



# Great Glen Newsletter

## September 2018

Registered Charity No. 1099411

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

A very warm welcome to our new members: Julian and Kathy Bird, Katherine Boulter, Elizabeth Browning, John Burford, Ann de Voil, Julia Fry, Linda Osborne, Coleen Ramsey, David Seddon, Alison Tasker, Iris Vizard and Sue Wright.

### Chairman's Chat



Hello everyone.

It's September already and so all our groups are back in full swing. Have a go at something different this Autumn. In fact, I've just read in the newspaper that we oldies are more intelligent in September (yes, really!) so it's definitely a good time to start something new.

The Open Day was very worthwhile in showing what U3A is about. I'm pleased to welcome several new members as a result and if you are one of those then I hope you go on to fully participate in our broad range of

activities and enjoy your membership of Great Glen U3A.

Again thanks are due to all who were involved in all aspects of putting on the Open Day.

The next subject won't go away I'm afraid; we do need more members willing to get involved with the Committee. If you think you might be interested then please contact a current committee member. Don't leave it until the last minute. As I've said before, several roles will become vacant at the end of this year.

A reminder that our two new groups meet for the first time this month. The second Book Group starts on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and the Walking Without Stiles Group begins on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>. Also look out for notices about a possible Writers Group and also two possible Learn Something New one-off sessions on Astronomy and Making a Bead Bracelet. See this newsletter for details. If you have ideas for new activities then contact me or John Johnson and we'll see what can be done.

But above all make the most of your U3A membership and enjoy the company it brings.

Best wishes to you all

Peter Russell

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

01572 822198

### Newsletter Editor - Applications Invited

As you read this month's newsletter reflect for a moment that this has been put together by one of our volunteers compiling submissions from group leaders and others. This role of editor has been carried out by several different volunteers over the lifetime of GGU3A, each doing it for a few years. The current editor will be standing down at the next AGM and so it is vital that someone new picks up the baton. *I regard the newsletter as our most important means of communication to all members and it would be a real shame if we were unable to publish because no-one is willing to take it on.*

The editor's work is concentrated into a few days in the first week of each month compiling all submissions into a sensible layout, sending out copies using email where possible, and arranging for printed copies to be produced and delivered to the monthly meeting, Oadby and Great Glen libraries and to the Methodist Hall. Please consider whether this is something you could do for the

benefit of all members. Contact myself or the current editor, Robert Mansfield, as soon as possible if you would like to talk about it.

Peter Russell

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

01572 822198

## Monthly Meetings

**At our meeting on 11 September we shall be hearing from Tim Coltman about Grandfather William Coltman VC in World War 1.**

11 September 2018	<b>Grandfather William Coltman VC, in WW1</b>	Tim Coltman
9 October 2018	<b>The Driving Test!</b> (factual but humorous!)	Brian Johnson
13 November 2018	<b>What Space has done for Us</b>	Professor Martin

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 September – **History of Art Group**  
9 October – **Line Dancing Group**  
13 November – **Luncheon Club**

### Open Day

*(in lieu of August Meeting)*



**Our Group Leaders and their teams again showcased the U3A's activities brilliantly. We had an excellent intake of new members from those who visited.**

## OUTINGS

### Garden Visit – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

This is just to remind those who have booked and paid for the visit to Barnsdale on 21<sup>st</sup> September that the coach will depart from Great Glen Village Hall at 11.00 a.m. prompt! Barnsdale has just been awarded 'Best UK Garden' by the readers of *Garden News* magazine. Nick Hamilton tells me everyone there is delighted to have received this prestigious award, as they were up against many of the best-known gardens countrywide. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Pat Tate

259 1001

## LEARN SOMETHING NEW

### Beautiful Bead Bracelet - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.



If you would like to make this impressive piece of jewellery as a gift or to wear yourself, then sign up for this class now! Ray Hughes has many years' experience of creating beautiful beaded jewellery and ornaments and she has kindly offered to share her skills with us. This piece is much easier to make than it appears. Ray tells me that the only skills required are to thread a needle (with the aid of a needle threader) and to count to ten. You will be provided with a kit which includes everything you need to complete the bracelet. The cost will depend on numbers but at most it will be £8 for the kit plus the usual £1.50, so **£9.50** in total.

The kits will contain 25 grams beads, enough thread for the project, toggle catch plus wire guardians, small bead mat and pattern. You may be able to complete the bracelet in the afternoon, but you will have everything you need to finish it at home, if necessary. Ray will provide her contact details and will be happy to give you additional help, should you need it.

Places are limited. To sign up, either contact me (details below) or come along to the monthly meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September when you will also be able to see the bracelet.

Sue Russell

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

01572 822 198

### Beginners' Astronomy

Are you interested in a beginner's guide to Astronomy? Would you like to come to a taster session to find out more about the skies above us? If you remember with fondness *The Sky at Night* you may be interested in finding out a bit more. We have had some interest so far, but not quite enough to make it viable, so this is your last call! If you are interested, please put your name down and we will try to put together a Learn Something New session in the autumn.

to learn more about the pleasures of looking more closely at the night sky. Sign up at Monthly Meeting or contact me to put your name on the list and I will keep you informed.

