

Welcome to the Wycliffe Lutterworth U3A. We meet on second Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church Hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits available from **10am – 10.30am**. An opportunity to meet friend's old and new, book exchange, information about trips etc.

Our guest speaker this month, on Thursday September 14th is **Mike Lister** and his talk is

"ALL ABOUT PLAYING CARDS"



Mike's talk includes:-

An overview of where the cards we play with today originated.

How duty was once charged on playing cards.

Where the Joker came from and many other interesting facts.

The establishment of The Worshipful Company of the Makers of Playing Cards.

He will bring along some of the cards discussed during his talk.

Do come along and join us.



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August Monthly Meeting – Picnic at Misterton Hall

Our August monthly meeting was held in the relaxing grounds of Misterton Hall – by kind permission of Mrs Craven. Over 60 of our members attended.

Concerns regarding the weather proved to be unfounded and we had a delightful sunny day with just the hint of a breeze. Early arrivals were keen to secure those areas that presented an element of shade.

Tables, chairs and picnic hampers galore decorated the main lawn. Some members took part in a game of croquet and others bowls. The gardens and lake proved an attraction for many - simply to explore and enjoy.

Gentle background music added to the enjoyment of the day.

Thanks are extended to those assisting with organisation on the day.

Colin (Chairperson)









Murder Mystery Evening

*Join England's answer to Inspector Clouseau as he investigates a murder most foul at the Wycliffe Rooms on **Friday 20th October**.*

*The evening will include a 3 course meal seated at tables of 8 or 10 to allow you to contemplate the events with a full stomach at a bargain price of **£27** per head.*

Featuring our very own Richard Hill in the starring role along with a carefully selected cast from Guilty Party Productions you are assured of a highly entertaining evening.

If you would like to join us, please contact Nigel Bones on 01455 209756 Or email: nigel.bones50@btinternet.com

Wycliffe Lutterworth u3a Committee

Membership Records Secretary Required



Dear All,

Our current Membership Records Secretary will be standing down at our next AGM in March 2024. While this is six months away, we are asking for members, who are interested in taking on this vital role, to contact us now.

The Membership Records Secretary plays an essential role in ensuring the continuity of our u3a by maintaining an accurate membership database. This role primarily involves the recording of annual subscription payments along with changes to contact details of our members.

In addition to managing the membership database, the Membership Records Secretary will occasionally be responsible for disseminating information and newsletters from the Third Age Trust. Consequently, this is an important request that directly impacts the continued existence of the Wycliffe Lutterworth u3a

We understand that taking on a role within the u3a requires time and commitment but the rewards are immense. The role is interesting, enjoyable and a focal point for both our existing and new members.

Our membership database is maintained on “Beacon” - a computer-based system / program developed for the Third Age Trust and used by numerous u3a groups. Training and support for using this system will be provided for as long as is necessary.

If you are interested in becoming the Membership Records Secretary or would like to learn more about the role, please contact me or one of the Committee members. Your willingness to consider this position is vital to the continued existence of the Wycliffe Lutterworth u3a.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Colin Beadle - Chairperson

Lively Discussion 14th August 2023

What is the value of pets to society?

Almost any animal can be classed as a pet, from fish to foxes and alpacas to apes. However the focus here is on the most common ones - cats and dogs. The PDSA together with YouGov has been collecting information for the last 13 years. The 2023 figures show that:

- **53%** of UK adults own a pet
- **29%** of UK adults have a dog - an estimated population of **11 million** pet dogs
- **24%** of the UK adult population have a cat - an estimated population of **11 million** pet cats
- **2%** of the UK adult population have a rabbit - an estimated population of **1.1 million** pet rabbits

The proportion of UK adults owning a cat is lower than the proportion owning a dog despite similar population sizes due to a higher number of cats per cat owner than dogs per dog owner. 40% of cat owners own more than one cat, whilst only 27% of dog owners own more than one dog.

