



SHERWOOD u3a NEWSLETTER

LEARN! LAUGH! LIVE in September 2026!

MEMORIES OF DAVID

David Bradley was a big man with a big heart and big personality who contributed to Sherwood u3a, our u3a, in its early years, when it needed it most!



Margaret to do this and subcommittee which David

home, when he and his wife welcomed us with pork pie, cheese straws and every chocolate biscuit you could mention. Rita, who was then Membership Secretary, brought freshly baked apple pie – so there was never a shortage of volunteers to be on Finance!!

Liz - In our third year, our Treasurer left but he had only kept our financial documentation in a handwritten ledger, and it needed transferring to Excel on the



computer. It also needed putting in a format that the Committee could understand. David worked with together they set up a Finance chaired. We had the Meetings at his



At the same time, he started a Wine Appreciation Group which was again hosted at his house. As you can imagine we were a very active Group, attending a Wine Festival in Le Touquet (80 wine producers), a week in Somerset in a house booked by David, various wine-tasting sessions in Nottingham and Newark, as well as our monthly Wine Group meetings, Christmas parties and Summer BBQs.

He also attended Monthly Meetings and participated in most Social Events. He especially loved the Quiz and was over the moon when his team won!

Margaret Taylor - David was to some a very gruff and unfriendly person but once you got to know him, he certainly wasn't. He was a man of generous spirit who idolised his wife Angela and on the occasions that the Heritage Group went on a trip in his jag he would always ensure that her comfort came first. He was a caring family man and was over the moon when he welcomed his first grandchild. David was a member of the Sherwood u3a Committee for many years and took his duties very seriously especially those concerning financial issues. He was very supportive of me as Treasurer and would ensure that the books "balanced" and money was being spent wisely. When leaving the Committee totally he took on the role of the Chair of the Finance Sub-



Committee. We always met at his home where a “spread” was always available especially his famous pork pie! Even when he left the Sub-Committee, he used to come to me at every AGM for “his” copy of the accounts which he would check over. Phew! They did meet his approval thank goodness. He will be missed by many members of Sherwood u3a and my sincere condolences go out to Angela and his family.



Anne and Phil Lyons - David was much more than just our wine group leader; much, much more. After many years together we had learnt so much and not just about wine. We certainly learnt about David's big heart and his total readiness to



help others, whatever needed. We learnt that he and Angela were consummate hosts with an easy willingness to make their home, our home. We learnt that meetings were a bright spot in our diaries, their appeal cutting through many an appointment clash.

David's organisation was legendary and as our leader he had a firm grip on the wines, (only after 15 years did he reluctantly allow rose wines to be drunk!). But above everything, he became a real and valued friend to us all and, like his favourite Bordeaux, we will remember him with warmth and a smile.

Joan Taylor and Jeremy Lloyd – This picture is a reminder of a few happy evenings with David and friends – lots of fun and laughter and WINE of course!



Claire Wilkie - I think I probably first had anything to do with David through the International Dining Group, and I was invited to two Festive Wine Group meetings, at the second of which there was an opportunity to play the didgeridoo!!



However, it was at the u3a Quiz, the first time I was acting as Question ‘Master,’ that David really made an impression! One group of questions dealt with the meanings of various ‘ology’ words, and the troublesome word was PATHOLOGY. Unknown to me, David and Angela’s son was a forensic pathologist at the time, and anyone who has watched ‘Silent Witness’ will know what that type of pathologist does. However, there was no forensic in front of the word, so when I gave the answer as ‘a pathologist is a person who diagnoses diseases’, David objected, and carried on objecting even when I showed him the meaning on my phone.

‘They’ve got it wrong’ he said. Of course, the Question Master is never wrong in a quiz, even if they occasionally are, so David’s team didn’t



receive a point! Angela told David to apologise to me, which he did, and again, very nicely, soon after. From that time on, I always had a soft spot for David and was happy to see him at further International Dining meetings. I was very grateful when he kindly offered to include me in his carload of people after I fractured my



shoulder last year. The u3a is much the poorer for David's passing, and I will remember him with much affection.



