

LEARN, LAUGH & LIVE!
SWINDON

U3A

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

www.swindonu3a.org.uk

YEARBOOK

2018—2019

Updated 20th October



Swindon U3A

(Registered charity number 298853)

“Learning together,
talking together,
working together”

Who We Are

What is the University of the Third Age (U3A)?

Most of our lives we have been learning new things, whether this be at school, college or at work. Now that we have come to our third age which is our retirement, we are free to follow interests that give us pleasure but that will continue to keep us active and alert in our later years.

Members with specialist knowledge or skills are an asset to groups but many groups have no such "expert". Motivated by their common interest, members encourage and help each other in a variety of ways. It is this emphasis on everyone in the group accepting responsibility for their own learning and helping others which makes U3A groups distinctive and innovative. The actual existence of the groups, however, would not be possible without the enthusiasm of the Group Organisers who are so generous with their time, and in many cases their homes

Notes on Applying for Groups

First find a group or groups which interest you. You can look by day of the week or there is an alphabetical index at the back.

- Contact the group organiser to see if there are spaces. If a group is full, ask to be put on a waiting list. If necessary a new group will be started to meet demand.
- As a new member you may attend one session as a taster but if you wish to continue going to the group, you must
- Please let the Group Organiser know if for any reason you are unable to attend. This also applies should you decide to leave a group. The Organiser can then fill your place from the waiting list.

Participative Learning

(The ethos of the U3A)

It may be helpful, particularly to new members, to emphasise the fundamental ideas of a U3A group. In traditionally taught classes found elsewhere, the expert teacher chooses the subject matter, decides how it will be presented and teaches it. In a U3A group, all should contribute as best they can to both teaching and learning. It is nothing if not a co-operative enterprise - a process of mutual learning.

It can be very helpful if a member has specialist knowledge or skills but some of the groups don't have this expertise. Motivated by their common interest, members encourage and help each other forward in a variety of ways. It is this blurring of the distinction between teacher and taught, this emphasis on both accepting responsibility for our own learning and helping others, which makes a U3A group distinctive and innovative.

Open Day

Saturday, 1st September 2018

10:00am until 12:30pm

St Joseph's Catholic College, Ocotal Way, Swindon, SN3 3LR

The Open Day allows prospective members to see what is on offer, and existing members to see what else they might like to try. It is a place where new groups are suggested and new ideas are born. Our U3A needs this time of regeneration.

Most of the activities will have a "stall" where you can see what they do and talk to existing members. Committee members will also be available to answer any questions on the U3A.

New Members' Meeting

A meeting for new members will be held in October 2018. Details are available on the website.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet members of the Management Committee and find out how the Swindon U3A works and what you can get out of it. You will also find out how you can contribute.

The Monthly Meeting

The Monthly Meeting sounds like some type of committee meeting but it is far from that!

So, for those of you who may be new to U3A, or unfamiliar with what the Monthly Meeting has to offer, here is a bit of a run-down on what's on offer.

The meeting takes place on the second Monday in each month, at the Ellendune Centre in Wroughton, from 2:15pm to about 3:30pm.

It is open to all members of the U3A, at no additional cost, and on an ad-hoc basis. In other words, you do not have to commit to "joining" as with most other U3A groups. There is no waiting list. Just turn up on the day.

The invited speaker gives a talk, lasting for about an hour, and then there is tea and coffee to follow, for which the small charge of 20p is made.

There is also the opportunity to swap jigsaw puzzles at the very popular puzzle exchange.

The speakers for these meetings are booked well in advance and cover a myriad of topics, including natural history, comedy, how the Queen's Bodyguard works and the Air Ambulance Service. There is something of interest for everyone.

You will find a full programme for each year in the U3A Yearbook, which you will receive when you join or renew your membership. In addition, every meeting is advertised in advance in the Newsletter or What's On. If you cannot put your hands on any of these items, then just turn up on the second Monday in any month and see what is going on.

We look forward to your company.

Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

There will be a chance to donate or borrow a variety of jigsaws at each Monthly Meeting. We make no charge, but please remember to return them as soon as possible and let us know if any pieces are missing.

Monthly Meetings

These are held at the Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton on the second Monday of each month at 2:15pm.

All U3A members are welcome.

2018

10th September	Wiltshire Air Ambulance
8th October	AGM followed by Dressability
12th November	The Loss of the Titanic and a Wiltshire Family
10th December	Christmas Entertainment

2019

14th January	Up on Nob Hill
11th February	A Room with a View
11th March	The Motor Trade 1950 - 1980
8th April	My journey to the Weakest Link

List of Groups Currently Available

There is a wide choice of groups available for you to join but please check with the group organiser to see if there are spaces available. If you cannot see a group that interests you, consider starting your own group. A great deal of help is available from the U3A to guide you on how to do this. Please contact the Group Coordinator by email to group.coord@swindonu3a.org.uk.

The U3A takes a short break over the summer and if your group continues through this break you will be asked to contribute a small amount to cover any venue costs.

The list is by day of the week and by time of day within each day. There is an index on the next two pages where you can see all the groups together alphabetically and links to each day. Please click on an activity or day to be taken straight to that activity or day. Pages have a link at the bottom which will bring you back to the index.

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Monday Morning

Stretch and Balance **9:30am - 10:30am**

Meets weekly on Mondays starting on 10th September
Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organiser: **Beryl Howe 01793 531208**

A ladies only class aiming to promote flexibility, balance and strength in a relaxed, friendly and non-competitive atmosphere. We use equipment, weights and resistance bands.

Short Mat Bowls (6) **9:30am - 11:00am**

Meets weekly on Mondays

Meets at Haydon Centre, Thames Avenue. SN25 1QQ

Organiser: **Jamie Edwards 01793 772658**

jamieedwards58@hotmail.com

Friendly indoor bowls sessions.

Birders **9:30am - 12:30pm Winter** **10:00am - 2:00pm Spring**

Meets fortnightly on Mondays starting on 24th September

Meets at various venues.

Organisers: **Nicola Nowak 07780 506093**

nnowak@btinternet.com

Martin Savage 01793 790151

martinsavage@marshlea.org.uk

Watching birds (mainly) and other wildlife locally, regionally and occasionally further afield.

Travel Group G **9:45am - 11:45am**

Meets fortnightly on Mondays starting on 10th September

Meets at St Joseph's Church Hall, Wroughton, SN4 0RZ

Organisers:

Sue York 01793 532625

sueyork1@talktalk.net

Bill Mead 01793 534916

wamead@btinternet.com

Researches and travels to places of interest by coach, maximum of 2½ hours coach travel to destination.

Costs: Charges made for outings to cover travel, entrance and gratuities.

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Petanque at Broome Manor **9:45am - 12 noon**
Meets weekly on Mondays, starting on 3rd September
Meets at Broome Manor Golf Complex, Swindon, SN3 1RG
Organiser: Richard Head 01793 613547

We play a friendly, with tinge of competition, game of Petanque.

Iyengar Yoga **10:00am - 11:30am**
Meets every Monday starting 10th September
Meets at Park South Community Centre
Admin:
Jean Wilson 07704 128217 riversidelyner@hotmail.com
Organisers:
Judith Cranswick judith.cranswick@outlook.com
Nuala Szeliga nualaszeliga@hotmail.com

Stretching and breathing. Relaxation to strengthen the body and increase awareness. T-shirt, joggers & yoga mat required.

Latin - Improvers **10:00am - 12 noon**
Meets Mondays every two weeks starting 3rd September
Meet at Monsignor Twomey Centre, Queens Drive, SN3 1AR
Organiser: Jeannette Dale
jeannette.dale@btinternet.com

Learning Latin language, grammar and vocabulary by means of translating Latin into English. Presently working on Book4 of the Cambridge Latin Course. **Costs:** Members need to buy textbook and reference book.

