



WELCOME TO THE JANUARY 2024
MAYFIELD AND DISTRICT u3a NEWSLETTER.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mayfield and District u3a at Five Ashes Village Hall - TN20 6JA - 2pm

Sunday Lunch at The Runt in Tun, Maynards Green TN21 0DJ **

***** 12 noon on Sunday 28th January Contact Mary Brentnall: 01435 872289**

Thursday 15th February - Sussex Wildlife - Michael Blencowe

Thursday 21st March - Odd Corners of London - Jo Livingston

Thursday 18th April - The Pantiles - Frances Farmer-Brown

Heathfield and District u3a at The Community Centre - TN21 0XG - 2pm

Tuesday February 20th - St. Wilfred's Hospice - Sarah Marsh

Tuesday March 19th - Wealden Recycling - Julie Goodwin

Tuesday April 16th - Secrets, Sex and Scandal - Sarah Slater.

Chairman's Report

2024 has got off to a cheerful start for me with many postponed Christmas meals being enjoyed after the main festivities. Talking of Christmas, we have booked our slot for Christmas lunch, making sure it does not clash with Mayfacs this year. Please put **Thursday 19th December 2024** in your diary.

The new Scrabble Group has had its first meeting and the Science Group is relaunching very soon. Together with a new Art Group planned for later in the year we are definitely thriving. I have had several enquiries about Spanish. Does anyone know a Spanish speaker who might help?

MAYFIELD MONTHLY MEETINGS

In December some of us feasted in festive manner with a delicious lunch, catered as ever by the talented Sue Wright, and in January we were treated to a magical afternoon with Bertie Pearce, a member of the Inner Magic Circle, with Gold Star.



This really was a memorable occasion. As well giving us a masterclass in jaw dropping magic he was so funny that we were practically rolling in the aisles. A few brave members sat in the front and were ready for all that Bertie threw at them (literally in some cases), although perhaps potentially having a hand chopped off was a little unexpected. One particular highlight was the fashioning of a very chic hat and bag from some torn up bits of tissue paper!



Our February speaker is Michael Blencowe, a naturalist, writer and wildlife guide who lives in Sussex with, and I hope we're told more about this, a stuffed Hawfinch.

Michael has always been passionate about nature and conservation, and while he has travelled widely around the world, he has particular experience of the wildlife and amazing diversity of habitats of his and our native county.

A proud winner of the 'Lewes Personality of the Year' in 2012, he has broadcast on Springwatch and Countryfile, and has talked about herbalism on a Harry Potter documentary.

With the broad title of 'Wildlife', who knows where his talk will take us?

Come to Five Ashes Village Hall on Feb 18th at 2.00 to find out. The talk is free to our members, but it is also open to anyone else who'd like to join us, for the small fee of £2.00 .



Following an energetic morning of Table Tennis the group enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch



ANYONE FOR SCRABBLE ??

We have just enjoyed our first Scrabble 'match' of 2024. And if you want something to get you out of the house on a grey winter's day, I can't recommend it highly enough.



No preparation needed, no real competition, just an opportunity to test those brain cells in good company for a couple of hours. Who cares who has the highest score - I was more impressed with the number of 2 letter words people knew!

We have members from Burwash, Heathfield and Mayfield, so we meet mid-way, in the Co-Op cafe in Heathfield. They are very welcoming, with plenty of space and comfy seating.

So, 2 or 20, you are all very welcome to join us.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 21st February at 2.00pm.

If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me email: annie.schofield21@gmail.com or m. 077 888 94648

Science Group

The relaunch of the Science Group will be at 2.00pm on Wednesday 31st January at Ridgeview House, Meres Lane, Cross in Hand TN21 0TZ. If you are interested in joining the group please contact:

marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com

or 01435 872289

HISTORY GROUP

We are a small, friendly group and in turn we all contribute a half hour or so talk on our chosen subject. Our monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday are of two contributions plus a coffee break.

We are pleased to have two potential new members coming to our meeting on Thursday 25th. January.

Our recent meetings have included talks on the Lyons family, Enclosures in the 19th Century and the Cuckoo Trail.

Our meeting on Thursday will be: Mary, Queen of Scots and Thomas Clío Rickman, biographer of Thomas Paine.

Jennifer Smith.

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.”
— **Edith Sitwell**

