

Thoughts from the Chair My thoughts are now turning to the end of my 3-year term of office and the question of who will volunteer to replace me is taking on a new urgency. Members will recall that in 2019, our u3a was in real danger of disbanding as the search for a new Chair and Secretary was proving to be challenging. I do hope we don't find ourselves in a similar situation this year and would urge any member who would like to consider the role of Chair to please contact me for an exploratory chat. I can confirm that it's a rewarding and enjoyable role and the Chair is very well supported by our excellent committee members. It doesn't matter how long you've been a member or whether you've been a Group leader – I was a newish member when I took over and hadn't led a group. Please e-mail me or give me a call as soon as you can; my contact details are on our website.

In the April *Newsletter*, I itemised six of your committee's main priorities for this year and should now like to deal with the remaining six items from our action plan.

Review our income streams from membership fees and group meeting attendance fees

These reviews have been completed; we have been able to keep an increase in membership fees to a minimum by reducing some of our costs. We have also made the decision to scrap group meeting attendance fees that had become a source of irritation for members and GLs. Members will continue to pay towards any venue hire or other meeting costs.

Improve & modernise our banking and payment systems/set up budgets for each area of activity

This process is well underway and over the next few months we'll be moving our bank account from HSBC to CAF (a bank specifically for charities). We continue to encourage our members to pay their membership fees by BACS to reduce costs, but please be assured that you will still be able to pay by cheque, if you do not use internet banking.

Streamline our membership processes

Processing renewals for 650+ members each summer is a very time-consuming activity for David, our Membership Secretary, and we are very grateful to him for giving up his time for such an important task. Anything we can do to streamline our processes to make it quicker and easier for him and our members should be welcomed. Our decision to discontinue issuing membership cards will make a big difference to David's workload and our overheads.

Continue to evaluate our range of interest groups

Post pandemic, we will be closely monitoring our range of interest groups to try to ensure that we have a selection of groups that will, hopefully, provide something of interest for all our members. Our new Hub format for meetings at Meridian Hall will provide an opportunity for GLs to promote their groups and for members to sign up for group membership and to signal interest in setting up new groups.

Encourage greater membership involvement

The unique u3a self-help ethos means that EG u3a can only be successful and sustainable if members are willing to offer their services. There are many ways to contribute, everyone can do something. It may be helping to co-ordinate an interest group, volunteering for the committee, preparing refreshments, planning trips – the list is endless.

A **huge thank-you** to our members who contribute in numerous ways and we hope to encourage even greater membership involvement in the future.

Sandra Webb

Your Committee (2021-2)

Committee member	Committee role	Phone number	Email ID
Sandra Webb	Chair	01342 324611	chair@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Susan Hodgson	Vice Chair Chair of PCR subcommittee	01342 327452	vicechair@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Linda Howard	Secretary	01342 311933	secretary@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Keith Mason	Treasurer	01342 326523	treasurer@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
David Bignell	Membership Secretary	01737 218047	memsec@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
John Wells	Groups Coordinator IT support & webmaster	01342 300960	groups@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk webmaster@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Mike Kilfiger	Newsletter Editor	01342 321629	Newseditor@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Julia Harris	Events Coordinator	01342 312567	events@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Ian Tawse	SUN Rep Publicity and Groups Management	01342 604523	sunrep@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk
Carolyn Tanner	Coopted Website mgt	01342 824839	webmaster@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk

Events

We are pleased to confirm the following dates for your diaries – see below for further details about the meetings prefixed by an asterix (*)

Dates for your Diaries

*Wednesday 3 August	SHORT MAT BOWLS – Jubilee Centre, Charlwoods Road
Wednesday 7 September	OPEN DAY – Meridian Hall
Wednesday 5 October	HUB MEETING – Meridian Hall
Wednesday 16 November	AGM – Meridian Hall
Christmas Lunch	Date TBA

Event timings

Jubilee Community Centre: the session will start at 2pm; we'll play for just under an hour, then enjoy a wonderful cream tea in the interval, and play until 4pm. We'll need to disperse before other centre users arrive.

Meridian Hall: Hub Meetings (see below) You'll be welcome to arrive from 2:30pm for a 3pm start and 4:30 finish. See below for further details.

Hub Meetings.