Ann Madden - I can't actually remember when I first met David. I knew of him before I actually met him in person. I served with him briefly on the Finance Sub Committee and remember him attending many social functions –

being very competitive on quiz nights, prepared to dress up in silly wigs and Christmas jumpers at social events or looking really dashing alongside Angela at the more formal Christmas Events at Portland College.



I really got to know him when I was talked into arranging a trip to the Wine Fair in Le Touquet, France (even though I wasn't a member of the wine group at that point). My sister lived in Le Touquet and helped organise the local wine fair. I think David despaired slightly as we had arranged to meet up at the services before the shuttle but only 2 of 3 cars made that rendez vous and somehow all 3 cars got on different shuttles! Fortunately, we all arrived safely at our destination hotel for a pre-dinner drink! We had a great time drinking wine and exploring the local restaurants.



Shortly after that David invited me to join the wine group as a space had become available. I have spent many happy hours in the company of David and Angela at the monthly wine group meetings, summer BBQs with garden games, Christmas Fuddles with quizzes and a very memorable wine group trip to Somerset. It is a truly joyous group of people headed up by David. I even think I have learned a little about wines, red particularly, along the way. Although David might have disputed that!

My overriding memories of David are that he was a true gentleman with a thoughtful, generous nature. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to get to know him better over the years and will miss him greatly, but have many happy memories of him.



David – cheers to our leader from your Wine Group!



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT- Claire Wilkie



What a super day those of us who went enjoyed at Brodsworth Hall in July. The gardens are just mind blowing, and I've never, ever, seen so much astonishing topiary. There were hedges of every shape imaginable!

Going to Brodsworth, was of course, just one of the opportunities to make memories that Sherwood u3a can present us with.

Over the years there have been many such occasions, whether on visits, at meetings or group activities, listening to special

speakers, or enjoying actual celebrations, any of which may well stand out in your memory.

That being the case, at the next meeting, in addition to the News Bites on your chair, you will find a small sheet of paper. If you have time, just write down on that piece of paper YOUR particular memory, in just one or two sentences. If then, we ever have a situation such as at the last meeting, when the super Speaker, Jane Barnes, was unavoidably detained by road works, we will be able to turn to our memories of Sherwood to fill in the time.

In fact, I'm sure we could fit in one or two memories at each meeting anyway!



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR u3a MEMBERS.

I have never encountered anything but friendly behaviour from our members (though my Drama Group may disagree when I shout at them to speak up or not walk through tables at rehearsals) but I have been asked to remind everyone about our Code of Conduct, so here it is!

Purpose The Member Code of Conduct clarifies the standard of behaviour expected from each u3a member and is relevant to all u3a members.

Member Code of Conduct

- Members are expected to know, follow and promote the Principles of the u3a Movement at every opportunity.
- Members must always act in the best interests of Sherwood u3a and the u3a Movement, strive to uphold its reputation and never do anything which could bring their own, another u3a or the u3a Movement into disrepute or expose it to undue risk.
- Members are expected to use Sherwood u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objects/purpose.
- Members are expected to reflect the current organisational policy of Sherwood u3a, regardless of whether it conflicts with their personal views.
- Members are expected to abide by Sherwood u3a's procedures and practices.
- Members are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect at all times.

GROUP NEWS

Archery – Kate Kylie and Janet Thompson



The following is an article which Janet Thompson has written. She did a great job organising the Archery event and it went very well and was much appreciated by everyone who attended.

Archery afternoon Monday
19th June

After a damp start the weather brightened up and we all enjoyed several turns at trying to shoot our arrows into the yellow ring in the middle of the target. I think we all had some successes and some failures!

Our next targets were balloons pinned to the target boards and between us we managed to burst them all.

I think we all thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon, including the tea, coffee and biscuits thoughtfully provided by our hosts, and which were much appreciated.

