

## **MEMBERS' NEWS UPDATE JUNE 2023**

### **CHAIRMAN'S NOTES -**

As you can see from Maggie's note below, time flies! Here we are in Summer at last, but I write just a few days before the days start getting shorter again!

Anyway, Gosport U3a rolls on too and we have another issue to share with you. When Covid hit (who can forget that?), we were forced to move our AGM and 'end of year' away from the April to November. However, we are now continually out of line with the rest of the U3a network in terms of accounting etc so your committee are recommending that we move back to April. It is proposed to do that by extending the current 'year' to April 2024 so the present committee will stay on for a few more months. We still plan to have a 'report to members' in November as planned but then leave the elections and final reports to a normal AGM in April. We'll take a formal vote on this at our July meeting.

On the social front, we are looking at a picnic at Alverstoke in our 'holiday month' of August so we'll be back on news of that when it can be confirmed.

**George Cantrill**

### **THORNGATE MEETINGS -**

This month we were visited by Kevin of the Blue Lamp Trust, itself a charitable organisation that offers free advice across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight –



and a number of free adaptations to help protect our homes and property from petty crime and cyber-attack. Kevin attracted a lot of interest with questions and requests for personal home visits for help and advice – all free! If you missed it, just visit [www.bluelamptrust.org.uk](http://www.bluelamptrust.org.uk) and see the range of help on offer.

Next month (July 5<sup>th</sup>) we ring the changes again when our speaker will be Phillip Allan – on "Wooden World" (wooden ships - life in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Royal Navy) Phillip is brother of member Tinou and Author of the Alexander Clay Series of Age of Sail Novels.

## **A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY - CHRISTMAS LUNCH!**

Christmas Lunch 2023 - I know it's early! But the Castle Tavern gets booked up very early I have booked for-Friday 8th December 12.30 for 1pm.

*best wishes Maggie Gavin*

*(Editor's note – I was with someone last week who commented that as we get older, Christmases get closer together! – how true!)*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We are always keen to encourage new members to join our u3a. There will be information leaflets available at general meetings for you to pass on to anyone you think may be interested in joining us.

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.**

Hello everyone, it's so lovely finally having some decent weather and I hope that you are all taking full advantage. The last new members coffee morning , which Linda Dorsett and Teri ran for me went extremely well, my heartfelt thanks to them both for standing in for me. The next one will be on Monday 3rd July, 10:30 in the Discovery Centre. *Sheena Bone*

## **GROUP NEWS UPDATES -**

### **ALLOTMENT GROUP**

We are looking for people to join our allotment group. We have a 10 rod plot in the Rectory Allotments in Alverstoke. It is a lovely peaceful spot and we are a very friendly sociable group. We meet on Tuesday mornings once a week and always stop for coffee and a chat during the morning. We work together well and share out any produce.

If you are interested please come along and meet the group and see what we are growing. No previous experience required – just be willing to muck in and enjoy the great outdoors.

*Contact Anne Blunden for more information and to arrange to visit the allotment – 07796 134477*

[anneblunden33@gmail.com](mailto:anneblunden33@gmail.com)

## **ADVANCED FRENCH CONVERSATION**

We now have space for one or two more members in our friendly group. A good grasp of French is needed, preferably to "A" Level standard. If you used to speak it reasonably but your fluency could do with a brush-up, why not give our group a try? You'll find a warm welcome awaits you.

*Thanks so much. Libby ([lysbethmackay@gmail.com](mailto:lysbethmackay@gmail.com))*

## **CRAFT GROUP**

The members had an interesting and informative session learning how to do 'propping' with the able assistance from Judy, Toni and Les. At our meeting on 26th June we plan to make lanterns with dried flowers or decoupage napkins, do come along and join us. - **Maggie Gavin**

## **DANCE GROUP**



The dance group were invited back to entertain the residents at Alverstoke Nursing Home last week.

It was an enjoyable afternoon when we danced various strolls, swing, jive and St Bernard's Waltz.

