

Join us! Become part of a warm, welcoming community of over 630 local friends across Radcliffe and surrounding areas. For just £20 a year, our u3a is all about making lasting connections and enjoying life together through member-led interest groups, lively monthly speakers, and friendly social trips. Come along, meet new people, and feel right at home at your own easy pace!

COMMITTEE NEWS

The Committee were delighted when Ann Arron indicated she was willing to join us on the committee and to stand for election as Chair in March 2027 at the next Annual General Meeting. As you will know we have been keen to identify a successor to George Roberts who in any event has served a year longer than his term. For this we are all grateful to George.

Ann has lived in Radcliffe on Trent since 1972 with her husband Dave and children. She taught at Radcliffe Junior School from 1988 to 2002 (and a few other local schools before that). Ann will be known to many of you of course and has enjoyed u3a for a number of years. She feels willing and able to put something back by serving as Chair, a post to which she is qualified and experienced through other activities such as The National Childbirth Trust.

We are excited by this development and look forward to working with Ann. Thank you Ann.

The Committee.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP



Our monthly meetings continue to be well attended, enjoyable, lively and informative. We always set ourselves a topic for the month ahead, this time 'anything beginning with the letter J'. The past few topics have included black/white, down, birds and animals, blossom, illumination, look up, patterns and most recently 'nature'. The latter coincided with a group visit to the Attenborough Nature Reserve,

which resulted in some stunning shots. All the photographs from the monthly topics are viewed at our meetings on the room monitor. We continue to learn from each other, with 'producing a still from a video' to be demonstrated next time. As group leader I continue to be impressed with the enthusiasm of the members and the effort taken each month with the chosen topic and the quality of the photographs produced.

Janet Groves Group Leader [Click to Contact](#)

WELCOME TO OUR RECENT NEW MEMBERS...

Chris and Nancy Morffew; Rachel Benzies; Joy Thakeray. We hope you enjoy your time with our u3a!

Melanie Gregg, Membership Secretary members@rot-u3a.org.uk

MONTHLY SPEAKER TALKS

Talks are monthly at The Grange Hall, doors open at 2pm, free for members, guests £2. Free tea/coffee.

6th August – Fran Sandham – In the Forbidden Land

Lecturer and freelance author Fran Sandham was an editor at Rough Guides for several years and worked in bookselling and in the voluntary sector before that. He has travelled in over fifty countries, and divides his time between writing, public speaking and travel. He has written for many newspapers, magazines and travel publications, including the Sunday Times, NBC News, the Daily Telegraph, the Observer, the Financial Times, in-flight magazines for KLM and Gulf Air, Adventure Travel, Traveler magazine, Travel Africa and Country Walking



IN THE FORBIDDEN LAND (The strange Tibetan adventure of Henry Savage Landor)

In 1897, eccentric traveler Henry Savage Landor set out to explore the forbidden Himalayan kingdom of Tibet and reach its fabled capital Lhasa. Immaculately dressed, equipped with all the latest equipment, and well-supplied with delicacies from Fortnum & Mason, Landor entered Tibet illegally and very definitely uninvited.

Several months later, a very different Landor was unceremoniously bundled out of Tibet. Emaciated, clad in filthy rags, he was clutching his sole remaining possession, a map he'd drawn in his own blood. Back in Europe, Landor became a celebrity, thrilling the public with his extraordinary (and often scarcely believable) tales of high adventure in Tibet. Yet despite his embellishments and huge propensity for outrageous lies, the basic facts Landor told of his Tibetan adventure were actually true . . .

September 3rd – Marcus Alton – Brian Clough, The Lost Tapes

A journalist and broadcaster whose topic is Brian Clough the Lost Tapes.

He has many stories about the legendary football manager including interviews not made public before. He was a driving force for the statue of Brian Clough in Nottingham City Centre.

Chris Hopton, Speaker Finder. christine.hopton@outlook.com

REAL ALE GROUP

On 24th June, six members of the group braved the heat of one of the hottest days, when the temperatures were in the mid thirties, to go to The Lillie Langtry near the Theatre Royal in town. We met as usual on the last Wednesday of the month to catch the lunchtime bus into town. Then alighting on Friday Lane walked up Market Street, fortunately in the shade. What was surprising when we entered the pub was that it was air conditioned! That was a relief because meals there are famously pies or pizzas only. There also being a good choice of real ales. The group is open to both male and female and we currently have vacancies should anyone be interested in joining us.

