



Lymington u3a Newsletter

Feb - Mar 2024

Dear members

A Happy New Year!

I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas/New Year break and are raring to go for 2024.

My first request is for help! Our Treasurer plans to retire at the AGM in April, and we need someone to take over. This work takes an average of just 2 hours a week, though there are busier periods. We use the national u3a online system called Beacon to manage our money, and we can provide support to someone new. Beacon financial management is based on a secure, simple transaction approach. Every transaction can be assigned to individuals, groups and categories, and the system provides tools for reconciliation with bank accounts and regular reporting, including Gift Aid declarations and claims. Please think whether you can take this on for us, and contact me at lymingtonu3a.chairman@gmail.com

I hope that you have managed to change **the renewal of your subscription** to Lymington u3a if you pay by Standing Order, and increased it to £20 but **not to be paid before 1st March.**

Renewal of your membership is due on or after 1st March 2024 and I know a lot of people pay by BACS. Here are the details you need – please include your name or membership number as the reference:-

Account name: Lymington u3a

Sort code: 20-53-53

Account No: 20271233.

If you have to pay by cheque, please make it payable to 'Lymington u3a' with your membership number on the back and put it in the post box marked 'Lymington u3a' in the Community Centre.

Let's Get Digital

The 'Let's Get Digital' Course was so successful that we have asked for Solent Mind to run another one. This will start on 29th May 2024 for 8 weeks (ends 17th July) at the URC Church Hall 11am-1pm and will cover topics such as e-mail, Google, Zoom, online shopping and social media. It is better if you can attend every session as they build on your confidence and knowledge. If you are interested do let me know. I already have about 10 people who want to do it. The course is free but we have to pay for the room – this equates to about £3.50 per week.

Third Age Matters, our 5 times a year magazine, has been renamed 'u3a Matters' as people tend not to associate u3as with the Third Age Trust, which is the umbrella organisation. If you don't receive it and wish to have it, please let us know.

Third Age Trust is currently running a **Pilot Council** to address the skill set needed to run a large Charity and they are testing ways the Trust can work more efficiently. If you are interested, there is a special meeting on 4th March 2024. If you wish to ask questions send to council@u3a.org.uk The meeting will be advertised on the u3a website – u3a.org.uk

A Grand Day Out

We are looking for **people to organise Questors day trips** please. If each person did one a year and we had 12 volunteers, we would have one a month. Support and assistance will be given. If you feel you can help – maybe not on your own, but with someone else – please contact Ginny McIlroy at ginnymick@btinternet.com

Best wishes

Hilvary Robinson

Chairman, Lymington u3a
01590 672825



**Are you interested in other people?
Do you enjoy making people feel at home?
"Yes"??**

**Then you'd almost certainly get pleasure in
making**

our New Members feel welcome.

**This could be on your own, or maybe part of a small
team of 2 or 3.**



**It's a very satisfying role - one I've thoroughly
enjoyed, but now I plan to retire.**

**If you'd like to find out more, please
call/message me**

And we can chat some more over a coffee!

Anne Kelly: 07908 004821

New Members Welcome Co-ordinator

A message from our Group Coordinators

We really could do with more people to run / coordinate / facilitate groups. This would not be too difficult as you can run a group jointly. BUT we do need an individual to be the point of contact. If you feel you could be the contact person or administrator for a Group, please let us know.

Tim & Sue Norris 07835 130900

Activities open to all our members:

Monthly lectures held in the Gates Hall at the Lymington Centre usually on the first Thursday in the month at 2.15 for 2.30 pm, but no meeting in August. Tea and coffee available free after lecture.

Forthcoming speakers:

1st February Tales of a Blue Badge guide: speaker
Graham Horn

7th March History of the English language: speaker
Laura Bates

4th April Lepe Beach and the Mulberry harbours:
speaker Philip Benstead



**TED talks - for stimulating, sometimes challenging
discussion – just what u3a is for!**

These take place on the third Monday morning of the month at 10 am prompt (except Bank Holidays and August) in the Fuller Hall at the Lymington Centre. We watch an interesting short video together and then discuss it. Coffee or tea are available free of charge until 10.15 am. Our next topics are:

Mon Feb 19th 'Why you should embrace mediocrity.'

From "elite" pickles to "premium" baby diapers, marketers are constantly telling us to seek superiority — but "by the simple law of averages, most of us have to live a life more ordinary," says sociolinguist Crispin Thurlow. He invites us to embrace mediocrity for a change, offering a different path to contentedness without comparison.

Mon Mar 18th 'Is technology our saviour - or our slayer?'

When it comes to technology, we're often presented with two contrasting visions of the future: one where technology fulfils all our desires, and another where it leads to chaos and conflict. Sociologist Ruha Benjamin is here with a more radical vision of the future — one where humanity isn't saved or slayed by technology, but rather uses it to uplift ordinary people and make things like health care and housing for all a reality.



News from the Groups

Keep an eye on the u3a noticeboard!

Have you spotted the u3a noticeboard in the Community Centre book corridor near the kitchen door? We shall be posting hot news about groups with vacancies and new groups on there, so be sure to glance at it as you pass!

Vacancies in our groups

There are six potential new groups for you to join:

Bridge

Current affairs

Local environment

Military history

Photography

Practical gardening

And there are currently vacancies in:

Environmental topics

Golf

Italian intermediate

Mah-Jong (including for beginners)

Petanque

Philosophy

Questors

Rummikub

Theatre

If you are interested in joining a group, please contact our Group Co-ordinators, Tim and Sue Norris, at lymingtonu3a.groups@gmail.com

Nothing you like the look of? Would you like to set up a group on a subject which interests you? Tim and Sue will guide you and help you to recruit members. And if you run a group that has vacancies, please tell them too.

Activities open to all members by booking:

Walking group

The Walking Group meet on the first Monday of each month. For more information or to receive details of each walk please email Trevor Norton at trevornlymu3a@btinternet.com



Lunch Club

The Lunch Club Group meet once a month on different days of the week at various venues (usually a pub) for a meal and a chat.

All are welcome, either every month or on the odd occasion. The practical maximum number for a pub lunch is about 20, which usually works out, but if not booking is on a 'first come' basis.

To receive information about forthcoming lunches please join the Lunch Club via the website groups page or contact organiser Cheng Wood at:

pochengwood@gmail.com

Tel: 01590 673213 / 07940 851242

Does your group have news to share?

Please send your news to editor Sheila Ward at newsoflymingtonu3a@gmail.com

Do you know any Lyminster u3a members who don't read their e-news?

Should we be sending them paper newsletters? Please let us know by emailing our Hon Secretary at:

lymingtonu3a.generalsecretary@gmail.com

Revised Lymington u3a Speaker List 2024

1 st February	Tales of a Blue Badge Guide - Graham Horn
7 th March	History of the English Language - Laura Bates
4 th April	Lepe Beach & the Mulberry Harbours - Philip Benstead
2 nd May	The mysterious theft of the Irish Crown Jewels - Steve Herra
6 th June	Lumberjills - Joanna Foat
4 th July	Winchester - Andrew Negus
<i>August</i>	<i>No meeting</i>
5 th September	Tales from Downton Abbey - Bronda Dossett
3 rd October	Climate Change – Ben Collins
7 th November	Aspects of the New Forest - Brice Stratford
5 th December	Theatrical performance 'The Creativity of Miss Jekyll' - Jane Glennie