

Wellingore & District u3a

NOVEMBER 2026

Notes from the Chair, Adam Paxton.



Doesn't it seem that all of a sudden the nights are drawing in and there is a cold chill in the air! Where did all that warmth go?

And so we start to gear up for Christmas and Winter. The team are starting to plan Christmas, don't forget to put the Christmas lunch in your diary (Wednesday 9th December by the way) and please don't forget to donate raffle prizes if you can.

I don't know about you, but I keep getting entreaties to plan for emergencies, to put aside 3 days supply of food and water, buy candles and be ready for power cuts, floods and cyber attacks? It's probably worth thinking about now rather than wishing you had when it's too late?

Doug has kindly organized a session on Wednesday 18th November (at Welbourn Village Hall) to allow us to look at contingency planning which hopefully should be enlightening. Get in touch with him if you want to come (see all details on page 7).

I suspect as a generation we are probably better prepared than the younger generations for short term problems (indeed it seems many young people seem to struggle to meet the here and now cost of living, let alone plan for a contingency reserve). Looking at my kids though, I suspect their emergency plan is to come around to my house and live off my "stash"!

No-one has come forward to volunteer to be Treasurer. There is time, but as a u3a we must have a treasurer to continue. If you are considering volunteering, please, please come forward.

Keep warm and safe and watch out for those around you who might seem vulnerable (especially during floods, power cuts, cyber attacks or famine), and I look forward to seeing you at the meetings through November and December.

And lastly a little request: If you are unwell with a viral infection, cold or Covid, (yes, it's still around), please stay home, and avoid giving it to others who may be vulnerable and less able to combat disease than yourself. Thanks.

Adam

Monthly Meeting

Place: Wellingore Memorial Hall.

Date: Wednesday 11th November at 10:30am

Speaker: Jason Middleton: The Pearl – a famous gemstone with a fascinating history from early civilisations to the pearls found in jewellery today.

Tea & Coffee available from 10am.

Visit us at: www.wellingore.u3asite.uk

Facebook@wellingoreu3a

HEADS-UP - CHRISTMAS MEETING Wednesday 9th December.

This is the last meeting before the Christmas Party and we're still on the scrounge for raffle prizes. If you have any superfluous gifts, or bottles of Chateau Wellingore 2025 collecting dust we would welcome them, if you can bring them to the November meeting. If you can't make the meeting, contact a committee member. We shall be following the same format in December as in the previous 2 years and providing a light lunch and glass of fizz before the Speaker. You have been very generous in the past supporting us with prizes for the raffle and we will be making up hampers including vouchers from local retailers.

SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2026

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Wellingore Memorial Hall.

December: John Campbell: Close Encounters of the Ecclesiastical Kind

January: Paul Lillie: The Beatles

February: Horace Liberty -The Life and Work of John Betjeman

March: Charles Hanson - Antiques

April: Paul Robinson: Cold War-Hot Wars - Bomber Command in the Post-War Period

May: Dr Abby Gillespie: Understanding Memory, Cognitive Health & Capacity

June: Dave Pinion - My Amazing Journey to Antarctica

Interest Group News

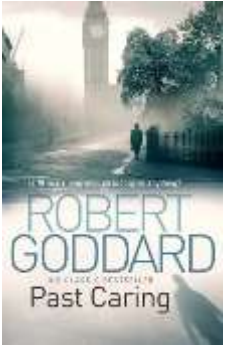
Board Games & Kurling Groups

We are going to combine Board Games and Kurling to make best use of the Memorial Hall and accommodate more members. Future dates are Fridays 6th & 20th November, and 4th December, from 10am-12noon.

We are extending the choice of games to include Mahjong, 5s & 3s in Dominoes and card games to include Cribbage.

New members welcome. Please contact Brenda Dandy for more information.

Book Group 1



Our next meeting will be on 12th November at The King's Head, 6 pm as usual. We are now looking at old favourites suggested from a long list, and our book this month is "Past Caring", by Robert Goddard.

Please remember to come with suggestions for our next book choices, as we're hoping to plan well in advance.

Contact: Helen Gibb

Book Group 2

Our next meeting will be on Monday 16th November at 3.15 pm in Navenby Methodist Hall.



