



# May 2023 Newsletter & Diary Dunmow

**u3a**  
learn, laugh, live

## Forthcoming monthly meetings

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April ... **"A beginning, a muddle & an end: where do novelists get their ideas from?"** by Bobbie Darbyshire

*In an entertaining, informative talk, Bobbie Darbyshire will explain how the complex world of character, location, plot and subplot arrives in a writer's mind. Author of four novels so far, and with a fifth due to be published in October, she has also worked as barmaid, mushroom picker, film extra, maths coach, cabinet minister's private secretary, care assistant and volunteer adult-literacy teacher, as well as in social research and government policy.*



Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May ... **"Wildlife in Brazil"** by Mary and Graham Brace

*Mary and Graham Brace are avid wildlife photographers and conservationists. Their illustrated talks cover many countries around the world, showing over 100 digital images (slides) of the wide range of wildlife. Their emphasis is on the sheer joy of experiencing truly wild animals in their own habitat. All the photographs shown are taken by them and are compilations taken over their many years of travelling.*



**These all take place at Foakes Hall in Dunmow, 1.30pm for a 2pm start.**

**\* Please do not arrive before 1.30pm – we may not be ready for you! \***

The front 2 rows of chairs at the monthly meeting are reserved for those members who are **hard of hearing**. The seats are identified by a '**reserved**' sign. You do not need to book, just turn up.



- ❖ Please remember to **bring your own mug** with you – we are no longer using disposable cups.
- ❖ Don't forget that Rosemary Jensen runs the **Magazine Swap** table. Please bring along any magazines that you have finished with and take away a few which others have donated.



## In this issue ...

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## From the Editor

Welcome to the May Du3a Newsletter and Diary.

Thank you to everyone who sent me examples of **what they have LEARNT** as a result of belonging to Dunmow u3a. I have tried to include as many as possible, scattered through this newsletter. There will be more next month.

This month, I am inviting you to tell me about **times you have LAUGHED** with other members of the u3a. Please nothing about laughing \*at\* another person!



The **next deadline is earlier than usually** ... Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May. I will be away towards the end of the month and this is the only way I can still produce a newsletter in time for the monthly meeting on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May.

As always, I am so grateful for all the contributions I receive – thank you – and to my proof-readers who double check everything for me.

Let's Learn, Laugh & Live!

*Heather Quiney, Newsletter Editor*

## Message from the Chair

Easter is behind us now. Although the weather was quite Spring like, we have the cold east winds back and coats are very much still needed. The grandchildren are back at school and our minding duties are back in demand.

This Monday morning saw the walking group out in the sunshine for a lovely Springtime walk in the country around Hatfield Heath. On Tuesday, the Geology group went to the Bulmer Brick and Tile Co near Sudbury for a fascinating talk and guided tour of one of the oldest production facilities in the UK and to say 'little has changed since 1900' would be spot on. Everything is done by hand, not a computer in sight and hardly a machine at all apart from some heavy lifting gear. They even dig the clay for the bricks from an onsite quarry! The bricks they produce are precision-made for specialist jobs, such as Grade 1 listed building repairs.



The Outing to De Havilland's museum on Wednesday was similarly a good day out, so it's been a busy week on top of all the usual group activities.

Bobbie Darbyshire, our speaker at this month meeting on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, is giving us an insight into how an author selects a plot and develops the characters in a novel. "A Beginning, a Muddle and an End" she says, all of which sounds like a not-to-be-missed talk.

Picking up from last month's appeal, I am delighted to share the news that Trauti Hard has agreed to become our Speaker Organiser and so our thanks in advance to her.

Lastly, if you have recently joined us then do come along to our New Members afternoon in the Dourdan Pavilion at 2:30pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May. We can explain what is on offer, get to know you a little and find out what you might offer to our u3a. We did this last year and it was most successful. Please see page 7 and let Hilary know if you are able to join us.

