




Issue Number 164 February 2026

Your Committee Needs You!

WE NEED YOU



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Our Monthly General Meeting

Thursday 19th February at 10.30 Carlton Pentecostal Church

Please send your newsletter items and photos to Sue/Assistant Newsletter Editor and Graeme/Web Manager via the 'u3a Officers' page in Beacon by 5pm on the last Thursday of the month. Next deadline: **Thursday 26th February 5pm**

u3a General Meetings

January Guest Speaker Report

Bharat Patel talked to us about his time as a journalist travelling the world, and now he's semi-retired, he raises funds for Hope Against Cancer. Bharat describes being brought up by a "Madcap Indian family" in Gujarat and by the time he was eight years old he had lived in three continents - India, Africa and now the UK.



He delivered a long fast talk with endless fantastic tales involving a Spanish speaking parrot, Princess Anne, a bison-burger, Rampton high security Hospital, the Red Arrows and many, many more. He observed how people from abroad adapt to our customs, climate and way of life.

Hope Against Cancer has pioneered some breakthrough advances in cancer treatments including replacing intravenous chemotherapy with tablets. Bharat was selling copies of his book '*Indian Takeaway*' the proceeds of which would go to the charity.

Marianne White

Janet Allen said that Bharat Patel wrote via email: "Thanks for having me - enjoyed it. Raised £170, plus the fee, plus 32 pence someone threw in...Please thank everyone!"

Venue for our General Meetings - Reminder!

From this month onwards our general meetings will be held at **Carlton Pentecostal Church** on Station Road, Carlton. There is seating for over 200, including some balcony seating, and a separate cafe area.

There is a large car park at the rear of the property off Wallace Avenue, with disabled parking, and some disabled parking at the front on Station Road itself.



We are grateful to the team at the Pentecostal Church for making us feel welcome after our many happy years at the Richard Herrod Centre.

Some of our groups hold their meetings at the Richard Herrod Centre, and unless otherwise advised by your convenor, all meetings currently held at RHC will remain at the centre for the time being.

Mark Reynolds

Speaker for February General Meeting

Janina from Co-op Estate Planning will be talking about Tax, Care and Toy Boys

Estate planning doesn't have to be intimidating. Navigating the legal intricacies can be a daunting prospect for many, but the Co-op estate planning team is dedicated to demystifying the process. They believe in providing accessible legal information and guidance, breaking down the barriers commonly associated with traditional law firms. As part of their community outreach, they talk to groups, delivering valuable insights on crucial legal issues we all may face as we age.

Past audiences have praised the talks for being both enjoyable and jargon-free.

The talk will cover:

1. **Protecting Your Home and Savings**
2. **Inheritance Tax**
3. **'Sideways Disinheritance' and Blended Families**
4. **Lasting Powers of Attorney**

The Co-op will provide information on where you can access further guidance should you require additional support.

Janet Allen

N.B.: If we have a heavy snowfall in February, the General meeting may be cancelled.

Editor's Note

Thank you again for your newsletter contributions, please keep them coming through to Sue Warren/ Assistant Editor and to Graeme Bunting/ Web Manager for our website.

Just a reminder about images - please send as attachments to emails rather than embedded in a document (and recommended size 1024 x 768 pixels). Thanks!

We need to expand our newsletter team, so if anyone is interested in helping with the newsletter, please get in touch. Happy to explain further what we do each month.

Clare Quigley



Your Committee Needs You!

We are looking for enthusiastic members with 'joie de vivre' to join our active Committee to help run our organisation and support the many varied Interest Groups that we provide for your enjoyment.

No special skills are needed except a 'can do' attitude and being able to work collaboratively, within a supportive team, to provide the many activities for our members.

Prospective Committee members can always come along to our monthly Committee Meeting as an observer to see how we work together, but we would also welcome any members with previous knowledge or experience especially in IT, media, publishing or marketing.

We are looking for further support to our Treasury function with knowledge of excel spreadsheets as we try to share the burden and workload across a team rather than rely on one individual. The Membership team would also like to supplement their team.

Unfortunately our excellent Editor Clare Quigley needs to stand down this year so we are looking for someone to take over this role with a background in media or publishing, though she'll be around as back-up support. Also due to ill health we are looking for a member to take on the role of minute taker and social events co-ordinator. Again both roles will be within a team environment.

Please contact any member of our Committee if you wish to discuss supporting any of these roles. You will be warmly welcomed as this work is vital to the success of your u3a.

Mark Reynolds

New Raffle Team

I hope you will all support our new Raffle Team who commence at our February General Meeting at CPC and wish to express our enormous thanks to Bridget Meats and Eileen Errington for their work on running our successful raffle over the last few years.

