



LETCHWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

February 2024

Activities for all In Letchworth and beyond



[FB.com/LALGLetchworth](https://www.facebook.com/LALGLetchworth)



[instagram.com/LALGLetchworth](https://www.instagram.com/LALGLetchworth)



lalg.org.uk

Letter from the Chair of LALG



2024 has got off to a good start, and I have had the pleasure of meeting some of you at our monthly Open Meetings at the Letchworth Settlement. The details of our February meeting – which features a talk about Hertfordshire's Notorious Witches! – can be found on page 3.

Fiona Lennox, who joined in August 2023, has stepped down from the Committee owing to additional work commitments. I would like to thank Fiona for her valued contribution to various LALG policies, particularly the risk register.

On 16 March we are holding a strategy workshop to discuss future direction and plans for LALG over the next three years and you are all invited – further details can be found on page 3. Of course, numbers will be limited, but this is an opportunity for you to help shape this fantastic organisation.

Unfortunately, a few days ago I received notification of a infringement on our website. One of our group icons had breached copyright. I have removed the image and we are negotiating with the company concerned, but it may result in LALG paying a fine. All this serves as a reminder to check that images used by LALG are either copyright free, or that we have documented permission to use them.

Jackie Harber

Committee News

The next meeting is at **7.30pm on Tuesday 20 February**. If you would like to attend or join the Committee, or if there is anything you would like discussed, please contact secretary@lalg.org.uk or telephone **07361 040348**.

Officers and Contact Details

Chair:	Jackie Harber	07361 040348	chair@lalg.org.uk
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Cover photograph: Norton Common by Tony Maynard Smith



Open Meetings lalg.org.uk/OpenMeetings

Kincaid Hall, Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB.

Limited parking is available on site; two hours' free parking is available by the outdoor swimming pool a few minutes' walk away.

£4 members, £6 non-members (membership available on the door). Tea/coffee is available before the talk, £1 per mug.

Payment is by **CASH ONLY**.

Monday 5 February, doors open 10am for 10.30am

Sarah Kerrison from Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies will explore the lives and cases of some of the county's convicted witches in a talk titled **'Hertfordshire's Notorious Witches'**.

The first speaker is Tony Eden, past Chair of **LGC Eagles Football Club**. He will tell how the club grew over the years to have over 40 teams.

Monday 4 March, doors open 10am for 10.30am

Our main speaker is Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews, NHDC's Museum Curator and Heritage Access Officer, who will talk about **'The Archaeology of Wymondley'**. The two Wymondleys (Great/Much and Little) were originally separate parishes, divided into six interlocking portions. Can archaeology give us clues about how this confusing situation arose?

The first speaker will be announced shortly.

Contact:

openmeetings@lalg.org.uk

LALG Strategy Workshop

Saturday 16 March 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall

The new Committee is ready to begin developing a three-year strategy for LALG. And we need your help!

As a member of LALG, you know what is great about us, and what we could improve. Please come along and share your ideas.

Discussion topics include equality, finance, membership, publicity, and supporting volunteers – and other topics suggested by you.

Space will be limited, so please **get in touch by 24 February**.

Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635 or vicechair@lalg.org.uk (email preferred)

Trips & Events



Trips lalg.org.uk/trips

Friday 23 February

The British Schools Museum

41-42 Queen Street, Hitchin SG4 9TS

Meet in the courtyard at 9.45am and proceed to the school hall for refreshments at 10am. Please note that there is no parking at the museum, but St Mary's pay and display car park is across the road, next to the market. You will need to allow for four hours of parking as the complete visit is three hours long, from 10am to 1pm.

Refreshments will be followed by a talk on the history of the school and some information on education, including the monitorial system used when the school opened. Then there will be a Victorian lesson in the galleried classroom and a guided tour of two more classrooms and the headmaster's house.

We will then travel by car to The Orange Tree pub (100 Stevenage Road, Hitchin SG4 9DR) for lunch. Lunch is optional.

The cost of the trip is £10 per person for the school visit – plus the cost of the optional lunch as selected from the menu, which will be available in advance for pre-orders.

If you would like to join us for this trip, contact Sally (details below), to reserve a place and for payment details. Please note that all payments are non-refundable.

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon trips@lalg.org.uk



London Places lalg.org.uk/London_places

Monday 18 March

Guided visit to Southwark Cathedral

We will meet at Letchworth station from 10.30am to take the 10.51am train direct to London Bridge, from where it is a short walk to the Cathedral. The train calls at Baldock at 10.47am, Hitchin at 10.55am and Stevenage at 11.01am. Please let us know if you don't intend to board at Letchworth. We will have a 90-minute guided tour of the Cathedral starting at 2pm. The cost is £10 per person. There is plenty more to see around the Cathedral, including Borough Market, so before the tour we will have time for refreshments and exploration of the area. After that we will lead the group back to London Bridge station, or you can travel home independently. It has been agreed with the Cathedral that we will not have to pay if we cancel due to a rail/tube strike. The Cathedral would like confirmation of numbers two weeks before we go, which is coincidentally the notice that has to be given if there is a strike.

We need a minimum 10 people to make the tour viable. If you would like to reserve a place, please email the group contacts. All emails will be acknowledged, and we will hold your name on a list and confirm arrangements two weeks in advance, when we would also require prompt payment so that we can pass the money to the Cathedral.

Group Contacts:

Elaine Fox/Tony Kuczys 01462 735642; London_places@lalg.org.uk



Theatres and Excursions lalg.org.uk/theatresandexcursions

Wednesday 28 February

***Wicked* (afternoon performance)**

Apollo Victoria Theatre, Victoria, London

This visit is now **sold out** – a waiting list is available.

Cost: £40 (£41 non-LALG), includes coach fare and a good 'Category A' seat in the stalls.

The coach leaves Letchworth railway station bus stop adjacent to the car park at 12pm.

Sunday 9 June

***Icons Rediscovered* (afternoon performance)**

Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, London

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vasily Petrenko performs:

Rachmaninoff: *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*

Elgar: *Falstaff*

The former is one of the composer's most beloved works – one movement became a top-ten singles pop chart hit for the pianist Winifred Atwell. The latter is not often performed now, but was considered by Elgar as one of his finest orchestral works.

There will be time before the performance to explore the Southbank Centre, check out the nearby street entertainment, or just admire the magnificent views across the Thames.

Cost: £22 (£23 non-LALG), includes coach fare and a good seat in stalls.

The coach leaves Letchworth railway station bus stop adjacent to the car park at 11am.

Booking opens on **Saturday 3 February at 9.30am**. To book, phone Malcolm King.

Group Contact:

Malcolm King 01462 677329; theatresandexcursions@lalg.org.uk



Visiting Churches lalg.org.uk/visitingchurches

This non-religious group visits places of worship to learn about their architecture, monuments and history, and about the people who have been associated with them over the centuries.

We are currently in hibernation and will restart in spring – details will be given in the next newsletter.

In the meantime, please send suggestions for places to visit so that we can start planning. (A list of those we have already been to are on the webpage – we can revisit if there is sufficient interest.) And please get in touch if you would like to help organise a visit.

Group Contact:

Ann visitingchurches@lalg.org.uk

Trips & Events



Annual Golf Event lalg.org.uk/annualgolf

Thursday 11 October, 11am onwards

Chesfield Downs Golf & Country Club, Graveley SG4 7EQ

Format: To be decided (in discussion with those who opt to play!). 18 holes.

Cost: £40-£50 (max.), dependent on the type of refreshments we decide on before and/or after the golf. The cost will include 18 holes of golf, the refreshments and a small contribution towards any appropriate prizes.

A deposit of £10 is required by Monday 15 April from those that would like to play, but please get in touch with the event contact as soon possible so that interest can be gauged.

Event Contact:

Steve Green 07710 542803; groupsupport@lalg.org.uk



London Villages lalg.org.uk/londonvillages

We plan to restart our walks after Easter; more details in the March newsletter. If anyone would like to suggest a 'village' to explore, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Keith Montague 07900 868180; londonvillages@lalg.org.uk



Train Buddies lalg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 1 February, 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

A planning meeting at which we hope to finalise our destinations for trips in 2024. However, we have decided that our first trip will be the easy one to Brighton on Thursday 25 April. Full details will be available once the fare increases due in March are known.

Group Contact:

Geoff Morse 07714 503671; trainbuddies@lalg.org.uk



Midsummer Walks

Advance Notice

We are planning two walks in June, around the time of the longest day of the year (20 June). One will be a moon walk, for June's 'strawberry moon'. More details of these walks nearer the time.

Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537; groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Do you have photos from your LALG group that you would like to share?

It is a requirement that everyone in the photo has given permission for its use. Get in touch with the newsletter team at – or email the photo to – newsletter@lalg.org.uk



Visiting Towns and Cities in England

lalg.org.uk/visit-towns-and-cities

Tuesday 20 February, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Planning meeting for our trips to Exeter and Durham, and a chance to swap suggestions for future visits. Please come along with your ideas!

Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 April

Exeter in springtime – booking fast!

Exeter, the county town of Devon, is served by its Red Coat Guided Tours. We will visit the Cathedral, the ancient Tuckers Hall (serving the town's guilds) and the area around the ancient port of Exeter. The Cathedral remains the most complete example of a first-rank building in the English Decorated architectural style. Some may wish to go to the famous Bill Douglas Cinema Museum at Exeter University.

Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 June

Durham – booking in April

We will travel by train, arriving in time for lunch in the Market Square. We will visit the Cathedral and other historic buildings, walk one of the paths overlooking the River Wear, and have the opportunity to visit Crook Hall (National Trust) or the Durham University Botanic Garden.

These visits will be by train, staying overnight at a Premier Inn. We would be in a small group – not more than 16.

Group Contact:

Tony Read 01462 450494; visit-towns-and-cities@lalg.org.uk

Membership of LALG

To attend LALG groups, you should be a member of LALG. But most groups will let you come a couple of times before you decide whether or not to join.

