



LETCWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

May 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



Volunteering is the strength of LALG and we welcome any support you can offer. It's a great way to make new friends and "give something back" to this great organisation. You can sign up on our website lalg.org.uk/volunteer to volunteer or contact Jackie Sayers our Vice Chair for further details.

The Group Support Team are organising workshops for Group Contacts and others to network and swap experiences. There will also be some interactive presentations. The first workshop is on **Thursday 9 May, 7pm** in Mrs Howard Memorial Hall. Further information can be found on page 9. I look forward to meeting you there.

We have recently updated our Terms of Membership to include the following statement: "Members of LALG are expected to treat all fellow members with kindness, courtesy and respect and to uphold the good reputation of LALG in their interactions with it"

lalg.org.uk/termsofmembership

Jackie Harber

Committee News

We have a wonderful, but small, team of newsletter editors. Due to continuing recruitment difficulties we have decided to pilot a change to bi-monthly editions from June.

Newsletter advertising rates will increase for the August/September issue onwards.

Our next committee meeting is on Tuesday 21 May at 7.30pm at Mrs Howard Hall. Just email Tessa at secretary@lalg.org.uk if you would like to attend.

Officers and Contact Details

Chair:	Jackie Harber	07361 040348	chair@lalg.org.uk
Vice Chair:	Jackie Sayers	07970 407635	vicechair@lalg.org.uk
Secretary:	Tessa Palfreyman	01462 678032	secretary@lalg.org.uk
Membership Secretary:	Jackie Harber	07361 040348	membership@lalg.org.uk
Treasurer:	Hetty Smith	07930 462870	treasurer@lalg.org.uk
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Data Protection Officer:	Judith Gower	07973 316235	dpo@lalg.org.uk
Diversity Officer:	Aman Dhillon	07961 837645	diversity@lalg.org.uk
Safeguarding:	Steve Green	07710 542803	safeguarding@lalg.org.uk
Volunteers Co-ordinator:			volunteer@lalg.org.uk
Newsletter Editors:			newsletter@lalg.org.uk
Website Editors:			website@lalg.org.uk

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Cover photograph: Blossom in the Wynd by Graham Dollman



Open Meetings ialg.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**.

No meeting Monday 6 May - due to Bank Holiday.

Monday 3 June, from 10am for 10.30am

Lands End to John O'Groats by bike

The main speaker is Dennis Alder. He will tell us about his 28-day cycle ride, carrying all his own equipment and wild camping, in aid of Motor Neurone Disease Association.

The first speaker is Chris Hobbs of **The Revlvel Association**, who will update us on the reinvigation of the River Ivel.

Contact:

openmeetings@ialg.org.uk



London Places ialg.org.uk/London_places

We have been looking into places in London we could visit. As with everything prices are increasing. We have found these options:

1. A 75-minute fully accessible guided tour of Speaker's House £20. The visit will take place during the summer holiday.
2. King's Gallery exhibition *Royal Portraits: a century of photography* (7 May – 6 October). Group price £17.10.
3. Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace. A multimedia tour, group price £15.30.

Home to royal carriages and one of the finest working stables in existence.

If you would like to visit any of these places, please email the group contacts. We need 15 people to make any trip viable. Once we have sufficient interest, we will pick a day and plan the visits in detail. Thank you.

We travel by train and tube so transport and refreshments are extra.

If you would like to be kept informed of visits please ask the organisers to add your name to the email contact list using the address below.

Group Contacts:

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



Open Water Swimming 2024

We are arranging an induction/introduction to Open Water Swimming at Redricks Lakes, Sawbridgeworth once the temperature of the lake is at least 14°C. Cost is £16 (tbc) (+ £10 if you need to hire a wet suit) - the session

includes current rules for swimming at the lake; health and safety; acclimatisation; overcoming anxiety and panic; helping build confidence; some basic skills and techniques for swimming in open water; Q&A at the end.

Members who complete the induction have the opportunity to swim with one of our Linked Organisations, Letchworth Open Water Swimming. See page 47.

Group Contact:

Judith Gower 07973 316235 openwater@ialg.org.uk



Trips ialg.org.uk/trips

Tuesday 18 June

Barnsdale gardens, The Avenue, Oakham LE15 8AH

Our trip takes us to the gardens developed by Geoff Hamilton for the TV programme *Gardeners' World* in 1983. Cost of admission is £14 per person. Barnsdale has 38 individual gardens in an eight-acre site. Each separate garden has a name and is based on a theme. For example, Gentleman's Cottage Garden, Stream and Bog Garden, Ornamental Kitchen Garden, Versailles Garden, Japanese Garden.

We will meet for morning refreshments in the café at 10.30am. Then you will be free to explore the gardens. Picnics are not allowed in the gardens. We have reserved a table for lunch at 1pm and have negotiated a choice of set meal for £12.50 which includes a main course, and a drink. The menu will be provided to those who book for advance orders.

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

To reserve a place, and for payment details please contact Sally.

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

Closing date for booking: **Thursday 16 May.**

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon trips@ialg.org.uk

Trips ialg.org.uk/trips

Tuesday 23 July

Visit to Stamford with guided tour

Stamford has a unique blend of history and Georgian architecture and has over 600 listed buildings of mellow limestone, including five medieval churches. This certainly is a charming, character filled and picturesque destination with a thriving high street and many coffee shops and restaurants.

We have organised a 1.5 hour walk with a Blue Badge guide at 11am and we will explore the quaint passageways, main thoroughfares and the market square.

Cost £10 per person. Travel by shared cars leaving Letchworth at 9am to allow time for a coffee stop before the walking tour. Then free time for lunch and shopping, or you could independently visit Burghley House, a magnificent stately home, just outside the town on the way home.

To reserve a place and for payment details please contact Sally Cannon.

