

Hello Everyone

So, this is my last newsletter article for the year and Santa's beginning to wake up and shake off his summer hibernation. Ho Ho Ho isn't too far away now as we turn our heads towards Christmas and year end. What wonderful colours we've had to enjoy this autumn.

It's been a busy year with lots going on. Trips, events, meetings to arrange, all the group activities, finance, secretarial, programme & membership management, PR and newsletter, website refreshment, groups' support, charity and GDPR compliance, teas, welcomers and raffle volunteers, just a few of so many things that well managed, make our u3a so successful for us all...and it's not all over yet for 2025!



I have to say how lucky we are to have such a strong and enthusiastic committee and a wonderfully committed team of group leaders that bring this all to our benefit. A big thank you to them from me on your behalf for providing our opportunities to learn, laugh, live a little more and have fun!

You can find on the website full details of all the upcoming events and summaries of group activities, but I will just mention that our Christmas Lunch will be at The Littlebury Hotel again this year.

Next year is a special year for Bicester u3a. 40 years since our establishment, makes us one of the oldest member charities of The Third Age Trust. We are going to highlight and celebrate this throughout the year. See the next article for information.

Other Items

Autumn u3a Matters quarterly magazine had an interesting item from our very own Doug Irvine on page 28 attached to the Ian Gillan article (of Deep Purple fame). Hope you saw that? Also, a thought provoking piece worth reading, by The Trust CEO Ian Cassidy on page 21. You can see the main highlights of the quarterly magazine to keep up to speed with what some of the 1015 u3a charities are doing if you don't get the printed u3a matters. Go to: [u3a Matters](#). We also had some editorial on P17 of the Bicester Garth Gazette, submitted by our Newsletter Editor Helena Tuckwell.

Third Age Trust 42nd AGM

As Bicester u3a voting representative at the AGM, I attended online and voted to endorse the appointment of The Board Vice-Chair. There were also some interesting items that were mentioned that you might wish to know. A reminder of the 2023 Resolution 500K, to increase the national membership from the then 378,000 to 500,000 by the AGM 2028, following a significant drop during COVID. It's currently just below the growth line at 420,000 with lots of media activity going on. We look to be getting there. However, Bicester u3a growth this year is just over five per cent which is spot on the national growth trend, even though we have sadly lost some members. View all the reports, updates and meeting [here](#). Last year The National Festival was a great success. In 2026 the Festival is at York University from 1-3 July. And, don't forget you can also see the national [u3a Friends newsletter](#). That's all from me. And if I don't see you at the Christmas lunch have a Merry Christmas.

Kind regards, Garth

... and don't forget the 3 L's

40th Anniversary 2026 celebrations

For our 40th Anniversary next year we have a number of activities planned.

Saturday 24 January 10am to 2pm, Methodist Church Hall, Bicester

Bicester u3a is buzzing with opportunities to learn, share and make new friends – and now's your chance to see it all in one place! You're invited, together with anyone interested in joining, to our special Showcase Event, where you can explore the wide variety of groups and activities that make our u3a such a lively and welcoming community. We're asking each group to attend the event, showcasing what they do. The aim is for present u3a members to find out about possible new activities they might want to join, and for potential new members to find out about our u3a. Many groups are full or nearly full and we hope that group leaders can explain to newer members what's involved in setting up a second group. Refreshments will be available, and there'll be plenty of time to socialise and catch up with friends old and new. So come along, see what's on offer, and make the most of your u3a membership!

March/April

All groups to hold a meeting which celebrates the anniversary. For groups which take part in a game of some sort this might take the form of a competition meeting with a medal (provided by the committee) for the winner. Groups which appreciate or visit something might come up with a special theme for their meeting. Those learning a skill might have doughnuts instead of biscuits! The celebration can be as big or small as each group likes and if the timing would work better later in the year for any group then that is not a problem. At some point in the year the newsletter will include a feature showing how groups have celebrated, so don't forget to take photos.

Tuesday 30 June 12 to 3pm

Main Celebration at the Littlebury Hotel. This will be a ticketed event with a relatively low charge. BBQ food and salads will be provided including vegan and vegetarian options. There will be various activities involving competitions, an ice-breaker to get people mixing, and we hope that our performing groups will be able to take part.

Saturday 21 November 12 to 4pm

As the festive season approaches we will be holding a Craft Fair and Gingerbread House competition at the Methodist Church Hall. There will be craft items made by various groups, cakes and refreshments. All members will be encouraged to contribute to the sale and individual members will have an opportunity to have their own table. The profits from this event will be donated to a local charity which supports older people who are in need. We hope you'll join in the fun and support our contribution to the local community.

