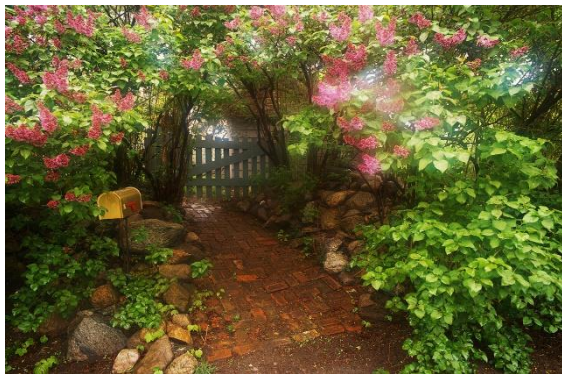


## HASLEMERE MEMBERS NEWSLETTER - JULY 2023

Summer is clearly with us now and some Groups will be taking a well-earned break. However, between now and 4th September, when we hold our Enrolment Day, why not take the opportunity to think about new activities and come and see what's on offer. I'm delighted to say that we have had some volunteers come forward to help with teas and coffee at our events at Haslemere Hall, but we can always do with more - especially someone to co-ordinate the Volunteers' Rota.

***Yours ever, Jock***

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### **GARDEN GROUP VISIT – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Meet up at 2.30pm**

The next visit will be to Selhurst Park, Halnaker, which is eight miles south of Petworth on the A285. Group Members will explore the varied gardens surrounding a beautiful Georgian flint house (not open), approached by a chestnut avenue. The flint walled garden has a mature 160ft herbaceous

border with unusual planting along with rose, hellebore and hydrangea beds. There is also a pool garden with exotic palms and grasses divided from a formal knot and a herb garden, together with a kitchen and walled fruit garden. Cost: £11.00 to include tea/coffee and cake!

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO MILFORD U3A!**



Four local inter-society u3a teams of six – Liphook, Midhurst, Milford and Haslemere – took part in a fun and stimulating General Knowledge Quiz Night recently, hosted by our fabulous Quizmaster, Colin Sherlock and held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall off Weydown Road in Haslemere. Our brains underwent a full workout and the final winner was Milford u3a! (Haslemere lost by four points – grrrrrr!!) There will be another Haslemere u3a Quiz Night later on this year – so come and join us and Let's Get Quizzical!

**DON'T MISS OUT!!** There are only **12** tickets left for the fabulous **JOHN RUTTER CAROL CONCERT** at the glorious Royal Albert Hall on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December!** We leave Haslemere at 11.00am, arriving in London for lunch prior to the Concert - which starts at 3.00pm and finishes around 5.30pm. Tickets are **£56pp**. Interested? Contact Don Stacey, the Excursions Secretary via the u3a website!

## **THE u3a BLS GROUP IS LITERALLY A LIFESAVER!**



***Dr. David Lee, u3a Committee Member and founder of the Basic Life Support courses held in the Methodist Church Hall, Weyhill, recounts an astonishing life experience.....***

“About two weeks ago I met a friend who said he owed me a big favour. He was on the 8th green of his local golf course when his golf partner collapsed. Having

attended one of my u3a BLS/First Aid training courses, my friend remembered exactly what to do and having called for help, he resuscitated his partner alone for about 15 minutes before someone else came along to help. Together they continued to resuscitate for about another 15 minutes before the ambulance arrived. The paramedics defibrillated the patient and his heart restarted. He was airlifted to St George's in London and went home two weeks ago....**BUT**, he would never have survived if my friend had not attended one of the u3a BLS courses.

I have now trained over 700 people locally, including about 200 primary school children - all **FREE** of charge. Why not come and attend the next free BLS training course - you never know when **YOU** might be able to save a life.” ***Details of the next BLS course will be issued soon.***

## **NEWS OF MEMBERS! A very warm u3a welcome to:**

***Tracey Edwards, Claire Coxwell, Michael Clark, Richard Mason and Patra Wells***

## **FABULOUS NEW ACTIVITY GROUPS – SIGN UP AND GET INVOLVED!**

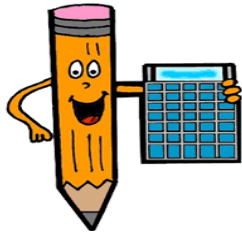


### **ITALIAN CONVERSATION – with Letizia Mason**

This is a group for people interested in practising their Italian Conversation at intermediate and advanced levels. It is also for those who have studied Italian in the past and love the language - but feel they have forgotten it all - you may be surprised at how much you remember!

