

**Speaker Meetings at the Wigston Liberal Club
82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA**

**Doors open to all members at 1:30 pm for socialising
Refreshments 3:00 pm**

Wednesday, 29 July 2026

Emma Sheardown

(motivational &
disability inclusion speaker)

*There's no such word as can't – my
personal journey from diagnosis to
world champion and beyond*

**Wednesday,
26 August 2026**

Graham Keal

*Terry Wogan's
hair weave
...and other stories*

Serendipity

Methodist Church Hall, Great Glen LE8 9EF

Second Wednesday in the month

**Doors open 10:15 am to all members of our
Great Glen, Oadby and Wigston u3a**

Refreshments - and time to socialise!

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

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

*There is a £1 charge for consumable items used during the
meeting.*

Chat at the Chestnuts café in Oadby 2026

**Mornings
10:30 am**

2 JULY

6 AUGUST

3 SEPTEMBER

1 OCTOBER

**Afternoons
2:30 pm**

16 JULY

20 AUGUST

17 SEPTEMBER

15 OCTOBER

**You are welcome to join us on
more than one of the dates listed**

Please let me know so that I can
give the café an idea of numbers.

Janet Fanko 0116 462 4679

membership@GGOWu3a.co.uk

Notes from the Chair:

*After many years of service to our u3a Committee, as newsletter editor and business secretary, among other contributions, **Lynda Williams** has stood down from our Committee. Her calm manner and many abilities will be missed.*

The Committee recognised her significant contributions with a bouquet and gift voucher.

Peter Williams

Chair@ggowu3a.co.uk 0116 281 1812



ACTIVITIES - in alphabetical order by activity

ART GROUPS x 2

Art

**First and third Thursdays at 2:00 pm
Great Glen Methodist Church, LE8 9EF**

We will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in June and July.

We shall take a break during August and resume 3 September.

Contact: Rachael Snashall art@ggowu3a.co.uk

**Art Appreciation Third Monday in month, 10:00 am - 12 noon
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

AA – surprise yourself - try a new experience! *Learning to Look*. Attend one of our friendly meetings. We are not 'highbrow'! Our subject matter ranges far and wide - sculpture, wood carving, architecture, oil and water colours, blown glass, stained glass, pottery, china, from artists worldwide. Pastoral scenes through to images of war. Murals to miniatures.

June Juett AA@ggowu3a.co.uk £2/person

BOOK GROUPS x 2

Book Group - Thursday G. Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

Fourth Thursday 10:00 am

**Northerners: The
bestselling history of
the North of England**

23/07/26

Brian Groom

27/08/26

Me Before You

Jojo Moyes

24/09/26

An American Wife

Curtis Sittenfeld

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

July	<i>A Terrible Kindness</i>	Jo Browning Rowe
August	<i>The Glassmaker</i>	Tracy Chevalier
September	<i>The Bookbinder of Jerico</i>	Pip Williams

Booklist on the website: www.ggowu3a.co.uk

June Juett books@ggowu3a.co.uk

CARD GAMES x 2 **Wednesday afternoons at Great Glen**
Duplicate Bridge (Social) Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

If you do not know the duplicate system, we will explain it to you. We are a friendly group playing Duplicate Bridge on Wednesday afternoons at 1:45 pm for 2:00 pm prompt start, finishing at approx. 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

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

Terry Evans mbridge@ggowu3a.co.uk

Carpet Bowls **Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 pm**

Pavilion at The Bowman of Glen Archery Club
Newton Lane, LE8 9AB, near the roundabout

The first meetings at this new venue were a great success.
Parking on site. **New members are welcome.** Refreshments provided.

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.

Joan Bateson 0116 259 3191

Tuesday Croquet Every Tuesday 1:30 – 3 pm
Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

Tuesday croquet will **close for July and August and restart 8 September.** Croquet is fun and not strenuous. New members are welcome. **We have a vacancy,** so call to express your interest – or to visit. *Geraldine Siddons* 0116 241 3947

Dancing x 3**Tuesdays, 2 - 4:00 pm****English Country Dancing (ECD) Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW****The group will be taking a break during the summer months.**

Dancing will resume in September; date to be announced.

ECD is social dancing, conducted mostly at a walking pace.

Peter Meacock ecd@ggowu3a.co.uk [0116 279 3600](tel:01162793600)**Line Dancing****Thursdays, 10:30 am – 12.30 pm****Burton Overy Village Hall, LE8 9EW**

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

Maggie Ward linedancingwigston@ggowu3a.co.uk**Debating Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, Ruth Warner room**

The first meetings were interesting and stimulating. We are all new to this and we have some learning to do together.

If you have an interest in this new group, please contact:

Robert Mansfield vicechair@ggowu3a.co.uk**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, G. 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).

Trevor Johnson meetandeat@ggowu3a.co.uk - pre order by the Friday**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 : NEW GROUPS**Singing, Debating, Walking Further, and Playreading**

have all held early meetings. All are still open to new members.

No prior experience of any subject is required or expected.

Contact: *Groups Coordinator* groups@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 GROUP **Second Monday in the month 10:00 am**

Garden The venues of our next Garden club meetings will be advised to members of the group.

Contact: *Lillian Greengrass* 0116 221 9837

Garden Visits resume! Second Friday in the month, 2:00 pm.

10 July, 14 August, 11 September

**Enjoy the Uni. Botanical Garden during the rest of the year,
while it remains free. Meet at the entrance –
lower end of the Glebe Road hill. Easy parking.**

Easy, social walks among mature trees and florals, congenial company.
Bench seating at intervals. Occasional or regular members all welcome.
Improved plant displays under the vision of the new director.

