

## **Halesworth U3A membership hits 300!**

First, we are delighted to report that for the first time our membership has reached the dizzy heights of 300.

With over 30 interest groups and our monthly talks at The Cut we have seen a steady increase in membership over recent months. This has in some ways been just a little surprising with more people now retiring from full time work a little later than a few years back. However, as some have remarked that once involved in U3A they just feel a little younger, are socially and more often also physically more active than before they became involved.

We continue to welcome new members for just £15 per year for which members get free access to our monthly talks at The Cut, an opportunity to attend our twice-yearly social events and access to many of the self-running interest groups able welcome new members.

New groups presently forming or being proposed include Scrabble, Conversational Greek and Bowls. These three hopefully fledgling groups perhaps reflecting the wide and sometimes surprising list of activities. It is in these groups that U3A members come together, to share their time, knowledge, skills and more often enjoyment with others.

More information about these will appear on our website in due course and information emailed to those members online.

Our 'open to all talk' in July saw Jenny Hand from The Munnings Art Museum give about 65 members and others an interesting pictorial talk about the famous local artist Sir Alfred Munnings and the museum in Dedham which celebrates his life and works. A number after the talk have said they plan to make a visit there sometime in the near future.

As is usual we now take a break from our monthly talks for August returning in September for a talk from the Suffolk Archaeological Service. This talk is open to the wider public and will be followed by our AGM for members, with coffee and cake to follow.

For more information you can visit our website, just search 'Halesworth U3A', or to print application forms or to make contact with us.

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