My thanks to all who participated and also to the Welbeck Archery Club who made us very welcome and encouraged us all.



Ticket To Ride



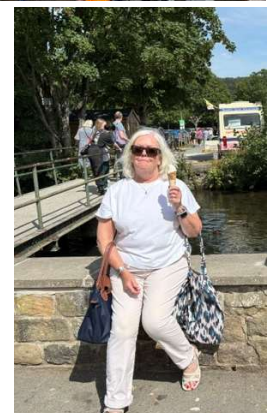
Kate and Sue organised a real treat for us to Bakewell, on Market Day. We all met at Mansfield bus station and, though some had decided not to join us because of the extreme heat, the rest of us were lively and enthusiastic about our adventure into Derbyshire. We



first caught the Chesterfield and short distance to time to wait for The big by bus is that, where nearly all see views that impossible to level in a car. As went through



10.15am bus to then only had a walk and a short the bus to Bakewell. advantage of going from the top deck of us sat, you can would be see if you were road the Bakewell bus Chatsworth and the

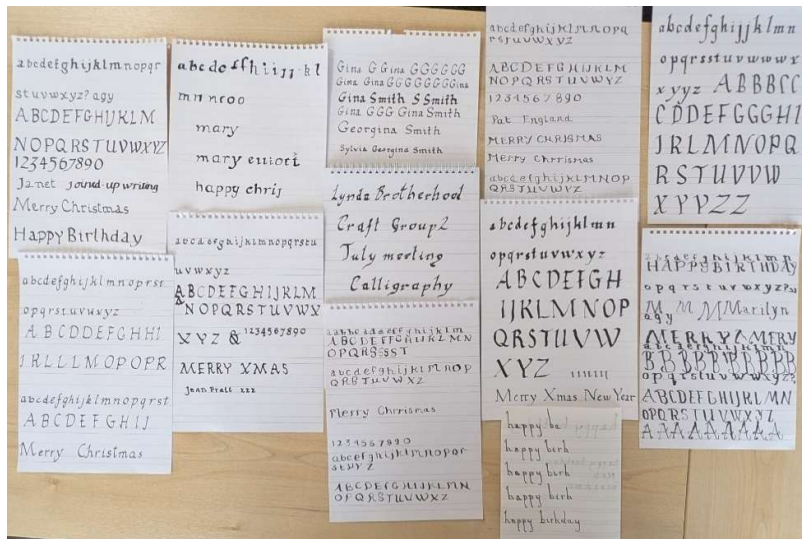


surrounding countryside the views were busy, beautiful self and we all did different things. To eat (a priority with u3a groups), some picnicked by the river, some went to posh restaurants, some to cute cafes and some just walked around the market and village with an ice cream. BUT we all enjoyed the experience so **Thanks Sue and Kate!**

Heritage – Brodsworth - Let the pictures speak a thousand words!!



Thanks David and thanks to
those who sent photos! xx



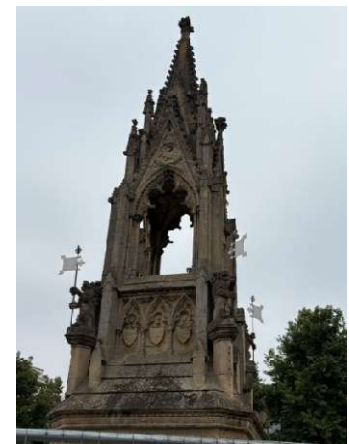
The Craft Group had a go at Calligraphy in July, with varying success and a lot of fun

Thanks Debbie for photo and update on what the craft Group are up to!!

History – Mansfield Heritage Trail led by Kate and Ann with photos by Roger.



We met at 10am, in the Market Place where Kate and Ann told us all about the main historical features, the Bentinck Memorial, (1849) Dial Hotel, (built in 19th century, demolished in 1841 and replaced), Moot



Hall(1759), Bakehouse Building (very early Mansfield). We went into the Town Hall which was built in 1835. Many of these buildings are relatively recent because in 1546 there was a major fire and 130 buildings were destroyed. It was started by Coll Davey who was tried and hanged!

