

The Windmill

Eastbourne & Wealden u3a

Issue 100

Charity No. 1184226

April – June 2024

NEW WALKING GROUP

Group Leader: Sue Hales

When: 2nd Wednesday each month at 10.00 am

Open to all members.

Walks will be of about 3 miles.

To register your interest and to book onto a walk call or text Sue on 07752 372273 or email her at sheledams@aol.com. You will need to provide a mobile number and email address.

Wednesday 8th May. The first walk will be a 3 mile Harbour Walk. Meet up 10am at The Waterfront entrance to the Bistros by the post box. Free parking available at The Waterfront Carpark by The Yacht Club.



The walk will proceed around North Harbour, cut through the new park, turning right on to the pathway by the A259 to Old Martello Road. Possible stop for coffee at the Golf Club (subject to popularity). Proceed along pathway adjacent to North Harbour Beach to the locks. Proceed over the locks and walk around the water feature in South Harbour and back to the Bistros for coffee and finish.



Photos by Sue Hales



News from the Committee

By John Riley, Chair and Windmill Editor

As you read this, the AGM is upon us, on Tuesday 2nd April. This is my chance to say a huge "thank you" to the committee for all their hard work and for the support they have given me throughout the year.

We also thank our many Group Leaders, without whom we could not function. Especially, I mention Margaret Kipling and Marion Ward who have stepped down after nearly 14 years running the Theatre Group. I wonder how many productions they have seen in that time.

Looking back, we have had many very interesting and entertaining talks at our monthly meetings. I know sometimes we think, "I won't be interested in that", only to find that the speaker is so knowledgeable and enthusiastic in their topic that it makes all the difference. Two of my favourites have been Michael Smith talking about Ernest Shackleton and recently Michael Blencowe on Wildlife in Sussex. Hopefully, we can invite them back. Please let us know if you have enjoyed a particular speaker. Most have several talks and so can be, and are, invited back.

Our Groups continue to flourish and are mostly fully subscribed. Tenpin and Canasta are two of our longest running and popular groups. As are French and Spanish. We obviously like our food, with a two luncheon groups and a dining group. We are also keen on exercise, with rambling and strolls groups and a new walking group starting in May, plus our Stretch and Balance group. Space prevents me mentioning all groups.

Other highlights have been our socials, the very popular Christmas Party and the August Cream Tea. Both are organised by our hard working Social Events Sub-Committee. Thanks are extended to all concerned, including Sandra Rowe who has stepped down after more than 10 years on the sub-committee.

Regarding membership, although numbers dropped by about 20% following the pandemic (which was roughly in line with other u3as nationwide), numbers are increasing and virtually every month we welcome new members. Hopefully this will continue.

We have to remember that u3as are part of a national organisation, under the auspices of the Third Age Trust. Although we have little involvement with TAT they are our national body to which we are affiliated. Those of us who receive the Third Age Matters magazine will know that TAT is undertaking a period of change to ensure that it and u3as are "Fit For The Future".

Part of the change affecting local u3as, following the demise of the Sussex u3a Network (SUN) is the creation of a new East Sussex East Network (ESE). This comprises u3as in our part of East Sussex. Mike Grierson is our representative and he has been attending their meetings. The idea is that local u3as will share information and will work together on various projects. It is early days and we wait to see how it pans out.

I look forward to the next 12 months. Gradually, with the increase in membership, I hope that more members will offer to start new groups.

Monthly Meetings

NEW SPEAKERS SECRETARY, Carolyn Brown

Sadly, Richard Wentworth has had to resign from the committee as a vice Chair and as Speakers Secretary, for personal reasons. During his time he consistently booked excellent speakers for 2023 and he has booked all our speakers for this year.

Richard, from all of us, Thank You.

The good news is that Carolyn Brown has very kindly volunteered to be our new Speakers Secretary. She is already Group Leader of the very popular Strollers Group and husband, Norman, is our Web Manager. So, our monthly meetings are in good hands and we can continue to look forward to many interesting talks.



