

Heathfield & District u3a



JANUARY 2024 NEWS

A Happy New Year to all our members

Next Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 16th January 2024

Venue: Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield TN21 0XG

Doors open 2.00pm

“Mud, Mirrors and Threads” with Joanna Hall



This colourful talk will brighten up the winter months. A chance to take a close look at Jo’s personal collection of Indian textiles and embroideries, whilst finding out how, where and by whom they are made. Imagine Rajasthan through vivid stories of the textile craftspeople that Jo has worked with for almost three decades.

Also in our calendar is our monthly coffee morning at the Co-op.

Venue: Co-op Café, 110 High Street, Heathfield, TN21 8JD

Next session: Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 10.30am till midday



Coffee mornings take place on the first Wednesday in the month, from 10.30am until 12.00 noon. Come and have a chat with our members, both old and new, meet some of our Committee members and find out about Heathfield & District u3a and our 40+ groups. If you are not yet a member, discover how to join, or just come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat! For further information, please contact Jamie at: jamienicholls215@aol.com or Kay at: kaynicholls@aol.com.

Forthcoming meetings

Barbara Hibbart is our Speaker Co-ordinator, together with Val Hodgson who is assisting her. If you have any ideas regarding future speakers, or indeed, if you would like to give a talk, do please get in touch with Barbara at: barbara@barbarahibbartcoaching.co.uk or Val at: groupsu3a@outlook.com.

Speakers coming up...

Tuesday 20th February – St Wilfred's Hospice

Tuesday 19th March – 'Recycling'

Tuesday 16th April – "Secrets, Sex and Scandal"

Group News

You may recall that in my last newsletter, and the ones before that, I explained that we were currently without a Group Coordinator, and Newsletter editor. Sadly that still remains the case. I will continue to put out a newsletter like this one every month, the aim is that you will receive it about 10 days before the next monthly meeting. If any group leaders, or anyone else, would like something to be included in the newsletter, could they please email it to me (jamienicholls215@aol.com) by the Thursday 12 days before the meeting and I will attempt to include it.

Here is some group news- lifted from Facebook

Theatre visits

Alison Wright is organising theatre trips for all members.



Date: Wednesday 17th April 2.30pm

Venue: Assembly Hall Theatre Tunbridge Wells

Price: £25 plus share of booking fee if applicable.

10% discount for parties of 8+

Booking NOW for good seats, email me alisonwright@wheelgates.co.uk or message via Facebook



Date: Friday 1st March 2.30pm

Venue: Trinity Theatre Tunbridge Wells

Price: £14 plus share of booking fee

email - alisonwright@wheelgates.co.uk or message me via Facebook

U3A Poetry Group

Happy New Year Everyone,

We have a meeting next Tuesday 9th January at 10.30am at Jim McErlean's home, 16 Baytree Close, TN21 8YT.

Jim is going to tell us about the work and colourful life of the poet R W Service. We will talk about rhyme in poetry and there will be time to read/recite and discuss poems members of the group have chosen. We will also be planning future meetings.

If you would like to attend this meeting or would like more information, please contact Colin Harwood at charwood001@gmail.com

Groups Coordinator post

As I have said on many occasions, we still do not have a Groups Coordinator. The job of Groups Coordinator is to facilitate the setting up of new interest groups through supporting and advising the Group Convenors/Leaders and ensuring good communications between group members, the Committee and the u3a as a whole. The complete job description can be found here –

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/edocman-downloads/role-description-groups-co-ordinator>

but this is a frightfully off-putting document. It is a role that can easily be shared, and does not require great computer skills, although these may be helpful and timesaving. Please give it some consideration or contact me or another committee member at the monthly meeting if you need more information.

The same applies to the role of Newsletter editor.

Other information is regularly posted on our Facebook page and I would strongly suggest you sign up to the Heathfield & District u3a Facebook group. Over 110 of our members already have. Even if you are otherwise averse to Facebook you should find it useful, and it cures FOMO (fear of missing out).

National Newsletter – January Edition

If you would like a copy of the most recent edition of the u3a National Newsletter, you can apply for a copy via: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>. Or sign up to receive it regularly.

Have a good New Year and hope to see you at the monthly meeting on the 16th,

Best wishes,

Jamie Nicholls. Chairman.