We left the Market Place

and headed down Church Street. Along there, they told us about the Swan Hotel which dates back to 1586. The White Hart Inn was originally the home of Dame Cecily Flogan in 1521 but the present building is 1873. Spanning this area is the railway viaduct built in 1875, 15 stone and brick arches that stand as a testament to the Industrial Age of the town. After what was the NatWest Bank is the White Lion Yard (unfortunately closed off so we couldn't go into it) but was named after the inn that was almost entirely dug out of the rock face and contained cave houses that were lived in until 1901. Opposite is the Ram pub, a timber framed building which dates back to the 17th Century. The black and white timbered frontage was added in 1920 but some of the original timbers are inside. On the corner was a bronze sculpture which is a life size figure holding up a broken amphitheatre. The underlying theme is the struggle to maintain the civilised infrastructure of society. Work by a local poet has been blasted on the structure to encourage people to sit,



read and contemplate. We sat read and contemplated going for a drink, so we did! After we went back to look at the Sundial House, St. Peter's House, Back Court, Bridge Street Chapel, Town Mill (which has serious water problems caused by the River Maun) and then into the grounds of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul. This church was mentioned in the Domesday Book and is thought to date back to Saxon times 1086. In 1304 it was partly burnt down but rebuilt soon afterwards in the Norman style. The Tower dates back to the 12th Century and is topped by a small spire which was added in 1666. It is also the home of a set of bells, the earliest of which dates back to 1603.



Strollers – Vicar's Water led By Margaret Savage

It was the perfect strolling day – not too hot and not too cold – just pleasant. We met in the car park but some of us nipped up to the café to use the toilets. I was amazed to see new signs and a map on the side of Rumbles café.



From the car park we strolled along the side of the stream towards the GOLDEN Hand, symbolic of the many miners that were trapped underground in the

pits in the area and who lost their lives. Some of the intrepid strollers braved the stepping stones and climbed up to pose by the hand. Others took the safer route across the bridge and watched the fishermen and water birds while waiting for the fearless adventurers to catch up.

We wound our way back to the café and, of course a stroll wouldn't be a stroll if it didn't finish with a drink, a snack and a



chat!! Jane obviously thought that, having been one of the fearless, she deserved a LARGE snack or --- was it a delayed eightieth treat?



Walking Group – Farndon led by Anne and Colin Rolle



Just as the Stollers, the Walking Group had a good turn out with many regular walkers braving the HEAT. Not that they were walking over green fields but, as you can see from the picture, even though it was by water, the ground was parched.



Luckily in the more shaded areas there were traces of England's green and pleasant



land so why not sit on a stile and admire the vista? Out in the open more barren land but luckily on the water still lots of natural beauty and interesting sights.



ROVING REPORTER and PHOTOGRAPHER ROGER

I have added “Photographer” because even when he has not written the report, Roger contributes many of the photographs to them (including selfies)!

Garden Group 2



We do this every two years, go to look at various member's gardens. This year Diane volunteered for she had been working very hard, with hubby, Malcolm, over the last 2 years, to convert what was mainly lawn into a structured garden. It now has lots of different plant areas, a fantastic patio and a super vegetable section (and of course a conifer area because

Malcolm loves conifers and they look amazing in the snow)! The new patio area was put to good use when we sat around to have glasses of 0% Prosecco and delicious homemade nibbles.

Leaving Diane's in Woodhouse they came to look at Ann's garden. Many of them had visited it 2 years ago but we have had new members join the group who hadn't seen it. Plus, she has made changes and developed different areas e.g. several fairy gardens for when her nieces visit, bird boxes and feeders, mirrors



and fence pictures.

They then moved next door to my garden because I have also made changes and added several things that friends have given me, things purchased when I visited the Garden show at the NEC and a new structure for my runner beans (the others kept blowing over)! We finished on my patio because there were scones and fresh cream cakes in my garden room!