New members are welcome to join us every fourth Tuesday of the month at HEDCA from 2-3.30pm. You do not need a partner and we do a variety of dances/ freestyle.

**Best wishes, Pat**

## **PSYCHOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY & FORENSICS STUDY GROUP**

I am very pleased that Carole Sharman has agreed to become Co-Leader of the Introduction to Psychology, Criminology & Forensics Study Group.

– **Tricia Stevenson**

## **FINE DINING**

The Fine Dining Group is looking forward to an Afternoon Tea event on 6 June which will be our last meeting at the college until September as Avenue141 closes its restaurant during the Summer Break. The Group have chosen to meet at alternative venues during June, July and August will be meeting at The Castle Tavern on 15 June, The Golden Bowler on 20 July followed by The Bun Penny on 17 August.

We have now booked our dining dates from September 2023-2024 and if you are interested in joining us during the Summer we would love to meet you.

***Further information about the group can be found on the Gosportu3a Website or you can contact Jan direct via [u3afinedine@gmail.com](mailto:u3afinedine@gmail.com).***

## **WALKING GROUP (5 - 6 miles)**

The first walk of this new group got off to a brilliant start with a local walk from Stokes Bay to the Wildgrounds in the Alver Country Park, led by Tinou and Ian. The group is planning to walk the 3rd Friday of the month, so the next one is on Friday 16 June.



For details of our group, please see the website page [Gosport u3a: Walking group \(5-6 miles\) \(u3asites.org.uk\)](https://u3asites.org.uk)

A good walk and chatting to (new) friends - what could be better for your physical and mental well being? ***Jennifer Bellamy***

## **HISTORY GROUP -**

There will not be the usual meeting of the history group this month as we are going on a trip to Havant for a guided tour of the 'Billy Line' and the museum. This trip is for any members of the History group, free of charge, but you have to get yourselves there. If you would like to come and have not already given me your name, please contact me on 07763441602. *Linda Dorsett*

## **UKELELE**

We had a great Ukulele session this month welcoming some new members. The group is mixed abilities, social and welcoming so if you fancy giving the Uke a try, why not come along. We have some spare Ukuleles for you to have a try and you will be given all the music along with help and encouragement. It is held on the second Thursday of the month at HEDCA from 2.00-3.30pm. *Please contact Richard Glaysher on 07711556260 if you would like to come along.*

## **WORLD FILMS GROUP**

World Films Group continues to meet, discuss and enjoy Independent productions from around the world. So far this year we have viewed films from Spain, America and Egypt.  
Neena Vadra-Edwards [nvadra@yahoo.com](mailto:nvadra@yahoo.com)

## **NEW GROUP IN FORMATION - FOLK DANCE -**

The Folk Dance Group will meet on the first Monday of each month beginning on 4th September at Gosport Methodist Church, Stokes Road. Timing is 10.15 - 11.45 with a coffee break part way through. We will be using recorded music and will initially concentrate on English Dances from the 17th Century to the present Day.

No previous experience is required; if you can walk, you can do it!

*Barrie Bullimore*

## 2022-23 COMMITTEE ROLES AND CONTACTS

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***Committee members and other members with a [gosportu3a.org.uk](mailto: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.***

### **And news of a (currently) non-U3a event which may be of interest to members –**

*–As Chairman, I received this mail during the month via a query on our website which one or more of our members may wish to follow up? George Cantrill -*

I run Zumba Gold classes in Gosport. A low to medium impact class. Ideal for people who want to maintain or improve balance and mobility, have health or injury issues. I was recently contacted by *Fareham U3a* to set up a class for them. But due to present personal issues am unable to get to Fareham.

I was wondering if your Gosport U3a group might be interested? I have a Facebook page [jbzumbaparty](https://www.facebook.com/jbzumbaparty) and currently run classes from HEDCA.

You need no dance experience, and any level of fitness is welcome. We can also incorporate seated zumba too.

Many thanks.

Please reply to Joanne Brown <[joannecook01@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joannecook01@yahoo.co.uk)>.