

## SPRING NEWSLETTER 2026

Melbourne Area Derby u3a took part in a Pickleball tournament with other Derbyshire u3a's. Pickleball is just one of more than 20 interest groups we offer.

Come to our **Open event on April 2nd, 2pm** at Melbourne Assembly Rooms to find out more or check out our website.



Enjoy exercise, but at a slower pace? There are 2 walking groups, one for walks of about 3 miles (with coffee stop) and one for slightly longer walks. The short walks are once a month; the dates for the next two, meeting at 10 a.m. are:

### **Thursday March 26**

Meet at the Ferrers Centre car park for a walk through the woods to Lount and back to the same point for a drink at the centre.

### **Thursday 23 April**

Meet at the war memorial near Melbourne Hall for a walk over the hill to Wilson for a coffee at the Spa cafe, returning the same way. About 2.5 miles, couple of stiles.

## Reflections of our Times

The group is now being running for a year starting with the end of the second WWII. We have now entered the 1950's. Exploring what it was like to live in the 1950's through various subjects. It is surprising to find out how so much has changed in our lifetime. We are what you may call the baby boomers, when you start to look back we have had a lot of changes to adapt to. The group is a living social history. If this subject interests you please get in touch with the group leader Lorraine Dowell.

## Family History

The family history group has been running since Melbourne Area Derby U3A first started. We meet on the second Wednesday of the Month in the Honner Room at Melbourne Parish Church. We are a friendly group of people who come together to help and share ideas for breaking down brick walls. Want to begin your family tree and not sure where to start? This maybe the group for you. Contact the group leader Lorraine Dowell for further information.

## Photography Step by Step

After the weather being so wet and gloomy we had a perfect sunny afternoon for our March outing. Something a little different for our group and on our doorstep. The group spent the afternoon at Donington Race track a chance to have a go at panning and a few laughs along the way. Who would have thought we could be sitting outside at the race track in the sunshine with a cup of tea before we left for home. If you would like to join our group contact the group leader Lorraine Dowell.

These are just some of the 20+ interest groups available to members. On your own and want to join others for social outings such as theatre or cinema? Why not join MOTO (members on their own)? Interested in poetry, singing or art? There are groups for those as well. Enjoy a drink and a game of darts or cribbage? Why not come to the Melbourne Inn on the first Tuesday of the month for some pub games. And keep an eye out for visits coming up. Diana sends out a regular email keeping you updated with upcoming events.