



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 £25, £20 and £15
Plus a prize donated by Tesco, Cheshunt**

**Programme – Thursday July 16th
Andrew Colley and John Neil
The Man who Tested Parachutes**

**AUGUST MEETING REINSTATED
Thursday 20th August, 2026
Alan Fitzgerald – Subterranean London**

Greeters Rota

Supplied by RUGs Group



THE AUGUST MEETING HAS BEEN REINSTATED AS THE SPOTLIGHT WILL BE OPEN – SAME SPEAKER AS BEFORE

Here we are in July and the heat returns, so please take care. All back to normal in August for those not on grandparent duty or on holiday. The air conditioning in the Spotlight beckons.

Your new committee have now settled in and are moving forward. Lots of good ideas and we are working well together. Watch this space. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions.

A reminder to those who have not yet renewed their membership which was due on the 1st April – it is not too late to renew, and you will always be welcome as part of our u3a. Our membership secretary, Liz, will be in the foyer with renewal forms, so just speak to her. Our membership fee remains at £15 for twelve months and there are lots of opportunities available to everyone.

We are still looking for volunteers. If you would like to help in any way please let us know. It is not essential for you to become a committee member, there are many ways to contribute.

Barbara Cordina / Chair / Broxbourne u3a – 07522 385103

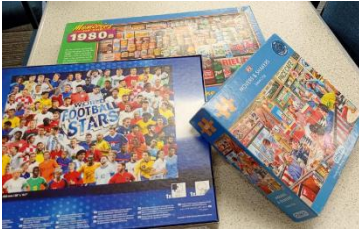


PRE-LOVED BOOKS

If you want to pass on 'read' books for a good cause, visit us at our tables at each monthly meeting.

We have new volunteers for our Book Stall. Welcome ladies, what would we do without you!! Every month these ladies carefully lay out the books for your selection, then pack away those left at the end. No mean task! Also thank you to those members who collect and return the books every month from storage. Funds raised on this stall will be used for our members and you will be advised. All the hard work is greatly appreciated.

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.

Congratulations to Julie for raising £55 to date on the Jigsaw table. She has a huge selection for us all every month and these funds are gratefully received by our members. The money will be used for members at one of our events and you will all be advised.

WELL DONE JULIE, PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2026

June 18 th	Alex Mair	-Crime Scene Search
July 16 th	Andrew Colley & John Neil	-The Man who tested Parachutes
Aug 20 th	Alan Fitzgerald	- Subterranean London
Sept 17 th	Paul Gillions, RNLI	- Saving Lives at Sea
Oct 15 th		-Wartime & Romance
Nov 19 th		

NOTE FOR ALL GROUP LEADERS



Do you want your group to be "Group of the Month" in our newsletter? Do you want to promote your group? Do you want to recruit new members? Just send a photograph of your group "at work", with a short text, and it will be included.

At the end of the year we shall produce a booklet featuring all of our groups, with Groups of the Month taking pride of place. This will be circulated to all members to encourage new members to join your group. Your new committee are fully supportive of our groups and appreciate the importance of offering these opportunities to our members.

Gardening 2 Trips 2026

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



Discover Ascott where historic home meets superb art collections, natural and formal gardens, and views across the Aylesbury Vale.

FUTURE DAY TRIPS GARDEN GROUP 2

Tues. 1st Sept - Leonardslee Gardens, nr Horsham, W Sussex, £32.50 each

Thurs 10th Dec. - Blenheim Palace, Price for Palace and coach is £59, Light trail £26, making total of £85.

£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 preferably via WhatsApp.

ART GROUP – Jack Snary

Bollescroft Main Hall, fortnightly 10.30 - 1.00 pm. Price £5 includes tea/coffee.

Next meetings:

July 27th - A stately pile

THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

COUNTRY DANCING - Val Foster & June Brown

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 via the website 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: 16th July, 3rd and 17th September

NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

CRAFTS - Sue Wilson

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 23rd July. If anyone wants to join us please contact me via the website.

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN AUGUST.

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: 17th July at URC, NO MEETING on 7th August, 21st August meal at The Bull 12.30 pm

EMBROIDERY - Margaret Cramphorn

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

FAMILY AND SOCIAL HISTORY - Tony Eagling & Phil Melville

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

Next Meeting: THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST. The next meeting will be on September 3rd. The speaker is Andy Gibbs, whose presentation is entitled "Bringing the Streets to Life", a talk about Hitchin.