The idea of a hub is for it to be a 'one stop shop' where members can gather with one another, prospective members can be welcomed and the committee keep in touch with the membership. At the same time, it'll be an opportunity for group leaders to 'sell their wares'. We'll still have a speaker but we'll have a more open platform from which to operate. We've been fortunate to be able to book the Meridian Hall for most 1st Wednesdays of the month, (not 16 November) as an *aide memoire* and for continuity.

Other Meetings

On Wednesday, 3 August we have arranged a Short Mat Bowls taster at the Jubilee Community Centre (JCC), Charlwoods Road, from 2 – 4pm There will be people on hand to give guidance, and JCC have generously offered to provide a cream tea, all for a very modest fee of approx. £3 per head. We will need to know numbers in advance.

Some members may prefer an evening's Ten Pin Bowling at Hollywood Bowl in Crawley. The committee are looking to attract new, younger members who may still be working part-time, for whom this would be an open invitation to a fun evening out with new friends. Do please contact me at events@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk if you are interested and I'll be in touch to arrange a date.

In conclusion

Thank-you for your continued support of our activities. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions for future events.

Julia

Lipreading

Lipreading classes resume in the autumn – don't miss out! We have a small core of regulars who enjoy the camaraderie & social side of learning to lipread. Each week, we lipread a different topic with some facts, prose, mystery objects, stories, bingo, quizzes and finally a joke. It's important to keep a sense of humour when you can't hear properly.

Classes are fun & informative and so far we've covered themes like gardening, pine cones, history of pillar boxes, Stradivarius, Butlins Holiday Camps, jury service, and the Platinum Jubilee. Lessons can range from anything such as Chelsea Football Club to growing bananas. We also have some seasonal lessons and classes about news & current events – but nothing controversial! Lessons are based on the letter groups we use every day when we lipread, and we also cover helpful tips for being able to hear in noisy environments, the use of sound equipment for the deaf and information about how the ear works. Admitting a hearing loss can be difficult and all are welcome to this mixed ability class catering for all levels of deafness.

There is something for everybody but spaces are limited. You're invited to join us for a trial session when classes recommence on Monday 19 Sept at 2pm in the Garden Room at Forest Row Community Centre. Hilary herself is hard of hearing and is accompanied by her Hearing Assistance dog, Loki, a black cocker spaniel.

Any questions: please call/text Hilary Lagden on 07971 708012 or alternatively e-mail: hilarylagden27@gmail.com. Hope to see you in September.

Hilary Lagden

FROM THE EDITOR

As it is now July, for those members who do not possess a laptop, iPad or, more generally, don't have access to the internet, we have included the Membership Renewal Form 2022-23 (p.8) which you can duly complete and post off to David, our Membership Secretary, together with your cheque for £15. As a retired teacher, you'll forgive me for asking that you complete the form **legibly**, please!

For all digitally-connected members, please copy the completed document and send to David electronically. With cheques now costing up to 60p to process, (banks' profits must be maintained!) please use BACS, if possible, for submission of the £15 fee.

If you are a UK tax payer, do please indicate your eligibility for Gift Aid; last year our u3a received around £860 from HMRC, which all helps to keep our costs down in this period of rapidly rising prices.

Following on from my request in the April issue for anyone with experience of National Service back in the post-war period to get in touch, I received a nice piece from **Ian Carruthers** – you can read about his time as an airman elsewhere in this *Newsletter*. Thanks, Ian!

Having done some four years as your editor, and thereby well overstayed my welcome, I am definitely intending to return to the back benches in November, so may I use this opportunity once again to ask if anyone would like to help with running the new (shorter) news sheet from January 2023, then please let us know. The job spec., I'd imagine, is: being able to work with others in a team, possessing good use of English and (maybe) knowledge of the *Microsoft Publisher* package. I am very much looking forward to passing on the u3a lap-top to the new editorial team!!

I notice, reading his article in the April edition of TAM, that our founder, Eric Midwinter uses the term 'Group Convenor' to describe what we've always previously called group leaders. In the spirit of the u3a movement where "everyone should be an involved member" (to quote Midwinter), "leader" has never felt to me quite the correct designation. What do you think?

I'm pleased to report once again receiving a "letter to the editor" which is duly presented overleaf. As it refers to access to groups, I've asked our Groups Coordinator, John Wells, if he would be kind enough to respond.

Mike Kilfiger

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mike,

As another member who is not connected to the internet, I couldn't agree more with the letters from Jenny Dawson & Diana Burch (*vide* January Newsletter). The "them and us" feeling has been growing for years as more approaches are only by IT and, like Diana, I too just gave up, mainly because I had no help on hand.

