

# Rainworth & District

## AUGUST 2026 Newsletter

[www.rainworth-u3a.org.uk](http://www.rainworth-u3a.org.uk)

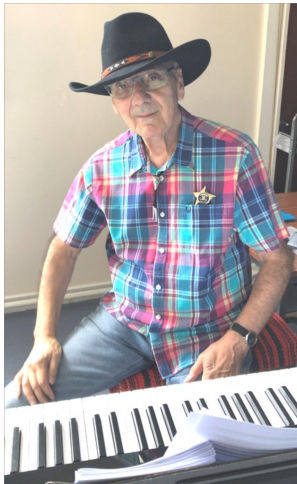
[rainworthu3anews@gmail.com](mailto:rainworthu3anews@gmail.com)

facebook – [rainworthu3a](https://www.facebook.com/rainworthu3a)

**We meet on the second Wednesday of the month,  
10am-12pm at the Rainworth Village Hall**



**New Sheriff in town!**



**Stand off at the OK Corral!**



## **Interest Groups**

**Members wishing to join/attend any interest group activities must contact the group leader ***PRIOR TO ATTENDING.*****

|                    |                             |                       |                 |                                |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Snapshot Gallery   | "Virtual" Slideshow monthly | Ian Hibbert           | 795399          | snappgallery21@gmail.com       |
| Armchair Film Club | 4th Wed                     | Diane Hibbert         | 795399          | diane.hibbert@btinternet.com   |
| Book Group         | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri         | Betty Foster          | 07708<br>444535 | betty.foster@btopenworld.com   |
| Breakfast          | 1st Tue                     | Gordon Brown          | 07925<br>896004 | gordonbrown66@ntlworld.com     |
| Canasta            | 3rd Mon                     | Enid Thomas           | 07738<br>163889 | enidthomas@hotmail.co.uk       |
| Card Craft         | 3rd Mon                     | Jill Pullan           | 400545          | jillandmalcp@gmail.com         |
| Garden Visits      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Thur        | Ann Mills             | 631714          | ann_mills@me.com               |
| Hobbies            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon         | Maureen Litchfield    | 799322          | maureen.litchfield@hotmail.com |
| Indoor Games       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon         | Andrew Goodison       | 438702          | goodisonj2@gmail.com           |
| Local History      | 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri         | Diane Hibbert         | 795399          | diane.hibbert@btinternet.com   |
| Lunch Group 1      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue         | Ann Mills             | 631714          | ann_mills@me.com               |
| Lunch Group 2      | 2nd Wed                     | Jackie Massey         | 07881<br>661894 | masseyjackie@hotmail.com       |
| National Trust     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thur        | Maureen Litchfield    | 799322          | maureen.litchfield@hotmail.com |
| Odeon Visits       | Various                     | Pam Berry             | 795473          | randp33@hotmail.com            |
| Pub Quiz           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur        | Gordon Brown          | 07925<br>896004 | gordonbrown66@ntlworld.com     |
| Ringtones-Singing  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon         | Pam Haywood           | 406078          | pamhaywood@hotmail.co.uk       |
| Strollers          | 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon         | Andrew/Susan Goodison | 438702          | goodisonj2@gmail.com           |
| Trips & Visits     | Various                     | Ann Brown             | 07982<br>243462 | annbrown051@gmail.com          |
| Wine Appreciation  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed         | Jill Pullan           | 400545          | jillandmalcp@gmail.com         |

## **Meeting Programme 2026**

|                     |                                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Wed 12th Aug</b> | Michelle Welsh<br>"Life of an MP"       |
| <b>Wed 9th Sep</b>  | Stephen Brown<br>"It's Hell on Wheels!" |

## **Future Events 2026**

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tue 22nd Sep</b> | <b>National u3a week event to promote the organisation and our own u3a.</b><br>Open coffee morning 10-12pm at<br>Rainworth Village Hall.<br>Raffle, Tombola, Books and Jigsaws.<br>£3 admission includes coffee and cake.<br>Donations for the tombola would be greatly appreciated |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **Garden Party - YE! HA!**

I suppose the idea behind the cowboy/cowgirl theme certainly wasn't original, but it was to me. The Armchair Film Club recently featured "Calamity Jane" and set off lots of memories for me. It was first proper film I ever saw and a show I've played in several times. The songs are all great. Most wild west films have great music. Just think of The magnificent seven, Big Country and of course Oklahoma, Annie get your gun, Paint your wagon and Seven brides for seven brothers.

