**Edwalton, Gamston & District U3A (EGDU3A)**

**Newsletter April 2019**

**Thurs 11 April, 2 pm – Monthly Meeting at Gamston Community Hall, NG2 6PS**

**The Silk Road in Western China**

A presentation by **Phil Cooper**

(At this meeting, Ruth Smith will briefly introduce Notts County Council meal delivery service)

*Our Motto is ‘Live, Laugh and Learn’ – but most of all LAUGH!*
“Keep a sense of humour. It doesn’t mean you have to tell jokes. If you can’t think of anything else, when you’re my age, take off your clothes and walk in front of a mirror. I guarantee you’ll get a laugh.” (Art Linkletter, 1912-2010)

**Our Monthly Meetings** are held on the **2nd Thursday of the month** **at 2.00 pm in Gamston Community Hall (GCH)**.The Hall is near Morrisons supermarket and a short walk from the stop at Morrisons for buses 5, 7 and L/shopper. There is no August meeting.

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS\*\***

**We need YOU to stand for election to our Executive Committee!** This is a friendly, helpful and supportive group but certain positions must be replaced after a specified term (Officers 3 years, others 6 years) **otherwise our U3A may not be able to continue**. We need **YOU** to volunteer to fill named vacancies.

Please read the job descriptions at the end of this Newsletter and, on the associated nomination form, please put your name forward for any of the jobs. Closing date is **Thurs 11 April**.

**Planned Speakers for 2019**

**Thurs 9 May:** **This is our Annual AGM Meeting** with speaker from **Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance**. Theme **‘Saving Lives Every Day’**. We will also hold a cake sale with proceeds going to the Air Ambulance service. PLEASE BRING ALONG SOME CAKES TO SELL!

**Thurs 13 June:** Speaker **Nigel MacKnight**. Theme **‘Life as an author + Holding on tight + World Water Speed Record Attempt’**.

**Thurs 11 July:** About **Tuxford, a traditional stone-ground windmill**. With a chance to buy grains and cakes.

**Thurs 8 August:** There is no monthly meeting at GCH but there will be an informal coffee get-together at 2.00 pm in The Meadow Covert pub for anyone interested.

**Thurs 12 September:** Speaker **Emma Sheardown** (World ParaDressage Champion). Theme **‘There’s no Such Word as Can’t’.**

**Thurs 10 October:** Speaker **Kay Gugliotta.** Theme **‘Chalk to Fork Heritage and Future’** – focussing on agricultural societies and county shows in Nottinghamshire. **You can support the charity work by purchasing tickets to the Notts County show on 11-12 May 2019 at a discount price of £5 each** (normally £10-15!)**.** Contact Frank Hard at hard552@sky.com to take advantage of this special offer.

**Thurs 14 November:** Annual Open Meeting. An opportunity to see what EGDU3A has to offer and to recruit new members.

**Thurs 12 December:** Speaker **David Skillen.** Theme **‘Knitters, Nailers and Traitors’** – about Belper and the Industrial Revolution.

**Did You Know?**

**Riviera Travel:** EGDU3A members with a membership card who book a holiday via Riviera Travel can benefit EGDU3A itself. When you pay the cost of your holiday, EGDU3A will receive 10% of the purchase price. Tel 01283 742300 and mention Edwalton, Gamston and District U3A when booking. Brochures are available from [www.utariviera.co.uk](http://www.utariviera.co.uk). See Mike Brandt (Membership Secretary) for a membership card.

**Broadway Cinema:** U3A members can enjoy special rates at The Broadway Cinema for their Silver Screen Showing each Thursday at 10.30 am or 1.30 pm unless shown otherwise. Show your U3A membership card and the price is £4.50 including tea or coffee and a biscuit. See Mike Brandt for a membership card.

**Legal Helpline:** U3A members can access a 24-hour Legal Helpline by phoning 0344 770 1040 and quoting U3A Legal Helpline.

**Community Save a Life Scheme:** This is a FREE online national training scheme designed to teach everyone basic life-saving skills. It can be accessed by visiting the following website: [www.virtual-college.co.uk/prepared](http://www.virtual-college.co.uk/prepared).

**Just Go Holidays:** Interested in organising a coach holiday? Just Go Holidays offer tailor-made group travel at home and abroad. They have long experience of organising excursions with varied pick-up points. If interested visit www.justgoholidays.com.

