

## January 2023

### A Message From Your Chairman

Fellow Member,

First let me wish everyone a Happy New Year!

I'd like to think that the really cold patch in early December was 'our winter, over and done with', the bulbs in the garden are showing through and my Camellia is in full bloom – so it's onward and upward for 2023!

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our December Committee meeting so there are one or two issues for us to clear up as we go into the new year. Good news, too, to see that there are ideas for new groups to add to our 'repertoire of offerings to members. We watch and wait, now that the former 'Search Building' now our town Museum has emerged from it's refurb and gives us a new central venue for some of our groups to consider - subject of course to the 'economics'.

Yes, Spring is 'springing' and Gosport U3a is in good form to take advantage of it.

Best wishes for 2023,

George

### MEMBERSHIP

Happy New Year to you all!

For those of you who would like to make a start on their 'to do' list for this year: I'm now able to take subscriptions for the 2023/24 membership year which starts on the **1<sup>st</sup> April**.

I will be available at General Meetings to take cash or cheques or cheques can be posted to:

**Linda Clachan - 77 Grove Road, Gosport. PO12 4JJ**

The membership fee is unchanged from last year, **£28** and cheques should be made out to: **U3A Gosport** and remember it's **2023** for the date

Payments can also be made by bank transfer to:

- **U3A Gosport**
- **Sort Code: 30-93-56**
- **Acc No: 02123229**

Reference payment with your name and membership number.

Please inform me by email if you make a bank transfer.

Subscriptions will be recorded on Beacon as they are received. 2023/24 Membership Cards will be issued before the start of the new membership year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Linda Clachan, Membership Secretary.

## MEETING AT THORNGATE



Last week we had the first meeting of the New Year which was reasonably well attended and got us back to our normal calendar after the Festive Break. Joe Marsden was our speaker this month and he brought to life images of how the Falkland Islands have moved on after it's life as a War Zone with Penguins! It remains a British Protectorate – as it was long before the Argentinians decided to try and capture it – but post the war, much more attention has been brought to the region as a holiday venue.

As one who has visited, I can vouch for the attraction of this small group of islands of the South Atlantic (according to Joe, about the physical area of Wales, but with so small a population) that there is much to take in – yes, the memorable buildings and landscape of the war reports, but also the wildlife, the scenery and the new life opportunities created for the residents.

Thanks, Joe, for a really interesting talk.

Sorry, we can't continue to offer free coffee after our talks – but the bar is open for a great opportunity to chat and meet up with fellow members (and they do 'filter coffee too!')

Our February 1<sup>st</sup> speaker is Jeremy Prescott, a retired Army Officer who will bring his photographic record and background to War Graves.

If you have a recommendation for talks that may be of interest to members for our diary later in the year, please pass me the details – especially if they are of local interest.

George Cantrill, Speaker Secretary.



U3A Members Walking in The New Forest Autumn 2022 (Tony Stephens)

## Sad News

On Saturday 17th December our long time U3A member, David Maber passed away aged 92.

David was our pianist at The Songsters from their inception and before that a pianist at The Folk Group at St Faith's. We were lucky to have had such a talented musician, song writer, who was full of enthusiasm and encouragement. In addition to the piano David also played the accordion and double base. His talents spread further than music as he also had a passion for painting and sculpting; he was also an author and playwright. He was well known locally for his knowledge of local history.

David had a great sense of humour and creativity. Everyone who knew him greatly enjoyed his company. He had valiantly fought health problems for many years. He will be sorely missed but happily remembered.

Derry Rose

# GROUP REPORTS

- from Group Leaders in alphabetic order

## Archaeology Group

The archaeology group will meet again on Wednesday 25th January from 10.30 -12:00 in the newly refurbished SEARCH building and our discussion topic for this month is gold hoards.



*The Staffordshire Hoard*

We are a small friendly group who would welcome any new members.

Happy new year

Julie Bennetts

## Bus Beer and Banter



U3a News Update January 2023 During 2022 the Bus, Beer & Banter Group visited thirty-nine pubs in Southampton, Portsmouth, Romsey, Fareham, Langstone, Havant, Emsworth, Newport, Ryde, Petersfield & Chichester. We have thirty-four members, around ten of whom join us each month for lunch & a drink. For more information see our webpage:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/112945>

Maureen Mansfield & Tricia Stevenson

# French - Get by in French

We meet every Tuesday at 1030 by Video Conferencing

Details from Richard Lovett at [Richardf.lovett@gmail.com](mailto:Richardf.lovett@gmail.com) or 023 9258 5194

We are a small friendly sociable group suitable for beginners and also those at intermediate level.



We are currently working our way through a popular best selling french grammar textbook "Living French" by T W Knight 7th edition - available from Amazon for £13.20 (given 4.5 stars out of 5)

There is absolutely no obligation to speak french at the meetings so newcomers are welcome to come and just observe to see if they could benefit. We also deal with french culture, places of interest, history, cuisine etc. so francophiles, this is the group for you.

Richard

<https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/55630>

## History Group

We hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. Our next meeting is on Monday 23rd January, 2.00 to 4.00pm, and the topic is 'Childhood'.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Linda Dorsett - 07763 441602

## How Group



Do you remember when our MP's father presented the children's programme How?

