



LETCWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

April 2024



Activities for all
In Letchworth and beyond



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lalg.org.uk

Letter from the Chair of LALG



With the warmer weather approaching I am looking forward to the wealth of activities LALG has on offer. There is the Annual in-person Quiz on Saturday 20 April and lots of New Ideas to take part in.

As we go to press the committee is preparing for our strategy workshop and future plans for this fantastic organisation. If you were not at the workshop, but would still like to give us your views and ideas, please get in touch. I would be pleased to hear what you have to say.

I look forward to meeting you at an LALG event soon.

Jackie Harber

Committee News

We have arranged networking sessions (with a training element) for group contacts on the second Thursday of each month between May and September, 7-9pm at Mrs Howard Hall. For more information contact groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Hetty Smith, the LALG Treasurer, is offering groups support with their accounts. To contact Hetty just email treasurer@lalg.org.uk

The Committee is planning to hold the annual thank-you evening for our wonderful volunteers towards the end of September. We'll advertise the date as soon as it is agreed.

Our next committee meeting is on Monday 22 April 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
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Website Editors:			website@lalg.org.uk

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Cover photograph: Fountain in Broadway Gardens by Tony Maynard Smith



Open Meetings lalg.org.uk/OpenMeetings

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

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

£4 members, £6 non-members (membership is available on the door).

Tea/coffee is available before the talk, £1 per mug. Payment is by cash only.

Monday 8 April, doors open 10am for 10.30am

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

Main speaker: Graham Fisher, Chief Executive of Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation, will present the Foundation's 5-year plan, *Strategy 2028*.

First speaker: Chair, Jackie Harber will talk about the committee's work on a new 3-year plan for LALG.

Monday 6 May No meeting in May due to Bank Holidays.

Contact:

openmeetings@lalg.org.uk



London Places lalg.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.

Group Contacts:

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



Trips ialg.org.uk/trips

Tuesday 30 April, 11am

Bletchley Park, with a guided tour

Join us for a visit to Bletchley Park, Sherwood Drive, Milton Keynes MK3 6EB. Bletchley Park was the top-secret home of the Second World War code-breakers and is now a heritage attraction. It is recognised as one of the best visitor attractions in England.

There is, of course, a link to Letchworth Garden City, as the Bombe machines, which played a crucial role in cracking German codes, were built here and taken to Bletchley under cover of darkness.

The cost of admission and a guided tour is £28 per person.

The private guided tour is booked for 11am.

There is a guidebook priced at £7, which costs £6 if ordered in advance.

There are two cafés or you are welcome to bring your own picnic and eat it in the park – weather permitting of course!

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

To reserve a place, and for payment details, please contact Sally Cannon at trips@ialg.org.uk. Please note that payments are non-refundable unless someone else takes a cancelled place.

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

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

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: **Friday 26 April.**

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon trips@ialg.org.uk



Theatres and Excursions lalg.org.uk/theatresandexcursions

Sunday 9 June – now booking

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

Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, London.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Vasily Petrenko.

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

Cost: £22 (£23 non-LALG members), includes coach fare and a good seat in the front stalls. This is a great price to watch this superb orchestra at such a wonderful venue. The coach leaves Letchworth railway station bus stop adjacent to the car park at 11am.

Wednesday 24 July (afternoon performance)

Singin' in the Rain – Musical at Kilworth House Theatre, North Kilworth, Leicestershire.

Booking for this coach visit is open from Tuesday 2 April at 9.30am.

A welcome return to this award-winning Open-Air Theatre. The theatre is built in a beautiful wooded glade and has a magnificent sail-like canopy that provides protection for the whole audience against adverse weather.

Based on the classic MGM movie starring Gene Kelly and includes some of the best-loved comedy routines, dance numbers and love ballads ever written.

There is a bar, designated picnic area and facilities for buying hot snacks.

Cost £52 (£53 non-LALG) - includes coach and excellent seat in centre section.

The Coach will leave Letchworth Station Bus Stop opposite Barclays Bank at 12 noon.

To book, phone Malcolm King.

Group Contact:

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



Visiting Churches lalg.org.uk/visitingchurches

Sunday 21 April, 1.30pm for 2pm

Chicksands Priory

This visit is full. Email Ann if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

Chicksands Priory dates from 1150 but was dissolved in 1538. Very little is now visible but the site has a rich history and is the only surviving example of a Gilbertine cloister (now the Officers' Mess and not at all monastic).

Some buried remains were found by TV's *Time Team* dig in 2001.

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

Full details including directions are available at lalg.org.uk/Chicksands.

Note: the Priory is on a military base and only those who have booked will be allowed entry.

Group Contact:

Ann visitingchurches@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Annual Golf Event lalg.org.uk/annualgolf

Thursday 17 October, 11am onwards

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

Tee times: 11.04am - 11.28am.