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 via the website for the date and location of the next meeting.

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 via the website 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: TBA

GARDENING (2). Suzanne Fitch (please message me rather than ring) & Sue Gilford

Monthly on Monday after the Main Meeting at Hoddesdon Methodist Church.

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.

A GOOD READ BOOK GROUP - 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 - Cliff Hunt

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 Cliff Hunt via the website to discuss.

HERITAGE - Bob and Maggie Buckley

Next trip: The next Heritage Group trip will be either late September or early October. Further details will follow.

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 via the website.

HOLIDAY - Joan Underwood

December 6th – 8th 2026 visit to Oxford. £395 per person staying at 4* Mercure Hotel, Eastgate, Oxford. Includes visits to Blenheim Palace and the Christmas Market held in the grounds. Plus, one and half days in Oxford visiting museums etc.

See Joan at the Annual Holiday table for more information

KNIT AND NATTER - Val Sambridge

Monthly on 2nd Thursday 2-4pm at Broxbourne URC. Mill Lane. Please note there will be no meeting at the URC in August. Please contact Val Sambridge via the website for an alternative location.

LONDON WALKS & EXPERIENCES - Gill King

Meet every second Saturday of the month.

Next walk: August 8th will be Kew to Hammersmith. Meet at Broxbourne Station 9.30 am to catch the 9.44 train to Tottenham Hale. From there take the Victoria line to Victoria and then the District Line to Kew. This is a 4.5-mile walk, but very scenic along the Thames.

MODERATE WALKS - Bernie Cove

Monthly, 2nd Tuesday of the month.

NO WALK IN AUGUST

Next Walk: Tuesday 8th September. Meet for a 10 am start at Hertford Rugby Club. From the A10 North take the Hertford turn. First exit off the roundabout at top of ramp on to the A414, then first left into Hoe Lane. Entrance 200 yards on the left. SG12 9NZ. Approx 4.5 mile walk taking in McDonalds, Foxholes, Hertford Heath, coffee at the Leafy Oaks Café.

MORNING WALKS - Bernie Cove

Monthly 4th Tuesday of the month. Leaders Mel and Angela

Next Walk: Tuesday 28th July. Meet at 10 am in Bayford. Park in Ashdene Road, opposite the Bakers Arms PH. Circular walk of approx 5 miles including Epping Green and Little Berkhamstead. Mostly flat, hopefully not muddy. No toilets and bring your own drinks.

NO WALK IN AUGUST.

SHORTER WALKS - Bernie Cove

Next Walk: Tuesday 21st July. Leaders Jane Burr and Val Sambridge. Meet 10 am for 10.30 start at the café at Broxbourne Mill. Park just past the café – machine there not working so free? Approx 2.5 mile walk. Toilets available at start and finish. Coffee/tea at the café after the walk. This is not the same walk as February.

NO WALK IN AUGUST.

September 15th – Leader Una Coker. Meet at 10.00 for a 10.30 start at the car park at Broxbourne Lido, entrance 100 metres past the railway bridge, on the right. Approx 2.5 mile walk. Toilets/tea/coffee availability to be advised.

PUB LUNCHES (1) Jean Hart & Annette Thrasher

Monthly on the 2nd Friday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHES (2) Marjorie Boulton

Monthly on 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon

PUB LUNCHES (3) Les & Wendy Hickford

Monthly on 1st Wednesday at 12 noon.

PUB LUNCHES (4) Sue Barratt Clarke

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 12.30.

Next lunch: Tuesday 28th July at The Star, Standon.

QUIZ GROUP - Lin Coe

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

NO QUIZ IN JULY OR AUGUST.

Next Meeting: Friday 25th September.

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).

WE WILL BE TAKING A SHORT BREAK AND SESSIONS WILL RESUME ON THURSDAY 10th SEPTEMBER.

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 contact Margaret via the website 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 (1) - 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 2nd Sunday of each month. Please contact Lorraine via the website for details.

T'AI CHI - Ann Glover

Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 2.30 – 3.30. Mayhem Theatre Arts Studio, Brewery Road, Hoddesdon. Please contact Ann via the website for details. New members very welcome.

WINE APPRECIATION - Mary Phillips

Group meets on third Wednesday of the month in U.R.C Meeting Room, Mill Lane, Broxbourne. Starting time 7:30pm. Please contact Mary Phillips via the website for more information.

WOODTURNING - Dave Gostellow

Fortnightly on Tuesdays. Please contact Dave via the website 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.

