are willing to share with other members please do send it in to me. The cut-off date submissions for the next Newsletter is noon on **Wednesday 4th July 2018**.

Robert Mansfield

Annual General Meeting *(May Meeting)*

A rousing start was provided by Uke3A, who led and accompanied the audience in singing some old time favourites. Then came the business session, which saw Toni Smith stand down (again. She had already tried to do so once and been re-conscripted!) and John Johnson and Bill Maxted join the Trustee Committee. Changes to the constitution were approved, one allowing the Committee to make awards for

outstanding service. Stella Orbell paid eloquent homage to the contributions of the first well-deserving recipients, John Lawson and David Brooke. The meeting concluded with another excellent showing of films by Toni Smith, who received a bouquet in recognition of all her service to Great Glen U3A.

Robert Mansfield

OUTINGS

Outing to Barnsdale (Garden Visits Group) Friday 21st September 2018

The coach will depart from the Village Hall at 11.00 a.m. to arrive around 12.15 p.m. Attractions at Barnsdale include a very pleasant tea room and shop. There are plants available to buy. **Please note that picnics are not allowed!** We shall leave at 4.00 p.m. and arrive back at the Village Hall about 5.15 p.m. The cost is £18 per person (not, as previously advertised, £20). I shall be at the next monthly meetings to take bookings and money. Thank you.

Pat Tate

259 2001

GROUP NEWS

Carpet Bowls

We meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. **However there will not be a**

session on Thursday 14th June owing to other events. New members will be most welcome.

Peter Stanley Peterandphyllis.stanley@btinternet.com

259 2152

English Country Dancing

The English Country Dancing year is coming to an end and, in keeping with the tradition of local folk-dance clubs, the ECD Group will take a summer break during the warmer weather. We shall continue our meetings on Tuesday afternoons through June until and including 26th June. We shall then break during July and August and resume regular weekly dancing on Tuesday 4th September at the start of the new dancing season. Details of next term's meetings will be posted in the August Newsletter.

Peter Meacock petermeacock112@btinternet.com

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 259 2264, or *John Burnham* 264 0077

Family History

The Group next meets on Wednesdays 8th and 22nd June at 9.30 a.m. in the Methodist Church hall. There will then be a break until 12th September. As usual we shall not be meeting in July and August.

Eric Orbell ericorbell332@btinternet.com 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

Meetings will be held each Wednesday morning till 11th July. Then our long, lazy vacances will begin and continue till we meet again on 5th September.

Jim Picken djpicken95@gmail.com 259 2035

Garden Visits

Our next visit is on Friday 15th June when we are going to Dairy Cottage on Sharnford Road in Sapcote (post code LE9 4JN). From a walled garden with colourful mixed borders to a potager approached along a woodland path, this mature cottage garden combines extensive perennial planting with many unusual shrubs and specimen trees. More than 90 clematis and climbing roses are trained up pergolas, arches and into

50ft high trees – so do look upwards. The cost is £4.50, to include tea and cakes. We shall be meeting in the Village Hall car park at 2.00 p.m. to give lifts to those without transport. If you would like to come please telephone Joanna Green (tel. 259 2429) to let her know whether you are going straight to the venue or are coming to the car park for a lift.

Please watch this space for an insertion in next month's Newsletter regarding our coach trip on Friday 19th October to Newstead Abbey - once home to the poet Lord Byron. It will include a trip round the house and gardens.

Linda Hobart lindahobart@outlook.com 319 8095

History

The Group explored the history and architecture of Beaumanor Hall and its environs on 4th June. The next meeting is at the Methodist Hall on 2nd July at 2.00 p.m. when the 'gang of four' will be presenting their researches into The Industrial Revolution in Textiles.

Peter Russell prussell@russellscott.co.uk 271 0889

History of Art

On Wednesday 23rd June we shall be looking at the paintings of Titian. The meeting will be held in the Methodist Hall as usual, commencing at 10.00 am. All members are welcome.