Source: PDSA Animal Wellbeing (PAW) Report 2023

All group members agreed that cruelty to animals is unacceptable. We all had pets now or had had them in the past. We heard charming and interesting stories about them. A member showed us her son's dog being taught to use his dog flap, and another, whose parents bred Yorkshire terriers, appeared on Blue Peter and had met Mr van Geest of banana fame.

VALUE OF PETS (not monetary!)

The value of pets hit the headlines during the pandemic. In March 2021 the BBC reported that 3.2 million households had acquired pets during Lock Down and this was borne out by rises in sales of pet food. Around half of the new owners were under 35 and many first time owners had children at home.

5% of new owners gave up because of the difficulties in training or raising a young animal, but 74% said that having a pet had helped their mental health while dealing with Corona Virus restrictions and that they were now part of the family. The RSPCA and other charities have highlighted problems for the pets

themselves when owners returned to work and they were left alone after so much concentrated time together, or some owners tried to re-home the animals.

Those of us who have pets could wax lyrical about the benefits however let's turn to other reasons why animals in your life are so valuable.

Dogs' sense of smell is 2000 times more powerful than that of humans and we have now learned how to use this marvelous ability for our own purposes.

ASSISTANCE ANIMALS

Usually these are dogs, occasionally ponies or other animals are trained in this way. So you will often see:

- Guide Dogs
- Buddy Dogs
- Hearing Dogs
- Assistance Dogs
- Medical Detection Dogs

Most people know about Guide and Hearing Dogs, fewer know about Buddy, Assistance and Medical Detection Dogs.

A Buddy Dog is:

- for children with sight loss or impairment
- a friendly, well-behaved pet dog
- here to help your child increase their physical activity, build confidence, create better relationships with others, and develop a sense of fun and trust
- a great way to show your child the responsibility of caring for a dog
- owned by Guide Dogs
- looked after and paid for by your family, including vets' bills and insurance

A Buddy Dog is not:

- a guide dog, so they should never be used as a mobility aid or for sighted assistance
- legally allowed anywhere a pet wouldn't be, such as in schools. Some places may let them in, but it's their choice – they don't have to
- to be walked by your child on their own – an adult must always be holding on to the lead
- allowed in social situations with your child on their own, without a responsible adult
- owned by your family

ASSISTANCE DOGS

An Assistance Dog is any of those mentioned above as well as those trained:

- to help those with PTSD, mental health problems such as bi-polar disease etc.
- to remind the owner when to take medicine
- to sense when the owner's smell changes and they are about to have a medical emergency
- to sniff out cancers and other medical conditions
- to assist with dressing/undressing, emptying the washing machine, opening doors, offering money or cards when shopping etc. etc.
- to assist those diagnosed with autism

POLICE AND MILITARY DOGS

Are known for the detection of:

- Drugs
- Money
- Weapons
- Explosives
- Accelerants in arson attacks
- Cadavers
- People

According to The Guardian, in October 2013, a man was convicted of the

first-degree murder of his wife, despite no body being found due to the scent of human remains being located on a rug by a cadaver dog. Bloodhounds have the ability to follow a scent trail up to 130 miles away!
If you want to know more about police dogs visit:

www.college.police.uk/dogs or www.national.policedogfoundation.org

Although assistance, police and military dogs are working animals they are also pets and much loved by their owners or handlers. It is common for them to be kept in retirement for the rest of their lives by the people they worked with or for, even when there is a new working dog in the same home. A friend who has a second hearing dog explained that it took the retired dog a little while to understand that he didn't need to respond any more, but once he realized he let the new dog take over and seemed to relish watching her!

CATS

Cats have different talents. 'Pets as Therapy' is a charity which offers cats as well as dogs. They say – 'our volunteers and their temperament-assessed pets visit

establishments such as care homes, hospitals, hospices, schools and prisons, and bring smiles to many faces. People of all ages get the chance to chat to someone — and stroke a friendly cat or dog.'