Our Book choice from Lincoln Library will be "Transcription" by Kate Atkinson, a novel of working in Espionage and MI5 set in WWII.

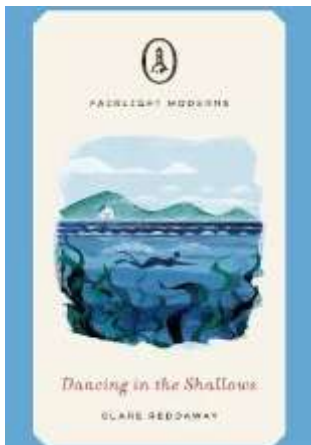
£2 includes hire of the Hall, tea and biscuits.

I now have a waiting list as our group is fully subscribed.

Happy Reading!

Kathy Blake

Book Group 3



This month we are reading: "Dancing in the Shallows" by Clare Reddaway. We are choosing our own books from members suggestions, which means that each person has to source their own copy i.e. either buy them – on kindle/physical (new or second hand) or order them from the library. We normally meet on the 2nd Monday of the month 2-4pm, for the time being at some members homes. Our next meeting is on Monday 9th November at Brenda Dandy's. If you wish to know more details, please contact me Celia Goldberg

Craft Group

The next meeting will be on November 5th from 2-4 pm at Coddington.
Contact Gloria Hill for further information.

Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will meet on Monday 23rd November at 12 noon. We will meet at Oslo House with the kind permission of Jean Salmon. There will be no topic for discussion, but the future timetable and possible subjects will be considered.
New members are welcome.
For further details contact Corrine Morris.

Film Group

This month we saw "Pressure", "Sense and Sensibility" and "Digger" - a very varied selection! All of which are worth a watch - particularly "Pressure".
If you wish to join the Film Club email list, please contact Celia Goldberg.

All Things Gardening

Our November Gardening Group meeting will be a visit to Belton Garden Centre, where we will meet for coffee and cakes, and then have a wander around to enjoy the plants and Christmas decorations.
Usual 4th Tuesday so the 24th of November but a **change of time to 11:30 am**.
Further info from Denise Amps.

History Group

A Guided tour of Southwell Minster on Tuesday 8th December at 10:30am.
Cost £11 per person.
Can be followed by Lunch in newly refurbished refectory and a little Christmas shopping in this delightful town.
Please contact Liz Salmon

Luncheon Club

The next lunch will be held on Wednesday 18th November at The Wagon, Halam, Newark. NG22 8AE. Meet from 12.30pm for lunch at 1pm.
There is no need to pre-order.
Please let me know if you are coming by Wednesday 11th November.
New members are welcome.
Contact: Lynne Murdoch

Leg Stretchers

The **Legstretcher** on Wednesday November 25th will start from The Royal Oak, Scopwick (LN4 3PA) at 11am where orders for lunch can be given. The walk will finish by 12.30 and lunch will be at 12.45.

Legstretchers are for members who prefer a walk that is not too demanding and can be done at a slower pace. This route will differ from the previous walk at Scopwick. There are fine views and the pub serves good meals. The route is almost entirely on tracks and minor roads which should not be affected by mud if it has rained recently. If you would like to take part, please let Jean Salmon know by the evening of 22nd November, stating if you wish to stay for lunch.

Photography Group

We have just had our first group meeting on Monday 26th October, 5 people will be attending from the 7 of us signed up so far. The first meeting will be session to get to know each other, share aspirations and hurdles we want to overcome, then get out to take some photographs.

We have set up an invitation only group in Flickr where you will be able to see some of the photos we will be taking: [Wellingore & District u3a Photographic Group | Flickr](#)

Meetings going forward will start at 10:00 on the last Monday of the month. If you wish to join the group, please send an email to Doug Marsh.

Ukulele aka “Cool Hand Ukes”



Cool Hand Ukes continue to meet, learn and practice at The Lion and Royal, Navenby every Monday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm. At the end of September, we met with several Ukulele groups at Reepham and Cherry Willingham village hall. The event was hosted by the local ukulele band, Stringing Nettles, and each group played a couple of songs of their own choosing, with Stringing Nettles providing the main entertainment. Unfortunately, only five of our own group were able to go this year due to holidays and last-minute illness but we acquitted ourselves well and enjoyed the whole event.