*Mike Best, Dunmow u3a Chair*

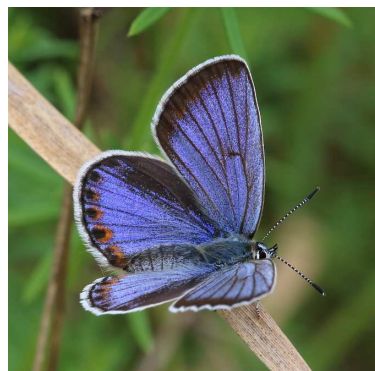
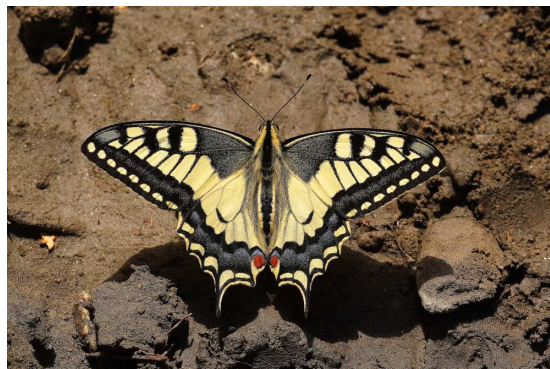
## Past Monthly Meeting

### "Butterflies of Britain & Europe" – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

At the March monthly meeting, Roger Gibbons gave a talk entitled Butterflies of Britain and Europe.

Roger is a lucky chap because it seems that he spends the summer months in Provence and the southern Alps. Here he indulges in his hobby of studying butterflies and moths and, with his wife helping (who must be almost as enthusiastic or very patient), takes the most beautiful photographs.

The talk was mainly about the butterflies in these lovely pictures from his French explorations. We learnt all manner of interesting and strange things about the lives of butterflies. Some of them like dog poo (I am just repeating what he said) while others prefer urine. You may be relieved to hear that most of the pictures showed them on pretty plants though. The females are generally much duller (in looks, not intelligence I'm sure) because, once they have mated, they prefer to be inconspicuous.



Roger also told us about how butterflies suck up salts from the ground, defend themselves with decoy antennae and wing patterns, and migrate huge distances using the wind and sun to navigate.

He did talk about a couple of butterflies we see in England. These were the Painted Lady and the Purple Emperor. I would have liked to hear more about the butterflies we see here and their life-cycle. Perhaps Roger could come back some time to tell us about this? His easy manner and gentle humour made the talk easy to listen to.

*Lucy Myers*

**Learn**

*I've learnt ... lots more about rocks!*



## Past Outing

### De Havilland Museum, London Colney – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, an outing suggested by the Science and Society group, took “a select group of us” the relatively short trip round the M25 to Junction 22 and the De Havilland Aircraft Museum. After a welcome tea/coffee and biscuits, our excellent guide Philip took us on a fascinating 2 hour tour round the iconic De Havilland aircraft, spanning 50 years between the 1930’s & 1980’s including:

**Tiger Moth** – Probably the best-known training aeroplane ever, the open-cockpit tandem two-seat biplane DH82 Tiger Moth was first flown in 1931. Other variants of the Tiger Moth were used for crop-spraying and there was even a radio-controlled “drone” version (in the late 1930’s!) used to train anti-aircraft gunners.

**Mosquito** – Built of non-strategic materials (i.e. wood) and in non-strategic factories (e.g. furniture makers), the DH98 Mosquito was designed for speed and range as a two-seat unarmed light bomber, unarmed reconnaissance aircraft and long range fighter throughout the latter half of WW2 despite development being carried out “out of sight” of the Air Ministry, who were insisting on 4 engines, defensive armament and provision for torpedoes!

**Vampire** – The 1940s DH100 Vampire (and Sea Vixen/Venom Navy versions) was De Havilland’s first jet aircraft and used extensively by the RAF, RCAF and many others throughout the world.

**Comet** – The DH106 Comet was the World’s first jet-powered airliner, designed and built at Hatfield and first flown in 1949. The Comet was years ahead of its time, entering service with BOAC in 1952, offering new standards of high speed, low vibration and noise and a smooth flight way above most weather. After being grounded following two catastrophic crashes, the Comet returned to service in 1958 as the Comet 4, subsequently flying well into the 1980s and, in its **Nimrod** maritime patrol and attack variant, right through to 2011.

**Trident** – The 1962 DH121 Trident broke new ground by having three



engines and, by having them at the rear, placed the jet exhaust noise behind the passenger cabin. It was also the first airliner in the World to be designed and certified for automatic landing.

**BAE 146** – The 1981 146 “whisperjet”, so-called due to its unusually quiet operation, was for many years the only jet aircraft capable of flying in & out of London City Airport.

After the tour, we were free to wander back round the museum, go into some of the civil airliners, talk to the many volunteers, see the restorations in progress and look at the many other exhibits, including De Havilland’s range of piston, jet and rocket engines before heading back to Dunmow after a most enjoyable and enlightening day.