Please note that payments are non-refundable unless someone takes a cancelled place. Closing date for booking **Friday 10 July.**

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon trips@ialg.org.uk



Theatres and Excursions ialg.org.uk/theatresandexcursions

Sunday 9 June, (afternoon performance)

Icons Rediscovered

Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, London.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vasily Petrenko.

This visit is now SOLD OUT. A waiting list is available.

Coach leaves Letchworth station bus stop opposite old Barclays Bank at 11am.

Wednesday 24 July (afternoon performance)

Singin' in the Rain – Musical

Kilworth House Theatre, North Kilworth, Leicestershire.

This visit is now SOLD OUT – waiting list is available.

Coach leaves Letchworth station bus stop opposite old Barclays Bank at 12pm.

Group Contact:

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



Visiting Churches ialg.org.uk/visitingchurches

Monday 24 June, 11am

St Leonard, Old Warden

This small church is just west of Biggleswade. There are some Norman remnants but the current building is mainly C13th with alterations in most of the following centuries. Jenkins gives it 2 stars in *England's 1000 Best Churches* due to the quality of its Flemish woodwork and the window from Woburn Abbey. We will have a talk about, and a look around, the church.

LALG members can book now (£4pp); non-members' booking opens 1 June (£6pp). All booking closes 20 June. Full details and booking information at ialg.org.uk/OldWarden. This is a small building so booking is essential.

Save the date: **Monday 22 July: Royston Cave**

Group Contact:

Ann visitingchurches@ialg.org.uk



Annual Golf Event ialg.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. There are eight people on the list already. If interested then please get in touch.

Event Contact:

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

Trips & Events



Annual Table Tennis Event

Sunday 15 September, 10am - 12pm

Letchworth Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB

Cost: Depends on numbers to cover the cost of hiring the indoor court for 2 hours (£28)

Format: A combination of singles and mixed doubles.

An opportunity for those that play in our two table tennis groups to take part in a joint event. Other LALG members welcome as well.

Please get in touch as soon as possible so that interest can be gauged.

Event Contact:

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



London Villages lalg.org.uk/londonvillages

Wednesday 8 May

Repeat of the successful Clerkenwell walk. Catch the 9.51 from Letchworth, 9.55 from Hitchin to Faringdon. £5 towards leader's expenses.

Email Sue Fisher at LVLeader@lalg.org.uk to see whether places are still available.

Group Contact:

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



Street Food Heroes - LALG Get-together at Broadway Gardens

Fridays 17 May and 21 June, from 6pm

This is an open invitation to come along and join other LALG members and their friends to picnic, drink and chat.

Street Food Heroes, local street food vendors, are returning to delight us with food originating from many countries. Bring a chair or picnic blanket, purchase food and/or drink then meet by the LALG banner – the Social Team will be there from 6 - 8pm, or later if the weather is kind. No need to book, just turn up.

Group Contact:

Jan Gates 07888 695215



Train Buddies lalg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 2 May, 2pm

Broadway Hotel

We will agree details of our trip to Winchester on Thursday 27 June. Our program for 2024 can be viewed at lalg.org.uk/traintrips2024

Group Contact:

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

Trips & Events



Midsummer Walks

Friday 14 June, 9.30pm

Strawberry Moon walk. We will walk for about 2 hours or a distance and time suitable for everybody. Please let group contact know if you intend to come.

Thursday 20 June, 6am

Longest Day walk to Cambridge and return by train. We will walk from Letchworth to Cambridge via Weston, Royston and Wimpole. Nearer the time we will meet up to discuss arrangements. Booking essential.

Contact:

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



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

Tuesday 11 - Thursday 13 June - Durham

Booking for this trip is now open.

Three-day trip to Durham with an optional visit to Beamish museum:

www.beamish.org.uk

We will travel by train, arriving in time for lunch in the Market Square and stay at the Premier Inn, Durham City centre.

Further details on request from the group contact.

Group Contact:

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



**SATURDAY
4TH MAY
7 PM**



**VIV LUCAS
AND FRIENDS**

"LOCAL SINGER SONGWRITER VIV LUCAS WILL PLAY MATERIAL FROM HIS ALBUMS EDGELANDS AND THE SOON TO BE RELEASED, NOWHERE IN BETWEEN. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MIKE BURKE ON KEYBOARDS AND TONY MCDERMOTT ON GUITAR. VIV AND FRIENDS WILL ALSO PLAY SONGS BY NEIL YOUNG, THE EAGLES AND OTHER WEST COAST ACTS."



WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/LETCWORTH-SETTLEMENT
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 311085 01462 682828
229 NEVELLS ROAD LETCWORTH SG6 4UB

Afternoon Quiz Group

A few members have suggested a regular afternoon quiz - but we need some more people to get started.

If that would interest you too, please get in touch.

Contact: Mandy 07807 827944; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Artificial Intelligence Discussion Group

Wednesday 8 May, 11am

Broadway Gallery, 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES

A chance to learn more about AI and discuss its impact. We expect to launch as a group soon and would welcome more people. If you are unable to attend but would like to be on the mailing list, please get in touch.

Contact: Jackie 07970 407635; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Backgammon Group

We now have seven players and have held our first meeting. Many of us are absolute beginners and we are learning the game together.

We will probably now meet monthly on Monday afternoons. New members very welcome.

Contact: Caroline Taiano; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Bridge Lessons

Tuesdays, 2pm

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. Please get in touch if you are planning to come as we sometimes have to change the day.

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

Film Appreciation 2

We have had some interest but not enough to start a new group yet.

If we do get sufficient numbers we hope to start in the autumn.

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

Gardening Tea & Tips 4

Would you like to join our latest gardening group? We already have five members and are hoping for more. The idea is to visit each other's gardens and share tips and plants over a cuppa. Please get in touch if you would like to join us.

