

NEWSLETTER No. 37 - January/February 2019

FROM THE CHAIR.

Well, I'm sure everybody has recovered from the festive season, moving on to, perhaps, one of the challenges set for us all in January - whether it is to give up something (usually alcohol), lose the couple of centimetres added to our waist, take more exercise, try something completely new or more boldly, a complete lifestyle change and become a Vegan! Whatever you have decided to do - including nothing of course - good luck and I hope you can continue to see beneficial results.

Penny Senior has planned an excellent series of lecture meetings for the year, the next being on 5th February. Mention of Penny leads me to an important message to all Members. Penny has been a Committee Member and then Vice Chair for the six years of this U3A's life, and now has to stand down from the Committee having served the maximum term allowed in the Constitution. Further Committee Members/Trustees are also coming to the end of their permitted term, and others have indicated they will not be standing for re-election at the AGM for personal reasons.

This means our Executive Committee, which is also the Board of Trustees, will be severely depleted this coming year. I have made other appeals for Members to come forward during the past year, sadly with little response - but this message to you is now serious, if we cannot rebuild the Committee numbers this U3A will not thrive and be able to contribute such inestimable value to so many residents' lives. Please do consider coming forward to join the Committee - it is a really interesting role and your chance to influence our U3A, one of the largest and most flourishing organisations in the village and surrounding area.

Please speak to me or any Committee Member to learn more.

Stephen Hales, Chair.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONTHLY MEETINGS - held at Milford Community Centre, Sea Road at 2.00 p.m. sharp, please.

Tuesday 5th February 2019: 'Between Two Rivers'
 Brockenhurst to Bucklers Hard
 Speaker: Aimee Durnell.

Tuesday 5th March 2019: 'Travels with a Camera'
 Speaker: Mike Read.

Tuesday 2nd April 2019: 'It's a Hard Life'
 Ship Building and Life at Bucklers Hard
 Speaker: Eileen Spratt



Last Month We All Joined in.

We would urge you to try to arrive in sufficient time to allow for possible parking difficulties and to find a seat, particularly if you want two or more together.

LUNCH CLUB Dates and venues

Tuesday 19th February 2019: The Royal Oak, Downton.

Tuesday 19th March 2019: The Fisherman's Rest, All Saints Road, Lymington.

Tuesday 16th April 2019: Venue to be Finalised.

for more information, please contact Chris Atkins at catkins62@hotmail.com

THEATRE TRIPS (see page 3)

Thursday 28th February 2019: 'The Mirror Cracked'. by Agatha Christie at Salisbury,

Saturday 23rd March 2019: 'The Verdict' by Barry Reed at Winchester.

GROUPS' COORDINATOR'S REPORT.

Here we are flying through the start of the year with Christmas and the New Year celebrations a distant memory. Our groups have had their first meetings of 2019 and I'm sure that they will go from strength to strength with the guidance of your coordinators. I would like, on your behalf, to say a big thank you to them for all the hard work they put into the groups.

The second Historical Topics Group is now well established. They meet on the second Monday of each month and have space for a few more members. (See page 3 for more details)

A Science Group was suggested last year and I already have some members interested, so hopefully we can see this group up and running very soon. Watch this space!

A workshop entitled 'Austerity and the UK Economy' is being held on 7th February between 2.00 and 4.00 p.m. at the Community Centre with a small charge of £2 for room hire. There are still a couple of spaces available and anyone who has attended a workshop run by John Whitley will know how interesting and informative they are.

If you are interested in any of the above, or indeed anything else, please don't hesitate to contact me

Karen Busby, Groups' Coordinator. karenbusby310@aol.com, 01590 644015.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE AND RENEWALS

We hope you have enjoyed your U3A membership and plan to renew for another year. The new membership year starts on April 1st 2019 but we will be accepting renewals from the March Monthly Meeting which will be on Tuesday 5th March.

The Executive Committee have followed up the commitment made at last year's AGM to keep the amount of subscription under review. They have considered the U3A's income, expenditure and reserves and have determined that for the subscription year commencing 1st April next the subscription for existing and new Members will be £15, a reduction on the current level of £20. The aim of this change is to maintain our reserves at a healthy but not excessive level.

