

## December 2022

### A Message From Your Chairman

Fellow Members,

Well, our Christmas is now well under way, and it was given a great start with the really well organised Christmas lunch at the Castle Tavern, all down to Maggie, Linda and Judy's hard work. I thoroughly enjoyed the sumptuous food, and the Christmas spirit was certainly on display.

Sadly, our expected speakers at the Thorngate Hall gathering failed to arrive for our December meet, but I've had comments and mails telling me how members present enjoyed the opportunity to chat with each other rather than 'just listen' for a change – and I'm sure that the sherry and mince pies, again produced by Maggie and her helper team helped that along.

Vice Chairman Barrie – now our new Group Coordinator – did a great job in running the raffle prize distribution too with great support from Treasurer, Judith.



So, we all look forward to a new start for 2023, but in the meantime best wishes to all our members for the Festive season – from the 'Management Team' of Gosport U3a

**Best wishes, George.**

## MEMBERSHIP

If you know anyone who would like to join any of our group activities then encourage them to make contact with the group leader or myself.

**Linda Clachan, Membership Secretary**

# WELFARE OFFICER

Sheena Bone, our Welfare Officer, is currently enjoying a long-awaited family reunion in Australia and will be 'away from the desk' for the next couple of months but Maggie Gavin will be available in her stead should any member need support. Sheena also runs the new member coffee mornings at the Discovery Centre and the next one will be hosted by **Linda Dorsett** and is scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30 am

# GENERAL MEETINGS AT THORNGATE

Forthcoming speakers at Thorngate Hall meetings.

**Jan 4th - Joe Marsden, (former Vulcan Bomber Pilot) – Talk : Falkland Islands – Defence of the Islands and life after the conflict**

**Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – Jeremy Prescott, Retired Army Officer – War Graves (a photographic project)**

**Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – Brenda Margetts – “Lost Souls”**

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – Pam Marsden – Broadcasting with BBC Local Radio**

## Note on the January talk

Tony Stephens who is a Gosport U3A member sent me this picture of a vulcan bomber taken from the gun camera of a Canberra that he was flying in. Perhaps Joe Marsden was piloting?



## Sad News

One of our former members, Dennis Suter, passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> October, age 96. Dennis was a member for several years and attended the Intermediate German Group as well as the now non-existent Classical Music Group and the Thursday Lunch Group. His step daughter Jane often came with him when she was visiting him – she used to live in Brussels. Jane now lives in Gosport and is handling Dennis's affairs.

The funeral took place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at Portchester Crematorium.

Regards

**David Atkins**

# GROUP REPORTS

- from Group Leaders in alphabetic order

## 50's & 60's Groups

Geoff Piper who has been looking after his wife following her broken leg, hopes to start the 50's and 60's groups again in February at Hedca.

## Archaeology Group

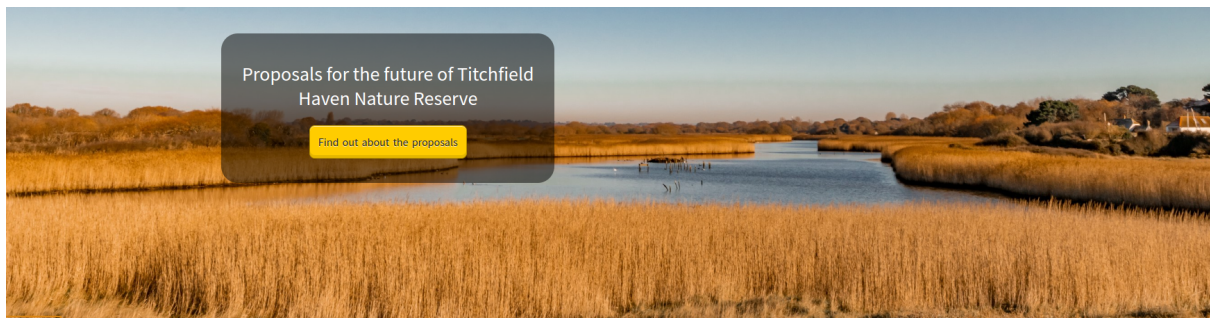
This month our topic was Silchester Roman Town. This is a site which has recently been excavated in Hampshire and led to lots of discussion.

We are a lively and friendly group and welcome new members, so please do not hesitate to contact Julie Bennetts or myself and come along and join us.

Julie and I would like to wish all the members of the group a Merry Christmas and a happy Year.

**Linda Dorsett.**

## Birdwatching Group



Just to say the Birdwatching Group will still be meeting at 10 am on 14th December at Titchfield Haven at Hill Head. The birdwatching session will be followed by our Christmas meal in the Haven café which last year was excellent. This could of course well be our last meeting in the café due to proposed sale of the buildings.