Next, it's our BBQ in Jenny's garden, which we have had every year since we started the group. We all take food and contribute to the BBQ meat and more 0% Prosecco will surely flow!!!



Afternoon Taproom Games

Introducing the main event of October, live in the Black Bull, every first Wednesday of the month until next June. We give you the **AFTERNOON TAPROOM GAMES!** More **PRIZES** and **SURPRISES** and **MORE LAUGHTER !!!** If you would like to join us, for our winter season for the first time, please let Roger or his team know, thank you and I will see you at the bar



INTERNATIONAL DINING

On Tuesday 6 October we shall be at Il Rosso, Mansfield. (Names and deposits to be taken at the September members' meeting).

On Tuesday 3 November we are going to Waterlily, Mansfield. (Names and deposits to be taken at the October members' meeting).

SOFT TENNIS

The Soft Tennis group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2pm at Oak Tree Leisure Centre.

Ticket to Ride 2 – Kate



A group of us set off from Mansfield Bus Station on a very sunny and very hot Monday morning on the start of our journey to Bakewell. We caught the Pronto to Chesterfield and from there set off on the 170 to Bakewell on a very scenic journey taking us through Chatsworth Park en route to Bakewell.

The first stop is usually coffee, but because

us headed off for a spot of lunch. Some went to Hotel, and others to one of the other numerous plenty to choose from). Some took a picnic and it



we arrived at lunchtime most of the beautiful old Bakewell cafes, delis and pubs (there are was certainly a good day for it.



Bakewell was bustling with activity, particularly around the market where there were stalls selling, for example, Plants, Bric-a-Brac, Handmade Soap, Tools, Ladies and Mens Fashion, Sweets, Giftware and so much



more, as well staples like cheese, olives, cakes, fruit and vegetables. Hot spicy food was also available but for some the lure of the ice cream van proved too much, especially given the heat of the day!

Trying to stay in shade, and out of the sun, was essential and it was lovely to stroll beside the river and visit some of the lovely independent shops in Bakewell before returning home. I didn't see anyone taking a traditional Bakewell Pudding back on the bus though and in all honesty if anyone did I wonder if it survived the heat of the day?

Writing For Fun – These Hands (for Alan) by Sylvia Pearson

These hands are kind;

Holding babies, wiping away tears,

Giving comfort or encouragement to friends,

Or with a tender, loving touch

Arousing passion.

These hands are clever;

They build, repair, create and grow.

Yes, these hands are scarred;

Ravaged by fire, the thumbs misshapen.

But that is only the outside

And if it's all you see

You're not looking hard enough.

To me, these hands are beautiful,

They're kind hands, clever hands,

They're your hands

And I love them!



WELFARE OFFICER.

Please contact if you know of anyone with health problems.

Sandra Rogers.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

**Afternoon Taproom Games – 1st Wednesday in Month, The Black Bull, Woodhouse, 2pm to 4pm.
September – No Meeting, October – Back to Normal!**

Antiques and Collectibles – 3rd Thursday in month, 2 to 4pm, Turner Hall. Sept – Something with a number, Oct – Damaged object.

Archery for Beginners – Meets on ad hoc basis at Bothamsall.

Art Group – Painting for Pleasure – 1st Thursday in Month, 2pm to 4pm,

Art For Beginners – 2nd Friday in the Month – 1pm to 3pm,

Board Games – 1st Tuesday in month, 10.15am to 12.15pm. Sept – Trivial Pursuits, Oct – Triominoes/Downtown Abbey

Book Group – 4th Friday in Month, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Woodhouse Library.

Card Games – 3rd Wednesday in Month, 10am to 12pm, The Stables Upstairs.

Chatty Café Club – 4th Wednesday in Month, times vary. Sept – Carr Bank, 1.30, Coffee/Tea Cake, Oct – Forever Green, Afternoon Tea, 12.30 to 3pm.