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

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

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

Event Contact:

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



Annual Table Tennis Event

Sunday 15 September, 10am - 12pm

Letchworth Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB

Cost: Depends on numbers - but a small fee 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



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

Saturday 20 April, 7pm for 7.30pm

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

It's time for this year's light-hearted general knowledge quiz, organised by LALG's Social Team. Tickets are available at lalg.org.uk/AprilQuiz – £36 per team of up to six people. If you want to come on your own, or as a pair, then contact LALG's Quiz Team group (see page 29) as they will be making up teams. Bring your own snacks, drink and glasses, plus food to eat in the interval if you wish.

Event Contact:

Quiz Team group quizteam@lalg.org.uk



London Villages lalg.org.uk/londonvillages

Wednesday 8 May

Repeat of the successful Clerkenwell walk. Join us if you missed this gem or come along again. 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 book a place or for more details.

Group Contact:

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

Trips & Events



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:

Social Team; socialteam@lalg.org.uk



Train Buddies lalg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 4 April, 2pm

Our next meeting is on Thursday 4 April at the Broadway Hotel when we will agree details of our trip to Oxford on Thursday 30 May.

Group Contact:

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



Midsummer Walks

Friday 14 June

Strawberry Moon walk.

Thursday 20 June

Longest Day walk to Cambridge and return by train.

More details of both walks to be given in the next newsletter.

Contact:

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



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

Exeter in springtime - Wednesday 17 - Thursday 18 April

There has been good support for this, the group's first visit.

Many have elected to stay an additional night.

There are still a couple of spaces for this trip (by train) to Exeter, book now to join us.

Durham - Tuesday 11 - Thursday 13 June

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@lalg.org.uk

Afternoon Quiz Group

A few members have suggested a regular afternoon quiz - if that would interest you too, please get in touch.

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

Artificial Intelligence Discussion Group

Wednesday 10 April, 10.30am

The Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

This is our second meeting so we expect to launch as a group soon. We would welcome more people.

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

Backgammon Group

Time to revive this old favourite! If you would like a regular game of backgammon, please get in touch.

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

Birdwatching Group

Thursday 18 April, 10.30am

Meet in the Letchworth Open Air Pool car park (free) on Icknield Way.

We will be watching, listening and identifying local birds on Norton Common.

We already have eight participants; more are welcome.

Future trips will include Standalone Farm, Oughtonhead Common Nature Reserve and Purwell Ninesprings.

Contact: Philip Sayers 07854 782687; 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.

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

Group Support Team

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

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635

Steve Green 07710 542803

William Armitage 01462 643537

groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Film Appreciation 2

We have a Film Appreciation group which has been running for many years and has a waiting list. Do we have sufficient interest for a second one? We could operate in a similar way, meeting once a month to discuss a film chosen by members, or in a completely different way. Six people are needed to get it going. Please state if you would prefer daytime or evening meetings.

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

Living in an Online World

Thursday 4 April, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. For help with smart phones, social media, online banking etc. More volunteer helpers needed.

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

National Theatre Group

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

Deadline to record interest: Friday 5 April.

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

Outdoor Swimming

A regular early morning swim at the outdoor pool (open May - Sept). Possibly a Thursday once a fortnight. 8-9 am swim, followed by a drink at a café in town.

Contact: Steve Green 07710542803; newideas@lalg.org.uk

Proms Classical Music Festival Group

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

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

Walking Holiday Club

We would like to revive the Annual LALG Walking Holiday, usually for five-day breaks during the week in a country house in locations such as the Dales or at the seaside. We are also looking at short UK breaks with guided walks graded as easy, moderate or more strenuous for a mixed-ability group. The walks would be led by experienced, qualified leaders. Please get in touch if this would interest you or if you could help with the organisation. We aim to start in 2025.

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

If you are interested in a New Idea, we always recommend emailing or calling the Group Contact to check first.



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 23 April, 7.30pm

Peter Pan by J M Barrie.

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 29 April, 7.30pm

Outback by Patricia Wolf. We meet at the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Sorry, we are not currently open to new members, but please get in touch with the group contact to go on the waiting list.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Daytime Book Group ialg.org.uk/daytimebook

Monday 8 April, 2pm

We meet at the Premier Inn, Station Road SG6 3BQ on the second Monday of the month. In April we will discuss *My Brilliant Friend* by Elena Ferrante. Please see the group webpage for details of books we have read since 2013.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Fairfield Book Group ialg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Thursday 4 April, 7.30pm

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

Thursday 2 May, 7.30pm

In Memoriam by Alice Winn.

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 10 April, 11am - 12 noon

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

Wednesday 8 May, 11am - 12 noon

Small Things like These by Claire Keegan.

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

Group Contact:

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



Monday Painting Group lalg.org.uk/mondaypainting

Mondays, 9am - 12 noon

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

Group Contact:

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



Opera and Ballet lalg.org.uk/operagroup

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

Should you wish to receive early information, or any articles of interest relating to opera or ballet, or further information about the group itself, 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@lalg.org.uk



Play Reading 1 lalg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 15 April, 1.30pm

The Suspicions of Mr Whicher by Alexandra Wood.