Let's make 2026, our 40th anniversary, a special year. We hope you'll participate and enjoy all these activities. And, if you have any other ideas about how we might mark our anniversary we would love to hear from you.

Anthony Lock
Treasurer

See Our Talent Sparkle at the St Edburg's Christmas Tree Festival

The festive season is almost upon us, and Bicester u3a is once again taking part in one of the town's loveliest seasonal traditions – the St Edburg's Church Christmas Tree Festival. Open from 12-14 December, this year, the Stitchcraft 1 group has been busy creating a beautifully decorated Christmas tree that truly showcases their creativity, skill, and festive spirit. Every ornament has been lovingly handcrafted by group members. The Ukulele group has also sponsored a tree.

We warmly invite all members (and friends!) to come along and see the display. It's a lovely opportunity to enjoy the festive atmosphere, admire the creativity of local groups and organisations, and enjoy the beautiful work of our members. Why not make it part of your Christmas celebrations – bring a friend, enjoy the twinkling lights, and see what our talented u3a crafters have achieved. We hope to see many of you there, supporting the event and sharing in the joy of the season.

Residential Holiday 2026

Members only

Next year we will be based at the Queen Hotel in Chester. This is an old hotel close to the station, opened in 1860. Previous famous guests include Cecil Rhodes and Charles Dickens! It has recently had a major refurbishment and air conditioning has been installed.

Departing in June, our excursions include Port Sunlight, Bodnant Gardens and the Pontycysyllite Aqueduct. We have a day in Liverpool with a guided tour of the city and a "Ferry across the Mersey". A free day in Chester when the Driver has his day off, gives us the opportunity to explore the beautiful Roman city.

45 members have already signed up for the trip, but there are a few spaces left. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested. The full itinerary is on the Trips page of the website.

Audrey Luff, Book Group Leader

Subscriptions 2026 staying the same - please try not to pay by cheque

I'm pleased to tell you that we're able to hold our subscription **at £15 again for the coming year**. It remains the Committee's aim to keep subscriptions as low as possible, while continuing to spend money on things that benefit the whole membership and support new groups when they need help setting up. We're pleased to have had an increase in membership this year - partly due to the Committee's successful efforts to raise the profile of the u3a in the local community. We're still unable to collect Gift Aid back from HMRC and await the efforts of the National u3a to resolve that situation and allow us to collect back payments.

Regrettably, Lloyds Bank have decided to discontinue the type of account we use now. This means we will have to pay **50p in bank charges for every cheque** that we pay into our account in future. We're looking into ways to mitigate these charges and charges for cash we pay into the account. Meanwhile, may I ask that **if at all possible each member makes their renewal payments and future payments for things such as trips and the Christmas lunch by BACS rather than cheque**. That would help us greatly.

Many Thanks

Anthony Lock, Treasurer

Honouring the memory of Barry Rous

Barry Rous joined Bicester u3a a few years ago after his wife died. He was a member of quite a few groups, including table tennis, and three of our music groups. He also ran a couple of groups in his time, bowling, and social cycling. Sadly, Barry passed away at the end of summer this year. Some of us went to his funeral. Afterwards, Barrie's family sent the lovely message below, expressing how grateful they are that Barry had found u3a, because it had a profoundly positive effect on Barry's ability to reconnect socially after he lost his wife.

Barry's son wrote: "Thank you so much for taking the time to send both the video and photo of Dad playing table tennis. We'll treasure these as a family going forward. It was so evident how much he loved being part of the group and spending time with you all. You all played an important part in getting Dad back to a place where he began to enjoy life more fully after losing Mum and for that we will always be grateful.

"It was also lovely to meet so many of the u3a members on Dad's special day. You really did help in giving him a great send off. So please keep doing what you all do going forward. It really is no small thing. On behalf of all of the family I simply say a heartfelt thank you."

Much love to you all
Kevin Rous

Doesn't his story encourage us to find ways of promoting benefits of the u3a for anyone who has lost their partner whenever possible?

Jan Laker

New to monthly meetings?

Please come and chat to us if you are new to the u3a. We will be happy to introduce you to another member of the Bicester group. Our welcomers are: Richard Herbert, Mary Herbert, Wyn May, Juliet Ralph, Alex Sharpe, Marguerite Scott, Pauline Smith and Joy Saville.

Gill's Quiz Corner - A Dozen What?

