



Newsletter No.58
Summer 2026
 Editor—Christine Gorton
editor@banddu3a.org.uk
www.bourton.u3asite.uk
webmaster@banddu3a.org.uk

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Registered Charity No:
1157184

Message from the Editor

Hello Everyone,

I have been editing the Newsletter for the past 7 years and have recently decided that it is time to step aside and give someone else a chance! If you are interested or would like to know more, email me or our Chairman, Glenn.

There are three issues a year, which can be organised largely around your own commitments.

Thanks very much.

Christine Gorton

Bourton & District U3A Executive Committee 2025/26

Position	Name
Chairperson	Glenn Barrett
Secretary	Sandra Mitchell
Treasurer	Steve McHale
Membership Secretary	Pat Adamson
Groups' Support	Rob Gorton
Equipment Officer & Beacon Lead	Ken Lamacraft
Publicity Officer	Neil Cox
Assistance & Safeguarding Officer	Pam Clifford
Non-Committee	
Speaker Secretaries	Myra Ford & Madelaine Cox
Webmaster	Roger Leaver
Editor	Christine Gorton
Refreshment Team Leader	David Prout

Getting in Touch

To contact any Group Organisers, please go to the "Groups Page", click on the "Group" you are interested in and then click on the "Bird Icon." This will allow you to email the Group Organiser.

If you wish to contact anybody who is mentioned but is not listed as a Group Organiser, please use the "contact page" on the website. The message is then passed on to them.

Members' Monthly Meetings

Date –2026	Topic	Speaker
August 26th	7 Years Inside	Janine Kilroe
September 23rd	RENEWALS	–
October 28th	Hans Holbein the Younger	Sally Ferrers
November 25th	Christmas Songs through the Ages.	Richard Churchley
December 9th	Christmas Ghost Stories	Nick Brunger

Meetings will be on 4th Wednesdays (2nd Wed. in Dec.) 10am – 12Noon at the British Legion Hall, Bourton-on-the-Water. Tea and Coffee will be served from 10am – 10.30am. This is a chance to chat with other members, meet some of the committee and Group Organisers and catch up on the latest plans and news. Speaker or activity starts 10.45

Details on website.

Sunset—Great Rissington by Andy Lewis

Interest Groups

Nature Group

Our indoor meetings have now stopped until September. The two previous ones were on the amazing work of the Vale Wildlife Hospital near Evesham, and the popular 'What You Found over Winter and Spring', where members brought in and discussed photos of fungi, ladybirds, Bourton Pits in flood, New Zealand holidays and an extraordinary dinosaur now on display in Dorset.

Our outdoor meetings have included two return visits at different seasons: to the new nature reserve at Fromebridge once

again led by volunteer Chris Shaw, and to the Stratford Butterfly Farm where the insects were a lot more active than in January!

We also had a walk around Cleeve Hill's

West Down on one of the hottest days of the year.



Orange Tiger—Andy Lewis



Tree Nymph—Andy Lewis

We have two more summer outdoor meetings before the indoor meetings resume in September with 'What You Found over Summer'.

The Vale Wildlife Hospital always need old newspapers and sheets or cloth for the animals under treatment. If you have any to spare, please contact

nature.banddu3a@btinternet.com and we can arrange for them to be collected and taken there.

Andy Lewis



Hares—Andy Lewis

Walking Group.

An eventful few months. As hoped for, the weather distinctly improved for our April walk from the Red Lion in Ilmington (the highest in Warwickshire), compared with the winter rains, and it did give us a photo opportunity that we felt shouldn't be missed, (see photo). However our subsequent walk in May was postponed for a month due to it clashing with the funeral of Ian Leppingwell, one of our Bridge (and other Group) members. He will be missed. When we eventually did the walk, from the Black Horse, Stonesfield in Oxfordshire, it was surprisingly wet (hard to believe given the recent weather conditions). Typically our next walk from the Crown and Trumpet in Broadway, Warwickshire was scorching! This was reflected in the reduced number of brave (some would say foolhardy) walkers! We are anticipating (slightly) cooler weather when we explore rather closer to home in August, basing ourselves at the Bruern Farm Shop and Cafe.

Neil Cox



Interest Groups

GOs please inform Rob Gorton, Groups' Support of **ANY** changes to your Group's details ASAP. He will then inform Newsletter & Website Editors.

DISCLAIMER

Before attending any groups please check with GO
Members participating in any groups must be responsible for their own welfare.

Group	Group Leader
Archaeology	Steve Ford
Ballroom Dancing	Rob Gorton
Book Club Bourton	Susan Foster
Bridge	Neil Cox
Country Dancing	Steve Ford
Film Group	Neil Cox
French Conversation	Barbara Kirby
German Conversation	David Heitler
History –General	Jo Young
Indoor Kurling	Peter Boxall
Lawn Bowls	Val & Gordon Read
Mahjong	Denease Robinson
Mexican Train	G.O wanted
Nature Group	Andy Lewis
Photography	Ian Gayton

Group	Group Leader
Play Reading 1	Roger Harris
Play Reading 2	Mike Rees
Poetry Circle	Jenny Stevenson
Quiz	Ray and Susan Dodd
Recorder Group	Myra Ford
Scrabble	Julie Eastwood
Skittles (4th Monday)	David Prout
Solos, Coffee and Chat	Carol Grenz
Sunday Lunch Club	Lesley Lawson & Kath Monk
Table Tennis	Lindsey Stevenson
Ukulele (BUGS)	Myra Ford
Walking Basketball	Mark Payne
Walking Group	Neil Cox
Walking Group (Short)	Dave Turnbull
Walks with Talks	Rob Gorton
Watercolour Painting	Joy Rees

Summer Social Event



Summer Social Event

Friday 24th July saw many of us tripping (in some cases literally!) down to the Bourton British Legion Hall for our Summer Social Event. A fabulous time was had by all to the music from the 1950s, 60s and 70s provided by DJ Ian Sorley.

We Grandma and Grandad danced into the small hours! What's that you say, 9 o' clock is not a very small hour? Whatever! There were some very unexpected arrivals on the dancefloor—just look at the evidence.

All the photographs are courtesy of Ian, who runs our Photography Group. If anybody would like to be able to take action shots like these, then do contact Ian about joining.

Those of you unable to join us on the dance floor—nonetheless exercised your jaws greatly, with some very bad singing along to the Ukulele Group. Many thanks to Myra and her rather depleted players.

I would also like to thank our 'Refreshment Ladies, Lin, Elizabeth and June—your help was greatly appreciated.

Thanks also to my co-workers on the Social Sub-Committee, Paul and Pam plus all those such as Denease, Sal, Alison, Christine, Neil, Sandra and Brian who all helped setting up. A sincere apology to anyone I haven't mentioned, but many hands made for relatively light work.

And for those of you who thought that you had got away with ita lot of people have expressed interest in doing it all again!!

Rob Gorton

Ballroom Dancing Group

Many of the photos from the Summer Social feature members of our Ballroom Dancing Group. I think they show how much we enjoy ourselves. We may not be very accomplished but we certainly have a good laugh! Why not join us at 7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at Upper Rissington Hall?

Rob Gorton

Summer Social Event