David Brooke dnewtonbrooke@gmail.com 259 2520

Indoor Bowling

Indoor Bowls at Market Harborough has now finished for the summer season. We begin again at the beginning of October.

Ann Spray spray194@btinternet.com 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 janjohnson46@icloud.com 212 2469

Line Dancing

Line dancing will have its usual summer break at the end of this month. The last session will be on 28th June, and we re-start all bright eyed and bushy tailed on 6th September. New members would be very welcome to join us in the Sports Hall, Thursdays at 1.30 p.m. If you have never done line dancing, do come along and give it a try. Gentle exercise, varied music and a lot of fun.

Jackie Jordan jkj1506@btinternet.com 259 9199

Luncheon Club

We will not be meeting in June as several of our diners will be on holiday. Hope to see you all back in July suitably suntanned (or rusty!).

Joyce Davies mervjoycedavies@btinternet.com

259 3436

Military History

There will be no meetings in July or August. We shall restart at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 5th September in the Methodist Church hall.

Eric Orbell ericorbell332@btinternet.com 259 2095

New Age Kurling

Why not come along and try your hand at this activity? It's very easy to play and you will soon be as good (??) as the regulars. Playing provides gentle exercise and lots of fun. So come and have a go –the next sessions are on Fridays 8th and 22nd June at 10.00 a.m. at the Sports Centre next to Great Glen Village Hall.

Peter Russell prussell@russellscott.co.uk 271 0889

Papercraft

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 18th June. Please bring along any cards you have made this year so we can display them at the Open Day. We shall be pulling out all the stops to produce a spectacular stall

on the day. This will be our last meeting before the summer break.

Stella Orbell stellamo@hotmail.co.uk 259 2095

Quiz Group

Our next meeting will be on 25th June.

Rachael Snashall rsnashall@hotmail.com 259 2830

Singing for Fun

Wednesday 11th July at 2.00 p.m. Methodist Hall

Songs from around the country and summer songs.
Everyone welcome. Put it in your diary NOW!

Sunday Singles Lunch

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

Judith Measom 279 1509

Swimming

There is one last swim, on 13th June. I do not yet know when the first swim will be after the School holidays. Watch this space.

David Brooke dnewtonbrooke@gmail.com 259 2520

Table Tennis

As usual we shall be playing every week in July and 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 alan.freestone@mypostoffice.co.uk

259 2803

Table Top Games

This month's meetings are on 14th and 28th June at the Methodist Church.

Helen Edwards 212 7547, *Eileen Appleby* 259 2513

Ukulele Group

We have recently welcomed two new strummers, Allan and Nigel, to the Group. The dates for our next meetings are: 18th June and 2nd July. Then we have a break for the summer and start again on 3rd September. As our group grows, we would now benefit from having a bass uke, so if you have played bass guitar or similar in a past life, even at a basic level, and you fancy a go, please give us a call. Our Group Leader is Alan Mawby (tel. 259 2599).

Kate Smith kate@kateandbobsmith.co.uk

All Aboard the Good Ship Sunbeam 2!
Cruise Date: Wednesday 11th July

This excursion involves lunch or a picnic at the Hope and Anchor followed by a trip downstream to Sileby Mill. We leave the village library car park by private cars at 9.30 a.m. and return at about 4.30 p.m. The cost (£12) includes morning, lunchtime and afternoon tea/coffee.

This year we have the pleasure of a brand new boat, Sunbeam 2, built during the winter. It is wider than a narrowboat and we shall be one of the first group of passengers to find out how much more convenient it is. Sunbeam 2 is owned by Mosaic and has all the aids for disabled passengers. This is not a U3A trip and you are welcome to invite any of your friends and anyone one who thought that they would not be able to get on a boat again.

Please see me or telephone me, if you are interested. If leaving a message on the answerphone be sure to state your own phone number (twice)!

John Lawson

2593421