Catherine Casserley of Cloisters Cambers, London, is acting for Ian Fenn. Ian came to fame when Sainsbury's refused to allow his assistance cat into the store. Fenn is 51 and was diagnosed with autism 2 years ago. Chloe, his cat, has been trained to keep him calm in situations which he finds difficult due to his condition.

CAT CAFES

34 cat cafes can be found online and 1 cat pub! They offer the usual types of menu and their own cats for you to stroke. Some have cats for adoption in association with cat charities. Others have movie nights, are licensed, or offer cat-themed merchandise. 'The Bag of Nails' - the cat pub which is in Bristol - is of course licensed and welcomes guests aged 14 and upwards.

If you're looking for a cat café details of the following can be found online:

- **Lady Dinah's Cat Emporium**, Bethnal Green
- **Java Whiskers Cat Café**, Marylebone
- **Cat Village**, City of London EC2
- **Maison de Moggy**, Edinburgh
- **Purple Cat Café**, Glasgow
- **The Cat in the Window**, Aberdeen
- **Cat's Meow Kitten Café**, Stirling

- **You and Meow**, Bristol
- **Mog on the Tyne**, Newcastle upon Tyne
- **CATPAWCINO**, Newcastle upon Tyne
- **Willow Cat Café**, South Shields
- **Paws for Thought**, Romsey
- **Paws Cat Café**, Tonbridge
- **Cosy Cat Café**, Herne Bay
- **Feline Good Cat Café**, Cardiff
- **Pause Cat Café**, Bournemouth
- **The Mad Catter Cat Café**, Eastbourne
- **Cool for Cats Café**, Newton Abbot
- **Kittchen**, Lake District
- **Cat Café**, Liverpool
- **Cat Café**, Manchester
- **The Cat's Whiskers**, York
- **Catisfaction**, Hull
- **Tabby Teas Cat Café**, Sheffield
- **Coffee Cats**, Lincoln
- **Cat Village North**, Chesterfield
- **Lady T's Curious Cats and Coffee Parlour**, Derby
- **The Cat Lounge**, Coventry
- **Shakespaw Cat Café**, Stratford upon Avon
- **Bedford Cat Café**, Bedford
- **Kitty Café**, Nottingham
- **Kitty Café**, Leicester
- **Kitty Café**, Birmingham
- **Kitty Café**, Leeds

Since many landlords stipulate no pets it seems you can get close to a cat even if you can't own one. This is particularly true with more people renting rather than owning a home.

There are negative things about animal ownership. Irresponsible dog owners can be the cause of injuries and even deaths from dog attacks. We agreed that not only should these animals be confiscated but that owners should be banned from keeping animals for life not just a period of years. It is unfortunate that some people acquire vicious dogs as a status symbol. We discussed the need for people and their dogs to be trained and that animals should be sourced from registered breeders and charities.

Cats are known for killing birds however farming methods and climate change are responsible for the loss of more birds. One person advocated keeping cats in at night if they regularly bring home birds. Perhaps we should also consider how domestic pets are fed and their resulting carbon footprint.

The many positives of pet ownership include teaching children compassion and responsibility, although many a parent knows that enthusiasm for walking the dog or cleaning out a hutch dies pretty soon! The social side of walking the dog and the exercise is very positive. Cats and dogs prevent people becoming lonely and stroking them releases endorphins in the brain. Several people explained how pets had helped them through illness, bereavement and stress.

The British Psychological Society informs us that pets were used in asylums as early as the 18th and 19th centuries. Florence Nightingale noted how the presence of a bird outside a sick room window often helped the patient.

There have been many studies showing that having pets helps with isolation and the cost to the health service is lower with pet owners. In the UK in 2007 NHS use was 15% lower with pet owners than non-pet owners. Australia shows an 11% total saving on health care and Germany a 24% saving. Exposure to pets at an early age can prevent allergies in later life.