Uni. Botanical Garden will charge entry fee from 1 Jan. 2027

Nick Bailey, horticulturalist, has a remit to make the Botanic Garden
commercially viable; expect to pay to visit the garden in 2027.

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

HISTORY x 3

Family History

Fourth Wednesday in the month, 10:00 am

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF

We shall take a summer break in July and August.

We shall resume meeting on 23 September.

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

6 July The Ottoman Empire
Matilda and Stephen

3 August A History of Great Glen

7 September A Brief History of Evington,
a Brief History of Kibworth,
another Brief history – to be determined

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 for 10:30 am

Great Glen Methodist Church Hall LE8 9EF

Coffee 10:00, presentation 10:30 am

Please note there is no meeting in August or September.

On 1 July we shall look at the 1956 Suez Crisis, when British, French and
Israeli forces invaded Egypt to try to regain control of the Suez Canal,
after it was nationalised by President Nasser.

It did not end well!

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

Knit and Natter**First Thursday at 2:00 pm****Menphys Hub, Basset Street, South Wigson LE18 4PE**

This small, friendly group meets on first Thursday each month
at **2:00 pm in the Menphys Hub, Basset Street.**

New members would be made very welcome. Not only do we knit
(optional) and natter but would love other crafty people to join us.

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

*Kath Bailey**KnitandNatter@ggowu3a.co.uk**07974 523079***KURLING - New Age Kurling****First & third Wednesdays****1:30 pm until 3:00 pm****Liberal Club 82 Bull Head St, Wigston LE18 1PA**

Players play in Teams of Two with 2 stones per player, against another
team. (4 Red stones, 4 Blue stones). Players roll the stones at a
numbered target on the floor; scores are noted. Each team plays every
other team, 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 x 3****Second & Fourth Mondays 10am -12 noon****Ukuleles****Great Glen Methodist Church Hall, LE8 9EF**

**We shall be taking a month's break throughout August;
we resume Monday 14 September**

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

We now have a vacancy! New members are welcome.

To express an interest in this group, please contact:

Alison Termiehandbells@ggowu3a.co.uk*07813 705427*

**Singing for Fun Great Glen Methodist Church, LE8 9EF
Fourth Monday 2.30 to 4.00 pm**

We shall meet on 27 July, 24 August and 28 September.

Singers experience vocal warmups, singing in 'rounds' and a broad spectrum of musical genres. Enjoyed by all!

No prior choir experience needed! Singing for Fun!

Catriona Scott/Jenny Hawley at the piano. singing@ggowu3a.co.uk £2

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, but vacancies do arise. Please contact me and I will put you on the waiting list.

Contact: *Ash Vaja* pickleball@ggowu3a.co.uk

**NEW! Third Friday each month, 10 am, Ruth Warner room
Playreading Great Glen Methodist Church Hall**

We meet to read plays from paper scripts, available at each session, or downloaded. We now have a reliable source of paper scripts.

No previous theatrical experience or rehearsal is necessary.

All quite lighthearted! More participants are welcome, but as we meet in the smaller of the rooms at the venue, please contact me if you will be attending or would like further details.

Magi Nipper Tel: 0116 319 2178

**Psychology Glen Gorse Golf Club, LE2 4RF
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 so express your interest by first contacting:

Chris Hunter **07733 230711** Psychology@ggowu3a.co.uk

QUIZ GROUPS X 2**Fourth Monday in the month****Quiz (Zoom)****- a Zoom meeting**

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 next quiz is Monday, 6 July

We are a friendly group and have room for one or two more!

If you are interested, please contact us for more information.

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 at the Liberal Club

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, contact: *Fay Williams* 0116 281 1812

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

Our mixed ability group is full at present but enquiries are still welcome. We shall, as usual, break for the month of August.

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 currently full; however, please email me if you wish to be placed on the waiting list. *Jay Bhikha* tabletennisfriday@ggowu3a.co.uk £2

WALKING GROUPS x 4**Third Thursday 10:30 am****Easy Strolling****Various venues, some with parking charges**

The next stroll will be on Thursday 16 July.

Details will be sent out approximately one week beforehand.

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

Village Strollers**Local History / Heritage venues**

The **July Hungarton Treasure Hunt/Quiz**
will be open to all members.

If you have signed up to be on the mailing list, you will be informed of the date – likely to be Friday 17 or Friday 24 July.

The **August** stroll is to Desford.

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

Roger Edwards villagestrollers@ggowu3a.co.uk

Walking without Stiles Second Thursday morning, venues vary

We meet on the Second Thursday morning for a 2 to 4 mile walk without stiles, venues vary. 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

Walking Further This Group meets for a **5 to 6 mile walk** at various locations chosen by the walk leader. This group welcomes new members; 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 groupscoordinator@ggowu3a.co.uk

Writing for Pleasure

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

Each month we aim to write a short piece of prose, usually 500 to 1,000 words, or a poem, up to about 40 lines. We pick a theme, that most members follow. 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.

Please contact me for further details.

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

Notes on our speakers:

Emma Sheardown was born with a severe disability, Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. It was predicted that she might not walk or talk.

Graham Keal, August. A journalist who has interviewed thousands of celebrities in nearly 35 years of TV columns and interviews. He recounts a collection of amusing anecdotes.

Steve Evans, September. The talk covers the progress on the reunification of the two parts of the heritage Great Central Railway, those being between Leicester and Loughborough, and Loughborough and Ruddington, presently separated by a 500-meter gap.

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

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