

From Liszt to Smugglers: Leiston to Dunwich Heath.

Our next 'open to all' event at The Cut will be on Tuesday 19th November at 2.30pm when there will be an illustrated talk by Richard Symes about the history of Dunwich Heath. Richard has researched the history of the Heath and will tell us what has happened there in the past 300 years during which time the Heath has been dug up, cut down and burned. Smugglers, shipwrecks, submarines, poets and artists are all part of the story. Many of us are familiar with the flora and fauna there, but Richard will tell us about a less visible aspect of the landscape.

As always there is no charge to U3A members, all others are most welcome to join us for £3.00 in advance or on the door. The Cut Café is open beforehand for tea, cake and light lunches.

September saw Andrew Quartermain give us an entertaining, musical and informative talk about the work of the Pro Corda Trust. Andrew is a pianist of international standing and the CEO of the Trust which was founded in 1989 and is based within Leiston Abbey. Pro Corda is a national music and educational charity providing tuition every week of the year in chamber and ensemble music for young musicians. Andrew explained that not only does Pro Corda run courses for some of the very best emerging young ensemble musicians from 5 to 25 years of age; the Trust also runs courses for young people with special needs; especially for those with autism, often producing positive and life changing results.

Andrew finished his time with us by playing some solo piano pieces by Liszt on The Cut's own grand piano. His performance was much enjoyed by the audience and was a likely first for a Halesworth U3A talk.

A good number of our 30 or so U3A group leaders met last month at The Angel Stables, for a sociable exchange of information and ideas over tea and cake. Several interesting proposals emerged as to how Halesworth U3A might develop for the benefit of our members. Thanks go to those attending and also to those who helped to arrange this event.

A final reminder to those U3A members who have not yet got round to paying the annual subscription. Payment was due at the end of August and the Membership Secretary looks forward to receiving your renewals. Renewal and membership application forms are available to print from the Halesworth U3A website. If you need information or paper copies of the forms please contact the Membership Secretary by email at uthreemembers@gmail.com .

We continue to welcome new members for just £15 per year for which there is free access to our monthly talks at The Cut, and an opportunity to attend our twice-yearly social events plus access to those of the many self-running interest groups with space to welcome new members. For more information about the groups and to make contact with group leaders you can visit our website, just search 'Halesworth U3A',

For those preferring to find out more about Halesworth and District U3A face to face we invite you to come and meet some of our longer standing members in the Cut Café on Friday 29th November from 11.00 until noon. You can also join then should you wish to do so.

As always, we welcome new members to join us in a wide range of activities and groups to continue to 'Live, Learn, and Laugh' while enjoying each other's company and to share each other's common skills and interests.

Martin Stevens for Halesworth and District U3A