LALG

LETCHWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

December 2026 – January 2027

Over 180 groups events and trips



FB.com/LALGLetchworth instagram.com/LALGLetchworth lalg.org.uk

LALG Committee

Letter from the Chair



Welcome to the December-January edition of the newsletter. Lots of interesting events and trips to tempt you.

2027 will be LALG's 40th Anniversary and we are busy organising some exciting events for you to attend. Our main celebrations will be on Saturday 17 April at the Broadway Hotel Ballroom in Letchworth. There is a **coffee morning** priced at £7, which includes tea/coffee and a patisserie buffet, an **afternoon cream tea** at £20 which includes tea/coffee, scones, clotted cream, jams, sandwiches, mini cakes and also a **musical evening** at £7, including a welcome drink and music. We are subsidising these events so that as many of you as possible can come along. Booking via our website is open now, please book early to avoid disappointment. Further details on page 8.

We now have a Drop-in every Thursday morning from 10am to 12 noon at the Broadway Hotel bar. Here you can pay by card for your membership renewal, we can help you book events and we will do our best to answer your questions. I look forward to seeing you.

Seasonal greetings and a Happy New Year to you all.

Committee News

- The Committee was delighted to see so many members at the AGM on 5 October. No doubt the main attraction was our speaker, Eric Knowles, who gave a very entertaining talk on his life as a North Country antiquarian, but we were pleased to share our reports on the past year with you.
- We are also pleased to announce the election of three new members to the Committee: Ken Jordan, Brian Sykes and Mark Whitby. The Committee is now at full strength with 15 members.
- There is no Committee meeting in December and so our next meeting will be on Monday 18 January at 7.30pm at Mrs Howard Hall. If you would like to attend or submit an item for discussion, please email Tessa at secretary@lalg.org.uk.

Officers and Contact Details

Chair:	**Jackie Harber**	**07578 466982**	**chair@lalg.org.uk**
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Newsletter Editors:			**newsletter@lalg.org.uk**
Website Editors:			**webeds@lalg.org.uk**



Open Meetings lalg.org.uk/OpenMeetings

Kincaid Hall, Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB. Limited parking onsite; 2 hours' free parking by the lido and by the bowls club on Icknield Way. LALG members £4; non-members £6. No need to book. Tea/coffee available before the talk at £1 per mug.

Monday 7 December, 10.30am (doors open 10am)

Barry and Gill Goodman make a welcome return with **Down the Canal** – the story of Britain's canals in words, pictures and song.

Our first speaker is Sean Prendergast, NHDC councillor. His talk is **The Work of a Local Councillor.**

Monday 4 January, 10.30am (doors open 10am)

Our main talk is **The Archaeology of Therfield Heath.** It will be given by Keith Fitzpatrick-Matthews, NHDC Museum Curator and Heritage Access Officer. Our first speaker, Jeremy Gilham from Letchworth Cricket Club, will tell us about the Club and its ambitions for the future.

Monday 1 February, 10.30am (doors open 10am)

We are pleased to welcome back Henry Edmundson. In **From Earthquakes to Global Warming: the Himalayan People Struggle to Keep Up,** he describes the multiple environmental factors affecting Himalayan people, threatening their lives and livelihoods: earthquakes, deforestation, social unrest, and global warming.

Information about the first speaker will be published in the next newsletter.

Contact:
Jackie H 07578 466982; openmeetings@lalg.org.uk



London Places lalg.org.uk/London_places

We travel to places of interest in London, usually by train and tube. Tickets usually cover the cost of entry and a guide, if applicable; so transport and refreshments are extra. Our trips are very popular, and we typically make a visit every two months.

We are looking for one or two more people to help us with arranging these visits; **could you help**? Please get in touch for a no-strings chat.

Group Contacts:
Elaine Fox/ Tony Kuczys 01462 735642; london_places@lalg.org.uk

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All events and meetings are in Letchworth Garden City unless otherwise stated.

Cover photograph: **Ray Kennedy on iStock**



London Walks lalg.org.uk/London-walks

Walks are led by LALG volunteers and include stops for refreshments and lunch. We travel to London by off-peak train and return late afternoon. Booking is essential. We charge £5 each towards the leader's expenses. For more details, see our web page.

Group Contact:
Craig Smith 07429 206091; london-walks@lalg.org.uk



Moon Walk lalg.org.uk/moon-walk

Tuesday 22 December, 7pm

Meet at Weston Village Green. Bring a torch and suitable footwear for footpaths. Our maximum distance will be 4 miles. **Booking essential**.

Contact:
William Armitage 01462 643537 moon-walk@lalg.org.uk



Theatres and Excursions lalg.org.uk/theatresandexcursions

Friday 4 December (afternoon performance)

Christmas Celebration **Waiting list available**

Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London.
With the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Bach Choir.
Conductor: Sir John Rutter

Cost £52 (£55 non-LALG), includes coach, carol sheets and mid-arena seat.

Coach leaves Letchworth Station bus stop, by the car park, at 12.30pm.

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



Train Buddies lalg.org.uk/trainbuddies

Thursday 2 January, 2pm

Meeting at the Broadway Hotel for initial discussions on possible destinations for 2027. Bring along your ideas. A full list of the places we have visited can be found on our web page.

Group Contact: Geoff Morse 07714 503671; trainbuddies@lalg.org.uk



Trips Group lalg.org.uk/trips

Friday 19 February - Chippenham Park Gardens and lunch at La Hogue

Our first trip in 2027 is to see snowdrops and spring flowers. 35 acres of award winning gardens with woodland walks and carpets of snowdrops, lakes, sculptures and beautiful spring borders. Meet in the café, Chippenham, near Ely CB7 5PT, at 10.30am for refreshments, then free time to explore the garden. We will then meet at La Hogue, Chippenham CB7 5PZ at 12.45pm for lunch. La Hogue is a café with a farm shop selling gifts, garden plants, fruit and vegetables. Entry to the garden is £10 per person. The café is cash only. Order and pay for lunch on the day. Contact Sally Cannon to book a place by Friday 5 February. Maximum number 25.

Our next trip will be on Wednesday 7 April to Trent Park which played an important part in the Second World War. Full details in the next newsletter.

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



Visiting Churches lalg.org.uk/visitingchurches

We are a non-religious group that is interested in churches and other places of worship – their architecture, monuments, art and history – and the people who have been associated with them over the centuries. We are now in hibernation and expect to restart in Spring – details will be given in the next newsletter.

In the meantime, please send Ann suggestions for places to visit so we can start planning. A list of those we have already been to are on the website – we can revisit if there is sufficient interest. Also, please get in touch if you'd like to help organise a visit.

Group Contact: **Ann visitingchurches@lalg.org.uk**



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

We visit towns and cities in England. We usually travel by rail and stay one or two nights. Ideas for future trips would be very welcome.

Group Contact: **Jill Chaffey 07855 729556; visit-towns-and-cities@lalg.org.uk**

Support Our Venues

There is usually no cost for meetings in cafés and bars but we all buy refreshments from the venue.

Advertisement

Settlement Sessions



LaLuke Letchworth Arts and Leisure Group Ukulele Orchestra

FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY 2027
DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30PM START
TICKETS £12 LICENSED BAR AVAILABLE

LaLuke explores the phenomenon of the 'one-hit wonder' and the songs that artists could never escape; the tunes with which they would forever be associated, whether they liked it or not!

www.letchworthsettlement.org.uk/events
Kincaid Hall 229 Nevells Road Letchworth SG6 4UB
01462 682828 Registered Charity No. 311085

Crime and Murder Mystery Book Group 3

We have two similar groups that are full, so we are ready to launch a third. Meetings would be at a time and venue to suit participants. If you enjoy reading and discussing crime and murder mystery books, please get in touch.

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

Doing Cryptic Crosswords Together

Tuesday 19 January, 11.30am

David's Bookshop Café, Eastcheap, Letchworth SG6 3DE

Cryptic crosswords are a popular style of word puzzle. Unlike standard crosswords every clue in a cryptic puzzle is double layered. We could meet as often as we like, possibly at weekends.

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

Dungeons and Dragons Online

We will start with a 'Session Zero' meeting to introduce the game and gaming etiquette, and help players to create their characters. We will probably play once a week to suit participants. Players will need to run shardtabletop.com and discord.com. Get in touch for full details.

Contact: Keith 07506 291188 or John at newideas@lalg.org.uk

Enjoying Mathematics

Tuesday 1 December, 2.30pm - 4pm

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

Members will be discussing number games, calculus and pi. Everyone welcome. Just turn up. There may be an interest in an advanced group and a basic maths group. There is a small charge to cover the room hire cost.

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

Fashion, Dress, Style and Decoration

The next meeting will be in February. We have some interest in the group but not enough to guarantee success. Please get in touch if you wish to get involved.

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

I Once Met...I Once Knew

Thursday 4 February, 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Letchworth SG6 3NZ

Come along and speak for 5-10 minutes about a person or event that had a memorable impact on you. This meeting could be a one-off session or maybe more.

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

Could you help?

Could you spare a little time to support LALG groups, or help to launch new ones? You would only be asked to help with things that interest you and there is plenty of support available. No special skills are needed, just a wish to support LALG. Please contact Jackie in the Group Support Team on **07970 407635** or **groupsupport@lalg.org.uk**.

Living with Climate Change and Extreme Weather

This group could discuss, share ideas and learn about what climate change means and how we will have to adapt in everyday life in the home and at work. This is not a campaigning group. If interested, please let William know your preferred day or evening for future meetings.

Deadline to record interest: Saturday 19 December.

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

Northern Writers

Tuesday 19 January, 10.30am

David's Bookshop Café, Eastcheap, Letchworth SG6 3DE

The group will be discussing well-known and not so well-known writers. Modern award-winners as well as the writers of the classics, for example, Winifred Holtby's *South Riding*, the novels of the Brontë sisters, etc. If you are interested but unable to attend, please send your contact details to William. A good attendance will ensure the group will get going.

