



**HARPENDEN UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE  
(U3A)**

**HAVE YOUR DAYS OF FULL EMPLOYMENT ENDED AND ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO PURSUE INTERESTS AND SHARE EXPERIENCES IN CONVIVIAL COMPANIONSHIP?**

**THEN THE U3A, BRITAIN'S FASTEST GROWING ACTIVITY-BASED ORGANISATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE, MAY BE FOR YOU.**

The Harpenden U3A arranges a fortnightly pattern of General Meetings on alternate Thursday afternoon at the Harpenden Trust Hall, Southdown, opposite the Plough and Harrow, for which a separate programme is available for each of the three terms of the year. Within that framework, the U3A organises a wide range of Interest Groups for its members.

**PROGRAMME OF INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES**

**ART APPRECIATION**

Every 4/5 weeks on Wednesday afternoon/member's houses two artists chosen for friendly discussion; members contribute accordingly with knowledge and/or reproductions. Light refreshments usually. No charge.

**BUS PASS TRIPS**

Well-thought out trips organised roughly on monthly basis. Details are advised at general meetings or on line (or by phone, by arrangement)

**CURRENT AFFAIRS**

Once a month on Monday morning 10.30 in Southdown Methodist Centre lounge energetic discussion of issues of the day with members taking turns in chairing. Coffee available. Small charge for hall hire.

## **FAMILY HISTORY**

Second Wednesday of the month 10.00 for 10.30 in Southdown Methodist Centre lounge. Help for basic beginners in fascinating research into family records moving on to more advanced matters. Small charge for hall hire. Coffee available.

## **GARDENING**

As arranged. This cheery group meets as planned at one another's houses/gardens or arranges visits to garden centres, etc. Refreshments available. No charge

## **GENERAL SCIENCE**

As arranged. A chance to review and discuss scientific development, the topics to extend to suit members. No charge.

## **HISTORY**

Meeting three times a term at monthly intervals in the Southdown Methodist Centre lounge; Wednesday at 11.00. This very popular group listens to and/or joins in discussions led by member's presentations on a range of topics from ancient to modern. Coffee available from 10,30. Termly charge of £4.00 for hall hire

## **LOCAL HISTORY**

Discovering together the interesting stories of life and events in by-gone Harpenden and district with talks, discussions and visits. No charge.

## **MAHJONG**

Weekly meeting Wednesday 2.00 hosted by members, playing this intriguing game to British U3A Rules adapted.

## **MUSIC APPRECIATION**

Meets regularly in in members' homes: host member provides his/her choice of music, leading to an entertainingly wide selection of items from classical to jazz. No charge.

## **NEEDLECRAFT**

Twice a month as arranged in members' homes; enjoyable work of all levels of skill on tapestry, cross-stitch, knitting etc – everyone does 'their own thing', relishing and benefiting from the good company. No charge.

## **PLAY READING**

Meets regularly in members' homes as arranged to sit and read and discuss plays, with parts shared fairly over the meetings, all leading to a lively session. £3 collected occasionally to pay for play set hire.

## **POETRY APPRECIATION**

First Tuesday of each month at 2.00 in member's homes. A poet or theme is chosen each session and members contribute relevantly in this convivial group. No charge.

## **READING FOR PLEASURE**

Monthly as arranged in member's homes. With the help of copies from the County Library this busy group enjoys discussing a broad range of biographies and autobiographies and classical and current fiction. Light refreshments. No charge.

## **SINGING FOR PLEASURE**

Fortnightly Thursday afternoons, alternating with the Thursday general meeting in the Harpenden Trust Hall. This vivacious group has grown strongly, tackling all manner of material. No need to be able to read music; anyone with a love of music would be welcome. Small charge for hall hire.

## **STROLLERS**

Weekly Saturday 10.15 for 1030 at pub car park as arranged. These doughty souls take a lovely countryside slow-paced walk (and talk) arriving back at the chosen pub at noon for a reviving lunch.

## **OCCASIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL MEMBERS**

Include theatre visits, pub lunches, outings and help with use of external IT services.

## **FUTURE GROUPS**

We anticipate expanding the interest groups on offer. Among suggested groups are French Conversation, Natural History, Wine Appreciation, Bridge, Whist, and Recorder Playing. If you might be interested in one of these or indeed in any other subject, please contact us.

## **JOINING THE U3A**

Membership offers entry to interest groups, the occasional activities and attendance at the fortnightly general meetings which alternate between talks given by a guest speaker and presentations provided by our own members. Membership of an Interest Group is, of course, dependent on one being a paid-up member of the Harpenden U3A. The annual subscription is likely to be £18.00 for the year, subject to review at the October AGM. The subscription is inclusive of membership of the national U3A body, the Third Age Trust, which carries certain benefits including insurance and the possibility of getting involved in regional and national activities.

To join or to seek further enquiries about/be put in contact with Interest Groups, get in touch with our Membership Secretary:

*Tel. 01582 460403*

[harpdenu3a@outlook.com](mailto:harpdenu3a@outlook.com)

or just turn up at one of our fortnightly Thursday meetings at 1.45 for a 2.15 start

**COME AND ENJOY THE U3A EXPERIENCE**