

Join a friendly community of over 630 local members in Radcliffe and surrounding areas. For just **£20 a year**, you can explore new interests through volunteer-led groups, monthly guest speakers and social trips. Open to everyone. Come and meet new people and get involved at your own pace! Our u3a is run entirely by volunteers.

CANASTA GROUP

The Canasta group has welcomed 4 new members over the last few months, with a further 2 expressing an interest in joining. Most of these were beginners, who are learning quickly. For those who are not familiar with the card game Canasta, it is like Rummy in that it involves collecting sets of, for example, 7s or Jacks etc. However, there are more rules to become acquainted with! Let me know if you would like to try it or just come along to a session about 10 minutes early. We meet on alternate Fridays at one o'clock in the Dowson room at the Grange. The first July session for beginners is July 17th.

Susan Sinclair 07900 300567

AVIATION GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tue 7 July at 2pm in the Trent Room in Grange Hall. Our speaker will be our old friend, Brian Cleary, who will talk to us about his father's RAF career, or as he describes it:

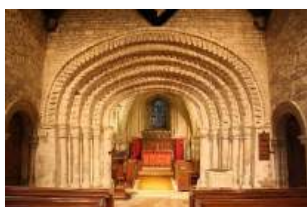
Thirty-Three Years Undetected Crime - An Airman's War and After

Brian's talk will be based around parts of his father's RAF career as he saw a lot of service in WW,2 including taking part in the defence of Crete then escaping on the last Sunderland to leave the island. After the war he went to train as a glider instructor and, amongst other things, also took part in the Thor missile project both here and the USA. Brian has also picked up several groups of medals from men who served with or knew his father, including the two DFM groups to the Sunderland crewmen who picked him up.

Adrian Cresswell, Aviation Group Leader, crela7@gmail.com



CHURCH VISITING GROUP



Norman Chancel Arch St.
Peters Tickencote

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Our group visits churches from all denominations with no religious content. We are interested in the history of the church, its architecture and famous people who have been involved with it. To this end we organise for a representative of the church to join us and to tell us as much as possible about its history. Our last visit was to St Peters in Tickencote, near Stamford, a church dating back to the Norman period. We were met by Julie who was very knowledgeable about the church in all its aspects and was able to pass the information on in a relaxing manner. We generally use public transport if possible or car sharing if the distance is longer. After our visit we will usually go for lunch in a local hostelry. This gives us time to socialise and to discuss the

visit amongst ourselves, before making our way home.

Maggie Holmes Group Leader davidholmes895@gmail.com

WELCOME TO OUR RECENT NEW MEMBERS...

Eleanor Miller and John Gray. We hope you enjoy your time with our u3a!

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

From THE CHAIR

"I am happy to report that we are currently starting yet another Group, one to appreciate 60s-80s Music played on Vinyl Records. Phil Gregg has circulated information on how the group will work but basically bring your Vinyl Records and play one or two of your favourite tracks and then explain why they mean so much to you. We have started many new groups over the last few years and this ensures we stay fresh and continue to increase our membership and it is credit to your committee, who have put a lot of work in over many years.



Radcliffe will have their Carnival on Saturday 11th July in the Grange Hall and Grounds. We will be represented and will have our Pagoda Stall there. This gives us the opportunity to talk and explain what u3a is about to local people and we will be looking to bring in new members as a result.

I was pleased to attend the Aviation Groups visit to East Kirkby Airfield to see the Lancaster Bomber taxi and to appreciate the noise of the 4 Rolls Royce Merlin Engines. On our way home we stopped at the site of the recently revealed Steel Sculpture of the Lancaster Bomber, in Norton Disney. This was spectacular, think Angel of the North as a comparison. The statue was built at the confluence of three counties that were at the centre of our WW2 Bomber Command."

CLASSICAL MUSIC GROUP

We meet every third Thursday of the month from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the Dowson Room at The Grange. Our next meeting is on Thursday 17 September (please note there are no meetings in July and August). Everyone is welcome to come along, sit back, listen, and relax.

No previous knowledge is needed, and the £2.50 entry includes tea, coffee, and biscuits served during the interval.

Group Leader: *Michael Riggall* michael.riggall@ntlworld.com

Radcliffe on Trent u3a

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 (NEW)

At the time of writing, we are about to hold the inaugural session of the Vinyl Record Group. The Group will meet every last Wednesday of the month in the Scout Hall. The group members will bring their tracks on vinyl 45s and 33s, mainly 60s to 80s pop and rock but with lots of flexibility, to share stories and listen to great music. Due to the positive response, we may have to introduce a waiting list! Thanks to those that have helped set up the group.

