



LETCWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

December 2023 / January 2024

**Merry Christmas
and best wishes
for 2024**

To join any of our groups you should be a member of LALG



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



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



lalg.org.uk

Letter from the Chair



Jackie Harber

First of all, may I say a very big thank you to Elaine, our previous Chair. As Membership Secretary I have worked on the committee with Elaine over the past 3 years and I saw firsthand how hard she worked. I send her my very best wishes for the future.

I'm also very excited about what lies ahead for me, and for LALG. The new committee around me are a very talented and supportive team. I thank them for stepping up, and look forward to working with them and our many volunteers.

Looking through the newsletter. I am reminded of the excellent work done by so many group contacts, event organisers and support teams. LALG really is a collaboration of talent, ideas, enthusiasm and energy. Aren't we lucky!

Of course, we are always hoping to attract more members and our publicity team will be spreading the word through posters, leaflets and social media. Please could you also tell your friends about LALG?

We are also grateful to welcome a new volunteers coordinator to the team; Sharon has lots of ideas for supporting the small band of volunteers who we rely on for lots of tasks, from practical jobs such as leafleting to admin jobs and phoning people. Her details are below.

Lastly, all the committee members will be getting around LALG over the coming months. We look forward to meeting you.

Regards, Jackie

Officers and Contact Details

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Trips & Events



Open Meetings lalg.org.uk/OpenMeetings

Monday 4 December, doors open 10am for 10.30am

Our main speaker, Stephen Barnard, is well-known to many of us. He will tell the story of the two men who gave us musical theatre as we know it in **When Rodgers met Hammerstein**. This illustrated talk will also include video clips. Our first speaker will be Steff Collis from David's Bookshop, who will tell us about the **best books of 2023** and which books to look for at Christmas.

Monday 8 January, doors open 10am for 10.30am

Note: THIS IS THE SECOND MONDAY

Our main speaker is Nik Pringle, Vice Chair of Hertfordshire Police Historical Society. He will tell us about **The Fox Twins**, notorious local poachers who were also noted for their good manners.

The first talk is **The Settlement Players - 100 Years of Drama** by Stephen Charles, a member of the Players.

Monday 5 February, doors open 10am for 10.30am

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

The first speaker will be announced in the February newsletter.

All meetings are at Kincaid Hall, Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB. Limited parking is available on site; 2 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. **CASH ONLY** please.

Contact: openmeetings@lalg.org.uk



Trips lalg.org.uk/trips

Sunday 10 December

Shuttleworth Christmas Market, Shuttleworth near Old Warden, SG18 9DT
Entrance free. Market open from 10am to 4pm.

We will meet in The Runway Café for refreshments at 10.30, then free time to explore the variety of food, craft and gift stalls in Shuttleworth House and the Garden Suite.

If you would like to join us for refreshments, please get in touch:

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon trips@lalg.org.uk



London Villages lalg.org.uk/londonvillages

We hope to resume our walks in Spring 2024.

If anyone would like to suggest a 'village' to explore, please get in touch with Keith, the Group Contact.

Group Contact:

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

Trips & Events



Theatres and Excursions ialg.org.uk/theatresandexcursions

Wednesday 6 December

Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London.

With the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Conductor: John Rutter.

This visit is now SOLD OUT – waiting list available.

Cost £39 (£40 non-LALG) includes coach, carol sheets and seat in mid arena.

Coach leaves Letchworth Rail Station Bus Stop adjacent car park at 12.30pm.

Wednesday 28 February

Wicked (afternoon performance), Apollo Victoria Theatre, Victoria, London.

This show is a West End and Broadway musical phenomenon and is the winner of over 100 awards. Now in its 18th year at London's Apollo Theatre.

It is a 'huge, bright, colourful production, full of wonder and joy'.

Cost £40 (£41 non-LALG) includes coach and good Category A seat in stalls.

The seats alone would normally be almost twice our excursion cost!

Coach leaves Letchworth Rail Station bus stop adjacent car park at 12pm.

Group Contact:

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



Guided Village Walks ialg.org.uk/villagewalks

Next walk will be early in 2024. Details in February.

Group Contact:

Sue Fisher 07967 142619; villagewalks@ialg.org.uk



London Places ialg.org.uk/London_places

Trips will resume in 2024.

Group Contacts:

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



Visiting Churches ialg.org.uk/visitingchurches

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

We are now in hibernation and expect to restart in Spring – details will be in next year's newsletters.

In the meantime, please send suggestions for places to visit so we can start planning. (A list of those we have already been to are on our web page. We can revisit if there is sufficient interest.)

And please get in touch if you'd like to help organise a visit.

Group Contact:

Ann visitingchurches@ialg.org.uk



Train Buddies ialg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 4 January, 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

This is a planning meeting for 2024 trips. Please bring along your ideas for possible destinations.

Group Contact:

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

Trips & Events



Annual Golf event lalg.org.uk/annualgolf

We are planning to reintroduce this previously popular event in the Autumn of 2024 - further details of date, time and venue will be provided in future newsletters.

We are looking for one or two volunteers to help organise the golf on the day. Steve will do all the admin with the booking of the course, refreshments and finance. Anybody interested in helping, please get in touch.

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



Moon Walk - Full Wolf Moon

Thursday 25 January, 7.30pm

Weston Village Green

About 1½ hours subject to the weather, followed by an optional visit to the pub. Bring a torch as it might be muddy. Please contact William to book.

Group Contact:

William Armitage 01462 643537



Cambridge Capers lalg.org.uk/capers

For details of the next visit to Cambridge, please visit the website, or email:

Group Contact:

Tricia Turner capers@lalg.org.uk

Advertisement



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STALBANS
Charles Morris Hall
Tyttenhanger Green
Stalbans
Hertfordshire
AL4 0RN

STEVENAGE
Great Ashby
Community Centre
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 1ENH

Wednesday 19:30 – 21:00 **Tuesday 19:30-21:30**



The collage features three circular images: a globe, a close-up of a karate gi with a red belt, and a group of people practicing karate in a gymnasium.

Artificial Intelligence Discussion Group

AI is in the news. Its future is unknown. Is it something to worry about or will the experts sort it out? We need at least 6 names to get a group going.

If you would like to get on the list, please get in touch.

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

First Aid Course

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

Willian Village Hall

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

A 2-hour Baby and Child First Aid Class - perfect for carers, parents and grandparents who are looking to learn some basic first aid.

The following topics will be covered:

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

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

The cost of the class will be approximately £25 per person (dependent on numbers).

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

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

International Books

Wednesday 10 January, 10.30am David's Cafe

Discussion of *Olga* by the German writer Bernard Schlink, including a short introduction. The book describes the life of one woman, Olga, from late 19th century Prussia to modern Germany. Described as 'a novel of love, passion and history from a modern master. Available in English at reasonable prices.

Wednesday 13 March, 10.30am - date to be confirmed in February
Discussing *We* by the Russian writer Yevgeny Zamyatin, first published in Russia in 1924; a precursor of Huxley's *Brave New World* and Orwell's *1984* and anticipating the consequences of a technological 'utopia'. It is available from Amazon in paperback and Kindle.