There are many pet based charities in addition to the well-known ones including Reading to Dogs used to encourage slow readers, Dogs for Good who visit the elderly and other groups.

Everyone agreed that the value of pets far outweighs the negatives, most of which are due to owner problems not pet problems!

Visitors welcome, please contact Dot Barnard dot.barnard@uwclub.net
01455 208190

We meet on the second Monday morning of each month at 10.30am.

2023 TOPICS

1. August – What is the value of pets to society?
2. September – Is the Windrush scandal a dark stain on British history?
3. October – Should the State Pension be means tested?

Gentle Cycling Group

Co-ordinator: Sue Creeden
01455 557888

We had a perfect day for our August ride; warm and bright, not too much wind - and no rain! Having welcomed Richard to the group, seven of us set off from Moretons in Gilmorton and headed down to Ashby Magna. We turned left and cycled into Holt Lane, then right into Cosby Lane and up to Willoughby Waterleys. This route is much quieter than riding directly from Ashby to Willoughby and there are delightful views. We then puffed a bit as we pedalled up the hills but enjoyed whizzing down them to Peatling Magna. Turning right into the gated road towards Arnesby there were more ups and downs and again some stunning views. On reaching the top we headed back down to Bruntingthorpe. From there it was a long, slow climb through Peatling Parva and back up to Gilmorton.

All was going well until one unfortunate member checked to see if there was a car behind, wobbled slightly and fell off the road (there are no proper edges) into the hedge! Thank goodness he escaped with just a few scratches and a torn T-shirt.

Refreshments were enjoyed back at Moretons. Nadene has not been able to cycle with us for a few months due to a knee injury, but it was great that she (and her daughter from Australia) were able to join us for coffee.



A couple of weeks later 6 of us joined in the Rotary's Big Ride from Misterton Hall. We chose to do just the 11-mile circuit and it was another perfect day. The route took us through Walcote, up to Swinford Corner and on to Swinford. We then

headed for Stanford on Avon. It had been quite a leisurely ride so far but then we began the more challenging bit! Up, down, and up to South Kilworth and then up the steep hill towards Walcote. Crossing back over the A4304 we cycled along the footpath back to Misterton where we were welcomed by the Town Crier. A lovely morning topped off by a free hog roast enjoyed on the lawn!

The next ride will be on **Wednesday 13th September**. 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

French Cafe Group

24 August 2023

We had a well attended meeting with general chat, and a translation and discussion about vegetarianism. The next meeting will be on 28 September 2023.

Sue

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Fourth Wednesday Walking Group - report

August 2023 Walk Report

This walk started from Everards Meadows. In my 12 years of walking with any of the walking groups this starting point was a first. It was a nice morning and 15 walkers set off down to the Grand Union Canal and the towpath towards Glen Parva. My recollection of the exact route is not entirely clear as I was chatting too much (but then that's half the fun of the walking group). After passing several locks we left the canal and entered a Glen Parva housing estate. Leaving the houses we joined a tarmacked path that followed the line of a disused railway line. Eventually we stopped for a break in a playground. Setting off again along the old railway line and passing under Soar Valley Way we eventually reached Aylestone Meadows car park. We then left the railway line using the access ramp and crossed the canal over the old packhorse bridge. Picking up the towpath we returned back to Everards Meadows passing King's Lock and the tea rooms and with the River Soar running close every now and again as it meandered through the countryside.

The walking was easy and mostly flat. It was very pleasant and enjoyable. Thank you Stephen and Rawdon for planning and leading the walk

Peter Creeden

* * *

Fourth Wednesday Walking Group - next walk

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

Wednesday 27 September 2023

Walk Organisers: Nigel Bones

Meeting Point For Lifts:- Lutterworth Recreation Ground car park at **09.25am** to leave at **09.30am**.

Start Point and Time:- The Chequers Country Inn, Ullesthorpe (LE175BT) at 10:00am. Please note that toilets will **NOT** be available.

