





# Burton Joyce & District u3a Newsline

Issue 04.01 | February 2022

Welcome to the February edition of Newsline,

Did you miss your January fix of Colin's humour? We hope this new February edition won't disappoint and aim to offer you all that's good on offer in our u3a. Perhaps not sex, drugs and rock and roll, but hey, who's got the energy for that these days?

So what did I learn over Christmas? That sodium bicarb and vinegar does a very good job at getting rid of the smell of vomit (small boy and his Grandfather if you're concerned); that, according to said small boy, "it's not a party without biscuits" who knew?; that it's always worth checking the National Trust



website rather than relying on the good old fashioned book if you want to park your motorhome and walk your dog at Hatfield Forest and, further, that if you then ask for suggestions as to where you might be able to do the above, you ask them to confirm that there won't be a height restriction barrier. There was; that a Tesco car park doesn't quite cut it in the circumstances. No offence to Tesco.

In this issue we are featuring several groups with space for more members, as well as a reminder of the wide variety of what is currently available. We know that some groups have folded or the leaders do not feel able to meet face to face yet but there is still much to celebrate. And, as it's the time of year to make new resolutions, why not start an interest group yourself? There is bound to be someone daft enough, sorry keen enough, to join you.

We'd like to have a Members' Corner where we feature landmark events, achievements and general news about members, so do please send these to <a href="mailto:bju3anewsline@outlook.com">bju3anewsline@outlook.com</a>. Plus any other ideas you may have for the next issue in May. Deadline is 22 April 2022 please.

Judith Wright (Editor)

#### Chair's Chatter

I truly believe that our u3a will thrive and grow this year. We have a lot to offer to existing and potential new members and we will continue to build on the good work done so far.

Volunteering is a key word for any u3a and we are no different, relying on volunteers to serve on the committee, coordinate interest groups, organise



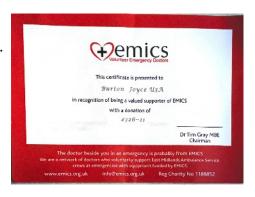
social events, set up the village hall and provide catering at monthly meetings and much more.....

This leads me to the fact that in 7 months' time a number of our committee members will be stepping down from current roles after completing 3 years in service. I appreciate that it's a bit in the future but important to sow the seeds now, and take the opportunity to dispel the perceived notion that you need some management qualifications in order to join.

Everyone has life experiences that will be useful to many roles. No one is alone in their role. We support and help each other. It's team work which is both rewarding and fun. If you are curious and wish to find out more, please don't hesitate to contact me chairman@bju3a.co.uk

Enough with the 'lecture' and onto some fun: please put the following dates in your diary for upcoming BJ&D u3a social events at the Village Hall - Friday 20th May and Friday 7th Oct. More details will follow after the committee meeting on the 18th Jan.

And lastly what a fantastic speaker we had at the January monthly meeting, Dr Tim Gray, who talked about the East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme (EMICS), which he founded 40 years ago. On the day we raised £326 for the cause followed by more donations on-line. We should be very proud indeed!



Stay safe,

Anna Moore <a href="mailto:chairman@bju3a.co.uk">chairman@bju3a.co.uk</a>

# Membership News

Thank you to all members who have renewed their subs for the year ahead.

Despite all the difficulties thrown at us by the pandemic our numbers have held very steady and currently stand at 333 .

The split also remains very similar at - 64% Female and 36% of the other brand!

With this Newsline edition we would like to welcome 6 new members who have joined since December. Please make them very welcome if your paths cross at any group meetings. We plan to feature new members in future Newslines so, be warned, you might get a phone call! (Ed)

Jan Mucznik & Richard Tyas. Mary & Mike Storr Lesley Lacovitti Karen Taylor

Plus we would like to give a very warm welcome return to Sue Anthony who rejoins after an interval of approx 2 years.

New Membership/Name Badges are available (useful if you want a discount at the Broadway). Please wear them at the monthly meetings as we're all of the age when we forget names!

Rupert Williams

# Meetings Programme and Group Activities

As the situation with Covid is changing all the time and, we hope, improving, we will continue to follow government guidelines. The format of the February meeting will remain as before with refreshments served at tables. We want members to feel comfortable and safe, so please continue to wear a mask if you wish. The committee will review this at their next meeting in February.