But the Country and Western theme is more popular than ever, not just in America but worldwide. The country style is something I enjoy but can't play. Duelling banjos is not for me. But we have line dancing in Rainworth and an enthusiastic following. So *Ye Ha* just needed a mix of country songs, showtime favourites and a comedy item. 'Anything you can do' from Annie get your gun doesn't work for a whole group to sing so this is where Enid saved the day. "I may be able to knit a sweater, but she can certainly fill it better!"

The rest was down to Ann Mills and her social team for setting up and delivering a lovely cream tea, committee members for games, the Ringtones, Mick and the Methodist Hall facilities to put on a great afternoon's entertainment. £196.94 was raised from the event.

*Ian Hibbert*

A warm welcome to all our members and visitors. We hope you enjoy the monthly newsletter, please keep the articles and photos coming! It's not a newsletter if it hasn't got news!

Articles will be put on the website as they are received and has more space for photos, all in colour! Please **email** articles to [rainworthu3anews@gmail.com](mailto:rainworthu3anews@gmail.com) with any photos as an attachment.

**The closing date for the next issue is 31st August**

**Please do not arrive to the meeting before 9.30am.**

Please notify Jean Bingham, our Membership Secretary, of any change to your personal details e.g. address, email & phone numbers and if you do not wish to receive the u3a Matters magazine.

In case of an emergency, please give a contact name and number that you would like used to the Membership Secretary and your Group Leaders. Also please write the details on your membership card which should be carried with you at all u3a meetings, events and activities.

If you are aware of a member who is unable to attend the meeting and would welcome a newsletter, please let one of us know.

Have you remembered to bring your mugs? Please ensure mobile phones are set to silent.

Do have a look at our website and join our Facebook page, if you use social media, for the latest information and also the u3a National website, [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) where you can sign up to receive their monthly newsletter via email. It is full of information, ideas, policies and feedback on the organisation and other branches' activities.

We are a member of the Notts Network of u3a's, who also have a website, <https://nottsnetworkofu3as.u3asite.uk/> and issue a bi-monthly newsletter called "Newsbites." and the East Midlands Region of u3as, website, <https://eastmidlandsregion.u3asite.uk>

There are links to these and other organisations on our website.

You can listen to u3a radio on podcasting platforms, including Apple, Spotify and Google podcasts and on u3a You Tube channel.

***Don't forget to look at the notice board on display at every meeting for more information about our u3a and other events and organisations.***

## **Strollers**

Would you believe it? After we had to cancel the previous two months strolls due to the severely hot weather, on Monday 27th July we set off on our stroll with drizzly RAIN!! Leaving the car park at **Pleasley Country Park** we suddenly started donning our cagoules. Anyway it didn't last for very long and before half way along the route we were taking them off and experiencing the heat again.

A few people and dogs were taking advantage of the cooler day, also there was plenty of fresh evidence that horses had preceded us. The flora and fauna everywhere were looking extremely dry but some bushes had a plethora of berries, a few even looking like blueberries although we resisted the urge to pick them not knowing if they were poisonous or not.

The cafe provided us with the usual good quality refreshments in a newly arranged seating plan.

*The next stroll will take place at Creswell Craggs on Monday 24th August (avoiding the August bank holiday weekend) meeting up in The Dukeries Garden Centre car park for leaving at 10.30am.*

*Andrew and Susan Goodison*

## **Book Group – Home Coming by Luan Goldie**

Moving between London and Kenya, Home Coming follows the journey of Kiama, a young man seeking to find answers by returning to Kenya where he tragically witnessed his mother die 10 years earlier. He asks Yvonne, his mother's best friend, to accompany him. Long burdened by guilt she agrees, setting off a chain of revelations that force everyone involved to confront old wounds and unravels hidden secrets left in the past. These secrets belong to Yvonne and Kiama's father, Lewis, and have been left untold for at least a decade. So, whilst facing his own demons, Kiama also wakes up those of Yvonne and the guilt she has always felt comes flooding back. *Betty Foster*

**Monday, 14 September, 2026**—Ashfield u3a have a few spaces for a trip to RAF Cosford and David Austin Roses. The coach will leave Ellis Street, Kirkby-in-Ashfield at 8.30am returning back to Kirkby around 5.30pm - the coach fare is £15.