Classic Film Club One – 2nd Tuesday in Month, 2pm to 4pm. Sept – The Post, Oct – Bucket List

Classic Film Club Two – 3rd Tuesday in Month, 2pm to 4pm. Sept – **Cancelled for NT Trip, Oct – Doctor Zhivago Part One**

Craft 1– 4th Thursday in Month, 10am to 12pm, Mansfield Woodhouse Library. Sept -Mosaic Coasters, Oct – Chinese Brush Painting.

Craft 2 – 3rd Monday in Month, 10am to 12pm, Mansfield Woodhouse Library. Sept -Knit and crochet poppies, Oct – Making up blankets.

Days Out – TBC

Drama/Play Reading – 2nd Thursday in Month. 2pm to 4pm. Sept – Action and Character development, Oct – As Sept.

Family History – 1st Thursday in the Month, 10am to 12pm, Park Road Resource Centre.

Games Galore at the Greyhound, Woodhouse, 3rd Wednesday in Month, 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Gardening Interests – 1st Friday in month, 10am to 12pm. Rufford Arms. Sept – Speaker, Oct – Matlock.

Gardening Group 2 - 4th Tuesday in Month, 2pm to 4pm. Sept – Sheffield Botanical Gardens, Oct – Planning for 2027.

Heritage – November – Sherwood Observatory.

History – 3rd Friday in the Month, 10am to 12pm, Woodhouse Library. Sept – Talk by Dennis Hill, Oct – The Brammers and Kings Clipstone/King John

Mah Jong – 1st Monday and 2nd Wednesday in Month, Member's Home.

National Trust – Sept. Upton and Norfolk Holiday.

Photography for Fun- 2nd Wednesday in the month, 10am to 12pm. Aug – TBC, Sept – TBC.

Rambling – usually 3rd Thursday in month, Meet at Morrisons 10am. Sept – Attenborough, Oct – Welbeck.

Social Group – Meetings at Liz's house, planning 10am, 14th September.

Soft Tennis – The Soft Tennis group meet on the 3rd Tuesday at 2pm at Oak Tree Leisure Centre.

Strollers – 1st Thursday in month. Sept – Ransom Woods, Oct – the Carrs.

Ten Pin Bowling -4th Monday in Month, 10.30am, Mansfield Superbowl.

That's Entertainment – TBC.

Ticket to Ride – TBC

Walking – 1st Tuesday in month. Meet at Morrisons 10am. Sept – Hardwick, Oct – Brierley Park.

Wine Group – 3rd Wednesday of the Month, TBC

Writing for Fun – 2nd Monday in Month, 10am to 12pm, Woodhouse Library.

International Dining – 1st Tuesday in month - 6.30pm for 7pm. Sept – White Lady, Oct - Il Rosso

Oriental Dining – 4th Friday of the Month – 6. 30pm for 7pm. Sept – Guerka Village, Oct – TBC

TO BOOK IN SEPTEMBER

2027 National Trust Holiday to Suffolk, 5th to 9th July, £100 deposit.



Staying at The Orwell Hotel, Felixstowe. The Orwell Hotel offers comfortable accommodation, excellent cuisine, fine wine, great service and a friendly atmosphere all provided by our highly trained staff. Felixstowe, a family seaside resort, with a Victorian atmosphere. Bathing huts, seafront gardens and red shingle beach with pier. Close to Felixstowe's town centre and 800yds from the beach, is the Orwell Hotel, a Victorian house dating back to 1898. The spacious public areas are traditionally decorated with charm and

elegance

Itinerary

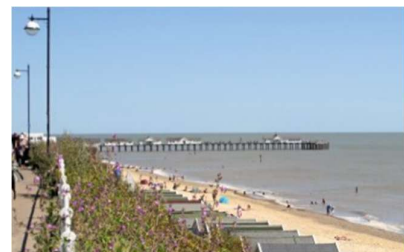
Day One – Set off from Forest Town & Mansfield Woodhouse 8.30am Stop at Paycocks House and Garden (NT)

Continue to Hotel

Day Two – am Melford Hall and Gardens (NT) pm Lavenham Guildhall (NT) and Lavenham.



