



Great Glen Newsletter

November 2018

Registered Charity No. 1099411

www.greatglenu3a.co.uk

A very warm welcome to our new members: Barbara Payne, Joan Stephens and Steve Williams – and to Kate Boult (previously incorrectly reported as Boulter).

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone.

At the November monthly meeting we shall be selling tickets for the December 'Christmas Crackers' meeting. We are looking for contributions (of food) towards the buffet that will round off our meeting so please help in some way if you can. As you buy your tickets you can register your intention by signing for one or more of the list of items we are looking to provide. There is packed programme of entertainment from members and of course the school choir.

We are still seeking a Newsletter Editor - please consider what you can do to help run our U3A. Think of what you would miss if you weren't reading this now!

I'm pleased to say that the new Writers Group, the second Book Group and the Walking Group have all got going within the last few weeks so there are yet more activities available for us all. Of course, over the years the interests of members change and some groups grow in numbers and others gradually decline or disappear; that's just the way of things. It can sometimes be a difficult step for a member to go along for the first time to an established group. So we should all be welcoming to new members into our groups. Finally, as you are all aware this is a notable week in our history as everywhere there are centenary commemorations of the end the Great War; sadly *not* 'the war to end all wars' as it was once thought and there followed an even greater loss of lives across the entire world in the 1940s. We remember them all this weekend.

Make the most of your U3A membership and enjoy the company it brings.

Best wishes to you all

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

01572 822198

Committee News

**New Members Meeting – Friday 30th November
10.30 a.m. Methodist Hall**

If you joined Great Glen U3A after 1 May then you should have received an invitation to a meeting for

new members by email or in the post. Please reply to me by 13th November.

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

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Monthly Meetings

13 November 2018 *What Space has done for Us*

Professor Mark Sims

11 December 2018 *Christmas Crackers!*

(seasonal entertainment)

8 January 2019 *Tribute to Les Dawson* *Mike Leonard*

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).

13 November – **Luncheon Club**

11 December – **Military History and**

New Age Kurling Groups

8 January 2019 – **Papercraft Group**

The Driving Test (*September meeting*)

Brian Johnson drew upon his extensive experience in the field of driver testing (he retired as a Senior Driving Test Examiner) to provide us with an illuminating and amusing account of the origins and evolution of the driving test. In Britain, unlike France – which was well ahead of us in this regard, driving was very much a laissez-faire business until the early thirties. These saw the introduction of the minimum driving age for cars of 17 and the 30 miles-per-hour speed limit, then the subsequently much to be revised Highway Code. The first to be required to pass a test were public service vehicle drivers. It was in 1934 that Lord Leslie Hore-Belisha introduced the compulsory motor driving test that most of us will remember passing. It was decided that the introduction of the test should be widely publicised, and we were treated to a viewing of the contemporaneous Ministry of Transport film shown in cinemas throughout the land to prepare the public for this important change. Few if any in the audience will have seen this first time round, and it proved the unforgettably hilarious highlight of a most entertaining and well-researched presentation.

Robert Mansfield

LEARN SOMETHING NEW

**Rag Wreath – Wednesday 21st November 2.00 to
4.00 p.m.**

This impressive decorative wreath is very easy to make. It takes five fat quarters (each approx. 19”x 21”) of any sort of fabric in mixed colours and a wreath ring.

There are only 12 places for this class, so if you would like to make one please put your name down quickly! The total cost is £10, which includes the class (£1.50), the wreath ring (£3.50) and fabric (£5). If you let me know when you sign up that you would prefer to bring your own fabric, the cost is £5. You can contact me using the details below, or I shall be at the November Monthly Meeting with a sample of the wreath.

There is a lot of interest already in this one, so sign up quickly or you may be disappointed.

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

GROUP NEWS

Art Group

The Art group meeting which was scheduled for 15th November has been cancelled owing to funeral arrangements. The last meeting of the year will be on 6th December when we can complete any unfinished project.

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

Book Group (Thursdays)

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd November at 10.00 a.m. in the Ruth Warner Room at the Methodist Church.

Patricia Mansfield patriciamansfield@btinternet.com

270 8284

Bowling

We play every Tuesday morning at Market Harborough indoor bowls centre from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon during the winter season only. We are looking for new players to join our group. Beginners are very welcome.

