



Broxbourne u3a

Registered Charity No. 1090504

Part of the International u3a Movement

**Monthly Meetings, usually 3rd Thursdays,
at the Spotlight, Broxbourne**

**ENTRY TO THE SPOTLIGHT from 9am
MEETINGS WILL START AT 10.30am**

Please Support Our Raffle in the Foyer!

**Prizes: Vouchers £30, £20 and £10
Proceeds to Broxbourne u3a**

Programme

Thursday 21st August 2025

John Harrison – Bricks and Brickwork

Thursday 18th September 2025

Howard Slater – Fred Astaire

Discover the grace, rhythm and romance of Fred Astaire's legendary dance career

Greeters Rota

Supplied by RUGs Gro

CHAIR'S CHAT – AUGUST 2025



**WELL, WE CERTAINLY KNOW HOW
TO UPSET THE APPLE CART DON'T
WE !!!**



I apologise on behalf of everyone on the committee for the confusion and chaos following their decision to change the timing of the Spotlight meeting. It clearly did not work in July BUT it did work in June

It made me personally aware that we have a communication problem with our members and we have already taken the first step to overcome that. Last month our programme/newsletter was sent out by email to all members who have registered an email address with us. I have received many thank you's from members who are not able to attend the Spotlight meetings and have not been aware of what is happening in their u3a world. These will continue every month. Our members are very important to us.

Barbara Cordina / Chair

SOME IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22.09.25 – Barclays Bank presentation on Fraud & Scams. Dinant Room at the Spotlight 10am to 12pm, with refreshments – limited availability so book your place with Jenny Murtagh – murtaghj491@gmail.com.

16.10.25 – Group Leaders' Meeting. Dinant Room following the Spotlight Meeting at 12pm, lunch provided. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to meet our new Group Coordinator and myself. It will be an opportunity for us to learn about all the activities we currently offer to our members. If you have a “wish list” for your group, please bring it along.

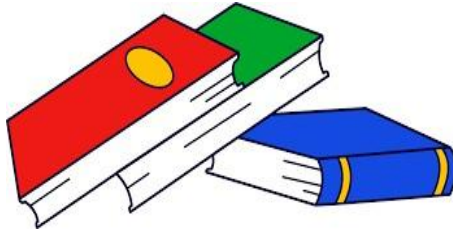
20.11.25 – 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Spotlight. Join us for a special celebration of 25 years since Broxbourne u3a first opened. More information to follow. Lunch will be available for all following the speaker.

10.12.25 – Singalong with us for Christmas! Our singing and guitar groups will accompany us as we celebrate the joys of Christmas songs. Venue - Herts Studios opposite Sainsburys carpark 2pm – 4pm. Tea, coffee and mince pies available for all – no charge!

See you soon!



Pre-loved” Books – Yvonne Whitehurst



If you want to pass on ‘read’ books for a good cause, visit us at our tables at each monthly meeting. All proceeds to Broxbourne u3a.

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If or when you change your email address, please make sure you give the information to your Group Leader or any Committee Member, so that we can stay in touch with you.

BROXBOURNE u3a
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FRAUD & SCAMS PRESENTATION
BY BARCLAYS BANK

MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2025 10am to 12pm
DINANT ROOM @ THE SPOTLIGHT, HODDESDON



NO CHARGE – REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
LIMITED AVAILABILITY – MEMBERS ONLY
RESERVE YOUR PLACE WITH JENNY MURTAGH

DO JOIN US – WE ALL NEED TO BE AWARE OF THE
DANGERS

GARDENING TRIPS GROUP

Fri 22nd Aug – Scotney Castle, Kent
NT members £25, Non members £39



Scotney Castle is an English country house with formal gardens south-east of Lamberhurst in the valley of the River Bewl in Kent. The gardens are a site of special scientific interest and are a celebrated example of the picturesque style.

FUTURE DAY TRIPS

Thurs 25th Sept – Chartwell

NT members £25
Non members £45

Thurs 11th Dec - Kew at Christmas
Coach leaves Hoddesdon at 3 pm

£52 per person

£10 deposits are required to reserve places on any trips.

GARDENING GROUP TRIPS (cont)

Those of you without NT membership are better off coming with us rather than going alone.

Unless advised differently, all trips leave the Spinning Wheel at 9 am and return journeys starts 4pm.

Please write on the back of cheques what trips you are paying for to make admin easier.

Please note, when you put your name down for a trip, you must pay a deposit or full amount.

Any names on the list without monies received after the next meeting, will have their names removed.