There will also be discussions of other novels, many of which have been recommended by members of LALG language groups. All are welcome, whether you have read the novel or just out of interest. Please contact Brian:

Contact: Brian Sykes 07710 274503; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Living in an Online World

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

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

Piquet lalg.org.uk/piquet

This is a fairly simple two-handed card game of French origin and easy to learn. There is a more challenging variant called Auction Piquet, which is less well-known. Please get in touch if you would like to try Piquet, maybe already know it, or even the Auction variant. We have six players so far and would welcome a few more.

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

Utopian Discussion Group

David's Bookshop café, Eastcheap, Letchworth

The outcome of the last meeting was too late for this newsletter.

Every age has its utopians, from Plato's *Republic* (360 BC) and Sir Thomas More's *Utopia* (1556) to Robert Owen's *How to Run a Cotton Mill* (1813) to Ebenezer Howard's *Garden Cities of To-Morrow* (1898).

The group could discuss utopian beliefs, their success and failure and debate what is utopia: for example, does Letchworth qualify? Contact William to record your interest. If you prefer evenings please let us know.

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

Visiting Towns and Cities in England

Mid-week break in Durham - 11 and 12 June

We are planning to visit Durham, described by Bill Bryson as the perfect city with the best cathedral. Arriving by train in time for lunch in the Market Square. We will be visiting the Cathedral and other historic buildings, walking one of the paths overlooking the river Wear, and visiting Crook Hall NT or the Botanical Gardens.

Total cost, excluding meals, for a couple with rail discounts is around £300, or £200 for a single room.

Those potentially interested will meet at the Broadway Gallery in late November. We will have firmer plans after that.

Tony Read is organising the Durham trip so please get in touch with him if you would like an update. Call Tony on 01462 450494.

We are also planning to go to Exeter in April.

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

Do you have an idea for a new group?

Any member of LALG is welcome to start a new group on any subject that interests them, provided it is within the spirit of LALG. Please email newideas@lalg.org.uk



Art Appreciation ialg.org.uk/artappreciation

First Monday of the month

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

Group Contact:

Anne Clarke artappreciation@ialg.org.uk



British History Reading Group ialg.org.uk/britishhistory

Thursday 14 December, 7.30pm (note date)

The Restless Republic by Anna Keay on Cromwell and the Commonwealth

Thursday 18 January, 7.30pm

Enlightenment: Britain and the creation of the Modern World by Roy Porter

Meetings are at the Broadway Hotel Bar.

All welcome

Group Contact:

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



Children's Books ialg.org.uk/childrensbooks

Tuesday 19 December, 7.30pm

A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett

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 relevance to the period when it was written.

For more information, please get in touch:

Group Contact:

Jane Faulkner childrensbooks@ialg.org.uk



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

Monday 8 January, 7.30pm

The Mystery of Edwin Drood by Charles Dickens

Monday 29 January, 7.30pm

A Fatal Crossing by Tom Hindle

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Sorry, we are not currently open to new members, but please get in touch to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Daytime Book Group ialg.org.uk/daytimebook

Monday 11 December, 2pm

We will discuss seasonal readings chosen by our members.

Monday 8 January, 2pm

The Whalebone Theatre by Joanna Quinn

The Premier Inn, Letchworth, Station Road SG6 3BQ

Currently we are full but please get in touch to go on our waiting list.

Please also see our web page for details of our books read since 2013.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Vivace!

Arlesey's Friendly Choir



A Christmas Cracker

Tickets

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Choir Members

On the door



Saturday

16th

December

at 7.30pm

St Peter's

Church

Arlesey

SG15 6UN

Bach, Rutter,

Vaughan

Williams,

Willcocks and

more!

Conductor -

Richard Tyler

Accompanist -

Ben Ward



Fairfield Book Group ialg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Thursday 7 December, 7.30pm

Trust Me by T M Logan.

Thursday 4 January, 7.30pm

Marple, 12 New Stories by various writers

Thursday 1 February, 7.30pm

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

All meetings at Fairfield Bowls Club, Kingsley Avenue, Fairfield Park, 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. Please contact Lynne to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Get Painting ialg.org.uk/getpainting

Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road.

This friendly group welcomes everyone, beginners to experienced.

Group Contact:

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



Irish Book Group ialg.org.uk/ireland

Wednesday 13 December, 11am - 12 noon

Surrender by Bono

Wednesday 10 January, 11am - 12 noon

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce

Wednesday 14 February, 11am - 12 noon

New Selected Poems 1966-1987 by Seamus Heaney

All meetings are at the Broadway Gallery, 2 The Arcade SG6 3EW.

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

Group Contact:

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



Monday Painting Group ialg.org.uk/mondaypainting

Mondays, 9am - 12 noon

Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN

The cost of the room is shared by the group. Each term we choose a selection of subjects to paint.

If you are interested, you are welcome to a trial for £5 per session.

Group Contact:

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



Opera and Ballet lalg.org.uk/operagroup

This group is seeking a new organiser, but John is happy to remain as the contact point for now. He hopes to arrange occasional special opera or ballet events. Details will be on our webpage.

If you could help with arranging future events, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Play Reading 1 lalg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 18 December, 1.30pm

A Christmas Carol (dramatised edition) by Charles Dickens

Monday 15 January, 1.30pm

Murder at the Vicarage by Agatha Christie

We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month in a member's house in Letchworth to read plays loaned from Hertfordshire Performing Arts Library. If you are interested in joining us please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Play Reading 2 lalg.org.uk/playreading2

Second Wednesday of each month, 10am

Broadway Hotel, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We read the same plays as those read by Play Reading 1. We would welcome one or two new members.

Group Contact:

Sonia 01462 654933; playreading2@lalg.org.uk



Poetry in the Afternoon lalg.org.uk/poetryafternoon

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Readers' Group lalg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 14 December, 7.45pm for 8pm

Social Evening with a literary theme

Thursday 25 January, 7.45pm for 8pm

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

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@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full

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



Science Book Group lalg.org.uk/sciencebookgroup

Wednesday 17 January, 7.30pm

Life on the Edge: The Coming of Age of Quantum Biology by Jim Al-Khalili and Johnjoe McFadden.

The book can be purchased from David's Bookshop in Letchworth (LALG discount makes it very competitively priced) or ordered from the library.

This group is full - please contact Ann if you would like to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

Ann sciencebookgroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Sculpture Group lalg.org.uk/Sculpture

No meeting in December. Wednesday 17 January, 2.30pm

The Broadway Gallery (above the Three Magnets, Leys Avenue, Letchworth).

For anyone interested in sculpture. We need active support to get us organised for Spring visits. Please get in touch if you can help.