Mark Reynolds



Memories from the First Members of our u3a

After retiring from 45yrs at BT Pat and I were already thinking about joining the u3a, when one day whilst talking to a guide at a National Trust property we were visiting, he mentioned that he was in a local u3a “once you start you’ll soon be convening or on the committee” he said. No chance I thought!

So, in 2014 Pat and I joined C&G u3a and after attending 2 or 3 general meetings I stepped up to temporarily convene the Real Ale Group, as it was called at the time, and I still convene it today. When Tom Grainger took over as Chair and asked for people to meet with some members of the committee, we went along and before long jointly took over the role of Speaker Seeker.

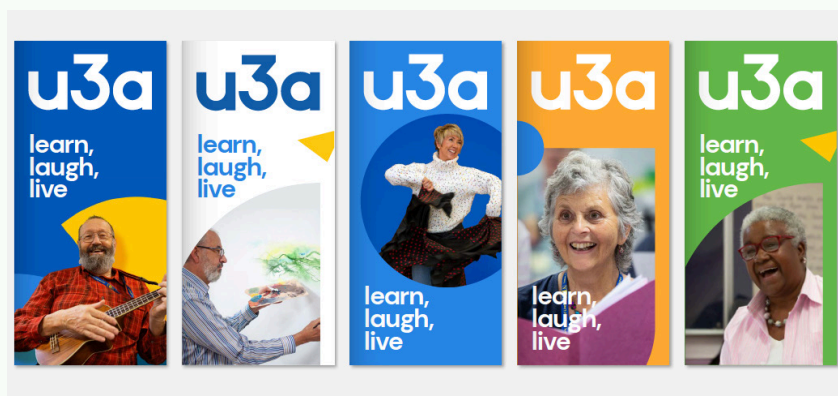
In 2016 I took over as Treasurer, and in 2019 was voted in as Chair. Yes, 2019, we all know what started to spread at the end of that year, and then in 2020 came LOCKDOWN. It was not the easiest of tasks to keep the u3a going, but with a good committee team and Zoom we managed it. When we could meet up again (with restrictions) we had to source a venue, and then we slowly started meeting up again, and gaining the confidence to be in a crowd. That seems a strange concept now.

I still convene or co-convene 6 groups, but I have to say the most fun we had was starting up the Drama Group. I expected to be behind the scenes but it was not long before they had me on stage. The first thing we did was a pantomime (Cinderella) which we rehearsed for 5/6 months to put on at the December general meeting and I am sure that the writers of ‘The play that went wrong’ must have been watching us, as right from the start, things went wrong! One ‘actor’, I won’t mention names, just couldn’t remember his lines, but got the most laughs from our audience.

Joining the u3a at times has taken me out of my comfort zone and has given me the opportunity to do things I never thought I would, like being part of the rock band and seeing you dancing to our songs.

Learn, Laugh, Live, I have done it all.

Richard Downing



Striders



January Walk

Despite the dire weather warnings, four hardy souls turned up for this month's walk. Unfortunately, unlike in November, the rain persisted all day. Luckily, we all had good wet weather gear so the rain did not spoil our day. We started by climbing to the miners monument at the top of Silverhill, which I am told is the highest point in Nottinghamshire. When the weather is good, there are good views across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire but not when we were there.

The rest of the walk was on good tracks and trails around Silverhill Country Park and the Teversal Trail and although the route had been chosen to avoid the worst of the mud, there was still plenty to negotiate. Hopefully, the weather will be better for our next walk which Chris is leading.

February Walk

Details to follow. Meet in the car park on Ranmoor Road at 9.00am on Thursday 26th February and bring a packed lunch.

Brian Shield

An Evening with Kelly's Heroes

For over 30 years Kelly's Heroes have been among Nottingham's finest and best musical ambassadors.

With a repertoire that encompasses fast and furious Celtic tunes and songs, gentle ballads, quality contemporary numbers as well as some original material, this local based band are one of the most sought after on the club, pub and festival circuit.



On **Saturday March 28th** they bring their own brand of music to the Richard Herrod Centre in a concert organised by our own Neil Kendrick.

Doors will open at 7.15, for an 8pm start. We plan to have the last Richard Herrod grand raffle. Come along to experience a musical treat and enjoy the craic!

Tickets are £12, and are available from [Neil Kendrick](#) or [Mark Reynolds](#) also at the General Meetings.

Neil and Mark

Bird Watching Group

Well I'm beginning to think we're doomed - another birding day cancelled due to the weather!

However that hasn't stopped our eagle-eyed members keeping a look out for birds whether in their back gardens, their local area, in the hedgerows and fields or even in more exotic locations.

All in all members have seen over 30 different species of birds over the last several days.

Our first photo shows (not too well) the redwing in the hedgerow near my house taking advantage of the hawthorn berries. No they definitely don't stay in one place for long so it's difficult to take a snap.