Directions to start:- Take the road to Bitteswell and continue to Ullesthorpe. The Chequers Country Inn is on the right as you go through the village.

Route and Distance:-

From the pub we will follow the old railway line towards Leire. As we reach the Leire playing field, we will turn onto a footpath walking towards Frolesworth. Before reaching Frolesworth, we turn off towards Claybrooke Mill, walk through the mill grounds and on to Claybrooke Parva. From there we will pass through the edge of the village and into the area known locally as "Bittesby Gallops" and on to Ullesthorpe. The distance is 5.5 miles, and there are just 2 easy styles (if counted correctly).

Lunch Arrangements:

The pub would like us to advance book our food. Please can you advise Nigel Bones (email nigel.bones50@btinternet.com) your menu choice preferably as soon as possible but no later than 20th September. The menu can be found on their website <https://www.chequerscountryinnlutterworth.co.uk> and they do the full menu for lunch.

Poetry Group

The topic for August was "Towns and Cities". Poems ranged from the very sober to the very funny. The darker ones included Auden's "Gare du Midi" with its echoes of covid, and poems on Dunkirk and Aberfan.

As is often the case in our group, amusing poems featured the works of Roger McGough, Spike Milligan, Pam Ayres and Brian Bilston among others. A special mention has to be given to Joanne Limburg's "Barton in the Beans" which brought some very local interest to the session with its "lullaby of English names", basically a series of Midland places with interesting names and associations, eg "Swadlincote, in a Laura Ashley frock".

The next meeting will be on 28th September and the topic is "Refuge".

Sylvie

Motorcycle Interest Group

The somewhat changeable and wet weather in August curtailed our riding plans and opportunities. However we did manage one outing (at very short notice) up to South Derbyshire.

Our “out” route of the A5 and the A444 involved two long traffic queues – one for roadworks near Hinckley and the other at the entrance of Twycross Zoo. The latter queue we avoided by skirting through some lovely lanes and villages to re-join the A444 further north. Peter led the “diversion” and took us on some delightful back roads.

Our refreshment stop was at “The Honey Pot Tearooms” in Rosliston, Nr. Swadlincote. Well worth a visit if you are in the area.

The return route was via Tamworth and then off the A5 to avoid the roadworks at Hinckley.

All arrived back safely. A very enjoyable day.

Thanks to Peter and Mark for leading the group.

Looking forward to some settled weather in September!!

Colin

Card Group

Our Card Group met today, 4th Friday of the month at my house. There were four of us. We played Rummy till coffee break, then we played a game of Whist. With time to spare we had a game of Group Patience and finally a game of Sevens. One of our group is new to cards but he is finding it enjoyable.

If any one would like to join us they will be welcome and we will be glad to help beginners. We meet on the second and fourth Friday of the month.

Cynthia.

ETHNIC DINING GROUP

Traditionally, 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.

If there is a restaurant you would like to try, or you have a particular favourite you are prepared to share, please let us know and we will be happy to add it to our list for future reference. We try to keep fairly local; particularly in the winter evenings.

In October we are going back to an old favourite:

Pesto @ The Axe and Compass; Wolvey, LE 10 3HG

7.30 pm Wednesday 11th October

Tapas style Italian dishes

Numbers are limited to 25 for this one.

If you wish to come along, please let us know by **Wednesday 4th October**

Thank you.

Denise and Geoff Taylor

07711086927 – please leave message.

denisetaylor551@gmail.com. Please put Ethnic Dining in the Subject Line.

LUNCH GROUP

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

We try to vary where we go, whilst trying to stay fairly local; particularly in the winter months. If there is somewhere in particular you would like to visit, or an old favourite you would like to introduce others to – please let us know.

Please also consider where you would like to go for Christmas Lunch
– all ideas welcome!

WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER@ 12.30pm

The Queens Arms

Main Street

Leire

LE17 5HF

The venue has asked us to submit a pre-order, menus can be found on the website.