I was therefore more than surprised to count four of the groups referring to a website. What happens to members without IT? We shouldn't have to bother a committee member to see if a telephone number is available – they do an outstanding job already. I run a Discussion Group and members have a landline number and so far I haven't had any complaints about not being on IT. Isn't it possible to have a website contact and a telephone number?

Yours sincerely,

Enid Isworth

Response by our Groups Coordinator

Dear Enid,

Mike Kilfiger, our editor, has passed to me the contents of the letter that you'd like published in this edition of the *Newsletter*. I agree completely that the last thing we want is to disadvantage members who do not use the internet or who lack any e-mail connection. Indeed, it is something of which the committee are acutely aware.

Your suggestion about including the Group Leader's phone number would be the ideal solution. Unfortunately, doing so would infringe the strict regulations of GDPR (the general data protection regulations) and could result in our receiving a heavy fine.

Committee members have given their express permission for their phone numbers to be published. Extending this to include all 60+ members tagged as group leaders would impose an administrative burden on a small hard-working committee which is already overstretched – ten committee members serve over 660 u3a members. Since the committee is keen to minimise the disadvantage to members who lack internet access, they gladly make themselves available to members via the phone, so they can, and often do, direct queries to the relevant GLs, who can provide further help and information. Perhaps we should reinforce this facility by mentioning it again in the *Newsletter*. You should not feel that you are inconveniencing the committee in any way.

We should be delighted to receive an account of any recent and future topics for inclusion in the next *Newsletter*. In the meantime, your letter to the editor can be included in this issue at the editor's discretion, and he may also include the substance of my reply.

Yours sincerely,

John Wells – Groups Coordinator

This page is intentionally left blank so that you can separate the renewal form, which is found overleaf

Do please remember to check the following when filling in the renewal form and submitting your renewal payment:

- **Have you used BLACK ink?**
- **Have you written everything LEGIBLY?**
- **Have you answered every question?**
- **If paying online by BACS bank transfer (which we very much prefer) have you paid to the correct SORT CODE 40-20-09 and ACCOUNT 11713442?**
- **Are you paying the correct amount?**
- **Whether paying by BACS or by cheque, have you included your name and Membership number as reference data? (your 4 digit membership number is really key)**
- **If paying by CHEQUE, do remember to make it payable to East Grinstead u3a, and to both sign and date it**
- **Have you remembered to enclose your cheque?**
- **Please do not send an S.A.E. for replies**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2022-2023

Full name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address:

..... Postcode

Landline number: Mobile

Email:

Repeat Email

Please enter your Membership number

Please answer the following questions:

I wish to receive the national u3a Magazine “*Third Age Matters*” **Yes No**
(please circle)

I pay Income Tax and am eligible for Gift Aid **Yes No** (please circle)

Are you a full member of another u3a? **Yes No** (please circle)

The membership fee for 2022/2023 is £15.00.

Associate Members who are fully affiliated elsewhere pay £11.50.

We prefer payment by Bank Transfer. Sort Code 40-20-09 Account 11713442.

Give surname and membership number as reference. Forward the renewal form to the Membership Secretary (as below).

Please make cheques payable to East Grinstead u3a. Use black ink and write your surname, postcode and membership number on the back. Send to the Membership Secretary together with your renewal form:

**David Bignell, East Grinstead u3a, 4 Rosemead Close, Redhill,
Surrey RH1 6LU. memsec@eastgrinsteadu3a.co.uk 01737 218047**

Is "IT" getting to you?

East Grinstead u3a implemented BEACON as a membership system in May 2020 – just as the pandemic was getting into its swing. Since then, it has really settled down and is now extensively used by most of the Committee, and others. **[I couldn't operate without it! – Ed]** Most group leaders now know how both to use Beacon for managing their interest group membership, as well as using it for e-mail communications.

Getting even... Since our May '20 implementation, we have realised that there is a lot of common ground between Beacon and our website in respect of basic info about each interest group. We strive hard to make sure that the info is consistent between both Beacon and the website, but, at times, it is an uphill task, so we are looking forward to the (promised) time when the Third Age Trust delivers us a brand-new website tool to simplify the task.

Step right in Meanwhile, as a member of EG u3a, provided that you have both internet access and a valid e-mail ID, you too can make use of Beacon through use of the so-called **Portal**, where you can update your personal data– perhaps adding an emergency contact person, or a changed email address. You can also see schedule info for your favourite interest group – although I cannot guarantee that it will be the same as that on our web page or in the listed events, because we depend upon GLs to keep the information in line.