- 12.....T in a G
- 12.....K of the R T
- 12.....E in a C
- 12.....S of the Z
- 12.....Z in a T
- 12.....D at the L S
- 12.....P in a S
- 12.....A M
- 12.....C in S A

Answers on page 18

Monthly Meeting Programme

4th Thursday 2.15 - 4pm
Clifton Centre, Ashdene Road, Bicester, OX26 2BH

27 November	Graham Harrison, The Swinging Sixties
11 December	Christmas lunch, Littlebury Hotel
22 January	Annual General Meeting

Group Coordinator's Update

There are now two new groups, namely, the Mah-Jong Improvers Group and the Pub Quiz Group. The Mah-Jong Improvers Group members were formerly members of the Beginners Mah Jong Beginners Group which operated for 13 weeks over the summer to encourage members to take up this interesting game. It certainly did the trick!

The Pub Quiz Group is also now up and running. A team of six members recently took part in the first event at the Nightingale pub in Bicester. Both the Pub Quiz Group and the Mah Jong Improvers Group are up to full strength and there is a waiting list for new members. Many thanks to Alison Crutchfield and Angela Spencer for acting as Group Leaders for these two new groups.

There is also a second Current Affairs Group that will be starting in December to be held at the Littlebury in Bicester every second Monday of the month from 8 December. Details are being sent out to members by email inviting expressions of interest.

The French Improvers Group has gained new members following the recent highlighting exercise and is also now up to full strength. A highlighting exercise was also undertaken for the recently re-named World Beliefs, Spiritual, Cultural and Us Group. This did attract new interest but there are still spaces available.

Finally, the Committee has organised a special event for Group Leaders in November in recognition of all their wonderful efforts in running the groups for the benefit of our members.

Into the future

The highlighting of existing groups seeking new members and exploring opportunities to set up new groups will continue. There are some great ideas for new groups that are currently being explored including the prospect of a second wine appreciation group. A volunteer to act as Group Leader for such a group would be most welcome!

Wendy Smith

Art Appreciation

We continue to enjoy a varied experience each month and have welcomed several new members recently.

For our August meeting group members chose a painting that represents summer to them and gave a few words as to why they chose it and what it evokes in them. It was an extremely varied and enjoyable meeting showing peoples' different tastes.

September, Steve and I gave talks about a couple of exhibitions that were on in London recently. Steve covered Goya to Impressionism, an exhibition of works from the Oskar Reinhart collection. I spoke about Monet in London, where he created a selection of paintings over three extended stays, as he was fascinated by the atmospheric effects of the weather and industrial smoke on the river and the colours it created.

In October, Christine gave us a talk about the English artist Stanley Spencer, who was known for his paintings depicting Biblical scenes occurring as if in Cookham!

We also visited Christchurch picture Gallery to see an exhibition - Imagining Wolsey: The Invention of an English Cardinal. Marking the 500th anniversary of the initial founding of Christ Church by Cardinal Thomas Wolsey in 1525, this exhibition presented a range of images of the Cardinal from an anonymous Tudor oil portrait to Jonathan Pryce's representation of him in Wolf Hall.

Gill Flynn will be our speaker for November. The talk will be about the Blaue Reiter Group formed in Munich in 1911 by the artists Wassily Kandinsky and Franz Marc.

We are a very friendly group and welcome new members, all you need is an interest in any kind of art. Come along to our next meeting or give one of us a call if you would like to know more. Our schedule is on the Art Appreciation Group page on the website.

Val and Steve



Any Type of Good Music

At our October meeting we listened to a whole load of Beatles covers, some of which were good, many were average and a few should not have left the recording studio! Also, a number of the videos would not be appreciated being aired by the original artists.

Some of the highlights from a musical quality were 10cc with Across The Universe, Aerosmith with Come together, Marc Anthony with Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds, Easy Allstars doing a reggae version of With a Little Help From My Friends and the Monalisa Twins with When my Guitar gently weeps.

Some of the unexpected were The 12 Cellists of the Berlin Philharmonic playing Yesterday, Tony Bennett singing Long and Winding Road and the Count Basie Orchestra with And I Love Her.

A few of those less than perfect were (would you believe) Alvin and the Chipmunks ruining Please, Please Me, Babyshambles (with Pete Docherty singing!) doing She Loves You and Amen Corner with Penny Lane. Other artists we listened to were Joan Baez, James Blunt, Judy Collins, The Beach Boys, Herb Alpert, Tori Amos and many more.

