

Committee Notices

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 20 September, 10am-1pm at Arden Hall. We will have a u3a display stand and Arden Hall would welcome offers of cakes!

Birmingham Heritage Week

Sunday 14 September, 12-3pm: History Day at Arden Hall. Our Local History Group will be having a display - come and see what we've been doing, as well as other photographic aspects of the area's history.

Raffle prizes

Stocks are running low, so good quality contributions would be welcome.

Welcome desk

There'll be a signing sheet at the next meeting for volunteers to look after the Welcome desk each month.

Paulette Burkill
Chairman

Information books available to loan

Age Concern

- Living with dementia
- At home with dementia
- When someone dies

Alzheimer's Society

- The dementia guide – living well after your diagnosis
- Caring for a person with dementia – a practical guide
- The activities handbook

Events

Day Trip to Weston Super Mare

Monday 15 September, depart Arden Hall 8:00 am, back approx 8:30 pm
Fare £21 (cheap compared to other coach companies). To book contact Bob on 07766923361



Groups Information

Castle Bromwich Local History Group

Monday 1 September, 2:00pm

Timberley Lane Baptist Church

Facilitators: Barbara Durrant and Paulette Burkill

Art and Craft Circle

Tuesday 2 September, 1:00 pm, Aylesford Hall

Relaxed afternoon crafting, so bring your paints, sewing project or any craft activity you are currently working on.

Facilitator: Elaine Johnson

Book Club No 4 at Shard End Library

Wednesday, 3 Sept, 10:00 am

Everyone welcome

Facilitator: Marion Ridsdill

BSL Group (British Sign Language) Group

Thursdays 4 and 18 September

There is a small charge (£2.00) to help with the room hire.

For more info' email: castleu3a7@gmail.com

Facilitators: Frank and Katrina

Poetry Group

Friday, 5 Sept, 2:00pm on, usual venue.

We are a small group with an interest in poetry which we find in advance of our meetings based on an agreed theme and we read pieces aloud to the group. The meeting usually lasts a couple of hours; refreshments are provided at the halfway point.

Please contact Dave or Helen on 0121 770 1538 if you are interested in joining us.

Facilitators: Dave and Helen Abbott

Digital Photography

Thursdays 10 September

1:00 till 3:30 pm

The subject this time is 'Photos taken in a box'. We meet at a member's house from 1.30 until 3.30 so if you want to join us let me know via our CBU3A email.

CBu3a email: castleu3a7@gmail.com.

Facilitator: Frank Hill

Coffee Mornings

Wednesdays 10 September, 10:00 am

Gardner's Rest Tearoom, Orchard Nursery

Water Orton Lane

Facilitator: Elaine Johnson

Thursday Reading Group

Thursday 11 September

Facilitators: Jean Edwards

Table Tennis

Thursday 11 September 2:00 pm

Timberley Lane Baptist Church

Facilitator: Diana Price

u3a Strummers

Fridays, 12 and 26 September

10:15 for 10:30 start till 11:30

Timberley Lane Baptist Church, £3

You will need your own instrument and music stand.

Facilitator: Graham Ridsdill

Papercrafts and Knit and Natter Group

Monday 15 September

Methodist Church, Cat Lane

Join us for a different craft each month or just come and knit and natter. In August we tried Zentangle



Facilitator: Kath Buckley

Committee Meeting

Wednesday 17 September, 10:00 am

Arden Hall

All members are welcome to attend

Astronuts,

Monday: 22 September, 10:00 am

Fees £2.50

Methodist Church Cat Lane

Facilitators: Dawn Passant and Frank Hill

General Meeting

Wednesday 24 September

1:30 pm

Arden Hall

The Lord Mayor will be in attendance at the August meeting, please be aware that photographs will be taken around the room.

GM Speakers

27 August	Nick Martin	Wildlife Photographer
24 September	Mary Bodfish	To be confirmed

The full list of speakers is published on the General Meeting page of the website.

Can we remind members that the hire of the Spencer Hall is until 4:00 pm. So as not to incur additional hire costs can we ask that members leave Arden Hall before 4:00 pm please.

Refreshment Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the tea rota, please speak to Sue Wilcox or Kath Buckley if you are able to help. There are guidelines/tips for the tea rota which is on the committee webpage [refreshmentstips.pdf \(u3asites.org.uk\)](https://u3asites.org.uk/refreshmentstips.pdf)

GM Book Swap

Do you have any books/magazines you would like to swop?
If so, bring them to the General Meeting.

Facilitator: June Dadd

If group facilitators (or members) wish to present information to CBU3A about their group or activity in the presentation then contact Frank Hill via our email: castleu3a7@gmail.com or at the General Meeting

Yompers

Thursday 28 August

Please meet at 9.30am for car sharing in the second car park behind Arden Hall. This month we are doing a planned walk of no more than 4 miles around Elmdon Park, Solihull, B92 9EY. A small car park is available, and there is plenty of roadside parking.

Please bring your own lunch & drinks. There are no toilets or cafe facilities, but there are plenty of benches where lunch or snacks can be eaten. There is one hill on this walk, but it is manageable and there are benches at the top, where we can stop and catch our breath.