Contact Group Leader *Rod* Fogg Tel 07971537119 for more information.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP

The Scottish Country Dance group will resume dancing on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm in the Scout Hall from September 2nd. We dance Scottish reels and jigs normally sets of 6 or 8 people.

If you would like to join us, no prior knowledge or partner is required, as we will guide you through the steps. We dance to easy ones like 'Linton Ploughman' and 'Dunnet Head' as well as more challenging ones like 'Postie's Jig' (look them up on You Tube, anyone can do them). We have Tony, as a caller, to remind us of what to do during the dances. Come and join us, we would love to have you. No kilt required!

Contact *Andy Conacher* andy.conacher@gmail.com

POP QUIZ GROUP

Please Allow Me
To Introduce
Myself
I'm A Man Of
Wealth And
Taste...

Step back in time for the u3a Pop Quiz. *Take it easy* or you could be at *heartbreak hotel* and really *up the junction*. The next quiz is on **Thursday 13th August 11am-12noon at the Royal Oak**. No charge, just buy tea, coffee or another drink. Come along to identify songs from the 60s, 70s and 80s. *Dig it!*

Richard Turner ayamonterichard@gmail.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

The Classical Music Group meets on the third Thursday of each month from 10:30am to 12:30pm in the Dowson Room at The Grange (note: no August meeting). All are welcome, with no prior knowledge required, just come along to listen and relax at our next session on Thursday 18th September. Entry is £2.50, including interval tea, coffee, and biscuits.

For details, contact group leader *Michael Riggall* at michael.riggall@ntlworld.com.

From THE CHAIR

"While our last two monthly meetings were a bit quieter than usual—likely due to the recent weather and early holiday getaways—we were treated to two absolutely fascinating talks! A huge thank you to our speaker finder, Christine Hopton, who works so hard to bring us such unique and engaging guest speakers. We're really looking forward to seeing everyone back and filling the room for our next meeting! John Flynn reports that our Pickleball Group is thriving with a solid core of regular players! They now play at Cotgrave Leisure Centre, which offers a much better playing surface than the Bingham Road pitch. If you'd like to join, contact John for details.

I was sad to hear of the passing of Jim Parkhouse, who for many years was very involved in our u3a. Jim had been our Treasurer and was an active Committee member for many years and will be missed, our condolences to Jane.

Padel Tennis is booming across the u3a, and we'd love to start a group here! If you're interested in leading or helping start one, please let me know. If there's enough interest, the committee will arrange a meeting to get things moving."

George Roberts chair@rot-u3a.org.uk Tel 07971593802

UKULELE GROUP



We were pleased to see our Radcliffe u3a Band were again playing at the Radcliffe Carnival. They had a good audience who were enjoying their musical repertoire of well-known, sing along happy music. I am sure they will have given great pleasure to the audience and enhanced our u3a's reputation to the general public in Radcliffe.

Are you interested in joining the group? If so, please contact *Lynn Coxon* [Click to Contact](#)

FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT GROUP

This group that meets monthly is for those who live on their own and want to engage with others to visit cafes, restaurants, theatres, exhibitions and the like in small groups. The group currently has vacancies and meets regularly each first Monday in the month at 2pm in the Royal Oak in the village. A friendly and chatty bunch who each month over a coffee/tea decides what they would like to do each month.

If you are interested do come along or contact *Rod Fogg* on Tel: 07971537119.

TRIPS AND OUTINGS GROUP

Upcoming Visit to Sculpture Park & National Coal Museum Wednesday 23rd September

We will spend about two hours exploring the Yorkshire Sculpture Park's 500 acres of British and international art near Wakefield. Anyone wanting to stay longer can be picked up later. Next, we'll drive 5 miles to the National Coal Mining Museum to discover the harsh, historic reality of life underground. The Sculpture Park group will join us at 3:30 PM for Afternoon Tea, before we depart at 4:30 PM, returning around 6:30 PM.

Cost: **£45 pp** includes coach, Sculpture Park, Coal Museum, and Afternoon Tea.

Optional: Underground mine tour **+£7.50**, payable when booking.

Tickets: Contact *George Roberts* 07971 593 802 or *Sandra Straw* 07411 910 142, or buy at Grange Hall meetings Aug 6 & Sept 3.