Latin - Intermediate **10:00am - 12 noon**
Meets Mondays every two weeks starting 10th September
Meet at Monsignor Twomey Centre, Queens Drive, SN3 1AR
Organiser: Jeannette Dale
jeannette.dale@btinternet.com

Translation of Latin to English at GCSE Plus level. Sometimes challenging works by Caesar, Virgil, Pliny etc. **Costs:** Members need to buy certain reference books etc.

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Military History

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Monday starting 10th September

Meets at Immanuel Church, 8 Upham Road, SN3 1DH

Organiser: **Gerry Churchar** who can be contacted by clicking on his name. Investigate all aspects of military history. Each year has a theme. Members and guests give talks on areas where they specialise. There are visits to museums etc arranged.

Costs: £1 per session which covers coffee and speakers costs.

Spanish Beginners 1

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets weekly on Monday

Meets at members' homes

Organiser: **Patricia James 01793 881127**

patjames65@gmail.com

This group is for complete beginners wishing to learn Spanish in an informal way, but with grammar included. We will work with Paso Beginners book including CDs and DVDs. Each week we will concentrate on a particular piece of vocabulary with speaking practice and grammar. Homework is voluntary. Each session will start with a review of the previous lesson before moving on.

Spanish Intermediate

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets weekly on Monday starting on 10th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: **Gillian Wallis** gillian.wallis@ntlworld.com

We are a friendly group who meet to maintain and improve our Spanish. Our level is B1 or roughly 'AS' level. We study the language and culture of Spain. Our emphasis is on speaking but we also practise listening, reading, translation and grammar, **Costs:** £2 to £3 per term. Text book when necessary.

Web Programming Group

10:00am – 12 noon

Meets second and fourth Monday of each month starting on 5th September.

Meets at 5 Ullswater Close, Liden, SN3 6LH

Organiser: **Alex Cranswick 01793 539529**

alex@cranswick.org.uk

Learn how to programme a website with HTML, PHP and SQL. How to create a dynamic article for the web. How to create a form on the web that can be completed by a user. How to store the data collected and display it again for editing. An inquiring mind, a flair for organisation and a reasonable familiarity with a PC and the web are good starting attributes. If you have used a spreadsheet with some of the in-cell programming facilities such as functions or logical tests, or macros then you have already started with the basics of programming.

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Tai Chi Qigong

11:00am -12 noon

Meets weekly on Mondays from 17th September

Meets at St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth, SN6 7AG

Organiser: M A Godwin 01793 823140

Therapeutic exercise in a friendly environment.

Short Mat Bowls - Group 3

11:00am - 12:30pm

Meets every Monday starting 3rd September

Meets at Haydon Leisure Centre, Thames Avenue, SN25 1QQ

Organiser: Terry Rogers 01793 813172

tlrogers61@outlook.com

Colin Goddard 01793 770856

colingoddard235@yahoo.co.uk

Indoors short mat version of lawn bowls played in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. All necessary equipment is supplied. Flat bottomed shoes are essential.

Monday Afternoon

Spanish - Improvers

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets every Monday starting 10th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Len Morphew 01793 875290

lenmorphew@btinternet.com

A relaxed mix of grammar and conversation using a text book and internet resources. For those wanting to improve a basic knowledge of Spanish.

Table Tennis 5

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Meets every Monday

Meets at Grange Leisure Centre, Grange Drive. SN3 4JY

Organiser: Alan Kimber 07714 786222

alankimber37@gmail.com

Recreational table tennis for all abilities in a non-competitive environment.

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Italian - Continuing Beginners **2:00pm - 3:30pm**

Meets every Monday starting 10th September

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1LA

Organisers: **Ruth Panting** ruthpanting@yahoo.co.uk
Ronald Fox ronaldjfox@btinternet.com

We follow a structured course "BBC Talk Italian", having completed Book 1 and starting Book 2. Each week we revise at home and prepare something in Italian on something we have done during the week, encouraging conversation and using material learnt from the course. We do have fun!

Archery **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets every Monday from 3rd September

Meets at Blackcat Archery, Sevenhampton, SN6 7QG

Organisers: **Terry Horton 01793 780631**

terryhorton3@hotmail.com

Keith Merrett 01793 694720

Jim Roberts 01793 693105

jimbob45.roberts@gmail.com

A very social event which encourages and promotes the ancient art of archery. Beginners welcome. **Costs:** £3 per person per session plus £5 equipment hire.

Barn Dancing **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets first and third Monday starting 17th September

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: **Frank Rutzler 01793 619194**

fgrutzler@hotmail.co.uk

Roy Budden 01793 490724

roybudden@btinternet.com

We aim to bring members together in a friendly, social atmosphere to learn barn dancing, to meet new friends and to keep fit. You do not need a partner. **Costs:** There will be an initial charge of £2 in September then £1 or £2 in January as required to cover guest callers and sundry items.

Book Group 2 **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets every third Monday starting 17th September

Meets at members houses.

Organiser: **Margaret Goldie** u3agoldiem@gmail.com

We choose a wide variety of books and commit to reading them - then discuss and go on to a conversation about anything that interests us all.

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French (Beginners)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every Monday from 3rd September

Meets at the organiser's home

Organiser: John Gargett 01793 871077

jack.gargett@btinternet.com

Self learning French for beginners aimed at helping members to converse in French when seeking directions, ordering or purchasing food or having simple conversations.

Modern Technology (basic)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets third Monday of each month starting 17th September

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organiser: Bob Carvey 01793 526746 or 07802 177717

bob@carvey.org

Through a mixture of talks and small group work we will help you to get the best from your modern technology no matter what it is. Over time you will gain the confidence you need to understand the technology we use every day and get the most from it.

Painting (Easy)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every Monday starting 3rd September

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: David Todd 07881 785222

david.todd@effectivehands.co.uk

A sociable group of people who get together to paint using whatever medium they choose, in a very relaxed environment. Whilst there is no formal tuition we do help each other out as and when we can. Suitable for beginners and the not so serious artist.

Quizzing Group 2

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets the 4th Monday from 24th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street. SN2 8DA

Organiser: [Janet Archer](#)

[Geoffrey Bryan](#)

Click on their names to bring up a contact form.

This is a light hearted social group quizzing non-competitively. There are no set teams or prizes. Group members can prepare and run quizzes. There is a small charge for refreshments and copying.

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Quizzing Group **2:00pm - 4:00pm**
Meets the last Monday of the month starting 24th September
Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1LA
Organiser: Claire Smith 01793 485008

This is a light-hearted group quizzing non-competitively. There are no set teams (or prizes). Group members can volunteer to set or run a quiz themselves. **Costs:** A small charge is made for refreshments and towards running costs.

Social and Cultural History **2:00pm - 4:00pm**
Meets first and third Monday starting on 3rd September
Meets at Toothill Church, Dunwich Drive, SN5 8SX
Organisers: John Edgerton 01793 642965
Jane Francis 01793 878076

For us, history is about how the world today was shaped by advances in science, medicine, technology, fashion, food, literature and art. We do not look at any specific periods and will consider all topics if of general interest. Member participation is encouraged.

Listen and Enjoy **2:00pm - 4:30pm**
Meets monthly on Mondays starting 24th September
Meets at members homes
Organisers: Gillian Bromhead 01793 497342
gbromhead@ntlworld.com
Norman Lambert 01793 762866
nkl@wellfields.plus.com

Sit in comfort and listen to good music. Many of our programmes are themed. Members play from their own collections of CDs. No vinyl please.