Thursday 25 September

Walk details to be confirmed

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Dadd

Facilitator: Bob Dadd 07711608591

Jotters Corner

Jotters Corner now has its own page on the new website: Head over to the site to find the latest stories. If you have any short stories to share, please email them to Marion.

Lunartics

This is a website-based group, and you will find lots of information on our u3a website page. Details on the CB website

Facilitator: Frank Hill

Railway and Railway Model Club

Thursdays 10:00 am until 1:00 pm

Model Club Cadbury Drive, Castle Vale, B35 7JE.

£3 to cover room rent and refreshments.

Come and have a look. You can choose which one(s) you would like to help with.

We go out to exhibitions and hold our own exhibition at Arden Hall in October as well as we have lots of other activities, outings etc. Come and have a look. Ladies welcome especially with craft and art skills to work on scenic (you might also want to play trains).

Group Facilitator Bob Brueton

Cinema/Ballet Group

Royal Ballet cinema screenings 2025/26

The following ballets are showing at Cineworld Solihull and The Royal, Sutton Coldfield. Signing-on sheets will be available nearer the dates:

La Fille Mal Gardée – Wednesday 5 November

Cinderella – Tuesday 25 November (Frederick Ashton's ballet, with music by Prokofiev)

The Nutcracker – Wednesday 10 December

2026

Woolf Works - Monday 9 February

(Wayne McGregor's ballet, with music by Max Richter, inspired by three of Virginia Woolf's novels: *Mrs Dalloway*, *Orlando* and *The Waves*)

Giselle - Tuesday 3 March

Quizzes

On the website the monthly quiz now has its own page. Find the previous quizzes plus the current months on the page.

Thank you to Roger Hateley for providing the quizzes.

Workshops and Members Organizing Interest Trips

If members are organizing CBU3a workshops or their interest group trips then can the organizer inform the Interest Group Co-ordinator, Elaine Johnson, of the project. This ensures that the event is noted and also in the unlikely event of an accident we can help process any insurance support that September be required. If trips are of a more extensive nature, then the Trips and Events Coordinator, Bob Brueton, is also to be informed. Please note that a risk assessment could be required to be completed to ensure that the event is undertaken safely for members and/or visitors.

Elaine Johnson

U3a Members welcome at these other Community Groups

Castle Vale Family Community Festival

Saturday 30 August, 12-6 pm, at Farnborough Fields, next to Castle Vale Stadium. Free to attend - no ticket required. Music/performing arts/animals/face painting etc. See their website for full details.

Castle Bromwich Historical Gardens

Saturday 20 September, 10.30am-4.30pm: Rediscovering Edith Holden - Autumnal Colours at CB Hall Gardens, celebrating the Birmingham author and illustrator of *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady*. Presentation followed by drawing/creating in the Gardens with professional artists on hand. Normal entrance fee event but donations welcome and booking required.

Sunday 21 September, 10.30am-3.30pm: An Edwardian Sunday, recreating what it might have been like in the early 1900s if you lived/worked somewhere like CB Hall.

Staff from the Gardens/visitors/congregation (in costume where possible) will walk from the Hall to the Church for the Songs of Praise service at 11am, followed by

tours of the church and informal tours of the Gardens. Full details on the Gardens' website.

Generations Choir

More choir members needed male and female. No auditions just enthusiasm and wanting to meet like-minded people and have lots of fun! Choir meets for rehearsals.

Thursdays 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm at the Sanctuary Community Centre, Tangmere Drive, Castle Vale B35 7PX. Sing Gary Barlow's song plus Sea Shanties, plus more new songs. Several performances being planned. We also sing popular songs and from musicals. If you can talk you can sing!
U3A Members very welcome.

Organiser: Bob Brueton 07766923361

Young at Heart Dancing

1.30 - 3.30 pm £4.00

At The Remembrance Club.

U3A members are always made welcome.

Organised by: Bob Brueton 07766923361



Heart of England Singers

Do you love singing? Are you looking for a welcoming community of music enthusiasts? Whether you're a seasoned performer or just love to sing in the shower, our choir is the perfect place to share your voice and passion for music!

Why Join Us?

Inclusive Atmosphere: All voices are welcome! No auditions required.



Fun Rehearsals: Weekly gatherings filled with joy, laughter, and music.

Exciting Performances: Showcase your talents at local events and concerts.

Grow Your Skills: Learn from experienced choir directors and develop your vocal ability.

Make Friends: Connect with a supportive community of music lovers.

Details:

Rehearsals: Every Monday at 7.30pm until 9.30pm.

Location: The Baptist Free Church, Land Lane, Marston Green, Birmingham B37 7DE

Who Can Join: Everyone! All ages and skill levels are welcome.

How to Join:

Simply show up at one of our rehearsals or contact us at 07853 841619 or

hoessecretary@gmail.com

You can also visit our website at <https://heartofenglandsingers.org.uk> for more information.

Please forward any information, photographs to share or group updates to Marion Ridsdill at mridsdill@hotmail.co.uk or use the group email castleu3a7@gmail.com