

# NEWPORT u3a NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2024

Welcome to Spring! and another great month of action, community and friendship.

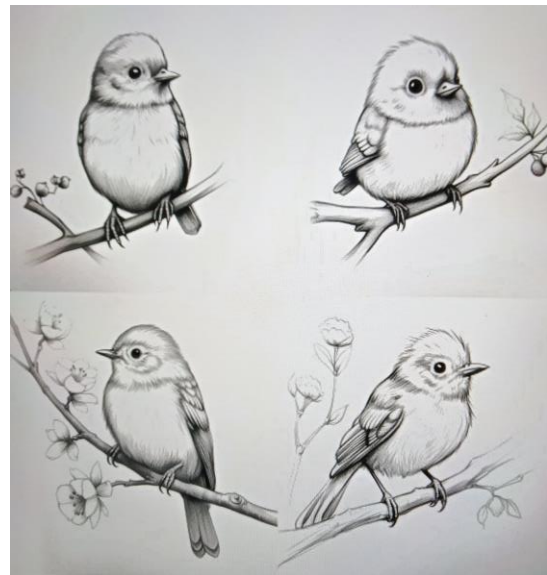
## ART EXHIBITION

Members of our Art Group exhibited their work on their last day of term and many of our members attended to support the artists. They were impressed with the standard of the work produced and appreciated the range of media and eclectic styles.



## CAN'T DRAW, WANT TO DRAW

There is yet another new group on our timetable which Jackie Mills will be convening on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 10.00am. She says everyone can learn to draw and she will be passing on some tips that she has learned over recent years. She can't promise that you will win the next Turner Prize but hopes you will be able to approach that blank piece of paper with a new found confidence to say 'I CAN DRAW!' Following a set programme, members will develop their drawing skills at these supportive sessions using very little equipment; just pencils and a sketch pad.



## NEW MEMBERS ' MEETING

At our last AGM our new Chairperson, Julie Kennedy, said that she was looking forward to meeting our new members. True to her word she held the first New Members' Meeting this month assisted by Committee Members Lyn Street and Adrian Harris. It was very well received and all those who attended said that they had learned a lot about our organisation. The 'How Well Do You Know Your Committee Members?' item via photos was also a success . . .

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

. . . so with that in mind, it would seem that the work of Gill Berry, our Membership Secretary, is never done. For much of the year a steady trickle of new members arrives at the Dolman, complete an application form, pay their fees, are issued with their membership cards and attend their groups blissfully unaware of what happens behind the scenes to ensure that this is possible?

Gill checks the form for completeness and creates a membership record on our Beacon administration system. Details of cash or of cheques received (bank sort code, account and cheque numbers) are then entered on to spreadsheets before sending to our Treasurer so that our accounts can be kept accurately up-to-date. Here Gill's husband, Stephen, lends a hand as two heads are better than one for ease and accuracy. Only then can the membership card be issued.



At this time of the year the trickle becomes a deluge as over 400 people renew their membership and each application has to be processed in exactly the same way (not including BACS and card renewals). The photograph shows Gill busy at work.

Gill says that being a Committee Member of our u3a might seem like hard work, but it is interesting and pleasurable and a great way of getting to know many of our members. It is good being part of a conscientious team, and without doubt part of the reason for the success of our u3a comes from the fact that the Committee works in a spirit of co-operation and with good humour!

Meanwhile . . . back to work!

**H A P P Y   E A S T E R   T O   Y O U   A L L   A N D   E N J O Y   T H E   B R E A K**

Contact [publicity.newportu3a@gmail.com](mailto:publicity.newportu3a@gmail.com) if you would like any news about your group included in a future newsletter.