There is no charge to visit the RAF Cosford museum but there is an opportunity to join a guided tour at £9 per person on either the Battle of Britain or Bomber Command which needs to be booked in advance. If you are interested please contact Sue Taylor by email: [taylor07vic@gmail.com](mailto:taylor07vic@gmail.com) or mobile: 07791 425094.

## Local History Group - Here comes the sun!

### **There was no shortage of sun at Southwell.**

We visited on the hottest and sunniest day of the week to see the Helios exhibition by Luke Jerram at Southwell Minster.

There we viewed the actual sun through two specialist telescopes, courtesy of Nottingham Astronomical Society.

Helios was the Greek god of the sun, who drove his four-horse chariot daily across the sky, giving the earth its hours and seasons.

This exhibition consists of a 7metre diameter sphere, internally lit and suspended in the nave, with detailed features of the sun's surface such as sunspots, flares and spicules. The scale is 1:200 million.

Outside, we were able to see these features in reality, 93 million miles away, by looking through the two solar telescopes.

We appreciated the cooler conditions back in the Minster as we were able to wander around at our own pace or have a welcome sit-down.

*Diane Hibbert.*

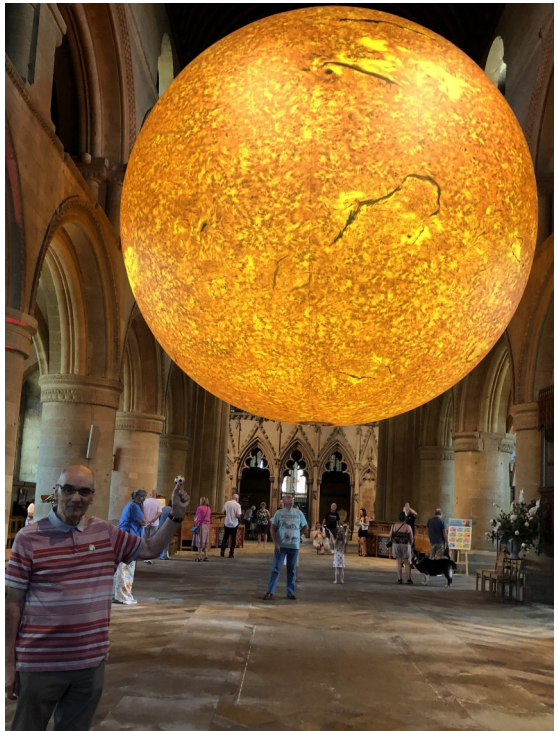
### Reminder

*Our next visit is to the two barges at Newark on **Wednesday 26th August.***

*Meet at Tolney Lane carpark (Riverside, opposite the castle) NG24 1DA, at 10.45am for the Leicester Trader floating museum.*

*More information is on You-tube at "The Leicester Trader with Les Reid"*

*Lunch afterwards at the Barge floating pub for those in need of refreshment.*



## **National Trust**

This month's visit was to Moseley Old Hall.

The hall is near Wolverhampton and is famous as one of the hiding places of Charles II following his escape from the Parliamentarians to France after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651.

He hid in the priest hole for two days before moving on. The beautiful gardens comprise a walled garden, orchard and a (recreated) knot garden.  
Scorchio!!

*Ann Mills*



**Hobbies, Games and Card Craft, great way to spend an afternoon!**



## **Garden Visits**

In July we made our second visit to Burnby Gardens, Pocklington, East Yorkshire as previously we came here for the magnificent display of tulips. As they are renowned for water lilies we had to come back! We were not disappointed as what a show! The gardens are home to the National Collection of over eighty varieties which bloom in the Upper and Lower Lakes between June and August.