I will bring a few printed copies to the Monthly Meeting.

If you would like to join us, please let us know by
Wednesday 27th September, with your order.

Email: denisetaylor551@gmail.com Please mark the subject line; Pub Lunches, or
Leave a message on: 07711086927 .

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Denise and Geoff Taylor

ESTG August Event

Midland Air Museum Coventry Airport.

For August, Tony Allen organised a visit to the **Midland Air Museum** which is located on the perimeter of Coventry Airport, and has some **45 Aircraft both outside on display and internal exhibits** including some rare one man Helicopter examples and lots of aircraft memorabilia.

The Museum also incorporates 'The Sir Frank Whittle Jet Heritage Centre'

Our group of 22 members, arrived both by minibus and by car and once in reception we had tea's and coffees before being seated in the 'Argosy Training Centre' for a talk by Barry James from the Museum's Trust.

Barry outlined how the Museum was set up initially, surviving the pandemic years and the current aims/direction to ensure that it survives for future generations. The museum has of late diversified its revenue stream and in addition to the day visitors now hosts various group meetings at regular times within the months, also utilising the buildings to hold functions.

Star exhibit must be the **AVRO Vulcan bomber** which has apart from armaments and ejector equipment being removed **remains intact since it flew in to the airfield in March 1983**. Visitors are allowed up to the Navigators deck where they can listen to an expert volunteer give a guided tour and describe the planes performances criteria together with the missions completed, they can also press the button which would release (if loaded in the bomb bay) the Nuclear weapon carried- therefore obliterating Coventry and the surrounding 10 mile area.....*what fun !*

The permanent exhibits outside are **a mixture of Commercial and Cold War flight hardware** with some currently under renovation but there is something for all ages to look at including in one of the halls a Hawker Hunter cockpit set up that one can slide into and get a real feel as to what flying a jet fighter must have been like.....

This is a real museum with real planes that have previous historical experience in the theatre of war and include some iconic military examples like a pair of supersonic English Electric P1 Lightenings, Starfighter, Jaguars, MIG 21, De Havilland Vampire, Gloucester Meteor plus others to see.

It was a great visit with good weather and very much enjoyed by all members....

Our **thanks go to Tony Allen** for arranging the visit on behalf of the Engineering group and we look forwards to **another of his visits he is arranging for ESTG in October to Coventry Motor Museum so please keep an eye out for email details....**

Chris Ridley



ESTG Group in the Argosy Training Centre Room







Colin and Michael learning about the Vulcan with the Expert, Michael taking great interest in the Atomic bomb release



View through to the Pilots cabin



***Pilots cockpit - giving them something to do and think about
during the 16 hrs mission !***



Now !- which button did he say starts it ?



***Mr Bates with the Nuclear button ready to obliterate Coventry -
"not sure about that gleam in his eye"***

Photography Group - August 2023 report

This month's picture topic was "A Grand Day Out", where we wanted members to send in some holiday "snaps" of a memorable holiday, hoping that they would take advantage of the current holiday period. We had a wide variety of subjects including traditional seaside resorts, stately homes, and a day trip to Berlin. Although we wanted "snaps" the pictures were more than that, technically good and creative giving the viewer a sense and feeling of when the picture was taken.

This month, the topic is "Urban, Suburban and Rural Urban" where we want our members to find subjects in and around our local towns. The stipulations are that we would like a picture taken during this September and must be submitted in black and white. Possibly subjects that we call "street photography".

In addition to looking at our monthly topic, we looked at the work of Michael Kenna, a contemporary professional photographer who creates pictures in black and white with a particular "look". Many of the pictures are of mundane subjects, such as brick walls, lampposts, playing fields, depicted with a soft focus.

Michael Kenna uses film cameras, a high-quality single lens reflex camera and what could be considered a toy camera with a plastic lens which produces some of the extreme soft images. Early in his career, Michael was employed to develop and print pictures for a professional photographer, and this is where he practiced his ability to create his signature style.

