

MEMBERS' NEWS UPDATE

September 2022



Gosport U3a are saddened to learn of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2nd.

Her Majesty served us all magnificently for over 70 years and was an inspiration to all of us through her devoted service and unstinting support for the communities in which we live. We are grateful for her example of continuing to share her time and interests well into the 'third age' of her life.

Her eternal rest is well deserved, and we look forward to a new 'age' for all of us with the reign of His Majesty King Charles the Third.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

A message from our Chair

Hello Everyone,

It was so good to see members at the picnic on Stokes Bay and thankfully, the weather was kind to us.



Now we return to our usual programme for the Autumn leading up to our Annual General Meeting in November.

This year, we urgently need up to 6 people to come forward to join the committee as a few of us come to the end of our permitted term under U3a rules. I'm one of those, and Jim is also standing down so that we can take holidays to see our families overseas.

I have enjoyed my 5 years serving you as chair, but someone needs to take over with new ideas to take u3a forward. Jim and I have booked our flights!!!

Nomination forms can be obtained from myself our secretary or downloaded from the website. I will be happy to chat to anyone who is interested, or you are welcome to attend a committee meeting as an observer if you so wish.

However, - back to the programme:-

Do not forget the Brouhaha festival on Saturday 17th September at Walpole Park from 10.00-16.00hrs. We plan a U3a publicity stand, and it would be good to have your support. The Dance group are performing on stage at 15.30hrs.

The Hampshire Cultural Trust building (aka Search) *will not be reopening until Monday 17th October, so check with your group leaders the venue for your group meetings prior to that date.*

We also pleased to have a new U3a group commencing on Monday 12th September, - “u3a Band.” It will meet at HEDCA on the second Monday of the month from 2-4pm. Anyone interested in playing their musical instrument or singing are welcome. The Band will feature various styles of music. For further information, contact John Taylor or me.

Best wishes, Pat

MEMBERSHIP

If you know anyone of 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*

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 Monday, 7th November at 10.30 am at the Discovery Centre) 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*

GENERAL MEETINGS AT THORNGATE -

Our speaker this month was Duncan Colin-Jones, a retired QA consultant, with a keen interest in sailing but also a keen researcher of local history. His talk on the history of the shores around Chichester Harbour from Roman times up to the Second World War proved to be fascinating – and it was good to see our member numbers increasing for this return to our monthly meetings too.

Our speaker in October is Jane Glennie who will be telling us the history of Tea and how it is made! November is our AGM (for the first half-hour) but we'll also have a speaker - Elena Fry – talking “Wine” Pat will email members to try and assess numbers for this meeting as the layout will be tables and she will cover the history of wine, a quiz and wine tasting.

On a point about meetings at Thorngate, members should note changes to its management as this notice from Gosport Community Association explains. *“GCA have changed their car park management to Creative Parking. Everything will be the same, with the Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera system operating 7.00AM – 7.00PM. All meters will now accept card and cash payments. There is a 20-minute pick up/drop off time and parking tariffs, which remain unchanged will apply to all visitors including Blue Badge holders. We are asked to ensure that all club and group members who use the car park, either pay at the meter and retain their receipts, or that they are currently Gosport Community Association members holding a registered permit for exclusion.”*

For the attention of Group Leaders -

Each group has a page on the u3a Gosport website. It is really important that this page is kept up to-date, as it is the source of information for members and is the showcase to potential members. There is the facility to add text about what you group does, where and when you meet and how to make contact with the leader. It is really useful to add events ie. which gives the viewer the actual dates of your meetings and the topics. You can also add pictures (suitably reduced).

If you already an editor, or wish to become the editor for your page, I can remind you, or show you, how to update the page. (Please do not change the information at the top re location and timings of your group, just let me know, as I need to update this information elsewhere on the site.)

If you don't wish to be editor then please let me know what you want your group page to contain. Please contact Jennifer on WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk. or via the Contacts page of the website.

GROUP REPORTS AND CHANGES from Group Leaders

ARCHEAOLGY GROUP:

Members of the Archaeology Group are looking forward to an educational visit to Portchester Castle on 28th September.

CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

Details of our our next three meetings are as follows -, *the first two being held in The Discovery Centre and then November's meeting in the New Search building.* The first meeting of our Climate Change session is on Monday 12th September and the topic is "E-Goods". Monday 10th October will be discussing "Food Safety" and then on Monday 14th November we have a speaker from Portsmouth Water. Any new members will be truly welcome to our discussion group.

Contact Pauline Potter

CROCHET GROUP

Crochet group meets 3rd Wednesday of the month 10am to 12 at Sue Morgan's house.

Contact 07901644994 or 02392 718874 spaces available.

DANCE GROUP This group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at HEDCA, all welcome. It was good to have Barry Bullimore back at Dance group in July, as he does Folk Dancing with us from 3-4 pm after our swing jive strolls/freestyle from 2-3pm. There is not a dry eye in the room as it is such fun **Contact Pat Luke.**

DRAMA AND MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP Over the last few months we have seen The Villagers at Alverbank, Lee Players at Crofton, Thespians at Titchfield Theatre and Titchfield Barn. Such talent! Coming up are Behind the Scenes at Groundlings, productions at Titchfield Theatre, Kings Theatre and Chichester Theatre. New members welcome.