6% of our members (43) have no email ID, so they are severely disadvantaged. We encourage GLs, who can see straight away which members of their group have no e-mail ID, to ensure that those members who depend on surface mail or updates in our quarterly *Newsletter* are kept "in the loop". Conversely, we have one GL who has no e-mail ID or use of a computer, so we encourage all or any of the other group members to keep her in the picture.

The door is always open! Perhaps, most importantly – **there is now no such thing as a FULL interest group!** The Portal allows you to check each and every group. If there is a group vacancy you can join that group there and then online – the GL will receive an email that you have joined, and will act accordingly. However, if the group is up to capacity you'll be asked if you want to join the waiting list for that group. If you accept, your name is added to the group with a waiting list registration date and again the GL gets an email telling him/her that you have joined. As a waiting list member, you are eligible to receive all communications despatched by the GL, despite your waiting status. Also, if, as a member, you decide to leave a group, you can do so via the Portal, and the GL will receive a copy of your resignation.

Finding the Beacon Portal is the only difficult bit On our website, choose **BEACON** and then select the link "**Access the Beacon Portal**". You'll be asked for your membership no., forename, surname, postcode and a valid e-mail ID. Sadly, it doesn't work if you have no e-mail ID, although only 6% of our members would be affected.

If you are having problems, look at the second link: "**The Beacon Portal**", where you'll find tips on getting it right first time!

The real address for accessing the Portal is:

<https://u3abeacon.org.uk/u3aportal.php?u3a=475&sc=KTZN>

I wish that it was a less complex link. It is much simpler to access it via the website instructions!

John Wells

Friends of East Grinstead Museum

Have you visited the East Grinstead Museum, tucked away in Cantelupe Road? Have you seen the wonderful exhibition “*Rebuilding Bodies & Souls*” about the Guinea Pigs treated by Archibald McIndoe during WW2 at Queen Victoria Hospital?

The Museum is run by volunteers and relies on occasional grants, donations and fund-raising activities to continue its work preserving and explaining the past for a new generation. This is where the *Friends of E. Grinstead Museum* come into the picture.

We have over 80 members at present, who pay a subscription of £12 pa and receive a twice-yearly Newsletter, reduced rate admission to the Museum’s regular talks, as well as invitations to special *Friends* events. We’re a friendly and enthusiastic group, and many members make new friends by joining our activities.

Our committee would be pleased to have more members to help us plan fund-raising events such as our very popular tombola stall at the May & Christmas fairs, Christmas & easter raffles and charity meals.

Why not join us? Here’s a link to our leaflet:

<https://eastgrinsteadmuseum.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Friends-of-Museum-leaflet-v2.pdf>

If you’d like to contact us, please feel free to do so.

judy.wojtowicz@gmail.com or jenniehollins@gmail.com

Judy Wojtowicz & Jennie Hollins, Joint Chairs



A fund-raising event for East Grinstead Museum organised by the “Friends of the Museum”.

National Service memories

[You may recall I was writing about National Service in the April Newsletter, following Eric Midwinter's article in TAM. I was wondering if any of our members had memories of doing NS in the 40s & 50s – this is the response I received. Ed].

I started National Service in 1948 with the RAF because I had been well trained in the ATC* at Dumfries Academy. We started off with – you've guessed it! – squarebashing, carried out at Padgate (an RAF facility at Warrington), then on to an air training base in Wiltshire, where we were trained to service radar units. This was followed by a stint at RAF Upwood, in Norfolk, so called because it was 1 foot above sea level. I enjoyed this time as we were really useful to air crew.

In July 1949, there was a large and protracted strike by dock workers in London. The good ship Beaverbrae was bringing in a much-needed cargo of frozen mutton from New Zealand. For reasons that seemed right to the workers at the time, they refused to unload the ship. Newspaper accounts at the time stated "the troops were called in", but, in fact, it was totally unskilled military service young men who came to the rescue. The RAF boys loaded the pallets hurriedly and untidily. The Navy lot had a high old time working the cranes and lifting the loads of meat on to the docks. Hungry Londoners watching cheered profusely, not noticing that half the cargo had fallen into the Thames! Despite this, we all got patted on the back and felt very proud.