Phil Gregg info@rot-u3a.org.uk.



JIVING FOR FUN GROUP LIVE ROCK & ROLL AFTERNOON

The JIVE Group invites all U3A members to a live rock and roll event featuring Magic Car on Wednesday 15th July from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Admission is £7 on the door. Free tea and coffee will be provided during the interval, or you can bring your own drinks. Everyone is welcome for an afternoon of music, dancing, and social fun.

Margaret Kimpson kimpson1@virginmedia.com

EVENING WINE APPRECIATION GROUP



Our June Tasting saw us comparing eight wines. Four Old World. Four New World. On the night the New World came out on top 3-1. That might not be surprising because we had secured Cloudy Bay, Sauvignon Blanc, to represent New Zealand. For those without that level of interest in wine, Cloudy Bay is New Zealand's most famous wine with a sky-high reputation. Briefly Waitrose was selling it for £19 which really is a bargain price (honestly). With our proven algorithm to work out what we can afford it is great to be able to occasionally source something special. A "blue" English sparkling wine from July 2023 was our most expensive ever (not telling). The colour was not because of artificial additives by the way. Anyway, the prospect of Cloudy Bay certainly put a smile on the faces of Melanie and Maureen as they worked hard putting together our usual buffet.

Malcolm McDowell Group Leader mcdowemm@hotmail.com

MONTHLY SPEAKER TALKS

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

July 2nd – Philip Caine – Barrow to Bagdad and Back Again (My career story)

"My talk begins with me leaving school. I will talk about how my career began as a chef and hotel manager. I spent 17 years working on the oil rigs in the North Sea. Followed by operating projects in Algeria & Nigeria. My time in Kazakhstan & Russia was particularly exciting. Not to mention the most dangerous place of all . . . Baghdad. My career culminated in Dubai where I ran an oil services company. The talk is full of interest, anecdotes, humour, and inspiration."



6th August – Ifran Sandham – In the Forbidden Land

The strange Tibetan adventure of Henry Savage Landor. The speaker is Fran Sandham, who gave a well-received talk on David Livingstone on a previous occasion.

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

GEOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GROUP

The speaker at our next meeting is **Dr Greg Chapman, formerly BGS**. The meeting of the Geology Group is at 2pm at the Trent room on 14 July.

[Critical minerals – how worried should we be?](#)

“The recognition that the supply of certain raw materials is essential to our way of life is not new. However, at the present time, technical advances and economic storms have combined with geopolitical dangers to increase our anxiety about a number of materials. These are chiefly, but not solely, metals, from the familiar to the exotic. I will describe the general principles of the subject and look in detail at the most prominent examples, such as lithium, rare earth elements and cobalt. I shall draw attention to the important Critical Minerals Intelligence Centre, based at the BGS in Keyworth, which is the properly funded successor to the work in which I and others were involved since 1974.”

TRIPS & OUTINGS 2026

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

We'll start with a 2-hour visit to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park near Wakefield to see indoor and outdoor art by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, and more. Next, we'll drive 5 miles to the National Coal Mining Museum to explore the fascinating, gritty history of UK mining. We'll wrap up the day with Afternoon Tea at the café at 3:30 PM, leaving for home at 4:30 PM to return by 6:30 PM.

Cost of the trip for the Coach, including entrance to the Sculpture Museum, The National Coal Museum and an Afternoon Tea, is **£45-00 pp**.

An optional mine tour is available for an additional £7.50, payable at the time of ticket purchase.

As well as being on sale at the Monthly Meetings in the Grange Hall on July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, tickets are on sale now from **George Roberts** 07971 593 802 or **Sandra Straw** 07411 910 142.

- Thursday 16th July - **Kilworth Outdoor Theatre ‘Anything Goes’** - £60 pp **SOLD OUT**
- Tuesday 22nd September - **National Coal Museum & Sculpture Park** - £45 plus optional £7.50.

POP MUSIC QUIZ GROUP

Especially for you, it's the u3a Pop Quiz. *Let's get it on*. The next quiz is on **Thursday 9th July 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. Unlike Cliff Richard and the Shadows, the Pop Quiz will NOT be taking a *Summer Holiday* during July and August. *In the summertime* we still need the quiz because there are *more questions than answers*. *Easy, man!*

Richard Turner ayamonterichard@gmail.com

It's Only Rock
and Roll... but
I like it!

