

HASLEMERE MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear All,

We begin another u3a term with a busy programme of events leading towards December. Amongst other things there is the **Enrolment Day on Monday 4th September from 11.00am-1.00pm** (more info below), a New Members Coffee Morning on **Tuesday 26th September, from 10.00-12.00** in the Haslemere Hall Annexe, our hugely popular Quiz Nights (dates to be confirmed) and, of course, the annual Christmas Party!

We still need volunteers to help with teas and coffees at our monthly events - beginning with Enrolment Day, plus we are looking for a Group Leader to give a five-minute talk about their particular group prior to the Speaker Meeting on Monday, 9th October. There is also still a vacancy for a u3a Committee Secretary to take over after the AGM in November. Interested? Please contact either me or our current Secretary, Mandy Blanks via the website.

Yours ever, Jock



COME ALONG TO THE U3A ENROLMENT DAY AND MEET NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS - PLUS GROUP LEADERS!

Current u3a memberships expired on 31st August. If you haven't yet renewed your Membership, could we ask you to renew **before September 4th's Enrolment Day** – as this will make your poor Membership Secretary's life a lot easier!! We can

then update our records effectively and concentrate on new Members joining at the **u3a Enrolment Day, Monday 4th September from 11.00am – 1.00pm at Haslemere Hall**. The Membership fee for 2023/24 is £10.00 per Member.

Previous members who did not renew in 2022/23 will need to complete an Application Form. If you do not know your Membership number, please contact the Membership Secretary via the website.

The **RENEW** button on the u3a website is well and truly active but please click on this link to watch a video about the changes to the Beacon login <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyL8kayX5hA>

Of course, **ALL** u3a members are welcome to join us on Enrolment Day, whether or not they have already renewed. It's a good opportunity to meet and socialize with other members, see at first hand all the various activity and interest groups available, meet Group Leaders personally and explore some of the new u3a Groups on offer and, more importantly..... **Learn, Laugh and Live!**

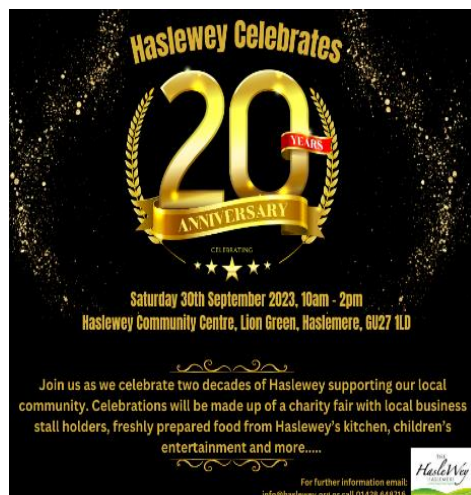
UP AND COMING U3A RECRUITMENT STALLS



Roll up, roll up, Summer's not over yet! Haslemere u3a will be represented at this year's glorious Summer Fete at Beacon Hill on **Saturday, 9th September from 12.30 – 5pm**. Do come along and visit us at our blue and yellow stall, even if you are already a u3a Member – we'd love to see you!

There will be lots of other interesting stalls to see and plenty of food and drink to be enjoyed. Please note that the fete this year will be held at the British Royal Legion Club, Beacon Hill Road - not the recreation ground as before. We have a couple of volunteer u3a members

already helping, but if you fancy giving us a hand with an hour or two community service on our stall then please get in touch with Beryl Bishop via the u3a website. Hope to see you there!



The delightful Haslewey Community Centre, opposite Lion Green, is celebrating its 20th Anniversary with a very special Open Day Fayre on **Saturday 30th September from 10.00am-2.00pm** and we have booked a stall to show the local community what the Haslemere u3a is all about and encourage new members!

