

Learn

Laugh

Live

u3a Daventry
& District

Newsletter September 2026

Thoughts From Our Chairman...

#120

Sad News.....

It is with sadness we learned that former committee member Lawrence Morgan passed away in July. Our condolences and thoughts are with Lawrence's family and friends.

Wider Community News & Events.....

In this newsletter, we have created a new section containing information beyond our u3a but which may be of interest to some members. However, there will not be any commercial advertising.

Enjoy the Newsletter!

Where It All Began And Just Look Where We Are Now.....

The u3a founders envisaged a collaborative approach with peers learning from each other. The u3a movement was to be self-funded, with members not working towards qualifications but learning purely for pleasure.

There would be no distinction between the learners and the teachers – everyone could take a turn at being both if they wished.

From its beginnings in 1981, the movement grew very quickly and by the early 1990s, a u3a was opening every fortnight. The u3a organisation grew in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and by 2008 membership was increasing by 11% every year. In 2010, our membership hit the quarter million mark.

At the end of 2016, the u3a movement reached the milestone of 1,000 u3as, celebrated by a conference with speakers including Eric Midwinter, one of the founders of the u3a movement. Today, our movement includes over 400,000 u3a members in more than 1,000 u3as and is continuing to grow every day.

For more information about the national u3a, the groups, events, schools, podcasts and networks available to members, visit the website:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk>

u3a
learn, laugh, live

A Right Royal Couple - Mick Byrne

This month's General Meeting Mick Byrne spoke warmly about Queen Elizabeth and the Duke Of Edinburgh.

Mick shared humorous stories of the royal couple and gave an insight into the royal lives.



Meetings Coming Up.....

September 17th 2026

Golden Age Of Radio - Roger Browne

Roger is a professional raconteur, writer, director, and pianist. This talk covers various aspects of entertainment from the post-war years, including fascinating historical facts, hilarious anecdotes, and live piano playing. You will also hear how many modern radio and TV programmes draw their inspiration from the creators of these innovative broadcasts.

October 15th 2026

**The Military Outside Weedon Depot -
Doreen Addicott**

In view of the fear of an invasion by Napoleon, the Government of the day decided to build an ordnance depot in a location that was furthest from the coast. In 1814, construction commenced and turned a small rural village into the central munitions and equipment storage facility for the British Army.

Do You Know Your Movies?

1. "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn."
2. "Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."
3. "Here's looking at you, kid."
4. "Go ahead, make my day."
5. "May the Force be with you."
6. "Dinosaurs eat man. Woman inherits the earth."
7. "Love means never having to say you're sorry."
8. "Just keep swimming."
9. "A gold medal is a wonderful thing. But if you're not enough without one, you'll never be enough with one."
10. "Hasta la vista, baby."
11. "I do wish we could chat longer, but...I'm having an old friend for dinner. Bye."
12. "You're gonna need a bigger boat."

**We all enjoy a good movie, but can you
name the film these famous lines are from?**

We've heard them lots of times.

**Some are easy, but some will have you
scratching your head.**

Answers On Page 9



News From Our Groups.....

New Experiences And Adventures Group.....

Sandra Fawcett

Several adventurous members recently took part in The Disc Golf Experience.

After an introduction to the sport and a demonstration of the various techniques for throwing the disc by our lovely instructor, Aubrey, we had the opportunity to practice the various shots.

We then set off to tackle the course. Some of the holes were quite challenging, especially when we had to take into account the wind direction. Sometimes it was more “boomerang” than progressing towards the target.

Keith even managed to defy the laws of gravity by landing his disc on a log!! There was lots of laughter and shouts of encouragement.

At the end of the Experience, the scores were totted up, and a Medal Ceremony took place. A good time was had by all.





The Motoring Group ...

Barbara Wood

Photo Competition

With no fixed outing for August due to grandchildren care for some during the school holidays, a photo competition was devised last year with good support and numerous pictures submitted. This year—not so much! In the end, I decided that all entrants should receive a prize. These were to be handed out at the Community Centre in August, but only one member was in attendance, so it was a very short presentation! Here are the entries received from Carrie Bedford and David Cooper.



