



LALG

LETCHWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

March 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



The long evenings are gradually coming to an end, and with warmer times ahead it will be good to see more of our outdoor activities getting up and running.

I am looking forward to the Strategy Workshop on Saturday 16 March, at which we will look at how we can better support you as members. We will also discuss membership costs, possible changes to our finances, how we communicate and support volunteers, diversity, and much more. This is your chance to help shape the future of this fantastic organisation, and I look forward to hearing your views.

We have had to change some of the group icons in order to make sure that they are copyright free. I am a huge fan of the icons in the newsletter as I find that they help me find the groups I am looking for. I am also conscious that they help those of us with eyesight issues or members who don't have English as their first language; and they are aesthetically pleasing, too.

Planning ahead, we have the Annual In-Person Quiz coming up on Saturday 20 April. It's always popular, so book early if you can.

Jackie Harber

Committee News

The next meeting is at **7.30pm on Wednesday 20 March**. 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 **01462 678032**.

Officers and Contact Details

Chair:	Jackie Harber	07361 040348	chair@lalg.org.uk
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Website Editors:			website@lalg.org.uk

Contents

Trips & Events	3	General Groups	26
New Ideas	8	Language Groups	32
Arts & Books	10	Social Groups	34
Crafts & Gardening	18	Sports & Games	36
Food & Drink	22	Walking Groups	41
Discounts	24	Linked Organisations	46

Cover photograph: Broadway Gardens 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 is available on the door).

Tea/coffee is available before the talk, £1 per mug. Payment is by **CASH ONLY**.

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 talk is by Malcolm Lucas (Weston Music Society) and Graham Pointon (Letchworth Music Club). Their talk, **'Live Music – Use It or Lose It!'**, is about the pleasure of classical music.

Monday 8 April, doors open 10am for 10.30am

Note: This is the **second** Monday of the month.

Graham Fisher, Chief Executive of Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation, will present the Foundation's new five-year plan, **Strategy 2028**.

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.

We have had a good response but there are six spaces left – booking now!

Contact:

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



Trips lalg.org.uk/trips

Tuesday 30 April

Bletchley Park, with a guided tour

Join us for a visit to Bletchley Park, Sherwood Drive, Milton Keynes MK3 6EB. Bletchley Park was the top-secret home of the Second World War code-breakers and is now a heritage attraction. It is recognised as one of the best visitor attractions in England. There is, of course, a link to Letchworth Garden City, as the Bombe machines, which played a crucial role in cracking German codes, were built in the town and taken to Bletchley under cover of darkness.

The cost of admission and a guided tour is £28 per person. The private guided tour is booked for 11am. There is a guidebook priced at £7, which costs £6 if ordered in advance. There are two cafés or you are welcome to bring your own picnic and eat it in the park – weather permitting of course!

Travel will be by private cars, and we are happy to try to match drivers and passengers.

To reserve a place, and for payment details, please contact Sally Cannon (at trips@lalg.org.uk).

Please note that payments are non-refundable unless someone else takes a cancelled place.

Closing date for booking: **Friday 12 April**

This trip is organised by Kate Thompson (tripleader@lalg.org.uk).

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

Sunday 9 June – now booking

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

Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, London.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vasily Petrenko performs:

Rachmaninov: *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 members), includes coach fare and a good seat in the front stalls. This is a great price to watch this superb orchestra at such a wonderful venue.

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

To book, phone Malcolm King.

Group Contact:

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



Visiting Churches lalg.org.uk/visitingchurches

Sunday 21 April, 1.30pm for 2pm

Chicksands Priory

This is rather different from our usual visits. Chicksands Priory dates from 1150 but was dissolved in 1538. Very little is now visible, but the site has a rich history and is the only surviving example of a Gilbertine cloister (now the Officer's Mess and not at all monastic). Some buried remains were found by TV's *Time Team* dig in 2001.

We will have a tour of the building and learn about the Gilbertines, the Osborn family (who have been associated with Chicksands since 1576), and the military. Weather and time permitting, we will also see the Walled Garden.

LALG members can book now (£5pp); non-LALG member booking opens on **2 April** (£7pp).

Full details and booking information are available at lalg.org.uk/Chicksands

Note: The Priory is on a military base, and only people who have booked will be allowed entry.

Group Contact:

Ann visitingchurches@lalg.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**.

Trips & Events



Annual Golf Event lalg.org.uk/annualgolf

Thursday 17 October, 11am onwards

Chesfield Downs Golf & Country Club, Graveley SG4 7EQ.

