



## **Broxbourne u3a**

**Registered Charity no. 1090504**

**Part of the International u3a Movement**

**Monthly Meetings, usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
at the Spotlight Theatre, Broxbourne**

**ENTRY FROM 9am, MEETINGS WILL START AT 10.30am  
IN THE AUDITORIUM**

**Please Support Our Raffle in the Foyer!**

**Prizes: Vouchers £30, £20 and £10**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Martin Watts  
The Somme Innocence Lost**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
25th Anniversary Celebration  
Speaker, Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire**



**Greeters Rota**

**Supplied by RUGs Group**

# CHAIR'S CHAT – OCTOBER 2025



Our Fraud & Scams presentation by Barclays Bank was very well received by those members who attended. I personally have joined many similar events and found that this was the best so far. Sue made it easy to relate to the personal challenges she explained. We must all take great care.

Unfortunately, we had **14 no-shows** of members who had booked, out of a total of 50. We did have a reserve list. PLEASE, if you book a place at one of our events, let us know if your circumstances subsequently change. We had obviously paid to hire the Dinant Room and for refreshments for 50 people – your membership fees pay for this so let's be more thoughtful next time.

Our Group Leaders' Meeting follows our Spotlight meeting this month and the committee are looking forward to thanking our GLs on your behalf for all the work they put into offering opportunities to you and to hear how we can further support them.

At our November Spotlight meeting we shall be celebrating 25 years since Broxbourne u3a was first established – an excellent achievement and long may it continue. Support has been received from our MP, our Mayor, a local Councillor and our Third Age Trust trustee who will be joining us – it is important that these officers recognise and support the work that u3as do in our area. Our speaker will be the Lord Lieutenant of Herts. All this followed by lunch for all members and guests – at no charge. Please book your place at our October meeting. There will be no group tables at the November meeting, and there will be a free raffle. We shall be honouring our members who joined in our first year, former chairs, group leaders, etc. so it will be a busy morning.

As November would normally be our "Christmas" meeting, we are arranging a Christmas Singalong on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Herts Studios in Hoddesdon. Our singing and guitar groups will be performing on stage, free tea and coffee, and mince pies. We are taking bookings for this at our October and November meetings, 200 places available, make sure to book your place.

I have been talking to more and more members at our meetings and appreciate your support for the changes we are making.

Barbara Cordina / Chair / Broxbourne u3a - [broxbourneu3achair@outlook.com](mailto:broxbourneu3achair@outlook.com)

## **GROUP LEADERS MEETING**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**12pm to 2pm following Spotlight Meeting  
in the Dinant Room - Lunch provided**



**An opportunity to bring your WISH LIST with you for your group and let the committee know what they can do to help your group and members.**

**We hope to see as many of you as possible – you are very important members of Broxbourne u3a and we want to offer you support.**

**Broxbourne u3a Website**

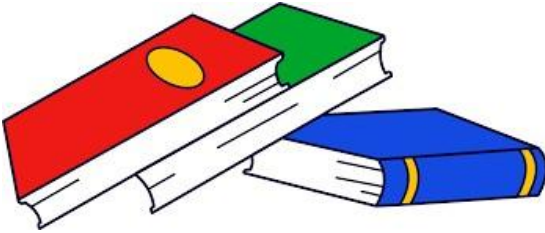
**<http://broxbourne.u3asite.uk/>**

or find us through the u3a website - **[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)**

Please send photos or articles for the website to  
Chris Common at **[Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com](mailto:Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com)**.

Find us on Facebook at “Broxbourne u3a Group”

## 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

---

## 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.

---

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

---

**PLEASE NOTE, THE FIRST ROW IN THE TIER OF SEATS AT THE SPOTLIGHT MEETINGS IS RESERVED FOR MEMBERS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY**

## 25 Years Celebration

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 @ The Spotlight  
INVITED GUESTS, PRESENTATIONS, SPEAKER  
LUNCH PROVIDED



MEMBERS ONLY

SUPPORT THE ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR BLIND  
PEOPLE AT OUR 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



**RNIB**

See differently

We shall have collection boxes at our Spotlight Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November for any foreign currency and old English coins which you may have hidden away in your home and which you can no longer use. These will be sent to the RNIB for their Currency Project.

It will be a privilege for members of Broxbourne u3a to support this charity.