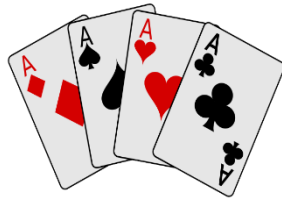
Letizia was born and grew up in Rome - although she has been living in the UK for the last 43 years. Being in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere will help you to develop from where you are in your learning and for this reason the group will be held in her home in Haslemere. The Group will meet from 10.30am to 12.00 on the second and fourth Fridays of the month, commencing at a date to be agreed. The aim of the group will be to share a common interest and have an enjoyable time; the format will be established together at the first meeting. To find out more please contact Letizia via the Groups Co-ordinator on the u3a website.

## **MATHS FOR FUN – with Michael Bawtree**



For many of us, once we have left school, life becomes so busy we give very little thought to this intriguing subject. Mathematics is (first and foremost) a language and, like music, a truly beautiful and elegant one! This new group – excluding school holidays - will meet in the Bay Room at the Methodist Church Hall in Haslemere on alternate Thursdays from 10.30-12.00. Some months will have three classes, but most will have two and the first session will be on

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September. You will need to bring – a pad of A4 1cm or 7mm squared paper, a pencil, rubber, biro, protractor, ruler, compass(es) and a Scientific Calculator (Casio fx-85GTX, Amazon £12) So, if you would like to extend or revisit Mathematics please contact Michael via the website – click on the icon on the far right!



### **BRIDGE-BEGINNERS** Ever thought of trying Bridge out?

Bridge for Beginners starts in September - every Wednesday in school term (no half term breaks) 2.00-3.30pm at The Methodist Church in Weyhill @ £2.00 per session. Why not come along to see if this is for you? Bridge keeps the brain's grey matter working and you can enjoy meeting new people in a relaxed environment. It IS possible to learn a new card game at any age

and you don't have to bring a partner! Contact Beryl Bishop via the u3a website.

**ANYONE FOR MAHJONG?** Mahjong is a highly social, tile-based game involving 4 players. The game involves strategy and memory and some governments in the Far East such as Singapore, encourage their senior citizens to take up this game. The basic game is not difficult to learn and Diana Monger is willing to teach and host the game sessions at her home in Fernhurst. Anyone interested or have further questions, please contact Diana via the Groups Co-ordinator on the website.

## **LAWN BOWLS OR COUNTRY DANCING – OR BOTH?!!**



Members enjoyed a new four-session course at **Haslemere Bowls Club** recently which was great fun. If you would like to join the Club and learn how to play, please contact Judy Rix via Introduction to Bowls on the u3a website. The **Country Dance** group at the Haslemere Hall annexe has proved very popular – contact Sheelagh Collyer on the website to join the group. Have fun y'all – Yee Ha!



## **U3A UKULELE GROUP – Nine years and still going strong!**



It all started at a pub lunch after a U3A amble in 2014, when three ladies (one musical, two definitely not!) decided to purchase ukuleles and get together every fortnight in their houses to learn a few chords, strum, sing - and laugh a lot! The group then grew rapidly and now has a Membership of around 20! They meet at Camelsdale Church Hall each Wednesday evening, 5.30-7pm (term dates on the web page) and, typically, have at least

12 members at any one session. The aim is to have fun, whilst developing skills and repertoire - although they have on occasions, played for open gardens, nursing homes, the Stroke Club etc. The Group's latest concert was this June in Fernhurst Village Hall to a delighted - and delightful - audience who sang along - followed by a well-earned, delicious cream tea.