The lakes also contain carp and roach which can be hand fed. One of our members did this and the over enthusiastic fish managed to soak her! The walkways take in also a walled garden, a secret garden, rock garden and stumpery so a delightful walk in beautiful sunshine. There is also a small museum featuring the travels of the original owner and a restaurant where we enjoyed a delicious lunch.

The day finished with plant buying. Of course!!

*Pam Berry*



## **Digital Support**

**A dozen of us, all with different needs and problems, managed to achieve some success in mastering our i-phones and tablets.**



**This was thanks to Denise Ellis of Notts CVS, who came initially to help with the NHS app, but also provided help and advice where needed, such as installing Facebook, screenshotting and data management.**

In a relaxed and informal atmosphere, Denise circulated the room and like a circus magician, kept numerous plates spinning at once as she answered all our questions and gave hands-on one-to-one help.

Like it or hate it, most aspects of life are going down a digital route or involve some kind of digital input. The NHS app is a prime example and a focus for future health issues, from booking appointments, repeat prescriptions, health records and messages.

If anyone needs further help, Denise will be doing another session at Hillview surgery, details to be confirmed, which you are welcome to attend. *Diane Hibbert.*

## **Snapshot Gallery**



## **Lunch Group 2**

We had a good response for our first visit to The Welly in Rainworth, twenty of us enjoyed a variety of meals. All were very reasonably priced and plentiful from a really wide choice of dishes. This is definitely worth another visit and will be added to our " Local Luncheon " places to eat!

*Jackie Massey*



## **Strength and Balance Course**

The above was well attended and is due to continue in September at the same venue. Please speak to Diane for further details if you wish to continue with or join this exercise course.

## **Group Leaders**

There will be a meeting for group leaders on Friday 28th August at the Cambridge Close Community Centre, NG 21 0AY at 10am.

*Ian Hibbert*

*Groups Coordinator*

## **Rainworth & District u3a Committee June 2025-June 2026**

|                  |                                                                   |              |                                                        |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Lynden Lowe      | chair@rainworth-u3a.org.uk                                        | 01623 616699 | Acting Co-Chair                                        |
| Jean Bingham     | vicechair@rainworth-u3a.org.uk<br>membership@rainworth-u3a.org.uk | 07572 075528 | Acting Co-Chair<br>Vice-Chair and Membership Secretary |
| Diane Hibbert    | secretary@rainworth-u3a.org.uk                                    | 01623 795399 | Business Secretary                                     |
| Jill Lowe        | treasurer@rainworth-u3a.org.uk                                    | 01623 616699 | Treasurer                                              |
| Ian Hibbert      | ianmusic@gmail.com                                                | 07792 523765 | Groups Coordinator                                     |
| Ann Mills        | ann_mills@me.com                                                  | 01623 631714 | Programme Secretary<br>Social Secretary                |
| Anita Bush       | ani.tab@hotmail.co.uk                                             | 07592 154723 | Press Secretary                                        |
| Ann Brown        | annbrown051@gmail.com                                             | 07982 243462 | Committee member                                       |
| David Gelsthorpe | gelsthorpenorma22@hotmail.com                                     | 01623 481502 | Casual Committee member                                |
| Maureen Vickers  | maureenvickers63@gmail.com                                        | 07800 799095 | Casual Committee Member                                |
| Linda Tift       | tifty2404@gmail.com                                               | 07950 646620 | Casual Committee Member                                |

**Interest Groups** Whilst it is hoped that members can access a particular interest group, it is not always possible due to transport availability and cost, or venue limitations/restrictions. Ask the Group Leader if there is a waiting list you can go on. We are fortunate to be able to hire a Ravenshead Community bus for some trips at reasonable cost which are usually full and is able to access all venues. When a larger commercial coach is hired, the cost has to be shared by those members regardless of the number travelling and is not appropriate for some venues. The Committee will always support anyone in becoming a group leader to set up a second group for that interest, it can be a shared role and would enable others to participate.

## **Strollers at Pleasley Country Park**



## **Lunch Group 2**



## **Local History group enjoying the Sun!**



## **Garden Visits**