I believe a final decision is to be made on 8th December.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/counyparks/titchfield/titchfield-future> - click to see latest news on Hampshire web site.

Regards

**Julia White**

(Main Contact for the Birdwatching Group)

# Bus Beer and Banter



Do you have Cenossilicaphobia (pronounced sen-no-sill-ick-uh-fobia)? Maybe we can help. Cenossilicaphobia is the fear of an empty glass. Join the Bus, Beer & Banter Group on our monthly outings to avoid empty glasses!! The Group currently has thirty members, fourteen of whom joined us in Chichester on December 7th for a wander around the Christmas Market & shops, a lovely lunch, a few beers & a lot of laughter. We have been meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, December's meeting was brought forward to

avoid a clash with the excellent u3a Fine Dining Group.

However following a consultation with all of our members we will be changing our outings to the last Wednesday of each month from March 2023. There is a list of all the pubs that we have visited since the Group started in September 2021 on our webpage <https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/112945> If you would like to join us contact **Maureen Mansfield** on 07768639774 or **Tricia Stevenson** at [triciatullibody@gmail.com](mailto:triciatullibody@gmail.com)

## Climate Change Group

Unfortunately our speaker Ian Limb who was going to talk to us about Portsmouth Water Company and the new reservoir at Havant didn't turn up at our last meeting but he's now rescheduled for Monday 9th January.



*Havant Thicket Reservoir*

We will be meeting on Monday 12th December when the subject will be "Climate change overseas and what effects it's doing to the world". Any new members are welcome to join us".

Regards

**Pauline x**

## Craft Group



### *Festive Craft Challenge*

The group was set a Christmas challenge; how to recycle some old cotton spools. Using nothing more than scraps of fabric, paper, glue and a lot of ingenuity, and above shows the results. Thanks to Avril, Gill, Janet, Terry, Mary and Judy for taking part.

Kind regards

**Judy** on behalf of **Maggie Gavin** and **Terry Hunter**, Craft Group Leaders

## Extra Mile Walkers

Our group has completed its 8<sup>th</sup> successful walking year. This year we have held 21 walks, of between 7 & 10 miles (161 miles in total), covering a wide range of locations between Chichester, Petersfield, Winchester, the New Forest and the Isle of Wight. The group now has 30 registered members with many of us walking very regularly. Many Extra Milers are now involved in helping to research and check walks reflecting the essential u3a ethos promoting members' involvement. We welcome new enquiries from anyone who would like to help keep this group. The walking can be demanding so a good level of fitness is vital and the right footwear is essential.





*Bembridge IOW. 27 May 2022*

Our walks do provide surprises. When in the New Forest near Fritham in October we were surprised by riders galloping to round up ponies for the annual 'DRIFT'. We had to vacate the area but fortunately were able to continue our walk beyond the activity safely.



While there was a bit of alarm, members were kept close together by leaders and sensible decisions were made which still allowed our walk. This was a fascinating experience of the unique New Forest culture. This sort of experience is rare but we do have good safety procedures in place. Mostly we just love our beautiful, well guided walks and make new friends.

**Kathy Parker**

## FINE DINING GROUP

November 2022

The Fine Dining Group is a very friendly group who meet at Avenue141 restaurant which is run by the students and staff at Fareham College. We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month (dates can be found on U3A Gosport website <https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/welcome> ). The cost of the meal is very reasonable and offers a wonderful Fine Dining lunch experience at £12.95 for 2 course or £15.95 for 3 courses which includes complimentary tea/coffee at the end of the meal and for those who enjoy a glass of wine with

their meal there is also a small bar available (which is also very reasonably priced).

Due to the success in opening the group to other local u3a groups recently, we hope to start another smaller Fine Dining Group which would be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. This would be a combined operation with Warsash U3A members attending and we are now only awaiting committee approval before being able to go ahead, but are hoping to start in the New Year.

We are all really looking forward to our Xmas lunch on the 14 December and are now fully booked with over 50 people attending. However, if you would like to enjoy a lovely meal and meet with lots of new friends in the New Year, we would love to have you join us. If interested please contact: **Jan** via e-mail on [u3afinedine@gmail.com](mailto:u3afinedine@gmail.com) or via the Gosport U3A Groups website.