Acting Group Contact: William Armitage 01462 643537; sculpture@lalg.org.uk



Shakespeare Study Group lalg.org.uk/shakespeare

Wednesday 6 December, 10.30am – 12.30pm

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

Group Contact: Karl Schmierer shakespeare@lalg.org.uk



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

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

Group Contact:

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



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

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

Group Contact: Brian Sykes; playgoing@lalg.org.uk

Committee News

The next LALG Committee meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 22 January. If you would like to attend, or there is anything you would like discussed, please contact secretary@lalg.org.uk.



Tale Tellers lalg.org.uk/taletellers

Tuesday 16 January, afternoon

We plan to meet on the third Tuesday of each month at a venue yet to be confirmed. One or two more avid tale tellers to join us would be fantastic.

Group Contact: Sonia 01462 654933 taletellers@lalg.org.uk



Ulysses Reading Group lalg.org.uk/ulysses

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

Group Contact:

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



Writers Group lalg.org.uk/writersgroup

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm - 9.30pm 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

Advertising in the LALG newsletter

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

Our advertising rates are:

Commercial: Full A5 page £70, Half A5 £40

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

Adverts should be PNG or JPeG files. They should be booked by the 5th of the previous month and emailed to newsletter@lalg.org.uk by the 10th.

Space is limited – so first come, first served.



Art and Craft Workshop lalg.org.uk/artworkshop

We meet in the afternoons of the first and third Thursdays of the month 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 contact:

Group Contact:

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



Clock Group lalg.org.uk/clockgroup

Wednesday evenings

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. We service and repair clocks under our tutor, Richard Edwards. Sessions begin with a short presentation on theory, followed by practical work on members' clocks. We welcome both previous members and beginners; no experience is necessary and only a few basic tools will get you started.

Group Contact:

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



Embroidery lalg.org.uk/embroidery

Third Wednesday of each month, 2pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Flower Arranging lalg.org.uk/flowerarranging

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

Group Contact:

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

Membership of LALG

To attend LALG groups, you should be a member of LALG. But most groups will let you come a couple of times before you decide whether to join. Membership entitles every adult in your household to join as many groups and activities as they want, space permitting.

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



Gardening at the Weekend lalg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

Sunday 3 December, 2pm

This will be the second date to visit Waddesdon Manor to see the Winter Garden Light Trail, Manor Façade Illuminations and the Christmas Fair. Please contact Wendy for more details.

Sunday 21 January, 2.30pm

This meeting will be at Wendy's house. We will discuss the forthcoming year and put some dates in our diaries for places to visit, as well as arranging our visits to members' gardens, starting in the Spring.

Please contact Wendy for more details.

Group Contact:

Wendy Martindale 07803 888162, 01438 359332; gardeningweekend@lalg.org.uk



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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



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

Future dates to be confirmed

We will be on our winter programme over the Christmas period.

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

Group Contact:

Angela gardeningTT2@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



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

Monday 4 December, 12.30pm

at Wendy's for our Christmas Bring and Share Lunch

Monday 15 January, 2pm

Future Planning Meeting Venue to be confirmed

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic gardeners who enjoy swapping plants, seeds and ideas. We will be meeting at garden centres and public gardens until the better weather in the spring when we will take turns to host meetings in our own gardens again. We have a short waiting list for our group.

Group Contacts:

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

Currently Full



Knitting Group 1 lalg.org.uk/knittinggroup

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full

All groups are free to members. Some groups make a small charge to cover costs such as room hire and equipment



Knitting Group 2 lalg.org.uk/knitting2

Alternate Mondays, 2pm

This 'knit & natter' group meets at the Broadway Hotel.

We have been asked to support the Garden House Hospice so please come along to help us support this great cause.

Group Contact:

Hetty Smith 01462 630195/07930 462870; knitting2@lalg.org.uk



Patchwork Group lalg.org.uk/patchwork

First Thursday of the month

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



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

There is no photoshoot scheduled for December; instead, we will take photos at a time that suits members, on the theme of 'Christmas Decorations'. Contact Graham for details of the group meeting when we will review these.

We are open to photographers of any skill level. For January details contact:

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

Save paper, go digital

Do you really need a paper copy of the newsletter?

To switch to online only, contact membership@lalg.org.uk



Sewing Group lalg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of every month, 10am

We meet at Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN, where we are able to take along our sewing machines sew and chat.

Between us our interests cover dressmaking, embroidery, patchwork and quilting, home furnishings and most things to do with stitching. Many of us use sewing machines but we also welcome members who prefer to sew by hand. Refreshments and use of an iron provided. Small charge to cover room hire.

Group Contact:

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



Taiko Drumming lalg.org.uk/taiko

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

Group Contact:

Claire 07702 041934; taiko@lalg.org.uk



Textile Art Group lalg.org.uk/textileart

Friday 15 December, 10am - 12pm

The Broadway gallery, Letchworth Arcade
Christmas drinks and crafts (mini yarn crafts /knitting).

Friday 26 January, 10am - 1pm

Digswell Arts, Fenner's Building, Letchworth
Relaxing craft retreat day: natural dyes, hand spinning on a drop spindle.

We are a friendly creative bunch, meeting every month for a textile workshop. Previous workshops have covered natural dyeing, marbling on fabric, hand embroidery, Sashiko stitch, Bojagi patchwork, rag weaving, braid making and fabric printing. No experience necessary. Come along and try a meeting.

Group Contact:

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



Textiles Group lalg.org.uk/textiles

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Ukulele Group lalg.org.uk/ukulele

Thursdays, 1pm - 3pm

The main group meets at St Paul's Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 1QT. We play for about two hours with a short break for a cuppa and a chat. We are 51 strong and growing, and regularly have 30+ 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@lalg.org.uk



GARDEN CITY SINGERS

*Christmas
Concert*

SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER, 7.30PM

LETCHWORTH FREE CHURCH,
NORTON WAY SOUTH, SG6 1NX

Tickets: £10 Includes refreshments
Visit: GardenCitySingers.co.uk or
David's Music (cash only)



Breakfast Club lalg.org.uk/breakfast

Tuesday 5 December, 9am

Cherries & Tea Cafe, 5 Eastcheap, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3AQ.

This venue has an interesting menu and the food was greatly enjoyed when we visited earlier in the year.

Tuesday 9 January, 9am

Gardener's Retreat, Hitchin Garden Centre, Cambridge Road (A505) SG4 0JT
A varied choice for breakfast is available from toasts and preserves to a Full English Breakfast.

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

Group Contact: Malcolm King 01462 677329; breakfast@lalg.org.uk



Firkin Club lalg.org.uk/firkinclub

Thursday 14 December, 8pm

Garden City Brewery, The Wynd, Letchworth,
... where we are promised a good selection of real ales including those made on the premises in the heart of the garden city.

Tuesday 9 January, 8pm

Crafty's Beer Shop, 15 Leys Avenue, Letchworth, SG6 3EA

... where there's always a good selection of interesting real ales.

We meet monthly to sample real ales and to put world affairs into a personal perspective, viewed through a pint glass. New members welcome.