Membership of LALG entitles everyone in your household to join as many groups and activities as they want, space permitting.

And you don't need to live or work in Letchworth to belong.

Many local businesses offer discounts to LALG members – see the listing on pages 22 and 23 of this edition of the newsletter.

For information on how to join LALG, see the last page of this edition of the newsletter.

Artificial Intelligence Discussion Group

Wednesday 6 March, 10.30am

David's Café, 16A Eastcheap SG6 3DE. AI is in the news. Its future is unknown. Is it something to worry about or will the experts sort it out? The objective of the meeting is to find out how often members would like to meet, day or evening, etc. If you are unable to attend but would like to be on the list, contact William.

Contact: William Armitage 01462 643537; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Birdwatching Group

Wednesday 6 March, 10.30am

Birdwatching is one of the nation's favourite hobbies – so it is high time that LALG had a birdwatching group! We could share information and sightings, even go on trips together. Get in touch if you are interested:

Contact: newideas@lalg.org.uk

First Aid Course

Wednesday 6 March, 1pm - 3pm or 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Willian Village Hall SG6 2AY

A 2-hour baby and child first aid class – perfect for carers, parents and grandparents who are looking to learn some basic first aid.

The following topics will be covered:

- Treatment of an unconscious casualty; baby and child recovery positions; shock; baby and child resuscitation and CPR; baby and child choking; head injuries; fever; febrile seizures; bleeding; burns; fractures; anaphylaxis; meningitis; and other common childhood conditions.

You will have the opportunity to practise the skills that you are being taught and ask lots of questions throughout.

We can arrange the class during the day or early evening. Please contact Steve as soon as possible if you are interested to give us time to book the venue and instructors.

Cost: Approximately £25 (dependent on numbers – minimum of 15 required per session).

To book a place on either of the sessions, the deadline is **Friday 23 February**.

Contact:

Steve Green 07710 542803; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Fishing Group

This group could be for experienced anglers as well as members looking to take up fishing as a new hobby. Freshwater and/or coarse fishing, or whatever members decide. We could travel to favourite fishing spots.

Contact: newideas@lalg.org.uk

Living in an Online World

This can include smart phones, social media, online banking, car parks, ordering tickets, etc. If you would like help with using any of these, please get in touch. To start, we need more volunteer helpers.

Contact: William Armitage 01462 643537; newideas@lalg.org.uk

National Theatre Group

We could make regular trips, by train, to the National Theatre on London's South Bank. See www.nationaltheatre.org.uk for current productions and more information about the theatre.

Contact: newideas@lalg.org.uk

Proms Classical Music Festival Group

The concerts are at the Royal Albert Hall from Friday 5 July to Friday 13 September. Group members would choose concerts to attend, travelling by train together, possibly with a meal first.

Contact: newideas@lalg.org.uk

Sunday Lunch Club

Would you like to treat yourself to a traditional Sunday roast; or perhaps try something new while enjoying good company? We could meet once a month and visit local pubs and restaurants, car-sharing when possible.

Contact: newideas@lalg.org.uk

Walking Holiday Club

We are looking at short UK breaks with guided walks graded as easy, moderate or more strenuous for a mixed-ability group. The walks would be led by experienced, qualified leaders. Please get in touch if this would interest you, or if you could help with the organisation.

Contact: William Armitage 01462 643537; groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

And now your ideas ...

These are just a few of the ideas that we have come up with for new LALG groups.

But now we want to hear from you! What new groups would you like to see starting?

To make a suggestion, please email newideas@lalg.org.uk or ring William Armitage on 01462 643537.



Art Appreciation lalg.org.uk/artappreciation

First Monday of the month

If you would like to join us, or want more information, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Anne Clarke artappreciation@lalg.org.uk



British History Reading Group lalg.org.uk/britishhistory

Thursday 15 February, 7.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

Topic: *A Great and Terrible King* (Edward I) by Marc Morris – highly recommended by historians, and well worth reading.

Group Contact:

Don Dowling 01462 678934; britishhistory@lalg.org.uk



Children's Books lalg.org.uk/childrensbooks

Tuesday 20 February, 7.30pm

Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell. We enjoy reading classic and current books aimed at children, from picture books to teen fiction. We discuss the content, writing style and format and its relevance to the period it was written in. For more information, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Jane Faulkner childrensbooks@lalg.org.uk



Crime and Murder Mystery Book Group lalg.org.uk/crimebookgroup

Monday 26 February, 7.30pm

My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite. We meet at the Broadway Hotel, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Sorry, we are not currently open to new members, but please get in touch with the group contact to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

Jenny Gosling 01462 895878; crimebookgroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Daytime Book Group lalg.org.uk/daytimebook

Second Monday of the month, 2pm

We meet at the Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ. On Monday 12 February we will discuss *Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr. Please also see the group webpage for details of books we have read since 2013.

Group Contact:

Hazel Irwin 01462 730498; daytimebook@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full

If the group you want to join is full, it might be possible to start another group. You are welcome to email details and contact information to newideas@lalg.org.uk



Fairfield Book Group ialg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Thursday 1 February, 7.30pm

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

Thursday 7 March, 7.30pm

Paris Echo by Sebastian Faulks

All meetings at Fairfield Bowls Club, Kingsley Avenue, Fairfield Park, Stotfold SG5 4GY. £2 per month covers venue hire costs, refreshments (available from 7.15pm) and book loan.

Group Contact:

Elaine Fox 01462 735642; fairfieldbookgroup@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Film Appreciation ialg.org.uk/filmappreciation

The group meets regularly in a member's house to discuss a film, generally available online or in cinemas. Sorry, we are currently full, but please contact Lynne to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

Lynne McGeachie 07763 030031; filmappreciation@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Get Painting ialg.org.uk/getpainting

Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB

This friendly group welcomes everyone, from beginners to experienced artists.

Group Contact:

Tony Faulkner 07414 780177; getpainting@ialg.org.uk



Irish Book Group ialg.org.uk/ireland

Wednesday 14 February, 11am - 12 noon

New Selected Poems 1966-1987 by Seamus Heaney

Wednesday 13 March, 11am - 12 noon

Gypsy Boy by Mikey Walsh

All meetings are at the Broadway Gallery (above Wetherspoons), 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES. Meetings include a book-swap and general discussion of Irish literature.

Group Contact:

Graham Collins 01438 356840; ireland@ialg.org.uk



Monday Painting Group ialg.org.uk/mondaypainting

Mondays, 9am - 12 noon

Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN. The cost of the room is shared by the group. Each term we choose a selection of subjects to paint. If you are interested, you are welcome to a trial for £5 per session.

Group Contact:

Valerie Williams 01462 624439; mondaypainting@ialg.org.uk



Opera and Ballet lalg.org.uk/opergroup

This group seeks to arrange occasional special opera or ballet events. Details will be provided in the newsletter at the time.

Should you wish to receive early information, or any articles of interest relating to opera or ballet, or further information about the group itself, do contact John to be put on the group's mailing list, or look at the group's webpage on the LALG website.

Group Contact:

John Cox 01438 241043; opergroup@lalg.org.uk



Play Reading 1 lalg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 19 February, 1.30pm

Table Manners by Alan Ayckbourn

We meet on the third Monday of the month in a member's house in Letchworth to read plays loaned from Hertfordshire Performing Arts Library. If you are interested in joining us please contact Ann.

Group Contact:

Ann Gibson 01462 680995; playreading1@lalg.org.uk



Play Reading 2 lalg.org.uk/playreading2

Wednesday 14 February, 10am

We meet on the Second Wednesday of the month at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We read the same plays as those read by Play Reading 1. One or two new members would be welcomed.

Group Contact:

Sonia 01462 654933; playreading2@lalg.org.uk



Poetry in the Afternoon lalg.org.uk/poetryafternoon

We meet at our homes to discuss a themed poem. We are currently full, but please get in touch to go on our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Mike Mannion 01462 674580; poetryafternoon@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Readers Group lalg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 22 February, 7.45pm for 8pm

Birnam Wood by Eleanor Catton

Thursday 28 March, 7.45pm for 8pm

Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult

All meetings at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX.

Unfortunately our group is full but do get in touch if you would like to be added to our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Megan Stacey 01462 683074; readersgroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Science Book Group lalg.org.uk/sciencebookgroup

Wednesday 20 March, 7.30pm

The Cloudspotter's Guide by Gavin Pretor-Pinney

'An official publication of the Cloud Appreciation Society', describing clouds you are likely (and unlikely) to see. It also discusses their uses, including in weather and earthquake prediction. The book can be purchased from David's Bookshop in Letchworth (the LALG discount makes it competitively priced) or ordered from the library. The group is full – contact Ann to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

Ann sciencebookgroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Sculpture Group lalg.org.uk/Sculpture

Wednesday 20 March

A self-guided architecture tour of the King's Cross area. This is a joint outing with the Architecture Group – for details, see their entry on page 25.

Acting Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537; sculpture@lalg.org.uk



Shakespeare Study Group lalg.org.uk/shakespeare

Wednesday 7 February, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We are a friendly, informal group who are interested in learning more about the works of William Shakespeare. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month to choose, read and discuss a play.

Group Contact:

Karl Schmierer shakespeare@lalg.org.uk



Sketching in the English Countryside lalg.org.uk/sketchingcountryside

Open to anyone who enjoys or would like to try drawing in a rural setting. You will be very welcome to join this informal group; just bring your own drawing materials and a chair. Meetings will resume in the spring. Email or phone leaving contact details for more information.

Group Contact:

Celia Lord 01462 670630 or 07964 373131; sketchingcountryside@lalg.org.uk



Social Play-Going Group lalg.org.uk/playgoing

To follow our first theatre visit we will be organising a second visit to take place in the spring to a regional theatre within comfortable travelling distance. Please contact Brian with any ideas for plays or theatres you would like us to explore.