#### Monthly Speakers at meetings

#### SPEAKERS FOR OUR FUTURE MONTHLY MEETINGS

8 February 2022 - Steve LeMottee - "Sport on the Forest since the 17th Century".

Steve is Heritage Officer at Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club. His talk encompasses more than cricket. He describes how the Forest became the home of Nottingham Racecourse in the 1600s and, since then, has staged a wide variety of other sports - some gruesome, some famous and some unexpected! This illustrated talk will look back at many of the sports that have taken place



here - and you're welcome to share your memories of playing or spectating at Nottingham's oldest sports ground.

8 March 2022 - Bob Reed - "We need to talk about toilets".

Why should we want to, you may ask? Well, in 2017, around 2.3 billion people around the world did not have one. Why should we care? Why are there so many people without one? What can be done about it? What could you do? You'll have to come along to find out!



Bob trained as a Civil Engineer and has spent more than 40 years working in emergency relief and poverty alleviation. He lectured at Loughborough University for 30 years, retiring in 2015.

12 April - Neil Jervis - "A Short Submarine Patrol".

Shrouded in secrecy, the life of a submariner is hidden from view. For most, television provides the only insight into this strange world and invariably the story of the submariner is lost behind the technology. Commander Neil Jervis, a retired Royal Navy submariner, spent most of his working life on submarines at sea in submarine-related shore appointments at home and overseas. The talk follows the career of a submariner and his/her life at sea going to places the TV producer could only dream about.



or

If Neil's name and talk sound familiar, he did treat us to his talk via Zoom last year.

Christine Shepherd Speaker Finder

# **Groups News**

Our Groups Facilitator, Caroline Roberts, has recently contacted all Group Co-ordinators and here provides a snap shot of what's available. Do contact her if a group is full and you'd like to join it or be added to a waiting list, and/or for any other group information. Group Information is set out on the "Our Groups" page on the website: <a href="https://u3asites.org.uk/burton-joyce/groups">https://u3asites.org.uk/burton-joyce/groups</a>

It is such good news that many groups are now back and running again. Groups that meet indoors for food, drink, chats and mental stimulation as well as others meeting outside for a bit of exercise. There is something new for all our members to try in 2022. See the website for up to date details.

I have tried to highlight a few of our groups below:

The Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of every month at 2 pm at a house in Burton Joyce. At the last meeting they had a lively discussion on COP 26 and the Queen at 95 years of age. At future meetings, topics may include the "future of public transport" and "should health and social services be free or state funded?" So if you have some thoughts on these topics and enjoy good discussion, why not join the group for the next meeting? Please contact myself or Tom Klima if you are interested.

Do Board Games rock your boat? Dorothy Pinkett would like to hear from you if so as this group is back in business.

Fancy trying your hand at Table Tennis? The two groups have started back playing at the Poplars Sports ground. The parking is easy and I am sure that you could arrange a lift if you can't easily get there. If you are interested, please let me know or contact the Group Leaders.

🌄 Aerobics is starting again in the Burton 🖥

Joyce Village Hall with a new instructor. Please contact Judith Wright or Roz Tuffrey for more information. The Jive group is back strutting its stuff in the Village Hall – contact Dil Vowles or Jane Taylor to see if they have space. They would love to see more men – now there's an offer! (Ed)

Fancy some fresh air and a bit of a chat? We have several walking groups, covering 2 mil, 5 - 6 miles as well as a hikers group. Or why

not have a go at Petanque, a type of Boules? This is a popular group that also meets at the Poplars. Again please contact myself or Dill Vowles

And if you'd really rather sit back and enjoy a good lunch, the Luncheon Club run by Margaret Robinson is meeting again and has spaces.

The Art Appreciation group has met a couple of times to visit exhibitions but is no longer meeting on a regular basis. They would LOVE someone to pick up this lovely group. It's a good way of choosing the galleries and exhibitions you want to go to and having friends to accompany you. Contact Judith Wright for more information.

Caroline Roberts

#### **Group Spotlight**

In this section we plan to feature groups that would be happy to welcome more members. If you would like your group to feature in the next Newsline in May, please contact me (Ed)

#### **Photography Group**

We are a small friendly group of photographers who would be delighted if new members would join

us. Come to the Village Hall in BJ on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 2 to 4 pm and you will be made very welcome.