If listening to music and discussing it is your thing, come and join us - contact the Group Coordinator or myself.

Richard Herbert

Arts and Crafts

Not too much to show now as we have finished our activities for this year. Tesco uses the Community room until January so we can't meet until then. The last thing we did was some decoupage and glitter baubles.

Debbie Cooper



Book Group

For our August meeting, we discussed “The Beekeeper of Aleppo” by Christy Lefteri. This is the story of Nuri and his wife Afra, forced to leave their home in Syria when everything they love is destroyed by war. They embark on a long, dangerous journey across Europe towards an unknown future, if they can reach the safety of England. They both have health issues, caused by the horror they have witnessed and need to rebuild their relationship.

Many of us thought it quite harrowing and lacking in hope. It brought home the reality of life facing true refugees, highlighting the dangers they faced from people preying on their vulnerability. A sad but interesting book which could be a useful study in schools.

Our September choice was “The Temptation of Gracie” by Santa Montefiore.

When Gracie Burton sees an advertisement for a week-long cookery course in the heart of Tuscany, she cannot resist and ploughs her savings into the trip. Her daughter and granddaughter decide to accompany her. The story then reveals the secret of her extraordinary life that preceded the family. The relationship between the three women blossoms during the week. Tuscany is perhaps over described but the characters were easy to visualise.

Most of the group enjoyed it and described it as a good, light, holiday read with an entertaining storyline.

In October, we talked about “The Last Days of Night” by Graham Moore. Set in New York City and Pittsburgh in the late 1800s, the story centres on the invention of the light bulb, the war over the adoption of A/C current and the largest ever patent-lawsuit, Edison vs Westinghouse. A young, relatively unknown lawyer, Paul Cravath, is hired to represent Westinghouse. The bulk of events in the book did happen, and the major characters did exist, even though this is a work of historical fiction.

Some of us found it difficult to get into the story and the details of how the electricity worked were complex, at times rather gory! Not everyone enjoyed it, but we found it fascinating and well worth a read.

Our completed list for 2026 has an interesting mix of titles to look forward to.

Audrey Luff

Bus Pass Adventures

Our July adventure was to Wantage. We caught the usual bus to Oxford and had coffee in the Ashmolean. The bus to Wantage was from St Aldates and was quite a long ride through many villages. After lunch we followed the Victorian Wantage Trail with its 16th Century timber framed buildings faced in brickwork during the 18th Century. We paused for a photo at the former King Alfred's Grammar School, built from 1850 onwards. The limestone portion in domestic Gothic was designed by J. Clacy and the brick buildings by Butterfield in 1872. This is now the site of King Alfred's Community and Sports Academy.

We then visited the Betjeman Millennium Park opened in May 2002 to celebrate the Millennium and life and work of Wantage resident and poet, Sir John Betjeman (1906-1984).

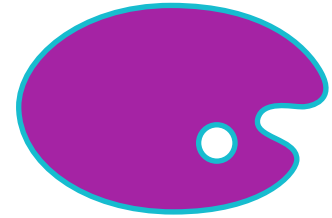
Rennie Buxton



Current Affairs

We continue to have lively and varied discussions at the Littlebury once a month. The group has grown in recent months, consequently, there will be a second group, starting in December. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining this afternoon session.

Gill Hawkins



Drawing and Painting

The Drawing and Painting Group painted a composite picture of English impressionist Alfred Sisley. It was exhibited at the September meeting and I think it was well received.

Sadly we have no more meetings until January as Tesco needs the Community Room for Christmas stock.

Janet Hartley



Garden Visits

Support for this group has waned this year, out of a group with 46 members, we have only had four or five joining us for the last three visits. Very disappointing, although those of us who went enjoyed ourselves.

In August we visited Chenies, a Tudor listed building historically frequented by Royalty and a regular location for film and television. Quite a distance to travel, but well worth a visit.

The Cowper & Newton Museum was our September visit. Recommended by a member of the group, I had no idea what to expect, but it was fascinating, a small but extremely interesting garden, and a very entertaining museum. In October we went to Harcourt Arboretum. The weather was great and in spite of my doubts there were some lovely colours, particularly the acers.

Dave Jones





Gentle Exercise

Still going strong but now in our new venue, the actual church and not the church hall of St Edburg's. We've adapted very well to being in the church and continue to do our weekly exercise.

