



# Great Glen Newsletter

## October 2016

Registered Charity No. 1099411

[www.greatglenu3a.co.uk](http://www.greatglenu3a.co.uk)



A very warm welcome to our new members: Ms M P Mushett and Brian Smith

### Chairman's Chat



On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October we are holding a New Members' Meeting in the Methodist Church Hall. Members who joined from December 2015 onwards should have received an invitation by email or post. Members who have missed their event over the last two years are also welcome – please let me know by 14<sup>th</sup> October if you wish to attend. Please arrive in time to register and collect a drink in readiness for a prompt start at 10.00 a.m. The meeting will enable you to meet other new members, Group Leaders and your Committee, to learn more about U3A and how you can play a fuller part and to share your ideas with us – for example about new activities. I hope to see a good attendance.

**U3A Sources:** As part of the celebration of the year of the English garden I was asked to provide a piece on our Garden Visits Group. Linda Hobart and Toni Smith obliged with text and a picture respectively, which are featured in the current edition of the Magazine. This excellent publicity has already attracted interest from other local U3As.

Patricia Mansfield

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

270 8284

### Monthly Meeting – 11 October 2016

At our next monthly meeting on 11 October there will be a *Powerpoint* presentation on Wines of Italy, given by Sue and John Lobb, with a chance to taste at the end of the talk. Tickets for the Christmas Entertainment (£2 each, members only, proceeds to LOROS) will be on sale before the meeting.

### Committee News

Your Committee has arranged a demonstration / trial on 1<sup>st</sup> November of equipment that might help individual members with hearing difficulties. If this proves successful we will investigate potential sources of funding, as we should need to raise money to pay for the equipment. (We understand that the portable receivers are inconspicuous.) Although quite a number of members have told their Group Leaders that they find difficulty hearing over background noise, I wonder how many others are being reticent. If we are to make a convincing case for funding there needs to be significant evidence that the project would be of benefit. Please contact me if your name has not already come forward.

Robert Mansfield

[newsletter@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@greatglenu3a.co.uk)

270 8284

## Forthcoming Monthly Meetings

11 October 2016	<b><i>Wines of Italy</i></b>	Sue Lobb
8 November 2016	<b><i>Life on the Canals</i></b>	Mary Matts
13 December 2016	<b><i>Christmas Entertainment</i></b>	Music and Good Company Group

Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month. Doors open 10.00 a.m. for tea and coffee, speaker 10.30 a.m. **Coffee rota – see below.**

### Coffee Rota

*Coffee, tea and sugar are provided. Please bring milk.*

**11 October** – French

**8 November** – Garden Visits

**13 December** – History

### The Last Naval Hero - Speaker Roy Smart

*(September monthly meeting)*



We learned in a most interesting talk from Roy Smart (pictured left) that David Richard Beatty was born in 1871 and grew up to be a naval hero in the Nelson tradition. He has been variously described as ‘a daring sea dog in the Drake tradition, and a lion of a man – with his bulldog air and cap at a rakish angle’. Trained at the Royal Naval College Dartmouth he very quickly rose through the ranks being promoted commander at 27 and captain at 29. Despite having completed only 3 years at sea he found himself promoted to admiral at 39 years of age.

Our navy at the time was seen as the greatest in the world, and as war between Britain and Germany became inevitable Beatty was put in charge of a battle cruiser squadron by the First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill. Based in Scotland under Commander-in-Chief Admiral Jellicoe, Beatty used his ships against the German navy at the Battle of Jutland. Three of his cruisers went down with over 3,000 lives lost and another 11 ships in total were also sunk. The German navy lost 11 ships in total but during the night they sailed back into German harbours where they remained for the rest of the war thus leaving the Royal Navy with the upper hand at sea. By 1916 Beatty was Admiral of the Fleet and following the Armistice he escorted the German fleet to Scapa Flow. He also led the naval contingent in the Peace March through London following the war.

Beatty’s married life was fraught with controversy: he secretly married the mega-rich divorcee Ethel Tree but she was neurotic and promiscuous, and Beatty found consolation with another married lady, Eugenie Godfrey-Fausett.