*Ian Marshall, Science & Society group*



The March monthly meeting marked the last one at which Mary Jensen and Jan Barlow served the refreshments. They have stepped down, having poured thousands of cups of tea and coffee for us over the last 6 years!

They were presented with bouquets of flowers as a thank you from our members for all their service during this time.

**Thank You!**

The bouquets were created by our Flower Arranging group members.

## Dunmow u3a AGM – Wednesday 28th June

Dunmow u3a will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at Foakes Hall in Dunmow.

It will take place at our regular monthly meeting and will be followed by Danielle Barnet telling us “The Story of Whitney Houston”.

More details about the AGM will be in next month’s newsletter but please also look out for emails on the subject – some might require your reply.



Dunmow u3a

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# QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

6.30pm for 7pm start

Rowena Davey Centre, Dunmow

Teams of 8 – £5 per person

Bring your own refreshments

**Fully Booked**

Dunmow u3a

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learn, laugh, live

**New Members Afternoon**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Dourdan Pavilion, Dunmow

From 2.30pm

Tea, Coffee and Cake will be served



For catering,  
please let Hilary know if you  
want to come along by emailing  
[hilaryju3a@gmail.com](mailto:hilaryju3a@gmail.com)



**Forthcoming Outing**  
**Leeds Castle, Kent – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

**Leeds Castle**  
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Code LC**



**Cost: £38 per person**

**Some of the things to do:**

- Step into the glamorous house parties of Lady Baillie
- Immerse yourself in stories of our six medieval Queens
- Ride to the castle on “Elsie” the Castle train (£1.30 not included)
- Explore the award winning maze
- View the falconry
- Take a walk in the extensive gardens

**Timings:** Leave Don's at 9.00am, Flitch House Café at 9.05am, Takeley Four Ashes at 9.25am. Leaving Leeds Castle at 4.00pm  
Est. arrival back at Don's approximately 6.00pm

**Food and Drink:** Take your own picnic, eat at the Castle View Restaurant or “on site” cafes

**Contact Outings Team:** Email: [dunmowu3aoutings@btinternet.com](mailto:dunmowu3aoutings@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01279 870870 Mob: 07909 688401

**For more information visit:** [www.leeds-castle.com](http://www.leeds-castle.com)



## The Bigger Picture ... National u3a News

### "Off the Wall" Festival of Learning

Taking place at the beginning of May, there will be free online talks and workshops on subjects from geography to art around the theme of Hadrian's Wall as part of u3a's "Off the Wall Festival of Learning" <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/off-the-wall>.



Join geologist Martin Eales as he explains how England and Wales collided with Scotland to form the British Isles or hear author Nancy Jardine discuss writing historical fiction.

Catherine Stevenson, of Newcastle u3a, will lead a talk about intriguing works of art found in areas around Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland.

'Scotland's foodie' Wendy Barrie will lead a session about Roman cuisine's influence on Britain, and you can also take part in a workshop to learn how to create a Roman-style floral crown.

A number of events will be taking place at The Sill at Hadrian's Wall on 10 May, including talks from Dr Rob Collins, senior lecturer in archaeology at Newcastle University, and Dr Andrew Birley, chief executive and director of excavations at The Vindolanda Trust.



There will also be guided tours of the Vindolanda fort and fringe activities all day, including charcoal landscape drawing and creative writing.

Find out more at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/off-the-wall>

*See details of the online events overleaf – Ed.*

*I have learnt all manner of things since joining Du3a:*

- *How to play Bridge, Canasta, Whist and Mah Jong*
- *Lots of handicrafts from going to the general crafts group*
- *Interesting facts about Science, Wine and London's History (also the history of Saffron Walden and Gt Dunmow)*



## Upcoming u3a Online Learning Events for May



**Tues 2 May at 2pm Hadrian's Wall: At the Edge of Empire with Author Adrian Goldsworthy** - Join author Adrian Goldsworthy to discuss the historical background and evidence he used to create his 'Roman Britain' book series.

**Wed 3 May at 2pm Hadrian's Wall: The Power of 3 and Other Mysteries** - Areas around Hadrian's Wall often reveal to us intriguing and mysterious works of art. Catherine Stevenson of Newcastle u3a leads this talk.