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@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Play Reading 2 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Poetry in the Afternoon lalg.org.uk/poetryafternoon

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full

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.



Readers Group lalg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 25 April, 7.45pm for 8pm

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles.

Thursday 23 May, 7.45pm for 8pm

Still Life by Sarah Winman.

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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Science Book Group lalg.org.uk/sciencebookgroup

Wednesday 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@lalg.org.uk



Sculpture Group lalg.org.uk/Sculpture

The tour of the King's Cross area was held after the deadline for this newsletter. More news in the May newsletter.

Acting Group Contact:

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



Shakespeare Study Group lalg.org.uk/shakespeare

Wednesday 3 April, 10.30am

We are a friendly informal group who are interested in learning more the works of William Shakespeare. We meet the first Wednesday of the month to choose, read and discuss a particular play.

Group Contact:

Karl Schmierer shakespeare@lalg.org.uk

Currently full?

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



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

Friday 19 April, 10.30am

We will meet for our first outing of the year at Ickleford by the green near the church SG5 3TG.

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@lalg.org.uk



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

Thursday 25 April

Twelve Angry Men (matinee performance, 2.30pm).

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

Cost of ticket: £35

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

Group Contact:

Brian Sykes; 07710 274503 playgoing@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 simply would like to be kept informed please email or call the Group contact.

Group Contact:

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

Email problems

Our bulk emailing system has hit a problem. Some email providers are rejecting emails, causing problems for our service provider. We are working hard to find a solution.

In the meantime, around 400 members are not getting information emails from us for now. Information is still in the newsletter, on the website and social media.



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



World Books lalg.org.uk/world-books

Third Wednesday of the month, 11am

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

Group Contact:

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



Newsletter Delivery

In view of recent delivery problems, we will be using pigeons to deliver the newsletter on a trial basis from 1 April. For more information, please contact April1@lalg.org.uk.

Advertising in the LALG newsletter

Adverts in the LALG newsletter reach over 3,000 local people, covering a variety of ages and interests. We welcome advertising from other voluntary organisations and leisure providers, linked organisations and businesses in our discount scheme.

Our advertising rates are:

Commercial: Full A5 page £75, Half £45

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

Further details see newsletter@lalg.org.uk



Art and Craft Workshop lalg.org.uk/artworkshop

First and third Thursdays of the month, afternoons

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

The workshops are relaxed and include refreshments – all for £3 per session.

Beginners welcome, with materials supplied at the first session.

For further information please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Clock Group lalg.org.uk/clockgroup

Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 9.30pm

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

We meet to study and repair clocks under our tutor Richard Edwards, with the able assistance of clockmaker Derek Chapman.

Members work on their own clocks. Meetings are held during term time, but there are no meetings during the summer term.

Please get in touch by emailing the group contact.

Group Contact:

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



Embroidery lalg.org.uk/embroidery

Third Wednesday of the month, 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@lalg.org.uk



Flower Arranging lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Gardening at the Weekend lalg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

There is no visit planned for April.

Group Contact:

Wendy Martindale 07803 888162 or 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, while 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

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@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



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

Monday 8 April, from 1.30pm

Visit to Danesbury Fernery, near Welwyn AL6 9RD ("the best fernery in the Home Counties") followed by refreshments at The Secret Truffletier Shop and Café, Woolmer Green SG3 6JE.

Monday 22 April, from 2pm

Christine'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 currently meeting at garden centres and gardens open to the public. Members are sent details of forthcoming venues. We have a waiting list for our group.

Group Contact:

Ros Dollman 01462 683769; gardeningTT3@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



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

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.

Details of our April photo shoot are to be confirmed; contact Graham for details. 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 lalg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of the month, 10am - 12 noon

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

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

Refreshments and use of an iron provided.

There is a small charge to cover room hire.

Group Contact:

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



Taiko Drumming lalg.org.uk/taiko

Tuesday or Wednesday evening, 7pm - 9pm

London Road Studios, Unit 13, London Road, Baldock SG7 6 NG. Have fun learning this Japanese skill in a small, tutor-led group. Drums provided. A reasonable level of fitness is necessary. £10 per session to cover room hire, tuition and equipment.

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

Group Contact:

Claire 07702 041934; taiko@lalg.org.uk



Textile Art Group lalg.org.uk/textileart

Third Monday of the month

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

Group Contact:

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



Textiles Group lalg.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@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-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@lalg.org.uk

LALG and data protection

We use your personal data only to keep you informed of LALG activities and to send you information from other organisations that share our values and from our discount suppliers. We store your data securely. We do not give your data to anyone else without your permission.

If you cease to be a member, we remove your data from our records.

Data Protection Officer: Judith Gower dpo@lalg.org.uk

NORTH HERTS BOWLS CLUB

'Come and Try Bowls'



Every Monday 2 – 4pm / May to
September

Just turn up or contact John
Equipment and friendly tuition available
Plus tea and biscuits !