Tee times: 11.04am - 11.28am.

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 who would like to play, but please get in touch with the event contact as soon as possible so that interest can be gauged.

Event Contact:

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



Annual In-Person Quiz lalg.org.uk/AprilQuiz

Saturday 20 April, 7pm for 7.30pm

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

It's time for this year's light-hearted general knowledge quiz, organised by LALG's Social Team. Tickets are available at lalg.org.uk/AprilQuiz – £36 per team of up to six people. If you want to come on your own, or as a pair, then contact LALG's Quiz Team group (see below) as they will be making up teams. Bring your own snacks, drink and glasses, plus food to eat in the interval if you wish.

Event Contact:

Quiz Team group quizteam@lalg.org.uk



London Villages lalg.org.uk/londonvillages

We had planned to restart our walks after Easter, but, among other issues, the continuing train drivers' dispute has frustrated that. We will restart as soon as practicable. In the meantime, our leader numbers are running low, and we would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to know more about leading one of our walks.

Group Contact:

Keith Montague 07900 868180; londonvillages@lalg.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 £45

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

Further details see newsletter@lalg.org.uk

Trips & Events



Train Buddies ialg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 7 March, 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

We have now finalised our plans for 2024, and the information is detailed on our webpage. At our March meeting, held after this year's fare increases, we will agree timings for our first trip of the year to Brighton on Thursday 25 April.

Group Contact:

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



Midsummer Walks

Friday 14 June

Strawberry Moon walk.

Thursday 20 June

Longest Day walk to Cambridge and return by train.

More details of both walks to be given nearer the time.

Contact:

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



Visiting Towns and Cities in England ialg.org.uk/visit-towns-and-cities

Wednesday 17 - Thursday 18 April

Exeter in springtime

There has been good support for this, the group's first visit. Many have elected to stay an additional night.

Tuesday 11 - Thursday 13 June

Durham – booking in April

This will now be a three-day trip.

We will travel by train, arriving in time for lunch in the Market Square, with a conducted tour of the much renowned Durham Cathedral in the afternoon.

There will be opportunities to visit the Castle and University buildings on the promontory and walk the paths overlooking the River Wear.

On day 2 (Wednesday) there will be two options – see more of the sights of Durham, such as Crook Hall (National Trust) and the Durham University Botanic Garden; or visit Beamish (the living museum of the North), a 20-minute drive by shared taxi from Durham (see www.beamish.org.uk for full details of what is on offer).

The cost for travel and accommodation is likely to be around £320 for a couple – £45 per person extra for those going to Beamish (entrance fee plus travel). Further details on request to the group contact.

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

Future visits: We can do so much more if we all take it in turns to run a trip, perhaps in pairs.

Group Contact:

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

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. Please let William know if you are coming in order to gauge numbers.

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

Birdwatching Group

Wednesday 6 March, 12 noon

David's Café, 16A Eastcheap SG6 3DE. 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. Details of the first visit will be in the next newsletter.

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

Bridge Lessons

Tuesdays, 1.45pm

Tabor Court, Beech Hill SG6 4YJ.

Learn how to play bridge in a relaxed environment. Free weekly sessions led by an experienced tutor and LALG member.

Contact: Jo Aris 07452 960337; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Film Appreciation 2

We have a Film Appreciation group which has been running for many years and has a waiting list. Do we have sufficient interest for a second one?

We could operate in a similar way, meeting once a month discussing a film chosen by members, or in a completely different way. Six people are needed to get it going. Please state if you would prefer daytime or evening meetings.

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

First Aid Course

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

Willian Village Hall, Willian 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.

Cost: £25 (minimum of 15 required per session).

There may be a couple of spaces available – contact Steve Green if you are interested.

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

Living in an Online World

Wednesday 13 March, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. 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. More volunteer helpers needed. Please let William know if you are coming in order to gauge numbers.

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. Six names will ensure we start.

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

Sunday Lunch Club

Our first lunch is on **Sunday 17 March** at The Old White Horse, Station Road, Baldock SG7 5BS, where there is a wide selection of vegetarian and vegan food as well as pub classics, pizzas and Sunday roast. Booking is essential.

Contact: Jackie Sayers 07970 407635 (text); newideas@lalg.org.uk

Walking Holiday Club

We would like to revive the Annual LALG Walking Holiday, usually for five-day breaks during the week in a country house in locations such as the Dales or at the seaside. We are also 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. We aim to start in 2025.