Joy Saville



Murder Mystery Book Group

September 2025 - The Wrong Sister by Claire Douglas

Tasha and her older sister Alice may look alike, but they couldn't be more different. Tasha is married with two children and still lives in their home town near Bristol. Alice is a high-flying scientist who travels the world with her equally successful husband Kyle. Yet each sister would trust the other with her life. When Tasha and her husband Aaron need a break and Alice offers to stay in their home with the kids, Tasha knows her family will be in safe hands. She couldn't be more wrong. The call from home is devastating, Alice and her husband have been attacked, leaving Alice in intensive care and Kyle dead. Rushing to the hospital Tasha finds the police trying to piece events together. She can't think why anyone would attack her sister. Then the note arrives, addressed to Tasha... it was supposed to be you. Every family has secrets. Some more than others.

October 2025 - The Raging Storm by Ann Cleeves

When Jem Rosco - sailor, adventurer and legend - blows into town in the middle of an Autumn gale, the residents of Greystone, Devon, are delighted to have a celebrity in their midst. Just as abruptly as he arrived Rosco disappears, and soon his lifeless body is discovered in a dinghy, anchored off Scully Cove, a place with legends of its own.

This is an uncomfortable job for Detective Inspector Matthew Venn. Greystone is a place he visited as a child, a community he parted ways with. Superstition and rumour mix with fact as another body is found and Venn finds his judgement clouded. As the winds howl and Venn and his team investigate, he realises that no one, including himself, is safe from Scully Cove's storm of dark secrets.

Mary Herbert

Pub Quiz Group

The risk assessment on the Nightingale pub was completed and six of us attended our first quiz night there on 16 October. Many of the group members have expressed interest in attending quizzes at the Littlebury hotel and we're aiming to put a team or two together for their 7 November quiz night.

Alison Crutchfield

Rummikub

We're doing very well and a few of us play at other times as well. We're currently at our maximum (20 members), but if any one would like to go on a waiting list we can do that. Everyone in our group is very friendly and we all get along nicely.

Sheila McKechnie

Short Walks

On the 12 August I led a walk from Kidlington Church. We stopped at Annie's Tea Shop for coffee.

In September we walked from Deddington to Paper Mill Cottages where we stopped for a drinks break. Some of us had lunch at the Deddington Arms. Unfortunately, we had to wait a long time for our order. The pub refunded the service charge as a result.

Mary Gough



Paper Mill Cottages

Stitchcraft 1

We have been busy for the last few months knitting decorations for the u3a tree at the St Edburg's Church Christmas tree festival, Bicester. The theme is the poem, T'was Night Before Christmas. We have knitted figures and objects from the poem including three sets of sleighs with nine reindeer. I do hope that members of the u3a will go along in December to see our work.

Pauline Smith

Table Tennis

Join our friendly Table Tennis Group! We play every week at Chesterton Community Hall and we're now looking for new members. If you've played table tennis before – or perhaps another racket sport such as tennis, badminton, or squash – and would like to give table tennis a try, we'd love to hear from you. Or maybe you just want to come along for a session or two to see how you get on? We play doubles on four tables from 10am to about 11.45am with a short break in the middle to relax and chat. We're a friendly, welcoming group, and everyone joins in regardless of standard. We don't take ourselves too seriously – it's all about having fun, keeping active, and enjoying good company. If you're looking for some gentle exercise and plenty of fun, this is the group for you! To find out more please contact the group co-ordinator, Wendy Smith.

Kate Boyes

Ukulele Group

As seems to be the norm for us we are kept extremely busy with performances these days. Word of mouth seems to be our nemesis and we are having requests from new venues. We've been involved quite a bit with Bicester Live, a musical platform being led by Paul Robertson and we've played at Garth Park Bandstand. Also regularly at The Bicester Methodist Church Open Cafe on a Friday. Our most recent venue was at Bicester Community Services, some of the staff saw us performing at Launton Village Cafe and requested us to visit them at their centre in Bicester.

We had a group lunch at Annie's Tearooms in Thrupp, where we enjoyed the autumn sunshine whilst playing and eventually settled down to our lunch.

The group now has an additional three new members with a possible fourth starting soon. Between now and Christmas we have three performances in local venues. We've secured a Christmas tree at St Edburg's Tree Festival this year and will be performing in the church on Saturday 13 December at 11am.

Bill Jeffries



Wider Horizons

At the end of August we had a day trip to Compton Verney near Banbury. It was shortlisted this year for the Art Museum of the Year award but sadly just missed out to Beamish. Sixteen of us had a lovely visit, including lunch at the excellent cafe there. There are permanent collections of many fascinating things, temporary exhibitions and extensive grounds to explore so we were busy all day. Altogether an excellent place to visit. More days out planned but for next year now when the weather gets better. Do come and join us for our twice monthly meetings at the Torino Lounge on Sheep Street and have a chat with us all.