April 2nd

AGM followed by "Geoffrey Chaucer and The Canterbury Tales", an illustrated talk by local historian *James Dickinson*, concentrates on the so-called marriage tales. Most famously that of the Wife of Bath but also the Merchant's Tale, The Nun's Priest's Tale and the Franklin's Tale.

May 7th

'Scattered squalor'...'Downland Homes': aspects of housing history during the inter-war years. *Dr Geoffrey Mead*, an Associate Tutor with the Geography team at the University of Sussex, will explain how this is a largely ignored aspect of our housing history but one that has implications for present day and future UK landscapes.



June 4th



"Banoffi Pie and Other Adventures", this talk, by *Ian Dowding*, the originator of the now famous Banoffi Pie which was developed at The Hungry Monk at Jevington in 1971. Ian describes the early part of his career as a chef in the restaurant business, his early influences and how he created the dessert that was to become world famous.

July 2nd

"Towner 100" is a year-long celebration of the gallery's centenary, with the Turner Prize 2023 forming the centrepiece of an ambitious exhibition programme. To tell us more, we welcome *Niamh Pearce*, the Deputy Director of The Towner .



100 Editions of The Windmill 2001 – 2024

Editor: John Riley

This is the 100th edition of The Windmill, our quarterly newsletter. To celebrate, I reproduce (as the outer cover) the very first issue published in October 2001. Initially it comprised just four pages but later grew to 12 and sometimes to 16 pages.

It is interesting to see mention of Ted and Anne Barden and Bill and Margaret Kipling who remain active members to this day.

The name of this newsletter, The Windmill, has no relevance to our u3a. It was suggested by the first Chairman who lived close to the Stone Cross Windmill. A few years back we did propose changing the name but most members were happy with The Windmill.

Bill Kipling was the first Editor for 8 years until the end of 2009. In 2010 Jim Boydell took over for a year before Reg Charlton, who is still a member, became editor in early 2012 until the end of 2018. Richard Sanders succeeded him in 2019 until I took over in January 2022.

Most Windmills have been digitally saved as PDFs and I am in the process of saving the rest. I am, however, missing issues 22-41 covering the years 2006-2010. If an 'old' member has any of the missing ones please could I borrow them.

The E & W U3A started in 2001 with just 35 members but by the AGM in April 2002 it had grown to over 60 members. Numbers continued to grow and by 2012, when I became Membership Secretary, membership was about 270. Following the pandemic of 2020-21, when activities were suspended, numbers dropped and we presently have about 200 members and rising.

Initially, we had only 10 groups. Over the years that grew until by 2014 there were 36 groups, many having groups 1 and 2.

The newsletter relies on contributions from members. Group Leaders rely on it to advertise their forthcoming events and I am grateful for their reports of recent activities.

Recently, I have asked members to write an article for publication. In this regard I thank Michael Simms and Norman Brown for their interesting articles on "Mah-Jongg and Harrods" and "Eastbourne and the South Downs" respectively. I appeal to other members to submit something.

Without any such article this time I have struggled to fill this issue.

Windmill Editor: John Riley Tel: 01323 724972 and email jwriley@btinternet.com.

Final submission date for the July – September issue is the 15th June.

Luncheon Group



We'd like to make a move now, Norman any chance you could drop the keys down ?



Cartoons sourced by Norman Brown from the u3a website

RAMBLING GROUP

We have been really lucky to get out for our rambles each month, despite all the bad weather this year.

In January Brenda took us for a blustery walk from Tidesmill car park and along Seaford Seafront, calling in for a coffee at a pub on the way back to the start.

The forecast for February's ramble had been awful, but we had 11 people for John and Marion's walk, the largest number that we've had for a very long time. In fact, the weather turned out to be beautiful and everyone was very happy to walk from East Dean to Birling Gap and back via Hodcombe Farm and Cornish Farm. On arriving back at East Dean some of the group went into a café.



