

Two speaker meetings for GGOWu3a

Wednesday 12 March

Speaker: **Dr. Roger Neberg**

Meals Mary's

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

Doors open at 10:00 am for socialising

The meeting starts at 10:30 am

£1 per person

Wednesday 26 March

Speaker: **Mike Storr**

Masters of Mirth – the sequel

Liberal Club, 82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA

Doors open 1:30 pm for socialising

Refreshments at 3:00 pm

£1 per person

RENEWALS – please read

REDUCTION IN RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 25/26

Every member should, by now, have received a subscription renewal reminder for the year 2025/26, either via email, or letter.

If you have not received your reminder, please contact me immediately.

Please ensure that you pay the correct amount because refunding overpayments would cause unnecessary work for our treasurer.

Janet Fanko membership@ggowu3a.co.uk
or telephone 0116 462 4679

Chair's Chat

Hello everyone

First to record my thanks to the many members who either attended the Special General Meeting on 29 January or who sent in their votes by proxy. As a result, the new constitution, making the amalgamation a formal reality, has now been adopted. Your Committee, empowered by this decision, has, as you will know by now, made a modest reduction in the annual subscription rate in the light of our current healthy finances. We look forward to a good rate of renewals to reinforce the continuing influx of new members. Those who have joined recently may care to note that the next meeting for new members is planned for the morning of 23 April at the Wigston Liberal Club. Reminders will be sent nearer the date.

Plans for the social meetings to replace the monthly Great Glen speaker meetings are taking shape. To be known as 'Serendipity', these will build on previous experience with the 'Tea, Talk and Trivia' sessions of recent years. I understand that along with social activities, cake is likely to be a feature for those that enjoy it. I hope this will attract a lively attendance; those attending will be encouraged to contribute to the evolution of the format. We are also continuing 'Chat at Chestnuts' coffee shop on the Parade, Oadby on third Thursday mornings from 10.00 a.m. and an afternoon session is to be trialled in response to popular demand. See the website www.ggowu3a.co.uk and the newsletter for details.

Best wishes

Robert Mansfield

chairman@GGOWu3a.co.uk

0116 270 8284

Tea Rota for Monthly Speaker Meetings

Liberal Club Wigston LE18 1PA

Two volunteers are needed on the last Wednesday in the month to serve tea/coffee and to wash up afterwards. Please sign up on the Tea Rota.

Contact: Fay: **0116 281 1812**

Catering for the March Speaker Meeting at the Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

Group Leaders: Please arrange with your group to provide three members for the meeting shown below.

The kitchen should be staffed from 9:45 to 10:30 am. It is not necessary to bring milk, but please bring tea towels.

Many thanks,

Elizabeth Cooke groupcoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk

12 March 2025 Linedancing

Note: Good Friday is 18 April; Easter Monday is 21 April

Clocks change Sun, 30 March 2025

Check with Group Leaders for April; Easter may disrupt the usual schedule.

Learn Something New – see page 7!

GROUP ACTIVITIES (in alphabetical order)

ART GROUPS x 2

First and third Thursdays in the month at 2:00 pm

Art

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF, Ruth Warner Room

The subject for March has yet to be decided. Members will be advised.

Rachael Snashall

art@ggowu3a.co.uk

Art Appreciation

Third Monday in the month, 10:00 am - 12 noon

Glen Gorse Golf Club, Glen Road, Oadby, LE2 4RF with easy parking.

Note the change of venue above, on 17 March and 19 May 2025:

Thank you to the members of our AA group who are also members of the Golf Club who arranged this venue for us. **We are not able to accept new members** while we are at the Golf Club but do contact me for vacancies available when we change venue. £2 beverage charge (Fox Pond Inn will close in late March)

There is no meeting in April as the date coincides with Easter Monday

There is an Ausden Clarke coach trip on **26 March**, open to the public, approx £32, to **Trentham Gardens - a large area of creative and artistic plantings and design elements.**

If this appeals, please make your own reservations, including a preferred pick-up location, at <https://clicktrips.co.uk/trip/trentham25/> or call Ausden Clarke at **0116 262 9492**

June Juett

AA@ggowu3a.co.uk

(07484 602348)

BOOK GROUPS x 2**Book Group - Thursday**

Fourth Thursday in the month at 10:00 am

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

27 March 2025 our book is *Shrines of Gaiety*, by the highly acclaimed writer, Kate Atkinson24 April 2025 our book is *Milkman* by Anna Burns – winner of the Man Booker Prize etc.