There are a number of ways in which you can renew your membership:

1. At the Monthly Meetings in March and April.
2. By cheque payable to Milford on Sea U3A. Please send this cheque **to Dawn Brown, Membership Secretary, 4 Addington Court, Keats Avenue, Milford on Sea, Lymington, SO41 0WN**. Please ensure you include your name and membership number on the back.
3. By direct bank payment to Sort Code 40-30-36 and Account Number 11510827 using your name and membership number for reference.

Please note: if you are going to renew before April 2019, please ensure that any cheques are dated 1st April 2019 and any bank transfers are sent on or after the 1st April 2019.

Once you have renewed your membership, your new membership card will be ready for you to collect at the Monthly Meeting. This year we have a new Membership Database and the new Membership Cards will be printed off automatically so it will look very different. It will save me many hours of hand writing the names, so I am marvelling at the wonders of technology.

Dawn Brown - Membership Secretary.

LUNCH CLUB CHRISTMAS



Some 40 members of the Lunch Club met at the Community Centre in December for their Christmas Lunch Party. They sat down to a sumptuous lunch, organised and prepared by Sonia Sewell, Lyn Atkins and their dedicated team of elves, which kicked off with a cold platter of a wide range of meats and fish. This was followed by roast turkey with ALL the trimmings or oven baked cod. There was then a choice of desserts, including Sonia's home made Christmas pudding and Lyn's specialist fruit trifles. This was all washed down with plenty of wine and/or various non-alcoholic options and rounded off with tea or coffee.

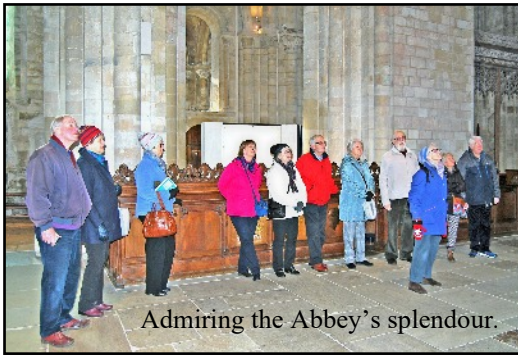
After a short time to allow the digestive juices to do their work, the party was entertained by Sheila Johnson with one of her humorous verses (see right and page 4). Finally, everyone joined in with a hilarious 'pass the parcel' complete with forfeits and prizes. Well sated, we all left for home having enjoyed a few hours of food, conversation and great companionship.

One of our members sent us a message saying "a very big THANK YOU, on behalf of the members, for a splendid lunch. These things do not happen by magic" - how true!!!

John Sewell.



VILLAGES 1.



Admiring the Abbey's splendour.

We braved initially icy conditions on Wednesday 23rd January for our visit to Romsey Abbey and King John's House.

We really enjoyed guided tours to both historic sites, together with early coffees and late lunches in Miss Moody's Tea Rooms at the House. Among a lot of interesting things to see and hear, we were amazed to view a 'non-slip' floor made from cattle bones.

Jim Bunting claimed the prize with an all correct answer to the "Villages we have visited" Christmas Quiz. (A copy is appended if you'd like to have a go - answers next time!).

Nigel Swann, Coordinator

HISTORICAL TOPICS 2

Historical Topics 2 had an excellent first meeting with 5 members attending and Charlotte Newnham of Historical Topics 1 to help us get started, thank you Charlotte. This is a new and refreshing way of looking at History. We pick a year and everyone chooses a topic to research and talk about at the next meeting. At our first meeting in January 2019 we picked 1945 and topics included:- Rationing (buff, green & blue ration books), War Artists (many famous names including Lowry & Sutherland), Utility Furniture/clothes/pottery and the impact on designers of the time, the bombing of Dresden, the disappearance of US Navy Flight 19 over the Bermuda Triangle and inventions, notably the first electronic, programmable computer, the Electronic Numerical Integrator Analyzer and Computer (ENIAC). It weighed 30 tons, covered 1800 sq ft, (182 sq m), failed daily and was less powerful than a modern smart watch weighing a few ounces.

