



u3a

SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Melbourne Area Derby

OPEN DAY IN APRIL

Over 70 people attended the Open Day, and there were several new members signing up on the day. Many of the interest groups were represented and it was a great opportunity to speak to group leaders about what they did and what future plans they had.



SPOTLIGHT ON GROUPS

Singing for fun is a new group meeting monthly in Melbourne. It offers all abilities the opportunity to try out new and well-known songs.

Current Affairs meets every month in the Bank of Beers micropub. Members discuss current news items as well as digging deeper into a wide range of topics, most recently including prisons and space debris!

Pickleball is best described as a cross between tennis and badminton played with table tennis-like paddles. This new group meets twice a month in Melbourne.

Wine appreciation group aims to learn about grapes and regions by trying less well known wines alongside popular varieties.

Please refer to the website for more details:

<https://melbourne-area.u3asite.uk/home/>

SHORT EVENING WALKS IN THE SUMMER

Members of the Short Walks group have been taking an evening stroll of around 3 miles, taking in a local hostelry. The first one was over the hill to Wilson and a lemonade at the Bull's Head on a lovely summer evening in June. We have also been to the newly re-opened Wheel Inn in Ticknall after a walk around Calke Park. More to follow! Just add your name to the group if you are interested in this and other short walks.



SHORT BREAKS

There is still an opportunity to join your fellow u3a-ers on a short breaks 1-3 October at the Warners' hotel, **Studley Castle** in Warwickshire. Apart from the delights of the hotel and its grounds, and the various activities provided, you could visit nearby National Trust Coughton Court and learn more about those who took part in the Gunpowder Plot. Stratford on Avon is also a short drive or bus ride away. Please contact Jackie for details: j.a.lane2317@gmail.com

(Jackie will be relinquishing her role as Group Leader for Short Breaks after the visit to Studley so if anyone else is interested in taking this on please let her or the groups coordinator know.)

CRUISING THE CANAL

Twelve members enjoyed a very relaxing cruise in the canal from Mercia Marina in July. Two hours of gently gliding along the canal in good company and with drinks being served by the crew made for a very pleasant summer evening.



Other opportunities from National:

Coming up soon online:

Laughter yoga 13 August at 10 am

Mindfulness and Compassion Meets Poetry Monday 18 August at 2 pm

Small Modular Nuclear Reactors with u3a Let's Talk Tech, Wednesday 3 September at 1pm

For these and many other online talks (free to all members) why not take a look here.

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events#Events>