LALG member discount

Lower Green, Norton Common, Letchworth

Contact: John Atkinson 01462 684914

Casita.office@hotmail.co.uk

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



Author Event

Making History with Richard Cohen

Thursday 25 April, 7pm (doors 6.30pm)

David's Bookshop

Tickets £5.00

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

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

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



Breakfast Club ialg.org.uk/breakfast

Tuesday 9 April, 10am

Cultivo Lounge, 32 Leys Avenue, Letchworth Garden City SG6 3EW

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

You can either have a full English breakfast or just choose off the varied menu.

Gluten Free and Vegetarian options are available.

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 11 April, 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.

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

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**.



Sunday Lunch Club

Sunday 21 April, 12.30pm

The Three Horseshoes, 102 Norton Road, Letchworth SG6 1AG.

For a wide selection of vegetarian and vegan food as well as pub classics and Sunday roast. Contact Jackie by 13 April.

Group Contact:

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



Supper Club lalg.org.uk/supperclub

Monday 15 April, 7pm for 7.30pm

The Five Bells, 101 High Street, Henlow, SG16 6AE. Join us for evening dinner at this popular pub and restaurant. Please phone Linda to book in and for a menu. The menu choices need to be returned by Monday 8 April.

Group Contact:

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



Vegetarian and Vegan Group lalg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

Friday 26 April, 12.30pm

Spirella Community Café, Letchworth, SG6 4ET for the April social gathering. If you'd like to attend, please email the group contacts by Sunday 21 April.

Group Contacts:

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



Wine Appreciation Group lalg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 5 April, 7.30pm - 10pm

Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB.

A presentation by Robin Boar on Spanish wines. We have a full programme through to July. If you are interested in joining us, you would be very welcome, please contact either George Barnes or Tony Mansey.

Group Contacts:

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



Wine Discovery lalg.org.uk/winediscoverygroup

Please get in touch for details of our next meeting.

Group Contacts:

Moir and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Wine Group 3 lalg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesday 16 April, 7.30pm

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

Group Contacts:

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

General Groups



Action for Happiness lalg.org.uk/actionforhappiness

Monthly on a Wednesday, 7pm, via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

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



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

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

Group Contact:

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



All Things Military lalg.org.uk/allthingsmilitary

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

Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. Our speaker "Bill" Lindsay on Light Car Patrols in WW1 - they were the forerunners of the Long Range Desert Group and the S.A.S. in WW2.

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

Group Contact:

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



Ancient Egypt Study Group lalg.org.uk/ancientegypt

Third Thursday of the month, 7.30pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Architecture lalg.org.uk/architecture2

The tour of the King's Cross area was held after the deadline for this newsletter. More news in the May newsletter.

Acting Group Contact:

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

If a group is full ...

If the group you want to join is full, it might be possible to start another.

You are welcome to email details and contact information to

newideas@lalg.org.uk

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Agent Brains Escape Games	26 Leys Avenue	539763	10% off all off-peak game bookings
Alexander Lewis Estates	9 Arena Parade	510881	10% off fee for sales
Alders Opticians	15 Eastcheap	673216	10% off spectacles
A M Optometrists	29 Leys Avenue	486123	10% off complete glasses
Beautiful Bathrooms	53 Leys Avenue	484477	10% off bathroom products
Cooks Boutique	22 Leys Avenue	01708 691322	10% off purchases over £10
Daliani Boutique	11 The Arcade	07400 936884	10% off
David's Bookshop	12-14 Eastcheap	684631	10% over £10, some exceptions
David's Music	12 Eastcheap	475900	10% over £10, some exceptions
David Stern Opticians	10 Arena Parade	683045	10% off, excluding eye test
Evolve Life Pain & Injury Clinic	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
Tom Badstevener Gas Safe Engineer	44 Maltings Close, Baldock	07970 958483	10% off labour
Tutti Frutti clothing	12a Central Approach	07725 830913	10% off sales of £10 or more
Vutie Beets vegan café	24/25 The Wynd	337930	10% off all sales
Walkwel Clinic	13 Eastcheap	682526	5% off non-sale footwear only, in Letchworth and Stevenage

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

General Groups



Black Squirrel Country Dancing lalg.org.uk/countrydancing

Tuesday 16 April, 6.30pm - 8pm

We meet on the third Tuesday of most months at Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR.

Complete beginners with two left feet very welcome!

All dances taught/called. LALG members £4, non-members £5, under-18s £2.

All welcome! No need to bring a dance partner. We are a very friendly group.

Group Contact:

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



Black Squirrel Investment Club lalg.org.uk/investmentclub

Fourth Tuesday of the month

For venues, please contact Graham.

After 23 years of superb analysis and uncanny intuition, we remain competitive with the FTSE 100!!

For more information on the group, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



Blitz an Open Space lalg.org.uk/litter

**Letchworth: Saturdays 6 April and 11 May and
Thursdays 25 April and 9 May**

**Baldock: Wednesdays 17 April, and 15 May
Sundays 14 April and 26 May**

Venues to be advised nearer the time.

