

See your Programme of Activities or www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst for contact details



www.eatdrinkseek.co.uk

**Christmas in the Square - Market
Trip to Salisbury**



Sunday 26th November

Explore the medieval city when Salisbury hosts the Sunday Christmas Market, with time for lunch and to visit the Cathedral.

Tickets £17

SOLD OUT : Contact Tricia Stephens to go on waiting list

Christmas Lunch at The Unicorn, Heyshott

Monday 18 December

Menu and price choices - please see them in our eNewsletters and website and at our monthly meetings or contact Ian Woodhams to find out more and book :



Monthly Talks - See next page for more dates and details



**21 November - "Where do
Novelists Get Their Ideas From?"
- Bobbie Darbyshire**

**12 December (note earlier
Tuesday in the month than
usual) - 'Catra' Ladies
Barbershop Quartet**
Christmas-themed harmony
musical performance



Looking ahead to a pearl of a year!

2024 is the 30th Anniversary of Midhurst u3a

A number of events are being planned for the summer by a special sub-committee (Odette Marshall, Ian Woodhams, Penny Holland, Sue Edwards).

Help and ideas are very welcome. If you have any particular memories, photos, or documents relating to any of these 30 years please let the sub-committee know, particularly because Midhurst Museum are kindly allowing us to have a display about Midhurst u3a during the whole of September.

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 (served until 2.20pm), 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 thinking of joining us £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

17 October - "Some body like you" - Alan Jones

21 November - "Where do novelists get their ideas from?" - Bobbie Darbyshire

12 December - 'Catra' Ladies Barbershop Quartet - note this is one week earlier than usual

16 January - "A Policeman's Lotis a very interesting one" - Neil Sadler

20 February - "London's Central Royal Parks" - Jim Buttress

19 March - "History Without the Boring Bits" - Susan Howe

16 April - "Landscapes of South East England" - Geoffrey Mead

Messages ...

All change! Well not quite all thank goodness, but, firstly, Sue Edwards is a welcome addition to the Committee, having taken over the role of Volunteers Co-ordinator, which had been one of Penny Holland's tasks, except that Sue is now known as the RUG leader....

Two Committee members are standing down after many years so there are some lovely opportunities for new people from May or sooner:

- **Chairman** - Di has been in the post twice and now wants a break.
- **Treasurer** - Carol has enjoyed this post for far longer than she should. The financial records are in good shape for someone to continue or to change and make their own for the next three or four years.

Publicity and Communications: New help needed

A number of people are sharing these tasks but are giving them up or need help and new ideas:

- **Our website** is going to be moving in the next 18 months from its current format to one using WordPress, which will be much livelier. A national team is developing the new one for some 700 u3as. Penny Holland, the current web editor, would be thrilled if someone was able to help her with this fun project.
- **Publicity** to gain new members and communicate with existing ones : posters, leaflets, editorial, our presence at the Midhurst Market, eNewsletters, our 'Pearl & Dean' at the monthly talks, our Programme of Activities, this "What's on?" newsletter....

Please talk to any of the Committee about these

important, worthwhile, and enjoyable ways of being a part of Midhurst u3a's life.

It is a legal requirement to have a Chairman and a Treasurer. Without them Midhurst u3a won't exist... You are welcome to attend a Committee meeting to get more of a feel for it before committing and there will be plenty of support available.

RUG = Really Useful Group: essential to the smooth-running of our u3a. Without it, there would be no chairs to sit on at our monthly talks, no-one to welcome members and visitors and no-one to prepare, and clear up after, refreshments for people to enjoy. Additionally, printed information to members is provided three times a year and is hand-delivered by a well-structured team.

Perhaps you might join us on a few occasions this year, to help keep things running smoothly? Sue Edwards would be delighted to hear from you. Let's work together. Please get in touch!

Outings - Denise is no longer the organiser but new ideas are being explored by the team, including theatre in January, Beaulieu Motor Museum in June, a country show later next summer... Watch out for more details.

