

MEMBERS' NEWS UPDATE

MAY 2022



A message from our Chair

Hello Everyone,

Summer is on its way, and we had some beautiful weather over Easter weekend. We are hoping for that same lovely weather on Wednesday 3rd August, when we are organising a picnic for you all to celebrate 40 years of the u3a movement. So, make sure that you've reserved the date in your diaries! And don't miss this either - a reminder of another special event - the u3a Dance at HEDCA on Saturday 14th May which Geoff Piper has organised and will be acting as DJ. It would be lovely to have a good number of you join us there.



On a personal note, Jim and I celebrated our first wedding anniversary last week. It's gone so quickly

Plus, Lou Lou is six months old now and passed her Puppy foundation course. We now are training her for the bronze award.

Keep safe and enjoy the lighter evenings.

Pat Luke, Chair

WELFARE OFFICER

A very warm welcome to our new members, and a reminder that you'll be invited to my next coffee morning to meet other new friends (next date 4th July at 10.30 am) If I can be of any assistance in my dual roles of New Members Mentor and Welfare Officer, please don't hesitate to contact me. Best wishes, stay safe and well. *Sheena Bone, Welfare Officer*

MEMBERSHIP

If you know anyone who is interested in joining our U3A, I can be contacted through the website. I am always happy to answer any membership queries and provide information to potential members. Best wishes, *Linda Clachan, Membership Secretary*

GENERAL MEETINGS AT THORNGATE -

Our speaker this month was Dr Frances Hurd who gave members a fascinating insight into her work as a Family History Researcher. Illustrated with pictures of the times, she talked about the **secrets and lies** families tell to maintain a veneer of respectability. Frances uncovered tales of incest, illegitimacy, murder, the effects of which, echoed through the following generations. She highlighted how people gave false information on marriage certificates regarding their ages, occupations and birth places. Among many examples, Frances told of Alice Gent who hurriedly married her neighbour when she became pregnant. In 1871 she took 4 years off her age in the census. The family flourished until he died in 1888. She remarried someone 15 years younger and said she had been born in Paris instead of Shoreditch in London. Sadly, this husband left her, and she died in the workhouse in 1899.

Maggie Garvin

A further word on the General Meetings at Thorngate -

Our speaker for May is yet to be confirmed, but the Committee would be pleased to have member's comments on the format of our monthly meetings. Is the room venue and time allotted to speakers to your liking? Or perhaps you'd prefer more opportunity to chat over tea or coffee? Just drop a line to Pat Luke or any committee member.

Pat Luke, Chair

U3a Gigglebox – Boom (boom) time!

What do you call an airplane that flies backwards?
a receding airline! Boom Boom!

Why did the Scarecrow get an award?
- because of his efforts in his field.
Boom Boom!

During a bank robbery

The robber asks the first person in line if they just saw how he robbed the bank.
"Well, obviously I did, I mean it's not that I'm blind or anything" the man says - and BOOM the robber shoots him dead.
"And you, did you just witness this robbery?" he asks another man in the line. - "No, I didn't, but my wife did!

(Editor's note – Many thanks to readers for your contributions to this month's silly humour section. Any of your favourite jokes or cartoons for possible inclusion in Gigglebox for future editions of Update when space permits are very welcome–

newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk)

**GROUP REPORTS AND CHANGES
from Group Leaders**

CINEMA GROUP

The group will be starting again on Thursday the 14th of July the film will be the new Downton Abbey film. The cost is £3.50 at the Reel cinema Fareham. Anyone who isn't a member or needs more information please get in touch with Avril Palmer. Telephone 01329280235. The film starts at 10.30 so its best to get there in plenty of time as sometimes there is queue to get your tickets. **You need to show your U3A membership card at the door.**

Avril Palmer

CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

Our group session on Monday 9th May is featuring a presentation from Tim Pratt who is employed by Gosport Borough Council. He's going to talk about – a) The Global Context; b) Implications for Gosport; c) What GBC is doing; d) How we can help.

We would love to welcome more members to this group to share your contributions. The meeting begins at 10.15 am at 124 High Street, Gosport (next to the betting office and opposite Wetherspoons)

Pauline Potter

GENEALOGY –

This is just a reminder that our next meeting is Friday 20th May in Gosport Discovery Centre on the ground floor at 2.00. You are welcome to bring something to drink, either your own or from the cafe. We can have a look at any family trees, you've brought in. Taking inspiration from the talk at the general meeting on family Secrets and Lies, I thought it would be useful if we could find out about some of our own family secrets.

