

Monthly Meetings

On **Thurs June 8th** we have a talk by **Co-op Estate Planning** - 'Tax, Care and Toy Boys'.

An information session on - Protecting your family's nest egg, Inheritance tax, Stopping 'sideways disinheritance and Lasting Powers of Attorney.

The speaker will introduce the above issues and explain what steps can be taken to plan for the future.

All welcome. Refreshments served from 10am

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NOTICES

Bulletin Reports

Articles, reports, news items etc. for inclusion in the next bulletin should be sent to the editor:

trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com

Deadline for inclusion in the next bulletin: on the last day of the month.

* * * * *

Please bring along your used stamps to the next meeting

As you know, Liz White of Lutterworth U3A is collecting used stamps on behalf of **Medical Detection Dogs**. They can be any used stamps (even just 1st or 2nd Class) but please could you ensure they have approximately a 1cm (roughly a finger's width) surround.

Please bring them along and give them to Sue Creeden at the monthly meeting. Alternatively, you can pop them through her door – 25 Holly Drive, Lutterworth. Sue will then pass them on to Liz.



Many thanks.

Sue

HISTORY GROUP

History Group information

Unfortunately, our visit to the Jeyes Museum had to be cancelled as we were let down by the museum.

JUNE 6th meeting at Ashby Parva village hall. 2Pm - 4pm

We have a visiting speaker, Lynda Hill, for our June meeting. Lynda is a well-known local historian and she will be introducing us to the lives of some past residents of Lutterworth through their Inventories. It should be fascinating!

Our July 4th meeting will be our trip to Belgrave Hall, Leicester.

Viv.

POETRY GROUP

The topic for May was "Garden Wildlife" which turned out to be less easy than I thought, so we also covered trees, flowers, weather and gardens generally.

As for the wildlife, top of the list were poems about hedgehogs and snails, and various birds. One of my favourite poems was "Pigeons" by Richard Kell because of the perfect description

"Strutting like fat gentlemen
With hands clasped
Under their Swallowtail coats"

In between poetry we also discussed various garden anecdotes, trips to Australia and American politics.

June's topic is "Entertainment, Passions and Diversions ", 29th June, 2pm.

Sylvie

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GARDEN GROUP

In May, 16 members of the Garden Group visited the RHS Malvern Spring Festival. Unfortunately, we got stuck in a long slow-moving queue about five miles from the Show so we were a little late arriving. However, once there, we all had a very enjoyable day. There was so much to see.

The floral marque was huge with stands of both spring and summer flowers, foliage shrubs and succulents. Outside there were show gardens, school gardens, a tropical house, an arts and crafts hall and even a beach! There were also many trade stalls not only selling plants but garden equipment, greenhouses, ornaments and literally anything connected to gardening – even electric bikes! In various areas there were experts giving tips and advice on various topics from flower arranging to vegetable growing to garden design. What was so pleasant about the day was that, although it was busy, there was plenty of space and seating areas to take a break and grab a coffee or something to eat.

We were all grateful it didn't rain and our journey home thankfully was not quite so torturous. The Show is on every May and it's a day out I would recommend - but maybe aim to arrive early 'to avoid disappointment'.

Sue.







Advance notice:

July Garden Visit - Monday 3rd July, 2pm

Barracca,

Ivydene Close, Earl Shilton,

Leics. LE9 7NR



I have arranged a garden visit to Barracca on Monday 3rd July.

This is earlier in the month than normal to see the garden before it starts to go over.

Barracca opens under the National Garden Scheme.

It is a 1 acre garden with lots of different areas, silver birch walk, wildlife pond with seating, apple tree garden, Mediterranean planted area and lawns surrounded with herbaceous plants and shrubs and patio area with climbing roses and wisteria. There is also a utility garden with greenhouses, vegetables in beds, herbs and perennial flower beds, lawn and fruit cage.

We will meet at Barracca at 2pm. Since it is quite close, we will drive ourselves. Let me know if you need a lift. There is plenty of parking outside the house.

The cost is £8 per person, which includes tea and cake, and you can pay on the day. (no cards)

If you would like to go please **let me know by Friday 16th June**, and preferably before.