The Fine Dining Group Group instead! If you would like to enjoy a lovely meal and meet with lots of new friends, please contact: **Jan** via e-mail on [u3afinedine@gmail.com](mailto:u3afinedine@gmail.com) or **Wendie** on 07925 256023

## History Group

We had a very enjoyable History session this month. We did not have a set topic but members brought along anything they were interested in from History and wanted to share with the group. We had never tried this set up before and it proved a very diverse and a very interesting session. This was followed by mince pies and chatting. If any members wish to join us in the new year please do not hesitate to contact me. To all group members Dot and I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and see you in January. **Linda Dorsett**

## How Group

How? is Gosport u3a's General Discussion Group. We discuss humorous topics & more serious matters. Topics are chosen by the group's members who can also pass on knowledge gained from hobbies & interests.

The only constraint being that each topic must begin with How:

<b>How are ...?</b>	How was ...?	<b>How long ...?</b>	How do ...?
How can ...?	<b>How often ...?</b>	How much ...?	<b>How far...?</b>
<b>How could ...?</b>	How shall ...?	<b>How does ...?</b>	How to ...?
How about ...?	<b>How many ...?</b>	How did ...?	<b>How well ...?</b>
<b>How is ...?</b>	How might ...?	<b>How would ...?</b>	How were ...?
How have ...?	<b>How come ...?</b>	How will ...?	<b>How ...?</b>

Past topics can be viewed on our webpage  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/112946>

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month bar August & December from 2pm until 3:30pm in the newly renovated Gosport Museum and Art Gallery (formerly SEARCH). Please contact the Group Leader **Tricia Stevenson** at [triciatullibody@gmail.com](mailto:triciatullibody@gmail.com) if you would like to join us or just turn up.

## Local History Group

All being well, our December meeting will include a film and a quiz. No research needed this time. Hope to see you on the 13th.

Happy Christmas to everyone.

**Joy Hammond**

## Quiz Group



The Quiz Group meet on the second Tuesday of each month bar August & December from 7pm until 9pm in the Carisbrooke Arms, 75 Carisbrooke Road, Gosport, PO13 0QY

We play in teams with members picked from 'a hat' on the night so that folk are not always in the same team. There is an annual prize for the member with the most points.

This year's prize winner is Iris Kemlo seen here receiving her cup & prize money from Group Leader **Jean Plummer**.

## U3A Band

Have changed their timing by half an hour – now meet from 2.30 to 4.30 at Hedca

## Ukulele Group

The Ukulele group welcomed some new members this month. It doesn't matter if you are able to play or a complete beginner, you are all welcome.

We sing, play, laugh and have fun, so please come along and join us. If you are interested please contact Richard Glaysher. He would like to take this opportunity to wish all the group a merry Christmas and see you in the new year.

**Linda Dorsett**



## Non-U3a Local Events

If you know of any local events or activities that would be of interest to U3A members then let me know and I can include these in next month's newsletter. Email me at [newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk) Address me as dear Ed or just Mr Case

## PickleBall

U3A member Jane McArdle will be setting up a new PickleBall group.  
What is Pickleball?

Pickleball is a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong using a paddle and plastic ball with holes (whiffle ball). It is a game that is appropriate for players of all ages and skill levels. Rules for Pickleball are simple, making it a great introductory sport. It can also be quite the challenging, fast-paced, and competitive game when people become more experienced at playing.

Google Pickleball or follow the link below and you will see players of all ages.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdC\\_WixnESQ&t=57s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdC_WixnESQ&t=57s)

# 2021-22 Committee Roles and Contacts

(Some committee roles and contacts have changed since the member brochure)

Chairman	George Cantrill	<a href="mailto:chair@gosportu3a.org.uk">chair@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	01329 238429
Vice Chairman and Group Leader	Barrie Bullimore		07470 203830
Treasurer	Judith Ridley	<a href="mailto:treasurer@gosportu3a.org.uk">treasurer@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	
Secretary	Maggie Gavin	<a href="mailto:secretary@gosportu3a.org.uk">secretary@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07920 388843
Membership Secretary	Linda Clachan	<a href="mailto:membsec@gosportu3a.org.uk">membsec@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07752 290588
News Update Editor	Nick Blunden	<a href="mailto:newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk">newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07999 838616
Publicity	George Cantrill	<a href="mailto:publicity@gosportu3a.org.uk">publicity@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	01329 238429
Welfare Officer	Sheena Bone	<a href="mailto:welfareofficer@gosportu3a.org.uk">welfareofficer@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	02392 602427
Member Mentor	Sheena Bone	<a href="mailto:membmentor@gosportu3a.org.uk">membmentor@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	02392 602427
Beacon Administrator	Jan Demerell	<a href="mailto:BeaconAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk">BeaconAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07771 646180
Website Administrator	Jennifer Bellamy	<a href="mailto:WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk">WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07765 500053
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