

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 the town, notices at Monthly Talks, local free magazines and facebook pages, and www.u3asites.org.uk/midhurst

Monthly Talks - See next page for more detail and dates



Tuesday 18 April
"Sussex Industrial History : a different perspective" - Geoffrey Mead

Tuesday 20 June
The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Service



Annual General Meeting Tuesday 16 May

Followed by a short talk by Bernard Allan. Paid-up members only - subscriptions due by 1 April

Free admission and refreshments including 'coronation celebration' cake

See AGM papers sent to all members with this newsletter

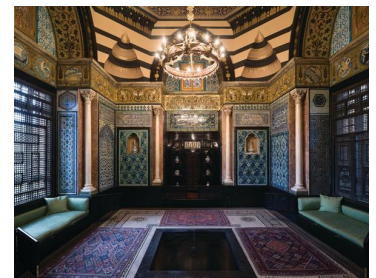
Outings by Coach



17 May
**Corsham Court and
Lacock Village**
Bookings now being taken



12 July
Kelmscott Manor and Lechlade Village
Look out for more details nearer the time



4 October
Leighton House, London
Look out for more details
nearer the time

Contact : Denise Barre - Outings Organiser

Summer Social Event

Friday 23 June

Lunch at Cowdray Golf Club

It was much enjoyed last year - look out for more details

Study Day - "The Natural World - real and in art"

Saturday 21 October

A revival of our popular Study Days pre-Covid, with a new slant

Three speakers, discussion, coffee, lunch, tea, displays, books and prints for sale

Put the date in your diary and look out for more information

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

18 April - Sussex Industrial History : a different perspective - Geoffrey Mead

(16 May - AGM - Members only)

20 June - The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Service

18 July - In Search of the Northern Lights - Gerald Ponting

15 August - Whodunnit? 200 Years of Murder - Doug Eaton

19 September - A Conspiracy History of the World - Andy Thomas

17 October - Some Body Like You - Alan Jones

Messages

Thank you : a recent eNews asked what you enjoy in u3a : member Pat Hallifax : "I really enjoy the Discussion group and Charles enjoys the History group" and Ted Liddle : "I am a very, very new member. ... excited at the vast range of subjects covered ... My thanks must go to all the very active arrangers of the whole of u3a in Midhurst".

How to know what's going on : apart from this newsletter, and the printed Programme of Activities sent to all members when they renew or join, there are frequent eNewsletters (please make sure we have your correct email address). The website is constantly updated with news and events. Also see posters in the Library and the Grange and around the town, occasional facebook postings on local pages such as 'Midhurst & Easebourne Community Board', free magazines including 'Midhurst Local', and plenty of information at our monthly talks. Even better - join the committee and be a part of making things happen! It's fun and interesting.

Please remember : Midhurst u3a is run by the members for the members. No-one is paid. Its success depends on the active participation of its members in its special interest groups and committee, and through members volunteering to help at the activities - in small ways such as welcoming visitors and new members at our monthly talks, or in larger ways by helping run a special interest group, social event or outing, or assisting with publicity. Please talk to any committee member about how you can play your part if you don't already, or there is a "Volunteers Needed" form with this newsletter you could use - please!

Emergency Contact On our renewal form this year we ask for emergency contact details. This is optional but for your benefit we may need to contact someone who can help in the event of an incident/accident. The details will be kept strictly confidential.

Group Leaders Handbook : the committee has produced a new version of this vital document. Everyone is welcome to read it on the website or to ask for a copy, not just Group Leaders but every u3a member because it explains much.

Talking of groups ...

On a walk round Graylingwell Park in Chichester with the Short Walks group late last year I saw the shape of Graylingwell Farmhouse pictured here c1904 but now



West Sussex Past Pictures

swathed in scaffolding. This reminded me of an interest aroused some years before, because, apart from a liking for historic buildings, I had read that Anna Sewall, author of a favourite book, Black Beauty, had lived there in the 1850s. "There is a topic for you to explore for the Local History group" says Group Leader Penny. That certainly set me on such an enjoyable trail of research. Thank you, both groups! Carol Brinson

Opera at Brighton's Theatre Royal : once a year the Theatre Royal in Brighton hosts a touring opera company. This year's production of La Boheme has proved so popular with Midhurst u3a members that we have a waiting list. If you would like to be informed of future productions, to avoid disappointment, give your name to Bernard Allan - Opera Trip Organiser.