[Tuesday Morning](#)

Tap Dancing **9:45am - 11:45am**
Meets fortnightly every Tuesday from 3rd September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA
Organiser: Susan Durrant
susan.durrant2@ntlworld.com

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Petanque - Broome Manor **9:45am - 12:00pm**
Meets weekly on Tuesday starting 4th September
Meets at Broome Manor Golf Complex, Broome Manor, SN3 1RG
Organisers: **Margaret Palmer 07505 135003**
margaretpalmer34@ntlworld.com
Dick Hardy 01793 740604

Petanque is a friendly outdoor game for all. For more information see our website www.bmpetanque.org.uk

Spanish Dance (Beginners) **10:00am - 12:00pm**
Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA
Organiser: **Lin Craig 07985 297719**
swindonpena@gmail.com

Learn Spanish folk dance, Spanish line dances and flamenco along with some background information. Good for mind, body and soul. No partner needed in this mixed and friendly group. Occasional opportunities to take part in performances.

Spanish Conversation **10:00am - 11:30am**
Meets weekly on Tuesday starting 4th September
Meet at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1LA
Organiser: **Alice Warnes 01793 813201**
alice@warnes.eu

We aim to promote fluency in the Spanish language through discussion and listening. The average level is intermediate and not suitable for beginners.

Travel Group B **10:00am - 11:45am**
Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA
Organisers: **Sue Williams 01793 320535**
susan.williams310@ntlworld.com
Margaret Thomas
margaret@thomasuk.co.uk

Research places of interest for two sessions then visits on third session. **Costs:** Money collected to cover cost of coach and entrance fees.

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Astronomy**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets monthly on the second Tuesday starting 11th September

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: Christine Thackray
chrislarry1989@gmail.com

Study the universe, birth of stars, solar system, use of Telescopes and binoculars.

Dolls House and Miniatures**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 4th September

Meet at organisers' home

Organisers: Clive and Wendy Harman 01793 725825
cliveandwendyharman@hotmail.co.ukMake dolls-house miniatures, dioramas and other miniatures whilst learning new skills through hands-on activities and research into a wide range of subjects. **Costs:** Participants to pay for any materials required and tools.**Folk Singing****10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September

Meets at Western Community Centre, Somerset Road, SN2 1NF

Organisers: Dave Prior 01793 529476 or 07749 759799
piority12@ntlworld.com
Sandra Nichols 01793 825569
Drusilla Attwood 01793 734233Informal singarounds as a group or a solo. Sing a song, play a tune, share words or music etc. Our songs are mainly traditional from the British Isles with flexibility and fun being integrated. **Costs:** There will be a small charge for song sheets for those without email or printing facilities.**Papercraft Group 2****10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets on second and fourth Tuesday starting 25th September

Meets at Holy Cross Church Hall, Chiseldon, SN4 0NN

Organiser: Shelagh Brain 07776 075976
shelagh.b47@yahoo.com

To learn and practice different papercraft techniques.

Costs: Kits/supplies for some techniques from £1.[Back to Index](#)

Poetry Appreciation

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 4th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA.

Organiser: Jenny Butler 01793 671574
jenniferbutler664@gmail.com

We enjoy reading poems aloud and having lively discussions. Members choose poems to a set theme - sad, funny, narrative, sonnet etc. We also discuss the life and times of the poets and features, styles and themes of the poems.

Travel Group C

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 11th September.

Meets at Toothill Church, Dunwich Drive, SN5 8SX

Organisers: Mary Morgan 01793 871207
Sylvia Blacklock 01793 729612

Members choose the places they would like to visit and then study these areas. **Costs:** There will be appropriate charges for visits, approximately six per year.

Travel Group D

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September.

Meet at Broadgreen Community Centre Salisbury St, SN1 2AN

Organisers: Sheila O'Connell 01793 644279
sheila.oconnell1.ntlworld.com
Angela Chamberlain 07751 112309
angelachamberlain123@btinternet.com
Linda Jones l.jones33@sky.com

Study and organise coach trips.

Ukulele Improvers

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September

Meets at Immanuel Church, 8 Upham Road, SN3 1DH

Organisers: Stan Byers 01793 347855
Robin Kane 01793 671379
robin.kane@tiscali.co.uk

To improve ukulele playing for on-going beginners with simple chords. Not too complicated with sing-along songs. We do have a few vacancies at the moment.

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Ukulele for Fun

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly every Tuesday from 4th September
Meets at Immanuel Church, 8 Upham Road, SN3 1DH

Organisers: Dave Prior 01793 529476
John Bishop 01793 813477
John Needle 07769 815645

Playing the ukulele for fun using fairly simple chords and singing songs from various eras and genres. **Costs:** Members must provide their own wooden 'C' tuned ukulele. There will be a small charge for song sheets for those without email or printing facilities. We are sometimes invited to entertain other social groups or at functions.

Flower Arranging

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly from a date to be advised
Meets at Coleview Community Centre, Towcester Road, Swindon
SN3 4AS

Organiser: Sally Goddard 01793 344244
sallygoddard54@gmail.com

Learn and practise traditional and modern flower arranging techniques in an encouraging atmosphere. Following a demonstration, members will have the opportunity to try it for themselves in the next session. Members will be expected to provide their own materials.

Happy Wanderers

10:15am - 12:15pm

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 4th September
Meet at pre-arranged start of walk

Organiser: Jo Birkin 01793 528581
joannabirkin@hotmail.com

We walk 3.5 to 4 miles over mixed terrain. Members take turns to arrange and lead walks within twenty miles of Swindon.

Spanish Dance (Improvers)

11:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 11th September
Venue to be advised

Organiser: Lin Craig 07985 297719
swindonpena@gmail.com

Learn Spanish folk dance, Spanish line dances and flamenco along with some background information. Good for mind, body and soul. No partner needed in this mixed and friendly group. Occasional opportunities to take part in performances.

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Tuesday Afternoon

Patch and Chat

1:30pm - 4:00pm

Meets every other Tuesday starting 4th September

Meets at Shaw Ridge School Community Room, Ridge Green, SN5 5PU

Organisers: Freda Tindale 01793 701023

fredatindale@gmail.com

Diana Bores 01793 766266

dianaboresh96@gmail.com

This is a group for beginners and experienced members. We are machine quilters with hand needlework included. Fun afternoons for discovering and learning the art of patchwork. We have workshops bringing in renowned quilters to teach their specialities.

Embroidery

1:45pm - 3:45pm

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 4th September

Meets at St Timothy's Church Hall, Liden Centre, SN3 6HF

Organisers: Marion Sell 07772 534871

Daphne Sargeant 01793 340761

We are a small friendly group doing a variety of different needlework projects. All abilities welcome and beginners will be offered guidance to help to start them off.

Antiques and Collectables

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every second Tuesday starting 11th September

Meet at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organisers: Pam Baldry 01666 577545

pambaldry@creoda.plus.com

Diana Goddard 01793 827317

We are a large group with room for more new members. We have a varied and enjoyable programme with interesting and some unusual subjects. **Costs:** We charge £2 per month to cover the cost of speakers fees.

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Board Games Plus**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 11th September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA.

Organisers: **Doreen Jackson 01793 871516**
doreen.jackson@talktalk.net
Kathleen Goddard 01793 826504
kathleen.goddard2@btinternet.com

Play board games, dominoes, Mah Jong and cards.

French Conversation**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets weekly on Tuesday starting 4th September
Meets at members homes.

Organiser: **Sue Carvey 01793 526746**
sue@carvey.org

Practice French conversation skills in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. A knowledge of French to at least GCSE ordinary level is recommended.

Gardening**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets first Tuesday every month starting on 4th September
Meet at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organisers: **Kath McDonald 01793 812966**
kath.mc.donald@homecall.co.uk
Sheila Duller 01793 610291
sheiladuller@tiscali.co.uk

We discuss all aspects of gardening and help with members gardening problems. We also have occasional guest speakers and trips to well known gardens. **Costs:** There will be a charge of £1 per member per year to cover the cost of hand-outs, plus a small contribution towards speakers fees and appropriate charges for trips.