If you need to speak to me please contact me via WhatsApp or telephone.

Suzanne Fitch

Broxbourne u3a Website <http://broxbourne.u3asite.uk/>
or find us through the u3a website - **www.u3a.org.uk**

Please send photos or articles for the website to
Chris Common at **Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com**.

Find us on Facebook

GROUPS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS

ANNUAL HOLIDAY. Val Foley has reached a point where she is unable to continue as leader of this group. Firstly we would like to sincerely thank her for all the wonderful holidays she has organised on your behalf. Secondly, we are needing a new leader to continue the holidays. Val is very happy to help train a new person. Without a willing volunteer this group will be unable to continue. Please speak to any committee member if you think you can help.

ART GROUP - Jack Snary

Bollescroft Main Hall, fortnightly 10-30 - 1.00 pm. Price £5 includes tea/coffee.

Next meetings:

Sept 1st – A Bowl of Fruit

Sept 15th – A ruin that Cromwell knocked about a bit!

Sept 29th – Out of Africa

Oct 13th – A Local Landmark

Oct 27th – A Potted Plant

CHAIR MOBILITY AND STRETCH CLASS - Janet Harman

Weekly on Friday afternoons, 2-3 pm in the main hall, United Reformed Church, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, EN10 7BQ.

COUNTRY DANCING - Val Foster and June Brown

Your Country Dance group takes place on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month in Bollescroft large room 2-4pm. We are a very friendly and sociable group and warmly welcome new members, so do pay us a visit. Your first visit is free and then it's £4 per meeting.

COUNTRY DANCING (Cont)

Next meetings: Sept 4th and 18th, Oct 2nd and 16th.

Before closing for the month of August, our group celebrated with cake in the interval and a free raffle. Our Caller very kindly accommodated the hot weather by using slower waltz time dances and longer breaks in between. We re-start our meetings on September 4th and will welcome back our regulars and extend a warm invitation to any Broxbourne members to come along and join us.

CRAFTS - Sue Wilson

Meetings will be held at my house, on the last Thursday of the month 2 – 4 pm. There will be no meeting in August. The next meeting will be on 25th September, when we will be wood burning. If anyone wants to join us please ring me on the above number.

CREATIVE WRITING & POETRY - Janet Hack

We meet at 10.30am on the first Thursday of the month at The Methodist Church, Hoddesdon.

DISCUSSION - Ann Sims & Glenys Brown

Meetings will be 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at Oasis Room, URC, Mill Lane, Broxbourne.

Next Dates: September 5th and 19th

FAMILY AND SOCIAL HISTORY - Tony Eagling

Monthly 1st Thurs. 10am - 12noon. 1st Wormley Scout Hut, Cozens Lane West, Broxbourne.

Next Meeting: 4th Sept. Speaker Andrew Summer "Snatched from Essex".

FOLK AND COUNTRY MUSIC GROUP - Andy Bradford

Meet on the third Wednesday of the month, at members' homes. We listen to English and Celtic music, Americana, and other cultures.

FRENCH - Monica Davies

We meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at 2.30pm. This everyday French programme includes simple conversation and culture.

FRENCH BOULES (1) - Alan Cudd

Every Monday 10am at Rye Park, Old Highway, Hoddesdon. New members welcome, beginners or experienced. Boules available to borrow for the session on the day

FRENCH BOULES (2) - Steve Nendick

Every Wednesday 10am at Rye Park, Old Highway, Hoddesdon. New members very welcome, beginners or experienced. Boules available to borrow for the session on the day

GARDENING (1) – Geraldine Stone

Focussing on practical Horticulture and Garden design with RHS qualified group leader. All Broxbourne u3amembers welcome. Please call or email me if you would like to attend, want a lift or to offer one, or have any enquiries or suggestions. We have a group WhatsApp for communication which you can join. Winter meetings are from 10.30am to 12.00pm and, unless otherwise stated, will be at Mill Lane URC in the upper function room. Free parking on the roads after 10.00 am.

Next Meeting/visits:

24th Sept – Autumn colours. Kew Gardens by train. Meet Broxbourne Station at 10 am.

30th Oct – Lawns – A practical history and Q & As.

26th Nov – The wildlife garden in winter and annual tool sharpening

17th Dec - Make a natural wreath for Christmas.

GARDENING (2) - Suzanne Fitch and Sue Gilford

Monthly on Monday after the Main Meeting 10am at Hoddesdon Methodist, Church Hall, Middlefield Road, Hoddesdon, EN11 9ED

29th September – Jacqueline Aviolet

20th October – Peter Day – Songs about gardens or flowers

24th November – Brian Carline – An amusing account of school life

Our list of trips is on page 11 of this newsletter.