Michael is a prolific photographer and is widely travelled. What is noticeable is that the majority of his pictures are devoid of people and feature the interchange of nature and man-made structures. Some of his most iconic pictures were taken in Hokkaido, the most northerly main island in Japan, taken in winter. The pictures can be best described as minimalist, the images being unmarked deep snow with plant support sticks protruding through the snow. The pictures create a feeling of deep peace and quietness due to the lack of detail and isolation.

The pictures were very "Marmite" creating very mixed views in the group. It possibly depends on how you view the images; are they photographs as we generally accept them or fine art as we would expect to see from a painting. Fortunately, as with most art, it is up to the individual to decide if it is good or otherwise.

Our next will be on Friday 29th August 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. Michael Bates.

wlu3acamera@outlook.com.





U3A Snail's Walking Group

August 2023 Walk



Fifteen of us had a very enjoyable time completing a circular route around the charming ancient Anglo-Saxon village of North Kilworth and across the field at the top of Dag Lane to the Kilworth Springs Golf Club.



The street scenes change with differing houses, include timberframed and thatched cottages, formal 18th century brick houses and farmhouses, and many nineteenth century houses and cottages. The washpit and the well on the verges by the junction of Washpit Lane with Back Lane are reminders of a different way of life – the well was still in use in the early 1950s.

The wetland area and springs in Cranmer Lane known as 'The Bogs' and where once stood the old manor house are definitely worth a visit, as is the church of St Andrew - the pulpit is reputedly a rebuild from maritime oak of Armada origin.

Many thanks to Sue and Nadene for organizing this lovely walk.

Friday 15th September, Stoke Golding Walk



The walk will be around Stoke Golding, meeting at the 'George and Dragon' pub in the centre of the village. The address of the pub is: Station Road, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, CV13 6EZ.

Phone: (01455) 213268.

Directions below.

Lunch

We will meet at the pub at 10.45am to pre-order lunch.

The menu is not available on the internet, but the staff have told me that they do meals, jacket potatoes, sandwiches etc. We have eaten at the 'George and Dragon' before.

Walking Route

The walk will start at 11.00am. (For those who want to we could take a look at the newly restored Saint Margaret of Antioch Church.)

The walking route will take us around the village and across some fields. There are **no stiles** – gates instead! We will come out onto a lane near Bridge 23 over the Ashby Canal. We will join the tow path and walk until we arrive at Bridge 25 where the Ashby Boat Company are based. At this point, those who want to make their way back to the 'George and Dragon' can leave the tow path, turn right and join Upton Lane, which merges with Station Road. **This part of the walk takes about 45 minutes.**

The next part of the walk takes about 15 minutes:

For those who want a slightly longer walk we can continue along the tow path taking in the marina. At Bridge 27 we leave the tow path and cross a field. There are 3 easy stiles to negotiate. We will end up on the High Street and return to the pub via Church Close.

Contact

If you would like to come on this walk, can you please contact me on:

Phone **01455 251809** or email mandycutler@sky.com **by Tuesday 12th September.**



Directions from Lutterworth to Stoke Golding

- Pick up the A5 at the Magna Park roundabout, west towards Hinckley.
- After 9 miles you will pass under the Hinckley/B'ham Railway bridge. You soon reach the next roundabout just after PAYNE'S (FORD) garage on your right.

Be in the right-hand lane (A47 – signed to Earl Shilton).

A 'new' Macdonalds is directly in front of you on the opposite side of the roundabout.

- At this roundabout take the second left – up the A47 (Hinckley Ring Road, Normandy Way) – the Macdonalds will now be on your LEFT.
- Follow A47 Normandy Rd for 2.5 miles – across '4' mini roundabouts.
- At the WINDMILL PUB roundabout and BEFORE you reach MORRISONS, take the first left up STOKE ROAD (toward Stoke Golding).
- Follow Stoke Road for 1.5 miles into Stoke Golding.