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Life, the Universe and Everything **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting 4th September
Meets at Haydon Wick Parish Council Meeting Room,
Thames Avenue, SN25 1QQ.

Organisers: **Robin Clegg 07841 347377**
resclegg@aol.com
Rosemary Savage 01793 790151
rosemarysavage@marshlea.org.uk
Susan Mayer (Secretary) 01793 722130
susan.mayer@homecall.co.uk

We explore science, technology, medicine, health and the environment with presentations, discussions and occasional visits and we promote open days and lectures in the region. Members' presentations can be slides, lectures, round-table discussions, mini-talks, experiments. We try to have external speakers once a term.

Costs: £1 per member per term.

Painting for Fun (Joan Elders) **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets weekly on Tuesday starting on 4th September
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organisers: **Janet Conway 01793 611031**
j.c.conway6@googlemail.com
Roger Brain brain.r@sky.com
Graham Arrondelle 01793 763364

We are an art group that enjoy painting together and having a good chat once a week.

Patchwork and Quilting **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets fortnightly on Tuesday starting on 11th September
Meets at Eastcott Community Hall, Savernake Street, SN1 3LZ

Organisers: **Wendy Harman 01793 725825**
cliveandwendyharman@hotmail.co.uk
Gillian Pitter gillian.pitter@gmail.com
Daphne Sargeant 01793 340761

We encourage and enjoy patchwork and quilting with emphasis on hand stitching. Learn how to make patchwork blocks for quilts, throws, cushions etc. Advice will be available if needed. Both beginners and experienced quilters are welcome.

Costs: Members will need to supply their own materials.

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Railway Interest Group**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets monthly on Tuesday starting 18th September
Meets at Steam Museum, Firefly Avenue, Kemble Drive,
SN2 2EY

Organisers: Phil Eagle 01793 700046
Bob Pixton 01793 431761

This is an opportunity for people with any sort of interest in any type of railway, real or model, to meet and discuss rail matters past, present and future. As the room is provided gratis members are encouraged to meet in Platform One cafe in STEAM from 2:00pm - 2:30pm for tea/coffee. There will be expenses for speakers.

Tuesday Yoga**2:30pm - 4:00pm**

Meets every Tuesday starting on 25th September.
Meets at Even Swindon Community Centre, Jennings Street, SN2
2BG

Organisers: Virginia Griffin 07804 981612
vargriffin@aol.com
Sabrina Fernandes 01793 881986
sfernandes@aol.com

The promotion of health and wellbeing through the practice of breathing and stretching, posture and relaxation. Costs: A non-slip mat is required.

[Wednesday Morning](#)

Chair Refurbishing**9:30am - 11:30am**

(split cane, seagrass seats)
Meets weekly on Wednesday starting on 5th September
Meets at 5 Victory Row, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7BE

Organiser: Diana Jeremiah 01793 853892

Petanque (Wednesday)**9:45am - 12:15pm**

Meets weekly on Wednesday starting on 5th September
Meets at Broome Manor Golf Complex, Broome Manor, SN3 1RG

Organisers: Dick Hardy 01793 740604
Margaret Palmer 07505 135003

Playing friendly games of French boules. For more information go to the BMP website www.bmpetanque.org.uk

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Short Mat Bowls Group 1**10:00am - 11:30am**

Meets every Wednesday starting 5th September

Meets at Haydon Centre, Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick,
SN25 1QQ**Organisers: Elsie Johnson 01793 950108**

exspence45@gmail.com

Margaret Denton 01793 347273

We are a competitive but also social group of bowlers.

English Country Dance Group**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets every Wednesday starting on 5th September

Meets at Liddington Village Hall, SN4 0HB

Organisers: Gwen Poole 01793 813573

gwenwroughton@hotmail.com

Clive Harman 01793 725825**Judith Randell-Sly 01793 521798**Exercise, fun and dancing to keep English Country Dance alive
both historic Playford style and modern.**Line Dancing****10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets every Wednesday - this group runs all year

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: Sheila Turland sheila.turland@ntlworld.comThis group has become an improver / intermediate class and the
dances reflect the experience of the members who attend. Line
dancing is a great way to exercise mind, body and
memory. You will meet really nice people and hear great
music. **Costs:** There is a small charge (usually about £2) as a one
-off payment to cover hall hire during the summer months.**U3ukes****10:00am - 1:00pm**

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 13th September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organisers: Philip Goddard

pj_k_goddard@btopenworld.com

John Loran

jsloran@aol.com

To facilitate a learning environment of ukulele technique
and musical knowledge in a social group. Playing and singing
popular songs.[Back to Index](#)

Gruppo Italiano**10:15am - 12:15pm**

Meets every Wednesday from 5th September

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organiser: Ann Simms 01793 529002

We try to progress with speaking the Italian language.
Do translations, crosswords and study grammar.

Fair Weather Short Walks**10:15am - 12:30pm**

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday from 12th September

Meets at various locations

Organisers: Rebecca Steeves 01793 762304**Jo Noblin 01793 763575****Sylvia Blacklock 01793 729612**

Walks of 3 to 4½ miles at various locations, town and country.

Walking on Wednesdays (WOW)**10:15am - 1:15pm**

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 5th September

Meets at various locations

Organiser: Hilda Cooper 01793 874874

Walks of 3 to 5 miles at moderate speed within 20 miles of Swindon. We are a friendly group who usually meet for refreshments after the walks. Good walking shoes / boots and waterproofs recommended.

British Social History**10:30am - 12:30pm**

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 12th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: John Deaton 01793 874491

john@johndeaton.co.uk

We study British History (not the very ancient or very modern), focussing on people of all levels of society rather than wars or politics, and trying to establish their real situation, not merely re-quoting the standard view.

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Badminton

11:00am - 1:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday starting 5th September
Meets at Haydon Centre, Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick,
SN25 1QQ

Organiser: Michael Andrews 07941 485340

Coffee Mornings, "Kings"

10:30 - 12noon

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 12th September
Meets at The Kings Hotel, 20 Wood Street, Old Town, Swindon

Organiser: Beryl Howe (contact by clicking on her name)

Enjoy a cup of coffee with friendly company in a tastefully
refurbished and decorated hotel.

Royal Wootton Bassett Coffee Morning A

10:30am - 12noon

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting on 5th September
Meets at The Cross Keys, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4
7AY

Organisers: John Turner 07831 858381

eastleaze@aol.com

Kathrene Fairgrieve

jgordonf@live.co.uk

A social gathering for people from Royal Wootton Bassett
and surrounding areas, to share in good conversation. We also
organise Sunday lunches, support a locally run quiz and the
community cinema.

Short Mat Bowls—Group 2

11:30am - 1:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday starting 6th September
Meets at Haydon Centre, Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick,
SN25 1QQ

Organiser: Jamie Edwards 01793 772658

jamieedwards58@hotmail.com

An absorbing indoor bowls session played at your pace.
As competitive as you wish it to be but played in a friendly
and convivial atmosphere. Experience not necessary, with equip-
ment and coaching provided as needed.

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Wednesday Afternoon

Short Mat Bowls - Group 4

1:30pm - 3:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday starting 5th September
Meets at Haydon Centre, Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick,
SN25 1QQ

Organisers: **Madeleine Maggs 07944 098272**
maggie6614@gmail.com
Mike Carvell 07855 540946

Indoor bowls played in relaxed friendly atmosphere.
No experience necessary. All equipment supplied.
Gentle exercise - promotes hand / eye coordination.

Literature

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets alternate Wednesdays starting 12th September
Meets at members homes

Organisers: **Muriel Aplin 01793 496336**
Barbara Jones
bjoneswrde@greenbee.net

We are at present working on an Open University Course
"The Nineteenth Century Novel". Reading and discussion plus
occasional use of DVDs. **Costs:** Occasional photocopying costs.

