

HASLEMERE MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

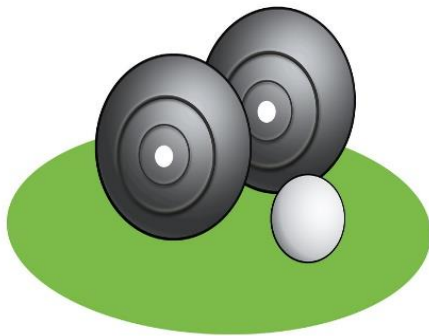
APRIL 2023

Welcome to our April Newsletter which is full of interesting information on some of our current activity groups, talks and excursions.

We think it would be good for our groups to be better known and in more detail, so, from our May Speaker meeting onwards, a Group Leader will give a five-minute talk about their particular group. To get the ball rolling, I will give the first talk on *Book Group 3 – Beyond Fiction*. To promote your group, especially if you have current vacancies, please contact either myself or Lorna Wright, Groups Co-ordinator via the u3a website. Thank you.

Yours ever, Jock.

LEARN TO PLAY LAWN BOWLS!



What are your images of playing lawn bowls? White pleated skirts or trews, panama hats and cucumber sandwiches for tea? NOPE! It is a very friendly game played by people of all ages and we hardly ever play 'in whites!' For practice sessions, just arrive in suitable casual clothing but make sure you're wearing soft, flat soled shoes. The after-game teas are not an elaborate affair - just a cuppa, a piece of cake and the occasional sausage roll!

Why not come and give it a try at the new U3A introductory sessions being held at Haslemere Bowls Club, near to Haslemere Tennis Club, on THURSDAY 27 APRIL and 4, 11 and 18 MAY from 2.30-4.00pm, with the opportunity to socialise afterwards in the Clubhouse. This is a 4-week course for beginners as an introduction to the game and it is intended that participants commit to attend most of the sessions and equipment will be available to borrow. There will be a small charge - £2/£3.00 per weekly session - depending on numbers attending, for the use of the green. For more details and to secure your place, please go to the Introduction to Bowls page on the u3a website.

NEW MEMBERS! A warm u3a welcome to:

Ken Baker, Carole Baker, David Hutton and Anthony Ighodaru



VOLUNTEER STEWARDS NEEDED FOR THE CORONATION PROCESSION!

The Haslemere Festival will be inviting people of Haslemere and surrounding villages to join together on Bank Holiday Monday, May 8th to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Haslemere will be festooned with colourful bunting and will be flying Union and Commonwealth flags on lamp posts from the top of the High Street to Junction Place. There will be two special Coronation Arches, one across the High Street and another across Wey Hill, so the scene will be set for a right Royal celebration – fit for a King!

The Festival will also be organising a Carnival Procession to proceed from the High Lane Estate to Lion Green, starting from 1.30pm and people will be asked to assemble at the Green alongside Weycombe Road on the High Lane estate, adjacent to the Community Centre, from 12:30 pm. It is from this time that Volunteer Stewards need to be available to help assemble the procession, walk alongside it and be prominent at a number of road junctions along the route to control the traffic.

All Coronation Volunteers will receive a full briefing of the role, details of their responsibilities and Health & Safety implications. The procession will arrive at Lion Green between 2:30 – 2:45 pm and at that point, the Volunteer Procession Stewards will be able to stand down and enjoy the rest of the afternoon.

On Lion Green, there will be a classic 'Village Fete' atmosphere full of activities, a children's fun fair, hot food stalls, the Coronation Bar and loads of lovely live music. The evening will finish with a spectacular laser light show - a first for Haslemere! – which will light up the sky magnificently.

Volunteer Stewards on Lion Green will have a two-hour slot where they will be able to advise the public as to what is happening, look out for and report any H&S implications and generally ensure that any issues which might occur are reported to the Haslemere Festival Management Team. High Vis jackets and two-way radios will be made available. A full briefing will be given prior to any steward coming on duty and a St John Ambulance will be available on-site at all times.

For more information or to sign up to Volunteer on the day, please contact u3a Member, Ken Griffiths - ken@haslemere.com



CARDS FOR FUN!