- At the first mini roundabout take the first left into Hinckley Road.
- Follow Hinckley Road for 0.5 miles, then take the first right at the T-junction into Main Street.
- The George and Dragon is about 150 yards directly ahead.
- Small car park to the side of the pub, or park on Main Street, or in Station Road which follows round to the left from the pub, or in the High Street which is to the right of the pub near the Church.
- Estimated time from Lutterworth to Stoke Golding is 30 minutes (15 miles).
- SAT NAV address for the pub is CV13
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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.

Best wishes, Mandy Cutler.

History Group Visit to Broughton Castle



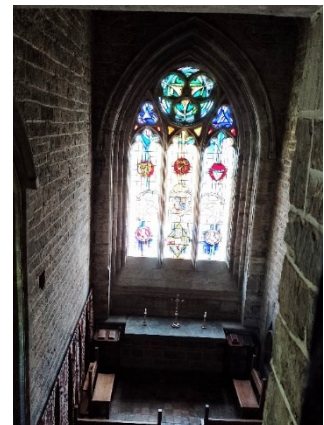
Fifteen U3A members enjoyed a wonderful day out at Broughton Castle, near Banbury. The weather was glorious and the setting idyllic. The castle, which has a moat and is crenellated, is the home of the 21st Lord and Lady Saye and Sele and the family name is Fiennes – yes, Ralph Fiennes is a cousin of the family. The ownership of the castle has remained in the same family since 1447.

We were given an informative guided tour of the castle. Most

of the fabric of the building dates from the 1550's. The castle was the centre of opposition to Charles 1 and was besieged and damaged after the Battle of Edgehill in 1642.



Much restoration took place in the second half of the 20th century, supported by English Heritage, including the beautiful chapel window.



We were told about the many productions filmed at this location, including 'Wolf Hall' and 'Shakespeare in Love'. A lovely day out and a venue I would recommend.

Mandy Cutler.

Notices

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

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“Give it a Go” Group

Have you ever wished to try something different?
Maybe something slightly adventurous?
Something you are unlikely to do on your own?

I want to form a group that gives members the opportunity to have a go at activities they have always wanted to do, but are unsure how to go about them or don't want to do them alone.

My own ideas include: Bell Ringing; Throwing a Clay Pot ; Zip Wiring; Paddle Boarding; Steel Drumming.

These are just a few ideas but I'd love to hear others' ideas.
Obviously it would be much more enjoyable to do these activities with others
So I'm looking to start a new interest group where members Give such activities a Go!

If you're interested then please let me know and we can get started!

Hamish Paterson

Singing for Fun - Open to both Lutterworth U3A's

Meeting held on Tuesday 5th September

We held our first session in the Methodist Church with 17 people turning up and another 8 sending their apologies.

We had a very relaxed and enjoyable couple of hours singing a variety of well known songs including:

Catch a Falling Star
A Hard Day's Night
Men of Harlech
Take Me Home, Country Road
Island of Dreams
Streets of London
Do Re Mi
Pack up Your Troubles

Our next session will be on 10-12 on Tuesday 3rd October, Methodist Church, Lutterworth.

New members are welcome to join us. Contact Hamish Paterson
wlu3asecretary@gmail.com.

We are singing for fun with no need to be able to read music. The main requirement is enthusiasm and hitting the odd correct note!

It would be great to see more men join the group as I feel outnumbered!

Hamish

Committee Members

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>
Chairperson	Colin Beadle
Membership Secretary.....	Andy Hetherington
Secretary	Hamish Paterson
Treasurer.....	Nigel Bones
Groups Co-ordinator.....	Colin Beadle
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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Articles, reports, news items etc. for inclusion in the next bulletin should be sent to the editor:

trudyhaddon.rylands@gmail.com

Deadline: last day of the month.

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