GARDEN GROUP



26 of us came on the garden trail on Friday, June 12. The weather was kind and a real contrast to the day before which we were originally scheduled to use. Apologies if the change of day meant that you couldn't join us but on reflection it was a good decision. Another big thank you to our garden providers. Dave Harrison's garden was full of colour with lots of roses and alstroemerias in bloom along with lots of other interesting planting. Nancy Morffew had warned us that her garden was "a work in progress" but the garden seemed not too far from complete from what we saw. Lots of interest with lovely design, use of Freecycle materials, a pond with a rill and lots of Koi carp, water harvesting, an old olive tree waiting to be planted and much more. We would love to see the garden

again, Nancy when you regard it as “finished”. We had a good chat with lots of food/drinks to round off the afternoon, so thanks for all of your contributions. The whole afternoon went really well.

Next month’s event is a trip to Wollaton Hall gardens on Thursday, July 9th.

Roger Burston roger.burston@hotmail.co.uk

FILM GROUP Marilyn Monroe 100th anniversary - THE MISFITS



For the first time the Film Appreciation Club has decided to view and analyse a classic film rather than a new release.

There's been a lot of coverage; features, documentaries and books published to mark Marilyn Monroe's birth. 'The Misfits' brought director John Houston and Arthur Miller, playwright, Pulitzer Prize winner and Monroe's then husband together for one of the most significant films of the 60's.

It was Marilyn's last film before her early death aged 37, which is still surrounded by numerous conspiracy theories. Hardly surprising if you take to your bed the US president, John F Kennedy, his brother, Clark Gable et al and divorce a famously jealous and controlling big name boxer.

The film plot is intriguing. A demoralised divorcee befriends a group of misfits, including an ageing cowboy, a heartbroken mechanic and a worn-out rodeo rider. Their live-for-the-moment lifestyle brings freedom, romance and inevitable clashes. This landmark film of the 1960's has been re-mastered so will be 'as new' on the big Broadway Cinema screen.

Look out for our customary criticism in the next newsletter!

Lindah Kiddey thekiddeys@gmail.com

TRIPS & OUTINGS GROUP VISIT TO LIVERPOOL



Our group of 40 enjoyed a warm, sunny day in Liverpool on Tuesday, June 16th. Members explored a fantastic variety of attractions, including the two cathedrals, the Mersey Ferry, the open-top bus tour (featuring the Beatles' childhood homes), and the local museum and art gallery. The Albert Dock offered an excellent choice of restaurants for lunch. Overall, everyone agreed it was a fantastic visit, packed with diverse options all within a walkable area.

KNIT AND NATTER

This archive photograph gives an idea of the various items produced by our group over the years. We meet monthly (every second Tuesday) from 2-4pm. If you are curious to learn more, please feel free to contact me:

Jan Addiscott - 01158 457398 jan@addiscott.net





2026 DIARY DATES

<u>July</u>	2 nd Speaker – Barrow to Bagdad and back again 16 th Trip to Kilworth Outdoor Theatre 29 th Coffee Morning
<u>Aug</u>	6 th Speaker – In the Forbidden Land 26 th Coffee Morning
<u>Sept</u>	3 rd Speaker tbc 22 nd Trip to National Coal Museum and Sculpture Park 30 th Coffee Morning
<u>Oct</u>	1 st Speaker tbc 28 th Coffee Morning
<u>Nov</u>	5 th Speaker tbc 25 th Coffee Morning
<u>Dec</u>	3 rd Christmas Party (Grange)



PUB TRAIL GROUP

Our Pub Trail group is still going strong! This June, we took on the “Burton Joyce triangle”. Travelling by bus as usual, we headed into Nottingham to catch our connection from King Street which broke down shortly into the trip! Luckily, swapping to a replacement only added a few minutes to our journey. We enjoyed a great meal at The Wheatsheaf, sampled the drinks at the Cross Keys, and finished the day soaking up the blazing sunshine in the Nelson’s garden. You don't need to be a beer connoisseur or even drink alcohol to participate—absolutely anyone is welcome to join our friendly group.



Phil Gregg info@rot-u3a.org.uk.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The Committee are delighted to co-opt Ann Arron, a long-standing resident of our village, onto the committee for the remainder of this year. They were equally delighted to hear Ann has indicated a willingness to stand as Chair at the next AGM. Watch this space for more details over the coming months.

JOIN US

 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 July 2026

Please continue sending items (articles, photos, 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

Radcliffe Repair Café 25th July 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.”