This very friendly group meet at 2pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Wesley Room at the Wey Hill Methodist Church, where they can use the newly refurbished social area and kitchen. The attendance fee is £2.00 and you would be most welcome to come and 'give it a try.' The Group encourage members to share games they know - currently various versions of Rummy, Sevens, Knock-out Whist, etc and are happy to help anyone who

struggles at first. New card game ideas would be very welcome too! If you are interested, please go to the Cards for Fun page on the website.

U3A MAY SPEAKER – A BRITISH SUBMARINE AT WAR

Monday 15th May at 2.00pm. Haslemere Hall.

The Haslemere u3a's May Speaker is Francis Dickinson, whose grandfather was Lieutenant Commander Edward Tomkinson DSO RN, the commanding officer of submarine HMS Urge, which left the UK for Malta during the Second World War. Following 20 successful war patrols against the enemy under Lieutenant-Commander Tomkinson, the submarine was sadly lost on active service in 1942.

Francis Dickinson was also one of the leaders of Project Spur, a maritime archaeology search project formed with the University of Malta in 2017 to search for the wreck of HMS Urge. In 2019, the submarine's wreck was discovered, enabling the full story of a gallant ship's company to be told. Francis subsequently commissioned a memorial to HMS Urge which was unveiled in 2022. He has a background in the legal profession and is a Trustee of the Friends of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum.

U3a Members and guests/non-Members are 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!

TRIP TO WIMBLEDON LAWN TENNIS CLUB – Monday 22nd May



Are you a tennis fan? Do you glue yourself to the television every Summer when Wimbledon is on? Why not join us on a trip to Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Club and enjoy a 90-minute tour, taking you to all the iconic spots such as Centre Court, as well as the behind the scenes Press Writers Room, Members Tea Lawn, the No 1 Court and other well-known areas. After the tour, you can explore the Museum at your leisure and catering facilities are available on site for lunch. The coach will leave Haslemere circa 10.00am and Wimbledon at around 3.00pm for the journey back. The cost of the trip is £32pp. Interested? Please contact Don Stacey on the Events Page. ***Date for your diary: The annual John Rutter Carol Concert excursion to The Royal Albert Hall is Wednesday 6th December. Don't miss out - contact Don for more details!***



AND TALKING OF TENNIS.... Haslemere's u3a Tennis Group meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00-4.00pm, all year long – weather permitting - however, there is no obligation to stay for the full two hours or commit to every week! Members have access to two courts allocated by Haslemere Tennis Club and the attendance fee is just £1.50. It's a friendly group playing mostly doubles, all abilities are welcome and it's a great way to improve your game!

Tennis balls are provided so just bring your racquet, refreshments and remember to wear layers! For more information, go to the Tennis page on the website.

DISCOVERING CATHEDRALS



Huge thanks to Haslemere resident and u3a Member, David Greenwood, for stepping in as our March speaker at Haslemere Hall at the last minute – unfortunately our scheduled speaker, Philip Caine (Barrow to Bagdad and Back) was snowed in oop North and unable to travel to join us.

A member of the Haslemere Thespians and Players, David also has a strong interest in ecclesiastical architecture. His fascinating and engaging talk was about the project he set himself to visit all 42 cathedrals in England, lighting a candle in each for his late wife, Frances and one to thank Macmillan Cancer Support who provided her with such wonderful care.

"Our cathedrals are arguably our greatest national treasure and are among some of the finest buildings in the world," said David. "They all boast glorious architectural features, exciting and unique treasures, and vivid history - in many cases going back nearly a thousand years and are centres of excellence for music and art."

"I'm often asked to name my favourite Cathedral – and that is a huge struggle as they are all so incredible in many ways. I am, however, deeply moved by Coventry Cathedral, for its situation, its vision, its power, its art and its inspirational story of renewal and resurrection. Nowhere else in my experience shows the potential power of Forgiveness, Reconciliation, Faith, Hope and Love and if there is one picture that sums up Power and Glory in stone, it is the central pillar of the Chapter House at Wells Cathedral pictured above."

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 a memory of 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. Published by Haslemere u3a, Haslemere Hall, Bridge Road, Haslemere GU27 2AS. Website: www.u3a.org.uk/haslemere An independent registered charity no: 1053049