GOOD READ - Maureen Lincoln

Members read and meet to discuss books written in the last seven years that have won a prize. Variable dates to suit members.

GUITAR PLAYING - Denis O'Shea

Advanced Group: First and third Friday mornings of the month. We meet at St Augustine's Church, Broxbourne, 10.45 monthly, charge for hall hires to be paid. If you are interested in playing with this group, please contact Denis O'Shea to discuss.

HERITAGE - Bob and Maggie Buckley

Next trip: 9th October, 2-part trip to Greys Court (near Henley on Thames) and then to Henley itself. Greys Court is a National Trust property.

Pick up times are 9 am Hoddesdon Spinning Wheel and 9.15 am Cheshunt Old Pond.

Cost – National Trust members £25 and non members £43.

We need a minimum of 20 people to run this trip.

The last trip of the year will be to the Boundary Mill/Downtown outlet near Grantham, a real shopping experience to be enjoyed!! This trip will be in late November/early December. Details of date, times and cost will first be available at the September meeting

HISTORY- Mick Coe

Monthly 3rd Wed. Meet 2pm at Hoddesdon Methodist Church, Middlefield Road. If anyone is interested in joining the History Group, please contact Mick Coe. There will be no meetings in August or September.

JIGSAW SWAP - Julie Mountain

Bring a puzzle to swap for 50p or buy a puzzle for £1. All puzzle donations gratefully received to get this group up and running. Funds received will be put back into Broxbourne u3a for all members to benefit.

KNIT AND NATTER - Val Sambridge

Monthly on 2nd Thursday 2-4pm at Broxbourne URC. Mill Lane.

LONDON WALKS AND EXPERIENCES - Gill King

Meet every second Saturday of the month, 9.30 at Broxbourne Station.

Next walk: September 13th, our walk will be around Notting Hill. Meet at Broxbourne station at 9.30 am to catch the 9.47 am train to Tottenham Hale. From here go down to Kings Cross, change to the Hammersmith and City Line to Westbourne Park where the walk starts.

MODERATE WALKS - Bernie Cove

Monthly, 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Next walk: 9th September, Meet at 10am in the car park at Whitewebbs Park – entrance in Whitewebbs Lane 200 metres past the King and Tinker Pub EN2 9HJ. The car park is on the left 200 metres from the road. If this unavailable, we will park in the layby on the left of Whitewebbs Lane. The walk takes in Whitewebbs Park, Hilly Fields and Forty Hall and is approx. 4 miles. Coffee and toilets at Forty Hall. I understand the café is under new management.

ULEZ CHARGES WILL APPLY IF APPLICABLE TO YOUR CAR.

MORNING WALKS - Bernie Cove

Next walk: No walk in August.

SHORTER WALKS - Sue Barratt Clarke

Monthly 3rd Tuesday in the month.

Next walk: 16th September, Meet at Clayton Hill car park, Nazeing, for a 10.30 start. (There could also be some parking at St. Giles car park opposite the local shops). Walking to Dobbs Weir – coffee at the River Palace café. Distance approx. 3 miles.

NEEDLECRAFT - Margaret Cramphorn

Every 1st Tuesday between 2-4pm at members' homes.
Needlework projects and discussion.

PUB LUNCHES (1) - Jean Hart and Annette Thrasher

Monthly on the 2nd Friday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHES (2) - Marjorie Boulter

Monthly on 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHES (3) - Les & Wendy Hickford

Monthly on 1st Wednesday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHES (4) - Roger Barratt & Sue Barratt Clarke

Fourth Tuesday of the month.

Next lunch: Tuesday 26th August at The Cowper Arms, Letty Green, SG14 2NL, meet at 12.30 pm.

QUIZ GROUP - Lin Coe

On the 4th Friday each month 2pm – 4pm Bollescroft Hall.

Next Meeting: Friday 26th September

SALSA FUN & FITNESS - Lynn Phillips and Val Sambridge

Have fun, dance and exercise, all at the same time! If you like the sound of Latino music, enjoy dancing and want to keep fit, why not give us a try? Our instructor, Victoria, keeps things simple as she teaches us the basics of Salsa, Merengue, Chacha-cha and more – delivered in an exercise class format. The steps are easy to learn so all you need to do is follow along, just add your own attitude and style. 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, 10 am – 11.00 am at Wormley Scout Hut. Cost £5 per session (first session free).