We can go upstairs and use the computers on the top floor. To access a computer, you will need a reader's ticket with your password. There should be a member of staff on hand if you require assistance.

Future meetings will be on the third Friday of each month – next one Friday 17th June

Contact: David Atkins 02392 553198

DANCE GROUP -

Dance group met on Tuesday where we had lots of fun dancing the Rumba, Waltz, Swing Jive Strolls and Folk dancing. This group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 2-4pm at HEDCA, all welcome.

Contact Pat Luke.



50's and 60's GROUP

1950s & 60s Music Evening

Tickets priced at £3 are now on sale for the 50s and 60s evening at HEDCA on 14th May.

Geoff Piper will be playing classic music from the 1950s & 60s, so join us for an evening of fun and nostalgia. You may bring food for your **own** consumption, however due to HEDCA's alcohol license you may only purchase drinks from their bar.

We would also be grateful for any unwanted gifts that could be donated for raffle prizes.

Please contact Geoff Piper 02393 113127 or Tricia Stevenson 0736 7063141 to reserve your ticket(s).

Contact Geoff Piper for further information. No 02393 113127

DRAMA AND MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP

8 of us visited Titchfield Theatre to see a performance of 12 Angry Women. A single voice instigates an insightful, emotional charged examination of the facts. Set in the 1970's when women were fighting for equal rights.

Our next planning meeting will be Monday 16/5/22 at Gosport Discovery Centre.

10.30am.

Neena. nvadra@yahoo.com

GET BY IN FRENCH GROUP

The group meet by 'Google Meet' every Thursday from 1030 – 11.30 but on the 2nd Thursday of each month this meet is at a member's home with other members joining by Google Meet (similar to Zoom but easier to use). **Contact** – richardf.lovett@gmail.com

FINE DINING GROUP – Worrying times for this once popular group – Pat is no longer able to lead it, but it would be very sad if the group has to close. Any volunteers to organise it? - **Contact Pat Luke**

READING GROUP

Our monthly reading group enjoys lively discussion about the book we have just read. The books are supplied by the library, so no expense involved, unless you want refreshments from the cafe! We meet at an allocated community table in the Gosport Discovery Centre for an hour on the fourth Monday of each month. The books we have discussed this year have been, Deborah Lawrenson: The Lantern, Matt Haig: The Radleys, John Fowles: The French Lieutenant's Woman, Kate Chopin: The Awakening.

Our next book is Patricia Cornwell: The Postmortem. There are spaces if you would like to join us, **so please contact Jennifer Bellamy on 07765500053 or via the Bluebird icon on the Reading group page on the u3a Gosport website if you would like to know more and obtain a copy of the book.**

QUIZ GROUP – Really sad news this week concerning the Quiz group. Our new member Barrie Bullimore had volunteered to be our quizmaster next week but his wife passed away suddenly a few days ago and our thoughts go out to him at this sad time. George Cantrill will step in his stead this month for the quiz at Carisbrooke Arms, Gosport on Tuesday May 10th at 7 pm. As always past and new members are always welcome at these informal "second Tuesday" monthly evenings when the accent is on enjoyment whilst finding out just what you know! For more information see the [Quiz Group webpage](#) on the u3a Gosport website.

Contact Tricia Stevenson

World Vegetarian Food Group –

This month the World Vegetarian Food group tasted food from Austria. This included apricot dumplings, potato salad and two dishes of potato goulash. All delicious!

Contact Neena. nvadra@yahoo.com

World Film Group

The World Film group watched a Saudi Arabian film, directed by its first female director. Most of the film was shot from inside a van to avoid conflict with the authorities.

Contact Neena. nvadra@yahoo.com

HOW GROUP - New members are welcome. For more information see our page on the Gosport u3a website <https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/112946>

Contact Tricia Stevenson

DAY TRIPS

SOS!!! – the trip planned for Friday 27th May to the Russell Cotes House Art gallery and museum Bournemouth is in jeopardy! – **Maggie needs at least another 15 to make the coach trip viable** . The visit to the gallery is not compulsory – if you want a day in Bournemouth, this is a way of getting there! The start time is 09.15 from Bridgemary, then to Bus Station and War Memorial Hospital. Admission £5.90 to the Gallery (optional) plus coach travel and tip for driver means a total cost of around £25 per head dependent on numbers and a full coach.