Kilworth Trip Report



Leaving Radcliffe with a full coach on a wonderful summer's day, we headed for Palmers Garden Centre, where some members visited the café for coffee and cake, others visited the Scottish Wool Shop and the Garden Centre. We all re-joined the coach for the short drive to the theatre and made good use of the available of the outdoor bench tables to enjoy our picnics & good conversations. We then made our way to the unique outdoor theatre, where

we were royally entertained by a magnificent young cast of dancers and singers, in 'Anything Goes', with wonderful Cole Porter music and lyrics to top it all off. The consensus on our return to Radcliffe was one of a wonderful day in great company.

JIVING FOR FUN GROUP



We finished our final session before the close for the summer break with a great afternoon dancing to Live music from Rockerbox! Phil and Hazel provided us with some brilliant swing music and kept us dancing all afternoon. Over the past year we've enjoyed dancing to 2 or 3 live events that we've organised at Grange Hall. Because of this we're looking to take our group in a slightly different direction next year with hopefully some more live bands planned. Watch this space for further details!

We start back after the summer break on Wednesday, September 9th, 3 pm to 5 pm at Grange Hall. If you fancy joining us, please come along with no need to book, just turn up. You don't need a partner or any experience.

However, if you do want further information, you can contact *Sue* or *Margaret* through the Radcliffe on Trent u3a website [Click to Contact](#)

BOULES GROUP



Monday mornings at Radcliffe Golf Club see local boules enthusiasts taking to the pitch, and despite a recent scorcher, seven of the eight members turned out to play. The team always enjoys lunch and drinks at the clubhouse afterward to thank the club for hosting them.

Although the group has no open vacancies, anyone interested can contact group leader *Jon Jones* [Click to Contact](#).

AVIATION GROUP

A reminder that The Aviation Group has no meeting in August due to holidays – our next meeting will be on 1 Sep. *Adrian Cresswell*, Aviation Group Leader, crela7@gmail.com

KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

Our group looks forward to warm, sunny, Summer Days so that we can sit in the garden (and pretend we're on an outing to the park) to knit & chat. In July we got more than we bargained for with the temperature at 30 degrees. This didn't prevent a few hardy souls from enjoying the afternoon outdoors (sitting under a covered pergola) whilst most of our group retreated indoors to find some draughty shade for the afternoon. It has, nevertheless, been another productive month, with blankets, baby clothes and items for the Ukraine and Police Aid charities now ready for dispatch.

Jan jan@addiscott.net

CROQUET GROUP



Are you thinking of croquet as a genteel game on a perfect lawn then think genteel no more! Although we play by garden rules these rules have had to adapt!

As being on the Rec alongside the changing rooms this makes it much more of a challenge, with the rough grass, fallen twigs & trying to find the green ball!!

but Hey Ho!! We are a very friendly bunch who will show you how to play our version!! so do come & join us for a leisurely afternoon of fun & laughter.

Sue Prest 01159334991 sandsprest2016@gmail.com

FILM GROUP

After Marilyn ... The Misfits



The movie generated an interesting debate! After viewing the remastered film to ensure top quality images, this 1960's iconic black and white movie set off plenty of discussion. It was the first classic rather than a 'new release' film the group had diagnosed.

Pre-analysis voting ranged from a low 3, through 4.5 to a cluster of 6 and 7 and a single 8 mark out of 10.

All agreed that Marilyn Monroe was a luminous presence with impressive acting skills, bringing her character alive as a troubled divorcee with a bitter view on emotionally stagnant men. Her fellow players – Clark Gable, Montgomery Cliff and Eli Wallach, as ageing cowboy, widowed garage owner and careworn rodeo rider also created believable characters. Some wondered how Marilyn kept a gleaming white shirt so pristine whilst bouncing around in a dirty truck through the desert but ... that's the magic of cinema and plenty of wardrobe spares. There was a camaraderie between all the players mixed with a touch of jealousy when Gable 'got the girl.' Three lonely people thrown together by circumstance set against Wild West barren landscapes reinforced the feeling of hopelessness and perhaps heralded the end of the post-WW2 'American Dream.' Their unexpected quest to catch wild horses to sell for dog meat was truly terrifying and cruel. All agreed it would never be portrayed so brutally with animal welfare top of mind for all cinema directors. Comments suggested viewers found it stilted, old fashioned with shockingly brutal Mustang-hunting. Votes second time around hardly moved; from those who didn't engage and were bored, a middle ranking of 'okay' to those few who found it intriguing, emotional and worthy of its 'classic' status. It was also the kiss of death for Gable who died of a heart attack shortly after filming finished followed by Marilyn. Director John Huston and Montgomery Cliff lasted another few years before alcohol sent them skyward.