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

What new groups would you like to see starting? To make a suggestion, email newideas@lalg.org.uk – or ring William Armitage on 01462 643537.



Art Appreciation lalg.org.uk/artappreciation

First Monday of the month, afternoons

Members take turns to research and lead discussions about the choice of topic. Meetings are usually held in a member's home. 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 21 March, 7.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

We meet on the third Thursday of the month. For further details on the meeting and the group, please get in touch with the group contact.

Group Contact:

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



Children's Books lalg.org.uk/childrensbooks

Tuesday 26 March, 7.30pm

A Kestrel for a Knave by Barry Hines.

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



Creative Writing for All lalg.org.uk/creative-writing

Tuesdays 5, 12, 19 and 26 March, 10am - 12 noon

We meet every Tuesday morning at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. There is no charge and all are welcome.

The emphasis is on short stories and flash fiction. We bring work and write short pieces on the day to read to the group for discussion. Enjoy writing and a good chat over coffee with a few laughs.

Group Contact:

Tony Faulkner 07414 780177 creative-writing@lalg.org.uk



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

Monday 25 March, 7.30pm

My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite. We meet at the Broadway Hotel bar, 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

BROADWAY⁷
GALLERY



Amal Ghosh: Bridge

15 February - 6 April 2024

With support from the



PAUL MELLON CENTRE
for Studies in British Art

Broadway Gallery
Free Admission
Wednesday - Saturday
10.00 - 17.00

2 The Arcade
Letchworth Garden City
Hertfordshire SG6 3ES
www.broadway-gallery.com

A charitable service of

Letchworth
Garden City
Heritage Foundation



Daytime Book Group ialg.org.uk/daytimebook

Second Monday of the month, 2pm

We meet at the Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ. On Monday 11 March we will discuss *The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrell. Please also see the group webpage for details of books we have read since 2013.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Fairfield Book Group ialg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Thursday 7 March, 7.30pm

Paris Echo by Sebastian Faulks.

Thursday 4 April, 7.30pm

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

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 (and/or see the new group idea on page 8 of this edition).

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 13 March, 11am - 12 noon

Gypsy Boy by Mikey Walsh.

Wednesday 10 April, 11am - 12 noon

We Were Rich and We Didn't Know It by Tom Phelan.

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 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Opera and Ballet lalg.org.uk/operagroup

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; operagroup@lalg.org.uk



Play Reading 1 lalg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 18 March, 1.30pm

After Mrs Rochester by Polly Teale.

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 13 March, 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 group members' 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

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



Readers Group lalg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 28 March, 7.45pm for 8pm

Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult.

Thursday 25 April, 7.45pm for 8pm

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles.

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

Tuesday 19 March (new date)

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 26.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Shakespeare Study Group lalg.org.uk/shakespeare

Wednesday 6 March, 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 particular 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

The Little Theatre, Letchworth Settlement
Nevells Road, Letchworth, SG6 4UB



William Shakespeare's

Twelfth Night

14-16 March 2024
7.45pm



Tickets £10

www.settlement-players.co.uk

or in person (cash only) at David's Music, Eastcheap, Letchworth



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

Thursday 25 April

Twelve Angry Men (matinee performance, 2.30pm).

Cambridge Arts Theatre, 6 St Edward's Passage, Cambridge CB2 3PJ.

Cost of ticket: £35

For our second trip to a regional theatre 10 stalls seats have been reserved with the theatre. Please contact Brian to indicate interest and for details of payment, which will need to be made by late March. Travel by train or car, depending on preferences. The play returns following a successful West End run and includes well-known actors from stage and TV.

Group Contact:

Brian Sykes; 07710 274503 playgoing@ialg.org.uk



Ulysses Reading Group ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Writers Group ialg.org.uk/writersgroup

Tuesday 5 March, 7.30pm, 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@ialg.org.uk



Writers Retreat ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Email problems

Our bulk emailing system has hit a problem. Some email providers are rejecting emails, causing problems for our service provider. We are working hard to find a solution. In the meantime, around 400 members are not getting information emails from us for now. Information is still in the newsletter, on the website and social media.



World Books ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Garden City Singers

Spring Concert

Saturday 23 March 2024

Letchworth Free Church, Norton Way South, 7.30pm

Tickets: £10. From David's Music (cash) or ticketsource.co.uk/garden-city-singers



Art and Craft Workshop lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Clock Group lalg.org.uk/clockgroup

Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 9.30pm

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.