You can contact me by email at: dg.gilmorton@btinternet.com

or mobile: **07722904977**

Daryl (Graham)

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GENTLE CYCLING GROUP

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden

We were very pleased to welcome a new member to our Group for our first ride in May. Despite the threat of rain, it was a bright start to the day and seven of us met at the Village Shop in Gilmorton. We cycled down Mill Lane to Peatling Parva and on to Bruntingthorpe. Turning left we rode through the village and continued our downhill journey to Peatling Magna. We took a right turn by the Cock Inn and cycled up and down the gated road towards Arnesby. At the top we turned right and enjoyed a bit more downhill. At this point we could see a big black cloud looming and before we reached Bruntingthorpe again it was raining. After sheltering under the trees for a short while, the consensus was that it was only a passing shower and we would continue. We headed up to Upper Bruntingthorpe, through Walton and Kimcote and back up to Gilmorton. Coffee was enjoyed at Moretons.

The following Wednesday it was dry, mild and not too windy. Woohoo, the first really perfect day for a ride in months! And we were pleased to welcome yet another new member to the Group. It's great that our numbers are growing.

As there were eight of us at Ullesthorpe Garden Centre, for safety reasons, we split into two groups and cycled a short distance apart down through Ashby Parva and Dunton Lane to Dunton Bassett. After a short break we turned left to Leire and then took a right down Broughton Lane to the Frolesworth/Broughton Road. Crossing over we were able to be more sociable and ride as one group up the tarmac track, past Sutton Lodge Farm and down the gravel track (over a couple of cattle grids) to the Roman Road. Turning left, the next stop was Fosse Meadows and our coffee break. Energy recharged, the route took us up to Frolesworth and Ullesthorpe. As is our preference, we chose the gentler, quieter route back to the Garden Centre via Ashby Parva. The roads seemed much quieter this time and we all enjoyed a very pleasant morning out.

The next ride will be on **Wednesday 14th June**. If you fancy joining us, we will be very pleased to see you. Electric bikes welcome. Just email me - sueandpeter.creeden@taltalk.net or call me on 01455 557888.

Sue.

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1st WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Joint Co-ordinators :- Peter Moore and Kay Bliss. Tel. 07562086800

Date of Walk :- Wednesday 5th July 2023

Driving distance:- 8 miles each way.

Walk Leader :- Peter Moore

Meeting Point and Time : Car Park, Bulls Head, Wolvey. 9.45am.

Start Point : Bulls Head, Wolvey. Leave 10.00am.

Toilets available.

Directions to Start :- At A5 Magna Park island, take 3rd Exit into Wolvey. Pub on right opposite church. Car park at side of pub.

Route and Distance.

Exit the car park onto the main road, turn sharp right down enclosed path. Take footpath on right heading towards Burton Hastings, turn right onto Cicey lane, turn right and left to cross bridge into Shelford, return to Pub on footpath and pavement.

Distance. 4.85 Miles 1 stile.

Good and varied choice of food , extensive lunch-time menu. Gluten-free food available.

Order before Walk.

Summary. Varied Walk , mostly field paths, some quiet road walking , mostly on hard standing. Fairly flat walk.

Next Walk. Wednesday 2nd August 2023, Brinklow, 5 miles. 1 Stile.

Peter Moore and Kay Bliss

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4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

May 2023 Walk Report

The start of this walk was from the Bricklayers Arms in the village of Thornton. The May weather had, at long last, decided to give us a pleasantly warm sunny day. There were 21 walkers who arrived prepared to tackle the challenging 5.75 miles and 7 stiles. I couldn't do anything about the number of stiles but announced, to their delight, that I had shortened it to 5 miles.

We set off down Main Street to pick up a footpath that goes across fields below the Thornton Reservoir dam. In one of these fields the front of the group were oblivious to the fact that the rear of the group was having an "encounter" with some lively bullocks, that had sprung up from nowhere, and who had an interest in one walker's rucksack and "kissed" (licked perhaps) another's arm.

Soon we were walking along Cycle Route 63 through the wooded area of Forest Hill Golf Club. Reaching Ratby Burroughs we passed through another pleasant wooded area. As we left the wood we stopped for a break. Restarting, we followed a rising hedged narrow path before entering a crop field with a clearly defined path. We then entered another field which was a little challenging because of the overgrown grass. Just before Bondman Hays Farm we turned to go along wonderfully wide manicured grass paths that go around the outside of the farm. There were then more field paths, one of which had been miraculously mowed since we did a re-recce two days before. On reaching Thornton Lane, carefully in single file, we walked along it for a couple of hundred yards to enter another field. This field and the next were also a little challenging because there was no obvious defined path and the grass had grown quite high. We exited onto the road just before the dam. Crossing it was quite breezy. On the other side we joined the National Forest Way alongside the reservoir bank to reach the steeply ascending path back to the pub.

The pub, which had been extremely accommodating in opening up early for the toilets and pre-ordering, efficiently served 17 of us for lunch. Tony Allen has reported that the crumble and custard was good but, as for all good things, he had to wait a bit.