Contact Neena:nvadra@yahoo.com

FINE DINING GROUP -

The Fine Dining Group continues to meet at Avenue141 Restaurant in Fareham, run by the students and staff at Fareham College, Bishopsfield Road, Fareham. During the summer break we met at The Seahorse at Stokes Bay, which was quite a nice change and 20 of the group members enjoyed a lovely lunch there. Some members of the group were finding it difficult (due to mobility and transport issues) in travelling to Fareham and we are now looking into organising a 7-seater minibus which will hopefully solve this problem. We will also investigate the possibility of the access gate at the back of the college near the restaurant be unlocked on the days that we attend. The college has recently changed the restaurant opening days and we now meet every 2nd or 3rd Thursday in the month (dates can be found on u3aGosport website).

The cost of the meals has risen slightly but the college still offers a wonderful Fine Dining lunch experience at £12.95 for 2 course or £15.95 for 3 courses which includes tea/coffee at the end and for those who enjoy a glass of wine with their meal there is also a small bar available (which is also reasonably priced). We were sad to lose two members of the group due to the change in day but also very pleased to welcome 4 new members to the group.

We do still have a couple more spaces at the moment for anyone wishing to join us and if you are interested, please contact either: Jan on finedine@gmail.com or Wendie on 07925 256023

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP

Libby McKay will continue the French Conversational group on Zoom for the time being.

GENEALOGY -

The remaining meetings for this year are scheduled for 16th September 21st October and 18th November in the Discovery Centre. **Contact: David Atkins 02392 553198**

GET BY IN FRENCH GROUP

Get by in French" is a friendly group which welcomes beginners. We not only practice the French language, but we discover aspects of the country such as culture, cuisine, history, geography and local customs. We are working from a French grammar based textbook, *Living French*, which perfectly complements our aims. It has been the learner's choice for 60 years and is now in its revised seventh edition with up-to-date vocabulary and culture topics. (Available from Amazon for £12.40)

E-mail or phone Richard Lovett for further details. 023 9258 5194 richardf.lovett@gmail.com

HISTORY GROUP

Members of the History Group are reminded that their next meeting scheduled for 2pm on Monday 26th September will be held in the Alver Room of the Discovery Centre.

PHILOSOPHY TODAY GROUP

The work of past and present Philosophers are presented and discussed. Individual members share their research. We have interesting and lively discussions! Next up is Angela Davies. A modern philosopher and once a member of The Black Panther movement in America. For further information log onto the U3a Gosport website to contact Jackie or contact Neena:

nvadra@yahoo.com

POETRY GROUP

THE POETRY GROUP has continued to stick together through thick and thin, from home during the pandemic to the High Street behind the big seagull and just now back to our original stamping ground in the Alver Room at the Discovery Centre, before we settle back into the newly refurbished Search. Our sessions on the second Wednesday afternoon of the month have been a fascinating mixture of talks on individual poets, Charles Causley, W.B. Yeats and Thomas Hardy having been particularly striking recently, interspersed with general themes where everyone contributes, such as Food and Drink, Feasts and Famine, Music and Dance and (very contemporary!) poems to sustain us facing challenging times. Our members continue to inspire each other by introducing new and unknown authors to widen our scope. The recent medical and climate problems have depleted our numbers a bit so we would very much welcome new members to come and join us. We encourage everyone to participate and take turns leading a session, but you can just come along and listen in if you prefer. The coming session in September promises to be a fascinating one, when Marcia Griffin is bringing us the Anthology "Poems that Make Grown Women Cry", which is supported by Amnesty International. The editors have invited 100 women, all distinguished figures in public life, to send in a poem that particularly moves them, and their choices and the reasons they give for them add an extra dimension to the poems themselves. This will be followed in October by a fresh look at Alfred Lord Tennyson, with his local connections to this area, and then "Poets of Slavery and Freedom" in November. *A lot to enjoy. Belinda Colby*

QUIZ GROUP

We will be starting back after our August break on Tuesday 12th September 7pm at the Carisbrook Arms. Everyone is very welcome. Come along and enjoy an evening of good fun and quizzing – and no, it's not Brain of Britain! Although....brain of Gosport maybe? Lol

Winter programme –

Tuesday 13th September – Quizmaster, Jean Plumber

Tuesday 11th October – Quizmaster, Steph Dobrzanska

Tuesday 8th November – Presentation of Winner's Cup and Annual prizes plus a quiz run by Shirley and Iris.

Tuesday 13th December – **No Meeting**

Tuesday 10th January – Quizmaster, George Cantrill

NB - All group members are invited, if they wish, to take a turn at compiling quizzes & being quizmaster – it all adds to the fun and variety. Members can pair up for this if they prefer. Just have a chat with Jean or Tricia

WORLD VEGETARIAN FOOD GROUP



Over the summer months we have dined al fresco by Stokes Bay, tasting food from Japan, Jamaica and Argentina. A tasty delight!

New members welcome. **Contact Neena:**
nvadra@yahoo.com

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	Pat Luke	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.

Before we go----

Pat Luke also received this mail from Betty Quinn of Solent U3a

"I am a member of Solent U3A, and I wonder whether your members may be interested to see my garden wall which regularly has 'displays' of numerous resin animals which are dressed up to depict various festivals, themes etc.throughout the year.

As it will be the National U3A week from Sept 17th to the 25th I am dressing them in several of the groups held in our local U3As.

The display will be in situ from the previous week until the end of September.

Should any members be interested in seeing the wall, there will be a charity box in aid of The Huntingtons Disease Society., and the address is 91, Crofton lane, Hillhead, opposite the One Stop shop.

with best wishes, Betty Quinn."