

News from the Chair

The cold weather has arrived, reminding us of rain and cold noses. The heating is now on, and we can enjoy a chat with friends over a tea or coffee.

We had an interesting talk at the last Wednesday afternoon meeting and learnt a great deal about Burma. The afternoon was well attended, and it was good to see so many members coming along on such a wet afternoon.

The coffee morning on 10th October in the Guildhall was very successful. It was a pleasure to meet some of the members that we don't see on Wednesdays. We will repeat the coffee morning next year so that we can keep in touch with you all.

Best wishes,

Jenny

LOST PROPERTY

A pair of sunglasses, also a water bottle/mug were left behind after the beetle drive. To join them we now have a 2023 diary.

The committee have all and will bring them along to the next meeting.

Joint Group Coordinators' Report November 2023

We have 47 active Interest Groups currently; some have their full complement but there are several which have places:

Allotment Dig, Allotment No Dig, Art, Bird Watching, Board Games, Bridge, Craft, Cycling, Discussion 3, Film Making, French Chat, Golf, iPhone and iPad, Knitting and Crochet for Charity, Mahjong for Beginners, Play Reading, Slow Stitching and Tennis. We have been working hard to minimize the waiting lists. Group leaders have been diligent in removing members from their groups, who have not attended their groups nor been in contact for three sessions, and this has enabled others to join.

Where there are four or more people on a waiting list, I have encouraged them to begin a parallel group, so I am delighted that Val has begun a third Discussion group, called Discussion 3. This will meet on the third Thursday morning of the month at the Bear Inn.

Brian wants to begin a Film Making group (phones and cameras), using various localities and the Swale Media Arts Centre at Sittingbourne.

Eddy has begun her Mahjong for Beginners group and has two more spaces. This will meet fortnightly at noon on Tuesdays at the Railway Hotel.

The Dig Allotment group is looking for additional members and invites visitors to see how the group runs; they are keen to point out that very little digging is involved!

If you are thinking about beginning a group, do contact us and we can talk you through the process and offer suggestions for venues etc. If you are concerned about taking on a group alone, then find one or two others who would co-lead; we have several co-led groups now which are working well.

As always, you can contact us via the website or email direct on group.coodinator.fadu3a@gmail.com.

Jacque Dabnor, Joint Group Coordinator

Monthly Speakers

Wednesday November 15th

Andy Smith is a motivational speaker, performance poet, entertainer and former business communicator. Andy engages his audiences with his poetry, related commentary and plenty of light-hearted humour with a smattering of history.

Wednesday 20th December

Our annual Christmas Quiz

Wednesday 7th January 2024

Simon Waterfield is coming to talk about the
Tolpuddle Martyrs

Wednesday 21st February 2024

Simon Newcombe is coming to talk about the history of the
English countryside.

"A walk in the woods will never be the same again"

Cliff Holroyd

Calling all Groups

Have you a tale to tell?

Interesting, amusing or a picture or two to show us all
what makes your group "tick".

Contact the Editor at:

gunnersue564@gmail.com

**FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
LOTTERY**

Win a £1,000 luxury Christmas shopping spree - or take the cash!

Top Up your Tickets!

Enter our **Super Draw**
WIN A £1000 JOHN LEWIS GIFT CARD

This month, we will provide our winner with the choice between a luxury Christmas shopping experience in the form of a **£1,000 eGift card for John Lewis, Waitrose and partners** - or if you fancy a little more flexibility, a £1,000 prepaid Mastercard!

A message from our local Community Lottery

As we're sure you've seen by now, the UK Government has unveiled its long-awaited white paper titled "**High Stakes: Gambling Reform for the Digital Age**". This follows the Government's review paper on the UK Gambling Act, which was published on 8th December 2020.

What is changing?

There are various recommendations that have been put forward which Gatherwell will be considering. However, the most noteworthy recommendation impacting the charitable lotteries sector is the UK government's challenge for operators to move to a legal age limit of 18 for lottery ticket purchases.

What is Gatherwell's approach?

For those of you who may not know Gatherwell is the ELM (External Lottery Manager) who runs the operation of Faversham & District Community Lottery behind the scenes, so have been implementing the required changes.

