



NEWSLETTER No. 33 - MAY 2018

FROM THE CHAIR.

Welcome to what will be my last newsletter as your Chair, since I will be relinquishing the post at the A.G.M. on June 5th. In it are the Annual Reports, where you can see what has been happening throughout the year, and how your Committee has managed the U3A on your behalf. At the meeting you will be able to ask any questions on the reports that you might have, as well as electing the new Committee for the forthcoming year.

At this meeting two of our committee members will be standing down, Carol Richards who has done sterling work looking after our Monthly Meeting arrangements leaves for personal reasons, and Dawn Brown who has now served the three years permitted by the U3A Constitution. However, Dawn has agreed to carry on as Membership Secretary in a non-committee role, attending meetings only when significant Membership matters are to be discussed.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee and, indeed the membership in general, for all their support during the past year - it's been a pleasure to work with you. Although standing down as Chair, I have agreed to stand for the Committee, for what will be the last of the six years I'm allowed in order to ensure a smooth take over by my successor to whom I wish every success. I am also prepared to continue to edit this newsletter for the time being.

REMEMBER IF IT'S NOT FUN IT'S NOT U3A !!

John Sewell, Chairman

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (A.G.M.)

Just to remind you that all members of the Milford on Sea U3A are invited to the A.G.M. on Tuesday 5th June 2018 at 2.00 p.m. in the Community Centre. The Officers' Reports will be found on pages 2 and 3 of this Newsletter and the Agenda etc. and Annual Accounts on pages 5 and 6 respectively (as loose inserts for those with hard copies). Following the guest speaker there will be a complimentary cream tea, lovingly prepared by our hospitality team.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 5th June 2018: | 'Milford and The Grand Plan'.
Speaker: Ron Kirby. |
| Tuesday 3rd July 2018: | 'The Bermuda Triangle'.
Disappearing Aeroplanes and Ships.
Speaker: Wg. Cdr. Tony Davies. |
| Tuesday 7th August 2018: | 'The Story of the Victorian Villa'.
A Bournemouth Hidden Treasure.
Speaker: Sarah Newman. |

LUNCH CLUB Dates and venues

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 19th June 2018: | The Walhampton Arms, Walhampton. |
| Tuesday 17th July 2018: | The Woolpack, Sopley. |
| Tuesday 21st August 2018: | Afternoon Tea with Lyn and Chris. |
- for more information, please contact Chris Atkins at catkins62@hotmail.com

THEATRE TRIPS

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Saturday 16th June 2018: | 'Love on the Links', by PG Wodehouse. | } See page 4 for details. |
| Saturday 4th August 2018: | 'Me and My Girl' at Chichester. | |

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017/18

This year has seen continued steady growth in our U3A from its small beginnings in late 2012 to our current position where we now have more than 300 members, most of whom live either in Milford or Everton. With this increase in membership comes a significant increase in activity, particularly in the number of Groups, and additional pressure on the Membership Secretary and Groups' Coordinator. Perhaps it's time to consider providing more support in these areas. Our constitution, based on that of the national organisation, only permits a Committee Member to serve for three years in any one role with a maximum of six years. It is, therefore, essential that we have a continuous injection of new blood into the organisation. Financially, we are in a reasonably healthy state as can be seen from the treasurer's report below.

Our Monthly meetings, where members enjoy talks on a very wide selection of topics and speakers found by our hard-working Penny Senior, continue to be well supported. The increase in membership now means that the attendance has steadily increased over the years so that we now need to use virtually all available space and chairs. I can foresee the time when we may have to either limit numbers or have an overflow facility - something a future committee may need to tackle. Apart from this, there were two other incidents which caused some concern; the first being when a disturbance occurred in the audience which caused us to review our emergency procedures; the second was when our speaker was forced to pull out due to illness at 7.30 p. m. on the eve of the meeting. After a fraught couple of hours and many phone calls, Penny managed to find a substitute who gave one of the best talks of the year. As a result of the latter, we have now set up a couple of items which can be called upon at short notice

