



Blaby U3A



www.blaby.u3asite.uk

U3A is a national organisation for retired and semi-retired people who are no longer in full time employment, offering opportunities for members to come together in a friendly environment.

April 2026

Hi everyone,

Hope you all had a good Easter with plenty of chocolate! I'm really enjoying the Spring flowers at the moment. There seem to be drifts of daffodils everywhere around Blaby and the cherry trees are blossoming too.

Next month's meeting begins with our short AGM when we elect or re-elect our committee members. We especially need a Group Co-ordinator as Graham Ford has resigned after many years service - thank you, Graham.

Now, let's enjoy our speaker today, Mike Burton with his talk on 'The Māori - great canoes'. Sounds fascinating!

Steve Hammond-Evans

Chair

GROUPS

Graham Ford has resigned as Group Co-ordinator. We would like to thank him for his many years of service on the committee and for always being there to prepare the Hall for meetings.

We need a new group co-ordinator to join the committee to help existing groups and encourage new groups to form. Please consider whether you could serve our Blaby U3A in this interesting and enjoyable position and let one of the committee know in time for the AGM in May.

BOOK CLUB

Book club is reading 'A Secret Garden Affair' by Erica James, a genuine feel-good story. We meet to discuss the book on the last Monday of the month at 10am at Gill's house. The books are borrowed from the Library, so no need to buy. We can also request large print or audio books.

COFFEE MORNING GROUP

Meets on 4th Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. at the Antiques Centre, Blaby. All are welcome - coffee and cake with friends

STROLLERS

It was 3rd time lucky for the Strollers this month as we attempted a new route that we had abandoned twice before due to ice and floods. We headed over to Whetstone and then took the footpath through the fields to Brick Hill. As we walked over the canal bridge we could see the volunteers had been busy as there were 3 new raised

garden beds planted out on the wide verge opposite the tow path. All it needs now is a bench so you can sit and admire it. At the top of the hill we joined the Great Central Way via Needham Avenue and then walked through the woods to Glen Parva Park to start our return journey. The flowers in the memorial garden were looking lovely and our obligatory coffee stop (and cakes for some) was at a small local cafe who gave us a warm welcome. On our return to Blaby we all went our separate ways with a promise to meet next month.

Why not join us, we meet on the first Wednesday of the month 10.00am at Bouskell Park.

LOCAL NEWS BUS SERVICE 84, 85 - Blaby and Glen Parva to Fosse Park is due to start on 11th April. Sundays will remain the same as will the 84 bus. Mondays to Saturdays the 85 route will be different on alternate hours. For the first hour 85 buses will run along Leicester Road, Glen Parva to Blaby where they will turn round and return to Leicester as before. The second hour they will run as above but in Countesthorpe change into an 87 then run along Countesthorpe Road to South Leicestershire College, turn left onto Blaby Road and turn right along Saffron Road. They will stop at Sturdee Green, go along Glenhills Way and end at Everards Way, Fosse Park. At present the bus stops at Northfield Park at 19 mins past the hour en route to Countesthorpe and for the return journey leaves Everards Way at 4 mins past the hour but these times change after mid afternoon. Please check the details on the timetable on the Arriva Website as there may be revisions.

https://arriva.widen.net/s/htptjbklmt/tn_84_85_tt_260411

<https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/latest-news/revisions-in-the-wigston-and-countesthorpe>

MEETINGS

TODAY'S MEETING :- Guest Speaker Mike Burton

The Māori - great sailors and navigators and their canoes.

NEXT MEETING :- Wednesday 13th May, 2026.

Fraud Awareness - bank, police impersonation, door-to-door sales, romance fraud and general awareness.

Speaker: Regional Fraud Protection Officer

Make use of the u3a websites, national as well as local. You can sign up for the national newsletter at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/>

Please remember to silence your phone before meetings.

Don't forget to take your Newsletter home with you