Group Contact: Grant Cameron 01462 679569; firkinclub@lalg.org.uk



Food and Cookery Group lalg.org.uk/foodcookery

Please contact Keith to go on our waiting list.

Group Contact: Keith 07917 446044; foodcookery@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Lunch Club lalg.org.uk/lunchclub

We meet on the second Thursday of the month and visit local pubs and restaurants.

The group is now full but if you would like to join our waiting list, please get in touch. Alternatively, you could contact the Group Support Team (details on p13) about setting up a second group.

Group Contact: Sally Cannon lunchclub@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Malt Whisky Appreciation lalg.org.uk/maltwhisky

Friday 19 January, 7pm

Sláinte Mhath! Over 100 whiskies tasted so far! If you are interested in sampling, comparing and enjoying fine malt whisky, come along to this meeting when fine 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@lalg.org.uk



Supper Club lalg.org.uk/supperclub

Tuesday 12 December, 7pm for 7.30pm

Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City SG6 3NQ.

We will enjoy a 3-course meal at this popular venue with its art-deco style clubhouse. For a menu and to book - please contact Linda King.

For enquiries about venues in 2024 please contact Linda.

Group Contact:

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



Vegetarian and Vegan lalg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

For meals together, talks and sharing information.

Thursday 14 December, 12 noon

Nourish Wholefood Café, Sadie Centre, Rosehill Hospital.

To book, contact Barbara Isherwood at newideas@lalg.org.uk.

Next meeting will be in February.

Group Contact:

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



Wine Appreciation Group lalg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 1 December, 7.30 –10pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road

Our next meeting is a presentation by Robin Boar on 'Fine Wines' and is always one of the favourites of the year. We have a full programme through to May 2024 and if you are interested in joining us, you are very welcome. Please contact either George Barnes or Tony Mansey.

Group Contacts:

Tony Mansey 07770 541207;

George Barnes 01462 673710; wineappreciation@lalg.org.uk



Wine Discovery lalg.org.uk/winediscoverygroup

Please get in touch for details of our next meeting.

Group Contacts:

Moir and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Wine Group 3 lalg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesday 16 January, 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. There is no tasting in December as we will be celebrating with our Christmas dinner but we will return to our monthly tastings in January.

Please email if you are interested in joining the group.

Group Contacts:

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

Currently full?

If the group you want to join is full, we can start another one! Contact newideas@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



Action for Happiness lalg.org.uk/actionforhappiness

Monthly on a Wednesday, 7pm via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

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



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

We welcome any current or new members who are interested in finding out about the joys of keeping chickens or other species of poultry and in being part of a community that can provide advice, support and guidance.

We are planning our next group meeting.

Please get in touch with group contact for further information.

Group Contact:

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



All Things Military lalg.org.uk/allthingsmilitary

Thursday 14 December, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

The Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way S SG6 1NX

This will be our usual social get-together with some finger food and (soft) drinks, tea, coffee. Some chat & a quiz (no prizes!). As usual, a charge of £5 towards room hire and other expenses. Please let us know if you are coming so we can plan food and drink.

Thursday 11 January, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

Devi Jankowicz will give a talk "Escaping to fight again", based on the experience of a Polish soldier during and after the September Campaign of 1939.

Group Contact:

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



Ancient Egypt Study Group lalg.org.uk/ancientegypt

We meet in the Broadway Hotel, Broadway SG6 3NZ. If you are fascinated by Egyptology, please do come along and share your knowledge. Please contact Oliver for next meeting dates.

Group Contact:

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

Help Required

We are looking for one or two members willing to help with our Discount Suppliers. You would occasionally visit the businesses already signed up, to show them our appreciation; and also visit new businesses suggested by members. We could even widen our scope to other local areas.

If you can help, please contact discounts@lalg.org.uk. Thank you.

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

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

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

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

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

General Groups



Architecture lalg.org.uk/architecture2

We hope to restart in the Spring, when we have sufficient offers of help.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Black Squirrel Country Dancing lalg.org.uk/countrydancing

There is no meeting in December

Tuesday 16 January, 6.30pm to 8pm

Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore way, SG6 3TR

We meet on the third Tuesday of most months. Complete beginners with 2 left feet very welcome! All dances taught/called. LALG members £4, non-members £5, under 18s £2. All welcome! We are a very friendly group.

There is no Unicorn Ceilidh in January. So if you want to dance in January, come to us!

Group Contact:

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



Black Squirrel Investment Club lalg.org.uk/investmentclub

Fourth Tuesday of each month

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

Group Contact:

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



Blitz an Open Space lalg.org.uk/litter

Letchworth: Saturdays 9 December, 13 January

Thursdays, 14 December, 25 January

Baldock: Wednesdays 20 December, 17 January

Sundays 17 December, 21 January

Venues to be advised nearer the time.

To date the teams have collected 1,239 bags of litter! Volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Brian or Gary to tell them of any areas that need attention by our team of volunteers.

Group Contact:

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



Computer Users lalg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Currently Full

Wednesday 29 November, 10.30 – 11.30am

Wednesday 20 December, 10.30 – 11.30am

Wednesday 31 January, 10.30 – 11.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway, Letchworth Garden City SG6 3NZ

Please support our new venue, which has food and various drinks available.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor usingcomputers@lalg.org.uk

Please note: This is not a computer support line

General Groups



Decarbonise Letchworth Group lalg.org.uk/DecarboniseLetchworth

Monday 4 December, 12.30 to 2pm

Monday 8 January, 12.30 to 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

Join our monthly lunchtime get-togethers, where we have an opportunity to share ideas and the latest news on actions that will help Letchworth to reduce its carbon footprint. Cycle infrastructure, heat pumps, solar panels, electric cars and insulation are 'hot' topics at the moment.

Group Contact:

Julia Sonander DecarboniseLetchworth@lalg.org.uk



Decluttering lalg.org.uk/decluttering

Tuesday 30 January, 4pm

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 the last Tuesday of alternate months. New members are always welcome.

Group Contact:

Nicole Ashbrook decluttering@lalg.org.uk



Europe and Beyond lalg.org.uk/europeandbeyond

Next Meeting planned for March

Venue to be confirmed.

Theme: Devolved Governments of Britain

Speakers to be confirmed. If you, or someone you know, could speak about **Wales, Scotland** or **Northern Ireland**, please do get in touch.

Please bring your questions, thoughts and ideas, too.

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

Group Contact:

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



Geology lalg.org.uk/geology

Wednesday 24 January, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB

The talk will be given by Keith Montague a retired Chartered Civil Engineer and Chartered Geologist. His talk will be on the history of Geology: *Plate Tectonics - the proving of Continental Drift*. If you'd like to join us, or for more details:

Group Contact:

Carrie Dunne geology@lalg.org.uk



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

No meeting in December but we'll have a post-Christmas social gathering in January. Existing members will be contacted, but if you'd like to join us, get in touch. We are considering a new book project and serious and committed researchers would be welcome.