The vast majority of our Groups continue to thrive with some subjects supporting 2, 3 or even 4 Groups. We are most grateful to all the Coordinators who, in many ways, are at the core of any U3A. During the year our range of 'other' activities continues much as before with the Theatre Group and Lunch Club providing excellent social gatherings. One off events have included the Annual Social evening in the Autumn, a Skittles Evening, a visit to the RNLi at Poole and a 'Thank You' Afternoon Tea for Coordinators and regular helpers. There were also regular 'get togethers' for new members - a valuable introduction for them and for us. A matter that causes me some concern is that I have made little mention of trips and visits, other than to the theatre. This is something that has previously been very successful and I very much regret that it has suffered since the previous group leader stepped down and all efforts to find a replacement have so far failed - there must be someone in our membership who could take it on, a retired travel agent perhaps.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for all their hard work during the past year - without your support my job would have been much more difficult, indeed well-nigh impossible. I know it may be considered invidious to pick out individuals but there are certain roles without which we couldn't operate and which take a considerable amount of time and effort. To Dawn for keeping the membership records so meticulously, to Karen for managing to keep the Coordinators in order, to June for keeping the books so meticulously and keeping us under control and to Penny for finding so many excellent speakers, goes my most sincere gratitude. Although not a committee member, Angela Bunting attends many of our meetings as 'keeper of the web site' and advisor on all things IT; together with Dawn she is also heavily involved in our work on the new national management system, thank you Angela. I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking Lyn Atkins and her faithful hospitality team for keeping us fed and watered at our many functions, both formal and informal, this they do in such an efficient and unobtrusive manner that I sometimes wonder just how. To our Meeting helpers and many other individuals who help in their different ways, my most grateful thanks.

Finally, I would like to thank you the members, for easing my way through what, in many ways, has been an eventful but mostly enjoyable year and may Milford on Sea U3A continue to go from strength to strength.

John Sewell, Chair.

TREASURERS REPORT 2017/18.

Dear Members. This is my first year as treasurer and I can report that we are in a very healthy financial position and our membership total keeps rising. As is shown on the Balance sheet at the year end on March 2018 we had a bank balance of £10,651. This is slightly less than last years balance, due to a small deficit of £1,360.00 for the year 2017-2018.

The deficit is due to the following reasons:-

- 1) The total income for the year is less than in previous years because fees paid in advance for 2018-19 have been held over to be included in the 2018-19 accounts. This has not been the practice in previous years.
- 2) We did not receive our 2017-18 gift aid claim due to a delay by H.M.R.C. Therefore, a sum of approximately £1000.00 will be received in this current year

Our Payments have remained consistent, the only marked increase is for group expenses, due to the decision to give £25.00 to each group to be used as they wished. I know that it has been suggested by some members that in view of bank balance, that the membership fees could be reduced. However, I think it would be prudent to retain this level of funds, so our expenses are covered, should our numbers decrease. Of course, if the bank level does increase significantly, then the committee will reconsider this matter again.

I can confirm that these accounts are a true and fair reflection of the income and payments of Milford on Sea U3A and have been independently examined.

June Cooper, Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2017/18

As at the 31st March 2017, the Membership stood at 320. During the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018, a total of 32 members did not renew their membership, 2 members sadly passed away and 53 new members joined. As at 31st March 2018 we had 339 members.

The number of members attending the monthly meeting ranged from 67 to 120 with an average attendance of 93.92 guests attended throughout the year.

We held two Afternoon Tea events for new members in June and November and 28 attended.

A new, unified information and management system (Beacon) is now being introduced nationally and we are currently heavily involved in preparing our initial inputs. Initially, this will be restricted to Membership data but later it will be extended to cover Group and perhaps Accounting information. We expect that the first phase of our use of the system will 'go live' on the Autumn of this year.

Dawn Brown, Membership Secretary.

GROUPS' COORDINATOR'S REPORT 2017/18.

The past months since our 2017 A.G.M. has seen our U3A go from strength to strength and the same can be said of our groups.

