



Broxbourne u3a

Registered Charity no. 1090504

**Part of the International u3a Movement
Monthly Meetings, usually 3rd Thursdays,
at the Spotlight Theatre, Broxbourne
(ENTRY FROM 9 am, MEETINGS WILL START AT 10.30 am
IN THE AUDITORIUM)**

**Please Support Our Raffle in the Foyer!
Prizes: Vouchers £30, £20 and £10.**

**Programme – Thursday 15th January
2026 –**

**Tony Tutton – “That’ll be the Day” –
The Life, Music and Influence of
Buddy Holly.**

**Thursday 19th February 2026
Duncan Bickley – Blood Ashes – Urgent
Helicopter Missions**

Greeters Rota

Supplied by RUGs Group



ALL CHANGE IN THE SPOTLIGHT AUDITORIUM FOR 2026 !!!

Since I became your chair in May 2025, you have told me how uncomfortable you were with the area in the auditorium where the group tables were set up, ie behind the terrace, an area which is small and has very poor lighting. At our Group Leaders Meeting in October, we took a vote and it was agreed that the committee would try their best to change this arrangement.

Change has indeed happened and the group tables will now be located at the front of the auditorium. Staff at the Spotlight have been very helpful in setting this up and if everyone is happy it will continue in this way. If you have any comments, please let us know, good or bad!

We stand at the start of a new year, and I am excited about the possibilities for Broxbourne u3a which lie ahead of us. We move ahead with confidence and the commitment to continue the support offered to all local residents no longer in full time work.

We are hoping to set up new groups so if you have any ideas, please let us know, you do not necessarily have to run a group yourself, the idea may be enough to interest others. Suggestions for speakers are also welcome; we need to know where your interests lie.

You have joined a volunteer organisation, and we all have skills to offer. Our AGM this year will be held on the 21st May 2026. Some of the committee will have served their full term of office and we shall be looking for replacements, please give this some thought.

We are now able to email the newsletter to everyone with an email address. This has been very popular with our members and hopefully will lead to higher attendances at our meetings.

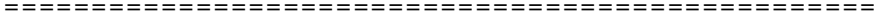
I look forward to meeting more of you at our meetings.

Barbara Cordina / Chair / Broxbourne u3a

broxbourneu3achair@outlook.com



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 IS TO BE RESERVED FOR MEMBERS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

SAFEGUARDING POLICY



Broxbourne u3a have a duty of care to our members and in order to ensure we are compliant with this the committee have adopted the Third Age Trust Safeguarding Policy. You will find it on our website, www.broxbourne.u3asite . We have one volunteer for the role of safeguarding officer and are looking for another.

Training will be provided. It will not be a committee role, however, reporting to the committee on a monthly basis will be required.

If you are interested in this caring role, please ask any committee member for further information.

Barbara Cordina – Chair – Broxbourne u3a
November 2025

Contacting Committee members and Group Leaders

To confirm with the General Data Protection Regulations regarding the safe keeping and secure management of personal data, the names and addresses of all u3a Officers and Group Co-ordinators have been removed from the newsletter. They are now “hidden” from display when requesting committee details or group information.

Should you need to contact committee members the please use the “contact us” link from the main website, if you need to contact the Group Leaders then please use the mailing service found by going to the Group pages at <https://broxbourne.u3asite.uk/groups/> on the main website then selecting the group required and the Group Co-ordinator link and complete the form displayed. This will send an e-mail message to the group co-ordinator and a response will be initiated.

Gardening 2 Trips 2026

Tuesday 24th March – RHS Wisley – RHS members free , Non-members £36.60



Located south west of London, a short distant from Guildford, RHS Gardens Wisley is the ideal place to see world class horticulture and is fantastic day out for Groups throughout the seasons.

FUTURE DAY TRIPS

Thurs. 23rd April – Pashley Manor Gardens £35 each

Wed. 13th May – Leeds Castle £42 each

Thurs. 4th June – Coton Manor and Canons Abbey

Thurs. 17th June – East Ruston Old Vicarage plant fair £37.00 each

Tues. 14th July – Thompson & Morgan Garden at Jimmy's Farm £42.00

Tues. 28th July – NT Ascott House & Gardens NT members £20. Non-members £40.