**SING-ALONG WITH US AT CHRISTMAS**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**2pm to 4pm at Herts Studios, Hoddesdon**

**Join our Singing and Guitar Groups**



**Opposite Sainsburys Carpark**

**Free parking 2 hours Sainsburys & Asda, 3 hours  
Morrisons**

**FREE TEA, COFFEE & MINCE PIES  
SHARE THE SEASON'S GOODWILL WITH US**

**MEMBERS ONLY**

**Book your place at our October and November  
Spotlight Meetings**

**LET'S RECYCLE OUR EMPTY TABLET**

**BLISTER PACKS**

Boots at Brookfield are currently collecting empty tablet blister packs and sending them for recycling the metal backing. This seems to be an excellent way of supporting our environment so I have suggested that we set up a collection point at our Spotlight meetings.



We shall therefore have a collection point in the foyer at the Spotlight meetings and arrange for them to be taken to Boots at Brookfield, so please bring yours along.

- The packs must be empty – no tablets
- They must be clean
- Please limit these to your own and close family as we anticipate receiving large numbers

**I AM LOOKING FOR HELPERS PLEASE!!!**

Barbara Cordina – Chair – broxbourneu3achair@outlook.com

## **Gardening Trips Group**

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Kew at Christmas  
£52 per person  
Coach leaves Hoddesdon at 3 pm



**There are several places still available on this trip. Please contact Suzanne Fitch for more information.**

## **FUTURE DAY TRIPS**

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

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 start 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.

---

### **ART GROUP – Jack Snary**

Bollescroft Main Hall, fortnightly 10.30am to 1pm. Price £5 includes tea/coffee.

**Next meetings:** Oct 27<sup>th</sup> – A Potted Plant

Nov 10<sup>th</sup> – All Around a Bonfire

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> – By the River

Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – A Picture of Christmas

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch? Date and venue to be agreed

### **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**

We are a very friendly and social group who meet twice a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays in Bollescroft large room 2-4pm. (Just opposite the Spotlight car park).

Visiting callers take us through the dances before we attempt them with music and continue to call out the movements throughout the dance. Although all dances are different, they include the same dance movements, just in a different order!

No previous experience is necessary and you don't have to worry about a partner. It's a great way to enjoy some gentle exercise whilst indulging in a sociable chat.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss a visit. The cost is £4 a session which includes a cold drink. Your first visit is free, so please come along and give us a try.

**Next meetings:** Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, Nov 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Christmas party on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **CRAFTS - Sue Wilson**

Meetings will be held at my house, usually on the last Thursday of the month 2 – 4 pm. The next meeting will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays at Oasis Room, URC, Mill Lane, Broxbourne.

**Next Dates:** 17<sup>th</sup> October, 7<sup>th</sup> November

### **FAMILY & SOCIAL HISTORY - Tony Eagling & Phil Melville**

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

**Next Meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> November, Mike Barbakoff, talk entitled “The Women of Bletchley Park”

### **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. Please contact the group leader for the date and location of the next meeting.

### **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. Contact for details.

### **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) - Focussing on practical Horticulture and Garden design with RHS qualified group leader Geraldine Stone**

Everyone welcome. Please contact 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 10.30 to 12.00 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:**

30<sup>th</sup> Oct – Lawns – a practical history and Q & As.

26<sup>th</sup> Nov – The wildlife garden in winter and annual tool sharpening

17<sup>th</sup> Dec - Make a natural wreath for Christmas.

### **GARDENING (2) - Suzanne Fitch & Sue Gilford**

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

20<sup>th</sup> October – Peter Day – Songs about gardens or flowers

24<sup>th</sup> November – Brian Carline – An amusing account of school life

**Our list of trips is on page 7 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:** The last trip of the year will be to the Boundary Mill outlet near Grantham, a real shopping experience. The date for this trip will be 9<sup>th</sup> December with a **9 am pick up at Cheshunt and 9.15 pick up at Hoddesdon**. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE. The cost of the trip will be £30, providing we have 30 people interested in going, otherwise the cost will be £35, when at least 26 people will need to be interested. If a sufficient number of people is not reached the trip will have to be cancelled.

### **HISTORY - Mick Coe 01707 875662.**

Monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. Meet 2pm at Hoddesdon Methodist Church, Middlefield Road. If anyone is interested in joining the History Group, please contact Mick Coe

### **ITALIAN - Nunzia Cusumano**

The Italian group meets every Tuesday 2pm-3pm in Hoddesdon. Please contact Nunzia Cusumano for further details. All abilities welcome, depending on numbers. Additional sessions can be accommodated.

### **KNIT AND NATTER - Val Sambridge**

Monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2-4pm at Broxbourne URC. Mill Lane.