To date the teams have collected 1410 bags of litter. Volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Brian (Letchworth) or Gary (Baldock) if you can advise them of any areas that need attention by our teams of volunteers.

Group Contacts:

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



Computer Users lalg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Last Wednesday of the month, 10.30am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

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 computer support: it is a self-help group.

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor usingcomputers@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



Decarbonise Letchworth Group lalg.org.uk/decarbonise

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 to reduce its carbon footprint. Cycle infrastructure, heat pumps, electric cars and insulation are hot topics at the moment. For dates and times contact Julia.

Group Contact:

Julia Sonander decarbonise@lalg.org.uk



Decluttering lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Europe and Beyond lalg.org.uk/europeandbeyond

Next meeting planned for **May or June: 'A Town Like Letchworth: Garden Towns in Europe, Then and Now'**.

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@lalg.org.uk



Geology lalg.org.uk/geology

There is no meeting planned for April.

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 lalg.org.uk/Piccadilly

Group Contact:

Carrie Dunne geology@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



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

Tuesday 14 May

If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

We are working 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@lalg.org.uk



Monthly Quiz lalg.org.uk/monthlyquiz

Our online quizzes have finished for the summer; they will restart in the autumn when the nights draw in. Thank you to all the quiz hosts: they have worked hard and entertained us well. Thank you also to all the quizzers, for making it worthwhile.

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

In the meantime, come along to the Annual In-person Quiz on Saturday 20 April (see page 6).

Group Contact:

Ann monthlyquiz@lalg.org.uk



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

Tuesday 9 April, 7.30pm

Escaping to Fight Again

The Second World War started on 3rd September here in Britain, but in Poland and the Ukraine it began on the 1st, and active fighting in those territories lasted for only a few weeks.

This is an account based on a Polish soldier's diary of what happened then, and what happened next, further afield.

We meet on alternate months at the Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. New folks very welcome!

Group Contact:

Devi 01462 624906; polish@lalg.org.uk



Psychology lalg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 10 April, 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 see our webpage.

Group Contact:

Ken Jordan psychology@lalg.org.uk

General Groups



Quiz Team lalg.org.uk/quizteam

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

Wednesday 3 April, 7.15pm

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

Monday 8 April, 8pm

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

Wednesday 17 April, 8pm

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

Saturday 20 April, 7.30pm

The annual LALG quiz night at the Settlement. £36 per table of 6. Bring your own refreshments (see page 6).

Monday 22 April, 7.30pm

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

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

Group Contact:

Andrew Dear quizteam@lalg.org.uk



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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Sign Language Group lalg.org.uk/signlanguage

Mondays 8 and 22 April, 7pm - 8.30pm

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX. We meet every other week to learn British Sign Language signs, led by Debbie.

The group is very casual and will be happy to have new members any time – hearing and hard of hearing are all welcome. Feel free to get in touch for more information. There will be a £4 per person charge (cash only) for the room hire.

Group Contact:

Claire 07950 779193; signlanguage@lalg.org.uk

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

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

General Groups



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

Tuesday 23 April, 7.30pm

Jackmans Community Centre, Ivel Court SG6 2NL.

The Buckingham Canal was dammed off during WW2 in 1944 having been disused since the 1930s.

The Buckingham Canal Society has reopened ½ mile at Cosgrove connected to the Grand Union as well as restoring a bridge.

Terry Cavender will talk about the engineering and other challenges as well as covering the rationale for canal restoration both at Buckingham and nationally.

He will explain why it matters in today's environmental, financial, social, and leisure-time climate.

LALG members £3, guests £5.

Group Contact:

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



Weather Report Group lalg.org.uk/weather

Do you record local weather statistics?

If so, you will be welcome to join our small group.

Please get in touch!

Group Contact:

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



Wild Flowers lalg.org.uk/wildflowers

We will soon be starting our wildflower trips.

I had hoped we could go to Astonbury wood to see the wood anemones but it's all been too muddy.

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

Group Contact:

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

Save the date...

Letchworth Open Gardens (founded by LALG)

Sunday 30 June

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

More details in the May newsletter.

Language Groups



Conversation Française ialg.org.uk/french1

Lundis soirs 19h30 à 21h30

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

Group Contact:

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



Daytime French ialg.org.uk/DaytimeFrench

Thursdays, 2.30pm

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

Group Contacts:

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

Currently Full



Dutch Conversation ialg.org.uk/dutch

Once a month on Wednesday mornings

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

Group Contact:

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



German Daytime ialg.org.uk/germandaytime

Wednesdays, 2pm

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

Group Contact:

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



German Group 1 ialg.org.uk/german1

Tuesdays, afternoon/evening

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

Group Contact:

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



Italian Conversation 1 ialg.org.uk/italian1

Usually Fridays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

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

Language Groups



Italian Conversation 3 lalg.org.uk/italian3

Mondays 8 and 22 April, 2.30pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Latin lalg.org.uk/latin

Alternate Monday evenings, 8pm, via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

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



Russian Language РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК lalg.org.uk/russian

Thursdays, 2.30pm - 4pm, via Zoom

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

We do need new members.