Group Contact:

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



Embroidery lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Flower Arranging lalg.org.uk/flowerarranging

Mondays 4 and 18 March, 2pm

We meet on alternate Mondays 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@lalg.org.uk



Gardening at the Weekend lalg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

Sunday 17 March, 12 noon

Trip to Thriplow Daffodil Weekend and Open Gardens, Thriplow SG8 7HZ. Tickets need to be purchased in advance. £10 entry fee plus £1 parking fee if needed. In April we will begin our visits to members' gardens. We also visit open gardens and other plant and garden events throughout the year.

Group Contact:

Wendy Martindale 07803 888162 or 01438 359332; gardeningweekend@lalg.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, taking turns to host visits to all our 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 11 March, from 10.30am

Trip to Savin Wholesalers, Vinegar Hill, followed by Frosts Garden Centre, Willington. Timings to be confirmed.

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic gardeners who take turns to host meetings in our gardens during the warmer months. We are currently meeting at garden centres and gardens open to the public. Members are sent details of forthcoming venues. We have a 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 very friendly group of knitters (and some who do crochet) meet at the Broadway Hotel. You are welcome to bring along your own project or support projects that we are working on. Please get in touch with the group contact for more information.

Group Contact:

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



Patchwork Group ialg.org.uk/patchwork

First Thursday of the month, 11am

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



Photography Out and About 1 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



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

Saturday 16 March, 10.30am (TBC)

Details of our March 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@lalg.org.uk



Playing the Recorder for Fun lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Sewing Group lalg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of the month, 10am - 12 noon

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@lalg.org.uk



Taiko Drumming lalg.org.uk/taiko

Tuesday or Wednesday evening, 7pm - 9pm

London Road Studios, Unit 13, London Road, Baldock SG7 6 NG. Have fun learning this Japanese skill in a small, tutor-led group. Drums provided.

A reasonable level of fitness is necessary. £10 per session to cover room hire, tuition and equipment.

For dates and times, please get in touch with the group contact.

Group Contact:

Claire 07702 041934; taiko@lalg.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 that 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 on 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



Author Event

Making History with Richard Cohen

Thursday 25 April, 7pm (doors 6.30pm)

David's Bookshop

Tickets £5.00

Who writes the past? From the origins of history-writing through to television and the digital age, *Making History* abounds in captivating figures brought to vivid life, from Thucydides and Tacitus to Voltaire and Gibbon, from Winston Churchill to Mary Beard.

David's Bookshop, 12-16 Eastcheap, Letchworth Garden City SG6 3DE

www.davids-bookshops.co.uk/blogs/news/author-events



Breakfast Club ialg.org.uk/breakfast

Tuesday 12 March, 9am

Café Luna, 35a High Street, Baldock SG7 6BG.

This popular venue is in the centre of Baldock High Street and has a varied list of menu choices, including vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Please contact Malcolm beforehand as this venue can only take a limited number of people in the breakfast room.

Group Contact:

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



Firkin Club ialg.org.uk/firkinclub

Tuesday 12 March, 8pm

Crafty's Beer Shop, Leys Avenue SG6 3EA, where there is always a good selection of interesting real ales. 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 Wadsworth 07917 446044; foodcookery@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Lunch Club ialg.org.uk/lunchclub

Second Thursday of the month

We meet in nearby pubs for lunches. 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



Supper Club ialg.org.uk/supperclub

Please contact Linda for further information regarding our next restaurant visit.

Group Contact:

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



Vegetarian and Vegan Group lalg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

Friday 22 March, 12.30pm

A lunch gathering at Vutie Beets, The Wynd SG6 3EN. If you'd like to attend, please let the group contacts know by 14 March. Please get in touch for information about the group or to join. New members are most welcome.

Group Contacts:

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



Wine Appreciation Group lalg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 1 March, 7.30pm - 10pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB. A presentation by Tony Mansey on the Sauvignons, looking at the differences in the Sauvignon Blancs from different regions and countries; and the same for the Cabernet Sauvignons. An interesting evening awaits.

We have a full programme through to July. If you are interested in joining the Wine Appreciation Group you would be very welcome – please contact either George Barnes or Tony Mansey.

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:

Moir and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Wine Group 3 lalg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesday 19 March, 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

Join the newsletter team

We have a small but excellent team of editors working on this newsletter. Each editor produces one or two editions per year, and now we are hoping to recruit more volunteers. Could you spare the time?

