

Speaker Meetings at the Wigston Liberal Club

82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA

Doors open 1:30 pm for socialising Refreshments 3:00 pm No charge

**Wednesday,
25 March 2026**

Speaker:

Brian Johnson on

*Arthur Wakerley –
Architect, politician and
visionary*

**Wednesday,
29 April 2026**

Speaker:

Bharat Patel

*You couldn't make it up
- the odd life of a TV
reporter*

Serendipity Methodist Church Hall, Great Glen LE8 9EF

Second Wednesday in the month.

Have you experienced Serendipity yet?

Our programme in March includes an Easter craft

Refreshments – and time to socialise. Doors open 10:15 am.

Let me know if you are likely to be there as an idea of numbers is helpful for refreshment purposes.

Janet Fanko Serendipity@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 462 4679 No charge

Jigsaw Puzzles? A Jigsaw Puzzle exchange occurs at the Serendipity meetings. Donations encouraged; you may borrow without donating. Please return the jigsaw you borrow for others to enjoy. Noelene@ggowu3a.co.uk

Chat at the Chestnuts café in Oadby 2026

**MORNINGS
10:30 am**

5 MARCH
2 APRIL
7 MAY
4 JUNE

**AFTERNOONS
2.30 pm**

19 MARCH
16 APRIL
21 MAY
18 JUNE

You are welcome to join us on more than one of the above dates. Please let me know so that I can give the café an idea of numbers.

Janet Fanko
membership@GGOWu3a.co.uk
0116 462 4679

Notes from the Chair:

I am pleased to let you know that your u3a committee, with members' input, identified new group activities. These groups include:

**Playreading, Debating, Singing for Fun,
Walking 5-8 miles, and BSL (British Sign Language).**

These groups are forming now. If you wish to join one of these groups, have ideas to share, or are willing to help set up a new activity, please contact: **Groups Coordinator**, at groups@ggowu3a.co.uk

A visit to the theatre! We have acquired discounted tickets for a June matinee at the Little Theatre production of *Baskerville*.

Search for the flyers in this newsletter for details!

Peter Williams Chairman@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 281 1812

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:

This is a reminder that subscription renewals are due by **31 March**. If you have not received your renewal request by the end of February, please let me know, after checking your spam/junk folder. Don't forget to inform me of any changes to your details, or if you do not wish to renew this year.

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

Planning Ahead: 3 and 6 April, 4 and 25 May 2026 are UK Bank Holidays

ACTIVITIES - in alphabetical order by activity

ART GROUPS x 2 First and third Thursdays at 2:00 pm
Art Great Glen Methodist Church, LE8 9EF

The Art theme for March will be communicated to members
Rachael Snashall art@ggowu3a.co.uk

Art Appreciation Third Monday in month, 10:00 am - 12 noon
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall

AA is an easy group at which to enjoy a new experience. Attend one of our friendly meetings! We are not at all 'highbrow' and you are welcome to just visit. You may surprise yourself with how much you enjoy the experience. Contact: *Ian Bowler* AA@ggowu3a.co.uk £2 charge

BOOK GROUPS x 2 Fourth Thursday 10:00 am
Book Group - Thursday Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

26 March	<i>Precipice</i>	Robert Harris
23 April	<i>A Spot of Bother</i>	Mark Haddon

Contact: *Elizabeth Cooke* books2@ggowu3a.co.uk

Book Group - Monday **Third Monday 2:00 pm – approx. 3:30 pm**
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

March: ***How to solve your own murder*** Kristen Perrin

April: ***The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*** Anne Bronte

The full 2026 booklist is on the website: www.ggowu3a.co.uk

Contact: *June Juett* books@ggowu3a.co.uk 07484 602348

CARD GAMES x 2 **Wednesdays, Great Glen Methodist Church Hall**
Duplicate Bridge (Social) **at 1:45 pm for a 2:00 pm prompt start,**
finishing at approximately 4:45 pm

We are a friendly social group playing Duplicate Bridge.

New members are welcome, but would need to know the basics of the game.

We will help you understand the duplicate system.

If you are interested, please contact:

Contact: *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
New members are welcome.

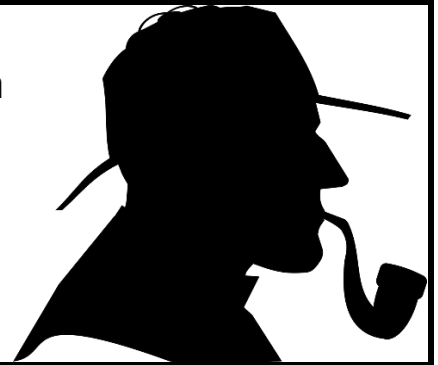
If you would like to try Minibridge, contact me
to arrange for you to attend a meeting.

