

See your Programme of Activities or [www.midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://www.midhurstu3a.org.uk) for contact details

HM King Charles III, as HRH Prince of Wales, often visited Midhurst for the polo. Our thoughts are with him and his family

## Quiz at Cowdray Golf Club with a light supper

**Thursday 17 November**

See our eNewsletters, website, and posters, book at monthly talks, or contact  
Committee member Ian Woodhams



## Christmas Lunch at The Unicorn, Heyshott

**Monday 19 December**

Menu and price choices - please see them in our eNewsletters and website and at our  
monthly meetings or contact

Committee member Ian Woodhams to find out more and book

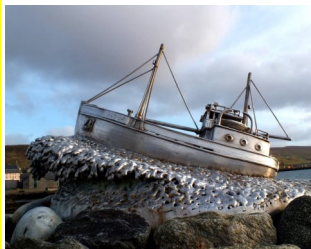
## Opera at Brighton's Theatre Royal

**Tuesday 25 April**

All our tickets are now sold but to go on the waiting list please contact Bernard Allan  
via Art History or Art Appreciation group links on the website



## Monthly Talks - See next page for more detail and dates



**Tuesday 15 November**

**Gillian Halcrow - "The Shetland Bus"**

The story of the brave Norwegian sailors in their fishing boats who kept links  
open between occupied Norway and Britain during WWII.

The Shetland Bus memorial in Scalloway, Scotland

**Tuesday 13 December**

**Andy Thomas - "Christmas - a celebratory history"**

Mid-December has long been a time for rejoicing, yet Christmas traditions have  
splintered into many guises - even banned by the Puritans. We learn how, in spite of  
modern commercialism, Christmas has survived and still has meaning

Andy Thomas will be a familiar speaker to many for his talks on

Crop Circles and Lewes Bonfire Nights.



From: Christmas: A Short History from  
Solstice to Santa by Andy Thomas



**"Member get Member"** - New members are essential to keep Midhurst u3a thriving.  
Enclosed with this newsletter is our new leaflet. Please pass it on to a neighbour, a friend, or  
a member of another organisation to which you belong, tell them why you enjoy u3a, and  
encourage them to at least find out more about us. More copies of the leaflet are available  
in the Information rack in Midhurst Library and at our monthly talks.

Also, we try and have a presence at the monthly Midhurst Farmers & Artisan Market. Could you help for  
an hour or two? Please contact Committee member Ian Woodhams

**More activities** ➡

**Monthly Talks & Social Gatherings** 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 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. Guests £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.midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://www.midhurstu3a.org.uk)*

18 October - change of speaker. We are now pleased to welcome Alan Jones : "Look into my eyes"

15 November - Gillian Halcrow : "The Shetland Bus"

13 December - Andy Thomas : "Christmas - a celebratory history"

17 January - Jeremy Prescott : "The Sinking of the Laconia"

21 February - James Taylor : "Artistic Highlights of the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum"

21 March - Neil Sadler : "California Dreaming: San Francisco to the Grand Canyon"

18 April - Geoffrey Mead - "Sussex Industrial History"

### Messages ...

As you may have heard, sadly, Geoff Wadge had to give up being Chairman for health reasons and even more sadly, has now died. We shall miss his quiet guidance and active involvement and friendship.

We are very pleased that Di Ponting has taken up the Chairman reins (again!) at least until the AGM in May.

Philip Watts has resigned from the Committee due to other commitments. We thank him for being our Vice-Chairman and in particular for organising the u3a Day and some of our publicity and for being a Zoom expert.

We need someone, or more than one, to take on **publicity and communications**, directed at members and the wider world - definitely an enjoyable role which can be shared, as can organising an **outing** as part of the Outings Sub-Committee who would welcome help. Their latest trip will have just happened - more next year!

You will see from the above that more people are needed to keep Midhurst u3a active and, indeed, in existence! Contact any Committee member.

Several people have responded to the plea for help at our monthly talks - thank you all. We can take more!

**A pat on the back:** a Midhurst u3a member who has moved away and joined another u3a says she is enjoying her new u3a but that "Midhurst is in a class of its own."

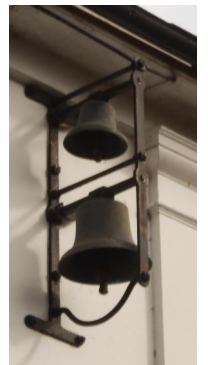
**How to find out what's on:** here's one way - especially for those of you who don't receive our eNewsletters or

### Coming soon ....

How well do you know your town? Try our **"Where, When, What, Who?" Quiz of Midhurst** with the help of pictures like this one:

Ring any (alarm) bells?

Details of how to take part will be announced soon.



see the website: do look at the **poster in Midhurst Library**, near the photocopier. It changes every month just after the monthly talk.

**Good news!** Thanks to one of our members who enjoyed a trip with Riviera Travel as part of their scheme - "Book a holiday and we will give 10% of the cost back to your u3a" - we have received a second donation from them. If you book with Riviera Travel please mention Midhurst u3a. It could be worth trying with other companies too.

**Discount offer:** Closs & Hamblin, a haberdashery shop in Chichester, offer a 10% discount to Midhurst u3a members on presentation of a current u3a membership card. Please ask our Membership Secretary, Jeannine Murphy, for your card as we economise by not issuing them unless asked.

**Payments:** please pay for everything on line if possible. Cheques make so much work for several people. Here are the details: A/c Name: Midhurst U3A, Sort Code: 30-96-61, A/c No: 01387462, Ref: (something that will tell us what you are paying for, eg Lunch).