This fabulous event will be officially opened by Haslemere Mayor, Jerome Davidson and introduced by Haslemere's Town Crier, Christian Ashdown. The Mayor of Waverley, Penny Rivers will also be attending. The Haslewey team will be serving an array of delicious freshly prepared

cakes, baked savouries and homemade chutneys from the legendary Haslewey Cafe together with a traditional Barbeque – kindly sponsored by Haslemere Tesco - plus fantastic LIVE music! The ever-popular Dylan's Ice Cream Van will also be visiting. There will also be some exciting children's activities together with Dance Displays from the weekly Haslewey classes. Sounds like a good day out!

TRY A TASTER SHOOTING SESSION AT BISLEY!



Ever wondered if you could still shoot as well as you did in your youth? Do you wonder if those crack skills you demonstrated at the fun fair could translate to a rifle range? The National Small-Bore Rifle Association is offering taster sessions at the Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley.

Running on **Wednesday 20th September**, there is either a 10am or 2pm slot at Bisley. Each 90-minute session will offer the opportunity to use either an air rifle or live fire at their indoor ranges. You will receive safety instructions and be guided through the use of your weapon by experienced instructors with hints and tips on how to hit that bull every time. The cost is £35 per person which includes hire of guns, all ammo and targets, insurance and membership to the NSRA for the day. Interested?? Please book your place by **Monday 10th September** by contacting Group Leader, Lizzie McDonnell via the u3a website.

And if you get the bug..... Haslemere u3a has its own Target Shooting Group (see the u3a website) who will be most happy to welcome you on board. We shoot on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month (except where holidays or Centre closure interferes) for the same introductory price.



**EPIC SEPTEMBER SPEAKER –
MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER @
2.00PM – HASLEMERE HALL.**

**Tony Harris – The Titanic
Conspiracy**

The charismatic Tony Harris will deliver a talk on the sinking of RMS Titanic in April 1912. The British passenger liner, operated by the White Star Line, sank in the North Atlantic after striking an iceberg during her maiden voyage from

Southampton to New York City. It remains the deadliest peacetime sinking of a single ship up to that time. This subject has been given recent prominence by the tragic loss of all five men aboard the submersible, which had been diving over the wreck of the Titanic.

Tony spoke to the u3a on Zoom during the Pandemic, delivering a memorable talk on Henry VIII and was fully dressed for the part! His aim is to help people learn and laugh and his Zoom lecture fully met that ambition with several u3a Members clamouring for a return appearance....And here he is!

U3a Members and guests/non-Members are always very welcome at these free of charge monthly talks and non-Members can come to any two meetings before joining the Haslemere u3a. Tea and biscuits are also provided!



CHILLAXING AFTER CYCLING!!!

Members of Cycling for Fun enjoyed an enjoyable recent ride using the usual mixture of conventional and electric bikes, on a familiar route from Grayswood Green to Hambledon, Loxhill and Dunsfold, pausing for conversation and hot drinks at the welcoming Village Shop there, before returning via Chiddingfold Green and Prestwick Lane. This included a little off-tarmac cycling across Burgate Farm. A fun day out!

NEWS OF MEMBERS

RIP - DAVID JEFFERS

Huge condolences to the family of David Jeffers, who sadly passed away recently. David was, by profession, an engineer in the electricity supply industry but was also a man of wide intellectual interests and copious historical knowledge, combined with an engaging joie de vivre.

When he retired, he swore he would "never go to another meeting", saying he "wouldn't mind doing something useful like putting up shelves". In fact, both the Dementia Day Care Centre (now the Hunter Centre) and Haslewey Community Centre took him up on that offer and the shelves he put up and cupboards he made to measure are still in use in both venues! He learned his woodworking skills from his father who was foreman at Hillyards Yacht Builders on the Arun at Littlehampton. David also assisted in some of Haslemere Museum's educational events alongside Maggie Monteath - then their education officer - and very much relished donning the white beard and black wellies to share the role of acting Father Christmas to meet the child visitors to the Grotto. However, he never managed to stick to the "no meetings" resolve, as he was eventually lured into becoming a member of the Haslemere Housing Association management team and oversaw changes to their power supply arrangements.