The second photo hails from Indonesia, and is of a purple heron which are very occasional visitors to our shores - perhaps in May/June time. I think they have been spotted around the Netherfield Lagoons. Thanks Paul



Talking of which, the Lagoons will be our February destination if the weather is kind to us.

Helen Forrester

U3A
learn,
laugh,
live



U3A
learn,
laugh,
live

Photo courtesy of photographer Peter Alvey and The Third Age Trust

Five Miles and a Cup of Tea



It was a soggy start to 2026, with a local five-mile walk from Ranmoor Road car park through Gedling Village to Jubilee Park, then down to the very quiet Netherfield Lagoons before returning through the new Rivendell development.

Seven brave (or foolish!!) members of the group braved the rain and some mud, mainly on the flat, without any falls. At the end of the walk the rain, by now of biblical proportions, we went to the pub! I sampled the delights of the Willowbrook on a Tuesday afternoon (coffee and ham roll, but alas, no cake) and started to warm up.

A big thank you to Brian and Diane for leading the walk.

Our next walk, on **Tuesday 10th February**, will be led by Jane and Janice.

David Johnson



Science and Technology Group

This month, 14 of us were entertained by stories about the science behind an everyday object costing less than £5.

Davina traced the history of furniture polish, designed to seal wooden surfaces on furniture so that stains and water spills can be removed easily. Polish was originally applied using beeswax and a piece of cloth, but the former has now been superseded by sprays such as Pledge.

Janet looked at the thimble, which is a small, pitted metal cup worn on the finger that protects it from being pricked or poked by a needle while sewing. Some of the earliest thimbles were made by the Egyptians. They have found other uses throughout the ages, such as a measure for drink, love tokens and keeping Victorian pupils under control (by tapping on their heads!)

David (Colyer) described the design and operation of the corkscrew, specifically the worm screw. The worm screw can be traced back to Napoleonic times, when it was used to clean out recently fired rifles and cannons. Early corkscrews were pushed into the cork and then pulled out. Later, a rack and pinion mechanism with arms was added, which allowed the cork to be removed from the bottle with less effort.

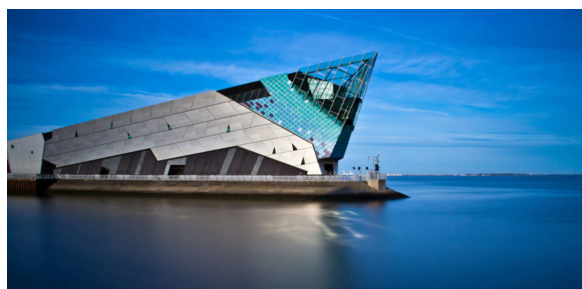
David (Johnson) chose a tube of toothpaste as the £5 everyday object. Tooth powders were used over 7,000 years ago by the Egyptians, and contained powdered ashes of ox hooves, pumice and egg shells. Tooth cleaning mixtures evolved over the years and clinically proven fluoride-containing toothpastes arrived in the 1950s. David discussed the properties of the 14 ingredients used in his toothpaste and what each contributes to the product.

The next meeting of the Science and Technology Group will be on Tuesday 24th February, when Linda Hoyland will discuss her work in the QMC Pathological Lab.

David Johnson



Trips and Visits - Visit to The Deep



As a result of the interest shown in going to The Deep in Hull on Wednesday 25th March, we have booked a 53 seater coach. There are 2 available places left.

May we please ask those of you who have not paid the £34 by bank transfer (BACS) to visit our table at the next General Meeting on Thursday 19th February? We will take cash, cheque or a direct debit payment (Sum-Up). You should find us in the coffee area at the new venue within the Pentecostal Church on Station Road in Carlton.

Contact us if you would like details of how to pay by bank transfer.

Teresa Storey / Jane Bemrose

Sewing Group

January started with a great turnout - 17 of us, including 3 new members. We almost ran out of tables to use! Sandra (Groups Coordinator) and Cheryl (Membership Secretary) also came along to see what we are up to.

A few of us used some of our fabric scraps (all sewers have a stash taking up space in our cupboards at home) to make some cable tidies and bag tags. Simple ideas to make something useful with a bit of fabric we couldn't bear to throw away.

Next month we'll be making reusable cleansing pads. Again, we'll be able to use more scraps for the fronts and soft fleece for the backs. Making these saves having to keep buying disposable pads as ours are washable.

A number of our group bring their own projects to work on. We have quite an eclectic mix between us.

I've been updating the Sewing Group page on the website. There are around 30 patterns with instructions for anyone to try, along with Hints & Tips and Ideas. Have a browse and see if anything appeals to you. I love sharing ideas with likeminded people.

Susan Bunting

Film Group

Well we had an enjoyable meeting in January discussing the 2 films we'd watched based on historical settings.

