

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 March 2022 Newsletter.

As you are aware, for the last two years we reduced our membership fee from £15 to £12 for existing members, (if renewing in May), owing to the uncertainty of the situation. Any new members paid the full annual subscription of £15. This was to ensure that we could still cover our running costs – membership of Third Age Trust; the TAM magazine; the Beacon management system; payment for a storage locker for all the AV equipment, display boards and other equipment and archive files etc; stationary, printing and postage costs; purchase of the Zoom licence; and payment to speakers at our General Meetings. I am sure you will appreciate that because of reduced income our cash reserves have also been reducing.

During the whole of the pandemic, we have done everything we can to ensure that all members have been kept informed of everything that is happening within Hamble Valley u3a and u3a nationally. We have produced a regular Newsletter which has gone to every member by email or post. The website has been updated and is a source of information. We have offered and provided help and support to individual members to access Zoom. We have encouraged and supported Groups to run on Zoom where possible, and many have enjoyed this facility. We have encouraged new groups. We have managed to hold monthly General Meetings with a range of interesting and entertaining Speakers. We have offered virtual Coffee Mornings for Group Members, 'friendship' groups or ad hoc groups. And much more.

The Committee, and many individual members, have given a lot of time and effort throughout this challenging time to ensure that our u3a continues. As we come out of the worst of the pandemic, I am pleased that we are now back to holding General Meetings at St Luke's. Groups are back to meeting face-to-face, more new groups are starting up and the Social Team are planning and organising events. We are also now welcoming new members on a regular basis.

You will be receiving your renewal notification in a few weeks' time. At the 2021 AGM a motion was passed by you, the members, to increase our annual membership from £15 to £18 per annum as from May 2022. This will help to offset increasing costs and begin to rebuild our reserves for the future.

However, I must point out that there can be no Hamble Valley u3a without a Committee. This year we will be losing some Committee members and therefore we **urgently** need to recruit more members to replace those that are leaving, so that we can continue to run next year and beyond.

Please give it serious consideration, in order to assist the continuity of Hamble Valley, and get in touch if you can help.



The u3a mantra is 'for the members, by the members' – we need you to step up if you want Hamble Valley to remain in existence.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me, email me, or if you would prefer, write to me.

Michele

CREATIVE/TECHNICAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our long serving stalwart technical and creative volunteer Brian Rossiter is standing down and we are therefore 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 laserjet printer used for these documents and some creative software is also available, or your own creative software can be used. Much of the requirement is undertaken by working in liaison with 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 with a small technical team.

Whilst some knowledge of either or both these areas would be useful, what is more important is the willingness to learn 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.

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Wildlife of the Maasai Mara. - Boni Mpario

Boni is a member of the Maasai tribe and has previously given us a well-received talk on being a member of the Maasai.

NEWS from the SOCIAL CLUB

Trip to the Post Office Museum and Exhibition, London.

We are having a day's outing to the museum on **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.

Please note this trip is not suitable for people who have mobility difficulties.

Payment

1. By cheque, either by post to: Social Treasurer, Hamble Valley U3A, 26, Eddington Close, Bishops Waltham, SO 32 1LX, 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.

A/C no 15444568 Sort Code 30-13-95 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 and we have a limit on numbers of 53.

with best wishes

Jill, Social Committee

NEWS from GROUPS

MUSIC APPRECIATION is looking for new members
BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE is proving popular and the search is on for someone who knows sign language to help the group.
PETANQUE has begun and has 13 members at present
PICKLEBALL has also begun and has 11 members at present

THE ONLINE BOOK CLUB has not been meeting recently but Lesley would like to restart the group – but without the on-line bit! So if you enjoy reading and a good discussion, please contact Lesley Hobbs

BACKGAMMON: this group is having a day event 10 am – 4 pm on Saturday, 30 April, and would welcome new members.
Contact Jo Fennel

If you have any questions, or queries on any of the above, please get in touch – Groups.hvu3a@gmail.com

NEWS from NATIONAL u3a

u3a are working with Specsavers on a new series of tutorials.

The series highlights the knowledge and skills of older adults and the benefits of sharing skills between generations.

The first of the tutorials on the hub include presenter Steph McGovern, who is supporting the campaign, learning how to paint from her dad. Elsewhere on the hub, Sherburn & Villages u3a member Margaret creates a centrepiece using a shop bought bouquet and Edinburgh u3a member Judith shares the skill of laughter yoga.

Watch the first tutorials on [the Specsavers Hub now](#).

Do you have a skill that you would like to share in a future tutorial? [Get in touch](#).

Welcome to the #GenerationWOW skill share hub

From flower arranging to laughter yoga (and just about everything in-between), sit back and learn something new today, from someone with years of experience and wisdom (courtesy of Specsavers Website)