Although it remains legal in the near term for 16 and 17-year-old supporters to continue to purchase tickets for charitable lotteries, we have decided to transition to a minimum legal age of 18 across all lotteries managed by Gatherwell ahead of any legislative changes.

These changes have now been completed, and supporters under the age of 18 are no longer on Gatherwell lottery platforms.

Please be reassured that this change will have a very minimal impact on overall lottery fundraising, we have only 75 registered supporters that are under 18, which equates to 0.014% of total player numbers.

How have Gatherwell handled the transition?

All promotional material along with the Game Rules on Faversham & District Community Lottery website has been updated. We have also contacted all supporters who are under 18 to inform them that unfortunately their tickets have been cancelled, with a nudge for them to re-sign up for the lottery sometime after their 18th birthday.



Dear Kent Residents,

As the number of scams continue to increase, as anyone can be a victim of a scam, it is important to stay alert and follow our guidance.

This advice is received from Kent Police or Kent County Council Public Protection

- ⊖ Reputable traders and contractors do not cold-call for business and they will NEVER ask you to go to the bank or cash point.
- ⊖ If you receive a scam phone call, hang up and don't return their calls.
NEVER disclose any personal information such as bank details, no matter who the person claims to be.

Get free advice from Citizens Advice 0808 223 1133 Report scams to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040

LATEST SCAM INFORMATION FROM KCC

Romance fraud is one of the top five most commonly reported frauds to Action Fraud, the national fraud and cybercrime reporting service for England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

How to stay safe from romance fraudsters:

- ⊗ Be suspicious of any requests for money from someone you have never met in person, particularly if you have only recently met online.
- ⊗ Be cautious about how much information about yourself you are sharing online and who you are sharing information with.
- ⊗ Speak to your family or friends to get advice. Fraudsters will subtly isolate you for their own purposes.
- ⊗ Profile photos may not be genuine. Performing a reverse image search can find photos that have been taken from somewhere, or someone, else.

Action Fraud also run the National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit (NECVU) which provides support and advice to victims of fraud and to help prevent them from being victim to fraud again. To report fraud to Action Fraud, fill out the [online fraud reporting tool](#) or call 0300 123 2040.

Facebook Renting Scam

We are receiving more reports of renting scams on social media

Kent resident found a room to rent on Facebook and transferred a holding deposit over £500 after seeing pictures. After the deposit was received, they received no more information and did not get their money back.

[Watch our video on Renting and your Rights as a Tenant here](#)

For advice and to report contact Citizens Advice 0808 223 1133

Facebook Renting Scam

We are receiving more reports of renting scams on social media

Kent resident found a room to rent on Facebook and transferred a holding deposit over £500 after seeing pictures. After the deposit was received, they received no more information and did not get their money back.

[Watch our video on Renting and your Rights as a Tenant here](#)

Lidl GB recalls Red Hen Battered 25 Chicken Dippers because they may contain pieces of hard blue plastic.

Product details: Pack size: 450g Batch code: 306931400 Best before: End of February 2025

Advice to consumers: If you have bought the above product do not eat it. Instead, return it to the store from where it was bought or contact customer.care@lidl.co.uk or call 0203 966 5566 for a full refund.

Committee Members Contact Details

Chair	Jenny Gurney	chairjgfadu3a@gmail.com
Vice-Chair	Vacancy	
Secretary	Shan Probert	secfadu3a@gmail.com
Treasurer	Andrew Holden	treasurerfadu3a@outlook.com
Interest Group Co-Ordinators	Jacquie Dabnor & Jill Chalkley	group.coordinator.fadu3a@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Susan Lane	memsec2fadu3a@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Sue Gunner	gunnersue564@gmail.com
Speakers	Cliff Holroyd	cliffhol@gmail.com
	Barry Roberts.	Barry907@btinternet.com
	Mike Wilkins.	mijomw@sky.com

Website: [Faversham & District u3a: Home](#)

Are you on Facebook? Do join us, we now have over seventy members.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FavershamU3A>

Charity Number: 1175180