Joy Saville



Wine Appreciation

At our meeting in August we tasted an interesting selection of wines from Italy. In the whites a Pecorino from d'Abruzzo was the favourite, closely followed by a Gavi and a Trentino. To my taste the outstanding wine of the evening was an Appasimiento red from the Veneto region, this type of wine is made from grapes that have been allowed to partially dry to concentrate the flavour. Not to be outdone was a Primitivo from d'Abruzzo and a Chianti.

In September we tasted six wines from a supermarket's "Found" range. The main problem we had was how to spell and pronounce the obscure grape types. We started with a Cava that we all thought was superb, the rest of the wines had a lot to live up to. A Fetească Albă from Romania was pleasant but an Encruzado from Portugal was not our favourite. For the reds a Norello Cappuccio from Sicily was liked as was a Kratosija from North Macedonia, however, a Saperavi from Georgia did not get a good report.

In October we had a distinct change from our normal selections, we tasted fortified wines. As the alcohol levels in these wines is much higher our samples were very small! The general consensus was that the wines were very enjoyable but tasting these wines would be much nicer at home after a meal or with a nice blue cheese. The wines that we tasted were a Fino Sherry, a Vermouth from France, a White Port, and for the reds a Tawney Port, a Madeira and a Marsala.

Richard Herbert

The Misnomer of a Title - World Beliefs, Spiritual, Cultural and Us

At a recent u3a gathering I overheard a conversation about the World Religion group, and realised that there was considerable misunderstanding about what the group is about. It's not a practising religious group of prayer, bible reading or hymn singing! We look at belief systems from around the world. The A to Z if you like, from Aboriginal to Zoroastrianism and from Druids to Witchcraft, and all other religions. Each month we look at a different religion or belief system and research it alongside everyday things like food, symbols, light, soul, candles, incense, beauty, solitude and nature. The group is developing new understanding of the people and faiths around us, how their culture and practice is both different yet similar to our own, how history has developed and how geography defines some practices. There's space for five more people. We meet on the third Friday of each month, from 10-11.30am. If you're interested in joining then do contact me or the group co-ordinator.

Pam Wakeling

Gill's Quiz Corner answers:

Twelves in a Gross
Knights of the Round Table
Edges in a Cube
Signs of the Zodiac
Zeros in a Trillion
Disciples at the Last Supper
Pennies in a Shilling
Angry Men
Countries in South America

Bicester u3a General Notices

- News of members: If you know of someone who is ill, please let one of the Committee know so that we can arrange to send a card or perhaps have someone make a visit.
- Honorary members: When existing members reach the great age of 90 years, we mark the occasion by sending them a card and making them Honorary members of Bicester u3a. As we have no record of dates of birth, we rely on group leaders and friends to let us know when these happy events are approaching.
- Internet and email: If you have internet access and are able to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact the Membership Secretary. We try hard to deliver paperwork to members with no email but sometimes it is necessary to use the post, which does increase costs.
- Personal details: The Membership Secretary keeps a master list of your personal details. Please remember to advise her if you move house, change your telephone number or email address in order to keep our records up to date and keep in touch.
- Equipment register: These items are available to borrow by u3a interest groups. Contact the keeper to arrange a loan.
- Equipment: Dave Jones, P.A. System and digital projector, screen, "iRoar" P.A. System and blue tooth speaker. George Edmundson, Nobo 3 panel desktop display boards (with cover). Audrey Luff, laminator and free-standing flip chart stand/whiteboard. Val Day, guillotine. Helena Tuckwell, 300 LED fairy lights.
- Clifton Centre: Hinged notice board, floor standing projector screen, projector stand, u3a banner. tea urn with stand.
- Refreshments: Refreshments at monthly meetings are prepared by group members. Sue Wilde will approach leaders with a request for assistance and compile a rota. Please help if you can. Supplies are maintained by Sylvia Frydland.
- Raffle: The raffle at monthly meetings is organised by Jan and Alan Marshall.

Press dates

Articles for inclusion in the February 2026 newsletter must be submitted by 31 January 2026.

Please note this is an absolute deadline. You can contact the editor by emailing newsletter.editor@bicesteru3a.online.

For more information about Bicester u3a, including trips, groups and details of monthly meetings visit our website at:

bicester.u3asite.uk

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