

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

Hi from Hazel

Thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help out at the Arnold Summer Fair, this year. I'm looking forward to working with you, as we spread the word about all the amazing things we do at Arnold u3a. I'm on holiday for two weeks before this event but I'll be around at Arnot Hill Park for much of the day.

I'd love to see and chat to as many of you as can make it on the day. Why not come along with your family and friends? Look out for Arnold u3a's deep blue gazebo and display boards.

It's on Saturday 20th June from 11am to 5pm. Come along at any time you can pop by and let's make a great impression on all the attendees from our community.

Hazel Ward, Chair, Arnold u3a

General Meetings

In May, Andy McKinnon came to speak to us about Arnold and the Great War. He sent a message afterwards, saying, "I really enjoyed myself, talking about my pet subject to a very well-behaved and receptive audience. Very impressed by your organisation. Hope to see you again sometime." I think that's the first time I've seen an audience complimented by the speaker!

In June, Graham Keal will be entertaining us. Ex-showbiz journalist **Graham Keal** spent 35 years interviewing TV, pop and film stars. Some encounters were funny, a few were fraught, and although his talk is titled "Oprah Winfrey Touched My Elbow," lots of other famous faces get a look in.

General meeting timings

We are two months into our trial of the new timings, so do please keep your comments coming. Personally I would welcome an earlier finish in the winter months! You might be interested to know that May's speaker spoke for 45 minutes, keeping exactly to time and helping with our planning.

Viv Purkiss

Publicity

We are having some flyers printed and some general posters which will be distributed around local venues. However, if you would like to publicise your own group in venues that you use, you can go to the new website, choose resources, miscellaneous documents, then group leader resources, then standardised poster. You can print this off, or ask someone with a colour printer to do so, and complete the rest of the information by hand.

Viv Purkiss

Activities Groups

Science Group

Discussions in May centred on:

- Healthcare by AI
- 3D Printed Bionic Arm
- Scientists don't always get it right with new Inventions

Lindley Hearson

Strollers

Hello everyone, our first walk in April took us to Woodthorpe Park. We strolled through the beautiful trees, some bearing pretty pink blossom. We had a short rest after passing the train and made our way to the plant Shop and the Tropical House. Some of us bought plants and then saw the fish in the pond and statues and greenery in the Tropical house. It was great to welcome two newcomers to the group, who enjoyed themselves and made their way with us all down the slope, out of the park to the Sherwood Manor for coffee and lunch.

Our June meeting will Take place on Tuesday June 23rd 2026 when we will be walking along the Embankment by the River Trent. We will meet at 10.30am on Parliament Street outside Lloyds Bank, on the opposite side of the road to Boots. We will then catch the bus as a group to Trent Bridge, after the walk we will have a coffee and lunch if desired.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Maralyn Wilson 0115 9277188/ 07721777443 and Linda Birch



Public transport Walk

Our walk in May started at Gonalston and included Gonalston Mill, the Dover Beck, Caythorpe Village, the River Trent, Gunthorpe and Bulcote Fishing Lakes finishing at Bulcote Village. Ten of us were out and we were extremely fortunate in the weather. I always worry about meeting the wrong sort of cattle at this time of the year but we only met lovely gentle ones grazing by the River Trent.



Our next walk will be another very local one and will include Lambley Dumbles and Plowman Wood.

If you are interested in joining our group contact me, stellalane@talktalk.net

Stella Lane

Psychology

At our May meeting each member was asked to bring a Real Life Example of the application of Cross Cultural psychology. This led to general discussion.

In June, Brian is to lead us through an exploration of “Travel, Tourism and Cultural Change”. This will be our last meeting under the theme of Cultural Psychology because in July we commence our new theme:

The Psychology of Family and Friends.

We welcome new people to our group so, if you would like to join us do contact me on rosieallen21@outlook.com or come along to the next meeting.

Rosie Allen

Activities Group

Race Night

A chance to take a flutter but no risk of losing your shirt! All you will pay is your £5 entry fee, to watch a number of horse races on a screen, having placed your bets beforehand. You will be given a set amount of money (not real) to choose your favoured nag, place your bet and watch the action. Winner on the night will be the person who has made the most! The action takes place at the Balfour Club on High Street in Arnold, on Monday 8th June, starting at 7.00pm. Drinks available at the bar at the club. You can even pretend you are at Ascot and dress up accordingly if you so wish! There is a maximum of 20 places so get your name down now to join in the fun.