The group meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 2.00 p.m. in the Dining room of the Beach House Hotel and currently has room for 5 new members. We invite anyone interested to get in touch, via the pigeon link on the Milford on Sea U3A website, giving their U3A membership number. The next meeting on 11th February will look at topics up to 5 years either side of 1850.

John Hall, coordinator

MODERN HISTORY GROUP

Now on the brink of their third year, the Group is preparing for the challenges posed by a study of the Second World War. We have already researched the Great War and then the 1920's, including America, the Jazz age and the Great Depression. The three Great Dictators, Stalin, Mussolini and Hitler together with their respective ideologies, Communism, Fascism and Nazism have given the group much food for thought. A first hand account of a childhood in the years following the Spanish Civil War was felt to be particularly moving.

With so much of interest and relevance ahead of us it will be a considerable time before the group is ready to become another Current Affairs Group.

Elisabeth Hall, Coordinator.



We enjoyed lunch at the Beach House.

THEATRE GROUP

We are looking forward to a trip on Thursday 28th February to Salisbury Playhouse to see a matinee performance of Agatha Christie's 'The Mirror Crack'd'. The coach will be leaving from the Sea Road car park at 10.00 a.m. This trip is completely full, so only reserve places can be taken now.

Then on Saturday March 23rd a coach is going to Winchester to see the matinee performance of 'The Verdict', a courtroom drama by Barry Reed. Lots of you have shown interest, please now confirm that interest and be prepared to pay £28.50 at the Theatre Desk at the February General Meeting to secure your place."

Liz Christian, Coordinator.

CRAFT GROUP.

Last year we had 2 new members join our Craft Group so we are now full again. At the moment we are making jewellery, which is great fun, and next month we are planning to make fashion accessories, brooches and hair decorations. We are also planning to make waxed fabric food covers, which are environmentally friendly, to use instead of cling film and foil.

Last year we made lavender bottles, embroidered cards, shopping bags, Christmas decorations and Temari balls. These beautiful embroidered balls originated in Japan. It is thought that Brides made these for future Mother in Laws and were judged on their efforts as to whether they were a suitable wife for their son !

Lyn Atkins Coordinator.

DOWN TON EVERTON
CHARITABLE TRUST & COMMUNITY PANEL
KEYHAVEN LYMORE MILFORD ON SEA

ALL WELCOME...
MARKETPLACE TOGETHER
ALL GENERATIONS VILLAGES
WORKING TOGETHER
THE BIG INFO DAY
 FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY!
SATURDAY 2ND MARCH 2019
10:00AM - 2:00PM
 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE,
 SEA ROAD, MILFORD ON SEA.
SUPPORT
 FREE TEA & COFFEE
SEA BREEZES
INFORMATION
MUSIC & CAKE
THE MILFORD ON SEA

COMMUNITY PANEL 'BIG INFO DAY'

Do you know everything that is happening in our local community? You would be amazed at how many voluntary organisations and groups there are in our villages, all offering opportunities for people to get together, whether it's to share an interest, help others, or make new friends.

The Milford on Sea Community Panel, a group of people from many of these organisations, has arranged a special event called The Big Info Day. There will be groups that offer activities of all kinds. The U3A are having a stand, so why not pop in and say hello? There will be free tea, coffee and cake!

A key purpose of the Panel is to combat loneliness. We hope that this event will bring people together. As well as groups to join, there will be organisations that offer support. Do you have a relative, neighbour or friend who might benefit from support, or more contact with other people? Why not encourage them to come with you?

Jenny Whitley




TABLE TENNIS

2018 proved a good year for the Group with, as mentioned in an earlier note, numbers attending sessions averaging 7. In consequence, we started the New Year in optimistic mood and, with another new member already, things bode well for the continued viability of the Group. As well as the usual sessions, we hope this year it may be possible to arrange a match or two to test our skills through gentle exercise in a fun atmosphere remains our primary objective.

New members are always welcome - why not give it a try.