£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 019926 638046, jjsnary@aol.com

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

Next meetings:

January 5th – A Winter Scene

January 19th – An Animal in the Wild

February 2nd – A Market Square

February 16th – A Walk in the Woods

CHAIR MOBILITY AND STRETCH CLASS. Janet Harman

01992442316/07757089465

janet.harman20@gmail.com. Weekly on Friday afternoons, 2-3 pm in the main hall United Reformed Church, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, EN10 7BQ.

COUNTRY DANCING. Val Foster 01992 628619 and June Brown

01992 301987 valfoster162@gmail.com

We are a very friendly and social group who meet twice a month on the 1st & 3rd 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: 15th January, 5th and 19th February, 5th and 19th March.

CRAFTS. Sue Wilson, s_wilson_60@hotmail.com, 01992 440924.

Meetings will be held at my house, usually on the last Thursday of the month 2 – 4 pm. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 29th January. If anyone wants to join us please ring me on the above number.

CREATIVE WRITING & POETRY. Janet Hack 01992 426255

jan.hack2023@outlook.com. We meet at 10.30am on the first Thursday of the month at The Methodist Church, Hoddesdon

DISCUSSION. Ann Sims 01992 465629, e-mail address –

annsims@icloud.com & Glenys Brown 07951 127512.

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: 16th January, 6th February

EMBROIDERY. Margaret Cramphorn, 01992 441327

mcramphorn@hotmail.co.uk. Every 1st Tuesday between 2-4pm at members' homes. Needlework projects and discussion.

FAMILY AND SOCIAL HISTORY. Tony Eagling 01992 677627

steagling@gmail.com. and Phil Melville 01992 469922.

philmel55w@aol.com. Monthly 1st Thurs. 10am - 12noon. 1st Wormley Scout Hut, Cozens Lane West, Broxbourne.

Next Meeting: No meeting in January 2026.

FOLK AND COUNTRY MUSIC GROUP. Andy Bradford 07802

481182, acbradford@btinternet.com Meet on the third Wednesday of the month, at members' homes. We listen to English and Celtic music, Americana, and other cultures. Please ring the group leader for the date and location of the next meeting.

FRENCH. Monica Davies 01992 410418. bm.davies@ntlworld.com. We meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at 2.30pm. This everyday French programme includes simple conversation and culture. Ring for details.

FRENCH BOULES (1). Alan Cudd 07789 961431. alan.cudd@gmail.com.

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 01920 463285.

stevenendick@gmail.com. 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 01992

442609/07455 978457. stonegee3@outlook.com. Everyone 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 10.30 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:

28th Jan 2026 – Garden Museum visit. Meet Broxbourne Station 10.00

25th Feb 2025 – Bennington Lordship snowdrops, car share from Broxbourne 10.30.

25th March 2026 – Ashridge Gardens visit. Car share from Broxbourne 10.00

22nd Apr 2026 - RHS Wisley visit. New tulip planting. Meet Broxbourne Station 10.00

GARDENING (2). Suzanne Fitch 01992

suzannefitch@btinternet.com. Sue Gilford 01992 509172 or 07896 220021. (suegilford@hotmail.com)

Monthly on Monday after the Main Meeting 10am at Hoddesdon Methodist Church. We will be collecting the £30 Garden Meeting membership at our January meeting.

Next meetings: 19th Jan 2026 – Quiz

23rd Feb - David Willett – Royal Parks of London

23rd Mar - Peter Warne – Tenerife, its wildlife and scenery

20th April - David Willett – Famous Gardeners & their Gardens

18th May - Tricia Thompson – Drink related plants

22nd June - Jacqueline Aviolet – At the Nursery

Summer Break – No Meetings – Day trips only.

21st Sept. – Frances Watkins – Medicinal plants linked to Shakespeare

19th Oct. - Tricia Thompson – Garden Design through the Ages.

23rd Nov. - Katy – Buzzed Off – all about Bees and Hornets.

Our list of trips is on page 5 of this newsletter.

GOOD READ. Maureen Lincoln 01992 444064

hmlincoln@hotmail.com. 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 01992 631635.

oshea.denism@gmail.com

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 01992 461033

Next trip: TBA

HISTORY. Mick Coe 01707 875662.

Monthly 3rd 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, nancycusumano1@gmail.com. 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 01992 460027

val.sambridge@googlemail.com. Monthly on 2nd Thursday 2-4pm at Broxbourne URC. Mill Lane.