Usually we share our photographs on a pre-determined topic so that we can swap ideas as to how we created the finished image. It's amazing what you can learn from one another. Invariably the same topic can be interpreted in many ways and different light can add to the variety.

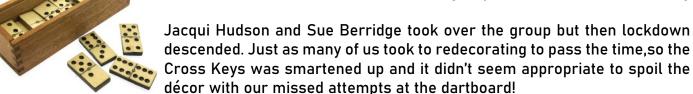
During the warmer months, we sometimes have an extra meeting visiting both rural and urban settings in order to inspire us as we take photos together.

Do come and join us. Text Margaret Hutchby on 074946 94416 for further details.

#### **Dominoes**

Dominoes is a relatively new group to BJU3A evolving from the Darts group that played in the Cross

Keys where the landlord was kind enough to allow us to use the dartboard in their lounge area once or twice a month. Started by Sallyanne Johnson and Sharon Bennett, it was an inclusive group and made for a fun evening.



So what to offer our lovely group members as a replacement activity? Well dominoes of course!!! Sounds very dry and tame by comparison but we thought it worth giving a go and all agreed - we can still socialise, chat, laugh, have a drink as well as stimulate our brains. And all without holes to the walls.

To date we've only met a couple of times and the games and format of the evenings evolve as before to ensure we all have an enjoyable, social evening together. Currently we are playing 3 or 4 different variations on the game of Dominoes but have now purchased Trio Ominos, which will obviously be more complex but certainly worth trying.

We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month, currently in the Cross Keys from 7.30pm - 9/9.30 pm and would welcome new members.

## Spotlight on: The University Interest Group

As you know, we are fortunate to have many groups within Burton Joyce U3A – over 50 at the last count. Most are now up and running again post lockdowns, albeit with whatever necessary precautions in terms of Covid. I for one do not know the ins and outs of all these groups, so in each issue we thought it would be useful to focus on a group to find out a bit more about what goes on. This will hopefully be of interest if you're currently considering joining a group or if you had always wondered what the group was about and had never dared ask!



In this issue we are focusing on the University Interest group (UIG), run by Trevor Wright. Many of you will already know Trevor and, if you're on his mailing list (of 135 members!) you'll be familiar with the emails he sends out regarding this group but for those who don't....

Trevor lives in Burton Joyce and has been a U3A member for 5 years, since full retirement. Having initially worked in industry, he spent the subsequent 25 years working in university settings as a research development manager. Whilst Initially at De Montfort University, he spent most of his years at Nottingham University, chiefly within the areas of renewable energies, satellite navigation and civil engineering. Given his experience and links with university personnel Trevor formed the UIG to offer members an opportunity to learn about the exciting and interesting research that goes on in local universities, in a direct way via talks by key academics and tours of facilities.

And as a U3A Group, members may also be able to assist with some research when appropriate. Initially unsure as to the level of interest, Trevor is pleased to see just how popular the group has become.

Of course, as for all U3A groups, these past 2 years have been difficult. And indeed, the universities, along with all other organisations, are having to deal with rather a changed world, post-covid, but Trevor nonetheless hopes the UIG will continue to thrive and indeed, he is passionate about the mutual benefits of such relationships with our local universities.

A visit is planned for 1st March to the new Aerospace Research centre at the University of Nottingham. Places for this visit are now full but if you are interested, please ask to be put on the reserve list as there may well be some cancellations. You can contact Trevor on tgawright@icloud.com

**Stop Press:** Trevor has just managed to fix the next fascinating talk for May 4th. We will hear from Cathy Merry - Professor of Stem Cell Glycobiology at The University of Nottingham. She will tell us about her research into the use of hydrogels (all will be explained!) as a way of avoiding the use of animals in drug research. This will be followed by a tour of their new research building.

To receive details and an invite be sure to join the University Interest Group by contacting Trevor – email tgawright@icloud.com or 0115 931 2805.

Hilary McCallum (cub reporter)

## Garden Group 3

We meet on the 4th Wednesday each month at 2.00 pm. We try to vary our visits – other members' gardens as well as public ones, sometimes a little further afield but this wasn't possible last year. Our plans went totally out of the window (almost). I hope that this year will be more successful and that we are able to visit as many gardens as we have planned for.

When we travel to public gardens, we invite members from other groups to join us, as there are generally no difficulties accommodating larger numbers at these venues. Indeed, they welcome more visitors.