Art Appreciation Group.....

Angela Adams

Art Appreciation Garden Party

For the third year running, we as a group were very kindly invited to Brenda and Rob Mills's lovely garden for the annual party. Nineteen members attended and this year we were treated to "fizz" as well as scones cream and strawberries with tea or coffee, of course.

We were blessed with a dry and warm day because although we all so desperately need rain for the gardens, we didn't want it that afternoon!

I had organised a quiz with printed illustrations from children's books, which were dotted around the garden. Those taking part were asked to recognise the book (or series of books as in the Mr and Miss series by Roger Hargreaves) and to perhaps name the author and illustrator. Of course, in some cases such as the Peter Rabbit illustration, shown here, the author was the illustrator as well! Some members did very well, but there was no winner, just some Quality Street chocs to share between all who had taken part.

Brenda and her husband had arranged everything beautifully for us but said it was a shame we couldn't see the garden at night when all their Illuminations are switched on! However, I was pleased that we didn't outstay our welcome. We all went home saying how much we had enjoyed it and are very grateful to Brenda and Kay, who helped serve the tea.

Our Next meeting will be at Everdon Village Hall on Tuesday, September 1st at 2, when we will be watching a DVD about Banksy. For more information, contact me on 07957 995944 or dxadams@mac.com



History Group.....

William Philpott



Colin Davenport continued his odyssey through the monarchs of Britain (part 3). The Stuart dynasty covered the period which saw the union of crowns in 1603, the civil war resulting in Cromwell's Commonwealth, the restoration of Charles II and the final male Stuart, King James II.

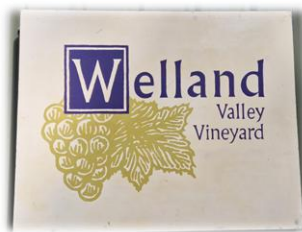
The Glorious Revolution ushered in William of Orange and his wife Mary and finally Queen Anne.

Colin will finish his four-part journey at the September meeting



Wine Appreciation Group.....

Alan Jones



Welland Valley Vineyard Trip 24.08.26

The members of the u3a Wine Appreciation Group know how to get the week off to a good start. What could be better than sitting down on a Monday morning at a table in the open with a glass of sparkling wine? The group of 21 members had gathered at the Vineyard to commence an exclusive tour and tasting of wines produced by the Welland Valley Vineyard.

The small production vineyard close to Market Harborough has a wide selection of wines from vines growing on its 2.5 Acre site. Unlike the local vineyards visited in the past by the group, the entire production takes place on site. The groups' host and owner, David Bates, first started the vineyard in 1991. David explained that he loved growing and was a keen allotment gardener and homemade wine producer before venturing into a vineyard.



Naively, he thought it would be very much like having a big allotment and started with a shovel and a wheelbarrow. He soon learnt that some machinery would be required, but to this day the majority of the work is done by hand. David, with some help from family and volunteers, tends the vines. Whilst not officially qualifying as an organic grower, he does not use chemicals, preferring natural products to control pests and viral growths that can be damaging to the vine. Aside from grapes, David also has apple trees from which he produces two ciders, as well as Pear and Damson trees. Wisely, he did not offer any samples of the cider.

Following the introduction to two of his wines, the group were invited to see the vines. Evidence of the very dry summer could be seen on the vines, with small grapes and the risk that most of his crop would be lost. He was hoping for late rain to fatten the grapes before it came to picking in the coming weeks.

Upon their return from the fields, the group were able to sample two more wines before being shown the production area, where David took the group through the processes, from the pressing to the fermentation and eventual bottling. David even being able to offer a personalised labelling service for those wishing to pass on his wine as a gift or for a celebration.

At the end of the tasting the group thanked David and his two volunteers (John and Joanne) for a very enjoyable tour. Following a relaxed morning the group moved on to Foxton Locks for lunch.

The Wine Appreciation Group returns to the Ashby Road Community Centre on Friday 20th November for their final Meeting of the year, which will feature a talk and tasting on Red Wines.



