

See your Programme of Activities or [www. u3asites.org.uk/midhurst](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst) for contact details if they don't appear here
For more details of everything keep a look out for our eNewsletters, posters around Midhurst including in The Grange and the Library, notices at Monthly Talks, local free magazines, facebook pages, and www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst

30th Anniversary Year!

See the supplement with this edition of "What's on?"

Lunch at the Unicorn, Heyshott



Monday 15 April

The first 30th Anniversary event (see the supplement for others)

Contact Ian Woodhams to book and for more details

Monthly talks with refreshments, a chance to meet other members, and to get the latest news on what's going on. See next page for details and dates

Annual General Meeting **Tuesday 21 May**

Followed by a short talk by Midhurst u3a member Dr Ian Goodall

Paid-up members only - subscriptions due by 1 April

Free admission and refreshments . See AGM papers sent to all members with this newsletter

Outings



Wren Churches and Clerkenwell Priory, London

Wednesday 17 April

Contact Christine Musgrove

Fully booked with a waiting list

Another one may be run later in the year



Madama Butterfly - Theatre Royal Brighton - Saturday 4 May

Fully booked but to join the waiting list contact Bernard Allan

**Beaulieu National Motor
Museum**

House and Gardens - Wednesday 26 June
For further details or to reserve a place, please
contact Peter Moss

**Look out for details of other outings being
planned for the Autumn**



Monthly Talks with Refreshments are usually held on the third Tuesday of the month at 2.30 in the Methodist Church Hall, North Street, Midhurst. Arrive from 2pm for a cup of tea and a biscuit (served until 2.20), and to watch our version of 'Pearl & Dean', browse the noticeboards for information on u3a groups and activities, buy tickets, socialise with other members, find out how to participate in true u3a style, share ideas for u3a activities and enjoy a talk from a visiting speaker. Members - £2. Visitors, who are interested in joining - £3. Coming on your own? Think you might not know anyone? Ask any of the "Welcome" team (they wear badges) at the entrance and in the hall to introduce you to another member at the start of the meeting.

Talks are subject to change so do keep an eye out for our eNewsletters, posters around the town, and www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst

19 March	"History Without the Boring Bits" Susan Howe
16 April	"Landscapes of South East England" Geoffrey Mead
(21 May	AGM + talk by Dr Ian Goodall)
18 June	"Ghosts and the Paranormal" Andy Thomas
16 July	"100 Piers - Painting at the Water's Edge" Paul Tracey
20 August	"California Dreaming - San Francisco to the Grand Canyon" Neil Sadler
17 September	"The Zambezi Trilogy - The Fatted Calf " Jill Baker
15 October	"Tales of the Rails" Bill Gage

Messages

A number of changes

Chairman. We are delighted that Odette Marshall has agreed to take over from Di Ponting after the AGM and that Sue Edwards is willing to be **Vice-Chairman**.

Treasurer. Equally pleasing is that John White has agreed to take on this role. He has been co-opted on to the Committee as Treasurer-elect and will gradually have a handover from Carol Brinson.

Groups Co-ordinator. Also excellent - Pauline Guppy has agreed to take this over from Odette. Her role of **Committee Minutes Secretary** will be shared by others from month to month for the time being, while a u3a member is sought to fill it on a more permanent basis.

"What's on?" Editor. Lovely news that Barbara Neighbour has offered to take over this task from Carol Brinson, who has enjoyed it for several years but feels it needs a fresh eye.

Other communications. We put a lot of effort into communicating with members about what opportunities there are for attending talks, joining groups or going on outings that are coming up. We also advertise Midhurst u3a around Midhurst and the surrounding villages, to recruit more members. With key committee members standing down in May, we need to involve more people to:

- produce posters to be displayed around the town
- update the PowerPoint presentation shown at our monthly meetings
- submit copy for adverts about the monthly talks in local publications such as Midhurst Local each month
- help at our table at the monthly Farmers & Artisan Market, usually in the Old Library.

Please contact any Committee member if you have any questions or can offer to help with the "other communications" listed on the left, or in any other way.

Learning Events. Through the Third Age Trust, our "umbrella" organisation, u3a members can join a wide range of online talks, workshops and courses. Most of these opportunities are presented by members themselves; sharing their knowledge or skills with others across the movement. The online events are hosted on Zoom. The Trust has some 'How to Guides' for using Zoom if you are unfamiliar with it. Don't forget u3a also runs many projects, initiatives and competitions nationally available for all members to get involved in too. See www.u3a.org.uk/events



Do you live somewhere with limited access to public transport?

Book-a-Bus is sponsored by West Sussex County Council. Its aim is to provide transport to those who are isolated by providing transport from their village to a transport hub such as Midhurst. It's £2 a ride, free to bus pass holders (normal time limits). There are currently three "Book a Bus" services:

North of Midhurst, Petworth and Pulborough - the 98 service, which also serves the King Edward's Estate.
West of Midhurst & Chichester- the 96 service.
East of Midhurst as far as Pulborough – the 99 service.
You can book on the day or 24 hours in advance by ringing 01243 858854 (6.30am-7.30pm) or by downloading the Ride Pingo app. Further information is available on the website: [Book-a-Bus - West Sussex County Council](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/book-a-bus)

News from some of our groups (there are over forty)

More information and contact details are in the Programme of Activities sent to everyone who joins and renews and on our website u3asites.org.uk/midhurst/groups or ask any committee member
Psst! Did you know...? When groups meet in members' homes it is usual to contribute 50p each for coffee/tea/biscuits.