Group Contact:

Brian Sykes; playgoing@lalg.org.uk

David's
Books • Music • Café



Ulysses Reading Group lalg.org.uk/ulysses

This informal group is reading *Ulysses*, by James Joyce, in six to eight meetings. We read one section per month and then enjoy an informal discussion. In the future we may look at other works of Joyce. If interested, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Hugh Pollock 01763 260253; ulysses@lalg.org.uk



Writers Group lalg.org.uk/writersgroup

Tuesday 6 February, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, via Zoom

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month and are a friendly and varied group. We write two or three pages in advance, inspired by a specific topic or genre. We then share our work (optional) before the meeting and discuss it on the night on Zoom. Newcomers very welcome.

Group Contact:

Diana Newson writersgroup@lalg.org.uk



Writers Retreat lalg.org.uk/writersretreat

We meet in a coffee shop once or twice a month for two hours (days vary). We all work on our own work-in-progress for short bursts of time. In between we chat and drink coffee. No reading aloud; just time to work without distraction. If you are interested, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Rayna West 07415 169511; writersretreat@lalg.org.uk



World Books (formerly International Books) lalg.org.uk/world-books

Third Wednesday of the month, 11am

We meet at the Broadway Gallery, 2 The Arcade SG6 2ES (above Wetherspoons). We focus on fiction from around the world, selecting works for which there is also a film whenever possible. Library copies will be requested for those wanting them. Each work will be briefly introduced by a group member. All welcome, regardless of whether you have read the novel.



Wednesday 20 March, 11am

The Reader (1995; film 2008) by the German writer Bernhard Schlink. This short novel explores the difficulties that post-war German generations have had in responding to the Holocaust. There is much to explore, including implications for our own times. Widely available in paperback.

Wednesday 17 April, 11am

The Road (2006; film 2009) by American author Cormac McCarthy. The novel narrates the journey of a father and young son across a blasted American landscape destroyed by an unspecified cataclysm. Widely available in paperback. Please contact Brian to indicate interest.

Group Contact:

Brian Sykes 07710 274503; world-books@lalg.org.uk



Art and Craft Workshop ialg.org.uk/artworkshop

First and third Thursdays of the month, afternoons

We meet primarily to learn watercolour painting, but we also cover acrylic painting, pebble art and much more. The workshops are relaxed and include refreshments – all for £3 per session. Beginners welcome with materials supplied at the first session. For further information please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Robin Ghisi 01462 482400; artworkshop@ialg.org.uk



Clock Group ialg.org.uk/clockgroup

Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 9.30pm (new meeting day)

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. We meet to study and repair clocks under our tutor Richard Edwards, with the able assistance of clockmaker Derek Chapman. Members work on their own clocks. Meetings are held during term time, but there are no meetings during the summer term. Please get in touch by emailing the group contact, Richard Edwards.

Group Contact:

Richard Edwards 01462 683030; clockgroup@ialg.org.uk



Embroidery ialg.org.uk/embroidery

Third Wednesday of the month, 2pm

We meet at the Broadway Gallery, 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES. The group is focused on hand embroidery. Members vary from skilled to complete beginners; all levels are welcome. We work on individual projects, sharing ideas and skills. If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Alison Walker 07742 606150; embroidery@ialg.org.uk



Flower Arranging ialg.org.uk/flowerarranging

Alternate Mondays

We meet at The Cloisters, Barrington Road SG6 3TH. We are a very enthusiastic group who enjoy making pretty arrangements. Our skills vary from novice to almost professional. Open to new members, so please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Angie Lockyer 01462 893441; flowerarranging@ialg.org.uk



Gardening at the Weekend ialg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

Sundays 4 and 25 February, 1.30pm

Trips to see snowdrops.

4 February at Walkern Hall SG2 7JA. Entrance fee: £5

25 February at Benington Lordship, nr Stevenage SG2 7BS. Entrance fee: £9

Tickets can be purchased in advance.

Apart from visiting each other's gardens to chat about everything related to gardening, we visit public gardens, especially through the winter months.

Group Contact:

Wendy Martindale 07803 888162 or 01438 359332; gardeningweekend@ialg.org.uk



Gardening Tea and Tips 1 ialg.org.uk/GardeningTT1

We are enthusiastic gardeners who visit each other's gardens to share expertise and swap plants, while also enjoying coffee and cake.

Group Contact:

Annie Hankin 01462 685511; gardeningTT1@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Gardening Tea and Tips 2 ialg.org.uk/GardeningTT2

Future dates to be confirmed

We are keen gardeners who enjoy socialising together, viewing the gardens, and swapping plants, information and ideas.

Group Contact:

Angela gardeningTT2@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Gardening Tea and Tips 3 ialg.org.uk/GardeningTT3

Monday 12 February, 2pm - 4pm

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic gardeners who take turns to host meetings in our gardens during the spring and summer. We enjoy swapping plants, seeds and ideas, followed by refreshments. We are now meeting at garden centres and public gardens over the autumn and winter. Members are sent details of the forthcoming venue. We have a short waiting list for our group.

Group Contact:

Ros Dollman 01462 683769; gardeningTT3@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Knitting Group 1 ialg.org.uk/knittinggroup

For information about our meetings, please do get in touch.

Group Contact:

Annie Hankin 01462 685511; knittinggroup@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Knitting Group 2 ialg.org.uk/knitting2

Alternate Mondays, 2pm

This 'knit & natter' group meets at the Broadway Hotel. We have been asked to support the Garden House Hospice so please come along to help us support this great cause.

Group Contact:

Hetty Smith 01462 630195 or 07930 462870; knitting2@ialg.org.uk



Patchwork Group ialg.org.uk/patchwork

First Thursday of the month

For the venue, please contact Zena. For more information about our group, please get in touch or check our webpage.

Group Contact:

Zena Truscott 01462 627253; patchwork@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Photography Out and About 1 ialg.org.uk/poa

We are a small group of hobby photographers who enjoy a social outing with our digital cameras. Members take it in turns to organise a monthly photoshoot, usually on a weekday morning. We then review some of our photos on the fourth Monday morning in a local village hall to share ideas and knowledge.

Group Contact:

Pat Rumpus 01438 557529; poa@ialg.org.uk



Photography Out and About 2 ialg.org.uk/photography2

Saturday 17 February, 10.30am (TBC)

Details of our February photoshoot are to be confirmed – contact Graham for details. Photoshoots are followed by a social meeting a couple of weeks later to share the results. Our group is open to photographers of any skill level.

Group Contact:

Graham Dollman 07584 835197; photography2@ialg.org.uk



Playing the Recorder for Fun ialg.org.uk/recorder

Wednesdays, 10am - 11.30am

Central Methodist Church, 109 Pixmore Way, Letchworth SG6 3TR
We enjoy making music together and having a chat afterwards. Some experience of recorder-playing and/or reading music would be useful.

Group Contact:

Rayna West 07415 169511; recorder@ialg.org.uk



Sewing Group ialg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of the month, 10am

We meet at Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN, where we are able to take along our sewing machines, sew and chat. Between us our interests cover dressmaking, embroidery, patchwork and quilting, home furnishings and most things to do with stitching. Many of us use sewing machines but we also welcome members who prefer to sew by hand. Refreshments and use of an iron provided. There is a small charge to cover room hire.

Group Contact:

Alison Butler 07941 631314; sewing@ialg.org.uk



Taiko Drumming ialg.org.uk/taiko

A chance to learn and enjoy this Japanese skill in a tutor-led group. Drums are provided, so places are limited to six. A good level of fitness and stamina is necessary. £5 per session to cover room hire, tuition and equipment. For dates and times, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Claire 07702 041934; taiko@ialg.org.uk



Textile Art Group ialg.org.uk/textileart

Third Monday of the month

The group meets to take part in a textile workshop. We cover various styles of weave, stitch and dye and mainly focus on decorative techniques. The meetings include all materials and use of the equipment you will need for the project. New members very welcome. Please contact Amy for details of the venue and activity and to book your place. There will be a small charge to cover room hire and refreshments.

Group Contact:

Amy Wilson 07917 542405; textileart@ialg.org.uk



Textiles Group ialg.org.uk/textiles

We share ideas regarding all elements of textiles and we meet at one of our members' homes. Please contact Linda to be added to our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Linda Carson 07990 748583; textiles@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Ukulele Group ialg.org.uk/ukulele

Thursdays, 1pm - 3pm

The main group meets at St Paul's Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 1QT. We play for about two hours with a short break for a cuppa and a chat. We are 51 strong and growing, and regularly have 30-plus at our meeting. We also meet once a month in the evening at various locations. For more information or if you would like to learn to play the ukulele, please contact David Flower.

Group Contact:

David Flower 01462 683939 or 07804 158463; ukulele@ialg.org.uk

Advertising in the LALG newsletter

Adverts in the LALG newsletter reach over 3,000 local people, covering a variety of ages and interests.

We welcome advertising from other voluntary organisations and leisure providers, linked organisations and businesses in our discount scheme.

Our advertising rates are:

Commercial: Full A5 page £75, Half A5 £45

Non-profit: Full A5 page £55, Half A5 £30, Quarter A5 £15, Eighth A5 £10

Adverts should be PNG or JPG files, formatted to fit a full or half page of A5. They should be booked by the 5th of the previous month and emailed to newsletter@ialg.org.uk by the 10th. Space is limited – so first come, first served.

To discuss any special requirements, please contact the newsletter team on the email address above.



Breakfast Club ialg.org.uk/breakfast

Tuesday 13 February, 9am

Broadway Hotel, Broadway SG6 3NZ

A wide selection of breakfasts is available, from buttermilk American pancakes (well, it is Pancake Day!) to a full English breakfast. Please contact Malcolm beforehand as some venues can only take a limited number of people.