Contact: Caroline Taiano; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Lunch Club 2

Let's start another lunch club! Some outdoor dining in the summer perhaps? Please get in touch if you'd like to join in.

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

National Theatre Group

Tuesday 7 May, 11am

David's Bookshop café, Eastcheap SG6 3DE

The object of the meeting is to find out whether we have enough support to start a new group and the sort of plays we would like to go to. If you are interested but unable to attend this meeting, please let the group contact know.

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

Outdoor Swimming

Would you like a regular early morning swim at the outdoor pool at Norton Common (open May - Sept). We could possibly meet on a Thursday once a fortnight for an 8 - 9am swim, followed by a drink or brunch at a café in town. Please get in touch:

Contact: Steve Green 077110542803 ; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Walking Holiday Club

Wednesday 12 June, 10.30am

David's Bookshop café, Eastcheap SG6 3DE

This meeting is to find out how much support we might have for an annual LALG walking holiday for all abilities in 2025. This used to be a popular LALG activity and perhaps it could be again. If you are interested but unable to attend this meeting, please get in touch:

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

Workshops for Group Contacts

We have arranged five workshops in 2024 to support our Group Contacts in their crucial role.

They are all from 7pm to 9pm at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall on the following dates: 9 May, 13 June, 11 July, 8 August and 12 September.

The first session will cover two topics: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and the basics of updating your group's webpage. There will also be plenty of time to meet other Group Contacts and swap handy hints and tips.

Later workshops will cover: Building resilience of groups, Dealing with an emergency, Dealing with challenging behaviour/opinions, Publicity, Website.

Around 15 Group Contacts have already signed up, some of them for several sessions. Group Contacts are also welcome to nominate someone else from their group to come along.

LALG Chair Jackie Harber will attend the sessions and she said: "Group Contacts are the mainstay of LALG. We want to support them and these workshops will contribute to that. We have a useful resource at lalg.org.uk/guidance but meeting face-to-face like this is essential."

To book a place on any of these free workshops, email vicechair@lalg.org.uk or ring 07970 407635.



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

We meet on the third Thursday of the month at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ at 7.30pm. 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 21 May, 7.30pm

Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer.

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

We meet every Tuesday morning at 10am 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 27 May, 7.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

The Craftsman by Sharon Bolton

Please contact the group organiser to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Daytime Book Group ialg.org.uk/daytimebook

Monday 13 May, 2pm *Shrines of Gaiety* by Kate Atkinson

Monday 10 June, 2pm *Call of the Wild* by Jack London

Monday 8 July, 2pm *Bournville* by Jonathan Coe

We meet at the Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ on the second Monday of the month.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Fairfield Book Group ialg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Thursday 2 May, 7.30pm *In Memoriam* by Alice Winn

Thursday 6 June, 7.30pm *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan

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 9 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 8 May, 2.30pm *Small Things like These* by Claire Keegan.

Wednesday 12 June, 2:30pm *Trespases* by Louise Kennedy.

All meetings are at the Broadway Gallery (above Wetherspoons), 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES.

Meetings include a book-swap and general discussion of Irish literature.

Group Contact:

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



Monday Painting Group ialg.org.uk/mondaypainting

Mondays, 9am - 12pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Opera and Ballet ialg.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, contact John to be put on the group's mailing list, or look at the webpage on the LALG website.

Group Contact:

John Cox 01438 241043; operagroup@ialg.org.uk



Play Reading 1 ialg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 20 May, 1.30pm

The Darling Buds of May by H E Bates

Monday 17 June, 1.30pm

Ladies Day by Amanda Whittington

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.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Play Reading 2 ialg.org.uk/playreading2

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10am 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@ialg.org.uk



Poetry in the Afternoon ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Readers Group ialg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 23 May, 7.45pm for 8pm

Still Life by Sarah Winman

Thursday 27 June, 7.45pm for 8pm

The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell

All meetings at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South, Letchworth 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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Science Book Group ialg.org.uk/sciencebookgroup

Wednesday 15 May, 7.30pm

A Crack in Creation. The New Power to Control Evolution by Jennifer Doudna and Samuel Sternberg.

A mixture of memoir and exposition of the discovery / development of the CRISPR gene editing technology by the woman most heavily involved. The book can be purchased from David's Bookshop in Letchworth (LALG discount makes it very competitively priced) or ordered from the library. (The Penguin Books website says it was published as an ebook in 2017 and printed in 2018.)

We will discuss this book and related topics. All LALG members are welcome. We expect to meet in the bar of Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane, but please check the website a day or two before. There is no charge but please buy a drink. NB card only, no cash.

Group Contact:

Ann sciencebookgroup@ialg.org.uk



Sculpture Group ialg.org.uk/Sculpture

Tuesday 11 June (Rearranged date)

A joint outing with the Architecture Group. A self-guided architectural 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, before returning to Letchworth by 4pm.

To book, contact William by Thursday 30 May.

More help is required to put on more events.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Shakespeare Study Group ialg.org.uk/shakespeare

Wednesday 1 May, 10.30am - 12.30pm

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@ialg.org.uk



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

Friday 24 May, 10.30am

Meet on the green by All Saints Church, Rushden Road, Sandon SG9 0QR.

Friday 28 June, 10.30am

Meet in the car park, Radwell Meadows, Norton Bury Lane SG6 1AN.

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. Email or phone leaving contact details.

Group Contact:

Celia Lord 07964 373131; sketchingcountryside@ialg.org.uk



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

Following the trip to Cambridge in April, a third visit to a regional theatre will be organised for the Summer or Autumn depending on the plays available. Further details of play and place will be provided in the June/July newsletter. In the meantime please indicate your interest and any ideas you may have regarding plays to see to the group contact.