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

Radio and Podcasts Listeners Group

Wednesday 6 January, 10.30am

David's Bookshop Café, Eastcheap, Letchworth SG6 3DE

Radio, including the BBC, World Service, local and commercial stations, is a rewarding and relaxing way of learning and being entertained. The group might discuss something that has caught the imagination.

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

Rock 'n' Roll

Friday 4 December, 10.30am

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

Bring your favourite record of anything you consider is Rock 'n' Roll. We are a new group keen to discover who are your favourite artists and groups. Just turn up. There is a small charge to cover room hire costs.

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

Studying Drama

Wednesday 6 January, 2.30pm

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

My Favourite play. At the meeting members are invited to talk about their favourite play or production, or just come to listen. If you are unable to attend or prefer evenings contact William. Small charge to cover costs.

Contact:

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

Membership of LALG

To attend LALG groups, you should be a member of LALG. 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.

Let's Celebrate



LALG

LETCHWORTH ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

At the Broadway Hotel Ballroom



Coffee Morning £7

Tea/coffee and patisserie buffet



Afternoon Tea £20

Scones, clotted cream, jams, sandwiches, mini cakes & tea/coffee



Musical Evening £7

Includes welcome drink & music

RECORDERS FOR FUN, SINGING SEA SHANTIES, LALUKE









ARTS & LEISURE GROUP

40th LALG ANNIVERSARY

1987 - 2027

SATURDAY 17 APRIL

SAVE THE DATE



All Things Music

lalg.org.uk/all-things-music

Monthly on a Friday, 2pm - 4pm

Broadway Gallery (above Wetherspoons), 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES.

Each meeting has a theme; we all speak about our choices and play a snippet and chat around the topic and much wider! All welcome.

Group Contact:

Mary Patrick 07872 909643; all-things-music@lalg.org.uk



Art Appreciation

lalg.org.uk/artappreciation

Tuesday 15 December, 7.30pm - William Morris

Tuesday 19 January, 7.30pm - JMW Turner

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We love art. Every member leads a discussion or presentation on a subject of their choice. We also have a convivial chat and gossip! You are more than welcome to join us.

Group Contact:

Jon Marsh artappreciation@lalg.org.uk



Bob Dylan and Friends

lalg.org.uk/bob-dylan

Wednesday 9 December, 10.30am - A lighthearted balloon debate, will Dylan avoid being cast overboard by his contemporaries? The outcome could rest on his current UK concert performances.

Wednesday 13 January, 10.30am - Discussion about the film *Don't Look Back,* an American documentary that covers Bob Dylan's infamous 1965 tour of England.

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

A discussion group looking at the works of Dylan and other singer-songwriters.

Group Contact:

John Bray 07767 707141; bob-dylan@lalg.org.uk



British History Reading Group

lalg.org.uk/britishhistory

Thursday 17 December, 7.30pm

The Face of Battle by John Keegan

We are studying Western Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire up to around 750 AD. Although we are focusing on British history we sometimes venture beyond. All welcome.

Group Contact:

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



Children's Books

lalg.org.uk/childrensbooks

Tuesday 15 December, 7.30pm *The Story of Holly and Ivy* by Rumer Godden

We enjoy reading classic and current books aimed at children, from picture books to teen fiction. We discuss the content, writing style, format and relevance to the period in which it was written.

Group Contact:

Jane Faulkner childrensbooks@lalg.org.uk



Cinema lalg.org.uk/cinema

Friday 5 December, 2pm-3.45pm, via Zoom

We will be watching one of Fritz Lang's lesser known films 'live' (on YouTube) with pauses to enable on-the-spot discussion of the narrative development, characterisation and mise-en-scène of the chosen movie. See our webpage for YouTube details.

No meeting in January.

Group Contact: **Rob Townsend 07903 946334; cinema@lalg.org.uk**



Creative Writers Group lalg.org.uk/creative-writing

Every Monday, 10am

Broadway Hotel bar, Letchworth SG6 3NZ. The emphasis is on short stories and flash fiction. We bring work and write short pieces to read and discuss. Enjoy writing and a good chat with coffee and a few laughs. No charge.

Group Contact: **Tony Faulkner 07414 780177; creative-writing@lalg.org.uk**



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

TBC December, 7.30pm *Murder at the Vicarage* by Agatha Christie

Monday 25 January, 7.30pm *Murder at the Grand Alpine Hotel* by Lucy Foley

We meet in the bar of the Broadway Hotel. We are currently full but LALG is hoping to start another group. See page 6.

Group Contact:

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



Crime and Murder Mystery Book Group 2 lalg.org.uk/crime-book2

Monday 14 December, 7pm *Paper Girls* by Alex Smith

Monday 11 January, 7pm *The Red Shore* by William Shaw

We usually meet in the bar of the Broadway Hotel, Letchworth SG6 3NZ. This friendly group is full. LALG is hoping to start a third group. See page 6.

Group Contact:

Tish 07530 536576; crime-book2@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Daytime Book Group lalg.org.uk/daytimebook

Monday 14 December, 2pm Secret Santa and Call My Bluff

Monday 11 January, 2pm *City of Girls* by Claire Lynch

We meet at Letchworth library at 2pm. Please see our webpage for details of books we have read since 2013.

Group Contact:

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



Daytime Book Group 2 lalg.org.uk/daytimebook2

Thursday 3 December, 10.30am *The Small Hand and Dolly: Two Novels* by Susan Hill

Thursday 7 January, 10.30am *The Spy Who Loved* by Clare Mulley

We meet in the Broadway Hotel Bar, Letchworth SG6 3NZ.

Group Contact: **Yvonne 07484 136164 and Ella 07932 048497; daytimebook2@lalg.org.uk**



DH Lawrence Study Group lalg.org.uk/dhlawrence

Thursday 17 December, 10.30am to 12 noon *DH Lawrence's poetry*
Thursday 19 January, 10.30am to 12 noon *DH Lawrence's letters*
Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Letchworth SG6 1NX
We discuss this controversial author's novels, poems, plays, letters, short stories and paintings. Small charge towards room hire. No need to book.
Group Contact: **Susan L 07930 439682; dhlawrence@lalg.org.uk**



Fairfield Book Group lalg.org.uk/fairfieldbookgroup

Fairfield Bowls Club, Kingsley Avenue, Fairfield Park SG5 4GY
Thursday 10 December, 7.30pm *Beautiful Ugly* by Alice Feeney
Thursday 14 January, 7.30pm *Fairy Tales* by The Brothers Grimm
Thursday 11 February, 7.30pm *Old Babes in the Wood* by Margaret Attwood
£3 per month to cover costs. For a list of our books, please see our web page.
Group Contact:
Elaine Fox 01462 735642; fairfieldbookgroup@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Film Appreciation lalg.org.uk/filmappreciation

We meet regularly in a member's house to discuss a film, generally available online or in cinemas. Please contact Lynne to go on our waiting list.
Group Contact:
Lynne McGechie 07763 030031; filmappreciation@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Film Chat lalg.org.uk/film-chat



First Wednesday of each month, 6.30pm
Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ
This is like a book group, but with films. Please get in touch to find out which film we are discussing next.
Group Contact:
Elisabeth E film-chat@lalg.org.uk



Get Painting lalg.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. There is a small weekly charge to cover room hire, payable termly in advance.
Group Contact: **Tony Faulkner 07414 780177; getpainting@lalg.org.uk**



Irish Book Group lalg.org.uk/ireland

Wednesday 11 January, 11am
Broadway Gallery (above The Three Magnets), 2 The Arcade SG6 3ES
Annie Dunne by Sebastian Barry. Set on a small rural farm in 1950s Wicklow, Annie's passionate observations and shifting moods - rendered in prose that's close to poetry - fuels this fine novel. New members are always welcome.
Group Contact: **Graham Collins 01438 356840; ireland@lalg.org.uk**

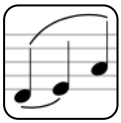


Monday Painting Group lalg.org.uk/mondaypainting

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. You are welcome to come along for a trial for £5 per session.

Group Contact: **Valerie Williams 01462 624439; mondaypainting@lalg.org.uk**



Musicians Together lalg.org.uk/musicians

Wednesday 6 January, 11.45am

Miss Green Fingers, Eastcheap, Letchworth SG6 3DE

This month we will be concentrating on making music with the guitar, including acoustic, electric and classical. Each month we will feature different instruments. The success of the group will depend on a sufficient number of people attending and sharing their music.

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



Play Reading 1 lalg.org.uk/playreading1

Monday 21 December, 1.30pm *Rebellious Women* by Beth Flintoff

Monday 11 January, 1.30pm *The Party Girls* by Amy Rosenthal

We usually meet on the third Monday of the month in a member's house in Letchworth to read plays loaned from Hertfordshire Performing Arts Library. If you are interested and would like to go on our waiting list contact Ann.

Group Contact:

Ann Gibson 07779 673105; playreading1@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Play Reading 2 lalg.org.uk/playreading2

Second Wednesday of the month, 10am

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

We read the same plays as are read by Play Reading 1 group. We would welcome one or two more members.

Group Contact: **Sonia Sewell 01462 654933; playreading2@lalg.org.uk**



Poetry in the Afternoon lalg.org.uk/poetryafternoon

Third Thursday of the month, 2pm

We are not poets, just poetry lovers. We meet each month at a member's house to read aloud poems that we have chosen on a particular theme and share our thoughts about them.

We are a small friendly group, so if you enjoy reading poetry, come and join us.

Group Contact: **Val D poetryafternoon@lalg.org.uk**



Readers Group lalg.org.uk/readersgroup

Thursday 10 December, 7.45pm Social evening with poetry

Thursday 28 January, 7.45pm *Middlemarch* by George Eliot

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

Small charge to cover room hire and book loan from Letchworth Library.

Group Contact:

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



Recorders for Fun lalg.org.uk/recorder

Wednesdays, 10am - 11.30am

Central Methodist Church, 109 Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. We are a friendly and sociable group who meet every week and welcome descant, treble, tenor and bass players. We play for an hour and a half and go for a coffee afterwards.