**EGDU3A Website**

Our website (<https://edgamu3a.weebly.com>) provides information and pictures about the monthly meetings, how to join, range of interest groups and other matters. Our Webmaster, Steve Barrett, would welcome comments, ideas, photos, group updates, etc. Please contact Steve at stevebar555@yahoo.co.uk or edgamu3a.weebly.com

Please note that we now have a Facebook page which members can access via our website home page. In addition, news items and photos can be emailed to Sandra Morrey at sandra@morrey.biz

**Your Interest Groups and Events**

If you have ideas or would like to start an Interest Group, contact Mike Groves (Groups Coordinator) at a meeting or at grovesfamily@hotmail.com. If there is something, e.g. general equipment, that you need for your group, please let Mike Groves or Richard Davis (Treasurer) know so that we can plan appropriate funding. For example, a new group could obtain funding for an invited speaker if their first meeting is open to all members.

**Refreshment Duty Rota at Monthly Meetings**

Interest Group members take turns to manage ‘tea and biscuits’ at our monthly meetings in GCH. For the next meetings, responsibility falls as follows:

 **Thurs 11 Apr:** Gardening Group **Thurs 9 May:** History Group

**Current Interest Groups**

**Art Appreciation.** We meet on the 3rd Wednesday morning of the month. Venues usually rotate through members’ homes. The next meetings are on **Wed 17 Apr** and **15 May** at 6 The Paddocks, Edwalton when we will discuss ‘The Nation’s Favourite Artworks’. For further information, please contact Roy Townsend at roy.townsend@btinternet.com

**Book Group.** Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2.30 pm in a member’s home. New members are welcome. The next meetings will be on **Tues 9 Apr** (‘The Ashes of London’ by Andrew Taylor) and **Tues 14 May** (‘A Good Man in Africa’ by William Boyd). For further information, please contact Roy Townsend at roy.townsend@btinternet.com

**Bridge Group.** Meets at 2.15 pm every Tuesday in a member’s home. New members (seasoned players or beginners) are welcome. Come along, you don’t need a partner. For further information, contact Ann Widdowson at annwid62@gmail.com

**Chatterbox Group**. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11.00 am in The Meadow Covert. The next meeting is on **Wed 10 Apr**. Please try and come. For further information contact Chris Shaw at 0115 974 5512 or chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com

**Craft Group.** Meets on the 1st Monday of the month, usually at 10.00 am in The Holy Spirit Social Centre, Victoria Rd, West Bridgford. On **Mon 1 Apr**, we focus on ‘Folk Art Embroidery’, led by Sheila Golledge who has prepared all the material required. For further information, contact Prue Brandt at pruebrandt@hotmail.com

**Craft Project Group.** We are affiliated to the Craft Group but have our own agenda. We meet at 10.00 am on the 3rd Monday of the month at the home of a group member. The next meeting is on **Mon 15 Apr**. For further information, contact Sue Harding at susan.harding66@outlook.com

**Family History Group.** Meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 2.00 pm. The next meeting is on **Mon 1 Apr** at The Willow Tree pub. Feel free to contact Paul Hudson or myself with any queries about Family History. For further information, contact Ann Widdowson at annwid62@gmail.com

**French.** This is a small group of learners and competent speakers seeking to improve their reading, writing and speaking skills. We meet at 11.00 am in The Meadow Covert pub on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. On **Wed 17 Apr**, the theme will be ‘L’hiver’. For further information, please contact Terry Mayhew at terry.mayhew@nottingham.ac.uk

**Gardening.** We meet usually on the 1st Thursday of the month at members’ homes or other locations. There is no meeting planned for April. For further information, please contact Beverley Clare at bevclare.bc@gmail.com

**History.** We study many aspects of History and welcome suggestions from members. We meet at 2.00 pm on the 2nd Monday of the month in the Willow Tree pub. Our next meeting is on **Mon 8 Apr** for ‘Stained windows in Nottingham’ (Kemp and Burne-Jones). Due to size constraints, the group is now full but, if you are willing, you could start up a new group. Paul Hudson is no longer the contact, so instead contact Patricia Gammons (Liaison/Coordination) for further information

**Italian.** We are a mix of beginners and improvers meeting normally on the 1st and 4th Thursday and 2nd and 3rd Friday of the month at 2.00 pm in the Willow Tree pub. This is served by buses 5, 6 and 7. We meet next on **Thurs 4** and **Fri 12 Apr.** Because of the Easter period, there is no meeting on **Fri 19 Apr** or **Thurs 25 Apr**. Please let me know if you are coming. The course book is the DK 15 Minute Italian (ISBN 978-4093-7759-7, price £7.99 or, with CD, £25.00), plus any phrase book you can pick up from a charity shop (DK and Berlitz are good). For further information, contact Chris Shaw at chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com