Ann Spray

281 0324

Carpet Bowls

Why not try your hand at Carpet Bowls? We are a friendly group and meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. No previous experience is necessary.

Peter Stanley carpetbowls@greatglenu3a.co.uk

259 2152

English Country Dancing

As is customary in the folk dancing world, at the end of October we celebrated Halloween with an afternoon of suitably titled dances - *Black (& Yellow) Cat Jig*,

Holborn March (to the gallows!), The Geud Man O' Ballangigh (James VI of Scotland), Witches Reel, and Devil's Dream! To celebrate Bonfire Night we shall dance *Candles in the Dark, The Fireworks* (to a tune from Handel "Music for the Royal Fireworks" suite), and the old English dance (1650) *Picking Up Sticks* which features a Sheepskin Hey!

For our meeting on 4th December we have invited the "Beaker Folk" group of musicians from Kibworth U3A to join us and play for our dancing - so a chance to dance to live music, which is always fun. The group plans to meet each week up to and including 18th December, when we shall have our "Christmas Party" afternoon and do dances to seasonal and festive music! We shall then break for Christmas and the New Year and resume dancing on 8th January.

Attendances during October have been good but we still can accommodate a few more if anybody else would like to join us. So, why not come along on Tuesday afternoons for a session of good fun that gently exercises both body and mind, and gives a lift to well-being? You will make new friends, laugh a lot and leave with a smile on your face. There is a whole world of enjoyment out there. Come and join us!

Peter Meacock ecd@greatglenu3a.co.uk 279 2600

Evening Bridge

Members of the Tuesday evening bridge group at the Methodist church are asked to note that for December

only we shall be playing at the Library on the second week (11th December) instead of the third week (18th December).

Andy Tyler [eveningbridge /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:eveningbridge/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)
259 2264, or *John Burnham* 264 0077

Family History

The Family History Group will meet as usual at 9.30 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 14th November and Wednesday 28th November.

Eric Orbell [familyhistory /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto: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 311013

French Conversation

The group is starting in a new direction under the leadership of Joan Stephens. We continue to meet each Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. in the Ruth Warner room.

Jim Picken [frenchconversation /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:frenchconversation/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)
259 2035

Garden Visits

Gates Garden Centre Visit

Our next visit is on Friday November 16th to Gates Garden Centre in Cold Overton (post code LE15 7QB). It is now getting a little chilly to look around gardens so we have decided to go indoors and enjoy hot tea or coffee, delicious cakes and looking round their large area for inspiration for Christmas presents! We shall be leaving the Great Glen car park at 2.00 p.m. so if you would like to come please let me know whether you need a lift from the car park or are going straight to the venue. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

The **Christmas Lunch** is on Friday 7th December when we are going to The Bell at Burton Overy. We will be leaving the Great Glen car park at 12.00 noon. The cost is £15.95 for two courses and £19.95 for three courses; payment will be made individually on the day. I shall be dispensing menus at the November meeting (just inside the hall on the right-hand side) so please come and take one, but please also let me have your name so I can be sure that everyone is in possession of a menu. If you are unable to attend the meeting please call me and let me have your name and full address in order for me to post one to you and I need your choices **as soon as possible please**. Thank you. There are still a few places left so if you would like to come please let me know but, as I stated in last month's Newsletter, if

the numbers exceed the restaurant's capacity then regular members of the Group will be given precedence.

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

319 8095

History

Thank you to Stella for her talk at our last meeting on the 17th Century Countrywoman. The next History group meeting is on Monday 3rd December at 2.00 p.m. in the Methodist Hall when we shall have our annual History Quiz. Everyone is welcome.

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

01572 822198

History of Art

The next meeting is on Wednesday 21st November when Joanna Green will be presenting the paintings of Edward Hopper. The meeting will be held in the Methodist Hall as usual commencing at 10.00 a.m. All members are welcome.

David Brooke [historyofart /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:historyofart@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2520

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

212 2469

Military History

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th December at 10.00 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall when we shall be continuing with our look at the Boer War.

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

259 2095

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. We are meeting on Friday 9th November at 10.00 a.m. at the Sports Centre next to Great Glen Village Hall. There will be no meeting on 23rd November so the next session will be on 14th December, which will be the last one of 2018.

