

SHOTTERY u3a

NEWSLETTER: May 2026

Tuesday, June 2nd

Warwickshire search and rescue –

Nick Cole

A collection in aid of Warwickshire search and rescue will be taken at the meeting

DESK AND REFRESHMENT ROTA:

June – Book Group

July - Gardening

Duties include checking members in at the entrance desk and serving tea and coffee and washing up afterwards (dishwasher available). Generally 4 members are required. Where groups have difficulty in raising the necessary 4 members, please get in touch with Jan Grant– Group Coordinator. (01789 417721)

Please note that as I don't have a current rota pattern I have gone back to the 2023 list I have. Apologies if you find your group listed above and have recently already done the duty. Kate

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

July - Music of the Sixties Paul Lillie

August - The Weavers, Spinners and Dyers Guild

New Series – Your input needed!

Have you had your 15 minutes of fame? If so, would you share it with us all in the newsletter? Many people have had an encounter with someone famous, done something noteworthy which gave them 'fame' (or notoriety!). It doesn't have to be major, even a smidgeon of 'fame' would be interesting. We'd love you to write a short piece for inclusion in the newsletter (with photos if appropriate). Send it to:

shotteryu3a@gmail.com

National News

u3a Festival Fringe - take part in the fun Find out more about Interest Groups Online..
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/what-we-do/learning/interest-groups-online>

If you aren't able to attend *u3a Festival 26*, we're delighted to share *u3a Festival Fringe*. This is an online events programme specifically curated to complement the Festival activities.

The events will take place in the lead up to, and following on from, the Festival in York on 1-3 July, making a full two weeks of learning and fun. The programme will feature online workshops and talks from Festival speakers with highlights including *How to watercolour*, *The role of women in ancient Egypt*, and *The role of wind energy in the UK's electricity system*.

INTEREST GROUPS

We are always interested in expanding the number and range of interest groups that are on offer. If you would be interested in developing a new group, please get in touch with the Secretary via the website group

<https://u3asites.org.uk/shottery/home> .

Poetry Matters - For further details please get in touch with Jonathan Baker at **jonobaker@hotmail.com**

A message from the Groups coordinator at Dene Valley. *'We currently have a couple of vacancies in each of our Tai Chi / Fusions classes 1.45-2.45 Mondays and 9-10 on a Wednesday if any of your members are interested. Please contact me if you want any more information.'* Dave Hoult

Group Reports

Local History Group

May saw our first meeting in our new meeting place Escape Arts in The Yard off Sheep Street.

In a follow up to our April visit to Alveston in pursuit of the original Manor House we examined maps of Stratford and its surrounding area beginning with the One Inch series of Ordnance Survey maps from the 1830's and following that series through until the 1890s. We noted along the way how little growth had taken place during that period, the disappearance of toll gates and the arrival of the railways, which were largely on the outskirts of the town. But nothing that helped with finding evidence for the location of the Manor House.

If anyone has anything to help us in our quest we'd love to hear from you. Miles

Gardening Group

May's visit was to Packwood House. A small group who braved the showers had an enjoyable visit.

The visit took in the vegetable garden, the formal gardens (the alliums were in stunning) and the topiary. Unfortunately some of Packwood's yews have had to be cut back owing to a disease similar to box blight but signs of recovery were evident so fingers crossed.

June's visit will be to Kiftsgate when we hope to see the famous rose in full flower. Details will be circulated to the group nearer the time.



Ambling Group

The Amble on 12 May was to Dorothy's Wood, part of the Heart of England Forest, Dorsington, approx three miles



The Amble on the 14 April which I did not report on was from The View, Wootton Wawen. This walk was by the canal and across fields. Also lots of different landscapes to admire. It is such an interesting walk with woodland and river. Lots of cowslips, with abundance of buttercups in the meadows. Also, two Alpacas to admire. Refreshments at Hudson's. Photos here. Margaret.

Rambling Group

May's Ramble will have taken place by the time you read this, having walked around the Heart of England Forest.

This year's remaining Rambles (locations to be decided) will be on;

June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, September 22nd, October 27th and November 24th.



April's 'Ramble' started with coffee at The View, Wootton Wawen, and then some walked (as kindly reported by Judy, with Jan's photos attached);

We (9) had a lovely circular walk today. Starting from the View restaurant, we went through Austy Woods to see the bluebells, along the canal passing the marina and aqueduct at Wootton Wawen before continuing on to the residents moorings before finally crossing the canal bridge back to the View for lunch.



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November 24th.

If you wish to join the group, please write to Martin Young.

Digital Photography

No report available this month as Frances has been on her travels!

Play Reading

The Playreading group meets every last Friday of the month at 2:15 in Members homes.

We are still reading Dangerous Corner by JB Priestley and will finish it at our next meeting. It is a very intriguing play.

So we will start to read a new play on the last Friday in June. If you are interested in joining us, you will be made very welcome-we are a small group at the moment. If you are not sure but would like to try coming to the group then please let me know and you could come for a taster session. In which you can either listen or read a small part. Lauri

Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club meeting is Thursday 11th June meeting at 12:30 for lunch at 1pm.

Lunch Club is at different venues, signing-up lists with details are put on the table at the Tuesday monthly meeting, For further information contact David Haines.

Book Group

Lots for the group to talk about this month. Our book was 'Talking at Night' by Claire Daverley. A literary romance - two teenagers fall in love, their lives are torn apart by a tragedy that devastates them both. There is grief, addiction, indecision, the repercussions of family difficulties and splits as their lives intertwine. We all enjoyed it though it had flaws. The group is currently full, but if anyone would like to start a second group, advice on how to do this is available – contact Kate

Keep Fit

Our small friendly group consists of both males and females of mixed abilities. The class is designed for our age group, with standing and sitting exercises

We meet every Thursday morning from 10 -11am in the Parish Centre at St Andrews Church in Shottery. We have an excellent tutor and really enjoy the exercises and a chat.

At present there is a waiting list, but please contact me If you are interested in finding out more about the group. Jan Jones

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter or enquiries regarding interest groups or membership leaders via the email

shotteryu3a@gmail.com