Group Contact:

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



Ulysses Reading Group lalg.org.uk/ulysses

Friday 14 - Sunday 16 June

A weekend Bloomsday Celebration in Letchworth is planned. James Joyce's novel *Ulysses* with its Everyman character Leopold Bloom is celebrated in many countries where great literature is valued.

The objective is to promote the joys of reading the works of James Joyce while having fun during a sunny summer weekend in mid-June, to assist the work of a vital international charity WaterAid.

If you have an interest in poetry, drama, short stories, or novels and would like to participate or contribute in any way to a 'Bloomsday Celebration' in Letchworth or if you would simply like to be kept informed please email or call the Group contact.

Group Contact:

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



Writers Group lalg.org.uk/writersgroup

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm via Zoom and are a friendly and varied group. We write two or three pages in advance, inspired by a specific topic or genre. We then share our work (optional) before the meeting and discuss it on the night on Zoom. Newcomers very welcome.

Group Contact:

Diana Newson writersgroup@lalg.org.uk



Writers Retreat lalg.org.uk/writersretreat

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

Group Contact:

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

Personal Insurance

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.



World Books ialg.org.uk/world-books

Third Wednesday of the month, 11am

There will be no meeting in May.

We meet in 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.

Group Contact:

Brian Sykes 07710 274503; world-books@ialg.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: www.letchworth-vog.org

A poster for Letchworth Open Gardens 2024. The background is a lush green garden scene with various plants and flowers. The text is overlaid in a dark green, sans-serif font. At the top, it says 'Letchworth Open Gardens 2024'. Below that, 'Sunday June 30th' is written in a larger font. Underneath, '11am - 5pm' is written. At the bottom, it says '22 gardens open across the Garden City'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the poster.

Letchworth Open
Gardens 2024
Sunday June 30th
11am – 5pm
22 gardens open across the Garden City



Art and Craft Workshop ialg.org.uk/artworkshop

First and third Thursdays of the month, afternoons

We meet primarily to learn watercolour painting, but we also cover acrylic painting, pebble art and much more.

The workshops are relaxed and include refreshments – all for £3 per session. Beginners welcome, with materials supplied at the first session.

For further information please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Clock Group ialg.org.uk/clockgroup

Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 9.30pm

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@ialg.org.uk



Embroidery ialg.org.uk/embroidery

Third Wednesday of the month, 10am

We meet at the ground floor café in the Spirella Building.

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; embroidery@ialg.org.uk



Flower Arranging ialg.org.uk/flowerarranging

We meet at 2pm 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@ialg.org.uk



Gardening at the Weekend ialg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

Sunday 12 May, 2.30pm. We will visit Jenny's garden in Letchworth.

Sunday 26 May, 2.30pm. We will visit Joyce's garden in Hitchin.

For more information regarding our group and visits, please get in touch with Group Contact.

Group Contact:

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



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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



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

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.

We have recently enjoyed our annual lunch and will soon be celebrating our 10th Anniversary.

Group Contact:

Angela gardeningTT2@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



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

Monday 20 May, 2pm Lorraine's garden

Monday 3 June, 2pm Marguerite's garden

Monday 17 June, 2pm Katka's garden

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic gardeners who take turns to host meetings in our gardens during the warmer months. We are now returning to visit each other's gardens where we share knowledge and swap plants and seeds, followed by refreshments.

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

Finished reading your copy of the LALG newsletter?

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



Knitting Group 2 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Patchwork Group lalg.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@lalg.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 4 May, 10.30am

We will be visiting Hitch Wood for our photo shoot in the hope of finding a carpet of bluebells in full bloom!

Our photography group meets once a month (usually at a weekend) to take photos at a variety of locations – photo shoots 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, new members are welcome!

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 ialg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of the month, 10am - 12pm

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

Refreshments and use of an iron provided.

There is a small charge to cover room hire.

Group Contact:

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



Taiko Drumming ialg.org.uk/taiko

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@ialg.org.uk



Textile Art Group ialg.org.uk/textileart

Friday 24 May, 10am - 12pm

Our workshop focuses mainly on decorative techniques and have covered projects such as natural dyeing, marbling on fabric, hand embroidery, Sashiko stitch, Bojagi patchwork, rag weaving, braid making and fabric printing.

Experience of textile crafts is not necessary and we always welcome new members to join our small friendly group. Please contact Amy to book and confirm details of the venue.

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 over 60 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

A PLACE TO BE, TO BE FREE, EXPLORE AND MORE.

Find yourself in Letchworth Garden City, where communities thrive and visits feel full. Where everyone is welcome and everyone is celebrated, with space to grow and be nurtured in, whichever direction you need.

Breathe in



Following a comprehensive consultation process, we're delighted to reveal the new Place Brand for Letchworth Garden City. We'd particularly like to thank all those members of LALG who have been part of the development process.

The brand has been designed to reflect the important cultural heritage and history of our amazing home, whilst being forward facing and setting us up for future success. We all have hundreds of good news stories to tell about Letchworth Garden City - this brand will enable us to speak as one united community with one clear voice.

The advantages of a strong place brand are endless - not least, it gives businesses, organisations and individuals the tools to create compelling stories about our wonderful home.

Find out more via the online toolkit at Discover Letchworth.

[DISCOVER-LETCORTH.COM](https://www.discover-leetchworth.com)



Breakfast Club ialg.org.uk/breakfast

Tuesday 14 May, 9am

Hatters Café, 6A Arcade Walk, Hitchin SG5 1EE

The breakfast group meets each month at a different local location.

At Hatters we will eat in our own upstairs room, where good food at a reasonable price with Gluten Free and Vegetarian options is on offer.

Please contact Malcolm beforehand if you are coming as some venues can only take a limited number of people.