Our January visit was to the Blue Diamond Garden Centre at East Bridgford where we took advantage of any post-Christmas bargains and enjoyed a coffee and cake in the restaurant. Well you have to!



Little Ponton Hall

We divert from our usual 4th Wednesday afternoon in February and are meeting instead at Little Ponton Hall on Monday 14 February at 10.30 am. This is the home of George and Bianca McCorquodale where we hope the snowdrops and aconites will be at their best. This is a "magical, secret garden, rarely open to the public."

Entrance to the garden is £8.00 per person, which includes refreshments.

Plans are in place to visit Emma Bridgwater's Garden in Staffordshire and to go on a tour of St Ann's Allotments, one of the oldest and largest collections of Victorian detached town gardens in the UK – with 670 allotment gardens spread over 75 acres, all just 1.5km away from Nottingham city centre in the heart of St Ann's.



The allotments are Grade 2\* listed and a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. They are home to a range of 19th century summerhouses, sheds, glasshouses and buildings, as well as rare wildlife, including birds, moths, butterflies, damselflies and dragonflies. You might recall a talk we had some years ago at a monthly meeting.

Do please contact me if you would like to join us for any of the external visits.

Christine Shepherd

#### Beer and Cider Group

This month, we made the short hop to Carlton Square, to visit The Beacon Hill and The Old Volunteer.

I counted 21 of our members on the Pathfinder bus; we occupied the entire lower floor!!!

The Beacon Hill, formerly The Black's Head, was renamed and re-vitalised recently. The Old Volunteer was completely re-vamped a few years ago; it is run by Flipside, a local "microbrewery".

We started in The Beacon Hill, where we were warmly welcomed by the staff and new landlady, Dona. Once we were all served and seated, Dona produced a couple of trays of home-baked snacks which were devoured in minutes. Other highlights of the evening included a short quiz (at which we all performed badly...) and a paper dart throwing contest !!!

Later in the evening, about half a dozen of our crowd moved on to the Volunteer for a couple of jars but we all met up OK to catch the bus back to BJ at about twenty past ten.



Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the outing. We are looking forward to the next one on February 17th when we will be visiting Langtrys in Nottingham city centre...

Rob Johnson

## **Birdwatching Group**



This month the birdwatching group visited Colwick country park. The weather was kind and the light was particularly good for studying the wildfowl. Highlights included widgeon, pochard, shoveler and goldeneye. A thoroughly enjoyable morning.

If you think you'd like to join us please contact me on 07803 925715. We welcome new members and don't feel you have to know your redwing from your redshank! There are varying levels of knowledge within the group and indeed we're all on a learning curve!

Hilary MacCallum



#### The NHS App

Do you want to know more about how the NHS App can help you manage your health and care?

Our colleagues at Connected Nottinghamshire are hosting three webinars where you can learn what the NHS App can do for you. You will get the chance to see a short demonstration of how the NHS App can support you to communicate with healthcare services and help you manage and monitor your own health and well-being, including booking appointments and ordering repeat

prescriptions.

The team will also outline and explain some added features that people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have available to them.

You can register for one of the events, taking place on the following dates:

Tuesday 8th February: 10-11amThursday 10th February: 2-3pm

Wednesday 16th February: 7–8pm

Find out more or book your places at <a href="https://bit.ly/3FI4xz9">https://bit.ly/3FI4xz9</a>

If you have any further questions, please contact Paul Watts, Head of Project Communications at <a href="mailto:paul.watts14@nhs.net">paul.watts14@nhs.net</a>

## Access to Burton Joyce Village Hall

The doors to the village hall are usually unlocked when our groups need to use it, but on rare occasions they have been locked in error by a previous user, as happened when the Jive group restarted a few months ago.

I have now been given a key to the main door. If you find the hall locked at a time your group has booked it, please let me know by phoning 07581 456253 or 0115 9312221, and I will enable you to gain access.

SVILLAGE HALLS

Alan Comerie - Business Secretary

## **Committee Members**

The minutes of the latest committee meeting can be found <u>here.</u> At the date of publication of this edition, the members of the Committee are set out below.