Group Contact:

Val D recorder@lalg.org.uk



Recorders for Fun 2 lalg.org.uk/recorder2



We are a small, friendly group of descant, treble, tenor and bass players. We play most Wednesdays from 11am to 12.30pm at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall. We are very keen to have more members. It would be an advantage if you already have some experience of the recorder and can read music. Small charge towards room hire.

Contact:

Linda recorder2@lalg.org.uk



Science Book Group lalg.org.uk/sciencebookgroup

Wednesday 20 January, 7.30pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club bar, Muddy Lane, Letchworth

Our Brains, Our Selves by Masud Husain

This Oxford Professor describes how our brain creates our identity and how it can be changed by brain disorders. He uses seven case histories to demonstrate this including an extrovert who becomes apathetic; a man who cannot find his words; and a woman who believed she was having an affair with the man who was really her husband.

We will discuss this book and related topics. It can be purchased from David's Bookshop in Letchworth (LALG discount makes it very competitively priced) or ordered from the library. There is no charge but please buy a drink from the club bar: card only, no cash. Please email Ann to go on our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Ann sciencebookgroup@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



SciFi/Fantasy Book Group lalg.org.uk/sci-fi-fantasy

Tuesday 15 December, 7.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. New members are very welcome – please get in touch with Branwen or just come along to a meeting.

Group Contact:

Branwen sci-fi-fantasy@lalg.org.uk



Shakespeare for Fun lalg.org.uk/shakespeare

First Wednesday of the month, 10.30am - 12.30pm

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

Group Contact: **Angela Hepworth shakespeare@lalg.org.uk**



Sketching in the English Countryside

lalg.org.uk/sketchingcountryside

You will be very welcome to join this informal group, no need to book, just bring your own drawing materials and a chair. All abilities very welcome. We usually meet monthly from April to September.

Group Contact:
Celia Lord 07964 373131; sketchingcountryside@lalg.org.uk



Social Playgoing Group

lalg.org.uk/playgoing

Thursday 18 March, matinee performance

A Thousand Splendid Suns at Cambridge Arts Theatre. Taking place in 1992 in an Afghanistan ravaged by war, this powerful drama is based on Khaled Hosseini's bestselling novel, described as the 'spiritual sequel' to *The Kite Runner.* 14 Stalls seats have been reserved a few rows from the front at £45 per person. There will be an option to meet for a meal afterwards. Please contact Brian to reserve tickets.

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



Walking Book Group

lalg.org.uk/walking-books

Third Wednesday of the month, 2.30pm

We read a book and then go for a walk to discuss it. More members welcome.

Group Contact: **Catherine 07354 973355; walking-books@lalg.org.uk**



Writers Group

lalg.org.uk/writersgroup

Tuesday 1 December, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, via Zoom

We write two or three pages in advance, which can be inspired by our monthly themes (optional). We then share our work (also optional) before the meeting and discuss it on the night. The type of work is very diverse: short stories, poems, plays, sections of novels, memoirs, etc. The fee is £15 a year for LALG members; £20 for non-members. The first visit is free. New members welcome.

Group Contact: **Diana Newson writersgroup@lalg.org.uk**



Writers Retreat

lalg.org.uk/writersretreat

Every Monday, 8.30am - 10am, one Saturday per month

We meet at a coffee shop every Monday and on one Saturday a month for a longer session. We all work on our own work-in-progress. In between we chat and drink coffee. No reading aloud; just time to work without distraction. If you are interested, please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Rayna West 07415 169511; writersretreat@lalg.org.uk**

Advertising in the LALG newsletter...

… reaches 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. But it's first come, first served.

For further details, see **lalg.org.uk/advertise**

Crafts & Gardening



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 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 January to April and September to December to study and repair clocks. Our tutor, Richard Edwards, is assisted by clockmaker Derek Chapman. Members work on their own clocks. A few basic tools will get you started.

Group Contact: **Richard Edwards 07989 737219; clockgroup@lalg.org.uk**



Flower Arranging lalg.org.uk/flowerarranging

Alternate Mondays, 2pm

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 flowerarranging@lalg.org.uk**



Gardening at the Weekend lalg.org.uk/gardeningweekend

Sunday 6 December, 12 noon

We will have our annual Christmas lunch at the Rusty Gun, St Ippolyts.

Sunday 17 January, 2.30pm

We will meet at Wendy's house in Stevenage to discuss visits in 2027.

We visit Open Gardens and other plant and garden events throughout the year. For more information, please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Wendy Martindale 07803 888162 or 01438 359332; gardeningweekend@lalg.org.uk**

Waiting List



Gardening in the Evening lalg.org.uk/gardening-evening

Alternate Wednesdays in the summer, 6.30pm

We enjoy visiting each other's gardens, talking about gardening (and sometimes life!), and swapping plants and seeds. We have space for one or two more members. Please get in touch as meeting times and places can vary.

Group Contacts: **Lisa and Emilii gardening-evening@lalg.org.uk**



Gardening In The Evening 2 lalg.org.uk/gardening-evening2



We meet monthly in the warmer months. We start with a tour of the host's garden, sharing info, ideas and perhaps seeds, cuttings and plants. Then chat over a glass of wine. More members welcome!

Group Contact: **Jolene gardening-evening2@lalg.org.uk**



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

Every Tuesday, 10.30am

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 Waiting List



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

We are keen gardeners who enjoy socialising together, taking turns to host visits to all our gardens, and swapping plants, information and ideas.

Group Contact:

Angela gardeningTT2@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



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

Monday 14 December, 12.30pm Christmas bring and share lunch at Katie's.

Monday 18 January Post-Christmas catch up over coffee at a garden centre (venue/time to be confirmed).

We are a friendly group of enthusiastic gardeners who take turns to host meetings in our own gardens over the summer months. We share plant knowledge and often swap plants and seeds, followed by refreshments.

Group Contact:

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



Gardening Tea and Tips 4 lalg.org.uk/GardeningTT4

Every Wednesday

We meet on Wednesdays in the warmer months to enjoy our gardens and chat over a cup of tea or coffee; trips/garden centre visits in cooler months.

Group Contact:

Caroline Taiano 07961 462295; gardeningTT4@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



In the Dye Garden lalg.org.uk/dye-garden

We combine using natural plant pigments for colouring fibres and fabrics with nurturing the plants that make the vibrant array of colours possible. This will be a chance to meet each other, look at the established plants, and find out which plants produce the best dye pigments.

More members welcome.

Group Contact:

Amy Wilson dye-garden@lalg.org.uk



Knitting Group 2 lalg.org.uk/knitting2

Alternate Mondays, 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. A very friendly group of knitters (and some who crochet). You are welcome to bring along your own project or support projects that we are working on.

Group Contact:

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



LALG Allotment lalg.org.uk/allotment

We are at Woolgrove Allotments, Newells, Letchworth. We visit on Thursday afternoons and any other times when we are able.
Our aim is to bring people together to share knowledge, skills and produce. Our focus is on organic and sustainable gardening as well as connection through cultivating a shared space. We have space for a few more gardeners so please get in touch. We all make a small contribution towards costs.

Group Contact: **Jacky Jordan allotment@lalg.org.uk**



Let's Get Beading lalg.org.uk/get-beading

Tuesday 8 December and Monday 14 December; 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Monday 11 January and Tuesday 12 January, 1.30pm - 4.30pm

December sessions are full but January still has availability.

We enjoy making jewellery or decorative items for the home. Materials provided. £15 per session for members (includes tools, materials, tea, coffee and cake). Workshops are at Janet's studio in Baldock. Please get in touch for details.

Group Contact: **Janet Beattie 07787 225145 (text); get-beading@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. We 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

We usually meet once a month (normally at a weekend) to take photos at a variety of locations. We meet a couple of weeks later to share the results. Contact Graham for details of our next photo shoot. We welcome photographers of any skill level. See pictures from previous shoots on our web page.

Group Contact:
Graham Dollman 07584 835197; photography2@lalg.org.uk



Sewing Group lalg.org.uk/sewing

First Friday of the month, 10am - 12 noon

Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN

We 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 the use of an iron are 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

Fortnightly on a Tuesday

Wilbury Hall, St Thomas Church, Bedford Road SG6 4DU. Have fun learning this Japanese skill in a small, tutor-led group. Drums provided. A reasonable level of fitness is necessary. £12 per 2-hour session to cover room hire, tuition, and equipment. All welcome to try – please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Claire 07702 041934; taiko@lalg.org.uk**



Textile Art Group lalg.org.uk/textileart

Workshops in which you will work on individual projects – materials are available to use if you would like to begin a new project. £5 to cover room hire and refreshments. New members very welcome. Booking essential. For details of future meetings or events, please see our web page or contact Amy.

Group Contact:

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



Textiles Group lalg.org.uk/textiles

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

Group Contact:

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



UkenSing lalg.org.uk/ukensing

Thursday afternoons

A small group of women learning the ukulele and singing. We meet on Thursday afternoons and are currently unable to take any more members.

Group Contact:

Pat H 07900 344486; ukensing@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Ukulele Group lalg.org.uk/ukulele

Daytime group: Thursdays, 1pm - 3pm

St Paul's Church Hall, 179 Pixmore Way SG6 1QT. We play for about 2 hours with a short break for a cuppa and a chat. We are over 60-strong and growing, and regularly have 30-plus at our meetings.

Evening group: First Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Corner Sports Ground, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN. Informal evenings – partners and friends are invited to come along and enjoy playing and socialising.

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**



Wildlife Gardening lalg.org.uk/wildlife-gardening

First Wednesday of the month, 10.30am

We meet at each other's homes. Our interest is in encouraging wildlife into our gardens. New members very welcome. Please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Diane Ketcher wildlife-gardening@lalg.org.uk**



Breakfast Club lalg.org.uk/breakfast

We meet each month at a different local location

Tuesday 8 December, 9am

Hitchin Garden Centre, Cambridge Road (A505), Hitchin SG4 0JT

A varied choice for breakfast is available from Toasts & Preserves to a Full English Breakfast. Christmas Jumpers optional!

