

## !! CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MIDHURST U3A !!



Pelynt Male Choir  
 &  
 MRC Jazz Band



### CONCERT

Saturday 27 April 2019 at 7pm  
 Midhurst Rother College Theatre

Pelynt Male Choir, visiting from Cornwall, "raised the roof" at a recent concert. They and the Midhurst Rother College Jazz Band are kindly performing for the benefit of:



and  
 MRC Music Department

**Tickets £10**

from:  
 4Sight Vision Support -  
 Knockhundred Row 01790 812338  
 (Registered Charity No. 1075447)  
 Tall Dog - Rumbolds Hill  
 and at Midhurst U3A  
 General Monthly Meetings

Presented by



as part of their  
 !! 25TH ANNIVERSARY  
 CELEBRATIONS !!



Midhurst Rother College  
 The best in everyone™  
 Part of United Learning

### Garden Party at Capron House Thursday 20 June 6.30-8.30pm



Come and celebrate our anniversary.

Wine, soft drinks, canapés, cake, music from Nick Taylor and his trio, good company, beautiful surroundings in the centre of Midhurst (if the weather is unkind the inside of Capron House is lovely).

Tickets at a special anniversary price of £5 at Monthly General Meetings and from Malcolm Hutchings.

### Two tests of your observation powers

A quiz compiled by local historian and Midhurst U3A member Bridget Howard. "How well do you know Midhurst?" Details enclosed with the AGM papers.

A competition: 1: find five appearances of 25 in this newsletter. 2. find the name and contact details for the editor and tell her exactly where the appearances are, by 18 June. At the Anniversary Garden Party on 20 June there will be a draw for one correct entry, with a prize worth £25. Midhurst U3A members only.

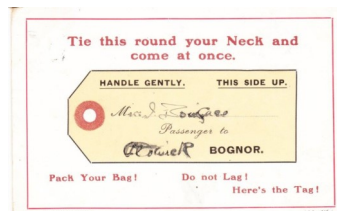
### Annual General Meeting : Tuesday 21 May 2.30pm

Members only. No charge. The papers are enclosed with this newsletter. After the formal business there will be a short talk by Midhurst U3A member Ian Buckingham - 'Adultery, Suicide and Persecution - The Story of my Ancestors' - a mixture of the bizarre and amusing, but with a thread showing what one can find out if one perseveres - followed by tea provided by U3A members. Donations of cakes, buns, biscuits, and savouries ready on plates, please!

**Monthly General Meetings** are usually held on the third Tuesday of the month at 2.30 in the Methodist Hall, North Street, Midhurst. Members £2, Guests £3. Come by 2.15 for a cup of tea and a biscuit, buy tickets for events, watch our version of 'Pearl & Dean' and browse the noticeboards for information on U3A groups and activities, socialise with other members, and enjoy a talk from a visiting speaker. The next two after the AGM are:

#### 18 June – Sylvia Endacott - A Little Bit of Cardboard - History of the National Picture Postcard.

Sylvia joined the local Bogor Regis history society on its formation in 1979 without any historical knowledge of the area, and became a member of its Committee. When the town museum first opened in Hotham Park she was involved in producing displays and began to research the town's history. She has written numerous history books, and in various newspapers and magazines and also provides talks to a variety of organisations. She has appeared on a number of radio and TV programmes and in 2017 appeared on the "Antiques on the Road" show.



**16 July – Bertie Pearce - Now You See It, Now You Don't - The Art of Visual Deception.** An in-depth look at the profound mystery of perception - the unfathomable, optical illusion, the weird ambiguous state of seeing what is not there. From trompe l'oeil to camouflage via op art and much more. Bertie is an accredited Arts Society (formerly NADFAS) lecturer.



Is this the real Bertie Pearce? Come and find out!

"The U3A ethos is shared, participative and self-help learning, by members for members. The result will be not only an increase in knowledge, but a supportive and friendly atmosphere which enables everyone to participate." These are principles of the U3A movement. Are we fulfilling them, now we are 25? Any ideas for improvement?