Anna Moore	Chair	07891 221840	chairman@bju3a.co.uk
Anne Hegarty	Treasurer	07981 705967	Treasurer@bju3a.co.uk
Alan Comerie	<b>Business Secretary</b>	07581 456253	Secretary@bju3a.co.uk
Caroline Roberts	Groups Facilitator	0115 931 3679	Groups@BJU3A.co.uk
Christine Shepherd	Speaker Finder	07773 156813	speakers@bju3a.co.uk
Anna Moore	<b>Beacon Coordinator</b>	07891 221840	Beacon002@bju3a.co.uk
Elaine Bass	Social Secretary	0115 911 8756	socialsecretary@bju3a.co.uk
Rupert Williams	Membership Secretary	0115 931 3095	MembershipSecretary@bju3a.co.uk
Judith Wright	Newsline Editor	0115 931 2805	bju3anewsline@outlook.com

#### Additional administrative contacts

Alwyn Foster	Outings Support	0115 931 2571	Outings@BJU3A.co.uk
Grenville Shepherd	Fire & VH Keyholder	0115 9618840	grenshepherd@yahoo.co.uk
Colin Simm	Website Manager	07850 553133	web_admin@bju3a.co.uk
David Falkner	Welcomers' Coordinator		welcome@bju3a.co.uk

## An Appeal for help

Rupert Williams, Membership Secretary who is a member of Mapperley and Arnold Rotary Club, asks us to consider the request printed below from the Charity SHAREWEAR? He says any help would be very much appreciated. Several years ago he says we had a fantastic response to a request from Emmanual House and hopes members will want to assist if they can. Please contact Rupert for further information on 0115 931 3095.



Can you help? Are you having a clothes clear out?

The Rotary Club of Mapperley & Arnold have selected SHAREWEAR for their President's Charity in 2022. SHAREWEAR is based in Bestwood and works on a similar basis to a foodbank – but with clothes. Clothing poverty is linked to food poverty. The demand for second-hand clothing is enormous and urgent. If you would like to donate please fill a bag and ring /text Chris Lyons on 07946579665 who will be happy to arrange collection and delivery to the charity. The requirement is for clothing and shoes for Men, Women and Children – any donated underwear must be new. Bedding and Towels are also needed.

For more information on SHAREWEAR see <a href="https://sharewearclothingscheme.org">https://sharewearclothingscheme.org</a>

# Summary Information about our Groups

Fuller details of Group meeting times and venues are available on our website, <a href="https://u3asites.org.uk/burton-joyce/groups">https://u3asites.org.uk/burton-joyce/groups</a> Groups which are full when this edition of Newsline was published are shown in italics. The letter (C) after a Group shows that there are sufficient members interested in this activity for a new Group to be formed, and that a Coordinator is required for the Group. If you have a query regarding a Group, please contact that Group's Coordinator, or the Groups Facilitator, Caroline Roberts on 0115 931 3679.