Group Contact:

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



Firkin Club ialg.org.uk/firkinclub

Thursday 14 May, 8pm

Crafty's Beer Shop, Leys Avenue, 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 17 May, 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



Sunday Lunch Club ialg.org.uk/sunday-lunch

Sunday 12 May, 12.30pm

Turquoise Kitchen, Eastcheap, Letchworth SG6 1AG.
Turkish and Mediterranean cuisine including a wide selection of vegetarian and vegan options. Contact Jackie by 5 May.

Group Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635; sunday-lunch@ialg.org.uk



Supper Club ialg.org.uk/supperclub

Tuesday 18 June, 7pm for 7.30pm

The Rusty Gun, London Road, St Ippolyts, Hitchin, SG4 7PG
Join us for evening dinner at this olde world restaurant.

Please phone Linda to book in and for a menu.

The menu choices need to be returned by Tuesday 11 June.

Group Contact:

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



Vegetarian and Vegan Group ialg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

Thursday 23 May, 12.30pm

Cherries & Tea Cafe in Letchworth SG6 3DG for the May social gathering. If you would like to attend, please email the group contacts by Tuesday 21 May.

Group Contacts:

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



Wine Appreciation Group ialg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 3 May, 7.30pm - 10pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB.

Presentation by George Barnes on French Wines - East, West & North, South.
We have a full programme through to December. If you are interested in joining us, please email the group contacts.

Group Contacts:

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



Wine Discovery ialg.org.uk/winediscoverygroup

Please get in touch for details of our next meeting.

Group Contacts:

Moira and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Wine Group 3 ialg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesday 21 May, 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. Please email if you are interested in joining the group.

Group Contacts:

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

General Groups



Action for Happiness ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



All Things Feathered Poultry Society ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



All Things Military ialg.org.uk/allthingsmilitary

Thursday 9 May, 7.30 pm (doors open 7pm)

Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Our speaker is Graham Hamilton and the talk is *Robert E Lee and the Clyde Paddlesteamer*.

As usual, a charge of £5 to cover room hire and other expenses.

Group Contact:

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



Ancient Egypt Study Group ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Architecture ialg.org.uk/architecture2

Tuesday 11 June (Rearranged date)

A joint outing to the King's Cross area of London with the Sculpture Group. For details, please see their entry on page 13.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Birdwatching Group ialg.org.uk/birdwatching

Thursday 23 May, 10.30am

Stotfold Mills SG5 4NU

Join us for watching, listening and identifying local birds. Wear sturdy shoes or boots. The car park entrance is down Mill Lane a short distance past the mill. Leaders are Philip Sayers and Anne Clarke. More members welcome.

Acting Group Contact: Philip Sayers 07854 782687; birdwatching@ialg.org.uk



Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Agent Brains Escape Games	26 Leys Avenue	539763	10% off all off-peak game bookings
Alexander Lewis Estates	9 Arena Parade	510881	10% off fee for sales
Allders 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
Keeping it Reel	ReelN Ltd, 85 Great Portland Street, London W1W 7LT	reeln.co.uk/	5% off monthly South Asian film screening in and around Letchworth with live interviews and workshops
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

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Mobility World	Birds Hill	708830	£50 off Riser Recliner Chairs, £100 off beds, 10% off smaller items
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
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.**



Black Squirrel Country Dancing ialg.org.uk/countrydancing

Tuesday 21 May, 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@ialg.org.uk



Black Squirrel Investment Club ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Blitz an Open Space ialg.org.uk/litter

Letchworth Saturdays 11 May, 22 June, 6 July and

Thursdays 9 May, 6 June, 11 July.

Baldock Wednesdays 15 May, 12 June, 17 July and

Sundays 26 May, 16 June, 21 July.

Venues to be advised nearer the time.

To date the teams have collected 1460 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@ialg.org.uk



Computer Users ialg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Last Wednesday of the month, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

This is a self-help group for all computer users.

We try to solve computer issues raised by members of the group.

Drop in for a coffee, a natter and help with all computer laptop, desktop and tablet related problems. There is limited space for new members – please email the group co-ordinator to introduce yourself.

Please note: This is not a computer support line.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor usingcomputers@ialg.org.uk



Decarbonise Letchworth Group ialg.org.uk/decarbonise

Monday 13 May, 12:30 to 2 pm

Join our monthly lunchtime get-together at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ, where group members have an opportunity to share ideas and the latest news on actions that will help Letchworth reduce its carbon footprint. Updates we would like to see incorporated in the Heritage Foundation Design Standards, heat pumps and home batteries are currently popular areas of discussion.

Group Contact:

Julia Sonander decarbonise@ialg.org.uk



Decluttering ialg.org.uk/decluttering

Tuesday 28 May, 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@ialg.org.uk



Europe and Beyond ialg.org.uk/europeandbeyond

Next meeting planned for **June or July: 'A Town Like Letchworth: Garden Towns in Europe'**.

Venue and speakers to be confirmed in the next newsletter – and see our posters. Please bring your questions and comments. LALG members £4, non-members £5. All welcome!

Group Contact:

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



Geology ialg.org.uk/geology

Tuesday 21 May

Tour of Linnean Society, Piccadilly, plus optional walk

Carl Linnaeus is famous for his work in taxonomy: the science of identifying, naming and classifying organisms. This is fundamental to the fossil record.

We will have a 90-minute tour of the Linnean Society in Piccadilly starting at 2.30pm. It will begin with a short talk then a visit to the archives followed by time in the library/exhibition area. Tickets: £15, or £12 for over 65s.

It will be preceded by an optional walk along Piccadilly, St James's Street and Pall Mall to look at the variety of building stones. For this, we will travel on the non-stop 9.33am train from Letchworth to King's Cross.

Full details, including how to book, can be found at ialg.org.uk/Piccadilly

Group Contact:

Carrie Dunne geology@ialg.org.uk

General Groups



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

Tuesday 14 May, 7.30pm

We will meet at One Garden City to discuss progress on our current project, a book on the origin of Letchworth road names and some of our notable residents.