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

Art History - Bernard Allan:

New course, starting in July: 'An Introduction to Scottish Art'. Many of Scotland's finest artists sought their fortunes south of the border and, as a result, they are simply perceived as "British" (for example David Wilkie). But Scotland enjoyed a vibrant art scene with its own art institutions and art schools. Henry Raeburn was the first significant artist to pursue his entire career in Scotland, while in the late 19th century the "Glasgow Boys" achieved renown, followed in the 20th century by the "Scottish Colourists" and some remarkable female artists.



"The Skating Minister"
Henry Raeburn
National Gallery of Scotland

Further details to follow about how to sign up.

Also - there may be spaces left for the group's visit to Dulwich Picture Gallery on 9 May. Contact Pauline Hutchings for more information.

Discussion - Michael de Jong-Smith:

This small, friendly group would welcome new members. They like to discuss every subject under the sun, although try (sometimes unsuccessfully!) to avoid religion and party politics.

Environment & Climate Change - Philip Watts:

Talks have included "Improving emissions from cargo ships" and the group are planning a visit in May to the Ford Recycling Centre.

History 2 - Christine Musgrove:

Why does the past matter and how might it shape our lives today? To find out more, why not join our small group where members share a topic of their choice and present it on a rotational basis amid plenty of lively discussion. We are just starting to turn from 17th century subjects to discussing various 18th century topics but we enjoy general informal discussions about why history matters and how it can make sense of the present. We meet in the Reading Room of the Sanatorium on the King Edward VII Estate.

Architecture - Malcolm Hutchings:

17 April. An afternoon visit has been arranged to the Green Oak Carpentry Company in Rake, Liss, to hear about and look at aspects of traditional timber framing of houses and any structures that they are working on at the time.

Architecture continued...

This visit is followed by a trip to Chichester Stoneworks in Chichester on 17 May where we will learn from where their stone is obtained, how different types of stone are needed for different buildings, and their exposure to the elements and hopefully see some of the stonemasons working on projects.

New members welcome.

u3a High Street Project - Malcolm Hutchings:

In 2020 Midhurst u3a's Architecture Group participated in a national u3a project gathering photos and information about shopping streets. This is a record of changes that are happening around us, some quickly, and some less immediately obvious. What will the emerging trends be as time passes? Currently the number of images uploaded to www.u3ahighstreet.co.uk stands at 24,700. The interactive map shows the exact location of many premises and the approximate location of most. Our participation covered Petworth as well as Midhurst.

Science & Technology 1 - Barry Freedman:

New! Do you have an enquiring mind? The aim of this newly formed group will be to have monthly meetings covering both topical scientific and engineering developments and specific subjects of relevance. The format will be guest speakers, speakers from within the group or local u3a neighbours, or simply discussion of the latest news. Additionally, there will be perhaps one or two outings per year. The plan is that, once established, the agenda will be shaped by the group members.

Short walks - Penny Holland:

After all the rain, alternating with ice, before Christmas, the group has been enjoying 2023 rather more. We started off the year walking from Graffham church along the bottom of the South Downs with beautiful views, had a turn about Cowdray polo grounds a couple of weeks later, and saw amazing wildlife at Petworth Park on our next walk. Not "just" the deer, but a white egret and a crested grebe. February saw us at Fernhurst exploring lanes and woods new to most of us.



What was on? Here are a few examples:



The u3a Day in September in the Old Library was a friendly and useful way of spreading the word about the wonders of Midhurst u3a

An outing to Osterley Park and Strawberry Hill in October was greatly enjoyed as was the trip to Winchester Christmas Market and Christmas Lunch at the Unicorn



A group had a good day at the Weald & Downland Museum in October "...despite the predicted rain that did its best but failed to ruin the day. We made the most of our time there and the highlight had to be the Gridshell tour and the Artefact Store."

The "Where, When, What, Who?" quiz of Midhurst taxed our local knowledge in an enjoyable way. Answers and names of winners available on request.



The quiz at Cowdray Golf Club in November was fun. Well done the "My Favourite Team" team for winning and "The Quizlings" for much laughter in achieving the booby prize! Put 21 September in your diary for the next one!

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)**, 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

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. The next one is 4-7 September.

www.u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum

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; individual group leaders are contactable via each individual group page, and events organisers via the events page**. Updated frequently.

This **"What's on?"**: a twice-yearly printed newsletter for all members. The next one will be in October.

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

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.**