Peter Creeden

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4th WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

Co-ordinators:- Sue and Peter Creeden (Please use your U3A website if you need to contact us)

Wednesday 28 June 2023

Walk Organisers: Tony Allen and Paul Butler

Meeting Point For Lifts:- Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at **09.20am** to leave at **09.25am**.

Start Point and Time:- The Bulls Head, Wolvey, LE10 3LB. Tel 01455 221100. Toilets available from 9.45am onwards. Pre-order lunch (see later in this text). Leave at 10.00am.

Directions to start:- From the A5 roundabout at Magna Park take the 3rd exit heading west. Two miles after the Fosse Way crossroads turn left onto Mill Lane (just beyond the prominent sign to Copston Magna) and drive downhill through Wolvey Heath to the T junction. Turn left passing a building site on the bend (formerly Galliford Try) and rise up to the Bulls Head. It is situated on the right.

The L shaped car park is quite large but please park sensibly for other users.

Return trip 16 miles.

Route and Distance:- A level easy-going walk of 5.1 miles which follows field boundaries, a good farm road, a bridle way and opportunity to see a few horses near the end. Option to shorten this to 5 miles by taking Wolds Lane just past the halfway point if weather is inclement, but then you'll miss the horses. **NO STILES**. Walk Duration 2 1/4 hours including break.

Lunch Arrangements: Please order before departure. This is a nicely refurbished Marston's pub. Menus are shown on the web site at www.bullsheadwolvey.co.uk. The LUNCH DEAL Lighter Bites Menu is priced at £8 to £9.25 for 5 x Mains, £2.25 for 2 x Starters and £2.25 for 3 x Desserts. Alternatively, the main menu is even more extensive (Tony can personally recommend the Atlantic Cod, which is a real plate-hanger). However, it's not all good news as in a retrograde policy move Marston's have dropped Apple Pie and Crumble from their menus. Oh no!! Tony's had words with Lisa at the Bulls Head and staff at the Lutterworth Elms to try and get this reversed.

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FRENCH CAFÉ

25 May 2023

We checked our “trouver les différences” from April which involved some new vocabulary and gave our personal news. We translated an article about the Coronation from a French perspective: “the music was splendid, the liturgy perfect in every detail, the costumes scintillating, the carriages a little ridiculous (which we disputed) and the weather perfectly British, grey and very wet”. There followed a brief discussion on gardening.

The next meeting will be on 22 June 2023

ETHNIC DINING GROUP

Co-ordinators : Peter and Penny Ross

We choose restaurants serving food from around the world, some familiar, some more unusual. Everyone is welcome to join us, regularly or occasionally. We meet on the second Wednesday in the month.

In July we will be visiting a restaurant that takes classic dishes and gives them an Asian-inspired twist.

The details are as follows:

Wednesday 12th July at 7.30pm

The George at Kilsby

Watling St

Kilsby

Rugby CV23 8YE

If you wish to join us please contact us by 5TH July at the latest.

Penny & Peter Ross

email: penelopeross.ross@gmail.com

Tel: 01455 272797

PUB LUNCHES GROUP

Co-ordinators : Peter and Penny Ross

Meeting friends, old and new, to enjoy lunch at a variety of pubs in local villages, many of which we are visiting for the first time. Everyone is welcome to join us, regularly or occasionally. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month.

In July we will be visiting Whetstone Golf Club in Cosby.

The details are as follows:

Wednesday 5th July 2023 at 12.30pm

Whetstone Golf Course

53 Cambridge Rd

Cosby

Leicester LE9 1SJ

If you wish to join us please contact us by 22nd June at the latest (we will be on holiday after that)

Penny & Peter Ross

email: penelopeross.ross@gmail.com

Tel: 01455 272797

U3A - Snail's Pace Walking Group

May 2023 Walk



Thanks to Peter for creating the above photo with us all in for a change!



Although the route was not quite as planned, twelve of us enjoyed a somewhat ad hoc trek across the fields and lanes near Catthorpe and Lilbourne. (The lane to Lilbourne just before the bridge is closed for the next 8 weeks!) The weather was fine and the abundant cow parsley and flowering hawthorn scenic.

June 2023 Walk: Friday 16th June

Viv and Sam Weller have kindly volunteered to organize the next walk. Here are the details.



The Walk

We will be walking around the Swift Valley Country Park in Rugby, CV21 1HU.

Our walk will take us into the country park, across the meadows by the river and back by the old canal. Much of the walk is on grass and it might be muddy so please

wear appropriate footwear. The walk starts from the pub.