LONDON WALKS AND EXPERIENCES. Gill King 01992

461784/07980 785792 gill.hking@virgin.net Meet every second Saturday of the month,

Next walk February 14th, around Mayfair. Meet at Broxbourne station at 9.30 am.

MODERATE WALKS. Bernie Cove 01992 631651 or 07709 200787.

Monthly, 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Next Walk – Meet at 10 am on Tuesday January 13th 2026 in the car park by the Library in Ware. (Car parking charges apply) for our annual NEW YEAR walk to Hertford and back. Approx 5 miles. Coffee at Weatherspoons in Hertford.

FEBRUARY 2026: Tuesday 10th February, Meet at 10 am at Little Hadham Village Hall, SG11 2BP. Directions – From A10 take the A120 towards Bishops Stortford to Little Hadham traffic lights (ignore the new By-pass). Turn right for half a mile. Village Hall carpark is on the left. A 4.5 circular walk. Coffee at Ash Valley Golf Club.

MORNING WALKS. Bernie Cove 01992 631651 or 07709 200787

Monthly 4th Tuesday in the month. Leaders Hilary and Peter 07852 627742 or 07915 522932st

Next Walk: Tuesday 27th January. Walk from Lea Valley Animal Adventure Park (formerly Hayes Hill Farm) EN9 2EF. From B194 turn into Stubbins Hall Lane. Turn right at the fork signposted Lea Valley Farms. This leads to the car park which is free. Walk is muddy in places and there are some uphill aspects – gradual not steep. It is approximately 4 miles. No toilets and bring your own drinks.

SHORTER WALKS. Bernie Cove 01992 631651 or 07709 200787

Monthly 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Next walk: Tuesday 20th January. Leaders Gary and Breda. Meet for a 10.30 start at Cole Green Railway Station – disused. Next to the Cowper Arms pub. 6 Station Road, Letty Green, Hertford SG14 2NS. Walk of 3

miles is flat but probably muddy!! There will be a short walk at some point so bring own tea/coffee etc if required. No toilets on route.

FEBRUARY: Bernie Cove 01992 631651 or 07709 200787.

Monthly 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Next Walk: Tuesday 17th February.

TBA – Leader to be required.

PUB LUNCHESES (1) Jean Hart 0199 2679668

hartjmhart2@gmail.com.

Annette Thrasher 01992 467804

Monthly on the 2nd Friday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHESES (2) Marjorie Boulter marjboulton40@gmail.com.

Monthly on 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon

PUB LUNCHESES (3). Les & Wendy Hickford 01992 306330. Monthly on 1st Wednesday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHESES (4). Roger Barratt & Sue Barratt Clarke, 01992 892095 or 07484 172497.

Next lunch: Tuesday January 27th, at The King Harold's Head, Nazeing, meeting at 12.30.

QUIZ GROUP. Lin Coe – Tel: 01707 875662.

lin.coe@btinternet.com On the 4th Friday each month 2pm – 4pm Bollescroft Hall.

Next Meeting: 23rd January 2026

SALSA FUN & FITNESS. Lynn Phillips 01992 440415 – 07941 245568 -lynnphillips18@gmail.com. and Val Sambridge 01992 460027 – val.sambridge@google.com.

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, 07503477108 –

tennisnutt43@gmail.com. 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 07925 309393

bobfinning@live.co.uk. 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, 07825 959486,

rita.cu@hotmail.co.uk and Carole Walker, 07939 286644

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

SPANISH (1). Dulcie Fordham 01920 877581 or 07930 301510

(dulcie.fordham6@gmail.com) and Jenny Jones 01920 823583 or

07748 246756. 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 deborah@cheynesfarm.co.uk, and

Amanda Davies davies.amanda@btinternet.com.

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.

SPRING HOLIDAY. Joan Underwood 07510 270228

15th – 18th May 2026, Coventry/Warwick/Stratford upon Avon.

I shall be available at both the January and February meetings to finalise details of the holiday, e.g: coach pick-up points, seating plan etc.