Group Contact:

Malcolm King 01462 677329; breakfast@ialg.org.uk



Firkin Club ialg.org.uk/firkinclub

Thursday 8 February, 8pm

Garden City Brewery, 22 The Wynd SG6 3EN, where we are promised a good selection of real ales, including those made on the premises in the heart of the Garden City. We meet monthly to sample real ales and put world affairs into a personal perspective, viewed through a pint glass. New members welcome.

Group Contact:

Grant Cameron 01462 679569; firkinclub@ialg.org.uk



Food and Cookery Group ialg.org.uk/foodcookery

Please contact Keith to go on our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Keith 07917 446044; foodcookery@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Lunch Club ialg.org.uk/lunchclub

We meet in nearby pubs for lunches on the second Thursday of the month. The group is currently full.

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon lunchclub@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Malt Whisky Appreciation ialg.org.uk/maltwhisky

Friday 15 March, 7pm

Sláinte Mhath! Almost 150 whiskies tasted so far! If you are interested in sampling, comparing and enjoying fine malt whisky, come along to this meeting when a selection of examples will be presented for members' pleasure. For information on the venue and format please get in touch with Grant.

Group Contact:

Grant Cameron 01462 679569; maltwhisky@ialg.org.uk

Don't do email?

If an event listing gives no phone number, write c/o David's Bookshop, or phone the LALG Chair on **07361 040348**.



Supper Club lalg.org.uk/supperclub

Sunday 25 February, 12.30pm for 1pm

Hermitage Road Bar & Restaurant, Hermitage Road, Hitchin SG5 1BT

A Sunday roast at this popular restaurant in Hitchin town centre. For a menu and more information, please contact Linda King.

Group Contact:

Linda King 01462 677329; supperclub@lalg.org.uk



Vegetarian and Vegan lalg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

Wednesday 28 February

An evening social event, venue to be confirmed, and will be about getting to know one another. We will also be seeking views on what members want to get from this group. If you are on the mailing list, you will be receiving an email with details closer to the date. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to be added, please do get in touch with the group contact.

Group Contacts:

Andya Hadjihambi and Barbara Isherwood vegetarianandvegan@lalg.org.uk



Wine Appreciation Group lalg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 2 February, 7.30pm - 10pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB. A presentation by Steve Mellish on 'A South American Wine Tour', which promises to be an enjoyable evening. We normally meet on the first Friday of each month in the Brunt Room at Letchworth Settlement. We have a full programme through to June 2024. If you are interested in joining the group you would be very welcome – please contact either George or Tony.

Group Contacts:

Tony Mansey 07770 541207; George Barnes 01462 673710;
wineappreciation@lalg.org.uk



Wine Discovery lalg.org.uk/winediscoverygroup

Please get in touch for details of our next meeting.

Group Contacts:

Moiria and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Wine Group 3 lalg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesday 20 February, 7.30pm

Our wine group enjoys tasting wines in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Each month two of our members choose a theme and share their selection of wines with the group. **We have space for new members** – please email if you are interested in joining the group.

Group Contacts:

Jerry Bolter 07561 759798; Mike Clarke 07885 164188; winegroup3@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



Action for Happiness lalg.org.uk/actionforhappiness

Monthly on a Wednesday, 7pm, via Zoom

A movement for positive social change using activities to improve wellbeing such as mindfulness, gratitude diaries, identifying personal strengths, being near nature, etc. For further information, contact Chris.

Group Contact:

Chris West 07932 195463; actionforhappiness@lalg.org.uk



All Things Feathered Poultry Society lalg.org.uk/chickens

We welcome any current or new members who are interested in finding out about the joys of keeping chickens or other species of poultry and in being part of a community that can provide advice, support and guidance. We are planning our next group meeting. Please get in touch with the group contact for further information.

Group Contact:

Claire Bunyan 07788 153500; chickens@lalg.org.uk



All Things Military lalg.org.uk/allthingsmilitary

Thursday 8 February, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Whether you've been to Ridley Scott's 165-minute saga on Napoleon or not, come and hear Rod Johnson on 'Napoleon in Egypt'! Charge £5 to cover room hire and other expenses.

Group Contact:

Veronica Tomkins 01462 671402; allthingsmilitary@lalg.org.uk



Ancient Egypt Study Group lalg.org.uk/ancientegypt

Third Thursday of the month, 7.30pm

We meet in the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. If you are fascinated by Egyptology, please do come along and share your knowledge.

Group Contact:

Oliver Webb 07929 058696; ancientegypt@lalg.org.uk



Architecture lalg.org.uk/architecture2

Wednesday 20 March

A joint outing with the Sculpture Group. A self-guided architecture tour of the King's Cross area, including the Google building (designed by Thomas Heatherwick) and the King's Place Pangolin Sculpture Gallery. We will travel by train and visit the area for approximately three hours, including a refreshment stop, returning to Letchworth by 4pm. The train details will be given nearer the time. To book, contact William by **Monday 18 March**.

Acting Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537; architecture2@lalg.org.uk

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Agent Brains Escape Games	26 Leys Avenue	539763	10% off all off-peak game bookings
Alexander Lewis Estates	9 Arena Parade	510881	10% off fee for sales
Alders Opticians	15 Eastcheap	673216	10% off spectacles
A M Optometrists	29 Leys Avenue	486123	10% off complete glasses
Beautiful Bathrooms	53 Leys Avenue	484477	10% off bathroom products
Cooks Boutique	22 Leys Avenue	01708 691322	10% off purchases over £10
Daliani Boutique	11 The Arcade	07400 936884	10% off
David's Bookshop	12-14 Eastcheap	684631	10% over £10, some exceptions
David's Music	12 Eastcheap	475900	10% over £10, some exceptions
David Stern Opticians	10 Arena Parade	683045	10% off excluding eye test
Evolve Life Pain & Injury Clinic	Suite A, The Colonnade, Station Place	486444	10% off all appointments
Fairhaven Wholefoods	Unit 27, Jubilee Trade Centre, Jubilee Road	675300	5% off all products – in store only
Garden City Crafts	5 The Wynd	686869	10% off craft materials
Garden City Florist	6 Arena Parade	685370	10% off except Interflora
Icas-Vilas Fine Art	8-10 Leys Ave	677455	10% off framing only
Isabelle Estates	45 Station Road	487877	10% off sales fees
Jewellery Box	1 The Arcade	675707	10% off everything except watches
Joules etc. Gifts	3 The Wynd	07415 281930	10% off sales over £10
Just for Me	30 Leys Avenue	676688	15% off
Letchworth Aquatics	66 Leys Avenue	337326	10% off livestock
Letchworth Pharmacy	One Garden City, Broadway	685915	10% off non-medical
Martins Furniture	62-64 Leys Avenue & 12-14 Commerce Way	351610	5% discount off furniture, carpets and flooring
Max Spielmann	36 Broadway	672264	10% off
Miss Green Fingers	2-4 Eastcheap	337970	10% off café items
Mobility World	Birds Hill	708830	£50 off Riser Recliner Chairs, £100 off beds, 10% off smaller items

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Nanny Julie's Children's Hairdresser	8 The Arcade	337805	10% off
North Herts Chiropody	46 Leys Avenue	684358	10% off full treatments
On Your Travels	www.onyourtravels.co.uk	677111	Discounts on tours and cruises
Pampered Pets	9 The Arcade	07432 440104	10% off a full groom
Past and Present	47 Leys Avenue	485117	5% off
Prep Lounge	2 Whitehorse Street, Baldock	545491	10% off food & drink
Professional Dry Cleaners	25 Eastcheap and 5A Brand Street Hitchin	682571 450491	10% off dry cleaning on site only
Revive the Beauty Salon	4 The Wynd	674888	10% off
Shades of Gray	38 Broadway	686578	10% off for over-60s
System Restore UK	2 The Wynd	339101	10% off all labour
T Brooker	Bilton Road, Hitchin	434501	Trade discount where applicable
The BakeHouse	16 The Wynd	337980	20% off two or more cakes
The Letchworth Clinic	17 Station Road	670900	10% off podiatry Monday-Friday
The Little Ironing Shop	23 The Wynd	671760 or 07976 966284	10% off
The Sadie Centre	Hitchin Road	678804	10% off healthy living classes – phone for details
The Secret Wardrobe	1 The Wynd	07921 869771	5% off scented products, 10% off all other items
The Shoe Box	45 Leys Avenue	683190	10% off all shoe repairs
The Uniform Monkeys	16-18 Openshaw Way	07828 148179	10% off first order
Tom Badstevener Gas Safe Engineer	44 Maltings Close, Baldock	07970 958483	10% off labour
Tutti Frutti clothing	12a Central Approach	07725 830913	10% off sales of £10 or more
Vutie Beets vegan café	24/25 The Wynd	337930	10% off all sales
Walkwel Clinic	13 Eastcheap	682526	5% off non-sale footwear only, in Letchworth and Stevenage

**Unless otherwise stated, the town is Letchworth and the phone code is 01462.
To claim a discount, you will be asked for proof of your LALG membership.**

General Groups



Black Squirrel Country Dancing lalg.org.uk/countrydancing

Tuesday 20 February, 6.30pm - 8pm

We meet on the third Tuesday of most months at Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. All welcome – including complete beginners with two left feet! All dances taught/called. LALG members £4, non-members £5, under-18s £2. No need to bring a dance partner. We are a very friendly group.

Group Contact:

Mandy Baldwin 07515 823735; countrydancing@lalg.org.uk



Black Squirrel Investment Club lalg.org.uk/investmentclub

Fourth Tuesday of the month

For venues, please contact Graham. After 23 years of superb analysis and uncanny intuition, we remain competitive with the FTSE 100!! For more information, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Graham Pointon 01462 670004; investmentclub@lalg.org.uk



Blitz an Open Space lalg.org.uk/litter

**Letchworth: Saturdays 10 February and 9 March, and
Thursdays 15 February and 14 March**

**Baldock: Wednesdays 21 February and 20 March, and
Sundays 25 February and 24 March**

Venues to be advised nearer the time. To date the teams have collected 1287 bags of litter. Volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Brian if you can advise him of any areas that need attention by our team of volunteers.