Orienteering

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday (start date to be confirmed)
Meets at various locations

Organiser: **Ken Stimson 01793 535759**
kenstimson@btinternet.com

Learn about orienteering maps and navigation. Walk, jog or run as
you please, finding your way between checkpoints. Learn the
basics in Swindon Parks, visit local woods and attend organised
events. Comfortable clothing and footwear for
ease of movement and appropriate to the weather are
recommended. **Costs:** £1 for local sessions. Approximately £6.50
for organised events.

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Sociable Short Walks

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 5th September
Meets at various locations

Organiser: Barbara Rawle 01793 297347

Gentle walks of 2 to 2½ miles around Swindon, usually on a bus route. Stop in the middle or end for a "cuppa". Members will be

Petanque at Highworth

1:45pm - 4:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday

Meets at St Michael's Hall, Vicarage Lane, Highworth. SN6 7AD

Organiser: Graham Arrondelle 01793 763364

grahamarrondelle@yahoo.com

Petanque is often known as boule and we play in a very light hearted way. Many members are beginners but we also have more experienced players so all levels are accommodated!

Greek for Beginners

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday start date to be confirmed

Meets at Swindon 105.5 Radio Station, Barrington, Close, Liden.

Organiser: Irene Berridge 01793 341363

ireneberridge@hotmail.co.uk

By the end of this course you will be able to greet people, travel and ask your way around, order food, enjoy shopping and converse with the Greek people.

Ballroom Dancing (Beginners)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 5th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Yvonne Shaw 07818 665726

yvonneshaw@gmail.com

Learn the basics of ballroom and Latin American dancing in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. Limited places.

Ballroom Dancing (Improvers)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday start date to be confirmed

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Bruce Warr 01793 979398

bruceandcherry@talktalk.net

Improve your ballroom dancing techniques.

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Drawing

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday starting 12th September
Meets at Eastcott Community Hall, Savernake Street, SN1 3LZ

Organiser: **Mary Marsh 01249 822426**
marshmary0@googlemail.com

A friendly group who bring objects to draw each time we meet - so no need to spend time looking for something yourself. We have a lot of fun and learn from one another with occasional demonstrations by professional artists.

French Conversation 2

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday starting on 5th September
Meets at members homes

Organiser: **Gill Brain** madelinegillianbrain@yahoo.com

We practice speaking French by translation of texts and discussion of topics.

Gardening (Hands On)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday start date to be advised
Meets at members homes

Organisers: **Doreen Chinnery 01793 530865**
doreenchinnery@outlook.com
Elizabeth Clark 01793 692810
liz_dougclark@hotmail.com

Our season is from spring to autumn. It is a small group of members who visit each others homes. Sharing seeds, plants and knowledge.

German - Intermediate Conversation

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets weekly on Wednesday
Meets at organiser's home

Organiser: **Bez Suter 07954 148293**
bezwolfie@ntlworld.com

Conversational German to a standard which will enable you to converse.

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Modern Technology (advanced) 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Meets monthly on first Wednesday starting 5th September
Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL
Organiser: Bob Carvey 01793 526746 or 07802 177717
bob@carvey.org

This group is for those who are reasonably confident with the basics and wish to move on. The meetings will be a combination of talks by members on subjects they are particularly interested in and ongoing projects centred on the creation of a website for the group.

Money Matters 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Meets monthly on Wednesdays start date to be advised
Meets at Toothill Church, Dunwich Drive, SN5 8SX
Organiser: Tina Reed 01793 770163
tr19491@yahoo.co.uk

We hope to learn about the economic implications of current affairs. Members suggest the topics in advance. Some research is necessary, but on a voluntary basis. Meetings start with a presentation or talk on the specific topic, followed by friendly discussions. No previous training or knowledge is required, just an interest in learning together by participation.

Use It or Lose It—Living Longer, Living Well 2:00pm - 4:00pm
A three week occasional course starting September / October
Wednesdays 26th September, 3rd October and 10th October.
Meet at Monsignor Richard Twomey Centre, Queens Drive,
SN3 1AR
Course Leader: Avril Muirhead 01793 525315
avmuirhead@gmail.com
Administrator: Marla Carroll
marlacarroll@lineone.net

This course includes the latest thinking about memory and how it is linked to good health and wellbeing and what science is currently saying about diseases like dementia, including Alzheimer's. It aims to give information on memory and health, reassurance on ageing and practical advice that can help everyone make the best of the Third Age. **Costs:** £3 per course member. To join please email Avril in the first instance.

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Short Mat Bowls - Group 5**3:00pm - 4:30pm**

Meets every Wednesday starting 6th September

Meets at Haydon Wick Centre, Thames Avenue, SN25 1QQ

Organisers: John Boyle 07964 881114

john.boyle.swindon@gmail.com

Allan Kersey 07505 476851

allankersey.ak@gmail.com

Carol Kersey 07986 461362

Friendly indoor bowls session.

Guitar (Intermediate)**3:00pm - 5:00pm**

Meets bi-weekly on Wednesday from 5th September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organiser: Jim Sinclair

jim.sinclair99@gmail.com

The group plays a variety of songs in the first hour. The second hour comprises workshops to improve playing techniques and musical knowledge.

Uke n'Sing**3:00pm - 5:00pm**

Meets fortnightly on Wednesday from 19th September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organiser: Adele Merrison

adele.merrison@btopenworld.com

We are a friendly and enthusiastic group of Ukulele players, open to those who know the main chords and have some playing experience. We have an extensive songbook, offer occasional master classes and have a tutor to help us improve our technique.

Harmonica**6:30pm - 8:30pm**

Meets every two weeks on Wednesday

Meets at Immanuel United Reform Church, Upham Road. SN3 1DH

Organiser: Kaitlin Gabriel 01793 611527

kaitlinuk@outlook.com

Played in a group the result is quite spectacular. No experience required. Just a harmonica (okay, mouthorgan). Which if there isn't one at the back of a drawer somewhere at home, can be bought for less than a fiver.

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Thursday Morning

Creative Writing 2

9:30 - 12 noon

Meets the third Thursday of each month
Meets at the organiser's home in Chiseldon

Organiser: Joy Wodhams 01793 740314
wjycolin@gmail.com

Fancy writing a short story? Your memoirs? A magazine article? Or just having fun with words?

Stretch and Balance

9:30am - 10:30am

Every Thursday starting on 13th September
Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1JL

Organiser: Beryl Howe 01793 531208

A ladies only class. Aiming to promote flexibility, balance and strength in a relaxed, friendly and non-competitive atmosphere. We use equipment, weights, resistance bands and balls.

Line Dancing

9:30am - 11:30am

Meets every Thursday - group runs all year round
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: Sheila Turland sheila.turland@ntlworld.com

The first hour of this group is for improvers and the second hour is for the more experienced dancers. Good music, good company and a great way to keep mind and body fit. **Costs:** There is a small charge (usually about £2) as a one-off payment to cover hall hire during the summer weeks.

Dancing for Solo's

9:45am - 11:45am

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Yvonne Shaw 07818 665726
yvonneshaw@gmail.com

For those who want to dance but do not have a partner. A fun class in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Limited places.

Petanque

9:45am - 12 noon

Meets weekly on Thursday starting 6th September
Meets at Broome Manor Golf Complex, Swindon, SN3 1RG

Organisers: Richard Head 01793 613547
Tony Jarvis 01672 540053

We play Petanque for fun and therefore "have fun".

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Yoga

10:00am - 11:30am

Meets every Thursday starting 13th September

Meets at Park South Community Centre, Cranmore Ave, SN3 2ER

Organiser: **Jacqueline Hewitt**
davidjackie@yahoo.com

We exercise to maintain balance, strength and joint flexibility using Yoga postures.