I think we all really enjoyed **Tea with Mussolini**, 1999, which was the story of how the English living in Florence before and during WW2 adapted and behaved during the rise of fascism. The cast and script were fantastic along with the costumes. We weren't too sure how historically accurate it was, but it was a lovely kind story as well as a fun send-up of stereotypical English prejudice.

Godland, 2022, on iPlayer, was very different. Set in austere late 19th Century Iceland, it was the story of a young Danish priest travelling across dramatic terrain to a community where he was to build a church, but really the beautifully photographed Icelandic landscape was the star. The film was long, and the plot had quite a few discrepancies so to say it was not enjoyed by us all is an understatement, but it certainly provoked a lively discussion.

We next meet on **Monday 23rd February, 5pm via zoom**, when we will be discussing two films based on real events, which are on BBC iPlayer.

Mr Burton, 2025, starring Toby Jones which is the story of the wild schoolboy Rich Jenkins, son of a boozy miner, and the English teacher who recognised his talent, Philip Burton.

The Great Escaper, 2023, starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson, which is the story of Bernie, a veteran, who causes alarm at the care home when, with the support of his wife, he secretly sets off for Normandy to attend the 70th anniversary of D-day.

Mark, who kindly chose these films, would like us to write a brief film review of each saying what we liked, or disliked, and giving each film a score out of 10.

The link to the Zoom is here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85849293246?pwd=RWo1aGFBTWgxQTFvblczU21uZ294Zz09>

Passcode: 753499

If you would like to join us, contact myself or **Paul Martinez**

Sue Warren

Discussion Group

Should Drugs be Legalised?



This month we had a lively and informative discussion on whether or not it would benefit society to legalise drugs, led by Jackie in our new meeting venue, which was comfortable and welcoming.

We made a clear definition of the drugs we were discussing and began with legislation introduced after WWII, in an attempt to limit access to alcohol and dangerous drugs.

We discussed the effects on individuals, but more so of the effect on our society of the misuse of drugs. We discussed many drugs which had been introduced with the intention of health benefits, including cocaine as a dental anaesthetic and Kaolin and Morphine as a cough mixture, both of which were part of our childhood. We also referred to surveys that demonstrated that cannabis has more additives in its modern day format as it has been cut with various impurities which have their own side effects. At this point we began to clearly define the difference between social drug use and highly addictive drugs and their societal effects.

Navigating our way through the various levels of illegal drugs, and sharing a few humorous anecdotes along the way, I believe that the consensus was that we do need to try something different and that a staged approach to decriminalising drugs, could be the best approach.

This would initially target cannabis use and include a strong programme of education, as has happened with smoking and the younger generation.

Whilst we felt that we would never eradicate drug use, we felt that it was time to begin to take the power from the drug barons. We also felt that by decriminalising the use of cannabis it may free up our prison service somewhat.

Next month we will be considering:

IS AI TAKING OVER OUR LIVES? led by Ron

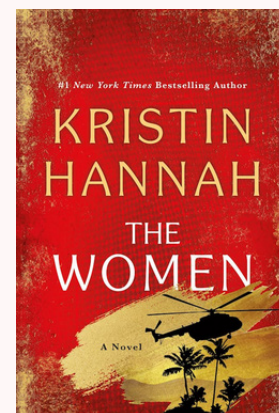
Please contact me if you're interested in joining our friendly, informal group.

Coleen Bee

Book Group - Review

The Women by Kristin Hannah

Born in 1960, Kristin Hannah is the American author of 15 books, with a frequent central theme of ordinary women in challenging circumstances. Here she's taken the theme of the American nurses who served in the American vs Vietnam war but who often returned home traumatised by their experiences, and the widespread denial that any women served in the conflict.



The central character, young well-to-do Frankie McGrath, straight out of nurse training, joins a nursing corps in the Vietnam War, spurred on by a wish to follow in the footsteps of her soldier brother and make her family proud. The words “women can be heroes” used at this point by a romantic character, was a theme throughout the novel.

Frankie is shown having her naivety challenged, and facing up to the horror of war, treating those with appalling injuries in extreme and exhausting conditions until she became hardened to it. Frankie makes friends with 2 experienced nurses from more impoverished backgrounds, and this intense friendship helps each other cope.

Romance, often with duplicitous doctors is an important theme, along with the impact on the innocent Vietnamese villagers collaterally injured by the war around them, extreme weather and the chaos of the treatment rooms. Key music of time, such as the protest songs against the war are described, as well as the use of drink and drugs to dull the senses of the staff when they're off duty. Once demobbed Frankie struggles to cope with PTSD, addiction, less-demanding work and a family who won't accept what she's been through. Some of our group thought some of the plot was obvious and there were other criticisms of the last section where loose ends were quickly tied.