Group Contact:

Sheila Hogan russian@lalg.org.uk



Spanish Conversation lalg.org.uk/spanish

Thursdays, 7.30pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Welsh Language and Culture lalg.org.uk/welsh

Last Wednesday of the month, 2pm

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

Group Contact:

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

Local discounts

For details of local businesses offering generous discounts to LALG members, visit lalg.org.uk/discounts.

Social Groups



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

Fridays, 7.30pm

We gather at tables in the bar at the Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN.

You are welcome to drop in, but please ring in advance if you would like Anne to look out for you arriving.

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

We also organise trips and events for members to sign up to.

For more information, please do get in touch.

Group Contact:

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



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

Thursdays, 10.30am

We are a small group and we really enjoy our time together.

More details on our webpage.

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 1 lalg.org.uk/coffee1

Alternate Wednesdays, 10.30am

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Meet for Coffee 2 lalg.org.uk/coffee2

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

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@lalg.org.uk

Group Support Team

If you need help with launching a new LALG group or reviving an existing group, we are here to help. Please email the team: groupsupport@lalg.org.uk

Social Groups



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

Tuesday 9 April, 2pm

Prep Lounge, 2 Whitehorse Street, Baldock SG7 6QN.

We are a small group and welcome new members.

Group Contact:

Jackie Sayers 07970 407635 coffee4@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 5 lalg.org.uk/coffee5

Friday 5 and 19 April, 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:

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



Meet for Coffee 6 lalg.org.uk/coffee6

Thursday 18 April, 10.30am

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

Please note that for April only we are meeting on the third Thursday.

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

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

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



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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full



Badminton 1 lalg.org.uk/badminton1

Mondays, 8pm - 10pm

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

Group Contact:

Paul McCann badminton1@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Badminton 2 lalg.org.uk/badminton2

Mondays, 7pm - 8pm

Fearnhill School, Icknield Way SG6 4BA. We play mixed doubles and have mixed abilities. Our games are sociable, with the emphasis on fun. Currently we have some spare capacity, get in touch if you would be interested.

Group Contact:

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



Bridge Club lalg.org.uk/bridgeclub

Tuesdays and Fridays, 1pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Chess for Fun lalg.org.uk/chess

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

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

Group Contact:

Nayier Ahmad; chess@lalg.org.uk



Darts for Fun lalg.org.uk/darts

Wednesdays, 3pm - 5pm

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

Group Contact:

Jackie 07557 439599; darts@lalg.org.uk



Cribbage ialg.org.uk/cribbage

Afternoon sessions: First 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 6 April, 10am

Friday 19 April, 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 8 and 22 April, 7.15pm - 9.30pm

Methodist Church Hall, North Avenue SG6 1DH. Parking at front; entry on the right-hand side of the building. We would love to have new members to join us happy gamers this year. £3 – please pay by card only; no cash. Our club is very welcoming so don't worry if you haven't played a certain game. We play a wide variety of board and card games. If you're interested in joining us, please get in touch with the group contact by phone prior to your visit.

Group Contact:

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



Games on the Grange ialg.org.uk/grangegames

Every Monday, 10.30am

We meet at the Grange Community Centre Café, Middlefields SG6 4NG. All members are welcome to drop in. Parking is available nearby.

Group Contact:

Rhian Blakey grangegames@ialg.org.uk



Garden City Wheelers ialg.org.uk/GCWheelers

Thursday 18 April, 10.30am

Weather permitting, we will meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens for a ride to Hexton with lunch in The Raven. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider, doing a return distance 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.

Our group is always open to new members.

Group Contact:

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



Indoor Tennis lalg.org.uk/indoortennis

We play mixed doubles, intermediate level, at Letchworth Tennis Club during the winter months. For now, we limit numbers each week to four and play for 1 hour at £8 per person. We could increase to 1.5 hours for £12 per person. Please contact Sheryl to join our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Sheryl Hann indoortennis@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Mahjong lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf lalg.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@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Par 3 Golf Wednesdays lalg.org.uk/par3wednesdays

Every Wednesday, 2pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian

Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104

There is a small course charge.

The clubhouse serves light refreshments – website for opening times.

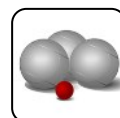
Way SG6 2HJ.
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see the Golf Centre's

Group Contact:

Graham Taylor par3wednesdays@lalg.org.uk

Currently Full



Pétanque lalg.org.uk/petanque

Wednesdays, 2pm - 3pm

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

Several of us meet in the café afterwards for a chat and a cuppa.

There are three lanes, so up to 18 people can play at the same time.

Fees are now £3.60.

Group Contact:

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

No contact phone number?

If an event listing gives no phone number, you can call the LALG Chair on **07361 040348** for further details.



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 11 and 25 April, 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 eight members so far – more will always be welcome!