Group Contact:

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



Living in an Online World ialg.org.uk/online-help

We meet each month in the Broadway Hotel bar for help with smartphones, social media, online banking, etc. **Booking essential.** More volunteer helpers needed.



Group Contact:

Jackie 07970 407635; online-help@ialg.org.uk



Monthly Quiz ialg.org.uk/monthlyquiz

Our popular online quizzes are taking a few months off and will be back in the autumn when the nights draw in again.

If you are interested in setting one of our quizzes, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Ann monthlyquiz@ialg.org.uk



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

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

We meet in alternate months and our next meeting is planned for early June. We hope to have a presentation of Polish and Ukrainian music recordings. Look out for more information in the June/July Newsletter, and tell all your friends who might be interested!

Group Contact:

Devi 01462 624906; polish@ialg.org.uk



Psychology ialg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 8 May, 7.15pm for 7.30pm start

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 our webpage.

Group Contact:

Ken Jordan psychology@ialg.org.uk



Quiz Team ialg.org.uk/quizteam

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

Wednesday 1 May, 7.15pm The White Lion, 46 High St, Baldock. £2pp.

Wednesday 8 May, 8pm The Millstream, 97 Cambridge Road, Hitchin. £2pp.

Monday 13 May, 8pm The Orange Tree, 100 Stevenage Road, Hitchin. £1pp.

Monday 20 May, 7.30pm Cultivo Lounge, 32 Leys Avenue, Letchworth. £1pp.

Please let us know if you would like to join in.

Group Contact:

Andrew Dear quizteam@ialg.org.uk

General Groups



Self-Help Slimming Group ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Sign Language Group ialg.org.uk/signlanguage

Mondays 13 and 20 May, 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@ialg.org.uk



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

Tuesday 28 May, 7.30pm

Jackmans Community Centre, Ivel Court SG6 2NL.

Shelvoke & Drewry – Malcolm Bates, Marketing Manager at S & D for 14 years, will talk to us about this Letchworth-based company (founded in 1922) that exported vehicles all over the world. Best known for waste collection vehicles, they also produced fire engines, buses and fork lift trucks. Do join us, no need to book. LALG members £3, guests £5.

Group Contact:

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



Weather Report Group ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Wild Flowers ialg.org.uk/wildflowers

We will soon be starting our wildflower trips.

We hoped we could go to Astonbury wood to see the wood anemones but it has all been too muddy.

We will be contacting the group soon via email about our first visit.

Group Contact:

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

'No Work Gardening!'

a charity event with

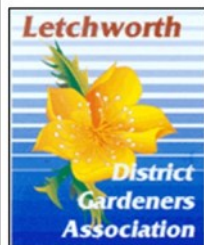
Bob Flowerdew

Charity Raffle



Thursday 20th June at 7:30pm

Bob is a prolific writer, broadcaster, and organic gardener. His witty yet informative talk pokes fun at commonly accepted gardening advice and pours vitriol over the heads of foolish garden experts who proffer it.



Central Methodist Church,
Letchworth, SG6 3TR

Tickets £15

Call 01462 635745 or email
meetings@ldga.org.uk



Come and Try



'FESTIVAL BOWLS'

at

North Herts Bowls Club

Open Day

Norton Common, Letchworth

Monday 24th June 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Friendly Tuition
Tea & Biscuits

www.n-h-b-c.org.uk

Just turn up
Or ring John on
01462 684914

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 ialg.org.uk/italian3

Mondays 13 and 20 May, 2.30pm

We have changed our dates due to the Bank holiday. 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@ialg.org.uk



Latin ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Russian Language РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Spanish Conversation ialg.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@ialg.org.uk



Welsh Language and Culture ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Don't do email?

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

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, William 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

We meet at David's Bookshop Café, Eastcheap SG6 3DE on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 2pm.

New members very welcome.

Group Contact:

Nayier Ahmad coffee3@ialg.org.uk

Social Groups



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

Tuesday 7 May, 2pm

Venue in Baldock to be decided nearer the time depending on numbers and weather. We might sit in the sun!

Group Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635; coffee4@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 5 lalg.org.uk/coffee5

Fridays 3, 17, 31 May, 10.30am

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

The café is in an attractive building next to the Grange Community Centre, with parking nearby.

All welcome.

Group Contact:

Julia Jolly 07913674420; coffee5@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 6 lalg.org.uk/coffee6

Thursday 23 May, 10.30am

We normally meet at Dimples Café, Par 3 Golf Course, Willian Way SG6 2HJ on the fourth Thursday of the month.

This pleasant café overlooks green and leafy surroundings, with outside seating when weather permits.

All are welcome.

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



Singing For Pleasure lalg.org.uk/singingforpleasure

Thursday 23 May, 7.30pm – 9.15pm

If you enjoy singing in a relaxed atmosphere just for pleasure, then please come along and join our friendly, welcoming group. With over 500 songs to choose from our sessions are very varied and informal. We meet at St. Thomas's Church Hall, Bedford Road, Letchworth on a monthly basis.

Group contacts:

Roger Smith 01462 624824

Amanda Macknight 01438 750974 or 07733133299; singingforpleasure@lalg.org.uk



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 we have some spare capacity, get in touch if you would be interested.

Group Contact:

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



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



Bridge Lessons ialg.org.uk/bridge-lessons

Tuesdays, 2pm

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. Booking essential.

Group Contact:

Jo Aris 07452 960337; bridge-lessons@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:

Nayier Ahmad; chess@ialg.org.uk

Sports & Games



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 and Third Tuesdays 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 4 May, 10am and Friday 17 May, 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 13 and 20 May, 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



Indoor Tennis ialg.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 for £12 per person. Please contact Sheryl to join our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Sheryl Hann indoortennis@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Garden City Wheelers ialg.org.uk/GCWheelers

Thursday 16 May, 10.30am

Weather permitting, we will meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens and ride to Pegsdon with lunch in The View. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider, doing a return mileage of approximately 24 miles. This ride has some hills. Please let the Group Contact know if you want to join us for the first time.