In March Heather led us on a figure of eight walk from Bede's School, up onto the Downs to Whitbread Hollow and back to Bede's, where she took us on a detour to see a fox painting on a gate. We went to Holywell for our elevesnes break and along the seafront before returning to the start.

The following walks are planned for the next few months:

Friday April 12th - Starting at Bishopstone Church.

Friday May 10th - We will be meeting at Eastbourne Youth Hostel to catch the bus to Rottingdean

Friday June 14th - Starting at Seven Sisters Country Park Visitor Centre

Friday July 12th - Starting at South Hill Barn, Seaford

Friday August 9th - Starting at Southease Youth Hostel

Friday September 13th - Starting at East Dean

LUNCHEON GROUP

This Group is open to all members. We visit a different restaurant each month, some new and others our popular favourites.

For information and to book simply contact the Organiser.

Sunday 28 April – Royal Eastbourne Golf Club (see photo). Organised by Wendy Hylands 01323 370687

Tuesday 28 May – Thai Marina.
Organised by Maureen Satchell 01424 219924

Tuesday 25 June – TBA.

Tuesday 23 July – TBA.

Tuesday 27 August – Xing Fu Chinese Restaurant, Meads. Organised by Ian Newson 472259



GLOBETROTTERS

Since the group started in June 2018, we have shared holiday experiences in about 47 countries worldwide. Each member takes it in turn to show their holiday pictures and talk about the country visited. It often happens that other members have been to the same area and they can then share experiences.

Forthcoming countries to be visited will be Wales in April, St. Petersburg in Russia in May and Jordan in June.

We know that many of our u3a members still travel extensively, or have done in the past. If so, you have an interest which you could share with other like minded people.

This is a small friendly group. We meet on the 4th Monday each month at 2.00 pm at a member's home, and we finish with tea and a chat.

If interested please contact me.

Wendy Brownlow on 01323 486138.

DAYTRIPPERS

Two Trips organised by Sylvia James

Standen House and Garden N.T.

Saturday 20th April

Arts and Crafts family home with Morris & Co. interiors, set in a beautiful hillside garden.

By Car Share 28 miles each way

West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 4NE

Entry with National

Trust Card Free. Adult with Gift Aid £16.50, Standard £15.00.

Payment required by April monthly meeting or by post to Mrs Sylvia James, 131 Anderida Road, Lower Willingdon, Eastbourne, BN22 0QE with cheque payable to Mrs S. James



Teapot Island

Saturday 22nd June

There's nothing quite like Teapot Island. Immerse yourself into the history and creativity behind an amazing collection of over 8,500 teapots. As seen on TV and visited by various different celebrities over the years and even the King and Queen, and we are bound to visit the on site café before returning home.



By Car Share 38 miles each way

Hampstead Lane, Yalding, Nr Maidstone, Kent, ME18 6HG

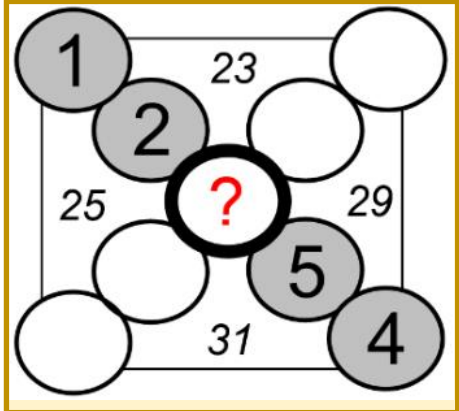
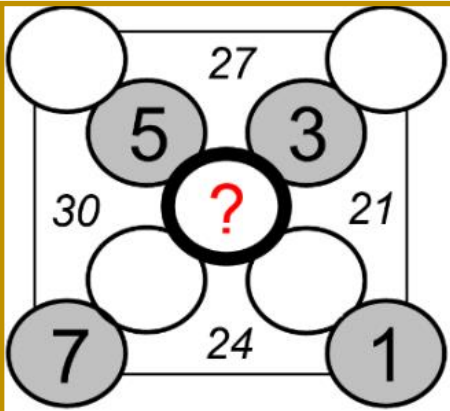
Book with Sylvia by June monthly meeting. Pay on the day only £1.50.