**Lunch Club.** A great opportunity to meet socially over lunch at a different venue each month. Come and join us. Pay for yourself on the day. At each venue, we decide a date and place for the next meeting. If you need a lift, let us know. The next meeting will be at noon on **Thurs 25 Apr** at The Dispensary, Trent Bridge. For further information, contact Mike Groves at grovesfamily@hotmail.com

**Music Appreciation.** We meet on the 1st Friday of the month at 2.30 pm in the home of a group member. Items are provided by the host and by members’ suggestions. We meet next on **Fri 5 Apr** at a venue to be decided. Let us know if you intend to come. For further information, contact Chris Shaw at chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com

**Outings Group.** Please sign up at one of our monthly meetings to join an outing. For further information, contact Joan Mayhew at joanmayhew@hotmail.com. Planned trips:

**Mon 1 April 7.00 pm:** Pub Quiz at The Meadow Covert.

**Tues 30 April 1.30 pm:** Bell Foundry, Loughborough, £10. The world’s largest working bell foundry whose bells are found all over the English-speaking world!

**Tues 21 May 10.30 am:** Museum of Timekeeping, near Newark, cost £10.

**Thurs 6 June 11.00 am:** Norwell Nurseries, near Newark, cost £6.50. Guided tour of gardens featured in list of ‘Gardens to visit in 2019’. Rare and unusual herbaceous perennials, national collection of over 140 hardy chrysanthemums and of Astrantias. Gardening group outing but all welcome.

**Mon 24 June 2.00 pm:** Thrumpton Hall, cost £17.50. Tour of private house and free time to explore gardens. Includes tea/coffee, biscuits.

**Tues 9 July 10.30 am:** Framework Knitters Museum, cost £6. A 2-hour guided tour with an introduction. Tea/coffee for £1.50.

**Tues 2 Sept 11.00 am:** Derby Sewage Works and Water Treatment, Spondon, free guided tour of the site! Find out what happens to waste water when you flush the toilet and how water is cleaned ready to be returned to the river.

**NOTE for Wed 15 May 8.15 am:** West Bridgford U3A have invited our members to join a trip to De Havilland Aircraft Museum. Coach from outside West Bridgford Co-op, cost £25. For information, contact Peter King at Pj.king66@outlook.com.

**Interested in Future Visits?** The Outings Team is considering visits to places further afield. Would this appeal to you? Please sign up (without commitment) at the next Monthly Meeting if you would be interested in visiting the following sites in Staffordshire: National Brewery Museum (Burton-on-Trent), Amazon Warehouse (Rugeley) or Gladstone Pottery (Stoke-on-Trent). What about a Great Central Railway ‘fine dining’ trip, cost £35?

**Painting.** We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10 am at the home of Josephine Cutts. We meet next on **Thurs 18 Apr** to do a painting using only one blue and one yellow. This group is presently full with a short waiting list to join. For further information, please contact Josephine Cutts at etndil@icloud.com

**Photography for Fun.** We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 2.00 pm in Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Village Hall. Each session, we allow 8 photos per person to permit more in-depth discussion. The next meetings are on **Mon 15 Apr** (theme ‘Shadows’) and **Mon 20 May** (‘Paths’). For further information, contact Stan Darling at stan@darlings.org

**Science.** We meet at 2.00 pm on the 3rd Wed of the month in Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Village Hall. The next meeting is on **Wed 17 Apr** when Paul Fellman will talk about ‘The Evolution of Computer Programming’. If you are interested in attending, please contact John Todd on johnh.todd@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 914 7074

**Scrabble.** We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month from at 2.00 pm at a member’s home on a rotational basis depending on commitments. Our next meeting is on **Mon 15 Apr**. This is friendly, social group and the main aim is simply to enjoy ourselves. We keep no records of winners or losers and there is no league. New members are always welcome! For further information, contact Sue Brittain at suebrittain@hotmail.co.uk

**Shakespeare Play Reading Group.** We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 2.15 pm at the home of Josephine Cutts. The emphasis is on reading from Shakespeare plays but other playwrights may feature. The next meeting is likely to be on **Thurs 25 Apr** when members will continue reading parts from ‘Julius Caesar’. If members cannot attend, please let Josephine know. For further information, please contact Josephine Cutts at etndil@icloud.com

**Singing for Fun Group.** This group normally meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month but will meet next at 10.00 am on **Tues 30 Apr** at Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Village Hall with coffee and biscuits. No auditions, just come along and enjoy! For more information, contact Chris Shaw at chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com