After that, I was sent to scruffy billets in Yorkshire, where the food was horrible and the NCOs were rubbish. Luckily for me, I had a university place waiting, so was able to finish my NS a little early.

Ian Carruthers

*[ATC refers to the Air Training Corps, a junior branch of the RAF and has nothing whatsoever to do with Air Traffic Control!!! Ed]

Another 2022 Anniversary

Whilst the u3a movement is remembering its 40th anniversary in the UK this year, and we're all celebrating HM's 70 years on the throne, I'd like to highlight another anniversary, which, in my view, is also worth remembering. I'm talking about Auntie, the Beeb – yes, the BBC – 100 years old later this year! [Some of this piece is taken from input given to the *History Themes* group, at our meeting back in May]. The views expressed are entirely mine – any feedback, as ever, is most welcome!

A little history: the British Broadcasting Company, as it was originally designated, was founded by the government of the day in October 1922, although the very first public broadcast was in June 1920 and featured Dame Nellie Melba singing at the Marconi HQ in Chelmsford, Essex. Concerned with the shambolic situation developing in the US, the GPO – a government department, then essentially dealing with postal services – decided to award just *one* licence for public broadcasting to the British Broadcasting Company Ltd and appointed one **John Reith**

as its first general manager. The company was initially financed through royalties from the sale of wireless sets. As a consequence of financial difficulties (which I won't examine here) the new *Corporation* came into existence in 1927, paid for by a universal licence fee (of 10/-) for using radio-receiving equipment.

As u3a members – and therefore *d'un certain âge* – we've probably grown up with the BBC *always being there*. Indeed, some of my earliest memories are of *Listen with Mother* and *Children's Hour*, as well as the sound of Bow Bells and the shipping forecast with its (as I thought at the time) "good busybilly".

The Beeb, although not perfect – what organisation is? – is surely one of our national treasures, and, for just 43.5p a day, represents one of the most amazing bargains in today's world. For that sum, we can tune into several TV channels, 6 or 7 national radio networks, the World Service and local radio, whilst, on our laptop or phone, we have access to what must be the largest and most informative website in the country. Then there is BBC Sounds, BBC Sport, the iPlayer, Bitesize etc. etc. Its News & Current Affairs is by far the largest operation of its kind in the world. But, of course, in addition to these services, the Beeb also engages in various charities – *Children in Need* comes to mind, it maintains several orchestras, puts on the Proms each summer, runs the Natural History Unit over at Bristol, collaborates with the Open University (eg *Green Planet*) and carries on various commercial activities. It is undoubtedly one of the major players in the cultural life of the nation.

But what I particularly like when listening to or viewing the BBC's output is that I DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH ENDLESS INANE ADS! – attempts to flog me goods and services I neither want nor need – this aspect of the Beeb never seems to get mentioned! It is our main public service broadcaster and, via its Royal Charter, still attempts – a century later – to uphold the Reithian edict to "inform, educate and entertain". I'm really very concerned about the existential threat being made by this philistine government upon the BBC – there has been a 3.7% reduction in government funding for free over-75s TV licences and cuts in other government grants – whilst the licence fee is being frozen for two years (ie a serious pay cut, in these inflationary times) and may eventually be scrapped. This would signal the end of the Beeb as we've known it and a glittering achievement of British social and cultural life would be destroyed. I'd imagine we could end up with a subscription system with extra income generated regrettably from ads– is this *really* a desirable outcome? Any comments?

Mike Kilfiger

[Asa Briggs, eminent historian and sometime V-C of the University of Sussex was commissioned by the BBC in the 1970s to write the definitive history of broadcasting in the UK. This magnum opus, incorporating five volumes, covers all aspects of the BBC up to around 1980. For our group's meeting, I made use of his (far shorter) [The BBC -the first 50 years](#), which is recommended]

Out & About Group 1: Visit to Glynde Place

The group recently visited Glynde Place, which is an Elizabethan Manor House, with commanding views over the South Downs. It is the family home of the Viscount Hampden, whose forbears built the house in 1569, and it has remained in the family ever since.

The group had a guided tour of the house, which contains many fine paintings. In 2017, it was the winner of the Historic House Restoration Award.