Following the war Beatty was heaped with honours and at his death given a state funeral at St Paul’s Cathedral where he lies next to Admiral Jellicoe and near to Admiral Lord Nelson in the crypt. Beatty and Ethel’s many mansions included Brooksby Hall, Kelmarsh Hall and Dingley Hall where Ethel is buried. At Dingley there is a bust of him in the church together with a memorial to those who died at Jutland. The fountains in Trafalgar Square are named after him and Jellicoe, and watched over by their busts, under the stern eye of Lord Nelson on his column above.

*Stella Orbell*

### **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 for the next Newsletter is noon on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**.  
*Robert Mansfield*     [robertmansfield@btinternet.com](mailto:robertmansfield@btinternet.com)     270 8284

### **June 2017 Outing**

**Next year's summer show will be 'Kiss Me Kate', music by Cole Porter. Bookings cannot be made until the end of November 2016, following which I shall provide further details. Watch this space ...**

*Pat Tate*

259 1001

### **Learn Something New!**

#### **HANDBELL RINGING**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 7:00-9:00 PM Methodist Hall**

Here's a real chance to make noise! Come along just to watch our guest presenters from New Parks Handbell Ringers, and have a go yourself. Please use the sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting or contact me by phone or email to register your interest.

*Peter Russell*

[prussell@russellscott.co.uk](mailto:prussell@russellscott.co.uk)     271 0889

#### **SINGING FOR FUN**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2:00 PM Methodist Hall**

If you'd like to have a go at singing simple folk tunes, rounds, madrigals, Beatles songs in a group then here's your chance. Please use the sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting or contact me by phone or email to register your interest.

*Peter Russell*

[prussell@russellscott.co.uk](mailto:prussell@russellscott.co.uk)     271 0889

#### **MAKE A CHRISTMAS WREATH**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2:00-4:00 PM Methodist Hall**

Watch Sally make the wreath and then have a go yourself. All materials are provided. There's some gluing so don't wear your Sunday best. Please use the sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting or contact me by phone or email to register your interest. The suggested donation for this session is £2.

*Sue Russell*

[sue@suerussell.co.uk](mailto:sue@suerussell.co.uk)     271 0889

## CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2:00-4:00 PM Methodist Hall**

Make Christmas decorations using easily found materials. Sue will be demonstrating and helping. So come along and have a go yourself. All materials are provided. Please use the sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting or contact me by phone or email to register your interest. The suggested donation for this session is £2.

*Sue Russell*

[sue@suerussell.co.uk](mailto:sue@suerussell.co.uk)

271 0889

## ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS – LEARN A LANGUAGE

**To Start Early 2017**

We're looking to see if there is enough interest in forming a 'learn together' session for any or all of the three 'holiday' languages – French, Spanish and Italian.

We would be using on-line language courses such as those from the BBC – watching, listening and practising with each other. If you think you would be interested then please use the sign-up sheet at the monthly meeting or contact me by phone or email to register your interest.

*Sue Russell*

[sue@suerussell.co.uk](mailto:sue@suerussell.co.uk)

271 0889

## Group News

### Art Group

The Group meets on the first and third Thursday at 2 o'clock every month, in the Ruth Warner Room. The theme for October is 'Autumn'. Any medium may be used.

*Rachel Snashall*

[rsnashall@hotmail.com](mailto:rsnashall@hotmail.com)

259 2830

### Croquet

Indoor croquet has now returned to its usual pattern of sessions on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings.

*John Lawson*

[jlawson123@btinternet.com](mailto:jlawson123@btinternet.com)

259 3421

### Duplicate Bridge (Evenings)

We are back to our usual times: Tuesdays 7.00 p.m. (for a prompt start at 7.15 p.m.) till 10.00 p.m.-ish. There is no play on the third Tuesday of the month. Pairs will be made welcome, singles may be put on a waiting list. Anyone interested should contact ...

*John Lawson*

[jlawson123@btinternet.com](mailto:jlawson123@btinternet.com)

259 3421

### English Country Dancing

We have been very pleased to welcome several new members to the group in recent weeks. This week, on 4<sup>th</sup> October, we had 18 people dancing so were able to progress from short sets to "large circles" and "longways, for as many as will" dances – see the picture below.