We provide a laptop with everything you need, plus lots of one-to-one support. If you would like to know more, please email Nick at newsletter@lalg.org.uk or ring 07970 407635.

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	Henlow & Letchworth	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



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 14 March, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Our speaker, Ann Lawrence, will give a talk on **'My Life as a Counter-Terrorist Detective'** (this includes tours of Afghanistan). 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

Tuesday 19 March (new date)

A joint outing with the Sculpture Group. A self-guided architecture tour of the King's Cross area of London, 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

General Groups



Black Squirrel Country Dancing lalg.org.uk/countrydancing

Tuesday 19 March, 6.30pm - 8pm

We meet on the third Tuesday of most months at Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. Complete beginners with two left feet very welcome! All dances taught/called. LALG members £4, non-members £5, under-18s £2.

All welcome! 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 on the group, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Blitz an Open Space lalg.org.uk/litter

**Letchworth: Saturdays 9 March and 6 April, and
Thursdays 14 March and 25 April**

**Baldock: Wednesdays 20 March and 17 April, and
Sundays 24 March and 14 April**

Venues to be advised nearer the time. To date the teams have collected 1341 bags of litter. Volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Brian (Letchworth) or Gary (Baldock) if you can advise them of any areas that need attention by our teams of volunteers.

Group Contacts:

Brian Noble (Letchworth) text 07773 671487; **Gary Mills (Baldock)** text 07941 685683;
litter@lalg.org.uk



Computer Users lalg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Last Wednesday of the month, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Please support our venue, which has food and various drinks available. There is limited space for new members – please email the group co-ordinator to introduce yourself.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor usingcomputers@lalg.org.uk

Please note: This is not a computer support line

Do you have photos from your LALG group 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

General Groups



Decarbonise Letchworth Group lalg.org.uk/decarbonise

Monday 4 March, 12.30pm - 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Join our monthly lunchtime get-together, 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 decarbonise@lalg.org.uk



Decluttering lalg.org.uk/decluttering

Tuesday 26 March, 4pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Are you thinking of having a clear-out and you 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@lalg.org.uk



Europe and Beyond lalg.org.uk/europeandbeyond

'Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and England: 'One Nation', Different Devolved Ideas' – meeting **postponed to the autumn**.

Next meeting planned for **April or May: 'A Town Like Letchworth: Garden Towns in Europe, Then and Now'**. Date, venue and speakers to be confirmed in the April or May newsletter – and see our posters. Please bring your questions, thoughts and ideas. LALG members £4, non-members £5. All welcome!

Group Contact:

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



Geology lalg.org.uk/geology

Wednesday 27 March, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB.

'Plates, Plumes and Magmas in the African Rift' – a talk by Professor Nick Rogers, Emeritus Professor at The Open University. If you would like to join us, or for more details, please get in touch with the group contact.

Group Contact:

Carrie Dunne geology@lalg.org.uk

Save paper, go digital

Do you really need a paper copy of the newsletter? The online version reduces your environmental impact. To switch, contact membership@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



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

Date and venue of our next meeting to be confirmed; existing group members will be contacted.

If you would like to join us, please get in touch as we are considering two new book projects and would welcome additional committed researchers.

Group Contact:

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



Monthly Quiz lalg.org.uk/monthlyquiz

Saturday 23 March, 6.45pm for 7pm

Note: This is the **fourth** Saturday, not the last one.

We post questions on the LALG website and you email your answers. 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. And it's free!

Your hosts: The Carrot Cakes.

This is the last of this season's online quizzes – they will restart in the autumn.

Thank you to all the quiz hosts: they have worked hard and entertained us well.

If you are interested in hosting a quiz, please contact Ann. Don't be put off by the technology; full support is provided (if you can shop online you know nearly enough already).

In the meantime, come along to the **Annual In-Person Quiz on 20 April** (see page 6 of this edition of the newsletter).

Group Contact:

Ann monthlyquiz@lalg.org.uk



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

We meet on alternate months at the Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX.

Details of our next meeting, in April, will be given in the April edition of the newsletter.

New folks very welcome!