Out & About group 1 members at Glynde Place, near Lewes on the South Downs, East Sussex

Science & Technology Group

We are now meeting “in the flesh” once a month, post COVID. Ours is a successful and interesting group, which has been around ever since I joined EG u3a – probably in 2004. Our last two meetings have explored the genesis & technology of TV – starting, believe it or not, with the original facsimile machine back in the mid 19th century. After two meetings we had reached COLOUR TV. By the time you read this, we’ll have completed digital TV and satellite broadcasting, finally ending up with TV on your smartphone and personalised video recording. At that point, we’ll be looking for another topic to study and we look to our members for suggestions. As always, we ensure that our talks are “accessible”, so you don’t need a science or engineering degree to join in the fun! We welcome members to “ask” as much as to “tell or explain”. Anyone can come along with a question for the group rather than to provide a talk explaining about a subject.

So far, we have not yet booked any outings for the group, thanks to COVID, but will shortly be restarting outings.

We are always open for new members and can accommodate up to 100, if necessary. And if anyone is still worried about social distancing we have plenty of space in a large hall with loads of ventilation. We are delighted to say that we currently have 66 members registered. But our monthly attendance numbers don’t reflect that nominal membership, and this is a problem which a good many of our interest groups face. Our peak attendance pre-COVID was around 43–45 members, but since restarting, our numbers are hovering between 20 and 30. In part, this is due to a reluctance on the part of some vulnerable members to restart, but it also reflects a tendency for members to sign up for an interest group “just in case I might be interested”. – Wearing my Groups Coordination hat, I know that this really doesn’t help group leaders to plan and budget, so it is very likely that our committee will be abandoning the attendance fee concept, which has become increasingly archaic, and asking members to pay an interest group membership fee up-front, on either a termly or annual basis.

Ray White & John Wells

Saving Planet Earth group

“Houston: we have a problem!”

Prior to COP26 I thought that it would be a good idea to start a new group focussing on the largest problem that we have – and I mean globally. We are right in the middle of the 6th global extinction – and mankind is very much the cause. With world population rising rapidly towards 9 billion; water resources shrinking; plastics pollution in every oceanic body of water, and fossil-based fuel consumption giving rise to the largest concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere in over 400 000 years, we are heading lemming-like

towards the edge of a very nasty precipice. Despite all efforts and largely driven by political and economic considerations, it looks as if we will soon be broaching the 1.5°C temperature rise point and heading for 2.0°C or worse. If we do nothing, sea level rise from melting ice will start to engulf all of our major cities – built as they are on low-lying land where access by river dictated the location, and many low-lying islands will simply disappear. We can already see major extinction of insects (*when did you last have to clear bug-splat from your car windscreen?*); of amphibians; mammals; birds & plants.

So – our Saving Planet Earth group seemed a good place to start.



Having launched the group, which attracted an immediate following of 35-40 members, we met online on Zoom, and started by dealing with the more obvious causes of global warming. As a provocative suggestion I sent all members a brain-stormed list of 192 suggested or possible topics that we could discuss.

Of the 192 subjects, we have so far discussed

just 10. I had hoped that the list would provoke members to either suggest the next topics or even to offer to talk about one themselves. But I have been disappointed by the lack of response from members. Only one member suggested a topic for discussion. So I wrote again to all members advising that the group would close if no responses were forthcoming. I received three responses – two of which were apologies for non-attendance – but no suggestions have arrived!

Sadly I have now temporarily suspended the group, but should interest be rekindled, I would be delighted to lead it once again.

We really are in the last chance saloon. Of course it won't affect you or your children or grandchildren – but further generations will definitely be affected if we do nothing