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

There is a more challenging variant called Auction Piquet which we might play in future. Please get in touch if you'd like to join us.

Group Contact:

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

Rummikub ialg.org.uk/rummikub

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am - 12 noon

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

Group Contact:

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



Rummikub 2 ialg.org.uk/rummikub2

Wednesdays, 10am for 10.30am

We have coffee in the café at Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. There are Rummikub sets at the coffee bar: if the group contact is unavoidably absent, just ask for the sets and you can play.

We start playing at 10.30am and play for two hours. New members are always welcome, even if you have never played before: it's an easy game to pick up!

Group Contact:

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



Scrabble ialg.org.uk/scrabbleclub

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 lalg.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@lalg.org.uk



Snooker lalg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays 11 and 25 April, 2pm - 4pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Social Cycling lalg.org.uk/socialcycling

Alternate Sunday mornings

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

Group Contact:

Pamela Ghisi socialcycling@lalg.org.uk



Table Tennis for Fun lalg.org.uk/TableTennisFun

Thursdays, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. Please get in touch for confirmation. New members welcome. If you're thinking of joining us for the first time, please phone Jane 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@lalg.org.uk



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

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

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

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

Group Contact:

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

Currently Full

News from our groups

Meet for Coffee Group 3 has moved to David's Café. Up to 10 of us come along at 2pm on the first and third Wednesday of each month. ➡

The Chess group meets on the third Monday of each month, 7.30pm at Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club. ⬇



↑ The Art and Craft Workshop meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Here they are learning about watercolour painting and already achieving great results.

The Trips group recently visited the British Schools Museum in Hitchin. One member almost got the cane! ⬅

Walking Groups



Alternative Ramblers ialg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 14 April, meet at 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet at The Lytton Arms, Park Lane, Old Knebworth, Knebworth SG3 6QB
A 5.5-mile walk on mostly tracks and lanes with minimal roadside and path walking and some slight inclines. Through wooded areas and the grounds of Knebworth House.

Parking: at the Lytton Arms for those eating or drinking there, otherwise, please park on the road SG3 6QE.

To book a table at The Lytton Arms please phone 01438 812312.

To book the walk contact Mark either via WhatsApp Group, phone 07985 666791 or email arleader@ialg.org.uk.

Mobile on the day: 07985 666791

Group Contact:

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



Baldock Walks ialg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Saturday 20 April, 9.20am for a 9.30am start (Note: Saturday walk)

Baldock to Rushden, about 11 miles.

We shall walk at a steady pace of about 2 miles per hour.

A walk to Rushden via Clothall and Shaw Green. We shall return to Baldock via Wallington and the Icknield Way trail with beautiful open countryside views.

We shall have a light lunch at the Garden Centre at Rushden but bring snacks / drinks in case for any reason the café is not open.

Could be muddy on some of the paths.

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

Group Contacts:

Julia Genders 01462 620615 or 07704 762167;

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



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

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

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

Group Contact:

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



Early Morning Walks ialg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesdays 10 and 24 April, 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

Walking Groups



Evening Strollers lalg.org.uk/eveningstrollers

Thursday 4 April, 6.30pm

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

Group Contact:

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



Fast Walking lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17 and 24 April, 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 lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Fridays 12 and 26 March, 10am - 11am

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

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

Group Contact:

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

Guided Village Walks lalg.org.uk/villagewalks

Wednesday 24 April, 10am

Special Hitchin town walk

Join a 3.5-mile walk and historic talk around Hitchin, highlighting the town's fascinating cinematic history and its Victorian railways.

Peter Rose will lead the stroll, including a spectacular view from Windmill Hill. Leaving The Angels pub - junction of Redhill Road and Bedford Road - at 10am, returning about 11.45am for coffee and/or lunch.

Please use the pub's car park off Bedford Road. Booking is essential as numbers are limited to 25.

Group Contact:

Sue Fisher villagewalks@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.

Walking Groups



Long-Distance Walkers lalg.org.uk/longdistancewalkers

For details please email or phone the group contact.

Group Contact:

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



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers midweekambleramble@lalg.org.uk

Friday 19 April, 10am for a 10.15am start

Meet in the car park of The Five Bells, Henlow, SG16 6AE at 10am to order lunch and then depart at 10.15am for a 4-mile walk led by Dennis Cannon.

Please park on the road if not staying for lunch.

We will follow the paths of the River Ivel and River Hiz into a nature reserve.

The route is flat, with no stiles, but could be slightly muddy.

To book for the walk, and lunch if required, please email

MARleader@lalg.org.uk, or phone 07932 825123, by Friday 12 April.

All bookings will be acknowledged.

Next walk : **Friday 10 May**

Group Contact:

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



Midweek Walkers lalg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

Wednesday 10 April, 10am

Whitwell Circular. The walk of around 10 miles starts at Whitwell recreation car park, SG4 8BE, passing through bluebell woods before crossing Knebworth Park then onwards to Codicote.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Book in with Mia at the group email below.