**The Delights, History, and Art of Glasgow and Edinburgh** 6 days from 4 June 2023, by coach from Midhurst, staying at the 4\* Keavil House hotel, located in countryside near Dunfermline. A Blue Badge guide will accompany us throughout. In Glasgow we plan to visit the Hunterian Gallery, to see their important Charles Rennie Mackintosh collection and house, the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum as well as the Burrell Collection. In Edinburgh we shall visit Holyrood Palace, the Queen's Gallery, the Scottish National Gallery and the Modern Art Gallery. The holiday will be organised for us by Tailored Travel and will cost £999 for 5 nights staying on a half-board basis. There is a single supplement of £99. Maximum 30 people. For further information and a booking form please contact Bernard Allan via Art History or Art Appreciation group links on the Midhurst u3a website.

## 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 [midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://midhurstu3a.org.uk) - or ask any Committee member**

**Art History:** On 8 November we commence a new six-month course on Spanish art, led by Bernard Allan. There is a small charge to cover the cost of hiring the hall and refreshments.

In September several members went by coach to London, mainly to visit the National Gallery and its splendid Winslow Homer exhibition, but some took the opportunity to explore further. Non Art History Group members were made welcome.

**History 1:** We are a small group who take it in turn to present a talk on a topic or person which is followed by a discussion and coffee. See photo on next page. Topics during the past year have included Lutyens, The First Black Aristocrat, Francis Drake, The Georgians.

**Bus Safaris:** After a hiatus caused by the pandemic, the Bus Safari group was restarted by new leaders David and Jacqui Earley, with very interesting excursions to visit the Haslemere Museum in July and Guildford Cathedral and Castle in September.

The next excursion will probably be in February, when we plan to visit Portsmouth to visit the Charles Dickens Birthplace Museum, and possibly the Cathedral.

**Local History:** The group shares its enthusiasms: Richard Cobden; Lady Dorothy Nevill of Dangstein House near Rogate; the history of Railway Terrace; the development of the Petersfield-Portsmouth road; the Pescods - shopkeepers of Graffham and Midhurst; Verdley Castle; and the Scrimgeours of Stedham, have all kept us busy these last few months.

The group provides a wonderful excuse to delve into those bits of local history that intrigue us and then share

our enthusiasm and new found knowledge.

In May we visited the Weald & Downland Museum Library.

We have room for a couple more people.

**History 2:** New members most welcome! We are a small, participatory group – currently discussing 17<sup>th</sup> century European topics - with occasional discussions on what attracts us to history. Members present a topic once a year on their chosen subject.

We meet in the Reading Room of the Sanitorium on the King Edward VII Estate.

**Dog Walking:** During the hot summer weather we were so lucky to have Midhurst Common and the woods around Severals Road. Here we could walk our dogs in the shade on leafy paths avoiding the hot pavements and roads.

Autumn and winter will see us returning to Iping Common and Woolbeding Park and enjoying the wonderful colours and icy landscapes.

**Science & Technology:** A visit to the Weald & Downland Museum on Thursday 20 October is planned. This is open to all Midhurst u3a members.

If you can't make the date, or you read this after it, please register your interest for future activities.

**Face the Music** is the alternative name for the Music Appreciation group, who welcome new members, as do the **Handbell Ringers**.

**Sunday Lunch:** Someone is needed to lead this friendly group in the New Year please.

Every summer we hold a gathering for our group leaders, to thank them and give them a chance to meet each other and the committee. This year Midhurst u3a members Jenny & Ian Peters kindly invited us to their lovely house. A very tasty tea and lots of conversation were much enjoyed.



## What was on?

Here are a few examples:

Our "u3aDay" at the Old Library in September, as part of the national u3a 40th anniversary, was lively.



Membership Secretary Jeannine greets crossword enthusiast Barry, with the Craft Group's display alongside

About 70 people attended, 11 new members signed up on the day, several of our interest groups were represented and members worked hard to make it happen.

There were delicious cream teas and much conversation.

In July members had an interesting visit to Canine Partners at Heyshott and the summer lunch at Cowdray Golf Club was greatly enjoyed.



Our new banner outside the Old Library for u3a Day. It has also been at the Midhurst Farmers & Artisan Markets - see "Member get Member" on the front page



Rapt attention on a trip to Northumbria in June



"Short Walkers" happy in the sunshine near Woolbeding



History 1 Group deep in discussion

## 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/news/newsletter](http://u3a.org.uk/news/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](http://www.u3a.org.uk), tel 020 8466 6139, facebook: u3aUK, u3a:Keeping In Touch, and u3a 40th Anniversary and u3a week.

**Sussex u3a Network (SUN)** : [www.u3asites.org.uk/sussexu3anetwork](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/sussexu3anetwork)

**South East u3a Region** : [www.u3asites.org.uk/south-east/home](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/south-east/home). Includes **West Sussex u3a Network**

**South East u3a Forum** : runs a popular **Summer School** based at the University of Chichester. [www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum)

## Midhurst u3a Communication

A **printed Programme of Activities for the year** is given to every member when they renew or join. It includes **phone numbers and email addresses** for group leaders and committee members.

**Website**: [midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://midhurstu3a.org.uk) Includes **contact page for various enquiries, group leaders, and committee members**. Updated frequently. This **"What's on?"**: a twice-yearly printed newsletter for all members. The next one will be in March. Printed news updates are also issued. Copies of the **Annual Report and Accounts** are given out at the AGM and are available on request.

**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.

**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](https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/1051113)

## Privacy Statement (required by General Data Protection law)

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.**