This is a very friendly group and they have welcomed two newcomers this term. If you are a complete beginner, worry not! They will lend you a ukulele for a few sessions and give you some one-to-one coaching each week and, if you decide this is an activity for you, they can source a discounted package of a ukulele, music stand and tuner for around £50 from Chamberlains, now located at Kings Road Industrial Estate. There is a small attendance fee to help with the cost of room hire. Their meetings start again on Wednesday 13 September 2023, although they are having a few summer sessions in members' gardens over the Summer (contact via the webpage for details if you are interested). If you would like to join this group, or give it a try, please contact Peter Culwick on the Ukulele Group page on the website.

## **INSPIRATIONAL VISIT TO THE JAMIA AHMADIYYA CENTRE**



Twenty-seven members of the Haslemere U3A Local History group recently spent a fascinating morning as guests of the staff and students at the Jamia Ahmadiyya Centre at Branksome Place on Hindhead Hill.

Over the years the Grade II listed property, originally built in 1901 for a private owner, has served as a school, a hotel and a training and conference centre. It now houses 128 students

who, over seven years, will graduate as missionaries of the Muslim community serving in various capacities all over the World. The Local History group were shown the classrooms, gyms and students' dormitories as well as the library, which holds thousands of books - including many on comparative religions - and a special room with rare copies of the Bible and the Koran which proved most interesting. The Group were spoilt rotten with a delicious traditional buffet lunch and enjoyed interesting conversations with the charming young male students who were most hospitable and quite a few of them get involved in the local community and have become parish councillors or volunteer help in centres for the elderly.



## **A “BIG” BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT THE SOLO LUNCH CLUB!**

There was a real surprise in store for Barbara Reed, who has organised the u3a Sunday for Solos Lunch Club for many years. On the cusp of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Group – which now numbers over twenty at the monthly gatherings – made a special presentation to celebrate the occasion. Jean Evans, who has been with the group almost since the start, gave Barbara a silk scarf, a voucher for a local restaurant and a large bunch of flowers on behalf of other Club members.

This was in appreciation of all the work she does in collecting names and menu choices for each of the lunches on the last Sunday of the month.

For the past couple of years, the group has been meeting at the Mill Tavern in Shottermill and amongst the current members are several other 90-year-olds and one lovely lady who is almost 102! It is a very friendly group who much enjoy the jolly company as well the scrumptious Sunday Roasts!



## **COOKING FOR MEN CROWN THEIR NEW LEADER!**

At their first cooking session since the Coronation of King Charles III, this unconventional – and some might say ever so slightly eccentric! - group of wannabe chefs decided that they should have their own Coronation event, to celebrate the passing of the reins to their new Group Leader, Michael Foster. If you want to read, see and (mostly) hear

what they get up to - take a look at <https://u3asites.org.uk/haslemere/page/103269>, which has a number of interesting/humorous links, including one to the video of the Coronation! Chapeau, les Bons Viveurs!

## **CLASSIC ENCOUNTERS!**



Membership Secretary, Judith Forde, enjoyed a great day out manning the u3a stall with the help of other u3a Members, at The Classic Car Show in Haslemere. “We had a steady stream of visitors to our stall throughout the day expressing their interest in the society and one very important member of Haslemere u3a - Jerome Davidson, the new Town Mayor!” said Judith. “Let’s hope he will still have ‘time on his hands’ this year to come along to our groups! The vintage cars were gorgeous looking and so much better than modern car design in my personal opinion - and yes, I want the blue one!”



## **GROUP LEADERS ANNUAL PARTY!**



The Haslemere u3a recently held a lovely get together at The Link for its hard-working Group leaders and Organisers. Wine flowed, food was consumed and lots of chat and story-sharing took place. Groups are the lifeblood of our u3a and we are always grateful to people who offer to lead and organise a Group. Here are a few photos of the festivities, together with some Committee Members prepping the grub, led by The Groups Co-ordinator and Masterchef, Lorna Wright!

**GROUP PICTURES NEEDED** We always need Group photos for our Facebook page (and for the Newsletter too!) to promote Members having fun and enjoying u3a activities. Please email these to Judith, our Social Media Co-ordinator, via our website contact page. Thank you. Published by Haslemere u3a, Haslemere Hall, Bridge Road, Haslemere GU27 2AS. Website: [www.u3a.org.uk/haslemere](http://www.u3a.org.uk/haslemere) An independent registered charity no: 1053049