Art Appreciation

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September

Meets Broad Green Community Centre, Salisbury St, SN1 2AN

Organiser: **Naomi Webb 01793 534401**

The group explores all aspects of art history with members taking part in research and discussions and giving presentations. Some meetings will be spent studying the U3A course "Italian Art 1400 - 1600". **Costs:** Charges are made for photocopying the course material.

British History

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting on 13th September

Meets at Broad Green Centre, Salisbury St, SN1 2AN

Organisers: **David Bailey**
dwb1067@gmail.com
Jean Batten
jeanmbatten@gmail.com
Edwina Turk
edwinaanddavid@gmail.com

To research and share our knowledge of British History. We are currently studying the early 19th century.

French (Improvers)

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at members homes

Organiser: **Gill McKinnon**
gmckinnon15@ntlworld.com

We aim to improve on French learned long ago. We read and translate a variety of materials. We study practical topics to increase confidence in speaking in everyday

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Knitting and Crochet - Royal Wootton Bassett

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at The Cross Keys, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7AY

Organiser: Kathrene Fairgrieve 07747 533467

We meet to support learning knitting and crochet and doing projects for charity. Group continues throughout the summer.

Merribells 'A'

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organisers: Francis and Julia Hobbs 01793 812282

jannhobbs@aol.com

We aim to perform music to a good standard on handbells and bell chimes for our own enjoyment and for that of others when requested. An ability to read music is necessary.

Merribells 'B'

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Francis Hobbs 01793 812282

jannhobbs@aol.com

Merribells 'B' acts as a training group for Merribells 'A' and members play for their own enjoyment. An ability to read music is desirable.

Merrifolk

10:00am - 12 noon

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organisers: Rosemary Prior

priory12@ntlworld.com

Jenny Badger 01793 324347

jennybadger@hotmail.com (Bookings only)

We enjoy playing music of all genres and are often invited to entertain other groups with our one hour programme of music and song. We are at full capacity but could help to start up another group on a different day.

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Petanque (Highworth)**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets every Thursday starting 6th September

Meets at St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth, SN6 7AG

Organisers: Garry Douel 01793 764216

garrypotter40@aol.com

Graham Arrondelle 01793 763364

grahamarrondelle@yahoo.com

Hilary Millett 01793 495176

hilary.millett@yahoo.co.uk

Enjoy playing petanque with increasing knowledge and understanding.

Travel Group J**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at St Joseph's RC Church Hall, Wroughton

Organisers: Ken and Ann Ivie 01793 845483

kenivie@uwclub.net

Peter Davidson 01793 520595

To research, study and visit interesting places and venues chosen by the members of the group.

Yoga (Rodbourne)**10:15am - 11:45am**

Meets every Thursday from 27th September

Meets at Even Swindon Community Centre, Jennings Street, SN2 2BG

Organisers: Virginia Griffin 07804 981612

vargriffin@aol.com

Jean Thatcher 01793 349262

jean.thatcher@ntlworld.com

The promotion of health and wellbeing through the practice of breathing and stretching, postures and relaxation. A non-slip mat is required.

Thursday Trekkers**10:30am**

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from start date to be advised

Meets at various venues around Swindon

Organisers: Andrew Jarvis andrew1953jarvis@gmail.com**Jean Pope** rjpope@talktalk.net

Walks around Swindon local area within ten miles. Distance of walks between 3½ and 5 miles.

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Royal Wootton Bassett Coffee Morning B

11:15am - 12:30pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September
Meets at The Cross Keys, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett,
SN4 7AY

Organisers: **John Turner 07831 858381**
eastleaze@aol.com
Kathrene Fairgrieve
jgordonf@live.co.uk

A social gathering for people from RWB and surrounding areas to share in good conversation. We also organise Sunday lunches, support a locally run quiz and the community cinema.

Thursday Afternoon

Petanque

12:30pm - 2:30pm

Meets every Thursday from 6th September
Meets at Broome Manor Golf Club, Swindon, SN3 1RG

Organiser: **Kevin McSherry 07713 193923**
mcsherk@btinternet.com

Friendly, not too competitive Pentanque suitable for beginners or expert players. Play is free, but Broome Manor expects us to buy drinks and perhaps food. **Costs:** Members are expected to contribute £2 a year for piste resurfacing.

Table Tennis

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Meets every Thursday from 6th September
Meets at Grange Leisure Centre, Stratton St Margaret, SN3 4JY

Organiser: **Ruth Scholes** ruth.scholes1@gmail.com

The group is for experienced players.

Dressmaking

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September
Meets at Shaw Ridge Community Centre, Ridge Green, SN5 5PU

Organisers: **Mary Moss 01793 831143**
mary.don@talktalk.net
Brenda Reade 01793 329519

Make a garment of your own choice, from basic to advanced level.
Costs: Members must supply their own materials and patterns.
There will be a small charge for photocopying.

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Tai Chi Qigong

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Meets every Thursday from 13th September
Meets at Christ Church Leisure Centre, Cricklade Rd, Old Town,
SN1 3HB

Organisers: **Michael Godwin 01793 823140**
Jacqueline Collins 07742 228816
collins_jacqueline@sky.com
Brian Hillier 01793 524345

Therapeutic exercise in a friendly environment.

Tai Chi Qigong

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets every Thursday from 13th September
Meets at Christ Church Leisure Centre, Cricklade Rd, Old Town,
SN1 3HB

Organisers: **Michael Godwin 01793 823140**
Jacqueline Collins 07742 228816
collins_jacqueline@sky.com
Brian Hillier 01793 524345

Therapeutic exercise in a friendly environment.

Current Affairs

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Meets every two weeks on Thursday from 6th September
Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St. SN1 3LZ

Organisers: **David Todd 07881 785222**
david.todd@effectivehands.co.uk
Drusilla Attwood 07891 290619
dattwood583@gmail.com

A forum to discuss local, national and international events in a friendly atmosphere. Members agree topics each session and get equal opportunity to voice their opinions, in turn, in a non confrontational way. Come along and let other members benefit from your views and experience, or simply to listen. A mediator ensures no-one dominates the discussion.

Spanish Beginners 2

1:30pm - 3:00pm

Meets every two weeks on Thursday
Meets at organiser's home

Organiser: **Avril Muirhead 01793 525315**
avmuirhead@gmail.com

This group is for complete beginners. We will work through the Pasos 11 course which includes CD's and DVD's to assist learning and pronunciation.

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Upholstery

1:30pm - 4:00pm

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 27th September
Meets at St Joseph's Church Hall, Wroughton, SN4 0RZ

Organiser: Tina Grice 01793 638240
t.grice@ntlworld.com

Bring along an old chair, stool or headboard and reupholster it with your own choice of fabric. You decide whether to use traditional or quicker modern methods. **Costs:** We have a basic tool kit to share, but you may wish to buy your own tools. You will need to purchase materials to complete your project.

Greek (Continuing)

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Meets every week on Thursday start date to be advised
Meets at Swindon 105.5 Radio Station, Barrington Close, Liden.

Organiser: Irene Berridge 01793 341363
ireneberridge@hotmail.co.uk

Ballroom Dancing (Improvers)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September
Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Yvonne Shaw 07818 665726
yvonneshaw@gmail.com

For those who have mastered the basics in Ballroom and Latin American dance and wish to improve and learn more steps. Limited places.

Canasta

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organisers: Kathleen Goddard 01793 826504
kathleen.goddard2@btinternet.com
Pam Miller 01793 726461

Canasta

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September
Meets at Roughmoor Community Centre, Swinley Drive, Peatmoor SN5 5AP

Organiser: Doreen Jackson 01793 871516
Doreen.jackson@talktalk.net

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Family History

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets first Thursday of month from 6th September

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1LA

Organisers: Glenys Bettley

glenys.bettley@ntlworld.com

Theresa Stroud 01793 825980

therstroud@aol.com

Beginners and experienced researchers pool knowledge to enable people to research their own family histories. Speakers help to enlarge the experience. Help with internet sites.

