



Staffordshire Centre



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News Bulletin – January 2026

Hello Centre Members.

I hope that you've all had a good Christmas and wish you all a Happy New Year!

It was good to see so many of you at our annual Christmas get together at The Rag at Rawnsley and at our final visit for 2025, Shaping Shugborough - arranged by our friends at Shugborough to see the progress being made as part of the 10-year Shaping Shugborough Project.

We have a good variety of talks arranged to kick off the New Year and I look forward to seeing you at Edward's talk on the 13th

Best wishes
Margaret Winfield

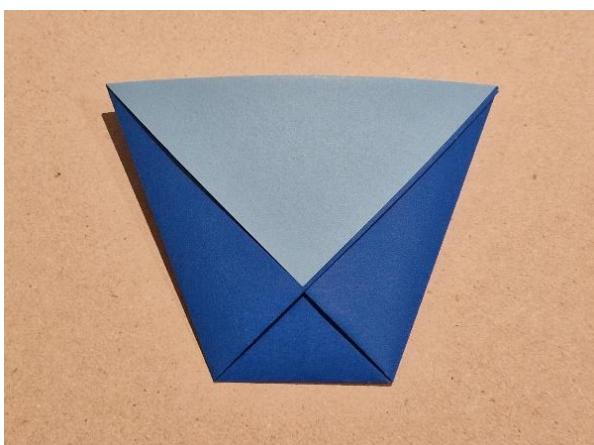
TALKS

All talks start at 2:30 pm at Walton Village Hall. To book for a talk, go to the Talks page on our website, ntstafford.org.uk or [click here](#).



The Art Of Origami – 13th January

A Talk by Edward Holmes



Edward first gave a talk on this subject in June 2023, where those attending, were invited to fold Shuzo Fujimoto's '2-Stage Colour Change Hydrangea'.

For the benefit of those of you that may have missed his first talk, he will give you a quick recap on the origins and applications of origami, before teaching you three traditional models.

Many people associate origami with the 'Crane'; an international symbol of peace, however, for beginners it's quite a difficult model to fold. With this in mind, Edward has chosen to teach a 'Cup', 'Swan' and 'Butterfly', introducing

new folding techniques with each model.

So, even if you haven't done any origami before, come along to this session, for an introduction to the ancient art of paper folding.

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Sweet Soul Music - 10th February

A Talk by Nigel Holmes



This talk, with musical interludes, takes its title from Arthur Conley's 1967 song of that name, where he pays homage to the blues and soul artists of that era; Lou Rawls, Sam and Dave, Wilson Pickett, Otis Redding and James Brown.

However, the story didn't stop there; let's not forget the likes of Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder and many more. In the UK, rare Tamla Motown records along with imported recordings from little known US artists, formed the basis of the Northern Soul movement.

So, "if you like good music", then we feel sure that you'll enjoy this talk.

Diary dates :-

10th March – Stories of Shugborough by Keith Alldritt

14th April – 52nd Annual General Meeting

WALKS

Please remember that you join our walks at your own risk and are responsible for your own safety. Leaders will indicate the difficulty of the walk so walkers can make an informed choice on whether or not to join in. Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn. . We hope to start our 2026 series in March – watch out for details in the bulletin and on the website.



Potential walk leaders... If you would like to organise a circular walk next year, typically 4 to 5 miles (6 miles maximum), with parking and a nearby location for lunch, then please get in touch. Thanks.

Diary Dates: -

Our 2026 walks programme will start in March with a walk from Stone Town – actual date to be confirmed. Watch this space and the website to see when details become available.

Shaping Shugborough

If you went on the Shaping Shugborough tour in December and have anything that you'd particularly like to share about the visit, please send it to me (John Willis) and I'll try to incorporate it in the write up for the next Newsletter in May.

Membership Renewal

Just a gentle reminder that membership renewal time is here again (unless you joined after 31st July this year). If you haven't done so already, please go to the Join Us page on the website and click on the Membership Renewal button, or, just [Click here](#).

Remember that we increased subscriptions in August, but it's still only £10 for another year of walks, talks, visits, holidays and more.



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