Amongst the ones we tried was the ever popular Contra-dance "Devil's Dream" to the traditional tune "Up Jumped the Devil". Its driving music perfectly fits the marching up and down the hall and the changes of direction via "half turns", "full ladies-chains" and "promenades"; we still need to improve our knowledge of "right, left, forward and back" and the ensuing

errors caused great merriment but we shall persist and we will master it – all good fun!  
We still have space for a few more members, so if anybody else would like to try this fun activity please do get in touch. As demonstrated at the Open Day, most of our dances are conducted at walking pace with occasional skipping, so are not too vigorous. The dances are performed in specific formations of circles, squares and longways sets, and they span English Country, English Court (Playford), and American Square and Contra styles. Some dances date back to the Stuart and Georgian/Regency periods, or even earlier, while others were written very recently. The music we use ranges from classical (Handel, Purcell, Mozart, Bach, Strauss all wrote dance tunes!) to modern compositions, sometimes even jazz; for the older country dances many of the tunes will be very familiar to anybody who enjoys traditional English folk music.

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, and enjoy yourself. Come and join us!

*Peter Meacock*                      [petermeacock112@btinternet.com](mailto:petermeacock112@btinternet.com)    279 3600

### **Family History**

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the Methodist Church Hall at 9.30 a.m. If you have some experience of the subject and use the internet we will be very happy to welcome you.

*Eric Orbell*                      [ericorbell332@btinternet.com](mailto:ericorbell332@btinternet.com)            259 2095

### **Garden Visits Group**

Our next meeting is on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October and will be in the Methodist Church Hall NOT a visit to Glebe Gardens as shown in your diary. We shall be having a talk with slides by Gill Hadland entitled Peru: People, Plants and Places, which will be very interesting whether or not you have visited Peru. We shall be starting at 2.00 p.m. and hope to see as many of you as possible.

We shall be having our Christmas lunch on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December – the venue will be announced in the next Newsletter. However if you are interested in coming along please contact me as soon as possible in order for me to be able to give numbers to the restaurant. We shall attempt to find somewhere not too expensive but, of course, at Christmas prices do rise. We had a great turn-out last year and let's hope we can match it this year.

*Linda Hobart*                      [lindahobart@outlook.com](mailto:lindahobart@outlook.com).                      319 8095

### **History Group**

Many thanks to Jackie, Janet, Patricia and Robert for their well researched session on the Mineral Wealth of Leicestershire and its History. Oil in Leicestershire! Who'd have thought?

Next month's meeting is on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November in the Methodist Hall at 2:00 p.m.

We shall be hearing Eric talking about "Stagecoaches". Everyone welcome.

*Peter Russell*                      [prussell@russellscott.co.uk](mailto:prussell@russellscott.co.uk)                      271 0889

### **History of Art**

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October when we will be looking at the work of Henri Matisse, a late French Impressionist painter. The meeting will commence at 10.00 a.m. in the Methodist Hall. All members are welcome.

*David Brooke*                      [dnbrooke@fsmail.net](mailto:dnbrooke@fsmail.net)                      259 2520

### **Indoor (Winter) Bowls**

Indoor bowls starts again on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00 a.m. in the Market Harborough Leisure Centre. Anyone interested in joining should contact ...

*Ann Spray*

[spray194@btinternet.com](mailto:spray194@btinternet.com)

281 0324

### **Indoor Croquet**

All groups are back to the usual times: Tuesday weekly, 1.30 till 3.00 p.m.; Thursday weekly, first group 10.00 till 11.30 a.m., second group 11.30 a.m. till 1.00 p.m. All groups are full at present.

*John Lawson*

[jlawson123@btinternet.com](mailto:jlawson123@btinternet.com)

259 3421

### **Line Dancing**

The line dancing group continues to flourish, and we have two new members as well, which is great. Despite losing four members each fortnight to other pursuits, we still manage to have a good number of dancers each week. New dances are tried every two weeks, and now we have quite a repertoire, with music ranging from Waltz through Rumba, Tango, Foxtrot and Charleston, and of course Country.

New members are always welcome to join us on Thursday at 1.30 p.m. in the Sports Hall. We are a mixed ability group of beginners, so if you have never line danced before you will soon pick it up, and have a good laugh at the same time. We look forward to seeing you.