The book was a compelling read which drew many of us in, but some felt the romance was Mills & Boon, or chick lit with as many shocks and surprises as possible, which detracted from the seriousness of the trauma experienced by those who served in 'Nam. We talked about the fact that all wars encourage the search for love or just comfort, as well as alcohol and drugs, in order to get through the horror, and the anti-war protesters. There was some brief mention of this by the author although the dominant narrative is Frankie's experiences.

Christine Smith

Art Appreciation

In our meeting in January we looked at how artists had portrayed various art forms including dance. We began by looking at early art, and a rock painting from El Cogul in Catalonia of women appearing to dance in a circle. Then we looked at an Egyptian wall painting where dancers accompanied a funeral service, which was intended to connect the dead person with the gods, and ensure harmony for them in the netherworld.

Another form of dance that was common in medieval times was the Dance Macabre. In the late Middle Ages the Black Death killed between 30% and 50% of the population. Death was therefore an ever-present reality and these portrayals of the dance showed how both the rich and poor were susceptible.

We then went on to look at images by artists of the 19th century. John Singer-Sargent was an American painter who lived most of his life in Europe. He painted largely in the Impressionist style but also experimented with others. He painted straight onto the canvas, and used other artists for some of his paintings. An exception to this is his painting of a Spanish dancer done in 1882, which is dark and atmospheric.

Pablo Picasso was our next subject. He was born in Spain but spent most of his life in France. He painted many musicians and dancers. In 1901 he painted the Guitar Player, which was in his Blue Period, when he focused on social outcasts. In 1921 he painted The Three Musicians, which were in his cubist style.

The last painter we looked at was Edgar Degas, who lived from 1834 to 1917. He was famous for his painting of ballet dancers at the theatre, especially seen from behind the scenes of the ballet. We learnt that Degas also showed the seedier side of the dance by pointing out at the sidelines the 'abonné', or men who preyed on the young dancers in the troupe.

Next month we will continue with the same theme.

Christine Russell



Theatre Visits

Pick up Tickets - tickets for 9 (yes nine) shows on sale!

Please pay at the general meeting with a separate cheque for each production, though we will shortly have our own sum up machine!

The Audience: National Theatre broadcast, 7pm, Thursday 26th February, Bonington Theatre, £10. Helen Mirren plays Queen Elizabeth II in this hit production directed by Stephen Daldry. For 60 years, Queen Elizabeth II met with each of her 12 prime ministers in a private weekly meeting or audience. Through these private audiences, we see glimpses of the woman behind the crown and witness the moments that shaped a monarch.

Organiser: Paul Martinez



Othello: National Theatre broadcast, 5.30 pm, Sunday 8th March, Bonington Theatre, £10. Directed by Tony Award-winner Tom Morris OBE with music by P.J. Harvey, this epic story of manipulation, jealousy and toxic masculinity explores the darker side of power, rage and desire. **Organiser:** Paul Martinez

Wagner's Siegfried: Royal Opera broadcast, 2pm Sunday 5th April, Bonington Theatre, £12.50. Raised by a scheming dwarf and unaware of his true family origins, a young man embarks on an epic journey. Soon, destiny brings him face-to-face with a shattered sword, a fearsome dragon and a Valkyrie forced into enchanted slumber. **Organiser:** Paul Martinez

The Magic Flute: Royal Opera broadcast, 2pm Sunday 26th April, Bonington Theatre, £12.50. Mozart's fantastical opera glitters in David McVicar's enchanting production. Guided by a magic flute, our heroes encounter monsters, villains, and a mysterious brotherhood of men – but help, it turns out, comes when you least expect it. **Organiser:** Paul Martinez

Small Island: 1.30pm Saturday 2nd May 2026, Nottingham Playhouse, £14.50. Journey from the sun-drenched shores of Jamaica to the cold, grey streets of 1940s London in Small Island, a powerful and intimate portrayal of Andrea Levy's multi award-winning novel. **Organiser:** Carolyn Broadhurst

Eugene Onegin: NY Met Opera broadcast, 6pm Tuesday 5th May, Bonington Theatre, £12.50. The Met's evocative production, "offers a beautifully detailed reading of Tchaikovsky's lyrical romance" (The Telegraph). **Organiser:** Paul Martinez

Barnum: 2.30pm Thursday 28th May, Nottingham Playhouse, £22.50. Step right up and enter the dazzling world of P. T. Barnum, where imagination and ambition know no bounds. This spectacular production will feature an extraordinary ensemble cast of over 20 actor-musicians, acrobats and amazing circus acts. **Organiser:** Carolyn Broadhurst

Theatre Trips (continued)

Playboy of the Western World: National Theatre broadcast, 7pm Thursday 28th May, Bonington Theatre, £10. Pegeen Flaherty's life is turned upside down when a young man walks into her pub claiming that he's killed his father. Instead of being shunned, the killer becomes a local hero and begins to win hearts, that is until a second man arrives on the scene! **Organiser:** Paul Martinez

Les Liaisons Dangereuses: National Theatre broadcast, 7pm Friday 26th June Bonington Theatre, £10. Marquise de Merteuil is a master in the art of survival. Alongside the magnetic Vicomte de Valmont, they turn seduction into strategy and weaponise desire. But when their alliance collapses into rivalry, the battle between them threatens to destroy everyone in their path. **Organiser:** Paul Martinez.