Tuesday 12 January, 9am

Bickerdikes Garden Centre, Norton Road, Letchworth Garden City SG6 1AG

A popular venue with a comprehensive breakfast menu.

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@lalg.org.uk**



Dinner Party Club lalg.org.uk/dinner-party

A monthly gathering for people who love food, flavour, and good company. We choose a theme or a cookbook and everyone cooks a dish from it; we take it in turns to host, and everyone brings their own drink.

Group Contact:

Alison W dinner-party@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Dinner Party Club 2 lalg.org.uk/dinner-party2



A monthly gathering for people who love good food, flavour and a good dinner party. We take it in turns to host, and everyone brings something delicious to share; and their own drink. We might shortly have room for two more members.

Group Contact: **Lorraine dinner-party2@lalg.org.uk**



Firkin Club lalg.org.uk/firkinclub

Thursdays 10 December and 14 January, 7pm

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

Group Contact: **Grant Cameron 07896 260261; firkinclub@lalg.org.uk**



Food and Cookery Group lalg.org.uk/foodcookery

Please contact Keith to go on our waiting list.

Group Contact:

Keith Wadsworth 07917 446044; foodcookery@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Lunch Club lalg.org.uk/lunchclub

Second Thursday of the month

We go to a different local pub or restaurant for lunch.

Group Contact:

Sally Cannon lunchclub@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Lunch Club 2 lalg.org.uk/lunchclub2



We choose a different local pub or restaurant for lunch on the first Tuesday of each month. Please get in touch for details.

Group Contact: **Lynda P lunchclub2@lalg.org.uk**



Malt Whisky Appreciation lalg.org.uk/maltwhisky

Friday 15 January, 7pm

Sláinte Mhath! Over 200 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 the venue and format, please get in touch.

Group Contact:

Grant Cameron 07896 260261; maltwhisky@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Supper Club lalg.org.uk/supperclub

Tuesday 1 December, 7pm for 7.30pm

Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth SG6 3NQ

Our early Christmas evening meal. This event is now full.

Group Contact: **Linda King 01462 677329; supperclub@lalg.org.uk**



Vegetarian and Vegan Group lalg.org.uk/vegetarianandvegan

We meet once a month, either during lunchtime or in the evening, aiming to create a supportive community where we can learn from one another and enjoy life together in a healthier and kinder way.

Group Contact: **Alan Beaton vegetarianandvegan@lalg.org.uk**



Wine Appreciation Group lalg.org.uk/wineappreciation

Friday 4 December, 7.30pm A presentation by Robin Boar: Fine Wines Celebration.

Friday 8 January, 7.30pm Members' Choice.

We meet in the Brunt Room, Letchworth Settlement, Nevells Road SG6 4UB.

Group Contact: **Tony Mansey 07770 541207; wineappreciation@lalg.org.uk**



Wine Discovery lalg.org.uk/winediscoverygroup

Monthly wine tastings. Please get in touch for details.

Group Contacts:

Moira and Nigel Rigby winediscoverygroup@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Wine Group 3 lalg.org.uk/winegroup3

Tuesdays 15 December and 19 January, 7.30pm

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX

We enjoy tasting wines in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Each month two members choose a theme and share their selection of wines with the group. The December meeting will be our Christmas dinner and we return to wine tasting in January.

Group Contacts:

Jerry Bolter and Mike Clarke winegroup3@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Action for Happiness lalg.org.uk/actionforhappiness

Occasional evening meetings 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.

Group Contact: **Chris West 07932 195463; actionforhappiness@lalg.org.uk**



Afternoon Quiz Group lalg.org.uk/afternoon-quiz

Fourth Monday of the month, 2.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Come and enjoy a light-hearted general knowledge quiz in a friendly, non-competitive atmosphere. Everyone brings 5 questions to ask the others. Novice quizzers welcome.

Group Contact: **Marilyn W afternoon-quiz@lalg.org.uk**



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

We welcome anyone 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. Please get in touch for further details.

Group Contact: **Claire Bunyan 07788 153500; chickens@lalg.org.uk**



All Things Military lalg.org.uk/allthingsmilitary

December. No meeting

Thursday 14 January, 7pm for 7.30pm

A talk by Stephen Barnard: **Humphrey Jennings, the life and work of the UK's leading wartime documentary maker**

This talk covers an aspect of WW2 which I don't think we have covered very much - and I suspect that most of us will have seen some of his work without knowing his name!

Foster Hall, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Letchworth SG6 1NX

The usual charge of £5 per person towards room hire and other expenses.

Group Contact: **Veronica Tomkins 01462 671402; allthingsmilitary@lalg.org.uk**



All Things Welsh lalg.org.uk/welsh



Friday 15 January, 1.30pm (please note earlier time)

A talk by Phil Morgan: **Growing up in the Welsh Valleys**

We meet monthly in the Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

We are interested in all things Welsh; the language, culture and history; and we would welcome more members.

Contact: **Jackie S 07970 407635; welsh@lalg.org.uk**



Amateur Radio Group lalg.org.uk/amateur-radio

Once a month on a Friday, 3pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We meet for a chat about amateur radio subjects and would welcome LALG members who may be looking to revive their amateur radio skills. Please get in touch or see our web page.

Group Contact: **Bryan amateur-radio@lalg.org.uk**



Black Squirrel Country Dancing lalg.org.uk/countrydancing

Tuesdays 19 January, 16 February, 6.30pm - 8pm

Central Methodist Church Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TR. Complete beginners with two left feet very welcome! All dances walked through/called. LALG members £4; non-members £5; under-18s £2. No need to bring a dance partner. We are a very friendly group.

Group Contact: **Mandy Baldwin 07515 823735; countrydancing@lalg.org.uk**



Blitz an Open Space lalg.org.uk/litter

Letchworth litter clearance sessions:
Thursday 3 December, 10am; Saturday 5 December, 10.30am
Thursday 7 January, 10am; Saturday 9 January, 10.30am

Baldock litter clearance sessions:
Wednesday 16 December, 10.30am; Saturday 19 December, 11am
Wednesday 20 January, 10.30am; Sunday 24 January, 11am

Venues to be advised nearer the time. More volunteers are always welcome. Equipment will be provided. Please tell us of any area that needs our attention.

We have collected 2,894 sacks of litter to date!

Group Contacts: **litter@lalg.org.uk**
Ian Martin (Letchworth) text 07939 268169, Gary Mills (Baldock) text 07941 685683;



British Monarchs lalg.org.uk/british-monarchs

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX
We look at British history by monarch. We take it in turns to present a talk for the group, followed by discussion. Small charge towards room hire.

Group Contact: **Jo british-monarchs@lalg.org.uk**



Computer Users lalg.org.uk/usingcomputers

Last Wednesday of the month, 10.45am. No meeting in December

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Please support our venue which has food and various drinks available. Limited space for new members. Please email Graham to introduce yourself.

Please note: This is not a computer support line.

Group Contact: **Graham usingcomputers@lalg.org.uk**



Decarbonise Letchworth Group lalg.org.uk/decarbonise

Monday 7 December, 12.30pm to 2pm

Monday 4 January, 12.30pm to 2pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

Join our monthly lunchtime get-together where group members have an opportunity to share ideas and the latest news on actions that will help Letchworth to reduce its carbon footprint. The proposed redevelopment of Garden City Shopping Centre, Local Plan Update, solar panels and commuter parking issue are current topics for discussion.

Group Contact: **Julia S decarbonise@lalg.org.uk**



Decluttering lalg.org.uk/decluttering

Tuesday 26 January, 4pm

Are you thinking of having a clear-out and you need some moral support? Or perhaps you are looking to swap tips on where to sell or recycle your old 'treasure'. We are building up a list of useful tips 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

Our last talk was well attended. Thank you for supporting our interesting and thought-provoking talks. We hope to hold another meeting in early Spring. Please see the next newsletter for further details. If you have any suggestions for future talks, please phone or email.

Group Contact: **Mandy Baldwin 07515 823735; europeandbeyond@lalg.org.uk**



Geology lalg.org.uk/geology

Wednesday 22 January, 7.30pm

Underwood Room, Mrs Howard Hall, Norton Way South, Letchworth SG6 1NX

Women in Geology

Carrie Dunne will tell us, via Zoom, about 2 women in Geology and their very different lives. The first is palaeontologist Mary Anning (1799-1847); the second is geologist Eileen Mary Guppy (1903-1980), about whom Carrie wrote an article for the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.

Attendance is in-person only, not available via Zoom.

Free car parking is available next to the Hall. LALG members £4, non-members £5, cash please.

Group Contact: **Ann geology@lalg.org.uk**



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

No general meetings are planned while we finalise our current project. We are considering writing a new book, a companion to *Industrial Letchworth*, with the working title *Social Letchworth*. There is the nucleus of a group to research and write this but new, committed researchers and writers are welcome to enquire.

Group Contact: **Philippa Parker 01462 686828; localhistory@lalg.org.uk**



Letchworth Residents Group lalg.org.uk/letchworth-residents

Our aim is to learn about existing community activities and services through talks and discussions. We also look at local issues relevant to Letchworth such as the likelihood of 20mph in some areas. For further information, please see our web page.

Group Contact: **Julia S letchworth-residents@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.



Living in an Online World lalg.org.uk/online-world

Thursdays 10am - 12 noon

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ

For help with smartphones, tablets, social media, online banking, etc. Content Editors welcomed for help with editing group web pages, adding events/ articles. In-person membership renewal is available too: cash, card or cheque.

Booking ahead is essential, with a brief description of help required.

Group Contact: **Trevor L 07361 040348; online-world@lalg.org.uk**



Meditation and Reflection lalg.org.uk/meditation-reflection

Second Friday of the month, 10.30am

Upstairs Meeting Room, Letchworth Library, Broadway SG6 3PF. Each 1-hour session begins with silent meditation, followed by a circle of reflections based on an inspirational article circulated in advance.