LOGIC PUZZLES

These are two of the numerous puzzles which can be found on the u3a website at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/learning-activities/logic-puzzles-for-fun>.

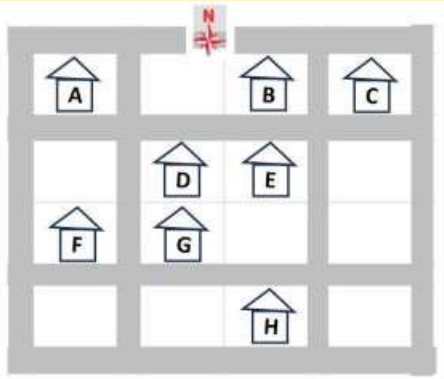
Try to solve them before turning to page 11 for the answers.

In the figures below, the 4 numbers, in italics, outside the 9 circles represent the sum of the numbers in the 5 surrounding circles. The numbers in the circles can only be 1 to 9 and each number can be used only once. Four numbers have been provided to get you started. Find the number (?) that should be in the centre of the X.



You've been invited to a party at Charlie's house, but you've never been there. He has seven friends who live nearby. They've given you the following map showing all of their houses including Charlie's house, along with the following information:

- Daniel: I can't see Benita's house, because Greta's house is in the way.
- Adam: I live directly (not diagonally) across the street from Daniel.
- Benita: Elena lives due west of me.
- Elena: I have to cross three streets to walk to Franco's house.
- Hal: I live east of Benita.



Can you figure out who lives where and which house is Charlie's?

TENPIN GROUP

By Richard Wentworth

I thought it was just another ten-pin bowling day, with friends from our group. The players name list was ready, changed slightly each meeting to ensure everyone plays everyone, drinks all sorted.

Approaching the desk, I gave the list to the receptionist and as we had 4 lanes booked and 13 players suggested that we have a 4-3-3-3 split. This was rejected in



Photo by John Phillips

favour of 5-4-4 - obviously more money to be gained for the company this way. Accordingly, all the names were added to the computer. Then the drinks to the names were added. Then we were allowed to play.

Balls selected according to weight and hand grips, apart from the smart ones who had their own balls, bags and

towel wipes, the games started. As I was stressed, I gave vent to my ball and managed to get a strike (all pins down) first go. A collective groan went up through all the others - "he's off again!". To cut it short I managed to get another (named a double) and a third (named a turkey) and I thought I had it in the bag but tailed off woefully after this.

We reached the end of the first game and checked for the drinks. I was then told that there was no milk and only black tea or coffee available or squash. Had we been told this earlier, one of us could have popped across to Sainsburys and bought a pint. We persevered. While I was resting there was great excitement on lane one where Mike also got a spare (all ten in two shoots), a turkey of strikes and a spare on his last ball. This gave him a total of 163 - one of the groups highest scores for the year!!

The second game was also competitive, with Anne coming through for a grand score of 136.

I think that a morning out with gossip and socialising, occasionally with tea/coffee **and milk**, a good time was spent until the next Wednesday when we do it all again.

U3a Online Learning Events

Did you know that u3a members can join a wide range of online Zoom talks, workshops and courses for free with their membership?