Summer Quiz

I am now taking bookings for our annual summer quiz. This will take place on Tuesday 27th July, 7.00pm at the Bonington Club on High Street in Arnold. Teams of four will cost £20 or an individual can enter for £5 and we will make up teams on the night. Drinks available at the bar but it is ok to bring your own snacks. This is usually a fun night so do put your name down – you never know – you might win a prize

Archery

Calling all budding Robin Hoods! I have made some enquiries about archery. Burton Joyce Archery Club will run a session on an evening in August. The cost for seniors is £15 for an hour session. If there is sufficient interest for this, I will arrange a date with the club. Leave your details at the meeting.

Neil Hunt

Discussion Group - May

Our topics that were discussed this month are

- *Should National Service be reinstated?
- *What one thing could Keir Starmer do to improve his poll rating?
- *How do we teach respect to young people?
- *Minack Theatre and Lakme
- *The Eurovision Song Contest

We meet at The Coopers Brook on the first Monday of the month from 2.30 till 4.00. Everyone is welcome.

Jean Cussons



Forthcoming

Hill's Farm and the Old Vicarage

Sat 13th June 1 to 4.30pm This is one of their open days. Important to visit as this may be the last year of opening for The Old Vicarage.

I suggest we start at 1pm at:

The Old Vicarage Halam Hill, Halam NG22 8AX. This is where we buy our ticket for both gardens.

This is a much-admired gem. Complementing the natural landscape, this 2 acre organic, hillside garden was designed with an artful eye for texture, colour, height, love of unusual plants and trees. Beautiful backdrop of woodland and open field. Bottom garden of 4 years contrasts with sunken contemporary PassivHaus (build in progress). Pond attracts diverse wildlife. Beautiful 12th century St Michael's church is only a short walk across open field. 1 mile west of Southwell, first house on left as entering Halam village. Please park diagonally into beech hedge on verge with speed interactive sign or in village. Please enter through top entrance. No admittance through bottom entrance due to building works.

Hill's Farm Edingley NG22 8BU

Created with passion to produce a delightful walk. 6 acres of Nottinghamshire hay meadow carpeted with colourful wildflowers; ragged robin, yellow rattle, pyramidal orchids. 40+ acres of this mixed organic farm were taken out of arable production in 2006 to create traditional hay meadows – hay taken in July is fed to the native beef shorthorn cattle. See some of the cows in adjoining fields. Talk from John Hill for his organic passion. Meat sold at farm shop.

Short drive of 1 mile towards Edingley from The Old Vicarage. Turn right at brow of hill as signed; tarmac farmyard parking.

Combined admission ticket £7.00. Home-made teas at The Old Vicarage at cost.



Enjoying our visit to the garden in Mansfield in the sun despite the threat of rain.



And.....

Norwell Gardens Newark NG23 6JX

I have chosen this date even though it is not July because it is the 30th Anniversary of Norwell opening its gardens.

Sun 28th June 1 - 5pm. One of their Open Days

A range of ten different, very appealing gardens, all making superb use of the beautiful backdrop of a quintessentially English countryside village. It includes a garden and nursery of national renown. To top it all there are a plethora of breathtaking village gardens showing the diversity that is achieved under the umbrella of a cottage garden description. In celebration of the 30th opening, the village will have a scarecrow trail and gardening themed displays.

6 miles north of Newark, half way between Newark and Southwell. Off A616 take Caunton turn. Filed parking at Foxhall Close opposite pub if dry.

Combined admission £6.50. Home made teas in Village Hall at cost.

As they are their Open Days, we can make our own way but if anyone would like to meet up with fellow Arnold u3a members, I suggest we congregate at the entrance at 1pm.

If anyone would like to go but needs a lift, please let me know and, conversely, if you can offer a lift, please also let me know.

Rosie Allen

British History

Our 3 presentations in May looked at some important events at the end of the C19th and into the start of the C20th plus a look back at "what have the Victorians ever done for us?"

Mary gave us an informative paper on the Boer War, 1899-1902, covering the background, immediate causes and the course of the conflict. The British army had great difficulty defeating the Boers who used guerilla tactics to harrass a large British force. The British only succeeded in the end by using a scorched-earth policy and building concentration camps in which to hold Boer women and children and native Africans, in appalling conditions.

On a lighter note Gill outlined a range of inventions from the railways to the tin opener that changed life in Victorian times and have benefitted us to this day. To name a few, the Victorian period gave us a reliable domestic sewing machine (1851), the electric light bulb (1879) and Xrays (1895). The period also produced effective working hours reform (especially for children), compulsory schooling and advances in public health and vaccination.