Special Event - The Natural World Saturday 21 October

An exploration of wildlife including a look at the way it is illustrated by artists and photographers.
3 speakers, finger buffet lunch, and more.
Tickets may still be available. See the website for more detail and book with Sheila Ingram in advance

Interest Groups

Bridge - New!

We are starting a brand new 'no fear' bridge group for improvers wishing to develop their skills and confidence in a relaxed and informal environment. Experienced players will also be made very welcome. We will be playing standard ACOL bridge using standard conventions.

We will be meeting in the Methodist Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2.00-4.30pm, with a break for coffee.

There will be a small charge to share the cost of hiring the room and refreshments.

For more information or to book your place contact Pauline Guppy - see Contacts page on website.

Cryptic crosswords - ganache (anagram - 1.6)

Nicky Harris has led the group with enthusiasm for many years but has now moved away. The group are

very grateful for her gentle guidance and hospitality and wish her well. Barry Freedman has taken over as leader. They now meet at another member's comfortable home and can take one or two more members.

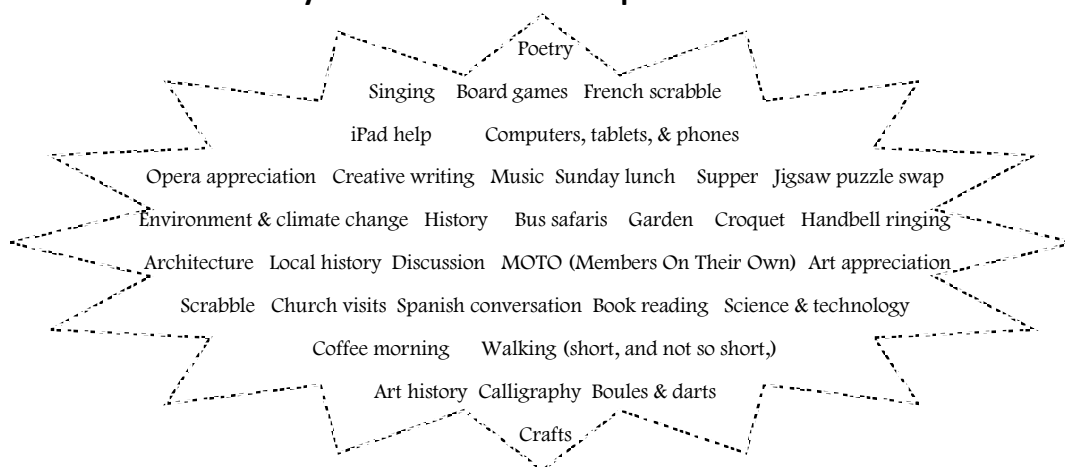
Dog walking also has a change of leadership in October when Marilyn Ridgway will be taking over but keeping their same format. They hope that current members, who come from Midhurst, Petworth, and surrounding villages, will continue with the walks. New members are very welcome.

The Food Group resumes on 19 October, meeting at lunchtime to sample Scandi food. Depending on what individual group members decide to cook it might be anything from Danish pastries to smörgåsbord. New members welcome. Contact Penny Holland

Other Interest Groups? There is a veritable sunburst of them!

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 - or ask any Committee member.

Want to start your own? Talk to Groups Co-ordinator Odette Marshall



u3a beyond Midhurst

Your subscription to Midhurst u3a includes a membership subscription for the Third Age Trust (unless you already belong to another u3a) 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)**, 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 www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum

What was on?

Here are a few examples:

At the AGM we enjoyed Coronation celebration cakes made by members



In June there was a "History & Art of Stratford-upon-Avon & Birmingham" 5-day trip. Here they are at the Barber Institute ...



Coffee morning for new and prospective members
Saturday 16th September 2023
An enjoyable morning and 17 new members signed up on the day



... and in July a visit to Kelmscott and Lechlade was also a success



The Short Walks group explored home territory in September



Don't miss a thing! How to know what's going on and who's who:

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**. **Individual 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?"**: a twice-yearly printed newsletter for all members. The next one will be in March with the **AGM papers and subscription renewal forms**.

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

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

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) and The Grange.

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

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