Lindah Kiddey thekiddeys@gmail.com

GEOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

There is no meeting of this Group in August. Our next gathering is Tuesday, 8 September, with a planned visit to the gypsum mine operations at either East Leake or near Newark. *Martin Clarke*, Group Leader

[Click to Contact](#)

Radcliffe on Trent u3a

OUR GROUPS...

Monday – Boules; Bridge; Croquet; Film Appreciation; French Improvers; Friendship & Support; Friendship Group; Keep Fit; Wine Appreciation (Eve.)

Tuesday – Art 2; Aviation; Cribbage; French Conversation; Geology & Env Studies; German; Indoor Bowling; Knit & Natter; Let's Go Bowling.

Wednesday – Art 1; Fit & Toned; Jiving for Fun; Photography; Real Ale; Scottish Country Dance; Table Tennis; Vinyl Records.

Thursday – Classical Music; Discussion; Curry; Family History; Garden; Play Reading; Poetry for Pleasure; Pop Music Quiz; Spanish; Ukulele; Wine Tasting (Aft.).

Friday – Archaeology; Board Games; Book Group; Canasta; Church Visits; Pickleball; Pub Trail; Scrabble.

Day Varies – Local Outings; Lunch Club (Belvoir); Trips & Outings Group Committee.

Visit rot-u3a.org.uk/groups-page/ to find out times, venues etc and to contact a group leader. Some groups use a waiting list.

VINYL RECORD GROUP

What a fantastic start to our Vinyl Record Group at the end of June! Despite it being a scorching hot day, we had an enthusiastic turnout, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all with brilliant feedback right across the board. We played a wonderfully diverse range of interesting tracks, bouncing seamlessly from Chris Rea's breezy "On the Beach" and Robert Wyatt's poignant "Shipbuilding" to T. Rex's glam-rock classic "Get It On" and Emmylou Harris' country ballad "Pancho and Lefty". A big thank you to Richard Turner for kindly providing a fun album cover quiz, and a massive thanks to the great team of people supporting me behind the scenes. We genuinely can't wait for the next session to see what fantastic music members bring along!

Phil Gregg [Click to Contact](#).



2026 DIARY DATES

Aug 6th Speaker - In the Forbidden Land | 26th Coffee Morning
Sept 3rd Speaker Brian Clough the Lost Tapes | 22nd Trip to National Coal Museum and Sculpture Park | 30th Coffee Morning
Oct 1st Speaker Ann Featherstone | 28th Coffee Morning
Nov 5th Speaker tbc | 25th Coffee Morning
Dec 3rd Christmas Party (Grange)



JOIN US FOR JUST £20 A YEAR

Join us at our monthly meeting (first Thursday), visit rot-u3a.org.uk/home/join-us/ or email members@rot-u3a.org.uk. Or visit our regular Coffee Morning on the last Wednesday of every month at the Royal Oak from 11.30am until 12.30pm. All members and any potential new members are welcome. Tea and coffee are included for FREE!

NEXT EDITION DEADLINE 20TH AUGUST 2026

Please continue to send articles, photos and sketches to: radcliffeu3a.news@gmail.com. Any member may contribute to our Newsletter. Your experiences could be the inspiration someone needs to join us. Why not share what you enjoy most about being a member?

--- Community notices ---

HELP OUR JUNIOR SCHOOL!

Some of the youngsters at Radcliffe Junior School need a little help with their reading skills and the school is looking for volunteers to become Reading Volunteers to work with individual youngsters. – just once a week on pre-arranged days/times to suit the volunteer.

If you could help please contact Katie Johnson on 0115 011 0193 or email her at kjohnson@rotjs.notts.sch.uk.

RADCLIFFE REPAIR CAFÉ

26TH SEPTEMBER 10AM-1PM

What sort of things can we try and help you with? Woodwork, Electrical, Tool Sharpening, Jewellery, Soft Furnishings, Needlework, Basic Bike Repairs and more. Refreshments Available. Cash donations can be made on the day. Why not pop along and find out! Craig Moray Community Centre, Corner of Queens Road and Shelford Road, Radcliffe on Trent, Nottingham, NG12 1DL.

Contact: 07742 434437 radclifferepair@gmail.com

"Radcliffe on Trent u3a – run entirely by volunteers."