Our How? Group meets in the Gosport Museum & Art Gallery (formerly SEARCH) on the third Wednesday of each month from 2pm until 3:30pm.

Topics are chosen by the group's members & everything is up for discussion. The only constraint being that each topic must begin with How. See our webpage

<https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/112946> for details.

## Painting Group

At our final meeting of 2022, our theme was Christmas cards and individual paintings were then collated to make a single Christmas card.



We are an informal painting group and always welcome new members so whether you are an experienced painter or just want to have a go, come and join us. See our page on the Gosport u3a website for contact and meeting details.

Should you be visiting the Discovery Centre this month, don't forget to visit the café area where Roger Pike, Painting Group Leader, has an exhibition / sale of some of his paintings.

Judy Foster on behalf of Roger

## Quiz Group



The meaning and usage of Quiz have changed over time. Originally, quiz described an eccentric person or thing. Later it meant "to make fun of" or "one who mocks." In the 19th century it began to take on its now familiar definition referring to questions. Our Quiz Group meet in the Carisbrooke Arms, 75 Carisbrooke Road, Gosport, PO13 0QY from 7pm until 9pm on the second Tuesday of each month. See our webpage for details

<https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/55583>

## U3A Band



Hi Nick

Please put in a plug for the U3A Band. We meet on the second Monday at HEDCA 2.30 to 4.30pm and would welcome new players. You don't need to be an expert, just want to join in for a bit of fun playing a variety of music.

Contact John on [john.taylor177@ntlworld.com](mailto:john.taylor177@ntlworld.com)

Thanks

John

# Ukulele

Just to remind everyone that the Ukulele group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at HEDCA. New members are always welcome.



Richard Glaysher - 07711 556260



## 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 in next months news letter. Send info to [newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsupdateeditor@gosportu3a.org.uk)

Nick Blunden

## Gosport Local History Luncheon Club

Gosport Local History Luncheon Club meets at 12 midday on the third Thursday of the month (apart from April, August and December) at Christchurch Parish Centre, Stoke Road. We start with a speaker on local history followed by a Ploughman's lunch for those who are interested. There is no yearly subscription. The cost for the speaker is £2 and for lunch an extra £3. We are a very sociable group!

Anyone interested in this club please contact Dot Bedenham at [dot.bedenham@gmail.com](mailto:dot.bedenham@gmail.com) or ring 02392 529518

## Walking Cricket

If you are interested in trying out 'Walking Cricket', Gosport Borough Cricket Club are about to start holding indoor sessions at the Gosport Leisure Centre on Wednesdays from 1 pm until 2 pm, starting date is yet to be confirmed. It will be cricket at a slower pace, friendly and fun, no experience is needed and equipment is provided.

# Walking Cricket

Stay warm and active this winter



Free social cricket for adults

- Friendly and fun
- Equipment provided
- No experience needed

Everyone welcome



**GOSPORT LEISURE  
CENTRE**  
FOREST WAY, GOSPORT  
PO13 0ZX

**WEDNESDAYS 1PM - 2PM**  
**STARTING 25 JANUARY**

**COME AND MEET US**  
Friday 20 January  
Privett's Pavilion, Privett Park,  
PO12 3SX  
10am -12noon

Find out more and enjoy a free  
cuppa with us

To find out more or to  
book a place, please call  
or text Barbara on  
07584371137



Anyone interested in walking cricket can contact Dot Bedenham at [dot.bedenham@gmail.com](mailto:dot.bedenham@gmail.com) or ring 02392 529518

# A Date For 2024 New Years Day



While normal bus services were suspended this new years day the Provincial Society ran a free “Ale and Ride” bus service from Gosport thru Lee, Titchfield and Fareham. Using many classic buses they ran a vital service between 20 different pubs! Look out for next year

## What a Coincidence !

Gosport U3A member, Tony Stephens took this picture of a Navy ship when he was a schoolboy living in Hong Kong in 1961. Almost 60 years later he met Ian Driver, also a Gosport U3A member, and while they were out with the Walking the Extra Mile group. Learning that he was an ex-sailor, Tony asked Ian if he could identify the ship in a photo from the F43 painted on its side.



Ian immediately identified the ship as HMS Torquay. He also identified himself in the picture as the “bunting” standing on top of the bridge, arriving in Hong Kong on his eighteenth birthday. Some coincidence!

# 2023 Committee / 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 Co-ordinator	Barrie Bullimore	<a href="mailto:grpldrsco-ord@gosportu3a.org.uk">grpldrsco-ord@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07470 203830
Treasurer	Judith Ridley	<a href="mailto:treasurer@gosportu3a.org.uk">treasurer@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07739 026648
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 Damerell	<a href="mailto:BeaconAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk">BeaconAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	
Website Administrator	Jennifer Bellamy	<a href="mailto:WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk">WebAdmin@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	07765 500053
Speakers' Secretary	George Cantrill	<a href="mailto:speakers@gosportu3a.org.uk">speakers@gosportu3a.org.uk</a>	01329 238429