Trips and Visits

Visit to the Black Country Museum - Thursday 23rd April

Cost: **£34**

Join us on a day out to explore reconstructed shops, houses, and industrial areas that represent the Black Country's story, brought to life by characters who will share what it was really like to live and work during this revolutionary period of history.



You'll hear the clang of hammers, smell the smoke billowing from red-brick chimneys, and perhaps even taste the best fish and chips in the Black Country, a really immersive experience.

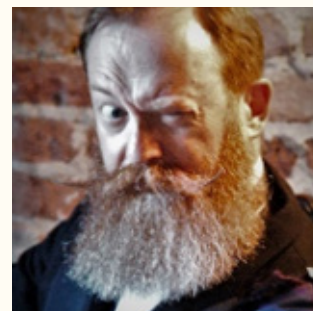
There's plenty to do, places to eat, a working mine, school, cinema, classic fairground, health workers, shop keepers and a traditional pub or enjoy a stroll along the canal. For the more adventurous you can take a ride on the 'legging' canal boat at an extra cost.

Please contact **Coleen Bee** or **Teresa Storey** if you would like to be included.

Grumpy Old Men

The Grumpies met for their fortnightly Friday lunch and to consider contemporary issues.

As usual, we discussed candidates to be “put on the bus.” The chosen candidate was Reform’s council leader in County Durham, Andrew Husband, as several liquidated companies currently, and formerly, owned by him racked up huge debts. Two existing companies owned by Cllr Husband owe more than £500,000 in unpaid tax, government-backed Covid loans, and staff wages.



Topics for discussion included:

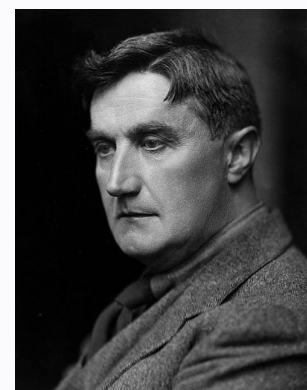
- Waterstones have introduced an assistance dogs only rule, prompting shoppers to create unofficial false papers for their pets, including one for a 100-million-year-old dinosaur.
- The Royal Kennel Club is launching Britain's largest ever dog census.
- The government is considering various schemes for homes worth over £2 million, so there could be a wave of homes being put on the market as owners try to avoid a property levy.
- Britain's top civil servants are in line for the taxpayer funded pension pots averaging £1.4 million.
- A billionaire's £400,000 watch was stolen by thugs on a lime bike.
- Calls for a national screening programme for prostate cancer.
- An astronomical surge in under 5's with speech and development delays blamed on excessive screen time.
- Fraud gang targets twelve homes on the same street using stolen identities to open bank accounts to launder money.
- The benefits for getting an NHS health check.

David Colyer

Classical Music Appreciation

Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

For our first meeting of 2026, Steve Smith gave us an interesting introduction to the life and works of one of Britain's greatest composers, Ralph (pronounced Rafe) Vaughan Williams.



He is best known as a composer of several popular pieces such as *The Lark Ascending* and the *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, which were strongly influenced by English Folk Song. But, as Steve pointed out, the composer's output was noted for its very wide range of moods and styles, from stormy to tranquil, from mysterious to exuberant, from harshly dissonant to extremely consonant. His works include operas, ballets, chamber music, secular and religious vocal pieces and orchestral compositions including nine symphonies, written over sixty years.

We started by listening to the opening movement of the *Symphony No. 7*, subtitled *Sinfonia Antartica* (1952), which was based on music Vaughan Williams wrote for the film *Scott of the Antarctic*. This vividly depicts the icy and windy conditions that Scott and his team encountered on their way to the South Pole. We heard excerpts from *Symphonies 3, 4, 6 and 9* and from two concertos, one for oboe and strings and the other the *Concerto Accademico* for Violin and Orchestra, which clearly demonstrated the huge variety of styles in the composer's musical language.

We ended with two more orchestral works, the *Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus*, based on a traditional English folk song, and the *Fantasia* on a theme by Thomas Tallis, one of the composer's most popular and widely performed pieces.

Thank you, Steve, for a stimulating presentation including some truly great music.