Contact: *Terry Evans* mbridge@ggowu3a.co.uk

Plans for June 2026?

A trip to the Little Theatre is planned - to see a
performance of ***Baskerville*** at a 2.30 pm
matinee on Saturday, 13 June 2026. £15.

Peter Williams Chairman@ggowu3a.co.uk
0116 281 1812



Carpet Bowls **Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 pm**
Village Hall, Great Glen, LE8 9GG

Limited free parking at the Village Hall. Refreshments provided.

Consider joining our long established, friendly group!

Contact: *Peter Stanley* 0116 259 2152 £2 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, and **we have a vacancy!**
Call for further information and/or to visit this friendly group.

Contact: *Joan Bateson* 0116 259 3191

Tuesday Croquet **Every Tuesday 1:30 – 3 pm**
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF
Croquet is fun and not strenuous. New members are welcome.
We have a vacancy, so call to express your interest – or to visit.
Contact: *Geraldine Siddons* 0116 241 3947

Dancing x 3 **Tuesdays, 2 - 4:00 pm**
English Country Dancing (ECD) Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW
ECD is social dancing, conducted mostly at a walking pace in formations. Dancers weave patterns and interact with each other as the dance progresses. None of the dances are complicated, and all are great fun! The moves will be taught for each dance before setting it to music; the only requirement is to be prepared to join in-and laugh!
Contact: 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 all need a challenge, especially one that is enjoyable! Our dances are new, old, easy - and some a little harder. If you are returning to line dancing after a break or hoping to learn, you will be welcome in our mixed ability group.
Contact: *Maggie Ward* linedancing@ggowu3a.co.uk

Line Dancing **Tuesday mornings 10:30-12 noon, Elliot Hall,**
Beginners **4 Albion Street, Sth. Wigston, Leicester, LE18 4SA**
We are learning lots of steps and easy dances, having fun with both physical and mental exercise, then relaxing over a cuppa. If you would like to try line dancing, come and give it a go!
Contact: *Maggie Ward* linedancingwigston@ggowu3a.co.uk

Books! At the Liberal Club monthly meetings, at the back of the room, you will find donations of paperback books - and from which you may help yourself! *Paperback donations are welcome but are not required to borrow a book. *Books!* are managed by *Ron & Margaret Gee*
***Only Paperback book donations please**

EATING OUT x 4 **The penultimate Wednesday, every month,**
Lunch Club **at 12:30 pm at *Two Steeples*, Bell Street, Wigston**
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 Speaker meetings or contact:
Kath Bailey lunchclub@ggowu3a.co.uk 07974 523079

Meet & Eat Third Tuesday, Italian Greyhound, Great Glen, LE8 9GF

We usually meet at *The Italian Greyhound* in Great Glen.

Lunch is pre-ordered from the menu with a choice of two courses at £20 or the three-course menu that is now £25, (plus discretionary tip) including coffee.

Trevor Johnson meetandeat@ggowu3a.co.uk - pre order by the Friday before

Pub Lunches Second Wednesday in the month, venues vary

Call for information: Margaret Hudson 0116 271 5064

**Sunday Lunches Second Sunday, 1:00 pm
Glen Gorse Golf Club, LE2 4RF**

Please let me know whether you will, or will not, be attending, by telephone 0116 279 1509, no later than the Friday before the lunch.

This is a popular group, and we need to confirm numbers attending.

Call for details: Judith Measom 0116 279 1509

Film Group Second Monday, 2:00 pm Great Glen Methodist Church

Please 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

£2.50

FOCUS ON: THE ZOOM QUIZ GROUP

Do you like to watch quiz shows on TV or taking part in a pub quiz?

Why not try the **Zoom quiz**, in the comfort of your own home?

The questions are set by group members who present them by Power point or just by reading them out. It's a lighthearted quiz; you don't have to be an egghead. We do not ask members to reveal their score - unless it's a winner!

Zoom Quiz is held the 4th Monday of each month (unless it is a bank holiday) at 2.30 pm. Members receive a reminder by email, with the joining details, a few days beforehand. You will need a PC, laptop or tablet and the free version of Zoom, which can be downloaded. If you are interested, please contact me or Peter Russell who will send you the logging on details. Contact Rachael Snashall or Peter Russell at:

Zoomquiz@ggowu3a.co.uk.