Elizabeth Cooke

books2@ggowu3a.co.uk**Book Group - Monday**

Third Monday in the month at 2:00 pm – approx. 3.30 pm

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Our book for 17 March is *Jamaica Inn* by Daphne du Maurier – a classic gothic novel**We shall not be meeting in April as the date coincides with Easter Monday.**Our book for May is **Individual personal choice**, unless a (new?) member has a title to suggest!See our booklist at www.ggow.u3asite.uk Contact:

June Juett

books@ggowu3a.co.uk**CARD GAMES x 2**

Wednesdays at 1:45 pm

Duplicate Bridge (Social)

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

If you enjoy bridge, join us! If you do not know the duplicate system, we will teach you.

We are a friendly group playing Duplicate Bridge on

Wednesdays at 1:45 pm for 2:00 pm prompt start, finishing at approximately 4:45 pm.

We welcome new members.

Andy Tyler duplicatebridge@ggowu3a.co.uk**Minibridge**

Every Tuesday morning, 9:45 am for 10:00 am start

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Anyone wishing to join our friendly group will be welcome, previous experience is not necessary.

If you would like to try Minibridge please contact me in advance, so that I can give you more details. We are sure you will enjoy playing!

Terry Evans

mbridge@ggowu3a.co.uk**Carpet Bowls**

Every Thursday, 1:30 – 3:30 pm Village Hall, Great Glen, LE8 9GG

Limited free parking at the Village Hall. Refreshments provided. We are not accepting any new members now, but if you have an interest in this activity, we are starting a Waiting List.

Peter Stanley

0116 259 2152

£3.00 per session

Croquet x 2

Every Thursday 10:00 – 11:30 am.

Croquet (Thursday)

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

This is a small group activity with an occasional vacancy. Call for further information.

Joan Bateson

0116 259 3191

Croquet (Tuesday)

Tuesday Croquet group 1:30 – 3 pm

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

We can now welcome new members - and we are happy to teach new players. Contact:

Geraldine Siddons

0116 241 3947

Dancing x 2

Tuesdays, 2:00-4:00 pm at Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW

English Country Dancing (ECD)

ECD is social dancing, conducted mostly at walking pace in circle, square or long-set formations. Dancers weave patterns as they interact. No previous experience is needed. The dances are explained and walked through before setting them to music. Singles welcome. Wear light-weight flat shoes or sandals and loose clothing. Be prepared to join in and laugh!

Peter Meacock ecd@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 279 3600

Line Dancing

Thursdays, 10:30 am – 12.30 pm Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW

We have music to suit everyone! Our dances are new, old, easy - and some a little harder. We all need a challenge, especially one that is enjoyable! If you are returning to linedance after a break or hoping to learn, you will be welcome in our mixed ability group.

Jackie Jordan and Maggie Ward linedancing@ggowu3a.co.uk

EATING OUT x 4

We usually meet the penultimate Wednesday, every month,

Lunch Clubat 12:30 pm at *Two Steeples*, Bell Street, Wigston

Our next lunch meeting is on 19 March: Search online for the menu – we mostly order from the lunch menu – and come join us! We are about 20 members **who pre-order with Lilian or Kath at General meetings or at:** Kath Bailey lunchclub@ggowu3a.co.uk

Meet & EatThird Tuesday in the month, at the *Italian Greyhound*, Great Glen, LE8 9GF

We usually meet at *The Italian Greyhound* in Great Glen. Lunch is pre-ordered from a menu with a choice of two courses at £15 or three courses at £19 (plus discretionary tip) both including coffee. If you wish to join us, contact:

Trevor Johnson meetandeat@ggowu3a.co.uk - pre order no later than the Friday before

Pub LunchesAfter the u3a monthly speaker meeting in Great Glen,
the 2nd Wednesday in the month. Venues vary

We shall meet after the Great Glen speaker meeting, as usual, to enjoy a lunch together.