Cribbage Group

Jackie Ray

The next cribbage sessions will be on 11th and 25th September at 2 pm at the Saracens Head in Daventry



Golf Group....

Jackie Ray

Everyone has been enjoying the golf sessions that have been arranged since the group formed. The next session will be on Friday 18th September.

There will be the usual options:-

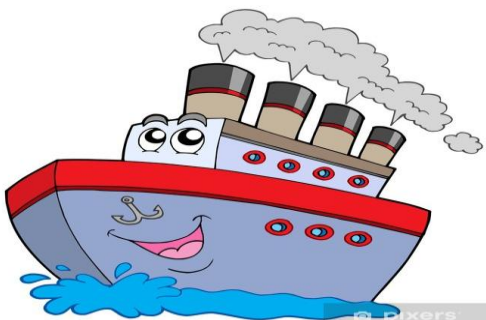
1. Play 9 holes of golf
2. Use of the simulator/putting green/driving range.

Please get in touch if you are interested in joining the group and enjoying some golf, or learning the game.



Just Think About It.....

A rope ladder hangs off a boat with rungs 1 foot apart. At low tide, 4 rungs sit underwater. The tide then rises 2 feet. How many rungs are underwater now?



Current Affairs...

Geoff Dent

The group met in August for some more lively debate and the sharing of views and ideas.

This month, we discussed three topics, which all led to much wider conversations:

1. Was Jason Arday, the Walter Mitty professor, a victim of his own stories?



2. Should No. 10 have issued the BBQ government alarm?



3. Should the government reopen the North Sea oil and gas fields?



It would be interesting to hear your views. Please drop an email with a simple Yes or No answer to daventryu3a.newsletter@gmail.com



Communities Section..... A section dedicated to promoting charities and appropriate services or events within our region. If you would like more information, please get in touch with the relevant organisations directly.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Are you aged 65 or over?

Have you experienced fraud by someone you know or trust?

We want to hear your story.

I am conducting doctoral research at the University of Leicester to understand how older adults experience and respond to fraud by people they know or trust. This research aims to move beyond simple narratives to understand the complexity of your experiences.

What's Involved

- A confidential interview lasting up to 75 minutes
- Choose between in-person (East Midlands), online via Microsoft Teams, or by email
- Share your experiences in a safe, supportive environment
- Your identity will be protected, with all identifiable information removed

Can You Take Part?

- You are aged 65 or over
- You have experienced fraud or deception by someone you know or knew (partner, family, friend, or professional)
- Any investigation into the fraud has been completed
- You can speak and understand English fluently
- You are willing to share your experience

Why Your Voice Matters

- Improve understanding of how fraud affects older adults
- Inform psychological theory and clinical practice
- Support service development & safeguarding strategies

Interested in Participating?
Contact: Shannon Edwards
 Trainee Clinical Psychologist
 DCLinPsy Programme - University of Leicester
se220@leicester.ac.uk

As a thank you for your time, you will receive a £20 Love2Shop voucher!

This research has been reviewed and approved by the University of Leicester Research Ethics Committee: 5209

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER • DCLINPSY PROGRAMME • DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Version/Date: V1.0, 23.03.2026

OLDER ADULTS NEEDED FOR RESEARCH!

We are looking for **older adults (age 60+)**, either **with or without a diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease**, to take part in a study that will ask about aspects of psychological wellbeing and worries about others.

You will be invited to complete a **single set of questionnaires online** (or by post if preferred).

The results of the study will be used to better understand these experiences in older adults with Parkinson's Disease, how this compares to the general older adult population, and what interventions might be helpful for supporting wellbeing.

Want to take part or get more information?
VISIT:
<https://tinyurl.com/onlineSurvey123>
OR EMAIL
lauren.cash@psy.ox.ac.uk
OR CALL 07775546457
Or scan this QR code!

Study Poster
 Paranoia in Older Adults with Parkinson's Disease Compared to a Control Group
 Chief Investigator: Lauren Cash

Version/Date: V1.0, 23.03.2026
 IRAS Project number: 364663
 REC Reference number: 26/NE/0083

Do You Know Your Movies?..... The Answers!

"Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn." — *Gone with the Wind*, Rhett Butler (Clark Gable), 1939

"Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore." — *The Wizard of Oz*, Dorothy (Judy Garland), 1939

"Here's looking at you, kid." — *Casablanca*, Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), 1942

"Go ahead, make my day." — *Sudden Impact*, Harry Callahan (Clint Eastwood), 1983

"May the Force be with you." — *Star Wars*, multiple characters, 1977

"Dinosaurs eat man. Woman inherits the earth." — *Jurassic Park*, Dr Ellie Sattler (Laura Dern), 1993

"Love means never having to say you're sorry." — *Love Story*, Jenny Cavilleri (Ali MacGraw), 1970

"Just keep swimming." — Finding Nemo Ellen DeGeneres as Dory in *Finding Nemo*, 2003

"A gold medal is a wonderful thing. But if you're not enough without one, you'll never be enough with one." - *Cool Runnings* - Irwin Blitzer (John Candy), 1993

"Hasta la vista, baby." — *Terminator 2*, Terminator (Arnold Schwarzenegger) *Judgment Day*, 1991

"I do wish we could chat longer, but...I'm having an old friend for dinner. Bye." — *Silence Of The Lambs*, Anthony Hopkins as Hannibal Lecter, 1991

"You're gonna need a bigger boat." — *Jaws*, Brody (Roy Scheider) 1975

Just Think About ItThe Answer!

The boat floats, so it rises with the tide. The ladder lifts with the boat, and exactly the same rungs stay underwater. The answer is 4.



Daventry & District u3a Activity & Interest Groups

Free for members to join
(Although some activities may have associated costs).

Our groups are the lifeblood of the u3a so, why not consider joining or forming a group to further your interest and meet like-minded members.

Frequency Key: M = Monthly F = Fortnightly W = Weekly	Frequency	Day	Time	Frequency Key: M = Monthly F = Fortnightly W = Weekly	Frequency	Day	Time
Acoustics	W	Mon	PM	New Experiences	Activity Dependent		
Alternative Book Group	M	Thurs	AM	Philosophy	M	Tue	AM
Any Crafts Will Do	F	Mon	PM	Photography For Pleasure	M	Tue	PM
Art Appreciation	M	Tue	PM	Rambles (4-6 Miles)	M	Mon	AM
BakeXChange	M	Fri	PM	Reading Shakespeare 1	M	Fri	AM
Bird Watching / Nature	M	Thurs	AM/PM	Reading Shakespeare 2	M	Mon	PM
Book Group	M	Tue	PM	Rummikub 1	M	3 rd Wed	AM
Bridge	M	Thurs	PM	Rummikub 2	M	Wed	Eve
Creative Writing	M	Wed	AM	Rummikub 3	M	Tue	PM
Cribbage	F	Fri	PM	Rummikub 4	M	3 rd Wed	PM
Current Affairs	Third Wed Of The Month		PM	Scrabble	M	1 st Mon	PM
Folk Dancing	W	Thurs	AM	Spanish Conversation	F	Mon	PM
French Conversation 1	F	Wed	PM	Spanish Conversation (Basic)	F	Wed	PM
French Conversation 2	F	Wed	PM	Supper Club	M	Wed	Eve
Garden Vistas & Views	M	Fri	Day	The Art Of Painting	F	Wed	PM
Golf	M	Fri	AM	The Stories In My Life	M	Thurs	PM
History I	M	4 th Wed	PM	Virtual Book Group	M	Tue	Day
MOTO	Meet On Various Days			Weekenders	M	Sat/Sun	AM/PM
Motoring	M	Tue	AM	Wine Appreciation	Bi-Monthly	Various Days	PM

No group is ever 'FULL', there may be a waiting list until there is room, or another group is started.

For information about any of the above groups email Brenda Mills on: u3agroupsDaventry@gmail.com

To contact the editor of the monthly newsletter with all your comments, news and photos:

daventryu3a.newsletter@gmail.com