**GAMES x 2 Second Wednesday at 2:00 pm Menphys Hub,
Games Bassett Street, South Wigston, Leicester, LE18 4PE**

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

07974 523079

Tabletop games Second & Fourth Thursdays 2:00 pm
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall

We have a variety of board games – number and word ones. Canasta remains a favourite. If you have an interest in joining this group, please contact me first with questions or for a taster session.

Helen Edwards ttgames@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 212 7547

GARDEN GROUPS X 2 Second Monday in the month 10:00 am
Garden

Our March meeting will be at **Palmers Garden Centre**

Contact: *Lillian Greengrass* 0116 221 9837

Garden Visits Second Friday in the month, 2:00–3:30 pm

Our walk, **Friday, 13 March** is at the **Attenborough Arboretum, Carisbrooke Road, Knighton**. Easy parking. Mike Juett will be leading so prepare to enjoy yourselves! If the weather is cold, do bring a warm beverage. Mobility? This is an easier venue – there are many seating benches - take a break at your own pace and enjoy the woodland and the good company. (*Dogs are not allowed - ecosensitive botanic area.*)

June Juett gardenvisits@ggowu3a.co.uk (07484 602348)

See page 10 for day trips to visit gardens by commercial coach.

HISTORY x 3 Fourth Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am
Family History Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

We shall meet on 25 March, 22 April, 27 May and 24 June.
Then we expect to have a summer break in July and August.
New members are welcome.

Contact: *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

2 March: *A man from Rutland who went to America, circa 1640*
A History of the Cavalry; Tanky Smith

There is no meeting in April related to the Easter Bank Holiday.

4 May *Children of the Mayflower and the Pilgrim Fathers*

Contact me if you have not attended before - or for information.

Janet Fanko history@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 462 4679

Military History First Wednesday, 10:00 am, 10:30 am start
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

Coffee 10:00, presentation 10:30 am.

The meeting on **4 March** will be on **The Sherman Tank**, which was used extensively by the allies in Europe and North Africa during WW2.

Contact: *Alan Mawby* militaryhistory@ggowu3a.co.uk

Knit and Natter **First Thursday at Menphys Centre,
Bassett Street, LE18 4PE** Parking at rear

Not only do we knit (optional) and natter but would love other crafty people to join us. Perhaps knit or crochet mini hats, or blankets?

All materials available, if we don't have it, we'll obtain it!

Kath Bailey KnitandNatter@ggowu3a.co.uk 07974 523079

KURLING - New Age Kurling **First and third Wednesdays Liberal Club
82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA** 1:30 pm until 3:00 pm

Players play in Teams of Two with 2 stones per player, against another team. (4 Red stones and 4 Blue stones). They roll the stones at a numbered target on the floor; scores are noted.

Each team plays every other team; the team with highest overall score wins.

Peter Williams Kurling@ggowu3a.co.uk

LANGUAGES x 2 **Private Wigston venue, various days and times**

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

French Conversation and reading on Friday afternoons.

Beginners' French Monday mornings. New members are welcome.

Jennifer Bell **0116 288 0234**

Music **Second & Fourth Mondays 10am -12 noon**
Ukuleles **Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

We are a welcoming group that has room for a few new members.

We have spare instruments, give it a try!

Contact: *Julie Franks* ukes@ggowu3a.co.uk

HANDBELLS **2nd & 4th Fridays 10.00-12.00 noon,**
United Reformed Church Hall, 43 Long Street, Wigston LE18 2AJ.

Free parking behind church or at Peace Park.

To express an interest in this group, please contact:

Alison Termie handbells@ggowu3a.co.uk 07813 705427

Photography **Third Wednesday, 2:30 pm, venues vary**

We are a friendly group; new members are welcome.

Both cameras and phones are used.

If this appeals, attend a meeting and you can then choose to join the group if you wish. If attending for the first time, please contact me first.

Peter Russell photography@ggowu3a.co.uk 07759 831604

Pickleball**Every Wednesday, 9 am to 10:00 am****Roger Bettles Sports Centre, Manor Road, LE2 2LL**

We are a friendly mixed ability group who enjoy physical & mental exercise, playing pickleball. All equipment is provided.

We are at full capacity at present, but vacancies do arise so if you are interested, please contact me and I will put you on the waiting list.

Contact: Ash Vaja pickleball@ggowu3a.co.uk

Psychology**First Wednesday 10:00 am-12 noon**

We research and discuss topics such as Memory, Addiction and Criminal Psychology.