Group Contact:

Brian Noble text 07773 671487; litter@lalg.org.uk



Computer Users lalg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Wednesday 28 February, 10.30am - 11.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Please support our new venue, which has food and various drinks available.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor usingcomputers@lalg.org.uk

Please note: This is not a computer support line



Decarbonise Letchworth Group lalg.org.uk/DecarboniseLetchworth

Monday 5 February, 12.30pm - 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Join our monthly lunchtime get-togethers, where group members have an opportunity to share ideas and the latest news on actions that will help Letchworth to reduce its carbon footprint. Cycle infrastructure, heat pumps, electric cars and insulation are hot topics at the moment.

Group Contact:

Julia Sonander DecarboniseLetchworth@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



Decluttering ialg.org.uk/decluttering

Tuesday 26 March, 4pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Are you thinking of having a clear-out and need some moral support? Or perhaps you're looking to swap tips on where to sell or recycle your old 'treasure'. We are building up a list of useful links to share and usually meet on the last Tuesday of alternate months. New members are always welcome.

Group Contact:

Nicole Ashbrook decluttering@ialg.org.uk



Europe and Beyond ialg.org.uk/europeandbeyond

Next meeting planned for March or April

Topic: 'Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and England: 'One Nation', Different Devolved Ideas'. Speakers TBC. If you, or someone you know, would like to speak about Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, please phone or email Mandy. Please bring your questions, thoughts and ideas, too. Date and venue to be confirmed in the March newsletter, and see our posters (currently either mid-March or late April).

LALG members £4, non-members £5. All welcome!

Group Contact:

Mandy Baldwin 07515 823735; europeandbeyond@ialg.org.uk



Geology ialg.org.uk/geology

The next meeting is in March – please contact Carrie for details. If you'd like to join or have any questions, please get in touch or check the group's webpage.

Group Contact:

Carrie Dunne geology@ialg.org.uk



Letchworth Local History Research Group ialg.org.uk/localhistory

Thursday 22 February, 7.30pm

Meeting place to be confirmed; existing group members will be contacted, and if you would like to join us do get in touch. We are considering two new book projects and welcome additional committed researchers.

Group Contact:

Philippa Parker 01462 686828; localhistory@ialg.org.uk



Polish and Ukraine Culture and History ialg.org.uk/polish

Tuesday 20 February, 7.30pm

We meet at the Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. A recent visit to Ukraine, or a sampling of Polish music down the ages? Plans for our next meeting are fluid at the moment, but it will be one of the two – so please join us. We'll contact our regulars by email closer to the time; new folks very welcome!

Group Contact:

Devi 01462 624906; polish@ialg.org.uk

General Groups



Monthly Quiz lalg.org.uk/monthlyquiz

Saturday 24 February, 6.45pm for 7pm

These light-hearted quizzes are free to enter! We post general knowledge questions on the LALG website and you email your answers after each round. You can play on your own or in a team of up to six people, either meeting in person or via Zoom/Skype, etc. No quiz experience or internet skills are required to enjoy the evening.

See lalg.org.uk/FebruaryQuiz for more information. Further details about the evening will be published there at 6.45pm and the first questions at 7pm. Your hosts for the evening: Steve and Barbara.

Group Contact:

Ann monthlyquiz@lalg.org.uk



Psychology lalg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 14 February, 7.30pm

We meet once a month at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Subjects are agreed with our tutor-lead at each meeting for the following month's meeting. There is a small charge (cash please) to cover the room hire costs. For further information please contact Ken or see our webpage.

Group Contact:

Ken Jordan psychology@lalg.org.uk



Quiz Team lalg.org.uk/quizteam

Next month we are planning to attend the following quiz nights:

Wednesday 7 February, 7pm

The White Lion, 46 High Sreet, Baldock SG7 6BJ. £2pp.

Monday 12 February, 8pm

The Orange Tree, 100 Stevenage Road, Hitchin SG4 9DR. £1pp.

Wednesday 21 February, 8pm

The Millstream, 97 Cambridge Road, Hitchin SG4 0JH. £2pp.

Monday 26 February, 7.30pm

Cultivo Lounge, 32 Leys Avenue, Letchworth SG6 3EW. £1pp.

Please let the group contact know if you would like to join in.

Group Contact:

Andrew Dear quizteam@lalg.org.uk



Self-Help Slimming Group lalg.org.uk/slimming

We support each other in our attempts to adopt a healthier lifestyle. We share ideas and recipes. Our emphasis is on being responsible for ourselves, so no weighing-in or telling-off! The group is currently full, but if you would like to go on the waiting list for a second group, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Rayna West 07415 169511; slimming@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full

General Groups



Sign Language Group lalg.org.uk/signlanguage

Mondays 12 and 26 February, 7pm - 8.30pm

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. We meet every other week to learn British Sign Language signs, led by Debbie. The group is very casual and will be happy to have new members any time – hearing and hard of hearing are all welcome. Feel free to get in touch for more information. There will be a £4 per person charge (cash only) for the room hire.

Group Contact:

Claire 07950 779193; signlanguage@lalg.org.uk



Transport and Industrial Heritage Group lalg.org.uk/transport

Tuesday 27 February, 7.30pm

We meet at Jackmans Community Centre, Ivel Court SG6 2NL. Matthew Platt from North Herts Museum will give a talk entitled 'Ice Age to ICL: Technology through Time'. From mammoth hunting tools in Weston, to the 'One Per Desk' computer created by Letchworth Company ICL, our local area has played host to the development of many innovative technologies. LALG members £3, guests £5.

Group Contact:

Tessa Palfreyman 01462 678032; transport@lalg.org.uk



Weather Report Group lalg.org.uk/weather

Do you record local weather statistics? If so, you will be welcome to join our small group. Please get in touch!

Group Contact:

Keith Taylor 01462 670749; weather@lalg.org.uk



Wild Flowers lalg.org.uk/wildflowers

No further outings are planned for this season. We will start planning visits for this year in the spring.

Group Contact:

Jean Hewitt 07914 151768; wildflowers@lalg.org.uk

Group Support Team

If you need help with launching a new LALG group or reviving an existing group, we are here to help. We can help with finding venues, getting publicity and even temporarily running the group. Please ring or email one of the team:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635

Steve Green 07710 542803

William Armitage 01462 643537

groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Language Groups



Conversation Française ialg.org.uk/french1

Lundis soirs 19h30 à 21h30

Par Zoom et en présentiel. Conversation française se poursuit les lundis soir par Zoom, mais avec des réunions en présentiel de temps en temps. Si vous souhaitez participer, veuillez contacter:

Group Contact:

Jimmy Croall 07795 909178; french1@ialg.org.uk



Daytime French ialg.org.uk/DaytimeFrench

Thursdays, 2.30pm

Dimples Café, Par 3 Golf Course, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Please email or text in advance.

Group Contacts:

**Val Quieros 07787 512580; Sheila Rhodes 07876 260152;
daytimefrench@ialg.org.uk**

Currently Full



Dutch Conversation ialg.org.uk/dutch

Once a month on Wednesday mornings

Come and share your thoughts on the arts, politics, weather, travel, sports, or anything else of interest. Join our small group of (more or less) Dutch speakers.

Group Contact:

Corrie Swain 01462 742542; dutch@ialg.org.uk



German Daytime ialg.org.uk/germandaytime

Wednesdays, 2pm

The group meets via Zoom or, when possible, in each other's homes or a local café. Hosting is not essential for anyone wishing to join this group. People on our email list receive a weekly update. The group is thriving, but new members would still be welcomed, particularly native speakers.

Group Contact:

Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; germandaytime@ialg.org.uk



German Group 1 ialg.org.uk/german1

Tuesdays, afternoon/evening

In-person meetings and also on Zoom. See our webpage for details. You're very welcome to join us for everyday German conversation for two hours.

Group Contact:

Martin Sproat 01438 226044; german1@ialg.org.uk



Italian Conversation 1 ialg.org.uk/italian1

Usually Fridays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, via zoom

We also try to meet on the second Tuesday of the month in local cafés.

Group Contact:

Alan Fraser 01462 685448; italian1@ialg.org.uk

Language Groups



Italian Conversation 3 lalg.org.uk/italian3

Mondays, 5 and 19 February, 2.30pm

We usually meet on alternate Mondays at No 12 café, Leys Avenue SG6 3EU. New members with a basic level of Italian conversation welcome. Please email or text Val in advance.

Group Contact:

Val Quieros 07787 512580; italian3@lalg.org.uk



Latin lalg.org.uk/latin

Alternate Monday evenings, 8pm, via Zoom

For dates, please contact Carl. For those with some knowledge of Latin.

Group Contact:

Carl Raybold 01767 223167; latin@lalg.org.uk



Russian Language РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК lalg.org.uk/russian

Thursdays, 2.30pm - 4pm, via Zoom

We try to resurrect oral and aural skills for part of the session. We also translate items, sometimes news downloaded from Правда, Известия, Би-Би-Си etc, but more often short stories. Some knowledge of Russian needed.

We do need new members.

Group Contact:

Sheila Hogan russian@lalg.org.uk



Spanish Conversation lalg.org.uk/spanish

Thursdays, 7.30pm

The Orange Tree, Norton Road, Baldock SG7 5AW. The meetings are for general conversation and to practise Spanish together. Some ability in Spanish is needed if you want to really gain a benefit. New members are very welcome.

Group Contact:

Ginny Morris 07944 777862; spanish@lalg.org.uk



Welsh Language and Culture lalg.org.uk/welsh

Last Wednesday of the month, 2pm

Chalton Manor Farmhouse, Moggerhanger MK44 3RA. New members are welcome to come and share our love of 'the land of our ancestors'.