Please **meet** at the **HARVESTER pub on Brownsover Rd. Rugby, CV21 1RG** at 10.40 am. This is the canal side pub (near Elliot's Field) on the main Leicester Rd into Rugby (the A426).

Directions from Lutterworth to the Harvester pub, Brownsover Road, Rugby, CV21 1RG.

To reach the pub, coming from Lutterworth, take the 3rd turn off the roundabout near the pub and turn right on to the Brownsover Rd towards the Swift Valley Trading Estate. (This is the one before you get to the Elliot's Field/Tesco roundabout).

Turn left into the pub carpark.

Lunch

You will order your lunch before we set off walking at 11am. Here is the link:

<https://www.harvester.co.uk/restaurants/eastandwestmidlands/thebellandbargerugby/ourmenus#/>

I have booked us in for lunch at 12.45pm. I must tell the pub restaurant the number of people who wish to book lunch before we go.

Please let me know by 12.00 noon on FRIDAY JUNE 9th if you are coming to the walk and if you wish to book lunch.

Email vwellerz@aol.com

Phone **07837 260539**

Snail's Pace Walking Group

New Walkers Welcome.

We are a very friendly group of people who enjoy a bit of exercise, the opportunity to socialise and a pub lunch afterwards - optional, of course!

Our walks take place on the third Friday of the month, starting at 11.00am.

The walks are 3 miles or under, as a guide, and we try to avoid stiles that require a climb!

If you want to come along, you will be most welcome. Just get in touch with me on 07724 124094.

Mandy Cutler.

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Motorcycle Interest Group

It is very pleasing to be able to report that our numbers have increased through the “winter break” from riding. We have four new additions to our group – welcome to Sam, Peter, Andy and Don.

We have had two outings this month. Our first was arranged by Mark who led seven of us down the Fosse Way to Wellesbourne Airfield in Warwickshire. Although we have visited the airfield before this was “new” to some of the group.



The Airfield has a café which proves to be very popular meeting place and on a pleasant day it is interesting to watch light aircraft come and go whilst sitting outside and enjoying tea and cake – or something more substantial!!

The airfield came into being during the WWII. In early 1941 the government purchased over 200 acres of Warwickshire farmland East of Stratford upon Avon. By the summer of 1941 runways had been constructed and became the home of No22 Operational Training Unit. No22 OTU was equipped with Vickers Wellington

bombers and Avro Anson navigation trainers. At its peak in March 1944 RAF Wellesbourne was turning out 113 aircrews a month – pilots, navigators, bomb-aimers, wireless operators and air gunners. Wellesbourne aircraft were used in a number of the 1000 bomber raids of 1942 – crewed by pupils and instructors.

During the war period Wellesbourne lost 96 Wellington aircraft in operational and training accidents, some 315 airmen perished and 80 were injured.

In July 1945 when the OTU was closed – over 9000 airmen had been trained.

Wellesbourne was closed in 1964 and sold back to its pre-war owners in 1965.

In February 1984 Avro Vulcan XM655 arrived from RAF Waddington. This aircraft is the youngest of the Vulcan fleet to survive (third to last produced) and entered service in November 1964. Less than 20 years later the aircraft was put up for disposal. The aircraft was purchased with intention of being used for flying displays but alas for many reasons that did not happen.

With all seven of us “refuelled” Andy led the ride home - with a further coffee stop at Monks Kirby.

Our second outing was planned at rather short notice and four of the group headed to Earls Barton and a very pleasant café at the White Mills Marina. Our journey took us via the A5199 to Spratton then across to Brixworth, Pitsford, Sywell and Earls Barton. Our intended route back changed due to heavy traffic on the A43 and then we encountered very heavy traffic on the A14 at Kettering. A diversion through Rothwell,



Harrington, Kelmarsh etc. there was far less traffic however, the road conditions for two wheels leaves a lot to be desired.

Next month I believe we may be heading into Lincolnshire?

Colin

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Photography Group

May 2023 report

This month we had a guest speaker, Ian Swinger, who gave us an overview of current digital photography technology and some useful tips about using our digital cameras and phones. Ian, although comparatively young, has been a photographer for many years and has witnessed the transition from film to digital and is now moving on to smart phones which are optimised for photography. He admitted however that he is retaining his digital camera and lenses for occasions that require a higher degree of manual input.

Ian suggested that one of the biggest changes from film to digital is the freedom to take many more pictures as there is no cost implications as with film, and you have the ability to review the picture before moving on. Ian also advocates outputting his images as a "RAW" file as they contain a lot more "information" which can be manipulated in editing software to enhance the experience of what the photographer "felt" when he took the picture. Unfortunately, not all cameras can output this type of file and only high-end picture editing software can handle RAW files. Nevertheless, we have found that our cameras with JPEG format files generally are good enough for viewing on screen, so all is not lost.