Group Contact:

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



Mahjong ialg.org.uk/mahjong3

Wednesdays, 2pm

Letchworth Tennis Club, Muddy Lane.

This new group already has six members - and they are hoping for more beginners as well as experienced players of this tile-based game.

If you are interested in joining, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Sue mahjong@ialg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf ialg.org.uk/par3

Every Friday, 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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Par 3 Golf Wednesdays ialg.org.uk/par3wednesdays

Every Wednesday, 2pm

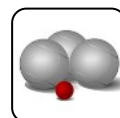
Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ.

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@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full



Pétanque ialg.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@ialg.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@ialg.org.uk

Sports & Games



Pickleball ialg.org.uk/pickleball

Tuesdays 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Outdoor tennis courts at Norton Common.

We have two spare paddle bats for newcomers to borrow.

Please dress for an outdoor activity. The courts are free.

Come along and learn a new game and have some fun!

At this time of year, the weather can change our plans; so please get in touch to check if we are playing.

Group Contact:

Mandy Howard pickleball@ialg.org.uk



Piquet ialg.org.uk/piquet

Thursdays 9 and 23 May, 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 ten 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 - 12pm

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

We play in the restaurant area of the 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 ialg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays 9 and 23 May, 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@ialg.org.uk



Social Cycling ialg.org.uk/socialcycling

Alternate Sunday mornings

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

Group Contact:

Pamela Ghisi socialcycling@ialg.org.uk



Table Tennis for Fun ialg.org.uk/TableTennisFun

Thursdays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

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

Group Contacts:

Jane and Adam 07818 938183; TableTennisFun@ialg.org.uk



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

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

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

There is a café in the clubhouse for attendees to use.

Group Contact:

Marion Yeeles 07867 774849; taletennis2@ialg.org.uk

Currently Full

News from our groups



The Ukulele Group

A story to inspire anyone wanting to set up a new LALG group

Who would have guessed it, when the Ukulele group started six years ago, that they would now have over 60 members!

One of the original players, Jacky Elliott, says: "We have great fun learning, playing and singing together. The first song we learnt from a ukulele beginners book was *London Bridge is Falling Down*. We have come a long way since then. Now we can tackle any song.

We have done many gigs and brighten up every room that we play in. We play at many venues, including schools; seeing the young ones becoming interested in the ukulele and keen to learn themselves is very rewarding.

My partner Phil and I were at the very first meeting and have enjoyed every minute since." The Ukulele Group regularly attracts around 50 players on a Thursday afternoon at St. Paul's Church Hall in Pixmore Way. They also have a regular beginners session where new members are always welcome.

Jacky adds: "We also have many social evenings when our partners are invited to join us. Being part of LALG has changed our lives for the better. We often go to other groups and see our friends there. Rock on. We are living the dream!"

The ukulele group's regular details are on page 19.

Do you have an idea for a new group?

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

Please ring or email one of the team: Jackie Sayers 07970 407635;
Steve Green 07710 542803; William Armitage 01462 643537.

groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Alternative Ramblers ialg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 12 May, 10.00am for a 10.15am start.

Meet at The Red Lion, 16 Chapel Road, Breachwood Green SG4 8NU.

A 6-mile walk through fields, wooded areas and passing the outskirts of Wigmore. Passing through Cockenhoe and Mangrove. We will see aeroplanes landing and taking off at Luton airport as we cross the fields back to Breachwood Green.

Parking at the Red Lion for those eating or drinking there, otherwise please park on the road. What3words///rucksack.bristle.swan.

To book a table at The Red Lion tel: **01438 833123**. To book the walk contact Paolo either via our WhatsApp Group, tel: **07504 181009** or email: alternativeramblers@ialg.org.uk. Mobile on the day: **07504 181009**.

Group Contact:

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



Baldock Walks ialg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Saturday 25 May, 9.20 for 9.30am start

Meet at Park Drive Health Centre (Tesco).

Baldock to Royston about 12 miles

We shall walk to Royston via Clothall, Redhill, Roe Green, Sandon, Kelshall and Therfield and return to Baldock by train. Bring train/bus pass for discounts. We shall walk at a steady pace of about 2 miles an hour with plenty of time to stop and enjoy the views.

Bring packed lunch/food and drink for the day.

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



Early Morning Walks ialg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesdays 22 May and 12 June, 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@ialg.org.uk



Evening Strollers ialg.org.uk/eveningstrollers

Thursday 16 May, 6.30pm

Meet at The Three Horseshoes at Norton for a one-hour circular stroll to Ivel Springs, led by Bryony. Followed by an optional visit to the pub. If wet, please check our webpage before setting off. Mobile on the day: 07531 911419.

Group Contact:

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



Fast Walking ialg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May, 8.30am - 9.30am

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

Improving Walking Speed ialg.org.uk/fastwalking

Fridays 17 and 31 May, 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 9.50am at the bowling green car park (accessed from Icknield Way).

Group Contact:

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



Guided Village Walks ialg.org.uk/villagewalks

Our next walk will be later in the summer. See our web page for details. If you have any ideas for future walks, or could lead one, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Sue Fisher villagewalks@ialg.org.uk



Long-Distance Walkers ialg.org.uk/longdistancewalkers

Saturday 25 May, 8.30am

Hammersmith to Blackfriars 11 miles.