Finally Martin introduced us to some important political and social changes at the beginning of the Edwardian Age (1901-14). After a period at the end of the C19th dominated by Conservative Governments, the election of 1905 ushered in a succession of Liberal Governments which introduced a number of important social and political reforms. These included the first old age pensions in 1909 (25p a week) and the introduction of National Insurance in 1911 to cover workers against sickness and unemployment. The powers of the House of Lords were curtailed under the Parliament Act, 1911. We were introduced to two important political figures of this period, Asquith and Lloyd George.

Chris Butler

Coffee Morning Group

We meet at Sprinters on the fourth Friday of the month from 10.00 until 12.00 with the option of staying for lunch. We are a friendly group and everyone is welcome to join us for an informal chat. Our June meeting is on the 26th and our July meeting is on the 24th.

Jean Cussons



Gardening Group

We've started our programme of visiting members' group for the summer months. We visited Brian's garden, which was very interesting despite the rain, and in June we will visit Rosie's garden. Rosie specialises in growing veg, so I am expecting lots of information.

Viv Purkiss



Art Appreciation

In April the Art Appreciation Group met at Arnold Library for a really interesting session led by Nigel on the uses of different materials in sculpture. He showed us examples of metals, woods and multiple types of materials he had used, especially during his teacher training course, with some beautifully made jewellery and other artefacts. Nigel also put together a great slide show of sculptures around Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City. There was so much to see that he will be continuing the session in August. Many thanks to Nigel for taking such care to make such a great session and for all the hard work he put into it.

In May we went to York for the day to see an exhibition of Japanese art and for a look round York as well.

Lorna Weir



Theatre Groups

TOLETHORPE HALL THEATRE

Hello theatre goers. I have the tickets for all the productions we are going to see this summer. If you wish to pick them up, I will be at the June meeting. If you can't make any of the meetings, I will have them with me to hand out on the day. Just to remind you that the dates and productions are as follows - Twelfth Night 4th July, leaving Arnold Leisure Centre at 11.30 a.m. Treasure Island 1st August departing as above and finally One Man Two Governors on 29th August as above. Don't forget to bring a picnic. I shall be doing a Cynthia and praying for fine weather. Any other information you need don't hesitate to contact me. Look forward to seeing you all.

Wendy Quickfall

Theatre

We had a very successful visit to Derby, starting with a meal at the Cosy Club then moving to the Theatre to see Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson confront figures from their past in a desperate race against time and Moriarty. We caught the Red Arrow Bus back to Nottingham using our cut price group ticket. An unusual play but well worth seeing.



On Thursday 11th June we go to Stratford to see Keneth Branagh in The Tempest. We will - as usual- leave Arnold at 9.00. Then arrive back home about 7.00pm. We have two tickets available from Members who are unable to go. Theatre tickets £40 and bus fare £20. The Play is a sell out for all performances, it will be exciting to watch Prospero the magician on an isolated island perform his magic. There is space on the bus so anyone wanting a day visit to lovely Stratford the cost will be £20.

Thursday 24th September at Nottingham Theatre Royal Matthew Bourne's "The Car Man" which is based on Bizet's Carmen. Tickets £53.50

Saturday 12th December, we go to Sheffield for the Crucible Christmas musical "Singin' in the Rain"- a glorious feeling, I'm happy again!! We hope to book for lunch at our favourite Italian restaurant. Tickets £47.25.

Happy Theatre going

Sue & Shirley

St. Albans was our venue for our May outing. 32 members enjoyed a great day in this thriving, lovely Market town. It was like going back in time with the extremely long street market selling good quality items as well as gourmet and artisan food, no tat, McDonalds or Poundshop. The independent shops, with just two high end charity shops, were well laid out and attractive.

St. Albans cathedral was well worth the time spent there with its varied architecture spanning several centuries. The museums, including the Verulamium, telling the Roman history of the place, were spaced quite a distance apart and approached through the Verulamium Park, a beautiful public space containing Roman ruins, a pub and huge pond fed by the River Ver. The Clock Tower offered good views over the rooftops, and Abigails cosy tea shop, set in a lovely garden, was appreciated by some before the comfortable journey home.