Beginners course in the autumn. **Costs:** £1—£2 per year for speakers.

French (Improvers 3)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every Thursday from 6th September

Meets at members own homes on a rota

Organiser: Graham Vaughan 07764 219916

graham.vaughan1@gmail.com

Improving basic French language skills. We refer regularly to the BBC "French Experience" books and audio.

French Improvers (4)

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday start date to be advised

Meets at Group Organiser's home

Organiser: Penny Vickery

penny@penric.me.uk

We work as a small group to improve our speaking and listening skills. All members take a turn to prepare our sessions which are informal and friendly. Most group members already have some previous educational qualifications in French or experience of French from visiting France over the years.

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Painting Together

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 13th September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organisers: **Gill Nye 07543 825602**

gillnye@hotmail.com

Ken Bayliss 01793 541248

joan.ken2@hotmail.co.uk

Helen Brammer 01793 887588

hbrammer@hotmail.com

A friendly group who meet together to paint. This is a self help group with no tuition although members are always willing to offer advice to each other.

Pastels

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organisers: **Anthea Hilson 01793 529316**

antheahilson9@gmail.com

Annette Hughes 01793 343773

lilyming18@gmail.com

A group of amateur painters who learn from each other. There is no formal teaching. Members provide own materials. **Costs:** A charge will be made for occasional demonstrations (once a year).

Play Reading

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 20th September

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, SN3 1LA

Organiser: **Gillian Jefferies 01793 790547**

alanandgilljefferies@gmail.com

We read and study a wide variety of period and modern plays of quality. No previous experience of drama or acting is necessary, just an interest in plays and theatre. We would particularly welcome men to the group as well as women. There are occasional charges to cover fees for inter-library loans of scripts.

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Sequence Dancing

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 6th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: **Yvonne Shaw 07818 665726**
yvonneshaw@gmail.com

Learn a variety of sequence dances to enable you to join in at social dances. Limited places.

Sewing for Pleasure

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday starting 13th September

Meets at Shaw Community Centre, Ridge Green, SN5 5PU

Organisers: **Gillian Pitter** gillian.pitter@gmail.com
Brenda Reade brenda.reade@gmail.com

All types of needlework and sewing. We share our knowledge and skills from cushion covers and bags to dressmaking. You will need to bring your own materials while you join in the fun.

Simply Singing

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets second Thursday in the month from 13th September

Meets at Western Community Centre, Somerset Road, SN2 1NF

Organisers: **Martin Preston 07585 957617**
mjpreston@btinternet.com
Susan Preston 01793 694148
su117@btinternet.com

For those who love singing with others simply for fun. We are not a choir. Accompanied by our M.D. Bill, and with lyrics on a big screen we sing our way down memory lane re-living hits of The Beatles, Elvis, Cliff and many more.

Wroughton Embroidery

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at St Josephs RC Hall, Devizes Rd, Wroughton, SN4 0RZ

Organisers: **Margaret Palmer 07505 135003**
margaretpalmer34@ntlworld.com
Doreen Simmons 01793 485849

All sorts of embroidery enjoyed in a small friendly atmosphere.

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Table Tennis 4

3:00pm - 4:45pm

Meets weekly on Thursday from 6th September

Meets at Grange Leisure Centre, Grange Drive, SN1 3HB

Organisers: Steve Mollart 01793 861524

steve.mollart@btinternet.com

Linda Rotherham 01793 820037

lindarotherham@talktalk.net

An absorbing table tennis session played at your pace. As competitive as you wish it to be but in a friendly and convivial atmosphere and taking account of the experience of others.

Friday Morning

Crochet / Knitting

9:30am - 11:30pm

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 14th September

Meets at Nythe Community Centre, The Drive, SN3 6BB

Organisers: Barbara Voice 01793 326996

barbmind@live.co.uk

Jenny Smith 01793 339640

We meet and make items to donate to Great Western Hospital and other places such as a Special Needs School. Any money collected from items that have been sold has gone to the Brighter Futures Appeal.

Papercraft

9:30am - 11:30am

Meets every second Friday starting 14th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organiser: Janet Kane 01793 671379

janet.kane@hotmail.co.uk

Enjoy all types of papercrafting, sharing skills and ideas in a friendly non-competitive atmosphere. **Costs:** There will be a charge of 50p per card made.

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Petanque at Highworth**9:45am - 12 noon**

Meets weekly on Friday all year round.

Meet at St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth, SN6 7AG

Organisers: Michael Hotchkiss
mikehotchkiss63@gmail.com
Jenny Pendle 01793 822789

Enjoy the playing of petanque (boules) outdoors in good company.
The hall facilities are available for refreshments.
No experience necessary.

Archery**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets weekly every Friday from 7th September

Meets at Blackcat Archery, Sevenhampton, SN6 7QG

Organisers: Terry Horton 01793 780631
terryhorton3@hotmail.com
Keith Merrett 01793 694720
Jim Roberts 01793 693105
jimbob45.roberts@gmail.com

A very social event which encourages and promotes the ancient art
of archery. Beginners welcome. Costs: £3 per person per session

Aviation**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 7th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA.

Organisers: Graham Price 07807 331964
grahamprice07@virginmedia.com
Ken Ivie 01793 845483
kenivie@uwclub.net
Clynt Perrott 01793 695149
maxitaxy@tiscali.co.uk

To share knowledge and interest in all forms of aviation and to
promote a sense of fellowship. **Costs:** £10 per annum for speakers
and refreshments.

Bookworms**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets first Friday of each month

Meets at Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue. SN3 1JL

Organiser: Wendy Hall 01793 791269
wendy-hall@uwclub.net

This is a group for all who enjoy reading and discussing books in
an informal and friendly atmosphere.

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Digital Photography**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets every 4 weeks on Friday from 7th September

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organisers: Alex Cranswick 01793 539529

alex@cranswick.org.uk

David Garmont 01793 741458

davidgarmont7@gmail.com

French (Improvers 2)**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets weekly on Friday starting 7th September

Meets at members homes

Organiser: Jacqui Jackson 01793 936801

jacquijackso@gmail.com

We shall build on long-ago French lessons to improve conversation and comprehension. **Costs:** Course material.

German Conversation (Advanced)**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets first Friday of each month starting 7th September

Meets at Group Organiser's home

Organiser: Jeffrey Bamforth rjbamforth@yahoo.co.uk

To maintain contact with the German language.

Line Dancing**10:00am - 12 noon**

Meets weekly every Friday all year round.

Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organiser: Sheila Turland sheila.turland@ntlworld.com

This group started as a one hour session but as new members joined it was necessary to extend to two hours. The first hour is for people new to line dancing and the second hour is for those members who are now "experienced beginners".

Costs: there is a small charge (usually about £2) as a one-off payment to cover hall hire during the summer weeks.

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Motorcycle Group **10:00am for 2 hours +**
Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 7th September
Meets at various places
Organisers: **Andrew Jarvis 01793 821751 or**
07557 470900
andrew1953jarvis@gmail.com
Colin Hornsby 07775 658421
chornsby@btinternet.com

Our "ride-outs" will be local forty mile round trips to a pub, café, event or place of interest. Mostly "A" roads. We will be looking to expand the group and distances travelled.

Woodwind **10:00am - 12 noon**
Meets last Friday of each month starting 28th September
Meets at Western Community Centre, Swindon, SN2 1NF
Organiser: **Nina Stimson 01793 535759**
ninastimson@btinternet.com

We are a group who play various wind instruments for our own learning and enjoyment. We play music in 4-6 parts which we adapt to suit the current combination of instruments.

Costs: Refreshments.