Earlier this year a thank-you event was held at the South Lawn Hotel for our coordinators and helpers, where there was the chance to enjoy a cream tea whilst relaxing with friends and colleagues

New groups have either started or been reinstated; Canasta, Walking, and Cycling which is so successful they now meet twice monthly. New groups are still possibly in the offing, Railways, Music Appreciation and Calligraphy and hopefully these will come to fruition in the not too distant future. If anyone has any ideas about groups they would like to see set up, please let me know. We now have a total of 42 Groups covering a wide range of 32 subjects, so we would hope there is something of interest for everyone.

The Theatre group has continued to make visits to Salisbury at regular intervals despite the problems in that city and the monthly Lunch Club have enjoyed excellent meals at various locations.

Please continue to take advantage of the many and varied groups, run by your hard working Coordinators, as we look forward to another successful year.

Karen Busby, Groups Coordinator. karenbusby310@aol.com,

COMMITMENT TO GROUPS

Further to the piece in the last Newsletter, the Committee has now received comments from one or two coordinators that some group members fail to turn up at group meetings without letting them know. Apart from being down right bad manners, this is really not acceptable, particularly after perhaps agreeing to attend, as it can involve the coordinator in considerable unnecessary stress and work.

VILLAGES 1

Villages 1 enjoyed an excellent private guided tour of the Christchurch Priory Church and St Michael's Loft Museum .

The museum is reached by climbing a stone spiral staircase, with 75 steps. It is well worth a visit but constitutes a good test of your fitness! We also enjoyed walking round the Convent Walk and learning about the Constable's House.

However, the photo shows that two of our members appear to have been detained by the Constable.

Nigel Swann, Coordinator.



VILLAGES 3



Recently David Allpress, one of our group members, suggested that, rather than study a particular village, we might look at the impact of the World War on the New Forest. His research led him to concentrate on the Royal Air Force's activities and we discovered that there were a significant number of airfields scattered about the area. On a day out we first visited Air Fields Memorial (right) where we laid red, white and blue tulips (left) as a mark of respect. Following an excellent lunch at The Woolpack in Sopley, we went on to visit the 'Friends of the New Forest Airfields' museum where we were shown round by some of their volunteer members and shown a video describing what went on in the WW2.

ART APPRECIATION



The four Art Appreciation groups gathered together in the Community Centre at the end of April to spend their £25 bonuses. After an excellent welcome and scrumptious home made biscuits and drinks, Gina from Art Appreciation 4, spoke, using one of Sorolla's paintings, about the Goethean Method of Observation which gives guidance as to what to look for in a work of art. Of course it prompted many and varied comments about what the artist was trying to convey - composition, mood, use of colour, brush marks and many other factors which lead us to look more closely at the picture. Then we had a wide ranging art based quiz with questions ranging from who won last year's Turner Prize to naming the

museum in Lymington. So we all had a chance to learn, comment and show off our knowledge as well as meeting members from the other groups.

Charlotte Newnham., Coordinator Art Appreciation 2.

CYCLING GROUP

I'm please to say the group is steadily growing, and we now have 13 members, 4 new cyclist joining us this month.

We've decided to expand our activities to twice a month and with this in mind we are going to add another date of the 4th Tuesday of the month also at 10.30 a.m. This will help those who are otherwise engaged on Wednesdays who might want to join the group.

The picture is a selfie, taken by Irvine Jay, of the Group at the East End Arms during one of our recent rides.

Paul Farndon, Coordinator.



THEATRE GROUP

Our next trip is to Salisbury on June 16th, to see "Love on the Links", a play based on P.G. Wodehouse's golfing stories, for which there may be seats available, come and see me at the next meeting if you would like to join us.

This summer's musical trip to Chichester Theatre to see "Me and My Girl" will be on Saturday 4th August. Please sign up at the next meeting if you are interested in going on this trip.. The price will be £52 for a top price theatre seat, plus £14 for the coach.