SUNDAY LUNCHES. Lorraine Anderson 01992 429852

lorraine.anderson52@virginmedia.com 422582 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 07899 965347 johnannglover@hotmail.co.uk
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 01992 631635 (email
oshea.denism@gmail.com)** 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 01992 479228. Fortnightly on
Tuesdays. Please phone for details

GROUP SHARES

**BRIDGE GROUP. Terry Askew 01920 426710 or
askewterry29@gmail.com. (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 01920 823053. (Ware Group Leader.)
Our members are welcome to join Ann's group. Please ring for details.

**LOVE TO DANCE – Jacky Williams 07956 319073 or Roz Hills 07546
216492. (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, 01992 638046, jjsnary@aol.coovm
(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 07745 264787 (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 –Contact Vivienne Edwards 01992 442907.

vivanne@hotmail.co.uk. We meet on the 2nd 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.

FRIENDS OF LOWEWOOD MUSEUM.

We are a support group for the Museum to help with the donations from our funds for the purchase of relevant artifacts for display and conservation. We also put on a series of talks on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from February to May and September to November every year at the United Reform Church Hall, Mill Lane, Broxbourne EN10 7BQ. Tea/coffee served at 7.30 pm. Talks start at 8 pm. Visitors welcome - £5 per person. For further details please contact Diana Weston – diane.weston@ntlworld.com – 07778 380072

RNIB OLD COIN COLLECTION



Our old currency collection for the RNIB is underway. We have received our boxes and I am delighted to say that we have already filled one box. The RNIB advise that on average the value of currency in such a box is £100. The boxes themselves are smaller than shoe boxes but the weight when filled is very heavy so there is a maximum of 7kg for each box due to carriage restrictions.

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS PROJECT BY BRINGING YOUR OLD FOREIGN AND UK CURRENCY WHICH YOU CAN NO LONGER SPEND, TO OUR SPOTLIGHT MEETINGS COLLECTION

RECYCLING TABLET BLISTER PACKS IS A REAL SUCCESS



Thank you all so much for your contributions to our recycling project at our November meeting. The buckets were overflowing, which is wonderful.

A huge thankyou to Susan and Bernie Cove who have offered to collect th packs each month and take them to Brookfield for us. Let's all keep up the good work.



The latest offering from our Creative Writing Group. The cost of the book is £5 and all profits go to Cancer Research.

URGENT APPEAL

We are in desperate need of a volunteer to lead the Annual Holiday Group. Val Foley ran this group for many years, which we truly appreciate, but unfortunately is unable to continue in this role. Without someone stepping up into the role there will be NO Annual Holiday going forward. Val is happy to assist a new leader in learning the ropes, but informs me it is not an onerous position. She says that it is good fun and she has enjoyed all the holidays she has organised. As a minimum it would mean organising one holiday a year, which I understand is done via a Travel company. If anyone feels they could take up this opportunity, please contact me to organise a hand over.

Many thanks,
Liz Burdett. Group Co-ordinator.

HOLIDAY IN NORMANDY.

We have been offered a fantastic opportunity to join Cheshunt u3a on their upcoming visit to Normandy.

Holiday departing 2nd September 2026, 5 days 4 nights on a bed & breakfast basis. £539 pp with no single supplement , staying at the Grand Hotel d'Esperance, Lisieux, Normandy. The purpose is to visit the British Normandy Memorial, officially opened in June 2021, plus the surrounding area.

Anyone interested in booking or needing further information, please contact Mary Hanney on 01992 426341 or email maryhanney@gmail.com

Many thanks,
Liz Burdett, Group Co-ordinator

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 at "Broxbourne u3a Group"

Speaker Bookings: Rita Cusumano 07825 959486

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Barbara Cordina	07522 385103
Vice Chair	Jenny Murtagh	01992 302691
Secretary	Judith Hutchings	07496 702998
Treasurer	Mike Sutterby	07900 964273
Membership Secretary	Liz Elve	01992 423945
Newsletter	Margaret Beeston	01992 420011
Minutes Secretary	Jean Hart	01992 679668
Group Co-ordinator	Liz Burdett	01992 414241
Beacon Admin		
Web Master	Chris Common	01992 469952
Welcoming/RUGS	Lorraine Anderson	01992 429852
Committee	Lesley Harrison	01992 465900
Speaker Secretary	Rita Cusumano	07825 959486

Information for all future programmes should be given by the 1st of the month please, to Margaret Beeston (01992 420011) or by email to tennisnutt43@gmail.com.

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.***

Programme printed by Broxbourne Council