Margaret Hudson

0116 271 5064

Sunday LunchesSecond Sunday in the month 1:00 pm *Glen Gorse Golf Club*, LE2 4RF

The next lunch is **Sunday, 9 March**. Please let me know whether you will, **or will not, be coming, by telephone 0116 279 1509, no later than the Friday preceding the lunch**. This is a popular group, and we need to confirm numbers attending. Looking forward to seeing you.

Judith Measom

0116 279 1509 – no later than the Friday before

Film Group

Second Monday in the month, 2:00 pm. Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

Monday, 10 March at 2pm £2.50Please see the website for information on the current film: www.ggowu3a.co.uk.

If you have not attended before, please contact me first.

Peter Russell films@ggowu3a.co.uk 07759 831604

GAMES x 2
Games

**Second Wednesday in the month, at 2:00 pm at The Menphys Hub
Bassett Street, South Wigston, Leicester, LE18 4PE**

Our next meeting is on 12 March. We meet in the free library area at **The Hub** which has table games available. Members bring their own favourites too. Hot drinks are available. This is a popular group, so please contact: *Kath Bailey* games@ggowu3a.co.uk for information.



Tabletop games **Second and Fourth Thursdays, 2:00 pm**
Great Glen Methodist Church

Our next meetings are 13 and 27 March.

Canasta remains a favourite, but we have a variety of board games – number and word ones. Contact me with questions or for a taster session. *Helen Edwards* tgames@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 212 7547

GARDEN GROUPS X 2
Garden Visits

Second Friday in the month, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, various venues

There will not be a regular meeting in March,

but on Wednesday, 26 March, Ausden Clarke is offering a coach trip to **Trentham Gardens** with areas of award-winning plantings, lake, shops, cafes etc. Multiple pick-up points in Oadby, Wigston, etc. Approx. **£32 including admission.** This trip is open to the public, make your own reservations, at <https://clicktrips.co.uk/trip/trentham25/> where full details are available.

Ausden Clarke at **0116 262 9492** *June Juett* gardenvisits@ggowu3a.co.uk (07484 602348)

Garden

Second Monday in the month, at 10:00 am

Our next meeting will be on **10 March 2025 at Wistow Garden Centre**

Lillian Greengrass

0116 221 9737

HISTORY x 3
Family History

Fourth Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Our next meeting is 26 March 2025 New members are welcome.

Dennis Cook

familyhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk

07711 386958

History Group

First Monday in the month 2:00 pm

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Please contact me if you have not attended before.

Peter Russell

history@ggowu3a.co.uk 07759 831604

Military History

First Wednesday in the month, 10.00 am for 10.30 am.
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

Members will be informed of the subject matter. *Alan Mawby* militaryhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk

Knit and Natter

First Thursday in the month at 2:00 pm at the
Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston LE18 4PE

In the friendly (free) library area at the Hub, we have access to the café. There is room for around a dozen busy bees. Contact: *Kath Bailey* KnitandNatter@ggowu3a.co.uk 07974 523079

KURLING - New Age Kurling

First and Third Wednesdays at the Liberal Club,
82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA 1:30 pm until 3:00 pm

New Age Kurling. Players roll 'stones' close to a target on a hard floor indoors. The nearest stone wins = 1 point. Stones can be pushed by a 1.2m pole for those who cannot stoop, but who can move arms and shoulders. The distance between pusher and target is typically 5 to 10m. Pairs play in two teams, with 2 stones each. (4 Red stones & 4 Blue stones), over 6 or 8 ends. Highest score wins. **If you have an interest in this activity, please contact:**

Peter Williams

Kurling@ggowu3a.co.uk

LANGUAGES x 2**Private venue**

Latin A small, friendly group meets in a member's home to read and/or translate from textbooks

French There is conversation and reading in this friendly group meeting in a member's home. For details, please contact: *Jennifer Bell* 0116 288 0234

Learn Something New – Slow Stitching - Try the Japanese Art of Sashiko

Slow stitching is the art of making needlework items by hand, enjoying the calming effect of stitching and the satisfaction of making something unique to you. We have two projects, using different techniques for you to try.