**Thanks ...** As well as coming off the Committee, Tina Fenwick Smith has decided to retire as organiser of the tea rota for Monthly General Meetings. She is warmly thanked for ensuring that groups know when it is their turn to provide this vital service and for looking after them so well. **Therefore ... wanted** : please would someone come forward to take on this sociable role. It doesn't have to be a Committee member. Please talk to Tina or any Committee member to learn more.

**Also** : as well as seeking nominations (see AGM papers) the Committee would welcome one or two extra people to be co-opted to their number for a year. If you would like to join this friendly bunch, initially by attending a Committee meeting to see what it involves, please talk to any of them. Contact details are in your Programme of Activities and our website: [midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://midhurstu3a.org.uk)

## Outings by coach

**Tuesday 30 April** The Land of Stanley Spencer : Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere, and the Stanley Spencer Gallery in Cookham. Only a few places left.

**Wednesday 12 June** Nymans Gardens and then to Town Place, a private garden nearby. For further details please contact Committee member Geoff Wadge. See him and his fellow Outings Committee members at our Monthly General Meetings, or visit our website [midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://midhurstu3a.org.uk)

**Study Day** This year's Study Day will be on Saturday 19 October : *From New York to New Mexico: Diversity in American Art 1900-1950* Tutor: Bernard Allan. More details to follow. Bookings will be taken from mid July.

## New!

**Croquet** Arun Valley U3A has invited members of Midhurst U3A to join a new, joint, Croquet group to use the croquet lawn at the Rother Valley Croquet Club by Duncton Village Hall on Mondays 10am-12.30pm, April-October. Tuition and all equipment will be provided; all that is needed is to wear flat shoes. There will be a nominal charge of £5 per session to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Anne Sugarman via [www.arunvalley.org.uk/groups](http://www.arunvalley.org.uk/groups)

**Church Visiting** David Earley is considering setting up a new Church Visiting group. The plan would be to meet once a month to visit three or four neighbouring churches in Sussex, with occasional forays across the border into Hampshire and Surrey. At each church, the group would discuss the architecture and features of the churches visited, and perhaps have a drink and a bite to eat in a local café or hostelry.

**Bus Safaris** As advertised in the last "What's on?". The first trip, organised by Philip Watts, using bus passes for a great day out, will be to Old Bosham on **Wednesday 22 May**. See the poster at Monthly General Meetings or email Philip on [u3abussafaris@gmail.com](mailto:u3abussafaris@gmail.com). The next safaris are being planned for **24 July** and **18 September**.

## Highlights and news about groups

**See your Programme of Activities or [www.midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://www.midhurstu3a.org.uk) for more information and the contact details for group leaders**

There are some 45 groups - here is news of a few:

**Architecture** I have arranged with Fiona Lukas, the Blue Badge Guide who took us around the tube system of London last November, to guide us on another walk, on Wednesday 22 May, on the London Blitz. As Fiona says - "The Blitz is often described as London's darkest hour, but also London's finest hour. On this walk around the City we will discover how Londoners coped with the aerial bombardment of WW2 and see the shadows still cast by the night of 29th December 1940. From bomb sites to memorials, see how the modern City remembers". Details have yet to be finalised. Malcolm Hutchings

**Art History** Following our visits to exhibitions at the National Gallery and Tate Britain, we shall start a new course in July, devoted to painting in the "Dutch Golden Age" of the 17th century. With sessions devoted to such great masters as Rembrandt, Hals, Vermeer and Ruisdael we shall be in for a visual feast! Commencing on Tuesday 9 July the course will run for 10 months and will cost £10 to cover the cost of room hire, refreshments and hand-outs. Further details from Bernard Allan

**Behind the Bible** Now five members, the group is embroiled in all the complexities of Mediterranean life, religions and politics which find their way into Christian scripture. It's exciting and unexpected. We have a sense we will never come to an end! It may not be possible to run a parallel group - it would take a two headed professor or two professors. Alison Halliwell

**Computing Skills** Our next two lessons will be:  
8 May – **Solving your individual problems** – As this is a very popular subject, we have agreed to run it again. If possible, let us know beforehand what you would like help with.  
12 June – Subject will be announced later. If you have any preferences, please let us know.