MODEL MAKING GROUP – Jack Snary (Cheshunt Group Leader)

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

WALKING NETBALL – Jacqui Fry (Cheshunt Group Leader)

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, £10 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.

ITALIAN. Nunzia Cusumano, nancycusumano1@gmail.com. The Italian group meets every Tuesday 2pm-3pm in Hoddesdon. Please note, depending on numbers additional sessions can be accommodated.

OUR CHARITY COLLECTIONS

TABLET BLISTER PACKS

Our members are very generous contributors to this project and every month bring along their empty tablet blister packs. Bernie Cove and his wife Susan usually take away 3 bin bags full of these packs and take them to Boots in Brookfield Farm who send them off for recycling, when they remove valuable metal which is part of the packaging. Keep up the good work – we are contributing to NET ZERO at no cost to ourselves.

FOREIGN CURRENCY AND OLD BRITISH COINS

This project raises funds for the RNIB (for the blind) and again has been hugely supported by our members. Just bring along any foreign currency you have left over from holidays, and old British coins which are no longer valid. The RNIB have confirmed that we have raised nearly £600 already and we are soon to send off another box full. Postage is paid by the RNIB so again, this is at no cost to us.

IF YOU SUPPORT A PARTICULAR CHARITY WHO HAVE A SIMILAR PROJECT IN PLACE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND MAYBE OUR MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO HELP.

Barbara Cordina / Chair / 07522 38510

ENJOY CYCLING?



The committee have been asked to bring back our Cycling Group. Anybody interested? We would of course need a leader, but this can be shared and everyone can be involved in choosing routes.

Give it some thought and if you are tempted, just speak to any of our new committee members and we will see what we can do.



ARE THERE ANY MEMBERS OUT THERE WHO ENJOY USING FACEBOOK?

AS YOU KNOW, BROXBOURNE u3a DO HAVE A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT BUT CURRENTLY HAVE NOBODY ADMINISTERING IT. **WE NEED HELP PLEASE** SO THAT WE CAN KEEP OUR NEWS CURRENT.

PLEASE SPEAK TO ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT HOW YOU

CAN HELP.

Barbara Cordina / Chair / 07522 385103

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP



£750 has been sent to Cancer Research from the sale of this book. Thank you very much to all those who have bought a copy.

Janet Hack – Group Leader

MEMBERS' CORNER – JULY 2026



THE MONTH OF JULY

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken."

– James Dent

FESTIVAL 26 IN YORK

The second Festival organised for u3a members in York was a huge success. It took place at York University, and it was a total sell-out with 1,000 members attending between 1st and 3rd July. Accommodation was available at the University and locally.

The programme below illustrates what was available.

The next one will be planned for 2028 – maybe this would be an opportunity for Broxbourne u3a to get a trip together and join other members from across the country to live and learn.



u3a Festival 26
1-3 July 2026 University of York

With special guest

JOHNNY BALL

Music & dance **Sport & wellbeing** **Hands on workshops** **Talks & walks**

Just some of the activities on offer:

WEDNESDAY
* Opening ceremony with Johnny Ball * Staying safe online * Guitar * Dance exercise * Improv * Laughter yoga * Climate Matters * Jewellery making *

THURSDAY
Photography * Futurology * Playing jazz * Steel band * Men who challenge misogyny * Beginners painting * AI * Chair yoga * Pub quiz * Wine appreciation

FRIDAY
Dystopias * Destress your life * Dance choreography * Flower arranging * How to be happier * Forest bathing * Ceilidh * Handbells * Crosswords * Museum visits

plus more surprises to be announced!

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chair	Barbara Cordina	broxbourneu3achair@outlook.com
Vice Chair	Janet Hack	jan.hack2023@outlook.com
Treasurer`	Eddie Cordina	eddiecordina@btinternet.com
Membership Sec	Liz Elve	eliz.elve@outlook.com
John Allison	Group Co-ordinator	
Sandra Yates	Spotlight Liaison	
Tony Knight	Meetings Co-ordinator	tonyknight@broxu3a@mail.com

Non-Committee Helpers

Lorraine Anderson	RUGS & Welcome
Lesley Harrison	Catering
Chris Common	Webmaster

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
Webmaster at **Broxbourneu3awebm@outlook.com**
Find us on Facebook at "Broxbourne u3a Group"

Information for all future programmes should be given by the 1st of the month please, to Margaret Beeston (contact via the website).

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.