

Details of u3a Outing to Lichfield

Wednesday, 19th November 2025

Departure: Please arrive at the Madeley Centre by 9.30am.

The coach needs to be away by 9.45am at the latest, so cannot wait for latecomers.

Return: Please be at the coach in Lichfield by 3.30 pm.

Itinerary

11am Arrive at **Erasmus Darwin House:** <https://www.erasmusdarwin.org/>

The house is being specially opened for our group. After a welcoming tea/coffee and biscuits, we will be given a talk about the life and work of Erasmus Darwin. Afterwards, we are free to look around the house and museum exhibits.

Erasmus Darwin was a leading figure in Britain in the [Age of Enlightenment](#). He was a distinguished medical doctor, scientist, inventor and poet. He presented an early version of the Theory of Evolution based upon the idea of “*survival of the fittest*” in his scientific book *Zoonomia* and poetic works like *The Loves of Plants* and *The Temple of Nature*. Erasmus translated into English the works of the Swedish botanist Carl Linneus. He was an inventor and campaigned for the abolition of slavery. His poetic writings were influential, and his ideas about the natural world and biological change influenced his grandson, Charles Darwin. Erasmus Darwin was a member of the Lunar Society with Matthew Boulton, James Watt, Joseph Priestley, and Josiah Wedgwood, a group of innovators and freethinkers who met in Staffordshire to discuss ideas and inventions. The house has many artefacts relating to the life of this great pioneer.



After the house, we will disperse for lunch and to explore the delights of Lichfield.

There are many lunch options including:

- Mediterranean food at [EGO](#) (booking recommended)
- restaurants offering Italian, Thai and Indian
- pub grub and cafés and takeaways.

After lunch you might want to visit:

Lichfield Cathedral: <https://www.lichfield-cathedral.org/>



Samuel Johnson Museum: <https://samueljohnsonbirthplace.org.uk>



Or explore the town, its shops and parks:

<https://www.visitstaffordshire.com/be-inspired/explore-our-destinations/lichfield/>

To enable us to confirm the coach booking, please pre-pay £28 per person into the u3a bank account as soon as possible,

Natwest Bank: Sort code 54-10-27

Madeley and District University of the Third Age, Account Number 13474340

Add "Your Name" as the reference.

IMPORTANT

As soon as you have paid, please let me know by emailing stevejurd@gmail.com so that I can compile a list of participants. This u3a outing is by coach only – no personal transport. There are 33 places on the coach. Places will be allocated on a first come basis. *u3a rules and insurance preclude non u3a members from joining the outings.* Once the bus is full, late payments will be refunded by the Treasurer.