SCRABBLE - Margaret Beeston

We meet at 2 pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month. A friendly group that meets in members' homes, with refreshments. Please ring for details of venues and dates;

SHORT MAT BOWLS - Bob Finning

Laura Trott Centre, 10.30am – 12.30pm. Fortnightly on Friday. Cost is £4.40 or £4.10 with a Friends of Spotlight card. Equipment provided. Members are asked to arrive by 10.15 to organise teams. Car parking is free to players but they must give their car registration number to reception on entry.

SINGING FOR FUN – Rita Cusumano and Carole Walker

All abilities welcome. Every Wednesday morning 10.30am to 12.15pm. Mayhem Theatre Arts, Brewery Road, Hoddesdon.

SPANISH (1) - Dulcie Fordham and Jenny Jones

Basic Spanish and general conversation. Every Thursday at 2-4pm. We meet in the local area. This group is not suitable for beginners and is currently not taking new members.

SPANISH (2) - Deborah Kerr and Amanda Davies

The meetings will be held every Thursday from 2pm – 3.30 pm in the parlour of the Methodist Church, Hoddesdon. Initially the cost will be £6 per person.

SUNDAY LUNCHESES - Lorraine Anderson

Held on the 2nd Sunday of each month. All welcome, but each meal is limited to 20 people, 1st come 1st served, so please contact Lorraine by the previous Wednesday.

T'AI CHI - Ann Glover

Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 2.30pm – 3.30pm. Mayhem Theatre Arts Studio, Brewery Road, Hoddesdon. Please ring for details. New members very welcome.

WINE APPRECIATION – Denis O’Shea

Group meets on third Wednesday of the month in U.R.C Meeting Room, Mill Lane, Broxbourne. Starting time 7:30pm. Please contact Denis O’Shea to discuss re: this group.

WOODTURNING – Dave Gostellow

Fortnightly on Tuesdays. Please phone for details

GROUP SHARES WITH OTHER LOCAL u3as

BRIDGE GROUP - Terry Askew (Hertford u3a Group Leader)

Weekly on Tuesdays, 2pm - 4pm at Place House, Ware. £10 for 6 weeks, includes tea and biscuit. **This is not a beginners’ group. Some knowledge of the game is required.**

CROQUET - Ann Neuff (Ware u3a Group Leader)

Our members are welcome to join Ann’s group. Please ring for details.

LOVE TO DANCE – Jacky Williams and Roz Hills (Cheshunt u3a Group)

Dances to include Salsa, Jive, Cha Cha and Charleston etc. Group held weekly on Thursday mornings 10.15am - 11.45am, at Rowlands School Hut, behind the Beaumont Centre, Cheshunt. Cost £6.50 per session including tea and coffee.

MODEL MAKING GROUP - Jack Snary (Cheshunt u3a Group)

Meetings are held at The Crocodile Pub at a cost of £2 per person. Please ring Jack for details. Broxbourne members welcome to join this group.

WALKING NETBALL – Jacqui Fry (Cheshunt u3a Group)

Our members are enthusiastically invited to join this group. Held every Wednesday at The Laura Trott Centre, 2pm – 3 pm. Cost £4 per person. Please wear trainers and bring water.

OTHER LOCAL CLUBS

HODDESDON FLOWER CLUB – Contact Vivienne Edwards

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, in Jackson Hall, Burford Street, Hoddesdon at 2 pm. No need to bring flowers, just sit and watch the professionals. New members welcome, £7 for visitors.

GARDENING (2) - Sandringham Garden Show - Aug 2025



GUITAR GROUP - Aug 2025



GARDENING (2) - Luton Hoo AUG 2025



Any reports or photos you have of events taken by your group would be very welcome. If they can't be put in the current month's newsletter, it will be kept for a subsequent month.

BROXBOURNE u3a COMMITTEE

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| Chair | Barbara Cordina |
| Vice Chair | Jenny Murtagh |
| Treasurer | Mike Sutterby |
| Business Secretay | Judith Hutchings |
| | |
| Beacon Admin | Julie Mountain |
| Committee Member | Lesley Harrison |
| Group Coordinator | Liz Burdett |
| Membership Secretary | Liz Elve |
| Minutes Secretary | Jean Hart |
| Programme Editor | Margaret Beeston |
| Speaker Secretary | Rita Cusamano |
| Web Master | Chris Common |
| Welcoming/RUGS | Lorraine Anderson |

Broxbourne u3a Website <http://broxbourne.u3asite.uk/>
or find us through the u3a website - www.u3a.org.uk

Please send photos or articles for the website to
Chris Common at Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com.

Find us on Facebook