Chris Atkins

VILLAGES 4

After a very busy year in 2018 visiting lots of different villages, this year we are starting off researching the history of Milford on Sea. We plan to visit the St Barbe Museum for the Admiral Cornwallis exhibition and go on a trip to Bucklers Hard.

We still have room for a couple of new members.

Pam Peirson, Coordinator.

MAH-JONG GROUP

"We continue with our enthusiastic sessions of Mah-Jong, for which we meet at The Beach House twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays. We are now closed to new applicants, thus we must start a waiting list. Mah-Jong is a great game which 'gets the brain cells working'. I suggest that perhaps a second group might start?"

Anthony Fox, Coordinator. I can be contacted at:

anthonyfox444@gmail.com or on 01590-645235.

A SEA CAPTAIN'S NIGHTMARE

Yes! I'm Captain of P & O "Oriana"
 I knew I'd be in for some unusual drama
 As I glanced down hurriedly at the passenger list,
 I saw a few names I wouldn't have missed.

Yes, there it was printed in blue
 You know her well - her name is Sue
 And there's the other one, not far behind
 The lovely Penny - so gentle and kind
 But when her peaked cap is in reverse gear
 That is the moment I have to fear.

Now the third one, can't see the name there
 She writes a bit and has a little flair
 She's not an Aussie, tho' her name is Sheila
 And on "Twenties Night" I can always see her
 Kicking and shaking and leading them on
 Swishing her skirts as she dances a Charleston.

I don't think they can do anything worse than this
 All should be plain sailing; in fact perfect bliss
 No pirouetting Pennys or zumbaring Sues
 A Captain's dream, a heavenly Cruise.

But why didn't they tell me it was Halloween
 As a theme was dreamt up by the entertainment team.
 Oh no! Here comes those two in tall pointed hats
 Balanced on broomsticks with evil black cats.

Cauldrons aglow on the ship's beautiful stage
 I imagine the Director's flying into a fearful rage
 But could this be part of a clever wheeze
 To sell the "Oriana" to the unwitting Chinese.

Sheila Johnson.

Material for our next issue should be with the editor by 17th March 2019 please.

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VILLAGES 1 CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2018

1.
 - a. Where is Peterson's Folly?
 - b. How high is it?
 - c. When was it built?
2.
 - a. Where was the home of a religious sect in the New Forest?
 - b. What was its name?
 - c. Who was its leader?
3.
 - a. Name the church and village where William Gilpin is buried
 - b. What famous battle cruiser is associated with this church?
4.
 - a. Name the church and village where Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is buried
 - b. What was unusual about his first burial?
5.
 - a. In which village did a local white witch live?
 - b. What was her name?
 - c. What sort of pet did she have and what was its name?
6.
 - a. In which local village can you see cob cottages?
 - b. What materials were used in their construction?
7.
 - a. What is the name 'Pennington' derived from?
8.
 - a. Where is Montagu Town?
 - b. By what name is it known today?
9.
 - a. Where is Fishers Mead, which was once a local hotel?
10.
 - a. How many graves are there in All Saints Church, Milford on Sea?
11.
 - a. Which Milford resident had a dalliance with the (then) Prince of Wales?
 - b. Who was her closest female friend?
12.
 - a. Who built the most expensive beach hut in Milford on Sea?
 - b. When was it completed?
13.
 - a. Name the church and village with a Commonwealth War Graves cemetery
 - b. With which country is it mainly associated?
14.
 - a. For what were adders hunted in the New Forest?
 - b. Name a famous hunter of them
 - c. Where was his home reputed to have been?
15.
 - a. Who built the second Highcliffe – known as the Castle?
 - b. Name its most famous visitor
 - c. Name its most famous tenant
16.
 - a. When was the battle of Mudeford?
 - b. Who was hanged after a subsequent trial?
17.
 - a. The Trusty Servant at Minstead had what sort of ears?
 - b. The Trusty Servant at Minstead had what sort of nose?
 - c. The Trusty Servant at Minstead had what sort of feet?
18.
 - a. What is the name of the cast iron icon at Lower Canterton?
 - b. Give the full name of the person involved
 - c. To what year does it relate?

Answers in March/April Issue.