Group Contact:

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

General Groups



Monthly Quiz lalg.org.uk/monthlyquiz

THURSDAY 28 December, 6.45 for 7pm

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

Saturday 27 January, 6.45 for 7pm

See lalg.org.uk/JanuaryQuiz for more information. Further details about the evening will be published there at 6.45pm and the first questions at 7pm. Your host for the evening: Val.

These light-hearted quizzes are free to enter! We post general knowledge questions on the LALG website and you email your answers after each round. You can play on your own or in a team of up to 6 people, either meeting in person or via Zoom/Skype etc. No quiz experience or internet skills are required to enjoy the evening.

Group Contact:

Ann monthlyquiz@lalg.org.uk



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

By the time you read this, we'll have had our outing to a Polish restaurant, and will be taking it easy until our next meeting in February. We hope to have a presentation about daily life in Ukraine in current times by two of our group who will be spending Christmas there. More details in the next issue.

Group Contact:

Devi 01462 624906; polish@lalg.org.uk



Psychology lalg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 13 December, 7.30pm

The Settlement, 229 Nevells Rd, Letchworth SG6 4UB. 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 consult the LALG website.

Group Contact:

Ken Jordan psychology@lalg.org.uk



Quiz Team lalg.org.uk/quizteam

In the next 2 months we are planning to attend the following quiz nights:

Wednesday 6 December, 7pm

The White Lion, 46 High St, Baldock. £2pp.

Monday 8 January, 8pm

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

Wednesday 17 January, 8pm

The Millstream, 97 Cambridge Road, Hitchin. £2pp.

Monday 22 January, 7.30pm

Cultivo Lounge, 32 Leys Avenue, Letchworth. £1pp.

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

Group Contact: Andrew Dear quizteam@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



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

We support each other in our attempts to adopt a healthier lifestyle. We share ideas and recipes. Our emphasis is on being responsible for ourselves, so no weighing-in or telling-off! Please get in touch to join our waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Sign Language

Monday 4 December, 7pm - 8.30pm

Monday 18 December (meeting at a pub)

Mondays 15 and 29 January, 7pm - 8.30pm

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

Group Contact:

Claire 07950 779193; signlanguage@lalg.org.uk



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

Tuesday 23 January, 7.30pm

Jackmans Community Centre, Ivel Court, Letchworth SG6 2NL

There is no meeting in December and, at the time of going to print, we have not finalised our speaker for January.

At our recent committee meeting we discussed a wide range of interesting ideas for topics for future sessions from canals to cars, by way of local design companies, flooring manufacturers, specialist metal workers, mills and more. Keep an eye on the regular LALG emails and check our web page for the latest information.

Group Contact:

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



Weather Report Group lalg.org.uk/weather

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

Group Contact:

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



Wild Flowers lalg.org.uk/wildflowers

No further outings are planned for this season. We will start planning visits for next year in the Spring of 2024.

Group Contact:

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

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

Language Groups



Conversation Française lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Daytime French lalg.org.uk/DaytimeFrench

Currently Full

Thursdays, 2.30pm

Please note, there will not be a meeting on Thursday 28 December

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@lalg.org.uk



Dutch Conversation lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



German Daytime lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



German Group 1 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Italian Conversation 1 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Casual Italian Conversation lalg.org.uk/casualitalian

A casual, evening conversation group ideal for beginners or intermediate speakers, although patient fluent speakers are most welcome too. We meet one evening a month to chat over a coffee or glass of wine. A great opportunity to practise your Italian conversation skills and build confidence.

Group Contact:

Emma casualitalian@lalg.org.uk



Italian Conversation 3 lalg.org.uk/italian3

Mondays 11 December, 8 and 22 January, 2.30pm

No 12 café, Leys Avenue SG6 3EU. New members with a basic level of Italian conversation welcome. Please email or text Val in advance.

Group Contact:

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



Latin lalg.org.uk/latin

Alternate Monday evenings, 8pm via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

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



Russian Language РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК lalg.org.uk/russian

Thursdays, 2.30pm - 4pm

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

We do need new members.

Group Contact:

Sheila Hogan russian@lalg.org.uk



Spanish Conversation lalg.org.uk/spanish

Thursdays, 7.30pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Welsh Language and Culture lalg.org.uk/welsh

Last Wednesday of the month, 2pm

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

Group Contact:

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

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 lalg.org.uk/50plussingles1

Fridays, 7.30pm

Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN

We gather at tables in the bar. You are welcome to drop in, but please ring in advance if you would like Anne to look out for you arriving.

The group provides a relaxed and informal way to make new friends, and maybe to suggest an event that you would like to attend, so that it can be added to our calendar and others can go with you.

We also organise trips and events for members to sign up to. For more information, please do get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



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

Thursdays, 10.30am

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 1 lalg.org.uk/coffee1

Alternate Wednesdays, 10.30am

Dimples café, Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way. Room for 2 or 3 more.

Group Contact:

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



Meet for Coffee 2 lalg.org.uk/coffee2

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 3 lalg.org.uk/coffee3

First and third Wednesdays of the month at 2pm

David's Bookshop Cafe on Eastcheap, Letchworth.

Please note new time and venue. New members very welcome.

Group Contact:

Nayier Ahmad coffee3@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 5 lalg.org.uk/coffee5

Second and fourth Fridays each month, 10.30am

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

The café is in an attractive building and a few of us are staying for lunch afterwards on 8 December. There is parking nearby.

Group Contact:

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

Social Groups



Meet for Coffee 6 lalg.org.uk/coffee6

Thursday 25 January, 10.30am

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

This pleasant café overlooks green and leafy surroundings with outside seating when weather permits. We welcome all existing and prospective members.

Group Contact: Brian Sykes 07710 274503; coffee6@lalg.org.uk



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

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

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

Group Contact: Anne Sparrowhawk 07711 145736; philosophy@lalg.org.uk



Singing for Pleasure lalg.org.uk/singingforpleasure

Sadly we have decided to close the group through lack of numbers. Thank you to all the happy band of singers that have supported us over the years. We may try again in the spring if enough people are interested. Wishing you a very happy, joyful and peaceful Christmas. KEEP SINGING !!

Group Contacts:

Amanda MacKnight 01438 750974; Roger Smith 01462 624824;

Geoff Wright 01462 682642; singingforpleasure@lalg.org.uk

Advertisement

Footsteps School of Dancing



Weekly Dance classes

Monday Morning Line Dance

Tuesday Evening Line Dance

Wednesday Evening Ballroom/Latin

Thursday Morning Ballroom/Latin

Friday Morning Line Dance

Our classes are for mixed abilities

For more information scan the QR code or visit the website below

to find a class that suits you.

All courses held in Letchworth Garden City



WWW.footstepsschoolofdancing.co.uk

Nigel@footstepsschoolofdancing.co.uk

Telephone 01462-673895 or 07713577413



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

We play nine holes every Wednesday morning at some of the finest golf clubs in the area, 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 all 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 if you would like 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. Our games are sociable, with the emphasis on fun, and we have mixed abilities.