**Beginners’ Spanish Level 2.** Meets on the 2nd and 4th Mon of the month at 11.00 am in the Meadow Covert. The next dates are **Mon 8 and 22 Apr**. Currently, we study Unit 10 of Pasos 1 Spanish Beginners Course, covering modes of transport, buying train tickets and aspects of the Spanish railway network (RENFE). We will also consider holidays and plans using the Future tense. For further information, please contact Janet Fishel at janetfishel@yahoo.com

**Stamp Collectors’ Group.** Meets occasionally at the home of John Todd. The stamp collecting group has not met recently. We welcome anyone who wants to show us their collection. We are not experts so meetings are very relaxed. For further information, or to join, contact John Todd at johnh.todd@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 914 7074

**Walking Group.** Meets usually at 10.00 am on the 3rd Tuesday of the month outside Gamston Community Hall. New members are welcome, so come along to enjoy a walk and meet new friends! On **Tues 16 Apr**, we meet at the Morrisons bus stop to catch the **10.05 am bus to Cropwell Bishop (no 822)** and walk to Cotgrave via Colston Basset. Approx 6-7 miles so bring along a snack and drink! For further information, please contact Jean Hudson at egdu3awalks@gmail.com or on 07865 663118

**Wine Tasting Group.** Meets at 2.00 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month in Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Village Hall. W meet next on **Wed 24 Apr**. Details of the wines to be reviewed and sampled will be supplied beforehand. Our group is very much centred on the “Live, Laugh and Learn” approach without getting too serious. For further information, contact Richard Davis at richarddavis803@gmail.com or on 0115 981 2970

**Writing for Fun.** We meet at 10.30 am on the 1st Thursday of the month at the home of a group member. On **Thurs 4 Apr**, the topic will be ‘The Message’. Due to size constraints, the group is now full. For further information, contact Pauline Barrett at tollertonpolly220@gmail.com

**Are you a trombone player? Would you like to like to play swing, blues, jazz, rock ‘n’ roll in a band?** Belvoir Big Band based in Harby ([www.belvoirbigband.co.uk](http://www.belvoirbigband.co.uk)) is looking for you! If you are interested, contact their secretary Jon Jayes at jjayes999@btinternet.com

**Summary Information about Interest Groups**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Meetings** | **Leaders** | **Contacts** |
| **Art Appreciation** | 3rd Wed am | Roy Townsend | roy.townsend@btinternet.com |
| **Book Club** | 2nd Tue 2.30pm | Roy Townsend | roy.townsend@btinternet.com |
| **Bridge** | Each Tue 2.15pm | Ann Widdowson | annwid62@gmail.com |
| **Chatterbox** | 2nd Wed 11am | Chris Shaw | chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com |
| **Crafts** | 1st Mon 10.00am | Prue Brandt | pruebrandt@hotmail.com |
| **Craft Project** | 3rd Mon 10.00am | Susan Harding | susan.harding66@outlook.com |
| **Family History** | 1st Mon 2.00pm | Ann WiddowsonPaul Hudson | annwid62@gmail.comphudson@aol.com |
| **French** | 3rd Wed 11.00am | Terry Mayhew | terry.mayhew@nottingham.ac.uk |
| **Gardening** | 1st Thurs pm | Beverley Clare | bevclare.bc@gmail.com |
| **History** | 2nd Mon 2.00pm | Pat Gammons |  |
| **Italian** | 1st and 4th Thurs and 2nd and 3rd Fri 2.00pm | Chris Shaw | chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com |
| **Music Appreciation** | 1st Fri 2.30pm | Chris Shaw | chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com |
| **Outings** | See Newsletter | Joan Mayhew | joanmayhew@hotmail.com |
| **Painting** | 3rd Thurs 10.00am | Josephine Cutts | etndil@icloud.com |
| **Photography for Fun** | 3rd Mon 2.00pm | Stan Darling | stan@darlings.org.uk |
| **Science** | 3rd Wed 2.00pm | John Todd | johnh.todd@yahoo.co.uk |
| **Scrabble** | 3rd Mon 2.00pm | Sue Brittain | suebrittain@hotmail.co.uk |
| **Shakespeare Play Reading** | 4th Thurs 2.15pm | Josephine Cutts | etndil@icloud.com |
| **Singing for Fun** | 4th Tue 10.00am  | Chris Shaw | chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com |
| **Spanish** | 2nd and 4th Mon 11.00am | Janet Fishel | janetfishel@yahoo.com |
| **Stamp Collecting** | Occasional | John Todd | johnh.todd@yahoo.co.uk |
| **Walking 4-7 miles** | 3rd Tue 10.00am | Jean Hudson | egdu3awalks@gmail.com |
| **Wine Tasting** | 4th Wed 2.00pm | Richard Davis | richarddavis803@gmail.com |
| **Writing for Fun** | 1st Thurs 10.30am | Pauline Barrett | tollertonpolly220@gmail.com |