Liz Christian, Coordinator. lizmilford@aol.com

DEMENTIA ACTION GROUP - TEA ON THE GREEN



The U3A's very own 'Singing for Fun' Group (left) were delighted to sing at the tea party on Sunday 13th May. Accompanied by Anne Stublely on keyboard and led by Karen Busby, the audience joined in with gusto and a good time was had by all.



Lyn Atkin's Craft Group (right) were also present, selling some of the products

of their creative skills and making a significant contribution to the Action Group's Funds. funds. We were all delighted to be able to support such a worthy cause.

CAN YOU HELP?

We have received a request for help from Lindsay Draycott (ldraycott22@aol.com) of Romsey about her grandfather's hair salon which he opened at 29 High Street, Milford in the 1930's. She says "My grandfather was Ernie Broomfield and he went to war in 1940 and was a POW for 4 years, during which time my grandmother Dot Broomfield and his mother Lillian (nee Cotbin) closed the salon. However 29 High Street today was not No. 29 in the 1930's. Any help to trace my grandfathers shop, pictures or references (I think that there is one in Robert Walkers Memories of Milford on Sea, but the book is out of publication) would be very much appreciated".

Material for our next issue should be with the editor by 15th July please.

MILFORD ON SEA U3A
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 5th, 2018 AT 2.00 P.M.
COMMUNITY CENTRE, SEA ROAD.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of last A.G.M. June 6th, 2017 (copy supplied).
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Membership Fee for 2019/20.
The Committee recommends that it remain unchanged.
6. Approval of the appointment of an examiner of the accounts.
7. Election of Officers and committee members (see below).
8. Proposal to amend Clause 3 of the Constitution (see below).
9. Date of next A.G.M. – June 4th, 2019.

Agenda Item 7.

The following have been proposed and seconded:

Chair: Stephen Hales.

Vice Chairs: Penny Senior and Karen Busby.

Secretary: Sandra Allpress,

Treasurer: June Cooper.

Members: John Sewell, John Stephenson Graham Brown and Maggie Hazell.

In addition, it has been proposed that **Dawn Brown continue as Membership Secretary**; this she has agreed to do, however she does not feel able to continue as a full member of the Committee but will attend Meetings as and when necessary.

Agenda Item 8.

Proposed by John Sewell and seconded by Stephen Hales: **That in our Constitution, Clause 3 Charitable Purposes (the Objects Clause) be replaced by the following: -**

"3. CHARITABLE PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of The U3A is:

i. the advancement of education, and in particular the education of older people and those who are retired from full time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development, in Milford on Sea and its surrounding locality.

If The U3A is registered as a charity in England and Wales, the charitable purposes of The U3A may only be altered with the prior consent of the Charity Commission."

Please Note that this resolution must be passed by a two-thirds majority.

MILFORD ON SEA U3A

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AT 31ST MARCH 2018

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2016-17</u>
	£	£		£	£
2017-18 Membership Fees	3,920	4,622	Room charges - General	808	1,056
			Speaker fees	599	691
Advance Membership fees 2018-19	700	—	Third Age Trust fees	1,822	1,553
Advance Membership fees 2017-18		2,360	Groups Room charges & Expenses	905	- 64
Visitor fees	201	267	Admin costs	931	928
Gift Aid		1,003	Refreshments	161	136
Sale of recipe books		1,010	Equipment	355	126
Donations		104	Trips	—	68
			Bank charges	57	74
			Social events	343	430
			Donations from sale of books	160	450
			Cost of recipe books	—	399
			Gifts	40	715
			Total Expenses	6,181	6,562
			Surplus/Deficit for the year	-1,360	2,804
Total Income	<u>4,821</u>	<u>9,366</u>		<u>4,821</u>	<u>9,366</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST MARCH 2018.

	2018	2017		2018	2017
	£	£		£	£
Current Assets			Reserves		
Bank Balance	10,651	12,012	Balance at 1 April 2017	12,023	9,219
Cash	12	11	Surplus / Deficit for the year	-1,360	2,804
Net Assets	<u>10,663</u>	<u>12,023</u>	Balance at 31 March 2018	<u>10,663</u>	<u>12,023</u>