

SHOTTERY u3a

NEWSLETTER: June 2026

Tuesday, August 4th

The Weavers, Spinners and Dyers Guild

DESK AND REFRESHMENT ROTA:

August – Lunch Club

September - Ambling

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:

September - Indian Birds, Tigers and The Taj Mahal Arthur Ball

October - Looking after the Swans of Stratford Cyril Bennis

Margaret Jones

It is with sadness that we report the recent, sudden death of Margaret Jones. Margaret , was a keen member of Shottery u3a, regularly attending the monthly meetings and was also a member of the lunch club, reading group and playreading group and former member of the photography group.

A memorial service following a private family cremation, will take place at The Baptist Church, Payton Street, Stratford on Avon on Wednesday 5th August at 2-m. All are welcome at the church and refreshments afterwards at the church premises.

Dress to be smart summer clothing not black ties, "as if for a smart summer party".

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

U3a Concert

The next U3A concert is on Friday 18th September 2026, 2.30pm at The Methodist Church.

Tickets are £6 to include Tea/Coffee afterwards.

They can be obtained from Sue Main at the September meeting or;

Email suzanne_main@hotmail.com

Phone 07837861360

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**

GROUP REORTS

Local History Group

The Local History Group was weather afflicted for the second time this year first torrential rain, remember that, then the hottest day of the year with red weather warnings on both occasions. Crossing fingers and keeping an eye on the forecast for August. Miles

Rambling Group

At the trme of writing the July ramble has not yet taken place.

This year's remaining Rambles (locations to be decided) will be on; August 25th, September 22nd, October 27th and November 24th.

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

Lunch Club

The Lunch Club, date for next lunch is 13th August. 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.

Gardening Group

July's outing was to have been to Broughton Grange Gardens, however, it was decided that the forecast would have made the visit too hot and therefore at best unenjoyable so we had a short visit to Anne Hathaway's Cottage followed by a longer time at the Garden Café instead!

Our hope is that August's weather will enable us to go to Broughton Grange . Nick

Ambling Group

On a hot day only eight of us braved the heat. We parked in Fish Hill Car Park and walked to Broadway Tower and back, approx 3 miles. There was a lovely breeze during our undulating amble.

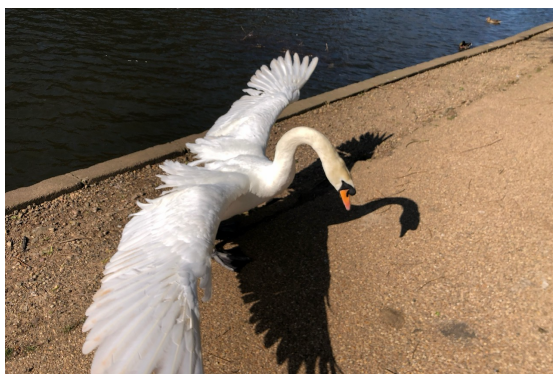


Broadway Tower is a Folly and was conceived by landscape designer Capability Brown and designed by Architect James Wyatt in 1794. The panoramic views from the top of the tower take in 16 counties on a very clear day. It is the second highest point in the Cotswolds and was used as an aircraft observation tower during World War II. There is also a Cold War Nuclear Bunker open on certain days for the public. A very interesting place, with a cafe on site.



We then retreated to Lower Clopton Cafe for refreshments and, of course, to buy the local cherries in the Farm Shop! Margaret

Digital Photography



We had a really good meeting in July with some very interesting 'Shadows'. We saw shadows of household objects and outside furniture. An excellent shadow photo of a swan and some shadows of people and parts of people! One of a hand. There were countryside views with shadows. Our next subject is 'Summer'. Wonder if we will ever get any rain? It's been a long hot summer so far. We meet on 21st August at the Wood's. Heather is also doing the refreshments. We look forward to seeing as many members as can attend. We are now 2 members short, so anyone wishing to join us please contact Frances

Play Reading

The group met on Friday 24th July and started to read a comedy, Family Planning by Frank Vickery.

We enjoyed the first Act . It is a comedy set in the 1970s somewhere in Wales. It is a beautiful set of stock characters and how they cope with the sudden news of the teenage daughter's unwanted pregnancy and father's hypochondria. Their grandmother lives with them and when the play is on stage she is on stage in her bed, upstairs all the time, getting involved in and annoying the family.

We will continue with Family Planning at the end of August.

If you would like to join us or come and see if reading plays in good company is for you, please contact me. Lauri

Book Group

Our book for July was "There Are Rivers in the Sky" by Elif Shafak. An epic tale integrating three main characters and set over multiple timeframes - ancient Mesopotamia, Victorian London , the Yazidis in Turkey in 2014 and modern London- the novel has multiple themes relevant to modern life, too complex to describe here. We all enjoyed the book which provoked interesting discussion. The group currently has two spaces. If you are interested 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