

## AUGUST NEWS



Welcome to August News!

Each month we will include information on when the next monthly meeting is due to be held and the speaker invited for that meeting, plus forthcoming events and important notifications. We will also send out a separate Group News, highlighting to current and prospective members what our 40+ groups are currently involved in and, finally, we will include a Contacts Sheet detailing Committee Members and Group Leaders, together with their email addresses. (All those listed have provided permission for their emails to be used, so these must only be used purely for u3a matters). These documents will now be sent via Beacon, an online facility for managing local U3As, replacing Mailchimp, the previous email platform used.

### **Sussex Prairie Gardens – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August - \*Two Spaces Available\***

Jan Riddle has organised a coach trip to Sussex Prairie Gardens for £13 per head, with FREE entrance to the Gardens, plus an Indian Summer Bazaar in marquees selling gorgeous clothes in cottons and vintage sari silk, semi-precious designer jewellery, scarves, home furnishings and gifts – all ethically traded from India and Nepal. Alex's curry 'Dhaba' will be serving delicious authentic curries at £9.50 per head, and if anyone would like to have a curry (pay on the day) please let Jan know so she can advise them of numbers. Whilst there is a café offering tea/coffee, cakes etc, there is NO savoury food, but feel free to bring a picnic. The coach will pick everyone up at the bus stop by the fire station at 10.00am and hope to return 5.00 - 6.00pm. There are currently 4 seats available for this trip, please email Jan at: [jan\\_riddle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jan_riddle@yahoo.co.uk).



Sussex Prairie Gardens in all its splendour

# Le Marché

Heathfield 2023

**28<sup>th</sup> August – Bank Holiday Monday**  
**Station Road & Station Approach, Heathfield**  
**Gates open at 10.00am and close at 4.00pm**

Lynda Swan has offered to co-ordinate the u3a stall for the day and will be contacting all members who kindly volunteered to help by adding their name to a list that Fiona handed round at the last meeting. Volunteers will be doing roughly one-hour stints on a rota to hand out leaflets from our stall and talk to prospective new members. Le Marché always generates many new member enquiries, so thank you to the 20 members who offered to help on the day.

### **The history of Le Marché**

During the early 1990s, Heathfield, like many Wealden market towns, was having a tough time with many empty shops and traders struggling to survive. Waldron's Councillor at the time, Valerie Chidson, attended a 'vendange' at a Wealden vineyard, where French Traders were invited to bring produce across the Channel. The vineyard's barn was packed with English people fighting to buy baguettes and cheeses, and the idea was born for a similar event in Heathfield. In 1997, she pulled together a volunteer committee of local traders, residents and councillors who brought over French Traders to create the start of Le Marché on August Bank Holiday Monday. Since then, Le Marché has become one of Heathfield's major annual events.

**Next Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Hailsham Pavilion Cinema – One Hundred Years**  
**An illustrated talk by Katie Richards**

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



As we do not have a meeting in August, our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September. This will feature an illustrated talk by Katie Richards on the Hailsham Pavilion and how it was restored to its former glory. It began life as a purpose-built 'picture palace' in 1921, then closed in 1965 and by 1991, this Grade II Listed Building had been neglected for years. Former Mayor, June Bourne, raised money for the restoration and refurbishment needed and in 2000 it re-opened as the cinema that we know today, mainly staffed by volunteers.

## Forthcoming Speakers and Christmas Event

Barbara Hibbart is our new 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](mailto:barbara@barbarahibbartcoaching.co.uk) or Val at: [groupsu3a@outlook.com](mailto:groupsu3a@outlook.com). Speakers coming up...

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – ‘Walking with Polar Bears in the Arctic’ with Gillian Lloyd

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – ‘The Pheasants are Revolting’ with Ian Dowding (Manic chefs, culinary disasters, unscrupulous bosses to badly-behaved celebrities and wonderful customers)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Social – Penny’s Fiendish Christmas Quiz, followed by a festive tea and bubbly

## Coffee Mornings

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

**Next session: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**



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](mailto:jamienicholls215@aol.com) or Kay at: [kaynicholls@aol.com](mailto:kaynicholls@aol.com).

## Contacts Sheet

A Contacts Sheet will be sent out to all members after the next Committee Meeting which is on 21<sup>st</sup> August. This will give email addresses of all Committee Members and Group Leaders.

## National Newsletter – July Edition

If you would like a copy of the July edition of the u3a National Newsletter, you can apply for a copy via: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>.

If you did not receive either the Heathfield August News or Group News, please email Margaret at [magnav59@gmail.com](mailto:magnav59@gmail.com).

Have a great August, hopefully the sun will shine at Le Marché and we will attract many new members!

Best wishes  
Margaret