Sue Russell

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

01572 822 198



## Creative Writing

You may have seen an appeal in last month's Newsletter for anyone interested in forming a Writing Group to contact me. So far, I have only heard from a couple of people and I'm sure there must be many more members who would enjoy writing and sharing their stories, articles or poems with others. If you have even a tiny creative literary streak and are just waiting for an opportunity to express and develop it, then this is for you. Sign up at Monthly Meeting or contact me to put your name on the list and I will keep you informed.

*Sue Russell*

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

01572 822 198

## GROUP NEWS

### Art Group

We begin again on Thursdays 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September at 2 o'clock in the Ruth Warner room. The theme is "Harvest". Any newcomers will be very welcome.

*Rachael Snashall*

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

259 2830

### Book Group (Thursdays)

As we had new signings at our recent Open Day we are ready to start our new group on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Ruth Warner Room at The Methodist Hall. Our first book is 'The Siege' by Helen Dunmore. If anyone else is interested please contact me direct.

*Patricia Mansfield*

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

270 8284

### Carpet Bowls

Why not try your hand at carpet Bowls? We meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. No experience necessary. We are a friendly group and you will be made most welcome.

*Peter Stanley*

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

259 2152

### Croquet

For the first time in many years we have places available for the 1.30 till 3.00 p.m. croquet session on Tuesdays, and for the 10.00 till 11.30 a.m. session on Thursdays. Coffee/tea is available and included in your £1.50. You will not get wet and the hall is warm in winter. We play on the carpet in the Chapel Hall.

*John Lawson*

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

259 3421

### English Country Dancing

After a break during the hot weather of July and August the English Country Dancing Group resumed its regular Tuesday afternoon meetings, 1.30 to 3.30pm in the Youth Centre/Sports Hall, on 4<sup>th</sup> September. We are pleased to welcome some Associate members from Leicester U3A but still have space for a few more people, so we warmly invite any other members of the U3A who would like to try this fun and social activity to come along.

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, enjoy yourself, and laugh – a lot!

The start of the new dancing year always features a number of Dances, Ceilidhs and Costume "Playford" Balls at various Folk Dance clubs in the local region, at which members of the group will be very welcome. We always try to obtain copies of the dancing programmes beforehand so that



the group can practise some of the dances in case anybody does decide to attend. Even if you think you have "two left feet", why not come and give it a try – you will enjoy it!



**Members of the ECD group in action!**

*Peter Meacock*

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

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

### **Family History**

We shall restart on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall.

*Eric Orbell*    [familyhistory@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:familyhistory@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**

By the time you read this Newsletter the Group will have returned, invigorated, to our studies.

*Jim Picken*    [frenchconversation@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:frenchconversation@greatglenu3a.co.uk)    259 2035

### **Garden Visits**

#### **NEWSTEAD ABBEY REMINDER**

May I remind all members attending the visit to Newstead Abbey on 19<sup>th</sup> October that the coach **will be leaving the Great Glen car park at 10.00 a.m. promptly** so please be there in good time. Many thanks.

#### **HELP PLEASE!!**

I am now sending out a request to enquire if there are any members who would consider helping the Garden Visits Group to compile their annual programme. This would entail the organisation of visits to a few gardens and then collecting names on a list of those wishing to go. There would be

two, or at most three visits in a year to arrange and, basically, each would involve making one or two telephone calls. This is not a difficult task and I am very happy to help if there are any problems. If you feel you would like to join us please contact me. Thank you.

Linda Hobart                                [gardenvisits@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:gardenvisits@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                319 8095

### **History**

Many thanks to Sue Baxter for a great presentation on her family's links to the Coventry Silk trade. The next meeting at the Methodist Hall is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 2.00 p.m. when we shall have a DVD on one of the topics selected at the September meeting.

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

### **History of Art**

At the next meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September we shall be looking at the work of a Belgian painter, Frank Brangwyn. The meeting will be held in the Methodist Hall commencing at 10.00 a.m. All members are welcome.

David Brooke                                [historyofart@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:historyofart@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                259 2520

### **Indoor Bowling**

Indoor Bowls at Market Harborough Leisure Centre will start again on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October from 10.0 a.m. until noon. New players and beginners are most welcome.

Ann Spray                                        [bowls@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:bowls@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                        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                                        [frenchbeginners@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:frenchbeginners@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                        212 2469

### **Line Dancing**

Line Dancing begins again after the summer break, on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 1.30 p.m. Looking forward to seeing our dancers again, and to see how much they have remembered! Welcome also to new members who showed an interest at the Open Day, and to anyone else who would like to give Line Dancing a try.

Jackie Jordan                                        [linedancing@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:linedancing@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                        259 9199

### **Luncheon Club**

Mo John will be taking your menu choices at the monthly meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September. If you are unable to attend the meeting and live in the village, I shall deliver the menus as usual. See you all at the lunch on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Joyce Davies                                        [luncheonclub@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:luncheonclub@greatglenu3a.co.uk)                                        259 3436

### **Military History**

We shall restart on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10.00 a.m. in the Methodist Church Hall, when we shall begin a study of the two Boer Wars.