As we now take so many images, Ian concluded that we should consider how we store the files and his view is that we should keep storage to a minimum on our cameras, phones and tablets and should transfer them to a PC, and even better use a reliable "cloud" storage provider. While talking about storage, Ian stressed the need to label files that will enable you to locate the images quickly and suggested files names with Year/Month/Day/Key word description. This sounds a little boring but if you don't organise your files properly you will lose many memorable pictures.

Pictures of the month was “Hedges and Fields”, and we had lots of images which looked like a travel promotion for the UK. Some members went that extra mile, literally, with some stunning pictures of hedges and fields in Tenerife and one member taking to the air to get the most hedges and fields in one picture. You can see a selection of these pictures on the gallery page on the Wycliffe Lutterworth website.

This month’s topic is “leading lines” as suggested by our guest Ian. Pictures will need to have prominent parallel lines, such as a path, road, rail, or river, that stretch from the foreground to a point of infinity or, more interestingly, to curve and disappear behind a feature such as a hill or a hedge, something that will make the viewer wonder where their eye is being led.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 30th June 2023, 10.00 am, in the Ullesthorpe Village Hall.

As usual, our meetings are open to all Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A members as regulars and other U3A members as guests. If you would like more information, e-mail us at the address below.

wlu3acamera@outlook.com.

Michael Bates

ESTG May Event

Talk by Chris Tarratt on "Fridtjof Nansen The Norwegian Explorer"

Our May event featured **Chris Tarratt** who gave us a talk on the great **Norwegian Fridtjof Nansen**.

Chris who is no stranger to giving talks to our group, became interested in Nansen during lockdown and decided to create a project talk about this great man's life. Although better known for his exploits as an Explorer, Chris explained how Nansen had achieved so much more in his life time.

Fridtjof Wedel-Jarlsberg Nansen Norwegian polymath and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, gained prominence at various points in his life as an **Explorer, Scientist, Diplomat, and Humanitarian**.

He led the team that made the first crossing of the Greenland interior in 1888, traversing the island on cross-country skis.

He won international fame after reaching a record northern latitude of 86°14' during his *Fram expedition* of 1893–1896. and although he retired from exploration after his return to Norway, his techniques in polar travel and **his innovations especially in equipment and clothing helped a generation of subsequent Arctic and Antarctic expeditions**.

Nansen studied zoology and later worked as a curator at the [University Museum of Bergen](#) where his research on the central nervous system of lower marine creatures earned him a doctorate.

He became an **activist** and led the **campaign for an independent Norway** splitting off from Sweden which was ratified in 1905 and he served as the Norwegian representative in London between 1906 -1908.

In the final decade of his life, Nansen devoted himself primarily to the "League of Nations' and became the League's High Commissioner for Refugees in 1921.

In 1922 he was **awarded the Nobel Peace Prize** for his work on behalf of the displaced victims of World War I and related conflicts. Among the initiatives he introduced was the "Nansen Passport" for stateless persons, a certificate that used to be recognized by more than 50 countries.

Chris's talk was extremely informative and the above is a very cut down version of events but gives the reader a brief idea of the great man who most think mainly as an explorer but who achieved great humanitarian status.

Nansen died in 1930 but his Nansen International Office for Refugees ensured his work carried on.

I would like to thank Chris Tarratt for his informative and knowledgeable talk and look forwards to his next one.....

Chris Ridley

ESTG Future Events

15th June Event - Everards Brewery Tour, Note; Still places left please contact Tony Allen

20th July Event- Two talks in one event ; Talks by Stephen Carter and David Hanger

17th Aug Event - Midland Air Museum

21st September Event - Talk by Nigel Bedford on "Blackholes"

19th October Event - Coventry Motor Museum TBC

Nov and Dec TBA- no events scheduled so suggestions please

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Committee Members

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>
Chairperson	Colin Beadle
Membership Secretary.....	Andy Hetherington
Secretary	Hamish Paterson
Treasurer.....	Nigel Bones
Groups Co-ordinator.....	Peter Ross
Speaker Finder.....	Andrea Nichol
Minutes Secretary.....	Anne Dean
Beacon Administrator.....	Andy Hetherington
Committee Member.....	Ruth Bones
Committee Member.....	Sue Poulter
Committee Member.....	Michael Bates
Committee Member	Sally Wood

Note: Any committee member can be contacted via our email address:

thewycliffelutterworthu3a@gmail.com

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