

Chair: Michele Doran  
Vice Chair: Neal Goulborn

**Monthly General Meetings are held: via Zoom  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 2.30 pm**

## NEWS from the COMMITTEE

### Welcome to your September Newsletter

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the summer weather.

I am pleased to inform you that the Committee have been busy delivering your 2021-22 membership card, complete with lanyards. If you haven't yet received yours, please be assured that it will be with you soon.



I would draw your attention to the **Afternoon Tea at Hillier's on the 9<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 (see page 4 for details)**. I hope to see some of you there.



The Social Team are also investigating possible future events – a Christmas event, Milestones Museum, Portsmouth Harbour, Bombay Sapphire, a vineyard. If you have any other ideas, they would love to hear from you. Please remember that you do not have to be on the Committee or tie yourself to a monthly commitment – we welcome ad hoc, or one-off help, whether it be a trip, event, helping out at St Luke's when we return ... you get the drift!

For instance, we are looking for volunteers to help when we return to St Luke's with setting out chairs, making tea and coffee, and meeting and greeting, and transport of equipment to and from meetings. We will be setting up a monthly rota to make it easier for people to identify dates/times which suit them to help out. Like our old Mums used to say: many hands make light work. Or: together we can create something special for all of us.

Meanwhile, our Tech team continues to work with St Luke's for the purpose of enabling hybrid meetings, possibly from November. Hybrid meetings will give everyone the choice of coming to St Luke's or attending via Zoom. It will involve purchasing some additional hardware, and a couple of practice runs. Thanks to Neal and all the team for the time and work they are putting into this.

My thanks to Sheila Richards, who has taken over from Chris Bagg as Minutes Secretary. Thank you for all you put into this role, Chris, as well as putting together our schedule of speakers over the last year. It has all been much appreciated.

I am sorry to say that with only one possible volunteer our input to the Heritage Days event is a non-starter and I have had to withdraw HVu3a from this event.

Take care  
*Michele*

**MEMBERS in ACTION – u3a PICNIC, 22 July 2021**



Good memories of our first mass meeting since COVID lockdowns began, and it could not have been a more lovely day.

Victoria Country Park looked beautiful under clear blue skies – the grass green from our recent mini-monsoons and the sea a clear, calm blue.

Approximately 40 of our members came to enjoy a relaxed chat and laugh, and celebrate our return to large group activities.

Our thanks to Lesley Hobbs, who has left for a National u3a role, and her social team for another great event. We send Lesley all best wishes for every success in her new role.



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Meanwhile, we welcome Jill Fitzgerald into the role of Social Team Leader, welcome Wendy Brown onto the Social Team and thank Trish Reynard for continuing to contribute. The Social Team would welcome some more members, either as permanent members of the team or as ad hoc assistants for one-

events.



## NEWS about GROUPS

**Parlez-vous francais?** If so, then why not join with like-minded people to share your linguistic talent? French Intermediate is full and we have started a list for a new group - French 2.

**Singles Sunday Lunches 3** Would you like a friendly lunch out on the second Sunday of the month? This group is currently inactive due to low numbers but does have existing members who would like to restart. The pubs are open - let me know if you'd like to join them.

**Musicians Group** We have a member who plays the piano. Are there any other musicians who have an instrument languishing at home and would like the motivation of playing with others (classical music).

**Knit & Natter** No special knitting skills required - just a willingness to learn whilst enjoying the company of others.

**Cycling, Amateur Radio, Collaborative Writing and Amateur Painting** (advertised in earlier 2021 newsletters) already have lists.

**Are you on any other waiting list?** I have listed *all* current New Group Lists above - please let me know if I've missed any! Are you on a waiting list for an Active Group - why not start a list for a second group?

**Do you have another interest that you would like to share?** Please contact me with details.

**Would you like to join an existing Group?**

Please see our HV Website for details of Group Activities and email me with any requests.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/hamblevalley/groups>

*Alison Baker*, Groups Coordinator

## SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Our next General Meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> September and will be on Zoom again. Brenda Sedgewick will be giving a talk entitled 'Living and Working in Sri Lanka as a Teacher after Retirement'.

Formerly known as Ceylon, Sri Lanka is a [multinational state](#), home to diverse cultures and languages. The [Sinhalese](#) are the biggest ethnic group, with the Tamils the next largest., Other long established groups include the [Moors](#), the [Burghers](#), the [Malays](#), the [Chinese](#), and the indigenous [Vedda](#). The island has had a long history of engagement with modern international groups such as the [United Nations](#) and the [Commonwealth of Nations](#).

## News from the SOCIAL TEAM



### Tea at Hillier's Garden Centre, Botley

Hamble Valley U3A invites you to afternoon tea at Hillier's Garden Centre, Botley at 2.30pm on Thursday 9th September.

We have reserved a private room and the cost is £12.50 per head payable on the day.

Meet up with old friends and take the opportunity to meet other members for a relaxing tea and chat. If you would like to join us, please respond by 5 September.

I am waiting confirmation that the cafe will provide gluten free food so if you require this and would like to come, please let me know and I will confirm with you nearer the day.

**Please reply to:** [jillian\\_fitzgerald@hotmail.com](mailto:jillian_fitzgerald@hotmail.com) OR. Tel/text: 97903 140719

Our team has lost some members over lockdown, so we would welcome help from you, the members. Is there somewhere special you would like to go? Or do? Let us know! If you will additionally help put this suggestion together, definitely let us know this (but don't hesitate to put ideas forward, if not!). We will welcome whatever participation you are prepared to offer. *Jill*

## MEMBERS' SECTION

A member has let Michele know that Superdrug are collecting empty medicine blister packs for recycling. Proceeds go to Marie Curie Cancer Trust.

### Afghanistan Emergency **Jenni Bevis-Lacey**

Many of you will be aware of the desperate plight of the evacuees from Afghanistan and will want to do something to help.

*One Community* is a charity working with Eastleigh Borough Council. If you would like to help with any form of donation, they ask that you send them:

- Your Name and contact details-
- Type of donation – whether it's clothes, if so what size? Bedding- what type? Toys- need to be new Etc.

(Please note donations need to be new or nearly new)

You can email this information to [info@1community.org.uk](mailto:info@1community.org.uk) or call 023 8090 2400

If your donation is needed, *One Community* will come back to you. They have adopted this approach because many first donations were, sadly, not suitable and the charity does not have the staff to sort through and dispose of them.

Southampton has a similar scheme, under the name *Southampton Action Group* (see Facebook page).