The Architecture and Local History Groups are combining for a special visit to Edes House in Chichester on 21 April. Other u3a members are invited to go too. Further talks and visits are in the process of being arranged for the **Architecture Group**. Any ideas are very welcome! Malcolm Hutchings

NEW! Bridge Group. Since our first meeting in November the group has gone from strength to strength. Everyone is enjoying the opportunity to meet friends and spend an afternoon playing bridge. Improvers have the opportunity to practise their skills and develop their confidence. More experienced players are enjoying helping those less experienced or confident. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons at the Methodist Hall, 2-4.30. For more information or to find out how to join us please ring me: Pauline Guppy

The Handbell Ringing Group continues to meet twice monthly practising our repertoire of music. Last June we played at the Parish Church Friendship Tea and in November to the Rother Valley Together group at the Grange (see photo on the next page). Both were well received. We have established a link with KIPHRA (Kirdford Ifold &

Plaistow Handbell Ringers Association), a much larger handbells group who meet in Ifold. Two of us attended one of their rehearsals in October and were invited to join in which was quite challenging. Some of us went to their splendid Christmas concert in December. New members are very welcome. Please phone me. Geraldine Thomson

The Food Group has been testing itself so far in 2024. We take it in turns to choose what we cook, and January was filo pastry - filo mince pies, apple strudel, mini quiches with salmon and courgette, and lemon and raspberry tarts. All delicious but the filo pastry was a learning experience for some of us! February's meeting had a Valentine theme - with heart shaped savoury pastries, and cakes decorated with hearts. March has an Easter theme, and we will have a healthier April with main course salads! New members very welcome. Penny Holland

The Boules and Darts Group are now able to meet at the Bluebell in Cocking throughout the year and play either boules or darts whatever the weather. We will of course be supporting the pub by having coffee and lunch every other week. Denise Skinner

Do you enjoy quizzing?

There is an Inter-u3a one being held in Haslemere on 22 March. Midhurst u3a will have a team. Please contact Ian Woodhams to find out if they can take more members.

Midhurst u3a Communication

A printed Programme of Activities for the year is given to new members when they join and an updated version is issued to all members in June. It includes **phone numbers and email addresses** of the committee and group leaders. Please treat confidentially.

Website: u3asites.org.uk/midhurst - **includes contact page for various enquiries and committee members. Group leaders are contactable via each individual group page, and events organisers via the events page**, plus all sorts of information. Updated frequently.

This **"What's on?"** The next one is due in October but in June there will be an **update sheet with some memories of our 30 years.**

Copies of the **Annual Report and Accounts** : given out at the AGM, available on request, and on the website.

Midhurst u3a eNewsletters are issued frequently to members who have email addresses and have not unsubscribed for these.

Notices are given out and **information** is displayed at the monthly talks including on our version of 'Pearl & Dean'.

Local press and facebook pages : publicity in local free magazines and other places when we can get it.

Posters and leaflets are distributed around the town including in Midhurst Library (near the photocopier), The Grange, and in local villages.

Our record on the **Charity Commission** website: register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/1051113

What was on? Here are a few examples:



The Architecture Group had a fascinating visit to West's timber yard in Selham in October

The Handbell Ringers entertained Rother Valley Together members at the Grange in November



A visit to Salisbury in November was much enjoyed by twelve members, making use of the local "Yellow Bus". Yes, there were men on the trip too - camera-shy or too busy shopping at the Christmas Market?



History 1 Group's November theme was Tudor Christmas. It included eating a cake made by Denise. Joy found the bean in the cake so she was Queen of the Day.

STUDY DAY - October

The Natural World

a look at the way nature and landscape are illustrated by artists and photographers

Warm words from two of the participants:

"We have just come home after a really wonderful day with u3a. We've not been to a Study day before so a new experience and one we can hopefully repeat. ... the Team are just amazing. Every detail catered for and such a lovely venue [the South Downs Centre Memorial Hall]. So just one big thank you."

u3a beyond Midhurst

Your subscription to Midhurst u3a includes a membership subscription for the Third Age Trust (unless you already belong to another u3a) and affiliation to entitle you to attend the activities of the following organisations (please ask for information if you cannot access these websites):

The Third Age Trust : the u3a national body for all u3as and their members in the UK, providing educational and administrative support, insurance cover, information including **newsletters (sign up for them here: u3a.org.uk/newsletter)**, learning resources, subject advisors, on-line courses, merchandise, events including summer schools, a Science Network, radio podcasts and YouTube videos. The Advice section on the Trust's website is of particular use to group leaders, event organisers and committee members. The Trust's guidance is especially relevant as charity legislation becomes tighter. Publications include *Third Age Matters* magazine, which Midhurst u3a has arranged to be sent by post to all our **group leaders and committee members** who are asked, please, to pass on the relevant information to their groups and fellow members and when finished with to bring their copies to our monthly talks for others to take.

www.u3a.org.uk, tel 020 8466 6139, facebook: u3aUK, u3a: Keeping In Touch, u3a: Let's Talk Tech, u3a Fit for the Future

South East u3a Region : Includes **West Sussex u3a Network** and the **NE Hants and SW Surrey Network**

www.u3asites.org.uk/south-east/home.

South East u3a Forum : runs a popular **Summer School** based at the University of Chichester. This year's dates are 2-5 September. www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum

There are also Summer Schools in Scotland and the Yorkshire/Humber and North West regions.

Privacy Statement (required by the Data Protection Act 2018)

Midhurst u3a will store personal details securely for membership, Gift Aid and e-News purposes only (where applicable). They will be used to communicate with you as a member, to share with group leaders for those groups of which you become a member and with organisers of u3a events for which you book. You can ask for your data not to be used. We cannot be responsible for other websites to which we may provide links. See the full Privacy Policy on our website or ask for a copy. Photographs of members taking part in u3a activities are used for publicity. **If you do not wish to be included please inform the photographer at the time the photo is taken.**