*Jackie Jordan*

[jkj1506@btinternet.com](mailto:jkj1506@btinternet.com)

259 9199

### **Luncheon Club**

We would like to invite new members to our lunches. We meet at the Bell, Burton Overy, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, 12 o'clock for 12.30 p.m. We alternate each month between starter plus main and main plus dessert courses. The food is of excellent quality and well presented. You will find me at the monthly meeting, on the left as you enter the Village Hall, with the menu for the next lunch. If you cannot attend the meeting, and live in the village, I will put a menu through your door. I have sample menus for you to look at. Come and give us a try to see if you would like to join us. We look forward to seeing you soon.

*Joyce Davies*

[mervjoycedavies@btinternet.com](mailto:mervjoycedavies@btinternet.com)

259 3436

### **Military History**

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Methodist Church Hall and are currently looking at the First World War. If this interests you then get fell in at 10.00 a.m. and join us there.

*Eric Orbell*

[ericorbell332@btinternet.com](mailto:ericorbell332@btinternet.com)

259 2095

### **Mini Bridge**

We are back to our usual times – Tuesday weekly 9.45 a.m. (for a prompt start at 10.00 a.m.) till 12.15 p.m. Singles or pairs are welcome, but please ring Terry (259 2102) or me before your first visit.

### **New-Age Kurling**

We are now meeting on the second and fourth Fridays for the foreseeable future so the next two sessions are on 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October at 10:00 a.m. in the Sports Centre (next to the Village Hall). Everyone welcome, but if you have not done so already please let me know you are coming.



*Peter Russell*

[prussell@russellscott.co.uk](mailto:prussell@russellscott.co.uk)

271 0889

### **Quiz Group**

Our next meeting is on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 2 o'clock in the main hall of the Methodist Church. The question master will be David Green. New members will be very welcome.

*Rachel Snashall*

[rsnashall@hotmail.com](mailto:rsnashall@hotmail.com)

259 2830

### **Sunday Singles Lunch**

We meet on the second Sunday of the month, single ladies and gentlemen, at 1.00 p.m. **We can now accommodate a few more members and gentlemen would be particularly welcome!** The next venues are: **9<sup>th</sup> October** – The Bell, East Langton, **13<sup>th</sup> November** – The Golden Shield, Fleckney, **11<sup>th</sup> December** – The Leicestershire Golf Club.

*Judith Measom*

279 1509

### **Swimming**

It is with regret that I have to advise everyone that swimming sessional charges are to increase from £2.50 to £3.00 with effect from 12<sup>th</sup> October. To cover the weekly cost we need a regular attendance of 25 swimmers whereas actual attendance over the last six weeks has averaged only 20. An average attendance of 21 swimmers at £3.00 will cover the cost, effective from the start of the new School term. The pool is a first class facility of which I trust members of the U3A will take full advantage.

*David Brooke*

[dnbrooke@fsmail.net](mailto:dnbrooke@fsmail.net)

259 2520

### **Table Top Games**

This month's meetings will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October at 2:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church. Newcomers are always welcome to join us in playing our games or to bring their own to share.

*Gillian Farrar*

270 8375

*Helen Edwards*

212 7547

## Phone and Computer Scams Alert!

Just a word of warning about some ongoing scams. I can assure you that there is no-one at BT, Microsoft, Sky or any other computer or broadband company who is checking that your computer is working correctly. If you get an unsolicited call from anyone suggesting that you need to let them do something to fix your computer or broadband service please ignore them. Callers can be very convincing but are almost certainly trying to get your money. *Peter Russell*

## Tailpiece

### Breaking News ...

The British Medical Association has weighed in again on the Government's health care proposals for the junior doctors in the National Health Service.

The Allergists voted to scratch them, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves. The Gastroenterologists had a sort of gut feeling about it all, and the Neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve.

The Obstetricians felt they were labouring under a misconception and the Ophthalmologists considered the ideas short-sighted.

Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the Paediatricians said, "Oh, grow up!" The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.

The Surgeons were fed up with the cuts and decided to wash their hands of the whole thing. While the Ear Nose and Throat specialists didn't swallow it and just wouldn't hear of it.

The Diabetologists said, "The proposals might have been sugar-coated and should be avoided." The Pharmacists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were p\*ss\*d off at the whole idea. The Anaesthetists thought the new contract was a gas, but the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no. In the end the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision to the \*rs\*h\*l\*s in Whitehall.

*Anon*