We are currently at capacity, but do get in touch if you would like to be added to a waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Bridge Club ialg.org.uk/bridgeclub

Tuesdays and Fridays, 1pm

Howgills, South View SG6 3JJ

Come early and you will be slotted into a table as you arrive.

Beginners and improvers are always welcome. We play very friendly Rubber Bridge at £3 a session to cover room hire. Refreshments provided.

Group Contact:

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



Chess for Fun ialg.org.uk/chess

Third Monday of the month at 7.30pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB

We meet in the café. We start with a demonstration and then enjoy a relaxed game of chess. New members are always very welcome.

Group Contact:

Ruth 07855 019237; chess@ialg.org.uk



Cribbage lalg.org.uk/cribbage

Afternoon sessions: First Tuesday each month, 1.30pm

Broadway Hotel, 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 each month

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

Group Contacts:

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

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



Darts for Fun lalg.org.uk/darts

Wednesdays, 3pm - 5pm

The Two Chimneys, Stotfold Road SG6 4JS

Come along for a sociable game of darts. Jackie brings spare darts for any newcomers.

Group Contact:

Jackie 07557 439599; darts@lalg.org.uk



Easy Riders lalg.org.uk/easyriders

Saturday 2 December, 10am

Friday 22 December, 10am

Saturday 6 January, 10 am

Friday 19 January, 10 am

Cycle ride details are posted on our web page. If you would like to join any of these rides, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Games Club lalg.org.uk/gamesclub

Mondays 4 and 11 December, 7.15pm - 9.30pm

Mondays 8 and 22 January, 7.15pm - 9:30pm

Methodist Church Hall, North Avenue SG6 1DH

Parking at front; entry on the right-hand side of the building.

£3 – please pay by card only; no cash. Our club is very welcoming so don't worry if you haven't played a certain game. We play a wide variety of board and card games. Please get in touch beforehand, so we can look out for you.

Group Contact:

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



Games on the Grange lalg.org.uk/grangegames

Second and fourth Mondays of the month, 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@lalg.org.uk



Garden City Wheelers lalg.org.uk/GCWheelers

Thursday 21 December, 10.30am start

Weather permitting, we will ride to St Paul's Walden with lunch in the Strathmore Arms. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider doing a return mileage of approximately 20 miles. This ride has some hills. Meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens. Please let the Group Contact know if you want to join us for the first time.

Thursday 18 January, 10.30am start

Weather permitting, we will ride to Southill with lunch in The White Horse. We cycle at the pace of the slowest rider doing a return mileage of about 20 miles. This ride is relatively flat. We will meet at the Fountain in Broadway Gardens. Please get in touch if you want to join us for the first time.

Group Contact: Stuart Collins 07710 507069; GCWheelers@lalg.org.uk



Indoor Tennis lalg.org.uk/indoortennis

Currently Full

We play mixed doubles, intermediate level, at Letchworth Tennis Club during the winter months. For now, we limit numbers each week to 4 and play for 1 hour at £8 per person. We could increase to 1.5 hours if required at a cost of £12 per person.

Please contact Sheryl to join our waiting list.

Group Contact: Sheryl Hann indoortennis@lalg.org.uk



Mahjong lalg.org.uk/mahjong

Mondays, 1.45pm

Tabor Court, Beech Hill SG6 4YJ

We welcome beginners as well as experienced players.

Group Contact Jo Aris 07452 960337; mahjong@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf lalg.org.uk/par3

Currently Full

Fridays, 10.15am

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

The comfortable clubhouse serves light refreshments at reasonable prices.

Group Contact: Paul Wilkinson par3@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf Wednesday lalg.org.uk/par3wednesdays



Start date to be confirmed - see our web page

Every Wednesday afternoon, 2pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. There is a small course charge.

The clubhouse serves light refreshments. See the Golf Centre's website for opening times.

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

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

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor par3wednesdays@lalg.org.uk



Pétanque lalg.org.uk/petanque

Wednesdays, 2pm - 3pm

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

Several of us meet in the café afterwards for a chat and a cuppa. There are three lanes, so up to 18 people can play at the same time. Fees are now £3.60.

Group Contact:

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



Pickleball lalg.org.uk/pickleball

Alternate Tuesdays, 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Outdoor tennis courts at Norton Common

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

Group Contact:

Mandy Howard; pickleball@lalg.org.uk



Piquet lalg.org.uk/piquet

This is a new group with 6 members so far - more will always be welcome! We hope to meet monthly at the Broadway Hotel at a time to suit participants.

Piquet is a fairly simple two-handed card game of French origin and 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.

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



Rummikub lalg.org.uk/rummikub

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am - 12 noon

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

Group Contact:

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



Rummikub 2 lalg.org.uk/rummikub2

Wednesdays, 10am for 10.30am

We have coffee at 10am at The Muddy Lane café at Letchworth Tennis Club.

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

Group Contact:

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



Scrabble lalg.org.uk/scrabbleclub

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

Group Contact:

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



Short Tennis lalg.org.uk/shorttennis

Thursdays, 10.30am

Indoor courts at Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club 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@lalg.org.uk



Snooker lalg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays 7 and 21 December; 4 and 18 January, 2pm - 4pm

ABC Club, 24 Leys Avenue SG6 3EW

We meet every two weeks. There is a fee payable to play snooker or pool.
Snooker cues are available to borrow.

Let Steve know by the Monday beforehand if you would like to participate. All welcome.

Group Contact:

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



Social Cycling lalg.org.uk/socialcycling

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

Group Contact:

Pamela Ghisi socialcycling@lalg.org.uk



Table Tennis for Fun lalg.org.uk/TableTennisFun

Thursdays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. Please get in touch for confirmation. New members welcome. If you're thinking of joining us for the first time, please phone Jane on 07818 038183 so that she can explain how we fund the hiring of the hall. Bring your own bat.

Group Contact:

TableTennisFun@lalg.org.uk



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

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

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB

£4 per session to hire the indoor court and pay for the T/T balls. We use 4 tables so, the other half of the court could be used for another activity – short tennis or badminton could be arranged if anybody is interested?

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

Group Contact:

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



Alternative Ramblers ialg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 10 December, 10am for 10.15am start

Meet at The Cock, 23 High Street, Broom, Bedfordshire SG18 9NA.

A walk of 4.5 miles from the village of Broom towards Southill and Shuttleworth, returning via a Nature Reserve. Paths are mainly good over flat terrain with some short sections on local roads.

Parking: At The Cock if you are planning to eat or drink there. Otherwise, please park around the village green.

To book a table at The Cock, call them direct on 01767 314411.

To book the walk, contact Anthony either via 01462 337588, or tonywakeman@aol.com or via our WhatsApp Group.

Mobile on the day: 07710 432380.

Sunday 14 January, 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet at Orchard Close, Barton-Le-Clay, Bedford MK45 4LD

Approx 5 miles of mainly wide tracks with a tiny bit of road. Starting uphill for lovely views over Barton Hills.

Parking at the side of road. What 3 words///regularly.losses.decisions.