**Diary Summary of This Month’s Events and Interest Groups**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Order of** **Day in** **Month** | **Monday**1st,8th,15th,22nd | **Tuesday**2nd,9th,16th,23rd,30th  | **Wednesday**3rd,10th, 17th,24th  | **Thursday**4th,11th,18th,25th  | **Friday**5th,12th,19th, 26th  |
| **1st am** | 1st Craft Grp |  |  | 4th Writing for Fun |  |
| **1st pm** | 1st Family History1st Pub Quiz at Meadow Covert | 2nd Bridge |  | 4th Gardening – no meeting this month4th Italian | 5th Music Appreciation |
| **2nd am** | 8th Spanish |  | 10th Chatterbox |  |  |
| **2nd pm** | 8th History  | 9th Book Club9th Bridge |  | **11th Monthly Meeting at GCH** | 12th Italian |
| **3rd am** | 15th Craft Project Group | 16th Walking Group  | 17th Art Appreciation17th French17th Science | 18th Painting Group |  |
| **3rd pm** | 15th Photography for Fun15th Scrabble | 16th Bridge |  |  | 19th Italian – no meeting over Easter period |
| **4th am** | 22nd Spanish | 23rd Singing for Fun |  | 25th Lunch Club at The Dispensary |  |
| **4th pm** |  | 23rd Bridge | 24th Wine Tasting | 25th Italian – no meeting over Easter period25th Shakespeare Play Reading |  |
| **5th pm** |  | 30th Bell Foundry outing |  |  |  |

**Your Current Executive Committee**

**Chair (Officer):** Currently vacant

**Vice Chair & Publicity (Officer):** George Golledge, gosh.golledge@ntlworld.com

**Treasurer (Officer):** Richard Davis, richarddavis803@gmail.com

**Business Secretary (Officer):** Cherry Brandon, c.brandon2@ntlworld.com

**Membership Secretary:** Mike Brandt, mikebrandt100@gmail.com

**Groups Coordinator:** Michael Groves, grovesfamily@hotmail.com

**Outings Coordinator:** Joan Mayhew, joanmayhew@hotmail.com

**Webmaster:** Steve Barrett, stevebar555@yahoo.co.uk

**Newsletter Editor:** Terry Mayhew, terry.mayhew@nottingham.ac.uk

**Speaker Seeker:** Frank Hard, hard552@sky.com

**Minute Taker & Door Keeper:** Jill Kelly, william.kelly60@ntlworld.com

**Refreshments:** Sue Ambler, sue.ambler@icloud.com

**Past Chair:** Chris Shaw, chrisshaw20038@hotmail.com

**Synopsis of Committee Job Descriptions**

The 4 Officers are ‘must have’ posts and contribute as follows:

**Chair & Vice Chair:** Act together to co-host Main Meetings and chair the Executive Committee. Meet and greet new people.

**Treasurer:** Keeps track of incomes and outgoings. Prepares regular reports for monthly and annual accounts.

**Business Secretary:** Two-way communicator between local and national U3A mainly via email and phone. Needs computer skills.

Other posts/duties:

**Membership Secretary:** Works with Treasurer on membership issues. Maintains up-to-date database of paid-up members and magazine subscribers.

**Groups Coordinator:** Liaises with leaders of all current and planned Interest Groups.

**Outings Coordinator:** As part of a team, organises our U3A outings and attends monthly meetings to sign-up and take payment from members who wish to enrol on any of them.

**Webmaster:** Maintains and updates our website. Needs computer skills.

**Newsletter Editor:** Advertises to members each month information about all our U3A activities.

**Speaker Seeker:** Finds and arranges speakers for our monthly meetings.

**Minute Taker:** Maintains and circulates record of minutes for meetings of Executive Committee.

**Door Keeper:** Meets members and visitors attending our monthly meetings and passes entry donations to the Treasurer.

**Refreshments:** Liaises with leaders of Interest Groups to arrange a duty rota for ‘tea and biscuits’ at monthly meetings.

**Publicity:** Helps advertises and promote our U3A via posters, leaflets, etc.

Now, **please** fill in the following nomination form!

**Nomination Form EGDU3A 2019/2020**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (full name)

hereby confirm that, if nominated, seconded and elected at EGDU3A on 9th May 2019,

I am prepared to stand as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (officer)

and/or other Committee member \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nominated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name) Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name) Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To be returned to the Secretary by **Thurs 11 April** 2019 or handed in at the monthly main meeting on 11 April