**Thurs 4 May at 10am Hadrian's Wall: The Unification of the British Isles: A Lesson in Geology** - A discussion of how England and Wales collided with Scotland, then Europe with Britain and finally the breakaway of America.

**Thurs 4 May at 2pm Hadrian's Wall: Roman Influence on British Cuisine, A Culinary Journey** - 'Scotland's Foodie' Wendy Barrie leads a session on food travel from Rome to Britain - what was brought and what was found?

**Fri 5 May at 10am Hadrian's Wall: Creating a Convincing Evocation of Celtic Britain in Fiction** - We hear from author Nancy Jardine about writing historical fiction set almost 2000 years ago.

**Tues 9 May at 10am Hadrian's Wall: Wall Flowers, Create a Roman-style Floral Crown** - A workshop on how to create your own Roman-style floral crown, ready to wear for the celebrations in person on 10th May.

**Tues 9 May at 2pm and Wed 10 May at 10am Hadrian's Wall: Creative Writing, On the Edge of Empire (2 x Sessions)** - Sandra Whitnell leads a workshop which will take inspiration from Hadrian's wall to create short pieces of fiction and reflection.



### Philosophy and Sport

This talk by Shri Sharma, Subject Adviser for Philosophy, will introduce you to some philosophical aspects of sport.

**Thurs 11 May at 2pm**  
Free - online via zoom



### Exploring World Faiths: Meditation in Faith

We get outlooks on how meditation is incorporated into different faiths, from a Buddhist, Christian and Hindu perspective.

**Mon 15 May at 10am**  
Free - online via zoom



**Energy management & savings in the domestic situation**  
Tony Book gives us a case study of a house that was recently refurbished to a high specification of insulation and windows.

**Thurs 18 May at 2pm**  
Free - online via zoom



### Their Finest Hour Reminiscence Project

Join Dr Matthew Kidd of the University of Oxford and u3a volunteers to find out how you can preserve the everyday stories and objects of WW2 for 'Their Finest Hour'.

**Thurs 25 May at 2pm**  
Free - online via zoom

**More talks are added weekly.** For more details, visit ...

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>



## Vacancies – Two New Committee Members

With the forthcoming AGM on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, we are looking for two Du3a members to join the committee and help with the smooth running of the group.

Initially, they will be unspecified roles, just helping 'as and when' and getting a idea for the way things happen but, in time, there may be a choice of a couple of specific positions which need filling.

U3a is a self-help organisation and we are dependent on ourselves for new initiatives, and fresh ideas from new members are most welcome.

**VOLUNTEER**



To find out more about what is involved, please speak to any of the current committee at the monthly meeting on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April or 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Or contact Mike Best (Chair) via the Du3a website ... <https://u3asites.org.uk/dunmow/page/66948>

## News from the Interest Groups

The **Garden Group** have now moved to the summer programme and are meeting every two weeks until the end of September.

Our first spring outing was to Impington Windmill and garden, near Cambridge. As you can imagine the gardens are dominated by the restored windmill which has been lovingly restored by the current owner. The gardens gave us a good display of daffodils and flowering shrubs plus the beginnings of a delightful display of tulips. Due to the warm weather we were able to enjoy our tea and cake sitting in the garden. (Thank you to Julia, who provided an excellent Victoria sponge cake that could have graced the table at The Great British Bake Off!)

Check the Dunmow u3a website (<https://u3asites.org.uk/dunmow/page/56086>) for upcoming outings and book via [dungardengroup@gmail.com](mailto:dungardengroup@gmail.com)

*Anne Howatson, Garden group*





At the end of March, we had 24 **Walking group** members plus 2 dogs, when we walked in cool sunshine from Ashfields Carriage and Polo Club in Great Canfield. We were particularly taken by the horse in its coat.



Roll on to the middle of April and it felt like Spring when 17 members and Elton, our regular four legged friend, took to the walking trails around Hatfield Heath. It was so nice to feel the warmth of the sun after such a long time without it.

*Mike Best, Walking group*



Amanda, from the **Quilting and Stitching** group, recently made this stunning cushion cover using the Bargello Quilting technique.

It involves stitching together strips of different coloured fabric vertically, then turning the piece horizontally and cutting different sized widths from left to right. The multi-coloured columns of fabric are re-sewn together, but offset by one colour section as you move from left to right, to create the cascade effect. For a visual explanation (and demonstration), visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DB8xz65xml8>



The **Quilting and Stitching** group is open to anyone who stitches; some create large quilts, others hand-stitch smaller patchworks and one sews scout badges onto camp blankets!