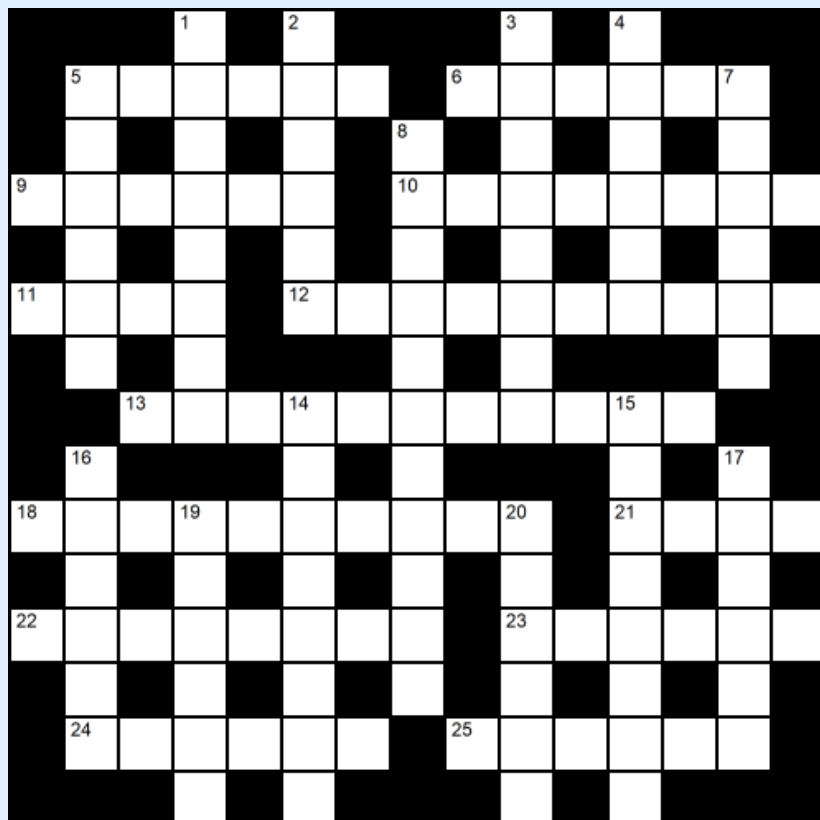
Our next outing, to Port Sunlight on 13th June, is now full, but reserves will be taken at the next General meeting on 2nd June when Durham City and cathedral, 18th July, costing £21, will be advertised, bookings and payments taken. Cheques should be made payable to Arnold U3A with your phone number on reverse side please.

Cynthia Marette

Cryptic Crossword

Set by Bob Rotheram

More puzzles at bobrotheram.com/crosswords



Down

- 1 Run what follows (8)
- 2 50% bozo and half dumb: that's one stupid person! (6)
- 3 Judge petrol brand by dipstick, right? (8)
- 4 Change course crossing New England for fine overlay (6)
- 5 What lecturers did is pronounced "wrong" (6)
- 7 Common misuse of umlaut (6)
- 8 Virtually no change made without compulsion (11)
- 14 Crude joshing to tease nearly everybody on the wagon (8)
- 15 First animal in dictionary has no teeth (8)
- 16 Instrumental piece sampling recordings on a tape (6)
- 17 Got to know what students may have done (6)
- 19 Peck owl finally with a kiss on hooter (6)
- 20 A small carrier's off-course (6)

Across

- 5 Some theatre mortgages are a shock (6)
- 6 Respect alternate website even more at first (6)
- 9 Advance payment by half of refined residential area (6)
- 10 Dish needing breaking and beating? (8)
- 11 It's a question of time (4)
- 12 Enquires at work about riding (10)
- 13 Drunken rioter in court hearing is army type (11)
- 18 In speech, prepare a town for laughing jackass (10)
- 21 Whirlwind dance (4)
- 22 Figure losing no weight gets degree of latitude (8)
- 23 Old boozer where backsliding priest interrupts function (6)
- 24 Use this to offer cheese on a train, say (6)
- 25 Incentive responsible for MoT failure? (6)

Please remember ...



Because of copyright laws, we are unable to publish anything other than the photographs you take yourself, or free clip art. If you do not wish to appear in a photograph, please step away from the group, and if you inadvertently get into a group shot, please ask your group leader not to send it for publication in the Newsletter.

Remember also to take your ERIC card with you to meetings and outings and ensure that you are fit to attend, particularly if there will be a great deal of walking and/or climbing in and out of coaches.

Viv Purkiss

Crossword Answers

Across: 5 Tremor, 6 Esteem, 9 Suburb, 10 Omelette, 11 When, 12 Equestrian, 13 Territorial, 18 Kookaburra, 21 Reel, 22 Parallel, 23 Tavern, 24 Aboard, 25 Carrot.

Down: 1 Sequence, 2 Zombie, 3 Assessor, 4 Veneer, 5 Taught, 7 Mutual, 8 Voluntarily, 14 Ribaldry, 15 Aardvark, 16 Sonata, 17 Learnt, 19 Klaxon, 20 Astray.