Group Contact: **Andya meditation-reflection@lalg.org.uk**



Online Quiz lalg.org.uk/online-quiz

Saturday 30 January, 6.45pm for 7pm

We post general knowledge questions on the LALG website and you submit your answers after each round using the on-line form. You can play on your own or in a team; no quiz experience or internet skills are required to enjoy the evening. It is light-hearted and free! Please let us know if you are interested in being a future quiz host.

Group Contact: **Angela Bell online-quiz@lalg.org.uk**



Philosophy lalg.org.uk/philosophy-study

December - No meeting.

Tuesday 26 January, 11am - 12.30pm - *Utopia* Thomas Moore

Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX

There is no need to have prior philosophy knowledge, just a keen interest in the subject. Here is an opportunity to investigate philosophy and the great philosophers. In addition, discussions around: reason, knowledge and the mind. No need to book. LALG members £3, non-members £4.

Group Contact: **Catherine philosophy-study@lalg.org.uk**



Psychology lalg.org.uk/psychology

Wednesday 13 January, 7.30pm (No meeting in December)

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

We meet once a month. There is a small charge to cover the room hire costs and tea/coffee. The meeting format is presentation and discussion.

Group Contact: **Ken Jordan 07980 606781; psychology@lalg.org.uk**

No contact phone number?

If an event or group has no phone number, you can call the LALG Chair on **07578 466982** for further details.

Quiz Team lalg.org.uk/quizteam

In the next 2 months we are planning to attend the following quiz nights:
Tuesday 1 December, 7.15pm The White Lion, High St, Baldock. £2.
Wednesday 9 December, 8pm The Millstream, Cambridge Road, Hitchin. £3.
Monday 14 December, 8pm The Orange Tree, Stevenage Road, Hitchin. £1.
Tuesday 22 December, 8.30pm Grange Community Centre, Middlefields, Letchworth. £2.
Tuesday 5 January, 7.30pm The Broadway Hotel, Broadway, Letchworth. DIY Quizzing.
Wednesday 13 January, 8pm The Millstream, Cambridge Road, Hitchin. £3.
Monday 18 January, 8pm The Orange Tree, Stevenage Road, Hitchin. £1.
Thursday 28 January, 8.30pm Grange Community Centre, Middlefields, Letchworth. £1.
Please contact Andrew 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!

Group Contact:
Rayna West 07415 169511; slimming@lalg.org.uk

Society Unpacked lalg.org.uk/society-unpacked

December No Meeting.
Wednesday 6 January, 7.30pm - Does the monarchy still have a place in modern Britain?
We meet at Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South SG6 1NX.
A discussion group for non-sociologists, looking at how society works – and sometimes doesn't! Small charge towards room hire.

Group Contact: **Ken Jordan 07980 606781; society-unpacked@lalg.org.uk**

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

No meeting in December
Tuesday 26 January, 7.15pm for 7.30pm start
Wing Commander Alec Hurley, who was RAF Senior Medical Officer at numerous flying stations including RAF Henlow, will talk on Icarus: the world's first air accident investigation. He will examine the causes of the fatal loss of Icarus and discuss the conclusions reached by the board of enquiry. It will cover most aspects examined following a flying incident to determine possible causes as an aid to better education. The talk will combine humour, history and important technical background to give an entertaining and thought-provoking insight into air accidents.

LALG members £3, guests £5. No need to book.

Group Contact:
Tessa Palfreyman 07763 944596; transport@lalg.org.uk



Understanding North America lalg.org.uk/america

Thursday 14 January, 7.45pm
Mrs Howard Hall, Norton Way South SG61NX
We are relaunching this group with a thought-provoking talk by Michael Williams: **American Exceptionalism: is the USA fundamentally different and unique?** Followed by opportunities for discussion. All welcome; no need to book. £3 members, £4 non-members towards room hire.
Future meetings will be on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7.30pm when we will explore different aspects of American life with a mix of group discussions and occasional visiting speakers. We anticipate it will be an interesting year!

Group Contact: **Jane Wills 07762 108804 (text preferred); america@lalg.org.uk**



Wild Flowers lalg.org.uk/wildflowers

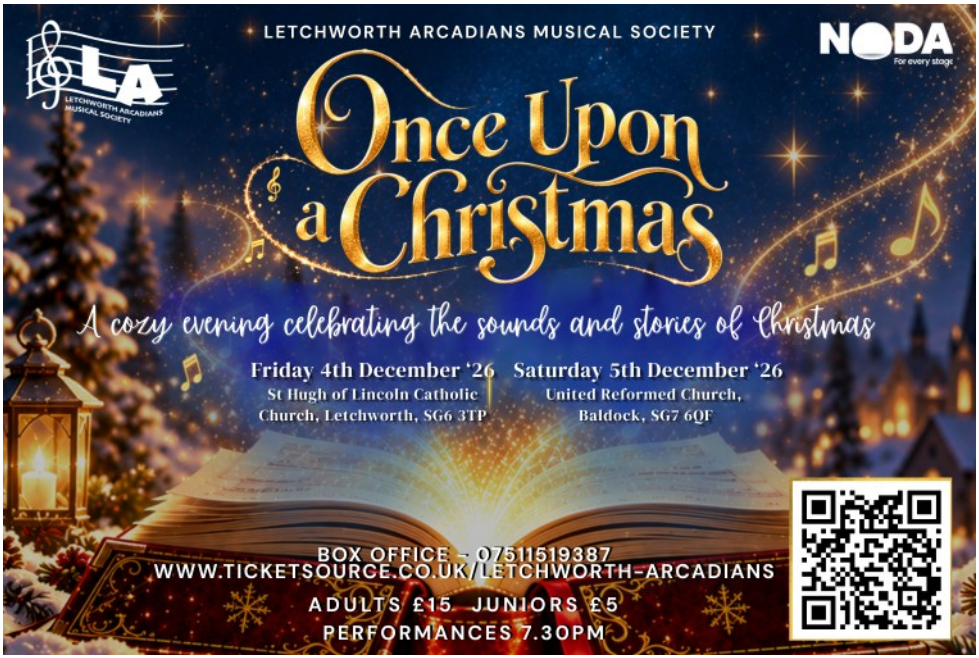
We make monthly wildflower trips. All welcome! Please get in touch for details.

Group Contact:
Jean Hewitt 07914 151768; wildflowers@lalg.org.uk

Local discounts

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

Advertisement



Language Groups



Café Français lalg.org.uk/Cafe-Francais

Tuesday afternoons

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We meet for an hour on Tuesday afternoons to chat in French over a drink.

Group Contact:
Lallah Goudiaby cafe-francais@lalg.org.uk



Conversation Française lalg.org.uk/french1

Lundis soirs, 19h30 à 21h30

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

Group Contact:
Jimmy Croall 07795 909178; french1@lalg.org.uk



Daytime French 1 lalg.org.uk/daytime-french1

Alternate Thursdays (10 December onwards), 2.30pm

Dimples Café, Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. We are currently full but Café Français (above) and Daytime French 3 (below) have space for new members.

Group Contact:
Sheila Rhodes 07876 260152; daytime-french1@lalg.org.uk



Daytime French 3 lalg.org.uk/daytime-french3

First and third Mondays of the month, 2.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We meet for an hour. New members very welcome.

Group Contact:
Anna Vaziri 07397 161041; daytime-french3@lalg.org.uk



Dutch Conversation lalg.org.uk/dutch

First Wednesday of the month, 10.30am

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

Group Contact: **Corrie Swain 01462 742542; dutch@lalg.org.uk**



German Daytime lalg.org.uk/germandaytime

Wednesdays, 2pm

We meet in a café. The group is thriving but new members are always very welcome, particularly native speakers.

German Evenings lalg.org.uk/germandaytime

Wednesdays, 7pm - 8pm, via Zoom

Additional evening session, held on Zoom. New members are very welcome. We are a friendly group and we share a weekly update via email and Spond.

Group Contact:
Sheila Hogan 01462 743578; germandaytime@lalg.org.uk

Language Groups



German Group 1 lalg.org.uk/german1

Tuesdays, afternoons/evenings

In-person meetings and also on Zoom. See our web page for details. You are very welcome to join us for 2 hours of everyday German conversation.

Group Contact:

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



Italian Conversation 1 lalg.org.uk/italian1

2nd Tuesday of each month, 10am

We meet in local cafés and would welcome more members with basic Italian conversation skills.

Group Contact: **Alan Fraser 01462 685448; italian1@lalg.org.uk**



Italian Conversation 3 lalg.org.uk/italian3

Mondays, 2.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. A small group interested in trying to speak Italian. New members with a basic level of Italian conversation welcome.

Group Contact:

Rosie Lapsley 01462 636331; 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 07921 563611; latin@lalg.org.uk



Russian Language Русский Язык lalg.org.uk/russian

Thursdays, 3.30pm - 5pm, via Zoom

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

Group Contact:

Sheila Hogan russian@lalg.org.uk **We would welcome more members**



Spanish Conversation lalg.org.uk/spanish

Thursdays, 7.30pm

The Orange Tree, Norton Road, Baldock SG7 5AW. General conversation, practising 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



Speak Spanish lalg.org.uk/speak-spanish

Tuesdays, 10am - 12 noon

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Enjoy improving your vocabulary and grammar, whatever your level. Have fun discussing cultural themes and current hot topics over a coffee or tea.

Group Contact:

Tony Faulkner 07414 780177; speak-spanish@lalg.org.uk



30+ Drop-in lalg.org.uk/30plus

This friendly group is aimed at people in their 30s and 40s – singles and couples – and aims to provide a relaxed opportunity to make new friends locally. We meet in the evening once a month, usually in the bar of the Broadway Hotel, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Please get in touch for more details.