### **LONDON WALKS AND EXPERIENCES - Gill King**

Meet every second Saturday of the month,

**Next walk:** 8<sup>th</sup> November to the Covent Garden area. Meet at Broxbourne Station at 9.30 to catch the 9.47 train to Tottenham Hale. From here we take the Victoria Line to Kings Cross, then the Piccadilly Line to Leicester Square where the walk starts. Please let me know if you are meeting us at Tottenham Hale and we will look out for you.

### **MODERATE WALKS - Bernie Cove**

Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**Next walk:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Meet for a 10 am start in Van Hage's Garden Centre, Great Amwell, SG12 9RP. Please park to the rear of the carpark, on the righthand side of the fence. Approx 5 mile circular walk, taking in the New River and the Lea, stopping for coffee at the Beefeater Inn in Ware.

### **MORNING WALKS - Bernie Cove**

Monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the month.

**Next walk:** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Meet at 10 am in the Rye House car park, opposite the Showmans Caravan site, just after the Rye House Pub – postcode EN11 0EH. Sue's Mystery

Walk!! 4.5 miles. Rivers and Country Alleys. Bring your own coffee etc. No toilets.

**SHORTER WALKS. Next walk:** Regrettably Sue has decided to suspend the Shorter Walks at least until the New Year due to ongoing injury. If anyone would like to fill in for the October and/or November and/or December Short Walks – 2 to 3 miles - please contact Bernie Cove.

**NEEDLECRAFT - Margaret Cramphorn**

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

**PUB LUNCHESES (1) - Jean Hart & Annette Thrasher**

Monthly on the 2nd Friday at 12 noon.

**PUB LUNCHESES (2) - Marjorie Boulter**

Monthly on 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon

**PUB LUNCHESES (3) - Les & Wendy Hickford**

Monthly on 1st Wednesday at 12 noon.

**PUB LUNCHESES (4) - Roger Barratt & Sue Barratt Clarke**

Fourth Tuesday of the month.

**Next lunch:** The Bull at Broxbourne on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

**QUIZ GROUP - Lin Coe**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month 2pm – 4pm Bollescrot Hall.

**Next Meeting:** 24<sup>th</sup> October

### **SALSA FUN & FITNESS - Lynn Phillips & 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 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, 10.30 – 12.30. 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 & Carole Walker**

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

### **SPANISH - Dulcie Fordham & 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 & Amanda Davies**

The meetings will be held every Thursday from 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm in the parlour of the Methodist Church, Hoddesdon. Initially the cost will be £6 per person.

### **SUNDAY LUNCHES - Lorraine Anderson**

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

### **T'AI CHI - Ann Glover**

Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 2.30 – 3.30. 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**

#### **BRIDGE GROUP - Terry Askew (Hertford Group Leader)**

Weekly on Tuesdays 2-4pm 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 Group Leader**

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

### **LOVE TO DANCE – Jacky Williams & Roz Hills - Cheshunt Group**

Dances to include Salsa, Jive, Cha Cha and Charleston etc. Group held weekly on Thursday mornings 10-15 – 11.45 am, at Rowlands School Hut, behind the Beaumont Centre, Cheshunt. Cost £6.50 per session including tea and coffee.

### **MODEL MAKING GROUP - Jack Snary - Cheshunt 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 Group**

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

## **OTHER LOCAL CLUBS**

### **HODDESDON FLOWER CLUB**

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

---

## **YOUR COMMITTEE**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Barbara Cordina</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Jenny Murtagh</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Judith Hutchings</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Mike Sutterby</b>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Liz Elve</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Margaret Beeston</b>
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	<b>Jean Hart</b>
<b>Group Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Liz Burdett</b>
<b>Web Master</b>	<b>Chris Common</b>
<b>Welcoming/RUGS</b>	<b>Lorraine Anderson</b>
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Lesley Harrison</b>
<b>Speaker Secretary</b>	<b>Rita Cusumano</b>

### **Broxbourne u3a Website**

**<http://broxbourne.u3asite.uk/>**

or find us through the u3a website - **[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)**

Please send photos or articles for the website to

Chris Common at **[Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com](mailto:Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com)**.

Find us on Facebook at "Broxbourne u3a Group"

**Information for all future newsletters should be given by the 1st of the month please, to Margaret Beeston.**

**Please note** - a £2 Temporary Membership Fee is charged to visitors attending the monthly meeting and a dated receipt will be given. This confers all the advantages of Broxbourne u3a membership, including Insurance for that month only, during which time a group activity can be joined if there is room, on production of the receipt and payment of the usual group attendance fee.

***Member information held by Broxbourne u3a will not be disclosed to any third party unless a member subscribes to the Third Age Trust magazine 'Third Age Matters', when address information will be passed to the distributor.***