We are currently at full capacity, but situations change and if you would like to express an interest in our group, *please call first 07733 230711.*

Chris Hunter Psychology@ggowu3a.co.uk

**PSYCHOLOGY****QUIZ GROUPS X 2****Fourth Monday in the month****Quiz (Zoom) - a Zoom meeting – See Focus On this group**

Anyone wishing to join us should contact Peter Russell or Rachael Snashall who will provide you with the Zoom details.

Peter Russell/Rachael Snashall zoomquiz@ggowu3a.co.uk

Quizzers**First Monday in the month, 10:30 am****Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston (free car park at rear)**

The group is close to capacity but contact us if you are interested – we may have options!

Ron & Margaret Gee quizzingforfun@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 288 0536

An easy way to contribute to our u3a activities....**Tea Rota for Monthly Speaker Meetings**

Two volunteers are needed at our Speaker Meetings, the last Wednesday afternoon in the month, to serve tea/coffee and to wash up afterwards.

To sign up on the rota, contact: Fay Williams 0116 281 1812

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

Our mixed ability group is full at present, but enquiries are still welcome.

Janet Freestone tabletennis@ggowu3a.co.uk

Table Tennis – Friday Fridays 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
Roger Bettles University Sports Centre, Manor Road, LE2 2LL

We are almost at capacity, although spaces do become available, so please contact me if you have questions or are interested in joining us.

Jay Bhikha tabletennisfriday@ggowu3a.co.uk £2 per session

WALKING GROUPS x 3 Third Thursday 10:30 am

Easy Strolling Various venues, some with parking charges

Details will be sent to members approximately one week before the stroll. The group is close to capacity but contact us if you are interested - we may have options.

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

Village Strollers Local History / Heritage venues

Strolls for Dunton Bassett in March and Croft in April are full.

The May stroll is to Husbands Bosworth; bookings will be taken in April.

The July Treasure Hunt will be open to all members.

If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact:

Roger Edwards villagestrollers@ggowu3a.co.uk

Walking without Stiles Second Thursday morning of the month
various venues

Contact me to be placed on our emailing list. At the beginning of the week of the walk, details are emailed to those who have let me know they will be joining us. We need to know whom to expect so that we don't leave without you, or you can be updated if we need to cancel.

Elizabeth Cooke walking@ggowu3a.co.uk 07957 288060

Writing for Pleasure Fourth Tuesday 2:15 pm

Great Glen Methodist Church LE8 9EF

At our meetings we share what we have written, enjoy chatting and plan next steps. We are a lively group with different interests, styles, and preferences. New members are welcome.

Robert Mansfield writing@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 270 8284

In **March**, our speaker is **Brian Johnson**,
who will introduce us to the life and times of a **Leicester architect and**
Councillor, Arthur Wakerley.

During this presentation, we shall recognise and/or enjoy many points of
local interest.

NEW GROUPS New groups are being developed.
**Playreading, Debating, Singing for Fun,
Walking 5-8 miles, and BSL (British Sign Language).**

Venues and other arrangements are being investigated; contact the email below to register your interest and to mention any ideas you have. Perhaps you are willing to help set up a new activity?

Contact: **Groups Coordinator**, at groups@ggowu3a.co.uk.



Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

We have specially discounted tickets for members to experience **Baskerville** at the Little Theatre, Leicester, on Saturday, 13 June at 2.30 pm. £15 per ticket

Peter Williams Chairman@ggowu3a.co.uk
0116 281 1812



Third Age Trust UK offers interest groups online

<https://www.u3a.org.uk> **Browse the website!**

U3a Interest Groups Online offers online learning for its subscribers. Search groups by interest, subject matter, or by day the meetings take place. Some meetings are lectures; some are virtual visits to places of interest. A wide range of subject matter is offered.

Annual membership fee £12 per year.

Garden Visits: * <https://ausdenclark.co.uk/contact-us/> 0116 262 9492

(Website: Search for 'trips' - small type, top left of page.)

Trips - it's usual to find u3a members onboard!

Examples: Saturday, 13 June 2026 to **Kew**, £41 – includes admission. Longer journey. On 22 September, 1.5-hour journey to **Trentham**, listed as shopping trip, but pay additional admission to enter the exceptional garden - you have five hours there! **Sandringham Flower Show** in July! Click on the picture that interests you for full details. Pick up points available in Oadby and Wigston (South coach).

(***Ausden Clark coaches** – are used by the *Friends of the Uni. of Leicester Botanic Garden* (FULBG) for their exceptional day trips and short holidays.

These trips are often available to non-members.

Pick up point is Glebe Road, easy parking at the Botanic Garden.)

Comments on our newsletter are welcome at: newsletter@ggowu3a.co.uk

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