When: **Friday 2 May, 10.00am**

Where: Methodist Church Hall, Great Glen

Sashiko comes from the country stitching style of northern Japan. Originally designed for recycling to strengthen work clothes or make household items, Sashiko combines country style with intricate designs – all made with a simple running stitch. This project to make a coaster is suitable for beginners and experienced stitchers. If you can thread a needle, you can do this!

Cathedral window pin cushion Monday 19 May, 2.00pm Methodist Church Hall, Great Glen



This is a small, hand-stitched pincushion made from a heritage pattern published in the WI Life magazine using the classic English Cathedral Window design. The class, all materials to make the pincushion, tea/coffee and cake are all included for £10.

Tools that would be useful are a thimble, needle and needle threader and a small pair of scissors. If you have a small iron (quilting or travel iron), that will help reduce the wait for an iron. There are limited places available for both sessions so please book early to avoid disappointment.

To book your place, email me, Sue Russell at

LSN@ggowu3a.co.uk.

Please state in which session you are interested.

MUSIC x 2**Music and good company**

First & Third Fridays 10:00am – 12:30 pm

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall

On **7 and 21 March**, we shall be listening to a variety of genres. Bring a CD to share or come to listen. Do you have a family member who might benefit from music, tea and biscuits, bringing back a few memories? The group welcomes all who share a love of music.

Contact: *John Gough* music@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 259 2430

Ukuleles

Second and Fourth Mondays 10:00 am-12 noon

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

We are meeting on 10 and 24 March. We are a friendly group who love to play music together on ukeles. We have spare instruments if you want to give us a try. We are still open for one or two more. Contact: *Julie Franks* ukes@ggowu3a.co.uk

Photography

Third Wednesday in the month, 2:30 pm

Fox Pond Inn, LE2 4RG or as otherwise arranged.

We are a friendly group; new members are welcome. **Both cameras and phones are used.** If this appeals, why not sit in on a meeting and you can then choose to join the group if you wish. If you are attending for the first time, please contact me first to confirm the meeting arrangements.

Peter Russell photography@ggowu3a.co.uk 07759 831604

Pickleball We are planning to start a regular u3a pickleball group from Wednesday 12th March. We are now running the second taster session. For information or to be put on a waiting list please contact:
Ash Vaja ashvaja@gmail.com



Psychology First Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am-12 noon,
The March meeting is at the Fox Pond Inn
In April, the venue will change to the Glen Gorse Golf Club, Glen Road, Oadby, LE2 4RF
We research and discuss topics such as Memory, Addiction and Criminal Psychology. We have a waiting list, please contact: *Chris Hunter* Psychology@ggowu3a.co.uk

QUIZ GROUPS X 2 Fourth Monday in the month – a Zoom meeting
Quiz (Zoom) The Question persons for the **24 March Zoom meeting** are Gill and Mick Burton. The person asking the questions on **28 April** is Di Richardson.
Anyone wishing to join us can contact Peter Russell who will give you the details.
Peter Russell/Rachael Snashall zoomquiz@ggowu3a.co.uk

Quizzers First Monday in the month, 10:30 am
(except Bank Holidays when it will be the second Monday in the month)
Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston (free car park at rear)
Our next meeting is Monday, 3 March. This friendly group has room for one or two more Quizzers, if you are interested, please contact:
Ron and Margaret Gee quizzingforfun@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 288 0536

NEW!

* Serendipity *

Starting in April 2025, our Great Glen monthly meeting, at the Methodist Church Hall in Great Glen will become
Serendipity

A time of socialising, refreshments and fun
The first meeting is at 10.00 am – 12 noon, 9th April 2025
Do plan on joining us!

TABLE TENNIS X 2 Mondays, 11:00 12:30 pm
Table Tennis - Monday Roger Bettles University Sports Centre,
Manor Road, LE2 2LL

We meet as usual on Mondays in March. We are a mixed ability group able to welcome a few new members. Contact: *Janet Freestone* tabletennis@ggowu3a.co.uk

Table Tennis - Friday Fridays 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Roger Bettles University Sports Centre, Manor Road, LE2 2LL

Friday Table Tennis group has reached capacity; we can accept the name of anyone interested in waiting for a vacancy. Contact: *Jay Bhikha* tabletennisfriday@ggowu3a.co.uk.