John Wells

East Grinstead u3a - Regular Meetings - updated 28th June 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	AM/PM
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM/PM
Intermediate Bridge 9.30-12.30: Weekly Forest Row Community Centre Peter Lamb	All Seasons Walking Group 9.45: 2nd in Month Meet as arranged Richard Argyle	Country Walking 9.45: 4th in month Meet as arranged Gary Wood	Book Club 3 10.30-12:00 3rd in Month Private venue Fi Harvie	Singing for Pleasure 10.00-12.00: weekly Ashurst Wood Village Hall Judy Mendell	VARIOUS DAYS
PM	Ambling 10.00: 3rd in month Meet as arranged Brian Foxwell/Ken Stacey	Discussion Group 1 10.00: 1st in month Private venue Enid Isworth	Family History for Beginners 10:00 - 12:00 3rd in month Private venue Graham Edwards	Litter matters 10:00 - 11:00 2nd Friday of month East Court main car park Anne White	Out & About I Various dates and times Outings by train, car or coach Jennie Hollins
Jazz appreciation 2:00-3.30: 3rd Monday in month Felbridge Village Hall (Main hall) Ed Drury	Book Club 1 10.15-11.45: 1st in month East Grinstead Library Judith Wells	Short Walks 10:30: 3rd in month Meet at Forest Row Community Centre Val Osbon	Thursday Walking group 10:00 - 2nd Thursday in month Meeting as arranged Fi Harvie/Janet Taylor	PM	Out & About III Various dates and times. Outings by train, car or coach. Lynne Fallowell Christine Mallett/Julie Rowcroft
Singalong 1.30-3.30: 2nd Monday in month St Mary's Church Hall Fay Morgan	Family History Intermediate 1 10.00-12.00: 1st in month Private venue Eileen Baber / Sheila Murray	PM	PM	British History 2.30-4.00: 1st & 3rd in month Forest Lodge Rita des Forges / Jan Langridge	Gardening Group I Varying venues and dates. Janet MacNutt/Diana Roud
German for Improvers 2.00-3.30: Weekly Chequer Mead Victoria Jackson	Family History Intermediate 2 10.00-12.00: 3rd in month Private venue Sheila Murray/Linda Howard	Craft 2.00-4.00: 1st & 3rd in month Trinity Methodist Cafe Ruth Dymock	Current Affairs Group 2.00-4.00: 3rd in month Private venue Lester Medcalf	Creative Writing 12.00-2.00: 1st in month Private venue Anne White / Janine Boutelje	Gardening Group II 2.00-4.00: 1st in month Varying venues Margaret Tawse/Mary Swift
German Conversation 2.30-4.00: alternate weeks Private venue Marianne Greenwood	Tuesday Painting Group 11.00 - 13.00: alternate weeks The Forest Row Community Centre Val Osbon	Lunch Club 12.30: 2nd in month Various private venues Fay Morgan and Pat Tollitt	Latin 2.00-4.00: 2nd in month Private venue Georgina Rolls	Science & Technology 2:00-4:00: 3rd in month St John's Felbridge church hall Ray White / John Wells	
Painting for Fun 1.30-3.00: 1st & 3rd in month Forest Row Community Centre Val Osbon	PM	Informal French 11:00 - 12:00: 3rd Wednesday Private venue Susan Berkshire	Mah Jong & Cards 2.00-4.00: weekly The King's Centre, Moat Road Lin Challis	Water Activities Meets 2:30 Apr - Nov. every week Hedgecourt Lake Marilyn Emmett / Sue Green	
Watercolour and Drawing 1.00-3.00: 2nd & 4th in month Forest Row Community Centre Val Osbon	Basic Bridge 2:00 - 4:00 Weekly Forest Row Community Centre Katharine Wightman	Book Club 2 14:00 - 16:00 3rd in Month Private venue Pauline McComb	Philosophy 2.30-4.00: 2nd in month Trinity Methodist Church Hall John Gibbs	Wine Appreciation Group III 3:00-5:00 pm second in month Private venue Gary Wood / Sandra Webb	
Ukulele Group 1.30-3.30: 2nd and 4th in month Felbridge Village Hall Robert Everest / Mike Knibbs	Exploring Sussex 1.45-3.45: 1st & 3rd in month St Swithun's Church Hall Shirley King	Monthly Hub Meeting 2.00 - 4:30 Open to all. The Meridian Hall Julia Harris	Hand Bell Ringing 1:30-3:30 weekly Felbridge Village Hall Committee Room Marilyn Emmett		
Spanish for Beginners Every week 2:00-4:00 East Grinstead Museum Veronica Edney	History Themes 14:00 - 16:00: 4th in month Private venue Mike Kilfiger				
Wine Appreciation Group I 3:00-5:00 pm second Monday Private Margaret Jackson	Poetry 2.30-4.00: 2nd in month Trinity Methodist Lynn Box	EVENING			
	British Cinema Social History 2.00-4:00: 4th in month The Glebe Centre George Pearson	Wine Appreciation Group II 6:30-8:30 2nd in month Private Cheryl Mason			
	Intermediate Spanish 2:00-4:00 1st and 3rd in month. EG Museum Stephen Granger				

All meetings are still subject to the latest COVID-19 situation. Group information will be found on the EG U3A website. Due to GDPR we are unable to display personal data. Please contact a Group Leader using the link from the website (or phone the leader directly if you know the number). Confirmed days and time are highlighted in PALE GREEN. New groups are highlighted in YELLOW.