For anyone wishing to eat afterwards, The Royal Oak, Bedford Road, Barton-le-Clay MK45 4JX is nearby. To book a table there, call 01582 881220.

To book the walk contact Paolo either via WhatsApp Group, or 07504 181009, or email: infantino59@gmail.com.

Mobile on the day: 07504 181009.

Group Contact:

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



Baldock Walks ialg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Saturday 9 December, 9.20 for 9.30am start

Meet outside Baldock Community Centre

A walk around and close to Baldock - about 3.5 miles.

The walk will be mostly on proper paths but could be muddy so walking shoes recommended. Please bring water. Opportunity for coffee in Baldock after the walk.

Monday 15 January, 9.20 for 9.30am start

Meet at Park Drive Health Centre (Tesco)

A walk to Clothall, Hall's Green and Weston about 9.5 miles. Please bring a drink. This could be muddy so boots or walking shoes recommended

The walk goes to Hickman's Hill at Clothall then along to Hall's Green where we will go in The Lolleywood café for a light lunch.

Bring a snack in case the café is not open for any reason.

We return to Baldock via Weston Green End.

To book either 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

Walking Groups



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

Wednesday 6 December, 10am Oughtonhead Common

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

Wednesday 10 January, 10am Wymondley Wood

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

All walks are dependent on weather conditions; please confirm if you wish to join us. Our circular walks are approximately 3 miles and take about 75 minutes. They follow footpaths over uneven ground.

Everyone is welcome, with or without a canine friend.

Group Contact:

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



Early Morning Walks lalg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesdays 13 and 20 December, 7am - 9am

Wednesdays 10 and 24 January, 7am - 9am

We meet at Letchworth's 'first roundabout' on Broadway.

Open to all LALG members, walkers and non-walkers. Well behaved dogs welcome. We go whatever the weather. No need to book; just turn up.

Group Contact:

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



Fast Walking lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays 6, 13, 20 December

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 January, 8.30am – 9.30am

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

Improving walking speed group

Fridays 8, 22 December and 5, 19 January, 10 - 11am

If walking at 4 mph is too fast for you but you want to improve your walking speed then come along on Fridays.

We start from Norton Common, Letchworth. Meet at the bowling green car park (accessed from Icknield Way) at 9.50am.

Group Contact:

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



Long-Distance Walkers lalg.org.uk/longdistancewalkers

There will be no walk in December

Sunday 14 January

Our post Christmas get together will be Sunday lunch at the Rising Sun at Hall's Green - www.therisingsunhallsgreen.org.uk

Please email or phone Mia to book for lunch, with your choices from the Sunday Lunch menu, no later than 4 January.

Group Contact:

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

Walking Groups



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers midweekambleramble@ialg.org.uk

There will be no walk in December.

Thursday 25 January, 10am for 10.15am start

Meet at The Plume of Feathers, Ickleford, SG5 3YD at 10am to order lunch. The walk of about 4 miles, led by Carol Stokes, is fairly flat, mostly on good paths and tracks. It passes beside the River Oughton and goes through Oughtonhead Common Nature Reserve. To book for the walk, and lunch if required, please email carolstokes63@outlook.com or phone 07813 800874, by Monday 22 January. All bookings will be acknowledged.

Next walk : Tuesday 20 February

Group Contact:

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



Midweek Walkers ialg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

Wednesday 6 December, 10am

This is a 6-mile circular walk from The Crown, Henlow, SG16 6BS via Langford. For those who have pre-booked, the walk is followed by Christmas lunch. Anyone requiring further information should get in touch with Jess on the details below. If anyone wishes to join us for the walk only, they are welcome to do so. We shall be leaving The Crown car park at 10am.
Mobile on the day: 07813 802495.

January: There is no walk scheduled.

Group Contact:

Jess Peyton Jones 01462 458397; midweekwalkers@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

Thursday 14 December, 10am for 10.15 start

Our pre-Christmas Lunch walk is led by Phil & Sheila, from the Robin Hood & Little John pub car park, 14 Ware Road, Tonwell, Ware SG12 0HN.

Please arrive by 10am to start the walk at 10.15. This allows 2 hours for the walk and then being seated for lunch by 12.25pm. Confirmation of access to the pub beforehand is yet to be agreed. The flat walk is about 3.5 miles passing Tonwell Water Tower, Bourne and Low Woods and Sacombe House and Estate. We will mainly walk on footpaths, bridleways and quiet roads.

Lunch is now fully booked. Please email to book your place on the walk by Thursday 7 December.

If you have a reserved place for the lunch and will not be attending the walk please arrive at the pub by 12:25. You are also welcome to just do the walk. Email: ps.s.taylor@outlook.com.

Mobile on the day 07954 817965

PTO...

Slower Walkers cont.

Wednesday 17 January, 10.15am for 10.30 start

Meet in The Kings Mead pub car park, Hertford Road, Ware SG12 9LE

Walk Leaders are John and Rhian. Menu is available via the pub's website.

The walk around The Meads will be around 2.5 miles, taking 2 hours.

The route is traditionally damp, so boots are recommended. Flat terrain except for the beginning and end which has a slight incline. Lots to see and we think the construction of the eel traps, which have been installed to help migration, will have been finished by then.

We may need your choice of main course by Tuesday 9 January, to be confirmed by email.

Please book the walk and lunch place with John and Rhian by email to: rhjohnb@hotmail.com. Mobile on the day is 07511 683591.

Group Contact: Phil Taylor slowerwalkers@lalg.org.uk



Sunday Ramblers lalg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Saturday 2 December, 10am start

Starting at Pulloxhill Centenary Wood car park, Pulloxhill, Bedford MK45 5DT

This 9-mile walk will be brushing the outskirts of Silsoe then on to Greenfields and Flitton along the river Flit. Car park is very small, with room for about 8 cars. If there are no spaces, you can park on Sand Road, towards Flitton, about 200 metres away. Carshare advisable.

A variety of paths, tracks, across fields and village streets. Mainly flat terrain. Might be a bit muddy across a couple of fields if it has rained, and two stiles along the way.

Google plus code: 2G3W+JF Bedford

What3words: ///tries.unframed.issued

Contact Paolo to book your place: infantino59@gmail.com

Mobile: 07504 181009.

Group Contact:

Wendy 07856 768685; sundayramblers@lalg.org.uk



Trail Walkers lalg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesday 12 December and Tuesday 9 January

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

In October we started the Greensand Ridge Walk, which we aim to cover in four sections. This is a lovely route which takes in woods and farmland along the Greensand Ridge which rises from the clay vales on either side, passing Woburn Abbey and Ampthill Park.

If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Nigel Bellis trailwalkers@lalg.org.uk

Walking Groups



Walking Buddies ialg.org.uk/walkingbuddies

No Walks in December

Watch this space for walks in the new year.

Group Contacts:

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



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

We have now completed the Letchworth Greenway. If there is another walk in the Letchworth/Hitchin area (not more than 2 or 3 miles at a time) that members would like to do next year, please let William know.