His main involvement with Haslemere U3A was, for several years, as an enthusiastic member of Joe McDonald's Latin group where he was prone to introduce interesting, but not-strictly-on-the-syllabus historical incidents he found intriguing. He also enjoyed being part of the Thursday Lunch Group, usually its sole representative of the male sex! His funeral will take place at **11.15 am on 14 September at Guildford Crematorium and afterwards at the Coppa Club - formerly The Georgian Hotel - in Haslemere.** Members of the above groups are cordially invited to join his wife, four children and 8 grandchildren to celebrate his extraordinary life.

SHEEN BOTANICAL LABELS – THE END OF AN ERA....BUT WITH FOND MEMORIES OF THE LATE QUEEN



U3a Members, Christopher and Carmen Ashton-Jones have sold their well-known Haslemere business, Sheen Botanical Labels to Plant Sciences Ltd, which is based in Moddershall, Staffordshire. They have owned and run their business in College Hill, Haslemere for over twenty-one years and, during that time, have built up and developed an impressive list of clients, mostly in the UK but also across Europe.

Christopher said 'It is with sadness that Carmen and I have decided to sell our business. It has been such an important part of our lives and the fact that Sheen Botanicals has been such a success is down to the support we have had from the wonderful community in Haslemere, our membership of the Royal Warrant Holders Association and its local Association in Windsor, the horticultural community and, of course, our clients. Now we have a little more time on our hands, we hope to get more involved with all the amazing Haslemere u3a groups and activities!!'

NEW MEMBERS! A very warm u3a welcome to:

Adriana Morris, Gill Jones, Roy Taylor, June Cass, Geoffrey Hobbs, David Clark, Judie Reading, Kristina Close, Maureen Pavey, Chris and Rita Tinney, Roy Tubbs, Philippa Hill, Frances Boddington, Myra Cunningham-Christie, Alan Davidson

CARE IN HASLEMERE NEEDS YOU!

Care in Haslemere is a registered charity which provides a neighbourly service to people in need in Haslemere and surrounding villages. Their main function, at present, is to transport clients to medical appointments at GP surgeries and local hospitals. Volunteer drivers collect clients from their homes, take them to their appointments, wait for them and then drive them back home. This wonderful Community organisation needs new volunteers to boost their numbers so, if you are able to give an hour or two of your time to suit you, they would really love to hear from you! Clients make a suggested donation for their journeys and, in turn, pay the voluntary drivers 45p per mile. Interested? Call 01428 652505 or email office@careinhaslemere.org.uk For more information go to the website www.careinhaslemere.org.uk

THIRD AGE MATTERS MAGAZINE

Third Age Matters (TAM) is a magazine produced by the u3a Trust for u3a members. It is published five times a year and posted direct to members' homes. The magazine is packed with stories about Members and u3a activities, plus celebrity interviews and features on technology, recipes, travel, competitions and a lively and popular letters section.

You would have been asked if you wished to receive TAM when you filled out your membership form.... However, if you have not been receiving the magazine and would like to, please notify Judith Forde, the Membership Secretary via the U3a website so that your contact details can be added to the mailing list.

SOCIAL CLIP BADGES FOR MEMBERS

Some Members will have seen or received a small social clip badge at various Group meetings or events. They are for any Member who wants one and wearing one is, of course, *completely optional!* The idea is for Members to wear them at Group meetings where they might not know everyone, as well as events such as the AGM, Speakers Meetings, Quizzes, Enrolment Day, Prosecco Party etc. They are very effective icebreakers, making it easier to recognise and welcome other Members, particularly those who don't come to many meetings and events – not to mention helping all of us to remember people's names!

Diana Serman, the Accommodation Secretary, has a file with badges already made up and she will bring them to all such meetings. She hopes Members will tell her, ideally by email via the website, if they would like a badge for themselves and it should be ready for them to collect at the next u3a event.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

We are always very interested to hear about Members' news - perhaps unique memories of their past or occasions to be cherished. If you would like to share your news or something special in your life, please email publicity@haslemereu3a.co.uk

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.

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