Day Three – am Sutton Hoo (NT) pm Southwold



Day Four– am Orford Ness (NT) pm Flatford (NT)





Day Five – Leave Hotel. Stop at Wimpole Estate (NT) on way back to FT & MW.



Saturday 3rd October – Social Group – Quiz - £12

Thursday 5th November – Committee Coffee Morning - £3

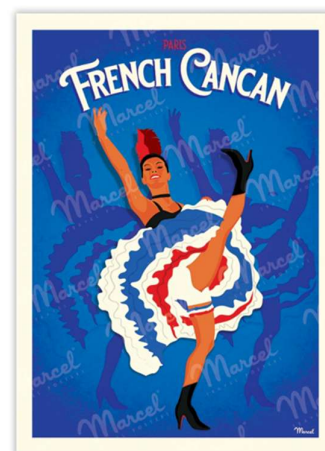
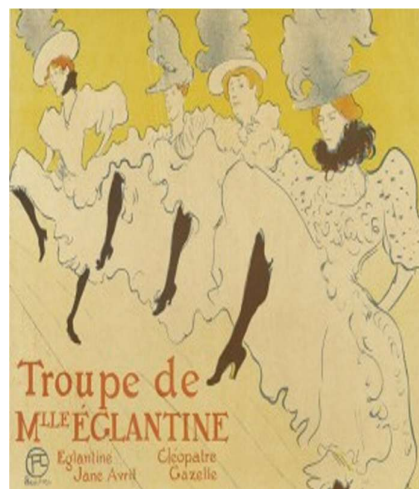
Saturday 7th November – Social Group – Afternoon Tea - £10

Monday 23rd November – Heritage – Sherwood Observatory – £8 Full, Reserve List only.

SPEAKERS CORNER - SEPTEMBER 2026

DAVID PRICE – ‘KICKS AND FRILLS’

THE STORY OF THE FRENCH CAN-CAN



DID YOU KNOW -

- **The Can-Can was first introduced in 1830**
 - **The Dance was originally men only**
 - **It was classed as a ballroom dance**
- **In the 1860's it became known as the 'French National Dance'**

ILLUSTRATED WITH FILM CLIPS (WITH MUSIC), CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHS, CARTOONS AND PAINTINGS

POSTAL MEMBERS CONTACT – TERRY DILLON

NATIONAL TRUST /HERITAGE /SOCIAL CONTACTS - Contact Liz Wilson via the website or Denise Whitsed

September

Thursday 10th – GENERAL MEETING at Turner Hall 9.45am – 12pm.

Speaker – David Price – “Kicks and Frills” – the story of the French Can- Can

Tuesday 15th – National Trust – Upton - £20

24th to 28th – Norfolk Holiday

October

Saturday 3rd – Social Group – Quiz - £12

Monday 5th – Group Leaders’ Meeting

Thursday 8th - GENERAL MEETING at Turner Hall 9.45am – 12pm.

Speaker – Stephen Brown – “It’s Hell on Wheels” being a Driving Instructor!

November

Thursday 5th – Committee Coffee Morning, 10am to 12pm.

Saturday 7th – Social Group – Afternoon Tea - £10

Thursday 12th - GENERAL MEETING at Turner Hall 9.45am – 12pm.

Speaker – Phil Drabble – “Travels with a Tiger” , Riding the Western Front.

16th to 20th - Potters Holiday

Monday 23rd – Heritage – Sherwood Observatory - £8

December

Tuesday 1st – Sherwood u3a Christmas Lunch at The Hostess

Thursday 10th - GENERAL MEETING at Turner Hall 9.45am – 12pm.

Speaker -Roger Prescott – Jukebox Jury “Christmas Edition”

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER –

Monday 14th September

Next Month – Cambridge and History

At Hardwick plus much more!