Colin Jones

Thank You

The Carlton & Gedling u3a relies on its volunteers, including committee members, editorial team, web editor, Beacon administrator, group convenors, secretaries and many more. You are all contributing your time and energy to make sure members can get together to have fun and learn something new. Our sincere thanks.



Diary : FEBRUARY 2026

Date	Time	Group	Meet at	Contact	
16	Mon	10:00	French Conversation	Mapperley Golf Club	Annabell 07900 067 144
16	Mon	10:00	Table Tennis	Netherfield Forum	Andrea 07527 090 324
16	Mon	14:00	Art Appreciation	A member's house	Christine 0115 953 6725
17	Tue	14:00	Local History	Richard Herrod Centre	Andy 07753 287 562
17	Tue	14:00	Rummikub	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
18	Wed	10:00	Creative Appliqué	Loco Centre	Jackie 07708 035 311
18	Wed	10:00	Ukulele	St Georges Centre	Richard 07514 212 134
18	Wed	12:00	Grouchy Girls	The Willowbrook	Jennifer 07906 735 885
18	Wed	14:00	Bonsai Improvers	A member's house	Paul 07305 071 206
18	Wed	14:00	Bridge	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 07749 325 315
18	Wed	14:00	Walk Fit - To Music	St Georges Centre	Sandra 07826 039 733
19	Thu	10:30	General Meeting	Carlton Pentecostal Church	Mark 07826 629 063
20	Fri	09:45	Singing for Pleasure	St Georges Centre	Sheila 07703 755 906
20	Fri	10:00	Drama	Carlton Fire Station	Jane 07825 775 213
20	Fri	14:00	Canasta	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
20	Fri	15:00	Ale, Lager and Cider tasting		Richard 07514 212 134
21	Sat	10:00	Cycling For Fun	Jct of Burton Rd and Conway Rd	Sue 07780 449 894
21	Sat	14:00	Theatre	The Squire, PerformingArtsCentre	Janet 0115 840 0733
23	Mon	10:00	French for Fun	Mapperley Golf Club	Brian 07724 801 115
23	Mon	10:00	Sewing	Carlton Fire Station	Susan 07708 471 023
23	Mon	10:00	Table Tennis	Netherfield Forum	Andrea 07527 090 324
23	Mon	14:00	Tai Chi	Colwick Community Centre	Jan 07496 999 808
23	Mon	17:00	Film Study	Zoom Meeting	Sue 07791 358 143
24	Tue	10:00	Science & Technology	Carlton Fire Station	Janet 07813 462 081
24	Tue	10:30		Manor Green Community Room	Mark 07826 629 063
24	Tue	12:00	Out to Lunch	Portobello	Maggie 07554 518 444
24	Tue	18:00	Dining Out	Panda Mami	Maggie 07554 518 444
25	Wed	10:00	Making Music For Fun	Loco Centre	Richard 07514 212 134
25	Wed	14:00	Bridge	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 07749 325 315
25	Wed	14:00	French 3	St Georges Centre	Ann 07837 803 837
25	Wed	14:00	Walk Fit - To Music	St Georges Centre	Sandra 07826 039 733
26	Thu	09:00	Striders Walking	Meet at Ranmoor Road car park	Brian 07814 628 190
26	Thu	10:00	Coffee Morning	Portobello	Maggie 07554 518 444
26	Thu	10:00	Strollers Walking	Meet at the start of the walk	Paul 07305 071 206
26	Thu	14:00	Card & Board Games	St Georges Centre	Maggie 07554 518 444
26	Thu	16:00	Newsletter Deadline		
26	Thu	17:00	Pickleball	Carlton Forum Leisure Centre	Coleen 07450 938 777
26	Thu	19:00	Theatre	Bonington Theatre	Paul 07305 071 206
27	Fri	14:00	Canasta	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
27	Fri	14:00	Creative Writing	St Georges Centre	Coleen 07450 938 777
28	Sat	10:00	Cycling For Fun	Jct of Burton Rd and Conway Rd	Sue 07780 449 894