Group Contact:

Devi 01462 624906; polish@lalg.org.uk



Psychology lalg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 13 March, 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

General Groups



Quiz Team lalg.org.uk/quizteam

In March we are planning to attend the following quiz nights:

Wednesday 6 March, 7pm

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

Monday 11 March, 8pm

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

Wednesday 20 March, 8pm

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

Monday 25 March, 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



Letchworth Chorale

BAROQUE

FOR A SPRING EVENING

Gloria Vivaldi, Magnificat Pergolesi

I Was Glad Purcell

Jesu, joy of man's desiring J S Bach, The many rend the skies Handel

Saturday 16th March 7:30pm

The Free Church, Norton Way South, Letchworth. SG6 1NX

Conductor David Woods. Piano Michael Crowley

Tickets £10 From David's Music Shop or at the door

General Groups



Sign Language Group lalg.org.uk/signlanguage

Mondays 11 and 25 March, 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 26 March, 7.30pm

Jackmans Community Centre, Ivel Court SG6 2NL. Douglas Kent, Technical Director of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), will explain the origins, purpose and approach of the SPAB, followed by a case study of how SPAB principles can be put into practice through his project with the Old Sun Inn in Saffron Walden. This will include the history of the building as a commercial inn during the stage coach era and its subsequent demise with the coming of the railways. 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 as yet planned, but we will start planning visits for this year in the spring.

Group Contact:

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

Save the date...

Letchworth Open Gardens (founded by LALG)

Sunday 30 June

Over 20 gardens will be open to visitors in the world's first Garden City, covering every aspect of gardening and size of garden. Some have quirky features, others have more cottage style, and some are set around 1905 cottages. There will be plant sales and refreshments at various gardens.

More details in the April and May newsletters.

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 11 and 25 March, 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 24 and 25 of this edition of the newsletter.

Social Groups



50+ Singles Drop-In ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Informal Lip-reading Group for Hearing Aid Users ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 1 ialg.org.uk/coffee1

Alternate Wednesdays, 10.30am

Dimples Café, Par 3 Golf Course, Willian Way SG6 2HJ.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 2 ialg.org.uk/coffee2

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 3 ialg.org.uk/coffee3

Wednesdays 6 and 20 March, 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@ialg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 4 at Baldock ialg.org.uk/coffee4

Tuesday 12 March, 2pm

Cafe Luna, 35a High Street, Baldock SG7 6BG. We are still trying to decide when and where to meet in future. Come and help us decide!

Group Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635 coffee4@ialg.org.uk



Social Groups



Meet for Coffee 5 lalg.org.uk/coffee5

Fridays 8 and 22 March, 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 28 March, 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. We welcome all existing and prospective members.

Group Contact:

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



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

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

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



UPCOMING EVENTS



THE LIFE & MUSIC OF KURT WEILL
WITH DEREK BLYTH & JILL TAYLOR

MARCH
8

FLANDERS & SWANN
WITH AFTERNOON
CREAM TEA

MARCH
24



WWW.LETCHWORTHSETTLEMENT.ORG.UK
01462 682828 REGISTERED CHARITY NO.311085



50/9 Golf Society ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Badminton 1 ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Badminton 2 ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Bridge Club ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Chess for Fun ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Darts for Fun ialg.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@ialg.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 2 March, 10am

Friday 15 March, 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 4, 18 and 25 March, 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 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. If you're interested in joining us, please get in touch with the group contact by phone prior to your visit.

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 21 March, 10.30am start

Weather permitting, we will ride to Shuttleworth Aerodrome, lunching in the restaurant there. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider, doing a return mileage of approximately 20 miles. This ride is relatively flat. We will meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens. Please let the group contact know if you want to join us for the first time. Our group is always open to new members.

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.

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



Pickleball lalg.org.uk/pickleball

Tuesdays 5, 12, 19 and 26 March, 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 ialg.org.uk/piquet

Thursdays 14 and 28 March, 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@ialg.org.uk



Rummikub ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Rummikub 2 ialg.org.uk/rummikub2

Wednesdays, 10am for 10.30am

We have coffee in the café at Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. 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@ialg.org.uk



Scrabble ialg.org.uk/scrabbleclub

Wednesdays 6 and 20 March, 2.30pm

Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ. Contact Eileen for more details.

Group Contact:

Eileen Creak 01462 632692; scrabbleclub@ialg.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 lalg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays 14 and 28 March, 2pm - 4pm

We meet every two weeks at local venues. There is a fee payable to play snooker or pool. Snooker cues are available to borrow. Contact Steve by the Monday beforehand for details of the venue. All welcome.