Group Contact: **Nurit 30plus@lalg.org.uk**



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

Fridays, 7.30pm

We meet in the bar at Letchworth Corner Sports Club, Whitethorn Lane SG6 2DN. You are welcome to drop in, but please ring in advance if you would like us to look out for you arriving.

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.

Group Contacts:

Trevor 07872 968141 and Dawn 07983 505044; 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 enjoy our time together. Details are on our web page.

Group Contact:

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



Meet for Coffee 1 lalg.org.uk/coffee1

Alternate Wednesdays, 10.30am

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

Group Contact:

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



Meet for Coffee 2 lalg.org.uk/coffee2

We meetly monthly at Hitchin Garden Centre, Cambridge Road SG4 0JT. Our group is full but there is space on some other Meet for Coffee groups.

Contact: **coffee2@lalg.org.uk**



Meet for Coffee 3 lalg.org.uk/coffee3

First and third Wednesdays of the month, 2pm

We are a lively and growing group and are open to new members. There is no commitment to attend every session. We meet at a café in Letchworth. Please contact Nayier beforehand if you would like to come along.

Group Contact: **Nayier Ahmad coffee3@lalg.org.uk**

If a group is full ... it might be possible to start another. You are welcome to email details and contact information to **newideas@lalg.org.uk**.



Meet for Coffee 6 lalg.org.uk/coffee6

Thursdays 10 December, 14 and 28 January, 10.30am

Dimples Café, Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. The pleasant café overlooks green and leafy surroundings, with outside seating when weather permits. All are welcome.

Group Contact:
Brian Sykes 07710 274503 and Steve Rowlands 07926 320568; coffee6@lalg.org.uk



Meet for Coffee 7 (Stotfold) lalg.org.uk/coffee7

Tuesday 8 December, 10.30am

Wild Coffee in Stotfold Library, Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold SG5 4HG. We would like a Stotfold LALG member to be the Group Contact, otherwise we may have to stop, which would be a pity as we have many members in the area.

Acting Group Contact:
William Armitage 01462 643537; coffee7@lalg.org.uk



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

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. The venue is free but we all buy something from the bar. Please bring any topics you would like us to discuss.

Group Contact:
Tony Faulkner 07414 780177; philosophy@lalg.org.uk



Singing Sea Shanties lalg.org.uk/sea-shanties

Thursday 17 December, 7pm - 9pm

Come along and enjoy our Christmas Social evening.

Thursday 14 January, 7pm (prompt) - 8.30pm

Small/Upper Hall, St Paul's Church, 179 Pixmore Way SG6 1QT. Song sheets are provided and backing tracks are played to help us learn songs. A charge of £3 is made on the evening to cover costs. This group is very popular and is a fun evening. We welcome new members. See our web page for details or contact Phil.

Group Contact: **Phil Mortiboy sea-shanties@lalg.org.uk**

Welcoming new LALG members

Thursday 14 January, 6.30pm
Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

Have you recently joined LALG, or do you know someone who might be thinking of joining? Come along to this 'getting to know you' session. It's a chance for newcomers to meet each other and find out more about LALG.

Contacts: **Jackie or Trevor: 07970 407635; newbies@lalg.org.uk**



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

Every Wednesday morning, 9am

We play nine holes at some of the area's finest golf clubs, at discounted green fees of £12.50 - £20. 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.

Group Contact:
Stanley Bonin 01462 672178; 50_9golf@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Backgammon lalg.org.uk/backgammon

Thursdays, 4.30pm - 6.30pm.

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ.

Sundays, from 1.15pm

Dimples Café, Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ
Some knowledge of the game is needed, although help is available.

Group Contacts: **Harry and Nicky 07944 360356; backgammon@lalg.org.uk**



Badminton 1 lalg.org.uk/badminton1

Mondays (except bank holidays), 8pm - 10pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB.

We have some space for new members, so if you have played before and want to get back on court again or are currently playing and would like some more regular games, do come along one Monday evening for an initial free session.

Group Contact: **Paul McCann badminton1@lalg.org.uk**



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.

Group Contact:
Sue Bresnahan 07801 345595; badminton2@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Badminton 3 lalg.org.uk/badminton3

Wednesdays, 10am - 12 noon

North Herts Leisure Centre, Baldock Road SG6 2ER. This group has four courts permanently booked. We welcome new members who can play to a reasonable standard. Cost £5.50 (discounted), payable to the Leisure Centre.

Group Contact: **Robin Ghisi badminton3@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 £4 a session to cover room hire and refreshments.

Group Contact: **Gill Cheaney 01462 686806; bridgeclub@lalg.org.uk**



Canasta lalg.org.uk/canasta

Alternate Wednesdays, 7pm

We meet in the Broadway Hotel bar. New members very welcome.

Group Contact: **Jill Chaffey 07855 729556; canasta@lalg.org.uk**



Chess for Fun lalg.org.uk/chess

Third Monday of the month, 7.30pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club café, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. After a demonstration we enjoy a relaxed game of chess. New members are very welcome.

Group Contact: **Nayier Ahmad chess@lalg.org.uk**



Cribbage lalg.org.uk/cribbage

Every Tuesday, 1.30pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We have room for new members; just turn up, or get in touch if you would like us to look out for you arriving.

Group Contact: **Edna Constable 01462 485086; cribbage@lalg.org.uk**



Cricket lalg.org.uk/cricket

This group is for all lovers of cricket. We aim to enjoy visits and discussions about all things cricket. More members welcome. Please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Bryan cricket@lalg.org.uk**



Easy Riders lalg.org.uk/easyriders

Friday 4 December and Saturday 19 December, 10am start

Friday 1 January, and Saturday 16 January, 10am start

Cycle ride details are posted on our web page. If you would like to join these rides, please contact Jackie.

Group Contact: **Jackie H 07578 466982; easyriders@lalg.org.uk**



Fitness Together lalg.org.uk/fitness-together

Mondays, 7.30pm - 8.15pm Norton Methodist Church Hall, North Avenue

Wednesdays, 12.15pm - 1pm Fortescue Hall, Pixmore Way SG6 3TP

Fridays 12.30pm Norton Parish Centre, Common View

Have fun keeping fit at your own pace. All you need is to wear appropriate clothing for exercise and bring a bottle of water. A yoga-type mat can be useful. Our trainer is Mike Eve, a professional fitness trainer. The first session is free, then £7 per session or £5 if paid monthly in advance.

Group Contacts: **Dennis Alder and Paul Taylor fitness-together@lalg.org.uk**



Games on the Grange lalg.org.uk/grangegames

Wednesdays, 10.30am

Grange Community Centre Café, Middlefields SG6 4NG. All members are welcome to drop in and may bring their own games. Parking is available nearby.

Group Contact: **Rhian Blakey grangegames@lalg.org.uk**



Garden City Wheelers lalg.org.uk/GCWheelers

December. No ride

Thursday 21 January, 10.30am start

Weather permitting, we will meet at the fountain in Broadway Gardens and will ride to The White Horse in Southill for lunch there. We will cycle at the pace of the slowest rider, doing a return mileage of approximately 24 miles. This ride is relatively flat. Please let the Group Contact know if you would like to join us for the first time.

Group Contact:

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



Mahjong lalg.org.uk/mahjong

Wednesdays, 2pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. We regularly play on three tables with 12+ players, of mixed ability. New players always welcome, beginners as well as experienced players. Please get in touch:

Group Contact:

Sue mahjong@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf lalg.org.uk/par3

Fridays, 10.15am

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. There is a small charge (LALG discount applies). Comfortable clubhouse, light refreshments, reasonable prices. We have space for a couple more members.

Group Contact:

Paul Wilkinson par3@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf Thursdays lalg.org.uk/par3thursday

Thursdays, 2pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. Small course charge with LALG discount. Comfortable clubhouse, light refreshments, reasonable prices.

Group Contact:

Anne par3thursday@lalg.org.uk



Par 3 Golf Wednesdays lalg.org.uk/par3wednesdays

Wednesdays, 2pm. No meeting on 23 or 30 December.

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

Nine holes, ranging from 53 yards to 104 yards. There is a small course charge (LALG discount applies). The clubhouse serves light refreshments – see the Golf Centre's website for opening times. The group is full at the moment, please email the Group Contact if you wish to be added to the waiting list.

Group Contact:

Graham par3wednesdays@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Pétanque lalg.org.uk/petanque

Wednesdays, 2pm - 3pm

Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ. We have three pistes and six people can play on each piste. On average, 14 - 16 people play each week. We pay £3.60 for each session. Afterwards, many of us meet in the café for coffee, cake and conversation! If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Maureen Flower 01462 683939; petanque@lalg.org.uk**



Pickleball lalg.org.uk/pickleball

Tuesdays, 12.30pm - 2.30pm and Fridays, 12.30pm - 1.30pm

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

Group Contact:

David Stanmore 07795 603192 or Margie Dickson 07514 674167; pickleball@lalg.org.uk



Piquet lalg.org.uk/piquet

Second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 2pm - 4pm

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. Piquet is a fairly simple two-handed card game of French origin. There is a more challenging variant called Auction Piquet, invented by British POWs in WW1, which has become the game of choice for most of us. Please come and try us out. We are there most Thursdays, but always on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

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



Rummikub lalg.org.uk/rummikub

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.45am - 12 noon

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

Group Contact: **Martin Lieb 07954 224438; rummikub@lalg.org.uk**



Rummikub 2 lalg.org.uk/rummikub2

Wednesdays, 10am for 10.30am

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB
We have coffee in the café. If Joyce is unavoidably absent, just ask at the bar for the Rummikub sets. We play for 2 hours. New members are always welcome, even if you have never played before: it's easy to pick up!

Group Contact:

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



Scrabble lalg.org.uk/scrabbleclub

Alternate Wednesdays

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ
Please contact Eileen for more details.

Group Contact: **Eileen Creak 01462 632692; scrabbleclub@lalg.org.uk**



Shanghai lalg.org.uk/shanghai

Monthly on a Sunday, 11am

Dimples Café, Letchworth Par 3 Family Golf Centre, Willian Way SG6 2HJ
This card game is based on rummy and is fun to play.