Birders **Winter 9:30am - 12:30pm**
Spring 10:00am - 2:00pm
Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 24th September
Meets at various venues.
Organisers: **Nicola Nowak 07780 506093**
nnowak@btinternet.com
Martin Savage 01793 790151
martinsavage@marshlea.org.uk

Birds (mainly) and other wildlife watching locally, regionally and occasionally further afield.

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Italian (Intermediate)**10:15am - 11:45am**

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 14th September

Meets at Organiser's home

Organiser: Heather Christopher hrc1939@live.com

This is a well established group for improving and expanding our Italian language and the culture of the country.

Italian (Improvers)**10:30am - 12 noon**

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 7th September

Meets at Organiser's home

Organiser: Heather Christopher hrc1939@live.com

Continue to improve the use of Italian language as we learn together.

Friday Walking**10:30am - 2:30pm**

Meets weekly on Friday starting 7th September

Meets each week as per the programme

Organiser: Tony Bettley 01793 525523

tony.bettley@ntlworld.com

David Hewitt 01793 976525

davidjackie@yahoo.com

Walks of three to five hours. Fresh air, healthy exercise and good company. Usually within 30 miles of Swindon, and twice a year to pastures new.

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Friday Afternoon

Table Tennis 2

12noon - 2:00pm

Meets weekly on Friday starting 7th September
Meets at Grange Leisure Centre, Stratton St Margaret, SN3 4JY

Organisers: **Linda Rotherham**
lindarotherham@talktalk.net
Jamie Edwards 01793 772658
jamieedwards58@hotmail.com

Recreational table tennis for all abilities in a non competitive environment.

Craft Without Rules Highworth

1:30pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting 14th September
Meets at Highworth Methodist Church, Lechlade Road, SN6 7HG

Organisers: **Diana Bores** dianabores96@gmail.com
Maureen Sore dmsore@hotmail.com

We are a mixed craft, mixed ability group of friendly crafters. We do occasional demonstrations and workshops by members for members, thus sharing our skills and talents. We have a "Bring and Buy" table for crafting materials etc to raise funds for charity, currently Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Scrapbooking

1:30pm - 4:30pm

Meets 3rd Friday of the month starting on 21st September
Meets at Shaw Ridge Community Centre, Ridge Green, SN5 5PU

Organisers: **Christine Cook 01793 770337**
Marilyn Roberts 01793 855227

By creating a layout around an image of an ancestor or a special occasion, scrapbooking or memory making ensures that future generations of social historians and family will have a better understanding of that person or event so they will be more than just a name or date from the past.

Cost: £1 per member per annum (equipment/material) plus additional charge for specialist workshops/demonstrations.

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Reel Books

1:30pm - 5:00pm

Meets the second Friday of the month starting 14th September
Meets at members homes

Organisers: Claire Smith 01793 485008
Tessa Farley 01993 841357

We talk about a pre-chosen book and then watch the film and comment on it. The length of the session depends on the length of the film. **Costs:** A donation is requested to cover refreshments and hiring DVDs. Any new member would need space to accommodate the group and a DVD player and TV suitable for small group viewing when it is his/her turn to host.

Craft Without Rules

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting on 14th September
Meets at Toothill Church, Dunwich Drive, SN5 8SX

Organiser: Jane Francis 01793 878076

Whatever your craft, whatever your level, you are welcome to come and join our friendly group of crafters. Experiment with a new craft, swap materials, enjoy occasional demonstrations, share and learn. **Costs:** the cost for a speaker will be discussed before being incurred.

Creative Writing

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every third Friday of the month starting 21st September
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HF

Organisers: Irene Aldridge 01793 764890
irenealdridge52@gmail.com
Irene Berridge 01793 341363
irene.berridge@hotmail.co.uk

Whether you are an experienced or novice writer, you will be welcomed to share your novel, short story, poem, memoir or articles with the group in a friendly, supportive and encouraging environment. **Costs:** £1 per person for room hire in July and August.

Digital Photography 2

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets every second Friday starting 14 September
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close. SN3 6HF

Organiser: **Alex Cranswick 01793 539529**
alex@cranswick.org.uk

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Jazz Appreciation**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets fourth Friday of every month starting 29th September
Meets at Liden Community Centre, Barrington Close, SN3 6HP

Organisers: Alan Bushell 01793 638097
David Dale 01793 881553
david.dale@btinternet.com

We aim to broaden our enjoyment of jazz and its history through CDs and DVDs, discussion and demonstrations.

Painting Together 2**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets 2nd and 4th Friday starting on 14th September
Meets at Western Community Centre, Somerset Road, SN2 1NF

Organiser: Henry Fitzsimmons 01793 285743
henrywilliams1930@outlook.com

Pins and Needles**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets 2nd and 4th Friday starting on 14th September
Meets at Western Community Centre, Somerset Road, SN2 1NF

Organiser: Dorothy Hepple 01793 485077
dorothy.hepple@btconnect.com

We are a self-help group for all things involving pins and needles. We cover patchwork, knitting, crochet, embroidery and lace-making. Although we are not a teaching group our members have a wealth of knowledge to offer. This is a very social group and everyone is welcome.

Table Tennis 3**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Meets every Friday starting 7th September
Meets at Grange Leisure Centre, Grange Drive, SN3 4JY

Organiser: Jamie Edwards 01793 772658
jamieedwards58@hotmail.com

An absorbing table tennis session played at your pace. As competitive as you wish it to be but in a friendly and convivial atmosphere and taking account of the experience of others.

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Welsh Language

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday starting on 21st September

Meets at Eastcott Community Centre, 7 Savernake St, SN1 3LZ

Organisers: Alison Jones 01793 634424

alibeljo45@hotmail.com

Jean Woodham 01793 422384

jeanwoodham28@gmail.com

Our aim is to learn informal conversational Welsh and have fun in the process. We use the course book "Cwrs Mynediad" (South Wales version) which is available from online booksellers.

Scrabble

2:00pm - 4:30pm

Meets fortnightly on Friday starting on 7th September

Meets at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street, SN2 8DA

Organisers: Sylvia Blacklock 01793 729612

Marion Macaskill 01793 950460

A social afternoon in a friendly group playing two to three games of scrabble. We allow, and encourage, the use of a scrabble dictionary and a list of two and three letter words to improve players skills. All equipment provided including scrabble boards and dictionaries.

French (Improvers) 5

2:30pm - 4:00pm

Meets weekly on Friday starting 14th September

Meets at Chalfont House, Sevenhampton, SN6 7QA

Organiser: Margaret Mortier 01793 762154

margaret@mortier.co.uk

The four of us have been following BBC Bite-size French to refresh our knowledge of French grammar.

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Sunday Morning

Sunday Strollers

10:45am for 2 to 3 hours

Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday starting 9th September

Meets at various locations

Organisers: Barbara Mason 01793 826192

bjm@ebusinesslogic.com

David Mason 01793 826192

dmm@ebusinesslogic.com

Easy walks of two and a half to three miles. Pub lunch afterwards.

Social / Occasional

Town Walking

Monthly walks on various days in various locations

Organiser: Edwina Turk 01793 527021

Take leisurely walks through towns and villages, with emphasis on buildings and things of interest. Individual members lead walks of their own choice.

Concert Goers

Visits to various concert halls around the region

Organiser: See website or latest publication.

We offer a chance for all members to enjoy concerts in the area - often with well known conductors, orchestras and soloists. Details and application forms will appear in newsletters throughout the year. **Costs:** To include concert ticket and coach travel.

Theatre Goers

Visits to various theatres around the region and in London.

Organiser: Cherry Warr 01793 979398

cwarr42@outlook.com

Pam Poole 01793 751088

Visit various venues to theatrical productions, both locally and London. **Costs:** Paper, print cartridge, postage.

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Life President Norman Richards

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