

**\* Monthly Meeting – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October\***

Please join us at our next members' meeting. It will take place at **2pm** on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October** at **Minster Club**

**COLIN HARVEY****The HISTORY OF SHEERNESS DOCKYARD**

Colin Harvey is a local historian who has produced several DVDs on a variety of historical Sheppey subjects.

This month Colin will be giving us an audio/visual presentation of the history of Sheerness Dockyard. He will start by giving us a short presentation followed by a film then a question and answer session.

**Non-members are welcome – Come and see how we “learn, laugh and live”**

**\*Save the date for next month: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November\***

**Imogen Corrigan - The Goose is getting fat!**

MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETING

Chairman's Ramblings

September's Ramblings got me thinking of how to “zest up my life”. The vitamin B tablets – though I'm sure are very good for me, are not hitting the spot, perhaps I should consider a pulse survey or an engagement meter (whatever they may be), as Dr. Google says they will definitely do the trick! To be honest though, I'm just a bit sceptical of new age medical hocus pocus; which I know will cost me the best part of a typical holiday to the Seychelles; and now thinking about it that would surely bring a spring into my step!!

Alas, my horoscope, the aligning of the constellations, fate and a near zero budget for holidays is against me, plus navigating the hospital, hair and dentist appointments, members meetings, committee meeting and the endless round of social events (I wish), prevent me from making too much of a commitment. Being the practical sort, Mr. Pugh and I reverted to cleaning out the Caravan – and may I say this is a lot easier than an attic but quite honestly just as rewarding! We wallowed in nostalgia, bringing



back so many happy memories. Past thank you letters from the grandchildren, of carefree holidays well spent, journals of past adventures, mementos of times spent on campsites, discovering beautiful villages, taking extraordinary walks and discovering beautiful areas in this wonderful Country of ours.

Perhaps Mr. Pugh and I may find time to have another adventure soon (power-mover permitting), drive off into the sunset with Calamity Jane (Caravan) and prove that two septuagenarians can still have a great time.

## INTEREST GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

### PANTOMIME – ALADDIN – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023

We now have confirmation of the Pantomime ALADDIN, performed by the RaTS (Rainham Theatrical Society), that we advertised previously.

“This pantomime PROMISES ALL THE USUAL FUN AND LAUGHTER and everything you’ve come to expect from a RaTS pantomime with plenty of audience participation, colourful scenery and costumes.” The show will last about 2 hours.



We have booked 20 seats at the performance along with a small minibus to take us, with local pick-ups, so it will be first come first served. Please book soon, full payment is required on booking as a standing deposit has been paid. [isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com)

**Date & Time:** Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 at 4pm  
**Location:** Oasthouse Theatre, Stratford Lane, Rainham, Gillingham ME8 8AG  
**Cost of tickets:** £10.50  
**Cost of Minibus:** £7

### NATIONAL TREE WEEK - TREE PLANTING

We missed out on a tree planting opportunity during the Spring of this year. However, Swale Borough Council (SBC) are currently organising community volunteer planting for national tree week. SBC have arranged for tree planting within Manor Road open space, Rushenden, on the Monday 28th November if any of our members are interested – time to be agreed. It would be great to show our volunteer spirit for such a good cause. Beyond this SBC would ideally like to undertake some community planting at The Glenn but they are in the very early stages of organising. We will keep you updated. Please let us know by email at [isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com) to gain some approximate numbers.

### All things Crafty for Christmas

A reminder that our Crafty Creative Guru, Linda Marshall, has been knitting furiously for Christmas. Linda will be displaying a variety of knitted gifts at this meeting – toys for the grandchildren; decorations and lots, lots more. All proceeds from the sale will go towards **Cancer Research** of which she is a volunteer.

**\*COMING SOON\*** [Grant funded workshops available to all our members - ALL FREE](#)

### ART FOR FUN



A popular and well-known local artist – Debbie Adams – will be offering a fun 2-hour workshop on how to use a variety of materials and techniques. This workshop is for members who want to try something new – perhaps acrylics, pastels or other mixed media. Please bring your own materials, however, if you don’t have any, don’t let that stop you, just let us know in plenty of time and we will see what we can collect together. Date and venue to be decided.

