

Chair: Michele Doran
Vice Chair: Neal Goulborn

Monthly General Meetings are held: St Luke's Church, Hedge End, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30 pm

Greetings from the COMMITTEE

Welcome to your April 2022 Newsletter

First of all, I would like to thank you for your good wishes following my operation. I am now on the mend and hope to see many of you at the next General meeting.

You will all have received a letter concerning the future of Hamble Valley u3a. Whilst recuperating, I have been reflecting on the benefits of belonging to u3a that I would miss – there are many!

- Making and deepening friendships
- Working with others in a rewarding and shared endeavour
- Developing new skills. Better still developing your skills further if you already have them.
- A sense of achievement
- Fun and enjoyment
- The chance to do old things differently
- The chance to do entirely new things
- Keeping mind and body active and healthy

The pandemic has been very demanding of everyone, but Hamble Valley has kept going, providing support and encouragement to its members. General meetings with speakers on Zoom and now face to face at St Luke's; regular newsletters; Zoom coffee mornings; facilitating groups meeting via Zoom; formation of new groups; encouraging members to keep in touch with each other are amongst the things that have enabled us to move forward despite the lockdowns.

I for one, (and I am sure I am not alone,) am very grateful that our u3a has proved to be so supportive of its members during this testing time.

Please don't ignore the situation – now is the time for those of you who are able to step up and endeavour to keep your u3a alive.

Michele



CREATIVE/TECHNICAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Creative/Technical Volunteer(s) Needed

Our long serving stalwart technical and creative volunteer Brian Rossiter is standing down and we are therefore **urgently** looking to recruit some additional volunteer help to assist us in the following important areas:-

1. Production of creative material such as posters for events and the requirement for bulk printed material such as AGM documentation and membership cards. The U3A has its own laser jet printer used for these documents and some creative software is also available if you wish to use it. Much of the work is undertaken in liaison with and supported by members of the committee.
2. Assistance with the setting up and managing of the U3As audio visual equipment used at monthly general meetings and periodic other events. This will involve working as part of a small technical team who will support your integration into the team.

Whilst some knowledge of either or both these areas would be useful, what is more important is the willingness to learn, with support, and 'get stuck in'. These functions do not have to be covered by one person, as they are separate, so interest in either or both is valid.

To express interest, or for further information, please contact Neal Goulborn or you can contact any committee member.

MAY GENERAL MEETING

A Sign of the Times – Colin van Geffin

Colin takes a close and amusing look at the things we, as road users (whether as drivers, passengers, cyclists or pedestrians) may see or experience – or perhaps not even notice – on roads near and far. This talk is particularly relevant in the light of recent Highway Code 'improvements'.



NEWS from the SOCIAL CLUB

We have been working on some exciting ideas for the future, including a river trip in June and a hog roast in August. The meal organised at The Forge, Shedfield, was very well attended and we had very good feedback about the event, so we trust that other events which help members get out and about, and meet each other, will be similarly enjoyed and supported.

Unfortunately, so far the response to the visit to the Post Office in London has not been so enthusiastic. When we organised this trip before lockdown, we had a very positive response and a full coach. However, this time the response has not been so good and we have a number of spare seats. It may be that some of you have concerns that the trip is not suitable if you have difficulty in walking. I have been in touch with the post office again to clarify the facilities and have been assured that there is **a lift** and **no stairs** and you don't have to go on the train, which is quite small and may be difficult to board, but can watch a video from the platform. If you would like to reconsider coming please do get in touch.

Also if you have any family or friends who would like to come, please let me know. We would like to get a full coach if possible. The details are below:

Date: Thursday May 19th Cost: £31.50

To include coach travel, entrance to the museum, and a 15-20min underground ride along the old postal rail lines. There is a cafe at the museum, selling drinks snacks etc.

Coaches pick up at- Botley Mortimer Road Car Park at 9am (free parking)
Hedge End, outside the Barleycorn at 9.10 am

and return from the museum at 3.30pm, arriving back at approx 5pm.

Payment

1. By cheque, either by post to: Social Treasurer, Hamble Valley U3A,, made out to Hamble Valley U3A Social Fund, Ref on the back Post Office Museum.

Or: we will be taking cheques at the next and subsequent general meetings.

Please no cash.

2. By payment on line to the Hamble Valley U3A Social Fund.

Ref Post Office Museum. Please email me or let us know at a general meeting if you wish to come with your preferred pick up point and your mobile phone number.

Last date for booking is Thursday 28th April if we are not to cancel the trip, so please have another think about this very interesting day out!

Jill, Social Committee

NEWS from GROUPS

Book Club.

The Group Contact's recent recruitment campaign has been successful and the group is now meeting in person (no longer an online group).

Backgammon

The backgammon group are having a day event 10-4 on Saturday 30th April and would welcome new members.

Rummikub 3

Group members seem to have full diaries at the moment and this group has not yet restarted.

u3a Members in Action



Members of the Pickleball Group
enjoying some exercise with each
other.

