

Update April 2024

Welcome from our Vice Chairs

New Members

We are delighted to welcome many new members to Preston Park u3a in the last few months, and trust you will find lots to do and make new friends. If you recently joined our u3a and haven't yet attended a New Members' Tea, please see invitations to the next tea or an evening drink under 'What's on in April' below.

New members are also particularly welcome at the drop-in coffee mornings for members every Friday from 10:30am - 12:30pm at the Tree Top Café, St Augustine's Centre, on the corner of Stanford Avenue and Florence Road, Brighton. Just turn up!

Do also make known that you're a new member on arrival at our Monthly Meetings, and we'll make sure you find people to talk to.

u3a Third Age Matters magazine

As part of your annual membership fee you can receive Third Age Matters magazine – shortly to be renamed u3a Matters. This is published five times a year and posted direct to members' homes by the Third Age Trust, the national umbrella body for u3as.

If you don't currently receive this magazine and would like to – or if you do receive it but would rather not (and want to reduce paper) – please email our Membership Secretary, [Kevin Thomas](#), or phone Kevin on 01273 881340, so he can update our records.

Louise Peskett Kemp Town walk - 7th June at 2.30pm

Following the two very successful guided walks by Louise Peskett on the Fearless and Fabulous Women of central Brighton and Hove, we have booked her for a similar walk in Kemp Town. As the last walks were over-subscribed and numbers are limited, please email [Liz Rugg](#), Committee member and Interest Group Co-ordinator, as soon as you can to book a place. The cost is £6.

Could you help set up the hall for Monthly Meetings?

We rely on our hall stewards to help set up Knoyle Hall by 1.45pm for our monthly general meetings. If you could give a hand, please email [Christine Hooper](mailto:Christine.Hooper@u3a.org) or phone 01273 844535.

What's on in April

Pub Quiz – Tuesday 2nd April at 2.30pm

The next Preston Park u3a Pub Quiz will be at 2.30pm on Tuesday April 2nd, in the Ladies Mile pub hall, 2 Mackie Avenue, Patcham. All are welcome, and if you come alone we'll put you in a team. Fee £2 + £1 for tea or coffee - other drinks available in the pub!

Monthly Meeting – Thursday 4th April at 2.15pm

All members are invited to our monthly general meetings at Knoyle Hall, Knoyle Road, behind St John's Church. Doors open at 1.45pm. Our speaker in April is James Simister talking on "King' Arthur: history, myth, and legend". James is an accomplished speaker of 25 years' experience who gives entertaining talks on a variety of historical, cultural and literary subjects.

Please bring £1.50 in cash to cover the cost of the meeting and refreshments. Please also bring your yellow 2024 membership card, so we can check all members have now received theirs.

May's monthly meeting will be on Thursday 9th May, with a talk and photos from Christopher Horlock on "Lost Brighton".

Visit to HMS Victory in Portsmouth – Friday 12th April



HMS Victory is the oldest (still) commissioned warship in the world. We will be travelling by rail with an opportunity to chat with other u3a members. Some will go for a late pub lunch before heading homewards. Cost £38 for return rail and

entry to HMS Victory and dockyard (but not the Mary Rose or HMS Warrior). If interested, please contact Group Leader, John Colman: email [John Colman](mailto:John.Colman@u3a.org), 01273 556977 or 07710 298221.

New Members' Tea – Wednesday 17th April at 3pm

New Members' Drink – Thursday 25th April at 6.30pm

New members who haven't yet attended a New Members' Tea are invited to the next tea on Wednesday 17th April at 3pm (not on 3rd as previously planned). Alternatively, come for a drink at the Park View pub, Preston Drove, on Thursday 25th April, 6.30–8pm.

You will meet Sarah Richardson - the New Members' Friend who supports new members, representatives from our Committee and other recent members like you. You will also receive a welcome pack and information about the activities on offer, and have the opportunity to ask any questions about our u3a.

Please contact Sarah to let her know if you can attend either the tea or the drink. Email [Sarah Richardson](mailto:Sarah.Richardson@u3a.org), Tel. 07941 318630.

Guided tour of The Royal Opera House – Friday 26th April

This Heritage Visit is currently sold out but John Colman will accept a few extra names in case of late cancellations. Contact Heritage Visiting Group Leader John Colman, by emailing [John Colman](mailto:John.Colman@u3a.org), or telephone 01273 556977 or 07710 298221.

See our [website](http://www.u3a.org) for other Heritage Visits planned for this year.

News from our Groups

Heritage Visiting Group tour of The Globe Theatre



Group Leader, John Colman, organised a fantastic guided tour of The Globe Theatre for 29 of us on 15th March. We had lunch afterwards at various local hostelrys, including the 17thc George Inn, London's last remaining galleried inn, in Borough High St.

A new Model Railway Group?

Roger Luther wonders whether any members would be interested in forming a model railway group, to discuss/demonstrate layouts and visit shows etc. Please email [Roger Luther](#) or speak to him at the Quiz and he will organise a preliminary get-together.

A new French Conversation Group?

We have a number of members waiting for spaces to become available at our French Conversation and Advanced French Conversation groups, which are at capacity. We'd love to set up a new group, if a member would be willing to take on the role of Group Leader or Joint Group Leader.

Please contact Committee member and Interest Group Co-ordinator [Liz Rugg](#) if you are interested. She and other French Group Leaders will support a new leader to set up a new group.

Please note we are not able to offer a beginners' French group.

Cycling Group



Our cycling group – who meet each Wednesday at 10am – are undeterred by wind, rain or punctures, buoyed up by coffee, cake and beautiful countryside. Group Leader Simon Eastwood always carries a repair kit and members help each other out with any difficulties encountered along the way.

National u3a news

London Region of u3as Summer Walks and Visits - booking

From May 21st to July 23rd the London Region of u3as is offering 31 guided walks - in areas such as Westminster, South Kensington, Bloomsbury, Fitzrovia, Camden, Regents Park and the City - and guided tours or lectures at museums and galleries around central London - such as the National Portrait Gallery, British Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, Guildhall Art Gallery and Natural History Museum. To see details and book click [here](#).

South East u3a Forum Summer School – booking soon

Details are now available of the courses on offer at the South East u3a Forum's Summer School from Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th September 2024 at Chichester University. You can book from 11th April at [u3a: South East U3A Forum: Summer School \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3a: South East U3A Forum: Summer School (u3asites.org.uk)).

National u3a Summer Festival – booking soon

The first national u3a Summer Festival is being planned to take place in York from 18th to 20th July. For details and to book check out [u3a - Festival 2024](#).

On line learning opportunities

u3a members can join a wide range of online talks, workshops and courses for free with their membership. They are hosted on Zoom. Click [here](#) to see what's coming up.

There are some '[How to Guides](#)' for using Zoom if you are unfamiliar with it.

You can also sign up to the events mailing to get details of monthly online events sent straight to your inbox.

u3a Friends Newsletter

You can find news of other u3as around the country, including members of Brighton, Sussex and Worthing u3as appearing as extras in the film Vindication Swim, in the [u3a Friends March Newsletter](#).

If you'd like that newsletter sent to your email address every month, [sign up here](#). You will then also be able to access a wide range of benefits and offers exclusively for members of the Friends newsletter community.

Future updates

We'd love to let members know what your group is doing. Please send any text or photos for the May Update as soon as you can, and by **26th April** at the latest, to [Carol Jenkins](#). Thank you.