We will try to coordinate lifts if necessary.

Mobile on the day: 07517 466773.

Next walk: **Wednesday 15 May**

Group Contact:

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



Nordic Walking lalg.org.uk/Nordicwalking

Come and walk the Nordic way.

Use Nordic walking poles to enhance your walk experience.

We meet weekly for a walk of 3-4 miles, with occasional longer walks at weekends.

Group Contact:

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

Calling group contacts

Please don't forget to ask your group members to show you their LALG membership card at least annually. Or if you prefer, send a list of your members to membership@lalg.org.uk



Slower Walkers ialg.org.uk/slowerwalkers

Friday 12 April, 10.15am for a 10.30am start (Note date change)

The walk leader is Maureen Findley. Meet at the Cricketers, Damask Green Road, Weston SG4 7DA to order food for a 10.30 start. The walk will be about 4 miles, some little hills, and walking around the edge of some fields. To book a place on the walk and lunch if required, please contact Maureen by Friday 7 April ideally by email to SWLeader@ialg.org.uk or mobile 07712 128426, which will be the mobile on the day. The May walk is planned for Tuesday 14 May.

Group Contact:

Phil Taylor slowerwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Sunday Ramblers ialg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Sunday 7 April, 10am start

The walk starts at 10am, on the green in front of the Red Lion in Preston SG4 7UD, and is about 9 miles. It's through open farmland with far-reaching views and hopefully bluebells in Reynolds and Hitch Woods and a wild flower meadow at Langley. We will be going past Minsden Chapel, St Paul's Waldenbury and Stagenhoe. There are several steep climbs and usual mud warnings! Coffee stop at Minsden Chapel and lunch near Whitwell, refreshments if needed at Emily's tea shop!

Please bring a packed lunch and contact walk leader Alison on 07487 270648 or group leader Wendy if you would like to join us.

Group Contact:

Wendy 07856 768685; sundayramblers@ialg.org.uk



Trail Walkers ialg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesday 9 April, Tuesday 14 May

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

New members are warmly welcome. In April we plan to start the Icknield Way Path, which may be the oldest road in England, and which runs from Ivinghoe Beacon, through Letchworth Garden City and into Cambridgeshire and ultimately Norfolk. If you might be interested in joining us or have any questions, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Nigel Bellis trailwalkers@ialg.org.uk



Walking Buddies ialg.org.uk/walkingbuddies

Tuesday 16 April

Meet at Wardown Park, New Road, Luton Beds LU2 7HL for 11am then a small stroll around the River Lea. Wardown Park has a museum which we are told is very interesting. The museum also has a café.

Group Contacts:

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

Walking Groups



Weekend Strollers lalg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 13 April, 10.30am

Meet outside The Fox, Willian.

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@lalg.org.uk



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

The Wild Walks group is making two trips this month.

One is a trail walk in Scotland and the other a single base in Snowdonia.

The monthly social is **Wednesday 10 April, 8pm** at Wetherspoons (The Three Magnets), 18-20 Leys Avenue SG6 3EW. All welcome.

Group Contact:

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

Garden Services

Paul Longden

B.Sc., Dip.Hort.(Kew)

Tel: 01462 612387

Mob: 07908 214935

mplongden@hotmail.co.uk

Linked Organisations

The Arts Society North Herts www.theartssocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art Lectures at the Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month at 11am except in January & August. Everyone welcome. Contact: theartssociety.nh@gmail.com
Baldock Floral Society www.baldockfloralsociety.com	First Thursday evening each month in Baldock Community Centre. Part of NAFAS, providing workshops & expert demonstrations. Contact: Jean Metzger 07767 884728 or 01462 490930; metzjean@aol.com
Baldock Folk Club www.baldockfolkclub.org	Free admission; donations to performers welcome. Usually at the Orange Tree pub. Contact: Brian Burke 07768 274037; baldockfolkclub@gmail.com
Baldock Town Twinning Association www.baldocktowntwinning.com	Twinned with Eisenberg & Sanvignes. Annual exchanges & local events with an international theme. Contact: baldocktowntwinning@gmail.com
Broadway Gallery www.broadway-gallery.com	The Arcade, Letchworth. Exhibitions; drop-in family arts studio; 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.leitchworthsettlement.org.uk	Independent adult education centre providing academic & recreational classes. Contact: info@leitchworthsettlement.org.uk
Letchworth Film Club www.broadway-leitchworth.com/cinema/leitchworth-film-club/	We view quality films at Broadway Cinema that might not otherwise come here. Discounted tickets. Contact: Lynne McGeachie 01462 683724; lynne@leitchworthfilmclub.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.leitchworthjazz.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@leitchworthjazz.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.nh50plus.com	Courses, events & social meetings for anyone aged 50+. LALG member discount. Contact: Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; nh50plus@gmail.com
North Herts Bowls Club	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 Graham Taylor. The editor for the May edition will be Leon Fotiadis. Please send entries by **Wednesday 10 April**. This will ensure timely printing and distribution.

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

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

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