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

01572 822198

Papercraft

The last Papercraft meeting for 2018 will take place on 19th November at 2 p.m. when we shall produce some lovely Christmas cards.

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 ...

Quiz Group

The last meeting of the year is on 26th November, when the questions will be asked by Gill Burton. There will be no meeting in December as the fourth Monday falls on Christmas Eve.

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

Singing for Fun

Wednesday 19th December at 2.00 p.m. in the
Methodist Hall
Carols and other Christmas songs
Everyone is welcome

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

Please note there will be no swimming in December and we will start back on 9th January. Attendance was

disappointing for most of last month but it ended well with 27 swimmers on the 31st October.

David Brooke [swimming /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:swimming@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2520

Table Tennis

After our Summer break we are back in action again, playing weekly on Mondays at 10.30 a.m. in the Youth and Sports Centre. For further details please phone me.

Janet Freestone [tabletennis /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:tabletennis@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

259 2803

Table Top Games

We only have three more sessions this year: 8th and 22nd November, and 13th December. You are welcome to join us at 2.00 p.m. at the Methodist Church. Please phone so we know to expect you.

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

212 7547, or *Eileen Appleby* 259 251

Ukulele Group

Meetings of the group for the remainder of the year are as follows. Our (brief) performance for the Market Harborough Ukulele Group on 7th November will be over by the time you read this but we still have more time to rehearse on 19th November, and 3rd and 10th December, 10.00 a.m. until noon in the Ruth Warner room.

On 11th December, (9.45 a.m. at the Village Hall) we have a performance for the U3A Christmas Concert, and another on 12th December (2.30 for 3.00 p.m. at the Bowls Club, Kenwood Road).

Alan Mawby [ukes /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:ukes/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk) 259
2599

Walking Without Stiles

After an enjoyable visit to Market Harborough, the next Walking Without Stiles outing will be on Tuesday 27th November, around and about Glen Parva. We meet outside the Glen Parva Manor (LE2 9LT) at 10.30 a.m. The Manor is on the south side of Little Glen Road (the main road running from South Wigston to the Lutterworth Road). There is parking on the side road beside the Manor pub or in its car park. The walk will be semirural, walking along a very quiet road and returning along a section of the canal footpath, which could be a little muddy in places depending on the weather. The route is between 2 and 2.5 miles long and moderately flat. We shall return to the Manor pub where anything from a drink to a meal can be purchased. The Manor pub website is <https://www.glenparvamanorpub.co.uk> Please wear suitable clothing in case of threatened rain. Everyone wishing to come along please let Elizabeth Cooke know on her mobile phone number. This will enable Elizabeth to contact everyone in the event of an

unforeseen cancellation. If transport is required or can be offered please also let Elizabeth know.

John Johnson 212 2469 or 07527 520504

Elizabeth Cooke [walking /at/greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:walking/at/greatglenu3a.co.uk)
270 4524 or 07957 288060

Writing Group (temporary name)

The Writing Group has made a start and enjoyed an afternoon when we began by creating a character. We now hope to build on this idea, but you are not too late to join us as each meeting will stand alone and you do not need to have been at the previous one. So come along and add to our numbers. We are six so far but have room for a couple more. The next meeting is on Tuesday 27th November at 2.00 p.m. in the Ruth Warner room. Bring a pen and some paper and we look forward to welcoming you.

Stella Orbell

259 2095

And finally – Keeping Safe!!

Television Licence Scam

Please be on your guard against email and telephone messages purporting to be from the TV Licensing Authority and suggesting you are in arrears with your

licence fee or are due a refund and asking for bank details. These are scams and you should delete such emails. If in any doubt contact the TV Licensing Authority on 0300 790 0368.

Preventing Fraud

The Metropolitan Police Service FALCON (Fraud and Linked Crime Online) has launched a series of Little Guide animations that aim to raise awareness and promote behaviour change over different aspects of fraud.

Money Mules <https://youtu.be/hOLiXY09Ozl>

Payment Fraud <https://youtu.be/O1tktyF0-Tg>

Computer Software Service Fraud

<https://youtu.be/aJA-eyVtOW4>

Romance/Dating Fraud <https://tinyurl.com/y7pe5osk>

Online Shopping Fraud

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-wPFXK2m4>

All videos and other resources created by FALCON can be found at www.met.police.uk/fraud

Editor