Group Contact:

Rosalie Lamburn 07549 012569; welsh@lalg.org.uk

Local Discounts

For details of local businesses offering discounts to LALG members, see the listing on pages 22 and 23 of this edition of the newsletter.

Social Groups



50+ Singles Drop-In lalg.org.uk/50plussingles1

Fridays, 7.30pm

We gather at tables in the bar at the Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN. You are welcome to drop in, but please ring in advance if you would like Anne to look out for you arriving. The group provides a relaxed and informal way to make new friends, and maybe to suggest an event that you would like to attend so that it can be added to our calendar and others can go with you. We also organise trips and events for members to sign up to. For more information, please do get in touch.

Group Contact:

Anne Sparrowhawk 07711 145736; 50plussingles1@lalg.org.uk



Informal Lip-reading Group for Hearing Aid Users lalg.org.uk/lipreading

Thursdays, 10.30am

We are a small group and we really enjoy our time together. More details on our webpage.

Group Contact:

Veronica Jones 01462 451174; lipreading@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 1 lalg.org.uk/coffee1

Alternate Wednesdays, 10.30am

Dimples Café, Par 3 Golf Course, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. There is room for two or three more.

Group Contact:

Jill Sells 01462 684289; coffee1@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 2 lalg.org.uk/coffee2

We meet at Hitchin Garden Centre, Cambridge Road SG4 0JT. For more details, please contact Maureen.

Group Contact:

Maureen Huckle 01462 638099; coffee2@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 3 lalg.org.uk/coffee3

Wednesdays 7 and 21 February, 2pm

We meet at David's Bookshop Café, Eastcheap SG6 3DE on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. New members very welcome.

Group Contact:

Nayier Ahmad coffee3@lalg.org.uk

Publicity leaflet distribution – a thank you

Thank you to all the LALG members who distributed our publicity leaflets. This has been very successful, especially in areas where we are less well known. Should you have any leaflets left, please return them to David's Bookshop as we have run out.

Social Groups



Meet for Coffee 5 lalg.org.uk/coffee5

Fridays 9 and 23 February, 10.30am

We meet at the Grange Community Centre Café, Middlefields SG6 4NG on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. The café is in an attractive building next to the Grange Community Centre, with parking nearby. All welcome.

Group Contact:

Edna Constable 01462 485086; coffee5@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 6 lalg.org.uk/coffee6

Thursday 22 February, 10.30am

We meet at Dimples Café, Par 3 Golf Course, Willian Way SG6 2HJ on the fourth Thursday of the month. This pleasant café overlooks green and leafy surroundings, with outside seating when weather permits. All welcome.

Group Contact:

Bryan Sykes 07710 274503; coffee6@lalg.org.uk



Philosophy for Non-Philosophers lalg.org.uk/philosophy

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

We meet at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Please remember to bring any topics you would like us to discuss.

Group Contact:

Anne Sparrowhawk 07711 145736; philosophy@lalg.org.uk



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50/9 Golf Society lalg.org.uk/50_9golf

We play nine holes every Wednesday morning at some of the area's finest golf clubs, at discounted green fees of £10 to £17.50, depending on the venue. Our games are social rather than competitive, and our members are of all abilities, male and female. We are over 50 years old and enjoy playing 9 holes – hence the group's name. The 50/9ers take over where the regular golfer leaves off.

Group Contact:

Stanley Bonin 01462 672178; 50_9golf@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Badminton 1 lalg.org.uk/badminton1

Mondays, 8pm - 10pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. At the moment we are fully subscribed, but please get in touch to be added to our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Paul McCann badminton1@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Badminton 2 lalg.org.uk/badminton2

Mondays, 7pm - 8pm

Fearnhill School, Icknield Way SG6 4BA. We play mixed doubles and have mixed abilities. Our games are sociable, with the emphasis on fun. Currently at capacity, but do get in touch if you would like to be added to a waiting list.

Group Contact:

Sue Bresnahan 07801 345595; badminton2@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Bridge Club lalg.org.uk/bridgeclub

Tuesdays and Fridays, 1pm

Howgills, South View SG6 3JJ. Come early and you will be slotted into a table as you arrive. Beginners and improvers are always welcome. We play friendly Rubber Bridge at £3 a session to cover room hire. Refreshments provided.

Group Contact:

Gill Cheaney 01462 686806; bridgeclub@lalg.org.uk



Chess for Fun lalg.org.uk/chess

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. We meet in the café. We start with a demonstration and then enjoy a relaxed game of chess. New members are always very welcome.

Group Contact:

Ruth 07855 019237; chess@lalg.org.uk



Darts for Fun lalg.org.uk/darts

Wednesdays, 3pm - 5pm

The Two Chimneys, Stotfold Road SG6 4JS. Come along for a sociable game of darts. Jackie brings spare darts for any newcomers.

Group Contact:

Jackie 07557 439599; darts@lalg.org.uk



Cribbage ialg.org.uk/cribbage

Afternoon sessions: First Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We have room for new members. If you would like to play you are welcome to just turn up.

Evening sessions: Second Tuesday of the month

Held at various venues – please get in touch for details.

Group Contacts:

Afternoon sessions: Edna Constable 01462 485086; cribbage@ialg.org.uk

Evening sessions: Steve Green 07710 542803; cribbage@ialg.org.uk



Easy Riders ialg.org.uk/easyriders

Saturday 3 February, 10am

Friday 16 February, 10am

Cycle ride details will be posted on our webpage. If you would like to join these rides, please contact Jackie.

Group Contact:

Jackie Harber 07578 466982; easyriders@ialg.org.uk



Games Club ialg.org.uk/gamesclub

Mondays 5 and 19 February, 7.15pm - 9.30pm

Methodist Church Hall, North Avenue SG6 1DH. Parking at front; entry on the right-hand side of the building. We would love to have any new members to join us happy gamers this year. £3 – please pay by card only; no cash.

Our club is very welcoming so don't worry if you haven't played a certain game.

We play a wide variety of board and card games. Please get in touch beforehand, so we can look out for you.

Group Contact:

Cathy Watts 07523 763358; gamesclub@ialg.org.uk



Games on the Grange ialg.org.uk/grangegames

Every Monday, 10.30am

We meet at the Grange Community Centre Café, Middlefields SG6 4NG.

All members are welcome to drop in. Parking is available nearby.

Group Contact:

Rhian Blakey grangegames@ialg.org.uk



Garden City Wheelers ialg.org.uk/GCWheelers

Thursday 15 February, 10.30am start

Meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens. Weather permitting, we will ride to St Paul's Walden, with lunch in the Strathmore Arms. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider, doing a return mileage of approximately 20 miles. This ride is a little hilly. Our group is always open to new members. Please let the group contact know if you want to join us for the first time.

Group Contact:

Stuart Collins 07710 507069; GCWheelers@ialg.org.uk



Indoor Tennis lalg.org.uk/indoortennis

We play mixed doubles, intermediate level, at Letchworth Tennis Club during the winter months. For now, we limit numbers each week to four and play for 1 hour at £8 per person. We could increase to 1.5 hours if required at a cost of £12 per person.

Please contact Sheryl to join our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Sheryl Hann indoortennis@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Par 3 Golf lalg.org.uk/par3

Fridays, 10.15am

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. There is a small charge. Comfortable clubhouse, light refreshments, reasonable prices.

Group Contact:

Paul Wilkinson par3@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Par 3 Golf Wednesdays lalg.org.uk/par3wednesdays

Every Wednesday, 2pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. There is a small course charge. The clubhouse serves light refreshments – see the Golf Centre's website for opening times.

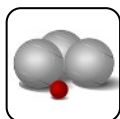
This is a new group to complement the Par 3 Golf group that meets on Friday mornings. To join, LALG membership is essential.

If you are interested in joining us then please email Graham.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor par3wednesdays@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Pétanque lalg.org.uk/petanque

Wednesdays, 2pm - 3pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Several of us meet in the café afterwards for a chat and a cuppa. There are three lanes, so up to 18 people can play at the same time. Fees are now £3.60.

Group Contact:

Maureen Flower 01462 683939; petanque@lalg.org.uk

Calling group contacts

Please don't forget to ask your group members to show you their LALG membership card at least annually.

Or if you prefer, send a list of your members to membership@lalg.org.uk



Pickleball lalg.org.uk/pickleball

Alternate Tuesdays, 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Outdoor tennis courts at Norton Common. We have two spare paddle bats for newcomers to borrow. Please dress for an outdoor activity. The courts are free. Come along and learn a new game and have some fun! At this time of year, the weather can change our plans; so please get in touch to check if we are playing.

Group Contact:

Mandy Howard pickleball@lalg.org.uk



Piquet lalg.org.uk/piquet

Thursdays 8 and 22 February, 2pm - 4pm

We meet on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons of each month at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. This is a new group with six members so far – more will always be welcome!

Piquet is a fairly simple two-handed card game of French origin and is easy to learn. There is a more challenging variant called Auction Piquet which we might play in future. Please get in touch if you'd like to join us.

Group Contact:

Phil Rowe 07982 254463; piquet@lalg.org.uk



Rummikub lalg.org.uk/rummikub

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am - 12 noon

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Rummikub is a fun and sociable table game, with an addictive mix of skill and luck. Tuition given to complete beginners.

Group Contact:

Les Hunt 07748 481288; rummikub@lalg.org.uk



Rummikub 2 lalg.org.uk/rummikub2

Wednesdays, 10am for 10.30am

We have coffee at 10am at the Muddy Lane Café at Letchworth Tennis Club. There are Rummikub sets at the coffee bar: if the group contact is unavoidably absent, just ask for the sets and you can play. We start playing at 10.30am and play for two hours. New members are always welcome, even if you have never played before: it's an easy game to pick up!

Group Contact:

Joyce Henderson 07929 402058; rummikub2@lalg.org.uk



Scrabble lalg.org.uk/scrabbleclub

We play on alternate Wednesdays, at the Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ. Contact Eileen for more details.