Group Contact: **Christina; shanghai@lalg.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. Please get in touch.

Group Contact: **Andy Gordon 07910 397266; shorttennis@lalg.org.uk**



Snooker lalg.org.uk/snooker

Thursdays, 2pm - 4pm

We meet at local venues. There is a fee payable to play snooker or pool. Snooker cues are available to borrow. If you would like to participate, contact Steve by the Tuesday beforehand for details of the venue. All welcome.

Group Contact: **Steve Howell 07811 511466 (WhatsApp or text); snooker@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 038183; TableTennisFun@lalg.org.uk**



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

Tuesdays, 11am - 12.30pm (except in school holidays)

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. £4 per session to hire the indoor court and pay for the table tennis balls. We use six tables. There is a café in the clubhouse for us to use.

Group Contact:
Marion Yeeles tabletennis2@lalg.org.uk Waiting List



Whist Group lalg.org.uk/whist

Mondays, 2pm

Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, Muddy Lane SG6 3TB. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining this popular group. There is a small charge to create a winner's prize.

Group Contact: **Ann C 01763 287543; whist@lalg.org.uk**



Word Games lalg.org.uk/word-games

Second and fourth Mondays of the month, 10.30am (except January)

Broadway Hotel bar, Broadway SG6 3NZ. We have lots of word games to choose from, but you are also welcome to bring your own.

Group Contact: **Evelyn C word-games@lalg.org.uk**



Alternative Ramblers lalg.org.uk/alternativeramblers

Sunday 13 December, 10am for 10.15am start.

Meet in the Brook End Car Park at Potton SG19 2QS.

A walk of 5.5 miles. We will take a circular route from Potton passing through Sutton over flattish terrain. Meals are available at The Coach House or if you want just a drink, there is The George & Dragon. Both pubs are in the town square. Please make your own arrangements. To book the walk contact Mick via the WhatsApp Group, or via Sue the group contact as below. **Mobile on the day: 07094 412512**

Sunday 10 January, 10am for 10.15am start.

Meet near Park Drive Health Centre, Park Drive, Baldock SG7 6EN (next to Tesco's free car park – bottom end) What3words///doing.fish.blows.

A 5.2-mile walk around the streets and alleyways of Baldock, including Clothall Common. For anyone wishing to eat after the walk, The White Horse Pub is nearby in the town. Please make your own arrangements. Tel: 01462 896519. To book the walk contact Paolo via the WhatsApp Group, or via Sue details as below. **Mobile on the day: 07504 181009**

Group Contact:

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



Baldock Walks lalg.org.uk/baldockwalks

Saturday 5 December, 9.20am for 9.30am start

Meet at Park Drive Health Centre (free parking at back of Tesco). A walk of about 6 miles to Willian along the Greenway. We shall have a coffee stop at Pioneer nurseries or the pub.

Saturday 23 January, 9.20am for 9.30am start

Meet outside Baldock Community Centre for a circular walk of about 5.5 miles, mostly on proper paths but could be muddy walking through the Common. We shall walk via Lacerta Court, Common View and Norton Common Nature Reserve. There will be a coffee stop in Letchworth and we will return to Baldock via Icknield Way where there is a steep flight of steps over the railway leading to Works Road.

Please bring water and carry a contact number with you in case of emergency. To book either walk, please email or phone:

Group Contacts:

Julia Genders 07704 762167, Eileen Creak 01462 632692; baldockwalks@lalg.org.uk



Early Morning Walks lalg.org.uk/earlymorningwalks

Wednesdays 9 and 16 December, 7am

Wednesdays 6 and 20 January, 7am

We meet at Letchworth's first roundabout on Broadway. Maximum distance is about 5 miles according to participants' wishes. Dogs welcome. No need to book. We go whatever the weather.

Group Contact: **William Armitage 01462 643537; earlymorningwalks@lalg.org.uk**



Fast Walking lalg.org.uk/fastwalking

Wednesdays, 8.30am - 9.30am

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

Group Contact: **Jan Gates 07888 695215; fastwalking@lalg.org.uk**



Hill Walkers lalg.org.uk/hill-walkers

Formerly Wild Walks, this group is now Hill Walkers to better accommodate anyone wishing to travel north when all grades of walkers will be welcome.

Wednesday 9 December, 7.30pm

An additional planning meeting where two items for discussion will be the way forward for the group and how to encourage younger members. However, all suggestions are welcomed and encouraged. If you would like to attend please email Sheila for details of venue. If you cannot attend, please email any suggestions to her.

Group Contact: **Sheila George 07807 827490; hill-walkers@lalg.org.uk**



Letchworth District Walkers lalg.org.uk/Letchworth-district-walkers

December/January No walks planned

Sunday 17 January, 12 noon

The Rising Sun, Hall's Green, Weston, Hertfordshire SG4 7DR.

Our post Christmas get together will be Sunday Lunch at the Rising Sun. Members of the previously titled Long Distance Walkers and Letchworth District Walkers are welcome to attend. Please email or phone Mia 07517466773 to book for lunch with your choices from the Sunday Lunch menu no later than Thursday 7 January.

Group Contact: **Mia Matheson Letchworth-district-walkers@lalg.org.uk**



Longer-Distance Walking longer-walks@lalg.org.uk

Tuesday 18 February, 9am. Walk from Letchworth to Walkern (TBC).

For anyone interested in longer and more adventurous small-group walking.

Contact: **Nigel Carrick 07952 199989; longer-walks@lalg.org.uk**



Midweek Amblers/Ramblers lalg.org.uk/midweekambleramble

Wednesday 8 December.

We are joining the Slower Walkers for their Christmas Lunch at The Rising Sun, Hall's Green, organised by Phil Taylor. Please see their entry for details.

Friday 8 January, 10am for 10.15am start.

Meet in Wymondley Woods car park. There is a signed entrance track off the road, about halfway between Willian and Great Wymondley. This 4-mile walk, led by Pat Rumpus, is through woods, field edges and tracks. There are no stiles and some gentle uphills. After the walk there is an optional lunch at The Green Man, Great Wymondley. To book the walk, and lunch if required, contact Pat by 4 January on MARjanuary@lalg.org.uk.

Mobile on the day is 07864 085193 or WhatsApp.

Group Contact: **Carol Stokes 07813 800874; midweekambleramble@lalg.org.uk**



Midweek Walkers lalg.org.uk/midweekwalkers

Wednesday 2 December, 10am

This is a 6-mile circular walk from The Raven, Hexton, SG5 3JB. The route involves the steep ascent and descent in the Pegsdon Hills. For those who have pre-booked it will be followed by Christmas lunch. Anyone requiring further information should get in touch with Jess on the details below. We shall be leaving The Raven car park at 10am. Mobile 07813 802495.

January. No walk scheduled.

Group Contact: **Jess Peyton Jones midweekwalkers@lalg.org.uk**



Nordic Walking lalg.org.uk/nordicwalking

Come and walk the Nordic way, a whole-body exercise that harnesses the benefits of walking with the use of Nordic walking poles. Learn how to walk with ease, becoming faster and walking further while having fun. We meet weekly for a walk of 3 - 4 miles, with occasional longer walks at weekends. Taster sessions are available for those considering taking up this form of walking.

Group Contact:
Martin Lansbury nordicwalking@lalg.org.uk



Short Walks lalg.org.uk/short-walks

Wednesdays 9 December and 20 January, 10.30am

We meet at Letchworth's first roundabout on Broadway for a maximum 2-mile walk, with optional coffee stop. We welcome suggestions for future walks. No need to book, just come along.

Acting Group Contact: **William Armitage 01462 643537; short-walks@lalg.org.uk**



Slower Walkers lalg.org.uk/slowerwalkers

Thursday 8 December, 12.30pm

There is no walk taking place in December.

We have our Christmas Lunch at The Rising Sun, Hall's Green, Weston SG4 7DR. All those with confirmed booking should have received full details by the time you read this. There may be a few spaces left if you have not booked and would like to attend. Contact Phil Taylor on SWDecember@lalg.org.uk asap.

Thursday 21 January, 10.15am for a 10.30am start

Sheila and Phil are leading our first walk of 2027 which will be from The Bull in Cottered, Bull Lane SG9 9QP. This mainly flat walk is about 3 miles on a mix of hard-surfaced byways, permitted paths and footpaths along / across fields.

More details will be sent by email in early January. If you are staying for lunch, please book a place by Monday 11 January. If just walking please book a place by Saturday 16 January on SWjanuary@lalg.org.uk or 07954 817965.

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

Walking safety

LALG walk leaders take care to keep everyone safe, and we have a checklist to help them (and you), available at **lalg.org.uk/walkingsafety**. It finishes with a link to the Ramblers Association's safety advice at **www.ramblers.org.uk/safety**.



Sunday Ramblers lalg.org.uk/sundayramblers

Sunday 6 December, 10am

Meeting at Norton Bury Lane, Letchworth SG6 1AN.

What3Words///gained.vouch.nerve. A walk of just under 9 miles from Radwell Common walking towards Bygrave. Wide paths along agricultural land, with a couple of ploughed fields. We will encounter a railway with a stile on each side, towards Clothall Common. Please bring a packed lunch.
To book, message Paolo on mobile number 07504181009

Group Contact: Sue M sundayramblers@lalg.org.uk



Trail Walkers lalg.org.uk/trailwalkers

Tuesday 8 December, 9.30am Cross-Herts trail South to North final leg

Tuesday 12 January TBC

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 a month. The average is 10-12 miles. We share cars for these linear walks. New members are warmly welcome. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please get in touch.

Group Contact: Nigel B trailwalkers@lalg.org.uk



Weekend Strollers lalg.org.uk/weekendstrollers

Saturday 12 December, 10.30am

Millstream pub car park, Cambridge Road, Hitchin SG4 0JH

Saturday 9 January, 10.30am

Three Horseshoes car park, Norton SG6 1AG
We don't walk fast. Maximum 3 miles. We go whatever the weather.