To find out more about the group, please contact Maureen through the Du3a website <https://u3asites.org.uk/dunmow/page/56373>.

Nine members of the **Science and Society Group** met around Colin's dining table at the end of March for a lively discussion about artificial intelligence (AI), with particular reference to the highly topical Chat GPT. After a teasing introduction relating to the periodic table – for me, a reminder of those happy days of school chemistry classes – group leader, David Cole, kicked off the conversation about AI and others soon took up the conversational baton.

For the uninitiated, Chat GPT is a computer “chatbot” which mimics human conversation and can write essays, music, and other things more traditionally created by human beings. But does it do these things better than we can? One of my companions had used Chat GPT to obtain answers to some searching questions related to his rather obscure hobby – with some success, he told us. Our conversation also touched on online shopping and getting appointments with doctors.

Many thanks to host Colin for keeping our vocal chords lubricated by providing tea, coffee, and even stronger beverages, and to David for his research and for sparking the conversation.

If you're at all curious about the world about us, and enjoy chatting about it with others, then why not join us at the next meeting?

*Philip Garrison,  
Science and Society Group*



## Keep in Touch

If you move house or change your phone number and/or email address, please let Terry Parker (Membership Secretary) know. He can update Beacon and all your groups will know in one go. Simply call the Du3a mobile phone **07385 879846** and leave a message or email Terry ... [membership@dunmowu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@dunmowu3a.org.uk)



At our March meeting, the **Family History Group** enjoyed a fascinating talk from two of its longstanding members, Adrian and Jenny Hoodless, on their lifetime of Family History Research, beginning way before the age of the internet.

Starting with records collected by Adrian's mother, they had built up extensive family trees, accounting for numerous Hoodless relations in Cumbria and beyond, even as far as Canada where they had lived for a while. This was real research, long days spent in the Cumberland record office or touring graveyards in Norfolk in search of Adrian's Grimes relations, tracing old maps of Manchester and tracking the progress of Jenny's Hatton forbears away from the industrial centre next to the River Medlock towards leafier environments.



In time, Adrian and Jenny had embraced the benefits of the internet and translated their written notes into digital form, creating a comprehensive slideshow to illustrate their story. For several of us, the highlights were the old family photographs they had collected, which bring the history vividly to life. Such treasures are all too often lost or found too late to ask for explanations.

The group has plans to hear similar stories or snippets from other members as well as for outside speakers on various topics. There is always something to learn and all the members are more than willing to help each other with ideas and experience.

*Kate Wollaston, Family History group*



*Art group gave me an opportunity to experiment with palette knives and really enjoy this technique.*



*I've learnt what Bargello quilting is and it looks amazing!  
[see the report on page 12 from the Quilting and Stitching group - Ed.]*



On Wednesday 5 April, nine members of **Luncheon Group 2** assembled at the Toby Carvery in Great Notley.

It's part of a chain and I'm sure you know the drill: you wander up to a server where you are served with an optional Yorkshire pudding, then slices of your choice of one or more of beef, pork, gammon and turkey. Then you help yourself to roast potatoes and an assortment of vegetables, and finally a choice of gravy and sauces. You then take your heavily-laden plate back to your place and consume it. And all for less than a tenner!

Most of us were too full for a dessert, though one of our party – who shall be nameless – decided he needed to take a few extra calories on board, and went for the banoffee pancake (it was delicious though!)

The conversation was as lively as ever, and we whiled away much of the afternoon in rather agreeable surroundings. Thanks to Debbie for making it happen.

*Philip Garrison, Luncheon Group 2*



This month the **General Craft group** met at their new venue – the Rowena Davey Centre. They enjoyed a happy couple of hours doing cross stitch. Some of the group had done this before but those that hadn't were guided by our member Gladys.

The group meets on the third Monday of each month from 2pm to 4pm and new members are always welcome. Just contact Lucy via the Dunmow u3a website <https://u3asites.org.uk/dunmow/page/67115>

*Lucy Myers, General Craft group*



Our **Thursday Art Group** has continued with a range of charcoal, watercolour, pastel and acrylic projects. We also have some entries registered for the 2023 Countess of Warwick Show.