The lessons are for those with Windows-based laptops and desktop computers. If your computer is not portable, we can lend you a Midhurst U3A laptop for the lesson. We meet on Wednesdays from 2 to 4pm in the Roman Catholic Church Hall in Bepton Road. Participants are expected to arrive by 1.45pm to set up their computers. We have reduced the size of the group to improve participation and interaction. Hence it is important that you book beforehand. Please contact Jean Farguson

**Craft** The group goes well but we could do with one or two interested in crafts including knitting or crochet. June Reed

**Discussion** Every time the group meets the subjects are challenging. Take February - we seemed a tad at odds with gender reassignment. We also contemplated what Midhurst needs to be more attractive. More parking or less in the high street? Larger main car park but where is the land and at what cost? What do shop keepers want? Market? No market? Control of what new applications pass through the planners: who should make these choices? District, County, or Town Council.....who has Midhurst's interests really at heart? No answers but enthusiasm is one thing we certainly don't lack. David Risley

**Dog Walking** The first walk of this group in Petworth Park on a lovely sunny day was enjoyed by all. See photo on back page. The dogs were excited to run around together, chasing sticks and investigating new smells and were very well behaved. We saw deer only in the far distance so no problem there. Non dog owners welcome. Please ask to be put on the mailing list for confirmation of venue and date. Tricia Stephens

**Garden** Having recently taken over as leader of this group, I am keen to make it as interactive, inclusive and interesting as possible. We recently had a very lively and informative 'Gardener's Question Time' session and will be visiting a member's garden this month to help with Spring pruning and make some suggestions for landscaping and planting schemes. Future topics include a pot planting party, a visit to Parham, another 'hands on' and plant swap session, a speaker, and a quiz. We have space for another 2 or 3 members. Barbara Somma

**Milland Valley Railway Modellers** We shall be at the Milland Rural Fair in the Milland Village Hall on 2nd June. We have gained a couple to our group recently but continue to recruit for a few more. If you are interested in taking up the hobby or returning to it after a break contact me : model.railways1@liphooku3a.org.uk. Tony Bettger

**Science & Technology** We are currently exploring a visit to the Brooklands Museum in the near future. We would be glad to hear of suggested items or venues that the group and possible new members might like to be included or indeed visit again. Mike Pope is welcomed as the new contact for the group. David Hargreaves, Geoff Wadge, and Dave Ratcliffe will also be playing a part in organising the group's activities.

**Smart Phone** The group meet monthly in members' homes. See the photo on the back page. To join them, either if you have a smart phone or if you are wondering about buying one, contact Pat Mütter

**Theatre Visits** by coach:

11 May - the Watermill Theatre near Newbury, 2.30pm -

*Amélie*, a musical adaptation of the award-winning film

4 July - the Theatre Royal, Brighton, 2.30pm - *The Mousetrap*

19 August - Chichester Festival Theatre, 7.30pm - *Oklahoma!*  
Sanchia Elsdon

**Thursday Lunch** The group, which now meets at La Piazzetta Restaurant in West Street at 12.30 on the second

Thursday of the month, has got off to a good start. Eighteen attended in March. Choose two courses out of three for £12.50. Coffee is included. John Sumner

## U3A beyond Midhurst

Your subscription to Midhurst U3A includes a membership subscription for the Third Age Trust and an affiliation fee to entitle you to attend the activities of the Sussex U3A Network and the South East U3A Forum and Region:

### Sussex U3A Network (SUN)

[www.u3asites.org.uk/sussexu3anetwork](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/sussexu3anetwork)

Events for members of all the U3As in Sussex, including:

**Sussex Spirit, Myths & Legends Exhibition** - Saturday 13 July at Sussex University's Jubilee Building, Falmer. The culmination of a Shared Learning Project for SUN U3As undertaken by various interest groups. Free entry.