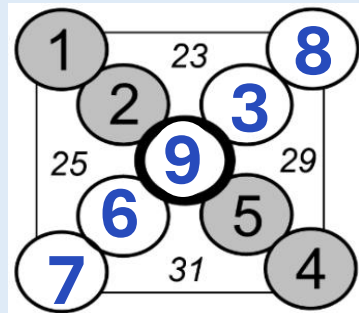
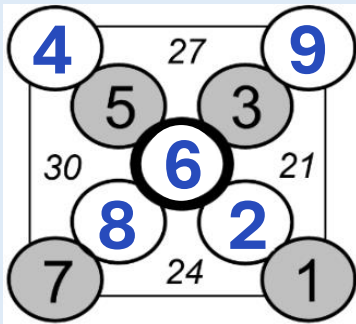
Most of these opportunities are presented by members themselves; sharing their knowledge or skills with others across the movement. Others are by well-known speakers and organisations.

All of these events can be booked via Eventbrite. For details of upcoming events go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>.

Topics covered include

- Milestones in Aviation on 2nd April at 10.00
- From Pleasure Gardens to Theme Parks on 5th April at 14.00
- Electing the President in 2024 - an Update on 9th April at 14.00
- Laughter Yoga with Judith on 10th April at 10.00 and continuing monthly until June
- The Road to Clean Water: Beginnings of a sewage system in Victorian London on 17th April at 10.00

Logic Puzzle solutions



Charley lives in House E

On map, House locations of friends/neighbours to Charley's:

A – Elena, B – Benta, C – Hal, D – Greta, E – Charley, F – Daniel,
G – Adam and H - Franco

GROUP CONTACTS, MEETING DAYS AND TIMES

Group Leader Co-ordinator: Sharon Phillips 07743 102151

Some groups are full. Please ask to be put on the Waiting List. Any problems, tell Sharon.

GROUP	GROUP LEADER	PHONE/EMAIL	MEETING DAY	TIME	VACANCIES
Canasta	Mike Garner	01323 728541	Every Fri	14.00	Enquire
Canasta for beginners	Mike Garner	01323 728541	1st Fri	14.00	Enquire
Day Trippers	Sylvia James	01323 500520	Varies	Varies	Open to All
Dining	Sharon Phillips	07743 102151	3rd Fri	18.30	Open to All
Spoken French	Susan Winge	07985 055296	Wed twice monthly	14.00	Enquire
Gardening	Charles Ackerman	01323 730655	4th Wed	14.00	Enquire
Globe Trotters	Wendy Brownlow	01323 486138	4th Mon	14.00	Vacancies
Literature	Christine Neuss & Janet Harper	01323 769004 01323 371317	2nd Wed	14.00	Enquire
Luncheon Club	Anne Newson	01323 472259	4th Tues	12.30	Open to All
Mah Jongg	Cheryl Bone	07711 661870	1st & 3rd Mon	10.00	Enquire
Music Makers	Ann & Ted Barden	01323 501334	2nd Thurs	10.00	Vacancies
Musicality	Bill Kipling	01323 411384	3rd Wed	14.00	Enquire
Photography	Norman Brown	01323 504952	3rd Mon	14.00	Enquire
Rambling	Theresa Hancock	01323 726685	2nd Fri	10.00	Open to All
Reading for Pleasure	John Moore	01323 507781	1st Mon	14.00	Vacancies
Scrabble	Denise Morgan-Smith	07852 664063	2nd Tues	10.00	Vacancies
Small Group Lunches	Barrie Pipe	01323 638946	4th Tues	12.15	Open to All
Spanish	Anne Barden	01323 501334	Alternate Mon	09.30	Enquire
Stretch & Balance	Sylvia James	01323 500520	Every Tues except 1st Tues	14.00	Vacancies
Strollers	Carolyn Brown	clbrown0427@btinternet.com.	2nd Mon	10.30	Open to All
Tea and Talk	Pat Brinson	01323 503585	3rd Tues	14.00	Vacancies
Ten-Pin Bowling	John Phillips	01323 768227	2nd & 4th Wed	10.00 for 10.15	Enquire
Theatre	New Group Leader(s) required		Varies. Open to all.	Varies	Open to All
Walking NEW GROUP	Sue Hales	07752 372273	2nd Wed	10.00	Open to All