We meet in Letchworth Station foyer at 8.30am in order to catch the 8.51am (8.55 at Hitchin) train to Finsbury Park and then take the Piccadilly Line to Hammersmith. You may wish to purchase a Super Off-Peak Day Travelcard with a Senior Railcard. We then walk to the Thames and follow its north bank for 11 miles passing Fulham Football Club, the construction works for the new Tideway Tunnel, Chelsea Harbour and the Houses of Parliament to name a few of the many sights that we see, not forgetting the continual views across the river towards the south bank. We finish at Blackfriars where we plan to catch a direct train back to Letchworth. Sturdy footwear is recommended as the London pavements can be tiring and please bring food and drink for the day. Walk leaders: Jenny 07932 621357 and Jess 07813 802495

Group Contact:

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



Midweek Walkers ialg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

Wednesday 15 May, 10am

This is a circular walk of 9 miles, starting from the car park in the village of Orwell SG8 5QN. We pass through the village of Whaddon and the Wimpole estate and have extensive views en route. Please bring a packed lunch and book in at the group email below with Jenny Squires, who will try to coordinate lifts if necessary. Mobile on the day: 07932 621357

Next walk: **Friday 14 June.**

Group Contact:

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

Walking Groups



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers midweekambleramble@ialg.org.uk

Friday 10 May, 10am for a 10.15am start

This walk is part of the Stevenage Walking Festival which runs from 4 - 12 May. Meet at The Three Horseshoes, Norton, SG6 1AG at 10am to order lunch, before departing at 10.15am for a 4-mile walk, led by Carol Stokes. The rural route, with some good views, goes through the Ivel Springs Nature Reserve and on to Radwell before returning to Norton along part of the Letchworth Greenway. To book for the walk, and lunch if required, please email MARleader@ialg.org.uk or phone Carol on **07813 800874**, by Monday 6 May. All bookings will be acknowledged.

Next walk: **Monday 17 June**

Group Contact:

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



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

Tuesday 14 May, 10.15am for 10.30am start

This walk is being led by Sandra and Alan Weir from the Plume of Feathers, Upper Green, Ickleford SG5 3YD. People can make their menu choices before departing at 10.30am. Circular walk around and about Ickleford between 3 and 4 miles, level ground.

To book a place on the walk and lunch if required please email Sandra and Alan SWLeader.ialg.org.uk or Mobile 07949 465909 by **Tuesday 7 May**.

The June walk is on **Tuesday 11 June**, probably around the Henlow Lakes.

Group Contact:

Phil Taylor slowerwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Sunday Ramblers ialg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Sunday 5 May, 10am start

Woburn and Eversholt 7.5 miles.

This is a lovely walk through Woburn Park using the Greensand Ridge and other paths and tracks. An opportunity to see lots of deer. It may be muddy in places. Bring a packed lunch.

Meet at the free car park in Woburn on Park Street, opposite the church.

Please contact the walk leaders Debbie and Robin on 07948 554359 if you would like to join the walk.

Group Contact:

Wendy **07856 768685**; sundayramblers@ialg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Trail Walkers ialg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesdays 14 May and 11 June

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.

In April we started 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 are interested in joining us or have any questions, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Nigel Bellis trailwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Walking Buddies ialg.org.uk/walkingbuddies

Friday 10 May, 10.30am

Meet at Radwell Meadows car park for a medium walk of 3 miles then on to Bickerdikes for coffee/lunch.

Group Contacts:

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



Weekend Strollers ialg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 11 May, 10.30am

Standalone Farm, Wilbury Road. Meet outside the café.

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

The monthly socials at Wetherspoons, Leys Avenue are **Wednesday 8 May and 12 June, 8pm**. All welcome.

Group Contact:

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


Newsletter Schedule

The next edition of this newsletter will cover June and July, with a copy deadline of Friday 10 May. The following editions will also cover two months each up to the December/January edition. We are hoping to recruit and train more newsletter editors. Please get in touch if you could help. email newsletter@ialg.org.uk.

Letchworth City Chorus presents



FRIDAY 28th JUNE at 7:30PM
SATURDAY 29th JUNE at 2:30PM
SATURDAY 6th JULY at 2:30PM

 Free Church, Norton Way South,
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1NX 

ADMISSION: £10
CHILDREN £5

Tickets from David's Music Shop (cash only)
Pay at the door (card only)



Linked Organisations

The Arts Society North Herts www.theartssocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art Lectures at the Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month at 11am except in January & August. Everyone welcome. Contact: theartssociety.nh@gmail.com
Baldock Floral Society www.baldockfloralsociety.com	First Thursday evening each month in Baldock Community Centre. Part of NAFAS, providing workshops & expert demonstrations. Contact: Jean Metzger 07767 884728 or 01462 490930; metzjean@aol.com
Baldock Folk Club www.baldockfolkclub.org	Free admission; donations to performers welcome. Usually at the Orange Tree pub. 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 McGechie 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.letchworthshed.org	Non-profit workshop. Share/learn new skills. Reduced fee for LALG members. Contact: Peter Hill 07941 889066; letchworthmeninsheds@gmail.com
Letchworth Model Railway Society www.letchworthmrs.org.uk	Meets weekly: Mondays & Wednesdays at Standalone Farm, Letchworth. Contact: secretary@letchworthmrs.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 letchworthsmc.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.nhmef.org.uk/nh50.php	Courses, events & social meetings for anyone aged 50+. LALG member discount. Contact: Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; nh50plus@gmail.com
North Herts Bowls Club	All are welcome to our club on Norton Common, Letchworth. We play friendly matches and hold internal competitions and social events. LALG member discount. Contact: John Atkinson 01462 684914 casita.office@hotmail.co.uk
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, 10.45 at Mrs Howard Hall Letchworth. No auditions. One-hour sessions 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 Leon Fotiadis. The next edition will be the June/July issue, edited by Suzanne Gillian. Please send entries by **Friday 10 May**. 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 May. Thank you!