Group Contact:

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



Social Cycling lalg.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@lalg.org.uk

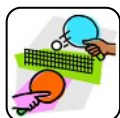


Table Tennis for Fun lalg.org.uk/TableTennisFun

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 938183; TableTennisFun@lalg.org.uk



Table Tennis 2 (Daytime Group) lalg.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@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full

Volunteers 'thank you' evening

Every year we have a social evening at which we can say 'thank you' to the hundreds of volunteers who help to keep the LALG show on the road. This includes group contacts, support teams, editors and people who help on an ad hoc basis. This year we have decided to postpone the event until we have better weather, and lighter evenings. In the meantime, we are also hoping to arrange some extra networking/training sessions for volunteers.



Alternative Ramblers ialg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 10 March, meet at 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet at Amwell Bridge, Ware. Parking at Kibes Lane car park, 12a High Street, Ware SG12 7BS.

A 6-mile walk from Amwell Bridge in Ware along the new river path of the River Lea to Stanstead Abbots and returning to Ware. The walk is mainly flat but includes some steep steps to a church.

The Waterside Inn, near the Amwell Bridge, is ideal for lunch. To book a table there, please phone 01920 468628.

To book the walk, contact Ian McConchie, either by telephone on 01462 682140 or by email on ARleader@ialg.org.uk

Mobile on the day: 07855 237595

Group Contact:

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



Baldock Walks ialg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Monday 18 March, 9.20am for a 9.30am start

Meet at Park Drive Health Centre (next to Tesco), Baldock SG7 6EN. A circular walk of about 5.5 miles, taking in some of Weston Hills, Hertfordshire Way, Icknield Way, Warren Lane, and a walk past the airstrip. Please bring a drink. Fairly steep around Hatch Lane area, and also a staircase. Could be muddy.

There is an opportunity for coffee/lunch in Baldock after the walk.

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 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

While we take care to reduce the risks associated with LALG activities, it is up to each individual to stay safe and to arrange their own personal insurance where applicable.

Walking Groups



Early Morning Walks lalg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesdays 6 and 27 March, 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



Evening Strollers lalg.org.uk/eveningstrollers

Thursday 4 April, 6.30pm

Meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens for a one-hour circular stroll on paths and part of the Greenway. Followed by an optional visit to a nearby pub. If wet, please check our webpage before setting off.

Group Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635; eveningstrollers@lalg.org.uk



Fast Walking lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays 6, 13, 20 and 27 March, 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 15 and 22 March, 10am - 11am

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 17 March, 8.30am

Studham circular – 12 miles. Parking in Church Road, Studham, just up the road from the Red Lion pub (LU6 2QA); about 45 minutes from Letchworth. From Studham we use the Chiltern Way and other good tracks and paths to Hudnall Common, Berkhamstead Common, Ashridge Park, and Dagnall. There are a number of hills, and paths are likely to be muddy in places. A good walk. Bring a packed lunch.

Meet at the Arena car park for car-sharing, to leave at 8.30am. Please let Robin know if you are going directly to the start.

Walk leaders: Debbie and Robin 07948 554359

Group Contact:

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

Walking Groups



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers midweekambleramble@ialg.org.uk

Wednesday 20 March, 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet at the Cowper Arms, 31 Station Road, Digswell AL6 0EA. The rural 4.2-mile walk, led by Carol Stokes, goes along the Mimram Valley to the outskirts of Tewin and then back through Harmer Green and Lockleys Wood, with views of the railway line between the two tunnels. To book for the walk, and lunch if required, please email Carol at MARleader@ialg.org.uk, or phone 07813 800874, by Friday 15 March. All bookings will be acknowledged. Next walk: Friday 19 April

Group Contact:

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



Midweek Walkers ialg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

Tuesday 12 March, 10am

This is a circular walk of just under 9 miles, starting from the car park of All Saints Church, St Paul's Walden SG4 8DN. We will go eastwards from here through Norton Green and Knebworth Park. Please bring a packed lunch and book in with Jess (details below), who will be able to co-ordinate lifts if necessary. Mobile on the day: 07813 802495

Next walk: **Wednesday 10 April**

Group Contact:

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



Nordic Walking ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Slower Walkers ialg.org.uk/slowerwalkers

Thursday 14 March, 10.15am for a 10.30am start

The walk leaders are Stuart and Jean Patch.

Meet at The Plume of Feathers, Upper Green, Ickleford SG5 3YD, at 10.15am to pre-order lunch. There are plenty of parking spaces in the car park behind the pub. A full menu is available to view on the Plume of Feathers website.