**Saturday Study Day:** 11 May: Eureka! A brief history of maths - with Roger Luther at Patching

Further information on the SUN and Midhurst U3A websites or from Dave Ratcliffe.

**South East U3A Forum Summer School** at the University of Chichester Monday-Thursday 24-27 June.  
[www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum)

### South East U3A Region Citizens 800 Shared Learning

**Project:** Royal Holloway College is proud to be partnered with the University of the Third Age. U3A members are welcome to join their rolling programme of Shared Learning Projects. There is a series of workshops to be held this year. Go to [www.citizens800.org/u3a](http://www.citizens800.org/u3a) for further information. Any U3A member in the SE region is invited to attend any of these half day workshops and get involved in guided research. No previous knowledge or equipment is required.

## The Third Age Trust

The U3A national body for all the U3As in the UK, providing educational and administrative support, insurance cover, information, and events.

[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk), tel 020 8466 6139, facebook U3A UK

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*, which Midhurst U3A has arranged to be sent by post to all our group leaders and committee members. You should let the Midhurst U3A Secretary, Sara Dodds, know if you do not receive it but would like to, or do not want to receive it any more, so that she can update the list supplied to the Third Age Trust for the external organisation which distributes it.

**Forthcoming events** include: "An Afternoon at Historic Southwark Cathedral" Friday 10 May [www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events](http://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events) and Summer Schools : Volunteers needed to help run them : 12-15 August in Birmingham and 10-13 September in Cirencester.

## What was on recently?

Christmas lunch at the Unicorn in December, but everyone was having such a good time that no one took any photos. You will just have to imagine or remember the happy scene of 60 people enjoying a good meal together.



The first walk of the new Dog Walking group in Petworth Park on a lovely sunny day in March was enjoyed by dogs and humans alike. See page 3



The Craft group enjoyed a visit to Ramster Gardens at Chiddingfold for the bi-annual Embroidery and Craft exhibition.



In February the Walking group enjoyed unseasonably warm weather and splendid views on Bignor Hill

Petworth Coffee Morning group continue to have a good number - a mixture of people from Arun Valley and Midhurst U3As. The lovely new manager of The Angel provides biscuits.



The Smart Phone group shared ideas, problems, and solutions. See page 3



Both Spanish classes (Year 3 & beginners) are doing very well and have students in both who are taking advantage of the reciprocal Spanish/ German arrangement with Haslemere U3A. As you can see it's heads down to some hard work, but they do have a lot of laughs as well!

## Midhurst U3A Communication

A 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, including the editor of "What's on?" for entries for the 5 x 25 competition (see front page).

**Website:** [midhurstu3a.org.uk](http://midhurstu3a.org.uk) Includes contact page for various enquiries, group leaders, and Committee members.

**What's on?** is published quarterly for all members and others. It is issued at or just before General Meetings or posted or hand-delivered or emailed soon after. If you would like to contribute contact Carol Brinson. Last date for next contributions is 30 June for mid-July issue.

**Midhurst U3A news emails** are issued approximately fortnightly to members. If you would like to contribute, or to receive them if you don't already, or to come off the list, contact Di Ponting.

**Notices** are given out and **information** is displayed at the General Meetings (see front page of this *What's on?*).

**PRIVACY STATEMENT** Because of the General Data Protection Regulations, when joining or renewing you are asked to give us permission to use the information you have supplied in the following ways: to store it securely for the purposes of membership and Gift Aid and MailChimp enews (if applicable), to communicate with you as a U3A member, to share with group leaders for those groups of which you are a member or with organisers of events or outings for which you book. You can ask for your data not to be used for any of these purposes at any time via links on [www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst/contact](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst/contact) or by speaking to any committee member (phone numbers are in your Programme of Activities).

**Photographs** of members taking part in U3A activities are used for publicity purposes. If you do not wish to be included please inform the photographer at the time the photograph is taken.

**Group leaders and committee members** should also see the Third Age Trust piece about "Third Age Matters" on page 3 of this newsletter.