Diary : MARCH 2026

Date	Time	Group	Meet at	Contact	
2	Mon	10:00	French Conversation	Mapperley Golf Club	Annabell 07900 067 144
2	Mon	10:00	Table Tennis	Netherfield Forum	Andrea 07527 090 324
2	Mon	10:30	Greenfingers	Gedling Road Methodist Church	Nicola 07794 368 566
2	Mon	14:00	History Study	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
3	Tue	10:00	Photography	Meeting Place TBA	Mike 07762 182 898
3	Tue	14:00	Book Club	Carlton Fire Station	Maggie 07951 299 113
4	Wed	10:00	Creative Appliqué	Loco Centre	Jackie 07708 035 311
4	Wed	10:00	Opera Study	Zoom Meeting	Paul 07305 071 206
4	Wed	10:00	Singing for Pleasure	St Georges Centre	Sheila 07703 755 906
4	Wed	10:00	Ukulele	St Georges Centre	Richard 07514 212 134
4	Wed	14:00	Bonsai Beginners	A member's house	Paul 07305 071 206
4	Wed	14:00	Bridge	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 07749 325 315
4	Wed	14:00	Walk Fit - To Music	St Georges Centre	Sandra 07826 039 733
5	Thu	14:00	Alternative Book Club	Manor Green Community Room	Gill 07802 700 852
5	Thu	16:30	Indoor Bowls	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 0115 987 4239
6	Fri	10:00	Drama	Carlton Fire Station	Jane 07825 775 213
6	Fri	10:00	Knit & Stitch	The Bread and Bitter	Jackie 07971 973 120
6	Fri	14:00	Canasta	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
6	Fri	14:00	Spanish for Fun	Carlton Fire Station	Mark 07826 629 063
7	Sat	10:00	Cycling For Fun	Jct of Burton Rd and Conway Rd	Sue 07780 449 894
8	Sun	17:30	Theatre	Bonington Theatre	Paul 07305 071 206
9	Mon	10:00	Classical Music Study	A member's house	Colin 07881 289 298
9	Mon	10:00	French for Fun	Mapperley Golf Club	Brian 07724 801 115
9	Mon	10:00	Table Tennis	Netherfield Forum	Andrea 07527 090 324
9	Mon	12:00	Out to Lunch	The Gedling Inn	Maggie 07554 518 444
9	Mon	14:00	Tai Chi	Colwick Community Centre	Jan 07496 999 808
10	Tue	09:30	Five Miles and a cup of tea	Meet at Ranmoor Road car park	David 07549 132 066
10	Tue	14:00	Poetry Appreciation	A member's house	Lyn 07305 144 102
11	Wed	10:00	Discussion / Debate	Carlton Pentecostal Church	Coleen 07450 938 777
11	Wed	10:00	Making Music For Fun	Loco Centre	Richard 07514 212 134
11	Wed	10:00	Transport	The Bread and Bitter	Ken 07584 835 479
11	Wed	14:00	Bridge	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 07749 325 315
11	Wed	14:00	Walk Fit - To Music	St Georges Centre	Sandra 07826 039 733
12	Thu	10:00	Coffee Morning	Portobello	Maggie 07554 518 444
12	Thu	11:00	Religious Architecture	Meet at the venue	Val 0115 950 6055
12	Thu	11:00	Ten Pin Bowling	Nottingham Bowl	Brenda 0115 962 5757
12	Thu	14:00	Card & Board Games	St Georges Centre	Maggie 07554 518 444
12	Thu	15:15	Art	Carlton Fire Station	Linda 07958 012 544
12	Thu	17:00	Pickleball	Carlton Forum Leisure Centre	Coleen 07450 938 777
13	Fri	10:00	Bird Watching	Meet at the venue	Helen 07846 079 721
13	Fri	13:30	Craft	Loco Centre	Pat 07918 665 322
13	Fri	14:00	Canasta	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
14	Sat	10:00	Cycling For Fun	Jct of Burton Rd and Conway Rd	Sue 07780 449 894
14	Sat	13:00	Wild Weekenders	The Bread and Bitter	Coleen 07450 938 777
16	Mon	10:00	French Conversation	Mapperley Golf Club	Annabell 07900 067 144
16	Mon	10:00	Table Tennis	Netherfield Forum	Andrea 07527 090 324
16	Mon	14:00	Art Appreciation	A member's house	Christine 0115 953 6725
17	Tue	14:00	Local History	Richard Herrod Centre	Andy 07753 287 562
17	Tue	14:00	Rummikub	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
18	Wed	10:00	Creative Appliqué	Loco Centre	Jackie 07708 035 311
18	Wed	10:00	Ukulele	St Georges Centre	Richard 07514 212 134
18	Wed	12:00	Grouchy Girls	The Willowbrook	Jennifer 07906 735 885
18	Wed	14:00	Bonsai Improvers	A member's house	Paul 07305 071 206
18	Wed	14:00	Bridge	Richard Herrod Centre	Mick 07749 325 315
18	Wed	14:00	Walk Fit - To Music	St Georges Centre	Sandra 07826 039 733
19	Thu	10:30	General Meeting	Carlton Pentecostal Church	Mark 07826 629 063
20	Fri	09:45	Singing for Pleasure	St Georges Centre	Sheila 07703 755 906
20	Fri	10:00	Drama	Carlton Fire Station	Jane 07825 775 213
20	Fri	14:00	Canasta	Richard Herrod Centre	Lynne 07771 801 957
20	Fri	15:00	Ale, Lager and Cider tasting		Richard 07514 212 134
21	Sat	10:00	Cycling For Fun	Jct of Burton Rd and Conway Rd	Sue 07780 449 894