We have had the first of our booked demonstrations by local artist and tutor, David Pasfield. The subject was a Bluebell Wood taken from a sketch, using a decorator's brush to apply acrylic under-painting followed by a texture build-up with a palette knife and stick using heavily gelled acrylics in an impasto style. This technique was new to most of us.

Our group of 13 learned so much from this demonstration and are keen to put this into practice. We are also looking forward to our May 2023 David Pasfield watercolour demonstration.

Here are some of our latest artworks showing a variety of styles.

*Jan Clinton,  
Thursday Art Group*



**Learn**

*Since I joined u3a I've learned to play bridge and table tennis. I couldn't do either of these things two years ago.*

**Learn**

*I've learnt never to underestimate other people, especially once they are in their 'third age'. Don't judge a book by its cover – you cannot begin to imagine what experience and skills people have gained during the course of their life.*

Uttlesford Community Travel is here to help you get out and about and make the most of this lovely part of Essex.

We provide services to the residents of Uttlesford who find it difficult to access normal public transport, the over 60s, the disabled and those who are rurally isolated.

We can take you shopping, to the hairdressers, to visit friends, garden centres, just about anywhere, as well as all types of medical appointments. All Uttlesford Community Travel minibuses are wheelchair accessible and all our drivers are fully trained and checked through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

### **Minibus Services**

Our door-to-door minibus service with helpful trained drivers, operating in wheelchair accessible minibuses.

Annual membership for individuals is £10.

### **Hospital Car Service**

This service is specifically for hospital and medically-related appointments. It is operated by volunteer drivers using their own cars.

### **Pre-Booked Service**

You can book your date and time of travel in advance with our friendly staff, who will help you to plan your trip.

Phone: 01371 875787 / 01799 519008

E-mail: [info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org](mailto:info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org)

Address: Unit One, Flitch Industrial Estate, Chelmsford Road,  
Dunmow CM6 1XJ

Website: <https://uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org>

We're always looking out for volunteers and hospital drivers so please get in touch if you would like to join our team and make a real difference in our community.

### **Fares:**

#### **Minibus Journeys:**

£4 up to 2 miles,  
then £1.20 per mile  
for journeys up to 15  
miles

#### **Hospital Cars:**

£5 minimum charge,  
£0.45 per mile paid  
to the driver for all  
miles over 11.



## Interest Groups List

If you are interested in joining any of the groups, or have a suggestion for other groups, please come and talk to me, Rosemary Jensen, during the General Meeting. Or you can contact me via the Dunmow u3a website or ring me on **07385 879846**.

*Rosemary Jensen, Groups Coordinator*

Art (Thursday)	Thursday am - Weekly	Barnston Village Hall	Jan Clinton
Art (Friday)	Friday am - Weekly	Rowena Davey Day Centre, Dunmow	Colin Bradley (Admin)
Book Club	Thursday am - 2nd Thur of the month	Members' homes	Christine Coates
Bookworms	Thursday pm - 2nd Thur of the month	Members' homes in Dunmow	Fiona Watson
Bridge	Thursday pm - Weekly	Rowena Davey Centre, Dunmow	Bryony Rees
Canasta	Monday am - Weekly	Angel & Harp, Dunmow	Jan Moffat
Cycling	Fri Mornings - Twice monthly	10-20 miles in Dunmow area	Jenny Versey
Family History	Monday pm - Every 4 weeks	The Maltings, Dunmow	Heather Quiney
Flower Arranging	Friday am - every 3 weeks	Barnston Village Hall	Christine Bishop
French (Advanced)	Wednesday pm - Last Wed of month	Meadowhill Café, Dunmow	Valerie Newell
Garden	Thursday pm - Fortnightly (summer)	various	Anne Howatson
General Crafts	Wednesday pm - <b>3rd Mon</b> of the month	<b>Rowena Davey Centre</b>	Lucy Myers
Geology	Thursday am - 3rd Thur of the month	various inc trips	Interim Coordinator: David Cole
Golf	Tuesday am - Weekly	Elsenham Golf Club	Paul Bryant
Golf 2	Wednesday am Monthly (no fixed Wed)	Essex Golf & Country Club, Earls Colne	Jackie Lapwood
Grow Your Own	Wednesday pm - 1st Wed of the month	Members' gardens	Alison Lavelle
Italian Beginners	Friday pm - Weekly	Usually Highfields, Dunmow	Colin Bradley (Admin)
Italian Conversation	Wednesday am - Weekly	Angel & Harp, Dunmow	Liz Parker