Group Contact:

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



Walking with Difficulty ialg.org.uk/wwd

Tuesday 19 December, 11am

Radwell Meadows car park, off Norton Road, Letchworth SG6 1AN

For those who enjoy walking at a gentle pace owing to mobility problems. Walking distance is decided on the day according to walking ability.

Please let William know if you intend to come. This will be his last walk as group support helper. It is hoped that one or two members will take on the running of the group in the spring. William is happy to give any help required.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Weekend Strollers ialg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 9 December, 10.30am

Standalone Farm, Wilbury Road, Letchworth - with a Christmas Market.

Thursday 28 December, 10.30am Christmas Walk

The Green Therfield SG8 9FN by the Fox and Duck

Saturday 13 January, 10.30am Weston Village Green.

If wet, more coffee, less walk! No booking required; everyone welcome. If unsure where to meet, please get in touch. Suggestions for new locations welcome.

Group Contact:

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



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

Wednesday 13 December, 8pm

Wetherspoons, Leys Avenue

Do join us for a pre-Christmas drink. Our planning meeting was held too late for details to be included in this newsletter but an email with a summary will be circulated to the group.

If you are interested in our plans for 2024, please get in touch. All ideas, suggestions and offers to plan trips are welcome.

Group Contact:

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

Linked Organisations

The Arts Society North Herts www.theartsocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art Lectures at the Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month at 11am except in January and August. Everyone welcome. Contact: theartsociety.nh@gmail.com
Baldock Floral Society www.baldockfloralsociety.com	First Thursday evening each month in Baldock Community Centre. Part of NAFAS, providing workshops and expert demonstrations. Contact: Jean Metzger 07767 884728 or 01462 490930; metzjean@aol.com
Baldock Folk Club	Free admission; donations to performers welcome. Usually at the Orange Tree Pub, Baldock. www.baldockfolkclub.org Contact: Brian Burke 07768 274037; baldockfolkclub@gmail.com
Baldock Town Twinning Association www.baldocktowntwinning.com	Twinning with Eisenberg and Sarvignes. Annual exchanges and 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 and 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 and book signings. 10% LALG discount over £10; some exceptions. Contact: 01462 684631; info@davids-bookshops.co.uk
Forty Plus Cycling Club www.fortypluscc.co.uk	Rides of 25-40 miles to a pub lunch, mainly on quiet lanes. Thursdays 10.30am. New members welcome. Contact: Stuart Collins 07710 507069; stuartcollins2016@gmail.com
Friends of Norton Common www.facebook.com/friendsofnortoncommon	Volunteers working to preserve Norton Common. Weekly working parties on Thursdays from 9.30am. Contact: friendsofnortoncommon@virginmedia.com
Hitchin Floral Art Club	Qualified NAFAS floral demonstrators show how to create pleasing designs. Also in-house workshops. Contact: Jen 07833 948288; hartinthecorner@gmail.com
Karate-do Shotokai	Karate-do Shotokia teaches a relaxed and fluid style that will improve balance, develop strength and skills. Friendly DBS and 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 and 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 and recreational classes. Contact: info@lethworthsettlement.org.uk
Letchworth Film Club www.broadway-lethworth.com/cinema/lethworth-film-club/	We view quality films at Broadway Cinema that might not otherwise come here. Discounted tickets. Contact: Lynne McGeachie 01462 683724; lynne@lethworthfilmclub.com
Letchworth Garden City Society www.lgcs.org.uk	History/architecture of Letchworth and 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 and raffle! Contact: Bernard Pritchard 07563 875127; info@lethworthjazz.org.uk

Linked Organisations

Letchworth Men In Sheds www.leitchworthshed.org	Non-profit workshop. Share/ learn new skills, drop in to socialise. Reduced fee for LALG members. Contact: Peter Hill 07941 889066; leitchworthmeninsheds@gmail.com
Letchworth Model Railway Society www.leitchworthmrs.org.uk	Meets weekly: Mondays and Wednesdays at Standalone Farm, Letchworth. Contact: secretary@leitchworthmrs.org.uk
Letchworth Open Water Swimming	Regular open water swimming and 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 and new. Contact: Margaret Bowen 01462 679112 me77bowen@gmail.com
Letchworth Scale Model Club leitchworthsmc.yolasite.com	Static modelling: figure modelling, vehicles, aircraft, ships, etc. Talks and 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 and matinees at Milton Keynes Theatre. No travel arrangements included. Contact: Clive Roylance cliveroylance@icloud.com
North Herts 50+ www.nh50plus.com	Courses, events and social meetings for anyone aged 50+. LALG member discount. Contact: Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; nh50plus@gmail.com
North Herts Guild of Spinners, Weavers & Dyers craftingtogether.wordpress.com	Spinning, weaving, dyeing and other textile crafts. Meets first and third Thursdays at Letchworth Settlement, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, during term time. Contact: craftingtogether@gmail.com
North Herts Ramblers Group nhrg.org.uk	Weekend and occasional mid-week walks in North Herts, Beds, Essex and beyond. Walking holidays in the UK and abroad. Courses in leadership. Contact: Leon Fotiadis 07525 796814; leon.fotiadis@ntlworld.com
North Herts Speakers Club www.northhertsspeakers.org	Develops competence in leadership and communication. First and 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 and Table tennis for over-55s, Mondays 10am, at North Herts Leisure Centre. £5pa. Concessions for those of State Pension age. Contact: Annette 07886 010542
Rainmakers International Folk Dance Group	Dances of all styles from around the world. Contact: Mark 01462 454210 www.rainmakers.org.uk
Silvertone Singers	Friendly daytime singing group. Meets every Monday in the centre of Letchworth. No auditions. Two-hour sessions: songs followed by coffee. Contact: Sue 07821 110944; suehogg2@btinternet.com
Unicorn Ceilidhs www.unicornceilidhs.org.uk	Dances for the local community, with a wide range of ceilidh bands and callers. Contact: Barry Goodman 07833 643597; barry.goodman1@ntlworld.com
Weston Music Society www.westonmusicsociety.org.uk	Usually six concerts per year by acclaimed classical musicians, including two for classical guitar. Usually Holy Trinity Church, Weston. Newcomers very welcome. Contact: Simon Armitage 01462 790214; westonconcerts@gmail.com

Linked Organisations offer benefits to LALG members. To apply to become a Linked Organisation, visit lalg.org.uk/linkedorgs or email linkedorgs@lalg.org.uk

Join LALG or Renew Your Membership

Five reasons to belong to Letchworth Arts and Leisure Group

Membership gives your whole household access to:

- ✓ **Around 140 groups and events**
- ✓ **Generous discounts at around 45 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 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 07361 040348; membership@lalg.org.uk

From the Editors

The next newsletter will be the February edition, edited by Nick Matthews.

LALG contributors are asked to send regular entries by **10 January** at the latest: unusual or longer items by **5 January** please. This will help with timely printing and distribution.

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

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

A suggestion for contributors:

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