The walk is around 3.5 miles over varied countryside on good footpaths, although some sections are prone to being wet/muddy, so please wear appropriate footwear. Please book the walk, and lunch if required, with Stuart and Jean by Thursday 7 March using email if possible, at SWleader@ialg.org.uk, or by telephone (01462 682703).

Mobile on the day: 07500 197153

The April walk will be on **Monday 8 April**.

Group Contact:

Phil Taylor slowerwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Sunday Ramblers lalg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Sunday 3 March, 10am start

An 8-mile walk from Ickwell, passing through Northill – mainly flat terrain, but there are some sections with a small incline.

Starting at Ickwell Green, meet at the junction with Caldecote Road – Village Hall, Ickwell Green, Ickwell, Biggleswade SG18 9EE; what3words:///tensions.conjured.segments

Please bring a packed lunch.

Contact Paolo on 07504 181009 or email email SRleader@lalg.org.uk to join the walk.

Group Contact:

Wendy 07856 768685; sundayramblers@lalg.org.uk



Trail Walkers lalg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesday 12 March

Greensand Ridge Walk.

Tuesday 9 April

Icknield Way Path.

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. 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@lalg.org.uk



Walking Buddies lalg.org.uk/walkingbuddies

Friday 15 March

A three-quarters of an hour walk around the RSPB Fowlmere nature reserve, Mill Road, Royston SG8 6EZ. Meet in the car park for an 11am start.

Fee: £2. Then onto a lovely coffee/food shop nearby.

Group Contacts:

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



Walking the Greenway in Stages lalg.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 the week and morning or afternoon. We will start in April if we have three or more taking part.

Group Contact:

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

Walking Groups



Weekend Strollers ialg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 23 March, 10.30am

Graveley. Meet outside the Waggon and Horses, Graveley SG4 7LE.

Saturday 13 April, 10.30am

Details to be given in the April newsletter.

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



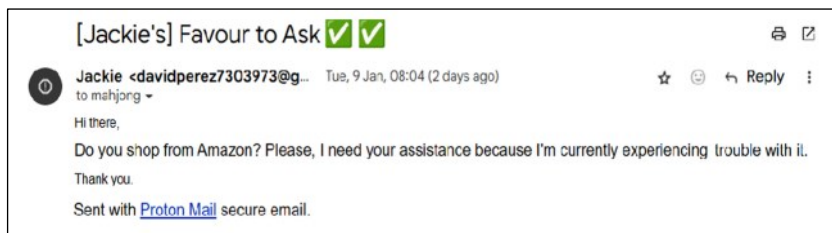
Wild Walks (mostly mountainous) ialg.org.uk/wildwalks

A couple of trips have been lined up for April: a trail from Dunkeld to Montrose, and a one-base four-day break in Bethesda, Wales. Details have been circulated to the group, but the group contact has details for those wishing to know more. The first monthly social of the new year is Wednesday 13 March, at 8pm at Wetherspoons (The Three Magnets), 18-20 Leys Avenue SG6 3EW.

Group Contact:

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

Stay Safe Online



Phishing emails are the online equivalent of spam calls on the telephone, although they often appear to be from someone you know by name. But you can often easily tell! Look at the email above. It appears to come from Jackie, but the email address is davidperez. So it's easy for you to see that someone called David Perez is masquerading as Jackie. It is spam and can be deleted. Another clue is the poor use of English and lack of signature.

If you don't spot the clues and you reply to 'Jackie', you will soon get into a conversation that leads to a request for money. You now have a second chance to end the conversation: delete the email. If you are worried that 'Jackie' really does need your help, ring her. If you have somehow decided that the request is genuine, and have paid some money, call your bank for advice. Or speak to a trusted family member. Don't stay silent through embarrassment. Hundreds of people are tricked into parting with millions of pounds every year; you are not alone and you don't need to feel embarrassed.

For lots of useful tips about staying safe online, visit www.getsafeonline.org

This column will appear whenever there is space in the newsletter. The aim is not to scare you, but to help you stay safe online.

Linked Organisations

The Arts Society North Herts www.theartsocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art Lectures at the Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month at 11am except in January & August. Everyone welcome. Contact: theartsociety.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. Contact: Brian Burke 07768 274037; baldockfolkclub@gmail.com
Baldock Town Twinning Association www.baldocktowntwinning.com	Twinning 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; 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: Geoff Perry 07770 600370 or Alan Brosnan 07790 646949; 40plusNHerts@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: Malcolm Lucas 01462 790327; 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. The editor for the April edition will be Graham Taylor. Please send entries by **Sunday 10 March**. 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!