### FLOWER ARRANGING DEMONSTRATION - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 2.00pm

Sharon who runs our u3a Flower Arranging group suggested that we might like to have a demonstration by professional florist Phillipa Doucy. Phillipa will be showing us three different arrangements over a period of around 1 ½ hours. This spring themed demonstration will be an inspiration to all members with I’m sure hints and tips on how to design your own spring arrangements. This is not just for the ladies – come on men, join in and discover your artistic talents. Donations at the end of the demonstration to the **Wisdom Hospice** would be appreciated.



**Please let us know** by email to [isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com) if you are interested in either of the above. Numbers will determine where we hold these events.

**LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS**

A Christmas craft fair will be held at Minster Working Men’s Club on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November. There will be 20 stalls with a mixture of local crafts so come along to support our local artists and buy some great handmade gifts for Christmas for your family, friends or even treat yourself.



**SHEPPEY LITTLE THEATRE**



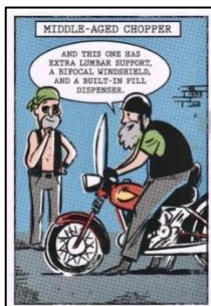
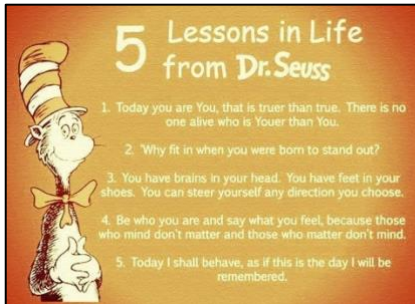
Sheppey Little Theatre has been run by volunteers since 1975. The building was originally opened as a church hall in 1891 and was purchased in 1969 for £1,000. After lots of hard work and help from local businesses it was opened by Minister for the Arts, Hugh Jenkins MP on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1975.

Sheppey Little Theatre is run by registered charity, Sheppey Entertainments Association and relies on people supporting the community theatre by going to the shows and to those who generously give donations. Find out more on the website: <https://www.sheppeylittletheatre.co.uk/>

Perhaps you would be interested in some of these upcoming shows:



**KEEP SMILING**





### NATIONAL u3a - <https://www.u3a.org.uk/>

Have you listened to the monthly **u3a Radio podcasts** on YouTube? Click here for the full list of radio podcasts since they started in September 2020: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsB2t41TNozHSJ4fvod\\_yjxrUJDzqbDD](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsB2t41TNozHSJ4fvod_yjxrUJDzqbDD)

**Have you signed up for the NATIONAL u3a NEWSLETTER? Get the most up to date news from National Office and find out about learning events as they are added.**

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/contact>

### Membership Subscription

Membership is currently £20 per year and includes entry to the monthly meetings with refreshments and a national magazine 'Third Age Matters' delivered to your home, five times a year.

Our next renewal date will be 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. Members joining now will pay a reduced fee of £10.

Non-members are welcome to our monthly meetings for a small fee of £3 so they can see if they'd like to join.

### Monthly Meeting Dates 2022/32

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 2pm until 4pm at Minster Club, (except in August & December). Free refreshments are provided.

24<sup>th</sup> November

15<sup>th</sup> December meeting

Christmas Social Get Together at Minster Club (NB one week earlier than usual)

26<sup>th</sup> January

23<sup>rd</sup> February

23<sup>rd</sup> March

27<sup>th</sup> April

### Information and Contact Details

You can contact us here:

[Isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:Isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com)

Find our website here:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/isle-of-sheppey/home>

Our Facebook Page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/isleofsheppeyu3a>

Our members only Facebook Group is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/384159678869515>

Email us to join our WhatsApp Group:

[Isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com](mailto:Isleofsheppeyu3a@gmail.com)

Interact with u3a members around the country on the

u3a: Keeping in Touch Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/U3AKeepingInTouch>

u3a YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheU3a/videos>

### Diversity & Inclusion Statement

Isle of Sheppey u3a recognises that everyone is different and aims to create an environment that values and treats all members fairly. We are committed to promoting equality and diversity and to ensure that u3a membership is as accessible as possible to different groups within the community