Group Contact:

Eileen Creak 01462 632692; scrabbleclub@lalg.org.uk



Short Tennis ialg.org.uk/shorttennis

Thursdays, 10.30am

Indoor courts, Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. New members welcome! Emphasis on fun with mixed abilities. Short tennis is played in doubles on a smaller court with a soft ball. It is easier than lawn tennis, but still good fun and a new skill to master. To find out about joining our group, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Andy Gordon 01462 685366; shorttennis@ialg.org.uk



Snooker ialg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays 1, 15 and 29 February, 2pm - 4pm

ABC Club, 24 Leys Avenue SG6 3EW. We meet every two weeks. There is a fee payable to play snooker or pool. Snooker cues are available to borrow. Let Steve know by the Monday beforehand if you want to participate. All welcome.

Group Contact:

Steve Howell 01462 734605; snooker@ialg.org.uk



Social Cycling ialg.org.uk/socialcycling

Alternate Sunday mornings

These are leisurely rides of around 18-28 miles on quiet roads or off-road tracks, on alternate Sundays. We will always have a coffee stop with time to chat, either at the end of a shorter ride or mid-way through a longer one. Most types of bikes/e-bikes are suitable for these rides. New LALG members welcome. Contact Pamela for more information.

Group Contact:

Pamela Ghisi socialcycling@ialg.org.uk



Table Tennis for Fun ialg.org.uk/TableTennisFun

Thursdays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. Please get in touch for confirmation. New members welcome. If you're thinking of joining us for the first time, please phone Jane on 07818 938183 so that she can explain how we fund the hiring of the hall. Bring your own bat.

Group Contacts:

Jane and Adam 07818 038183; TableTennisFun@ialg.org.uk



Table Tennis 2 (Daytime Group) ialg.org.uk/tabletennis2

Every Tuesday, 11am - 12.30pm (excluding school holidays)

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. The cost is £4 per session to hire the indoor court and pay for the table tennis balls. We use five tables, and have introduced a waiting list. There is a café in the clubhouse for attendees to use.

Group Contact:

Marion Yeeles 07867 774849; tabletennis2@ialg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Alternative Ramblers ialg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 11 February, meet at 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet at the Orange Tree, Norton Road, Baldock SG7 5AW. A ramble of about 5 miles from Baldock, passing through Norton and Radwell.

Expect a few minor hills and some mud if wet. Please use the pub's car park only if you are planning to eat or drink there; otherwise please park on the road.

To book a table at The Orange Tree, phone 01462 892341.

To book the walk, contact Mick via the WhatsApp group, by phone on 01462 894011 or by email on ARleader@ialg.org.uk

Mobile on the day: 07904 412512

Group Contact:

Sue Infantino 07758 858418; alternativeramblers@ialg.org.uk



Baldock Walks ialg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Monday 19 February, 9.20am for a 9.30am start

Meet outside Baldock Community Centre. A walk of about 40 minutes to Norton using footpaths west of Baldock. We shall have a coffee break at Bickerdikes Garden Centre. Return to Baldock across fields and via Ivel Springs, also about 40 minutes.

Walking shoes/boots recommended as it is likely to be muddy crossing the fields.

To book for the walk please email or phone the group contacts.

Group Contacts:

Julia Genders 01462 620615 or 07704 762167;

Eileen Creak 01462 632692; baldockwalks@ialg.org.uk



Dog-Friendly Walking Group ialg.org.uk/K9walks

Wednesday 14 February, 10am

Meet at the junction of Burford Way with Westmill Lane, Hitchin SG5 2SR.

There is no need to advise if you are coming on this walk; just turn up with or without a canine friend. The walk will last approximately 75 minutes and covers uneven ground using footpaths on Oughtonhead Common.

Wednesday 6 March, 10am

Meet at Manor Wood Car Park, Roxley Court Lane SG6 2AH

Wednesday 20 March, 10am

Meet at the car park at the junction of Chiltern Road with London Road, Baldock SG7 6LU.

Please advise the group contact if you wish to take part in these walks. They cover uneven ground in woodland and follow footpaths.

Each walk will last approximately 75 minutes and will be approximately 3 miles in length.

Group Contact:

Marian Cowdrey 07854 678952; k9walks@ialg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Early Morning Walks lalg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesday 21 February, 7am - 9am

We meet at Letchworth's first roundabout on Broadway. Open to all LALG members, walkers and non-walkers. Well behaved dogs welcome. We go whatever the weather. No need to book; just turn up.

Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537; earlymorningwalks@lalg.org.uk



Fast Walking lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays 7, 14, 21 and 28 February, 8.30am - 9.30am

This is a fast 1-hour walk (4 miles per hour), starting at Norton Common, Letchworth. We meet at the bowling green car park (accessed from Icknield Way) at 8.20am.

Improving walking speed group

Fridays 2 and 23 February, 10.00am - 11.00am

If walking at 4 mph is too fast for you but you want to improve your walking speed then come along on Fridays. We start from Norton Common, Letchworth. Meet at the bowling green car park (accessed from Icknield Way) at 9.50am.

Group Contact:

Jan Gates 07888 695215; fastwalking@lalg.org.uk



Long-Distance Walkers lalg.org.uk/longdistancewalkers

Sunday 18 February, 8.30am

Hertfordshire St Margarets. The 12-mile circular walk incorporates glorious parkland, the superb valley of the River Ash, and a particularly attractive section of the River Lee Navigation. Bring lunch and drink for the day.

Meet at the Arena Car Park for car sharing, to leave at 8.30am. The route starts at St Margarets station car park, Stansted Abbots SD12 8DS or TL382118 or cherry.boots.dark. Sunday parking charge is £4 for all day. Please let Mia know if you plan to go directly to the start.

Walk leaders: Mia and Neil Matheson 07517466773

Group Contact:

Mia Matheson 01462 490070; longdistancewalkers@lalg.org.uk



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers midweekambleramble@lalg.org.uk

Tuesday 20 February, 10.00am for a 10.15am start

Meet at the main Therfield Heath car park, Baldock Road, Royston SG8 9NT, just off the A505. The 4-mile walk, led by John and Rhian Blakey, goes uphill towards Therfield, with good views. A rural route will bring us back to the Heath Café Bar for lunch. To book for the walk, and lunch if required, please e-mail MARleader@lalg.org.uk or phone 07511 683591, by Friday 16 February. All bookings will be acknowledged.

Next walk: Wednesday 20 March

Group Contact:

Carol Stokes 07813 800874 or 01438 353666; midweekambleramble@lalg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Midweek Walkers lalg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

There is no walk scheduled for February.

Group Contact:

Jess Peyton Jones 01462 458397; midweekwalkers@lalg.org.uk lalg



Nordic Walking lalg.org.uk/Nordicwalking

Come and walk the Nordic way. Use Nordic walking poles to enhance your walk experience. We meet weekly for a walk of 3-4 miles, with occasional longer walks at weekends.

Group Contact:

Martin Lansbury 07860 864478; nordicwalking@lalg.org.uk



Slower Walkers lalg.org.uk/slowerwalkers

Friday 16 February, 10.15am for a 10.30am start

The walk leader is Sue Clemerson.

Meet at the Hermit of Redcoats pub, Titmore Green, Little Wymondley SG4 7JP (on the Stevenage Road). This is a 3-mile walk – it might be muddy in places and/or exposed if windy. Please book a place for the walk and lunch, if required, by noon on 12 February as the pub has requested confirmation of numbers for lunch (we order our choices before we start walking on the day). Book by emailing the walk leader Sue Clemerson at SWleader@lalg.org.uk
Mobile on the day: 07712 541271

The March walk will be on **Thursday 14 March**.

Group Contact:

Phil Taylor slowerwalkers@lalg.org.uk



Sunday Ramblers lalg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Sunday 4 February, 10am start

Gosmore, Charlton plus pub lunch.

This month's walk is slightly shorter at 6 miles, as we will start and finish at the Bird in Hand at Gosmore SG4 7QG, where a table is booked to have our new year lunch together. There is a gravel car park on the crossroads of High Street and Waterdell Lane.

There is a fairly long uphill walk at the beginning up Tatmore Hills Lane, later coming back down into Charlton and back to Gosmore.

It might be very muddy in places after recent wet weather. There will be a coffee stop but no lunch stop for this walk. Please contact Mark on 07985 666791 or Wendy on 07985 768685 to book a place on the walk and/or for lunch.

Group Contact:

Wendy 07856 768685; sundayramblers@lalg.org.uk

When you have finished with this copy of the newsletter, please pass it to a friend who might like to join LALG.

Walking Groups



Trail Walkers ialg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesdays 13 February and 12 March

Greensand Ridge Walk

We aim to cover some of the longer-distance trails that pass near Letchworth. We normally walk on the second Tuesday of every month, but occasionally do two walks in the month. The average walk is 10-12 miles. We are sharing cars for these linear walks. New members are warmly welcome.

We are currently finishing the Greensand Ridge Walk. This is a lovely route which takes in woods and farmland along the dissected Greensand Ridge which rises from the clay vales on either side, passing Woburn Abbey and Amphill Park. In April we plan to start the Icknield Way Path, which may be the oldest road in England, and which runs from Ivinghoe Beacon, through Letchworth Garden City and into Cambridgeshire and ultimately Norfolk. If you might be interested in joining us or have any questions, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Nigel Bellis trailwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Walking Buddies ialg.org.uk/walkingbuddies

There is no walk scheduled for February.

Group Contacts:

Anne Larkins 01462 621028; **Jane Clark** 01462 450599; walkingbuddies@ialg.org.uk



Walking the Greenway in Stages ialg.org.uk/greenway

This is the second year of the walks. Approximately 2 miles once a month. If interested please let William know, including preferred day of week and morning or afternoon.

Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 6643537; greenway@ialg.org.uk



Weekend Strollers ialg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 24 February, 10.30am

Meet at Ickleford Village Green, next to the church. We do not walk far or fast; no more than 3 miles – followed by coffee. If wet, more coffee, less walk! No booking required; everyone welcome. If unsure on where to meet, please get in touch. Suggestions for new starting locations welcome.

Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537; weekendstrollers@ialg.org.uk



Wild Walks (mostly mountainous) ialg.org.uk/wildwalks

Trips for early 2024 include a trail from Dunkeld to Montrose and one based in Snowdonia – a favourite area for the group. Please get in touch if you are interested in keeping up to date with our plans.

Group Contact:

Sheila George 07807 827490; wildwalks@ialg.org.uk

Walking Groups



The midweek walkers pictured on their walk from Henlow, which was followed by an excellent lunch at The Crown

Meet a Committee Member

Amandeep (Aman) Dhillon is LALG's Diversity Officer. She says:

'My main focus is on promoting diversity and inclusivity in all areas of life. I am working to make sure that diversity and inclusivity run through everything we do in LALG. So, among other things, I monitor the data we capture from new and existing members to measure how well we are serving all sectors of our locality.'



Aman lives locally with her young family. She has worked on the UK Asian Film Festival for a number of years as well as the Royston Arts Festival, the Women X Film Festival, South Asian Heritage Month, the UK Asian Film Festival Volunteers Programme, and World Mental Health Awareness Day. She is also a fundraiser and a human rights activist.

Aman adds: 'I love being able to use my professional experience to support LALG. It is a wonderful organisation, bringing friendship and fun to so many people.'

Aman would love to hear from members about their experience and ideas for promoting diversity and inclusivity. Email her at diversity@lalg.org.uk

Linked Organisations

The Arts Society North Herts www.theartssocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art Lectures at the Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month at 11am except in January & August. Everyone welcome. Contact: theartssociety.nh@gmail.com
Baldock Floral Society www.baldockfloralsociety.com	First Thursday evening each month in Baldock Community Centre. Part of NAFAS, providing workshops & expert demonstrations. Contact: Jean Metzger 07767 884728 or 01462 490930; metzjean@aol.com
Baldock Folk Club www.baldockfolkclub.org	Free admission; donations to performers welcome. Usually at the Orange Tree Pub, Baldock Contact: Brian Burke 07768 274037; baldockfolkclub@gmail.com
Baldock Town Twinning Association www.baldocktowntwinning.com	Twinned with Eisenberg & Sanvignes. Annual exchanges & local events with an international theme. Contact: baldocktowntwinning@gmail.com
Broadway Gallery www.broadway-gallery.com	The Arcade, Letchworth. Exhibitions, drop-in family arts studio, with courses & events. Contact: 01462 476110
Bygrave Handbell Ringers	Thursday evenings at Bygrave for a practice session. New members welcome; training available. Contact: Sue 01462 893114; sue.luckett@hotmail.co.uk
David's Bookshop www.davids-bookshops.co.uk	Eastcheap, Letchworth. Bookshop offering author events & book signings. 10% LALG discount over £10; some exceptions. Contact: 01462 684631; info@davids-bookshops.co.uk
Forty Plus Cycling Club www.fortypluscc.co.uk	Rides of 25-40 miles to a pub lunch, mainly on quiet lanes. Thursdays 10.30am. New members welcome. Contact: Stuart Collins 07710 507069; stuartcollins2016@gmail.com
Friends of Norton Common www.facebook.com/ friendsofnortoncommon	Volunteers working to preserve Norton Common. Weekly working parties on Thursdays from 9.30am. Contact: friendsofnortoncommon@virginmedia.com
Hitchin Floral Art Club	Qualified NAFAS floral demonstrators show how to create pleasing designs. Also in-house workshops. Contact: Jen 07833 948288; hartinthecorner@gmail.com
Karate-do Shotokai	Karate-do Shotokai teaches a relaxed and fluid style that will improve balance & develop strength & skills. Friendly. DBS & safeguarding approved. Contact: Richard Plaskow 07538 275533; richard.plaskow@gmail.com
Letchworth District Gardeners Association www.ldga.org.uk	Talks, outings, coffee mornings, trading store & seasonal shows. Discounted entry to monthly talks. Contact: enquiries@ldga.org.uk
Letchworth Educational Settlement www.lethworthsettlement.org.uk	Independent adult education centre providing academic & recreational classes. Contact: info@lethworthsettlement.org.uk
Letchworth Film Club www.broadway-lethworth.com/ cinema/lethworth-film-club/	We view quality films at Broadway Cinema that might not otherwise come here. Discounted tickets. Contact: Lynne McGeachie 01462 683724; lynne@lethworthfilmclub.com
Letchworth Garden City Society www.lgcs.org.uk	History/architecture of Letchworth & other Garden Cities; Arts & Crafts movement; local planning matters. Visits. Talks. Contact: Philippa Parker 01462 686828; philippaclare@me.com
Letchworth Jazz Appreciation Society www.lethworthjazz.org.uk	Monthly meetings at Garden City Brewery, Letchworth. Informed presentations of jazz recordings, with CD/DVD/book library & raffle! Contact: Bernard Pritchard 07563 875127; info@lethworthjazz.org.uk

Linked Organisations

Letchworth Men In Sheds www.leitchworthshed.org	Non-profit workshop. Share/learn new skills. Reduced fee for LALG members. Contact: Peter Hill 07941 889066; leitchworthmeninsheds@gmail.com
Letchworth Model Railway Society www.leitchworthmrs.org.uk	Meets weekly: Mondays & Wednesdays at Standalone Farm, Letchworth. Contact: secretary@leitchworthmrs.org.uk
Letchworth Open Water Swimming	Regular open water swimming & ad hoc and monthly sessions. Contact: Anna Osei-Kissin 07710 024517; anna.oseikissi@gmail.com
Letchworth & District St Andrew's Society	Scottish country dancing. Dances old & new. Contact: Margaret Bowen 01462 679112; me77bowen@gmail.com
Letchworth Scale Model Club leitchworthsmc.yolasite.com	Static modelling: figure modelling, vehicles, aircraft, ships, etc. Talks & demonstrations at The Club Room, Icknield Centre, Letchworth. Contact: Rod Johnson 01438 814225; rodjohnson.mail@talktalk.net
Lordship Theatregoers www.facebook.com/groups/lordshiptheatregoers	We buy tickets at group rates for West End shows & matinees at Milton Keynes Theatre. No travel arrangements included. Contact: Clive Roylance cliveroylance@icloud.com
North Herts 50+ www.nh50plus.com	Courses, events & social meetings for anyone aged 50+. LALG member discount. Contact: Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; nh50plus@gmail.com
North Herts Bowls Club	Welcoming bowls club on Norton Common. Friendly matches against other bowls clubs plus social events. No stars, all are welcome, and everybody plays. Contact: Simon Tory 01462 684914 simontory@outlook.com
North Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers & Dyers craftingtogether.wordpress.com	Spinning, weaving, dyeing & other textile crafts. Meets first & third Thursdays at Letchworth Settlement, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, during term time. Contact: craftingtogether@gmail.com
North Herts Ramblers Group nhrg.org.uk	Weekend & occasional mid-week walks in North Herts, Beds, Essex & beyond. Walking holidays in the UK & abroad. Courses in leadership. Contact: Leon Fotiadis 07525 796814; leon.fotiadis@ntlworld.com
North Herts Speakers Club www.northhertsspeakers.org	Develops competence in leadership & communication. First & third Wednesdays, 7.30pm at Sun Hotel, Hitchin. Free for visitors. Call first. Contact: John Kendall 01462 684036
Pembroke 50+ Club	Badminton, gentle keep fit & table tennis for over-55s, Mondays 10am at North Herts Leisure Centre. Annual charge £5. Concessions for those of State Pension age. Contact: Annette 07886 010542
Rainmakers International Folk Dance Group www.rainmakers.org.uk	Dances of all styles from around the world. Contact: Mark 01462 454210
Silvertone Singers	Friendly daytime singing group. Meets every Monday in the centre of Letchworth. No auditions. Two-hour sessions: songs followed by coffee. Contact: Sue 07821 110944; suehogg2@btinternet.com
Unicorn Ceilidhs www.unicornceilidhs.org.uk	Dances for the local community, with a wide range of ceilidh bands & callers. Contact: Barry Goodman 07833 643597; barry.goodman1@ntlworld.com
Weston Music Society www.westonmusicsociety.org.uk	Usually six concerts per year by acclaimed classical musicians, including two for classical guitar. Usually Holy Trinity Church, Weston. Newcomers very welcome. Contact: Simon Armitage 01462 790214; westonconcerts@gmail.com

Join LALG or Renew Your Membership

Five reasons to belong to LALG

Membership gives your whole household access to:

- ✓ **Around 140 groups and events**
- ✓ **Generous discounts at around 50 local businesses**
- ✓ **A chance to meet new people**
- ✓ **Online activities to enjoy from your own home**
- ✓ **Regular newsletter, online or posted to you**

... and you don't need to live or work in Letchworth to belong!

Annual membership is £10 per household, or £20 if you want the newsletter to be posted to you as well as reading it online. The easiest way to join LALG or renew your membership is to do so online. At lalg.org.uk click on:

Join | Renew and follow the instructions there.

Or you can pay by bank transfer. Or pick up a form from David's Bookshop on Eastcheap.

Membership Secretary:

Jackie on **07361 040348**; or email membership@lalg.org.uk

From the Editors

The editor of this edition was Nick Matthews, who will also be the editor for the March edition. Please send entries by **Saturday 10 February**. This will ensure timely printing and distribution.

Please send your entries to: newsletter@lalg.org.uk

All emails are acknowledged. If you do not hear anything after a few days, please chase us.

A suggestion for contributors: Don't wait until the deadline. Set yourself a reminder for the 1st of each month. Thank you!