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

DAVID'S
BOOKSHOP - MUSIC - CAFE

12-16 Eastcheap, Letchworth, SG6 3DE
Tel: 01462 684631
davids-bookshops.co.uk
davids-music.co.uk



Your local independent for everything books and music.

David's is an independent bookshop, record store and cafe, trading since 1963. Our passion is to bring our customers the very best in new and secondhand books, music, cards & games. We host regular author events, weekly game nights and book clubs. Pay us a visit and explore!

Books & Music
Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5:30pm
Sundays & Bank Holidays: 10am - 5pm

Cafe
Monday - Saturday: 9am - 4:30pm
Sundays & Bank Holidays: 10am - 4pm

10% off for LALG members spending £10 or more.

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Agent Brains Escape Games	26 Leys Avenue	539763	10% off all off-peak game bookings
Alexander Lewis Estates	9 Arena Parade	510881	10% off fee for sales
Allders Opticians	15 Eastcheap	673216	10% off spectacles
AM Optometrists	29 Leys Avenue	486123	10% off complete glasses
Broadway Hotel & Downtown Bar & Grill	Broadway	480111	12 noon - 2.30pm, Monday - Friday: 30% off large plates & steaks and 20% off small plates from main menu
Cooks Boutique	1 Commerce Way	01708 691322	10% off purchases over £10
David Stern Opticians	10 Arena Parade	683045	10% off, excluding eye tests
David's Bookshop	12 - 14 Eastcheap	684631	10% off over £10, some exceptions
David's Music	12 Eastcheap	475900	10% off over £10, some exceptions
Dr Bike – friendly mobile bike mechanic	Mobile service	07840 888050	20% off parts & labour
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 Florist	6 Arena Parade	685370	10% off, except Interflora
Icas-Vilas Fine Art	21 Commerce Way	677455	10% off framing only
Isabelle Estates	45 Station Road	487877	10% off sales fees
Joules Garden City Gifts	3 The Wynd	07415 281930	10% off sales over £10
Just for Me	30 Leys Avenue	676688	15% off
LAPZ	2A Commerce Way	07368 201584	10% off all products in store only
Letchworth Pharmacy	One Garden City, Broadway	685915	10% off non-medical
Liliane Textiles	Weavers Barn, Fairclough Hall Farm, Hall's Green, Weston	07917 542405	10% discount on all workshop bookings & shop purchases
Martins Furniture	62 - 64 Leys Avenue & 12 - 14 Commerce Way	351610	5% discount on furniture, carpets & flooring
Max Spielmann	36 Broadway	672264	10% off

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

Businesses Offering Discounts to LALG Members

Miss Green Fingers	2 - 4 Eastcheap	337970	10% off café items
Mobility World	Birds Hill	708830	£50 off riser recliner chairs, £100 off beds, 10% off smaller items
Nanny Julie's Children's Hairdresser	8 The Arcade	337805	10% off
North Herts Chiropody	46 Leys Avenue	684358	10% off full treatments
Nuffield Health Letchworth	Letchworth Lane	681075	15% discount off our anytime memberships
On Your Travels	www.onyourtravels.co.uk	677111	Discounts on tours & cruises
Pampered Pets	9 The Arcade	07432 440104	10% off a full groom
Professional Dry Cleaners	25 Eastcheap & 5A Brand Street, Hitchin	682571 & 450491	10% off dry-cleaning on site only
ReelN	85 Great Portland Street, London	reeln.co.uk	5% off monthly South Asian film screenings in & around Letchworth
Revive the Beauty Salon	4 The Wynd	674888	10% off
Shades of Gray	Pixmore Avenue	07794 693709	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	339128 or 07833 984091	10% off
The Prep Lounge	2 Whitehorse Street, Baldock	545419	10% off food & drink
The Shoe Box	45 Leys Avenue	683190	10% off all shoe repairs
The Uniform Monkeys	16 - 18 Openshaw Way	07828 148179	10% off first order
Tutti Frutti Clothing	12a Central Approach	07725 830913	10% off sales of £10 or more
Vutie Beets vegan café	24/25 The Wynd	337930	10% off all sales
Walkwel Clinic	13 Eastcheap & 21 Westgate Centre, Stevenage	682526	5% off non-sale footwear only, in Letchworth & Stevenage

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Linked Organisations

Arts Society North Herts theartssocietynorthherts.org.uk	Art lectures at Broadway Theatre on the first Thursday of the month, 11am except January and August. All welcome. Contact: **theartssociety.nh@gmail.com**
Baldock and District Canoe Club thecanoeclub.co.uk	Kayaking and canoeing trips throughout the UK, from gentle local paddles to exciting white-water rapids. See the website for details.
Baldock Folk Club baldockfolkclub.org	Free admission; donations to performers welcome. Usually at the Orange Tree pub. Contact: **Brian Burke 07768 274037; baldockfolkclub@gmail.com**
Benslow Music benslowmusic.org	Music learning opportunities, residential courses and concerts, and courses for those returning after a break. Event spaces for hire. Contact: **01462 459446 info@benslowmusic.org**
Branch Out social club for single people branch-out.org.uk	For single people aged 50+ to socialise, weekly at the Three Moorhens, Hitchin. Contact: **Christine 07932 560998; Christine@branch-out.org.uk**
Forty Plus Cycling Club www.fortypluscc.co.uk	Rides of 25 - 40 miles to a pub lunch, mostly on quiet lanes. Thursdays, 10.30am. Contact: **Alan Brosnan 07790 646949; 40plusNHerts@gmail.com**
Garden City Singers www.gardencitysingers.co.uk	Friendly community choir singing a variety of music and holding concerts to raise money for local charities. All voice parts welcome. See the website for details.
Hitchin Thespians www.hitchinthespians.org.uk	Musical theatre and choral society. The Young Thespians present various staged shows throughout the year. See the website for contact information and ticket details.
Letchworth Educational Settlement letchworthsettlement.org.uk	Independent adult education centre providing academic and recreational classes. Contact: **info@letchworthsettlement.org.uk**
Letchworth Film Club broadway-letchworth.com/cinema/letchworth-film-club	World cinema films and timeless classics, monthly on Sundays, 7.45pm, at Broadway Cinema. Contact: **Lynne McGechie 07763 030031; lynne@letchworthfilmclub.com**

Linked Organisations

Letchworth Garden City Bowls Club letchworthbowlsclub.co.uk	Norton Common, April to September. 50% off membership for the first year, plus 10% LALG discount. **Contact: Sue Sinclair 01462 621067; secretary@letchworthbowlsclub.co.uk**
Letchworth Garden City Society lgcs.org.uk	Visits and talks on Letchworth, other Garden Cities, architecture/history, and local planning matters. **Contact: Philippa Parker 01462 686828; philippaclare@me.com**
Letchworth Music letchworthmusic.org/	Chamber music concerts, October to April, by professional musicians, at Howgills Friends Meeting House. **Contact: Kevin Jones; 07779 995476; kevin@osneyconsulting.com**
Letchworth Scale Model Club letchworthsmc.yolasite.com	Figures, vehicles, aircraft, ships, etc. Talks and demonstrations at the Icknield Centre. **Contact: Geoff Russell 07806 433998; 118geoff@gmail.com**
Letchworth Sinfonia Letchworth-sinfonia.org.uk	Amateur chamber orchestra with professional conductor. Two concerts per annum. Rehearsals on alternate Sundays at Letchworth Educational Settlement. **Contact: Elisabeth George 07305 315657; elisabeth.george@ntlworld.com**
North Herts Bowls Club www.n-h-b-c.org.uk	Norton Common, Mondays 2pm - 4pm. LALG discount. **Contacts: Andy 07818 664274** or **Mike 01462 893411**
North Herts Speakers Club www.northhertsspeakers.org	Friendly group helping with public speaking, presentations, and leadership. First Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm online and third Wednesdays at Mrs Elizabeth Howard Memorial Hall. Free for visitors. Call first. **Contact: Dorothy Molloy** 07747 795142
North Herts Stamp Club	Monthly meetings in Letchworth at which members enjoy displays and can buy and sell stamps. **Contact: 07776 381781; richardemerritt@talktalk.net**
Unicorn Ceilidhs unicornceilidhs.org.uk	Dances for the local community, with a wide range of ceilidh bands and callers. **Contact: 07833 643597; barry.goodman1@ntlworld.com**
Whitethorn Bowls Club **(Whitethorn Lane)**	Friendly and league matches, April to September. All welcome; instruction available. **Contact: 07981 958651; tonypinchin@hotmail.co.uk**

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

Renewing Your Membership

If you want to keep getting this newsletter, the annual cost is £25 per household. If you decide to stop receiving the paper newsletter, membership will be only £10, and you can still see it online at **lalg.org.uk/newsletter**.

Whichever membership you choose, the benefits include:

- ✓ **Over 180 groups and events – around one third outside office hours**
- ✓ **Generous discounts at over 40 local businesses**
- ✓ **A chance to meet new people and try new things**
- ✓ **Online activities to enjoy from your own home**
- ✓ **Regular newsletter**

You can renew your membership online with a payment card or a bank transfer.

You can renew in person with a cheque, cash, or card. There are at least three in-person opportunities each month.

Or take a cheque (with your membership number on the back) to David's Bookshop.

For full details of how to pay, visit **lalg.org.uk/join**
or contact the Membership Secretary: **Trevor 07361 040348; membership@lalg.org.uk**

From the Editors

The editor of this edition was Suzanne Gillian. The February/March 2027 edition will be edited by Nick Matthews. Please send repeat entries to **newsletter@lalg.org.uk** by 10 January. If you have a new or longer item, please send it by 5 January

If you are unable to make the deadline, your entry will read: 'For details of future meetings or events, please see the group's web page or call/email the Group Contact.'

We are especially grateful to contributors who send their entries ahead of the deadline.

Advertisers: Please visit **lalg.org.uk/advertise** for information and terms.