For further details please contact Pat Gibson.

Table Tennis

We meet at Brant Broughton Village Hall every Thursday from 1:30 – 4pm, all equipment provided. All welcome and we range from beginners to Olympic standard, but you can find your own level.

We make a charge of £2 to cover the cost of the hall + tea/coffee and biscuits.

Contact: Brenda Dandy

Ramblers

The Ramble on Wednesday November 4th will start from The Riverside Inn, Ferry Road, Southrey. LN3 5TA at 10am, for a 5-mile scenic walk.

Please contact Jean Salmon by November 1st if you wish to join us, advising if you are staying for lunch. There is no need to pre-order, as we can advise the landlady of our choices before we set off and should have access to toilets too!

HEADS-UP: RAMBLE December 2nd at RAUCEBY.

We will be meeting at the BUSTARD Inn at 10 am.

If you are thinking of joining this walk and staying for lunch, please contact Jean as the pub require numbers very soon owing to the need to plan their December bookings.

Breakfast Group

Monday 2nd November at Down the Road, Navenby from 9:30am.

Tuition for British Sign Language.

The initial 4 meetings have been a great success. Our next meeting is on Friday 30th October at the home of Jane Hiscox, 5, Bronze Henge, Navenby, from 11am.

The date of the November meeting will be advised after this meeting.

The qualified tutor will be Joanne Hunter. If you wish to join us, please email Jane Hiscox.

People's Emergency Briefing.

You may have seen in the National news recently with comments on the above.

We are showing of a 50 minute film titled The People's Emergency Briefing at **Welbourne Village Hall on 18th November at 10:00 for 10:30 start.**

Our showing is free to u3a members. The film will be followed by a group discussion about the information provided, how we can individually prepare, how we can share what we have discovered with friends and family and how we can support each other.

Unfortunately, Wellingore Memorial Hall is not available on this date hence the change of venue.

If you are unable to attend but wish to see the film and take part in discussion, please do let Heather (Membership Secretary) know. We will attempt to accommodate a later showing if and when we have enough people.

If you cannot wait, there is a showing by The Green Film Network at Grantham Savoy on Monday 9th November at 20:00 finishing 21:10. Tickets will be circa £5.50 each as the cinema needs to cover its operational costs.

Link here: <https://savoygrantham.co.uk/SavoyGrantham.dll/WhatsOn?f=20328935>

Brief on the PEB film: *The UK faces a growing climate and nature emergency. Yet most people have never been fully briefed on what it means for our lives, our economy and our future. This new film from the National Emergency Briefing sets out the risks facing the nation - and the credible, positive responses available - in a clear and accessible account designed for screenings in communities across the UK. Hosted by Chris Packham with special guests Jennifer Saunders, Deborah Meaden, Konnie Huq and more, this film ensures the UK is clearly and honestly briefed on the climate and nature crisis, and what we can do next*

Contact: Doug Marsh

Brain Tumour Trust.

There will be a small table at the November meeting selling bracelets, raising money for the Brain Tumour Trust. My daughter Jo is running for them in the London Marathon in April raising money for this charity. My son Andrew died of a brain tumour at the age of 40.

Heads Up – KEW GARDENS - February 18th 2027.

We have had little response but if you are interested, please contact Jean Salmon.

We will only buy tickets for Kew if we have over 40 members wishing to go.

Anyone who listened to the talk on Kew Gardens and would like to visit it at some stage, read on.

We are hoping to get a bus to transport us to the gates at Kew, leaving at 8.30am from Navenby. Journey time 4 hours with comfort stop.

We can then spend 3+ hours in the garden hopefully visiting the orchid display. Cost around £50 including entrance and transport.

If you are interested can you let Brenda or Jean know. There will be a sheet to sign at the next meeting.

Out & About

Loughborough Bell Foundry – Tuesday 17th November.

A guided tour of the bell foundry is planned for Tuesday 17th November from 10:30am-1:30pm, cost £17.50pp.

We did this trip in February 2022, and it was an interesting and enjoyable trip.

We've got a lot more new members since then so I think it's worth repeating.

We shall car-share to Loughborough.

Please email me soon, as the booking is only held for so long.



Brenda Dandy