Line Dancing	Tuesday am – Weekly	Priors Green Hall	Jan Barlow
Line Dancing 2	Wednesday am – Weekly	Priors Green Hall	Jean Hull
Luncheon Club (Fri)	Friday lunch – usually last Fri of the month	various	Paul Bryant
Luncheon Club (1st Wed)	Wednesday lunch – 1st Wed of the month	various	Debbie Miller
Luncheon Club (3rd Wed)	Wednesday lunch – 3rd Wed of the month	various	Lyn Fitzgibbon
Luncheon Club (Tue)	Tuesday lunch – 3rd Tue of the month	various	Anne Preece
Mah Jong	Monday pm – Weekly	Oakroyd House	Julie Coates
Music Appreciation	Wednesday pm Monthly (no fixed Wed)	Members' homes	Patricia Fletcher
Nature Walk	Wednesday pm – penult. Wed of month	various	Marilyn Hammond
Outings			Pat Jones
Quilting & Stitching	Tuesday pm – Fortnightly	Rowena Davey Day Centre, Dunmow	Maureen Best
Science & Society	Monthly – either eve meet up or trip out	Members' homes & Daytime trips	David Cole
Scrabble	Thursday am – Weekly	Saracen's Head, Dunmow	Helen Manley
Table Tennis 1 & 2 (each 2 hours)	Friday pm – Weekly	Rowena Davey Centre	Lucy Myers
Walking (Monday)	Monday am – Weekly	4–5 miles in villages around Dunmow	Mike Best
Walking (Thursday)	Thursday am – Weekly	Hatfield Forest	Anne Preece
Whist	Tuesday pm – Fortnightly	Rowena Davey Centre, Dunmow	Mike Best
Wine Appreciation 1	Tuesday eve – Monthly Last Tue of month	Members' homes	Peter Watson
Wine Appreciation 2	Tuesday eve – Monthly 1st Tue of the month	Members' homes	John Stanley
Zumba Gold	Monday pm – Weekly	Priors Green Hall	Rosemary Jensen

Group leaders can be contacted through our website or by phoning the Dunmow u3a mobile phone **07385 879846**.

## Du3a Committee

You can contact any of the post-holders by visiting the Du3a website <https://u3asites.org.uk/dunmow/page/66948> or by calling **07385 879846**.

Chair .....	Mike Best
Vice Chair .....	<b>VACANT</b>
Treasurer .....	Ian Marshall
Exec Secretary .....	Anna Fletcher
Membership Secretary / Beacon Administrator .....	Terry Parker
Groups Coordinator .....	Rosemary Jensen
Outings Coordinator .....	Pat Jones
Outings Assistant .....	Derek Jones
Assistant Treasurer / Asset Management .....	Derek Jones
Events Manager .....	Hilary Jinno
Committee Information Administrator .....	Peter Watson
Newsletter Editor .....	Heather Quiney
Minutes Secretary .....	Phil Garrison

## Dates for your Diaries ...

Wed 26 April ... <i>Monthly Meeting</i> ... <b>"Where do Novelists get their ideas from"</b> by Bobbie Darbyshire .....	pg 1
Fri 12 May ..... <b>Du3a Quiz Night</b> .....	<b>Fully Booked</b>
Wed 17 May ..... <b>New Members Afternoon</b> at the Dourdan Pavillion ..	pg 7
Wed 17 May ..... <b>EARLY</b> Deadline for <b>June</b> newsletter .....	pg 2
Tues 23 May ... Trip to <b>The Mousetrap</b> in Milton Keynes ....	<b>Fully Booked</b>
Wed 31 May ..... <i>Monthly Meeting</i> ... <b>"Wildlife in Brazil"</b> by Mary and Graham Brace .....	pg 1
Tues 20 June .. Trip to <b>Leeds Castle</b> in Kent .....	pg 8
Wed 28 June ... <i>Monthly meeting</i> ... <b>AGM</b> followed by <b>"The Story of Whitney Houston"</b> by Danielle Barnet .....	pg 6
Thurs 6 July ..... Trip to <b>Hemingford Grey Manor</b> – Details to follow	
Wed 2 Aug ..... Trip to <b>Southwold</b> .....	<b>Fully Booked</b>

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Please send any articles for the next newsletter to [heatherqU3a@gmail.com](mailto:heatherqU3a@gmail.com) by **Wed 17 May**