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

### **New Age Kurling**

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 back again on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00 a.m. at the Sports Centre next to Great Glen Village Hall.

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

## Papercraft

We start again on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September when we shall try enhancing our creations with additional tags. To get you in the mood, one of the examples will be a Christmas card. Well, in card making terms time is running short already! I look forward to seeing you there.

*Stella Orbell*

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

259 2095

## Quiz Group

Our next meeting is at 2 o'clock on 24<sup>th</sup> September in the Main Hall of the Methodist Church. The question master is David Green. Any new members will be made very welcome.

*Rachael Snashall*

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

259 2830

## Singing for Fun

The next session will be on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October

2.00 p.m. in the Methodist Hall

The theme will be 'Musicals'

Everyone is welcome

*Peter Russell*

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

We start swimming on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at the usual time 1.30 p.m.

*David Brooke*

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

259 2520

## Table Tennis

As usual we shall take a break for the month of August. Anyone interested is welcome to join our short waiting list. After the break we start again on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

*Janet Freestone*

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

259 2803

## Table Top Games

Our next meetings are at 2.00 p.m. on 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September at the Methodist Chapel. New members are always welcome to join us to play a variety of games.

*Helen Edwards* [tgames@greatglenu3a.co.uk](mailto:tgames@greatglenu3a.co.uk) 212 7547, or *Eileen Appleby* 259 251

## Ukulele Group

The Ukulele group meets in the Ruth Warner room on the first and third Monday of each month, from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon. We are busy working on the playlist for our next performance.

*Alan Mawby*

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

259 2599

## Walking Without Stiles

The first walk will take place in and around Foxton on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September starting 10.30 a.m. Meet outside the Foxton Village Hall on Middle Street, where parking is available. The length of the walk is approximately three miles so duration will be between two and three hours, with lunch available at a number of places in the bottom lock area. If you would like to participate please contact John Johnson. Further walks are being planned for:

- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October starting in Market Harborough.
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November starting in Glen Parva.

For these walks contact Elizabeth Cooke. No walks are to be held in December, but we shall restart in January 2019.

John Johnson

212 2469 or 07527 520504

Elizabeth Cooke

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

270 4524 or 07957 288060

## A Date for your Diary

Leicester Grammar School is proud to be hosting the inaugural Leicester History Festival on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The aim of the event is to provide a spectrum of historical exhibits and activities focused around a broad range of historical periods. Among the exhibitors confirmed are RAF Museum Cosford, the Sealed Knot Civil War re-enactment group, a range of academic speakers debating the big questions of World War One, a Roman Soldier and a team from Great Glen U3A! Why not visit this prestigious event, learn something new and enjoy a great day?

*Toni Smith*

## Sunbeam 2

A boat trip on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September along the rivers Soar and Wreake with a stop for lunch at Waterside Mountsorrel (bring a picnic if you wish). Sunbeam 2 is a new boat this year and is specially adapted for disabled passengers. If you have one or more friends who would like to join us they will be welcomed. This is not a U3A trip, but morning coffee and afternoon tea are included in the £10 donation to 'Mosaic'.

Meet in the Great Glen Library car park where we shall leave for the Hope & Anchor by private cars at 9.30 a.m. and be back about 4.30 p.m. If you are interested please ring me. You may miss this boat but there may be another trip later!

John Lawson

259 3421

## Tailpiece

A retired physician, [Doctor Gordon Geezer](#), became very bored in retirement and decided to re-open a medical clinic. He put a sign up outside that said: "[Dr. Geezer's Clinic](#). Get your treatment for \$500 - if not cured, get back \$1,000."

[Doctor Digger Young](#), who was positive that this old geezer didn't know beans about medicine, thought this would be a great opportunity to get \$1,000. So he went to [Dr. Geezer's](#) clinic.

[Dr. Young](#): "[Dr. Geezer](#), I have lost all taste in my mouth. Can you please help me?"

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in [Dr. Young's](#) mouth."

[Dr. Young](#): "Aaagh! -- This is Gasoline!"

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Congratulations! You've got your taste back. That will be \$500."

[Dr. Young](#) gets annoyed and goes back after a couple of days figuring to recover his money.

[Dr. Young](#): "I have lost my memory, I cannot remember anything."

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in the patient's mouth."

[Dr. Young](#): "Oh, no you don't -- that is Gasoline!"

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Congratulations! You've got your memory back. That will be \$500."

[Dr. Young](#) (after having lost \$1000) leaves angrily and comes back after several more days.

[Dr. Young](#): "My eyesight has become weak --- I can hardly see anything!"

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Well, I don't have any medicine for that so, "Here's your \$1000 back" (giving him a \$10 bill).

[Dr. Young](#): "But this is only \$10!"

[Dr. Geezer](#): "Congratulations! You got your vision back! That will be \$500."

\*Moral of story\* -- Just because you're "[Young](#)" doesn't mean that you can outsmart an "[old Geezer](#)"

\*Remember:\* Don't make old people mad. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to tick us off.

ENJOY YOUR DAY!!!