Contact Maggie Garvin

PLAY READING –

Well, we really were thin on the ground for April Play reading group! Only 2 of us - so, a big thank you to my fellow reader "MM". I had planned to read an 8 person play but we made the most of it with 4 parts each. I enjoyed it and I hope 'M' did too. Regrettably, only two other members had let me know they would not be coming this month so if members find that are going to be away please just drop me a quick email or telephone call just to let me know. As we are a worryingly small group, I'm also appealing for more new members to join us – especially *Men* to read the male parts! We meet on the 3rd Thursday in the Month, i.e., this month 19 May at 124 High Street Gosport next to the betting office (just across the road from Wetherspoons) from 2 pm to 4pm.

Contact Colleen Wright, 02393 110709.

GOSPORT WALKERS

Fancy a walk? Anne Sandall would be happy to see new members to join the walking group for one of the two walks that she organizes each month – one short and one a bit longer. See the website for more info or phone Ann directly. **07856 291118**

Ann planned a walk last Saturday around Alver Valley Wildgrounds. As the Wildgrounds have only just opened it was hoped that walkers would be lucky enough see the bluebells and enjoy the nature of this beautiful place. The pictures show how lovely this part of Gosport is at this time of the year.



ARCHEOLOGY GROUP

The archaeology group are very fortunate to have the wonderful opportunity in May to visit Fort Brockhurst to view stored artefacts from excavations of Portchester Castle by Sir Barry Cunliffe and Silchester Roman town by Professor Mike Fulford. This visit is for members of the Archeology Group only – so if you wish to join the group contact Julie.

Julie Bennetts

HISTORY GROUP

We held a very enjoyable meeting this month with the topic of "Saints and Martyrs". Although the group was small this month the topic led to very interesting discussions. For our June meeting we are going on a visit to the Diving Museum. Any of our group members who would like to come along, at a cost of £6.00, please contact me to secure a place, by 23rd May.

Linda Dorsett

2021-22 COMMITTEE ROLES AND CONTACTS

SOME COMMITTEE ROLES AND CONTACTS HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE MEMBER BROCHURE

Chairperson	Pat Luke	chair@gosportu3a.org.uk	07752 596893
Treasurer	Jim Luke	treasurer@gosportu3a.org.uk	07485129506
Secretary	Linda Dorsett	secretary@gosportu3a.org.uk	07763 441602
Membership Secretary	Linda Clachan	membsec@gosportu3a.org.uk	07752 290588
News Update Editor	George Cantrill	newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk	01329 238429
Publicity	Linda Dorsett	publicity@gosportu3a.org.uk	07763 441602
Welfare Officer	Sheena Bone	welfareofficer@gosportu3a.org.uk	02392 602427
Member Mentor	Sheena Bone	membmentor@gosportu3a.org.uk	02392 602427
Group Liaison Officer	Eve Thurston		07912207047

NON-COMMITTEE ROLES

Beacon Administrator	Pat Luke	BeaconAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk	07752 596893
Website Administrator	Jennifer Bellamy	WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk	07765 500053
Speakers' Secretary	Maggie Gavin	speakers@gosportu3a.org.uk	02392 501505

Committee members and other members with a gosportu3a.org.uk email address for their role will usually check their emails at least once a week. As part of their role many committee members check their emails more frequently. If members need an urgent reply or do not get a response to emails, they should ring at a reasonable time or contact another committee member.

Non-U3a local entertainment which may be of interest to our members –

Holy Trinity Church, Gosport – Free Concerts -

<i>ENTRANCE FREE: retiring collection. all proceeds help us to maintain our important, historic, 'Handel' organ!</i>
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Monday 16 th May	1.00 – 1.30 pm	Organ Recital.	Anthony Burns-Cox
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QUIZ AID WEEK -

EVERYONE IS INVITED BY BRIDGEMARY METHODIST CHURCH TO GET A QUIZ TEAM TOGETHER (OR COME ON YOUR OWN) ON SATURDAY MAY 28TH AT 2 PM. YOU ARE PROMISED TEA, CAKE AND LOTS OF FUN – ALL FOR £4! - CONTACT JEAN PLUMMER ON 02392 342301