WALKING GROUPS x 3 Third Thursday in the month 10:30 am
Easy Strolling Various venues, some with parking charges
The next stroll is 20 March 2025

If you are interested in joining this friendly group please contact us:

Ron and Margaret Gee easystrolling@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 2880536

Village Strollers**Local History/Heritage venues**

We re-start in March with a stroll around Evington.

The 2025 programme of monthly strolls will be on the web site. Details and invitations will be sent out at the end of the month. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please contact:

Roger Edwards

villagestrollers@ggowu3a.co.uk

Walking without Stiles

Second Thursday in the month, various venues

All walks are now the second Thursday morning of the month

The next walk will be 13 March, near Langton Caudal.

The April walk will be Thursday 10 April.

Contact me if you would like to be on our e-mailing list. At the beginning of the week of the walk, specific details of the walk are emailed to those who have let me know they are coming.

We need to know whom to expect. I can then update you if we need to cancel the walk.

Elizabeth Cooke

walking@ggowu3a.co.uk

07957 288060

Writing for Pleasure

Fourth Tuesday 2:15 pm Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

The group meets next on Tuesday, 25 March

At our meetings we share what we have written, enjoy chatting about related matters and plan next steps. We are a lively group with different interests, styles, and preferences. New members are welcome; please let me know if you would like to experience a taster session.

Robert Mansfield

writing@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 270 8284

NEW**CHAT AT THE CHESTNUTS CAFÉ**

(GGOW u3a MEMBERS)

Our **Chats at the Chestnuts** have been a great success, so we can now give you a choice. At the request of members who are unable to make the morning chats, our next **Chat at the Chestnuts** will be on

Thursday 6 March at 2.30pm

Our morning chats remain popular, so we shall meet again on

Thursday 20 March, at 10:00 am

Our aim is to meet the needs of as many members as possible. You will be welcome to join us on either, or both the above dates; please let me know so that I am able to give the café an idea of numbers.

Janet Fanko membership@GGOWu3a.co.uk

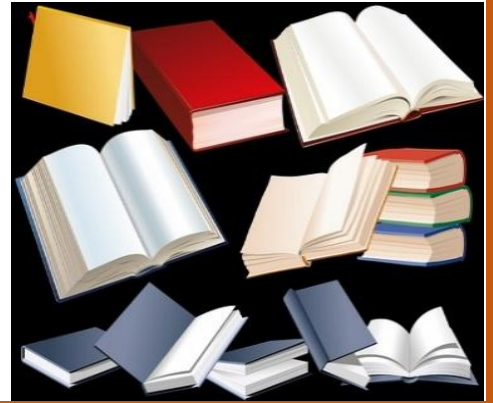
or telephone 0116 462 4679

BOOKS!

At the members' meetings at the Liberal Club, the last Wednesday in the month, you will find donations of paperback books at the back of the room – from which you may help yourself!

Book donations are welcome but are not required to take a book.

Books! Ron & Margaret Gee



Visit our website www.ggowu3a.co.uk and explore our many activities
Contact a group leader if you would like to sample a meeting as a visitor.

If you have an idea for a new group or activity -

Email: Groupscoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk

If you have a subject, or an idea, or know of a speaker you recommend for our meetings, please send your information to: Kath Bailey at baileyk8@hotmail.com

Some members have requested more information about our future speakers:

On 30 April, the speaker is **Sue Drage** with the subject :

Recycling with a difference.

My talk is not about telling you what rubbish to put in what bin. It is far more interesting, amusing and entertaining than that.

I am passionate about recycling and up-cycling and bring along a large display of the things I make from many of the items you throw into your recycle bin such as supermarket carrier bags, old CD's, food tins, ring pulls, plastic bottles, magazine & book pages etc, etc. and turn these into handbags, earrings, purses and necklaces - to name a few.

On 28 May, the speaker is **Karen Gimson** with the subject:

The history of the National Gardens Scheme

– NGS history with local highlights.

Technical Note

When converting a Microsoft Word version of the newsletter to a .pdf version, for better accessibility, hyperlinks are automatically created –

but they may not link to all email providers.

Complaints, Comments, Suggestions - all welcome at: newsletter@ggowu3a.co.uk