Group	Co-ordinator	Telephone	Time	Normal Meeting Days
Aerobics	Roz Tuffrey Judith Wright Joy Yates	0115 9312754 0115 9312805 0115 9312858	09:30	Every Wednesday
Antiques & C20th Collectables	Angela Mallett	0115 9663799	10:00	4th Monday
Art Appreciation	Judith Wright	0115 9312805	Varies	Ad hoc - contact coordinator
Beer and Cider Tasting	Rob Johnson robandsal.johnson@	ntlworld.com	19:00	3rd Thursday
Bird Watching	Hilary MacCallum	07803 925715	10:00	Alternate Thursdays and Fridays
Board Games	Dorothy Pinkett	0115 931 4576	14:00	1st and 3rd Thursday
Boccia (October - April)	Vic Wightman	0115 9313419	10:00	1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays
Book Club	Judith Wright	0115 931 2805	14:00	3rd Wednesday
Bridge 1	Dorothy Burton Caroline Roberts	— 0115 9313679	13:30	1st, 3rd, 4th Tuesday, 2nd Monday
Bridge 2 (Beginners)	Dorothy Burton Caroline Roberts	— 0115 9313679	13:30	Every Thursday
Canasta 1	Colin Simm	07850 553 133	19:00	1st & 3rd Wednesday
Canasta 3	Anna Moore	07891 221840	19:00	2nd & 4th Wednesday
Country Walks	Elaine Bass Mary Russell	07799 233891 07855 706291	10:30	Third Monday
Craft & Patchwork	Christine Sheath	0115 931 3260	10:00	2nd Friday
Cribbage	Anna Moore	07891 221840	19:30	1st & 3rd Wednesday
Croquet 1	Vic Wightman	07767 752963	14:00	Apr-Sep 2nd & 4th Monday
Croquet 2	Sally Wightman	0115 9313419	13:30	Apr-Sep 1st & 3rd Monday
Discussion	Brian O'Neill	7493283128	14:00	Usually 1st Monday
Dominos for Fun	Jacqui Hudson Sue Berridge	0115 998 5417 0799 910 1354	19:30	2nd & 4th Tuesday
Family History	Sue Clifford	0115 931 3937	-	Advice given as needed
Film 4 Fun (October - April)	Colin Simm	07850 553133	Varies	Contact group coordinator
French 1	Sue Clifford	0115 931 3937	10:00	Every Friday
French 2 (Beginners)	TBA	0115 9312864	10:00	Every Thursday
French 3	Christine Foster	0115 931 2571	10:15	1st and 3rd Friday
Garden Group 1	Gardening l@	bju3a.co.uk	10:00	1st Wednesday
Garden Group 2	Alwyn Foster	0115 931 2571	10:00	1st Monday
Garden Group 3	Christine Shepherd	0115 961 8840	14:00	4th Wednesday
Garden Group 4	Alwyn Foster	0115 931 2571	10:00	3rd Monday
Guitar 1	Tony Kirk	0115 961 4587	Varies	Variable
Hikers	Paul Geeson	07969 068214	10:00	2nd Wednesday
History 1	Tom Klima	07766 600205	10:30	2nd Monday
Information Exchange	Maggie Gaborak	0115 998 5798	N/A	N/A
International Dining	David Falkner	07860 502479	18:45	Third Tuesdays or Wednesdays
Jiving for Beginners	Dil Vowles Jane Taylor	07879 425643 0115 931 2087	18:30	1st and 3rd Thursdays
Kurling	Jenny Carr Paul Geeson Sally Wightman	0115 9523486 07969 068214 0115 9313419	10:00	2nd & 4th Thursday (Currently on hold)

Group	Co-ordinator	Telephone	Time	<b>Normal Meeting Days</b>
Luncheon Group	Margaret Robinson	0115 9663793	12:30	4th Tuesday
Mah-Jong	Sandra Giles	0115 966 5144	10:30	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Meditation	Tricia Blanco- White	0115 9663563	10:00	1st Monday
Out and About	David & Margaret Hallam	07777 631364	Varies	1st Thursday May to October
Petanque 1 (All year)	Dil Vowles	0115 931 2300	10:00	1st & 3rd Monday
Petanque - Winter	Roz Tuffrey	0115 931 2754	13:00	Every Tuesday (except 2nd Tues)
Photography	Margaret Hutchby	0115 9312550	14:00	3rd Wednesday & 1 ad hoc/month
Ramblers 1	Keith Bowker	07592 008962	10:00	Last Wednesday
Ramblers 2	Paul Geeson	07969 068214	10:00	3rd Wednesday
Rambles - Plus	Keith Bowker	07592 008962	10:00	1st Wednesday
Spanish 1	Paul Beard	07969 068214	10:00	Tuesday - fortnightly
Spanish 2	Mike Chapman	0115 9652489	Varies	2nd & 4th Thursdays
Speed Walking	Caroline Roberts	0115 9313679	09:00	Every Tuesday
Table Tennis	Tony Simpson	0115 8458142	10:00	Every Monday
Table Tennis 2	Keith Stafford	0115 9312657	19:00	1st & 2nd Tuesday
Theatre 1	Christine Smith	0115 9526569	10:30	1st Friday
Ukulele	Barbara Palmer	0115 9665103	14:30	1st & 3rd Wednesday
University Interest Group	Trevor Wright	0115 9312805	Varies	Contact group coordinator
Water Colour Painting	Yvonne Kirk	0115 9614587	09:30	1st & 3rd Wednesday
Wildlife Walks	To be advised	To be advised	10:30	4th Tuesday
Wine Tasting	Alan Comerie	07581 456253	19:00	3rd Thursday

If any of the above information is incomplete, incorrect, or out of date for your Group, please e-mail the correction to Caroline Roberts at Groups@BJU3A.co.uk, and copy bju3anewsline@outlook.com.