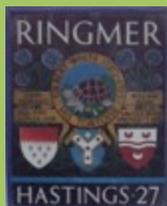


# Ringmer U3A



## Newsletter

[www.ringmer.info/u3a](http://www.ringmer.info/u3a)



## Enrolment – Key Points

Please read Ken's explanation on page 2.

Complete the enrolment form and send it to Ken with a cheque.

Contact the Convenor of any group you

Autumn 2017 Edition

## Announcements

Friday 6 October

Next E-Bulletin (no. 12)

Monday 20 November

Copy deadline for Spring 2018 Edition of Newsletter

Monday 11 December

Spring 2018 Edition of Newsletter published

Editor's e-mail:

## Computer Group Anyone?

Ian writes: Did you know that 93% of our membership has a computer or tablet? I suspect that, like me, many struggle to keep pace with developments and updates. I often get very frustrated when "so called" improvements actually make a job far more difficult. Do I really want to talk to my computer, and do I really want it to try and second guess my next move.

I know from chatting to members that some have a lot of expertise that they could share with others. After all that is what U3A is all about. I don't want to be the Convenor -- would anyone else like to offer ?



Editor's note – I heartily agree as while I am good at some aspects of using computers, I am poor at others, as I was never taught what to do. I've used "normal" computers but now use an Apple Mac – perhaps there should be a separate group for those who use Macs ?

If you are interested in joining a computer group then please let us know on Open Day.

Open Day  
(Enrolment)

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>  
August

10 am to noon

Village Hall



# Enrolment and Open Day

## Wednesday 16th August

## 10 to 12 noon in the Village Hall, Symons Room

By the end of July, all Members should contact the Convenors of the Groups that they belong to if they wish to remain in a particular Interest Group. If you do not notify your Convenor, your place may be given to someone else on Open Day.

Enrolment Forms are attached to this newsletter. The preferred option is that it should be completed and dropped in or posted to me by 14th August, together with your subscription. Alternatively, you can hand them in at the Open Day on 16th August. Please remember that we ask everyone to pay their subscription by a cheque made out to 'Ringmer U3A'. This is so that all monies go directly through the bank.

At the Open Day, Convenors will have a list of Members who have notified them of their wish to remain in the Group. They will therefore know if there are any vacancies for new Members. Groups often do fill up. If you are interested in a full Group, please leave your name with the Convenor as we try to start new Groups whenever there is enough interest shown.

Even though you may have pre-enrolled, we still encourage you to drop in at the Open Day to speak to Convenors and Committee Members, find out about other Groups you may be interested in, declare an interest in a proposed new Group and enjoy a cup of tea with other U3A members. If you wish to join an extra Group you need to check with the Convenor that there is a vacancy.

I will have Membership Cards available at the Open Day for all those who have pre-enrolled. If I don't see you at the Open Day, I will give remaining membership cards to Convenors to pass on to you at the beginning of term.

Ken Boot-Handford

Ringmer U3A Membership Secretary

# Knit One, Chat One

This year, once again, group members have produced a wide variety of knitted and stitched items. It is rewarding to see the high level of skill and the ingenuity members bring to their projects. Examples of the range of work by members can be seen in the photograph below. One of the pleasing aspects of our congenial afternoons is how members share their knowledge and skill with other group members - all washed down with a good cup of tea and a piece of tasty cake!



Back row: Jan Bailey, Sue Horton, Ruth Whitlock, Margaret Cook, Sue Taylor, Julia Middleton  
Front row: Pauline Stevens, Sue Hall, Elsie Bowler (guest), Carol Russell



Given the nature of the group, and the fact that numbers have to be limited to accommodate members meeting in homes, we are unfortunately unable to expand the group. However, if you are interested in any aspects of needlework and would like to join a similar group please do let it be known at our Open Enrolment Day on 16th August. I would be very happy to help someone to start up another group – perhaps Knit One, Chat Two?

Sue Hall

## Theatre Group

What are we all about ? Several times each year we have meetings to discuss new plays at local theatres. We mainly look at the Theatre Royal Brighton and Eastbourne Theatres, but also consider other local theatres. Maybe we will go to London by mini-bus if there is enough interest.

We make a list of possibilities, and agree a preferred date for each production. This is circulated to the membership and members respond, naming those performances they would like to see. Theatres usually have a threshold of 10 tickets to obtain group discounts, so this has become the minimum required for a club event.

We go to a mix of evening and matinee performances. Transport is by car share, and/or using the trusty bus-pass for shows where the timing works. We often meet in a nearby restaurant before or after the show as appropriate.

Future shows include *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Brassed Off* and *War Horse*.

We are an informal bunch, why not give us a try. The more members we have, the greater the possibility of any suggestion achieving the 10 people threshold. You don't need to come to planning meetings.

I freely admit that not all of the shows we have seen would have been my immediate choice. Tale of Two Cities is amongst those, but it was a stunning production, cleverly staged and movingly performed. I am pleased that others proposed it and I gave it a try.

If you feel a glimmer of interest, call Jacquie or Ray on 01273 812194, or just e-mail us - [thechurchills@outlook.com](mailto:thechurchills@outlook.com)

## Ambling Group



Our small group of three still meets and decides on the day where to go depending on the fitness , energy and enthusiasm.

We have graduated from walking round the village and drinking coffee at Cafe Ringmer to exploring the Downs, Firle Park, and the Barcombe Mills riverside walks. Sometimes we have lunch out.

We hope others will join us for pleasant ambling in the East Sussex countryside, enjoying the views and company.

## Out & About

Our members suggest events that could be of interest and after a date has been agreed, arrangements are circulated to the Group.

The outings use public transport or shared cars. Lunch and coffee dates are popular. Recently we went for coffee at the new cinema, The Depot, where we were given a tour of the cinemas and other facilities.

In May there was a visit to Ashburnham with lunch in the Orangery and also to the Camelia Botnar Foundation in Cowfold where we heard a talk about training disadvantaged youngsters for work. In June a group visited Marlipins a medieval warehouse in Shoreham where again they had an informative talk.

In August we are going to the YHA at Southease where we can have coffee, a walk to Southease Church or along the river and then lunch in their cafe.

# SUN Away Day 2017

## Weald and Downland Living Museum

The Sussex U3A Network is inviting its members to come for the day to the Weald and Downland Living Museum at Singleton, West Sussex, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

If you haven't been before, it's an open air museum with fifty restored buildings moved there from elsewhere. Many are furnished.

You are expected to make your own way there, but there will be a special admission price of £11 for U3A members. This includes one of three possible guided tours, each between one hour and 90 minutes long, which are explained on the next page.

Non-members of U3A can be admitted for £12.50 provided that they are accompanied by a U3A member.

The closing date for booking is 15<sup>th</sup> August.

These admission tickets must be purchased from SUN by using the form on the next page, and not on the day itself.

The site has free parking and new visitor facilities, which include a café. As it is an open air museum suitable clothing in case of bad weather is recommended. You can bring a packed lunch if you wish.

It should be pointed out that the site is on sloping ground, which is steep in places. The paths are mainly rolled or loose chippings, which fit in with the buildings. Other paths are cobbled. This may

cause difficulties for visitors who use wheelchairs or who have impaired mobility. Ideally, wheelchair users should use wide-tyred models as this will make access easier and smoother. A powered wheelchair or four-wheeled mobility scooter will allow access to most of the site. The museum map on the website has a red line indicating an accessible route.

A few buildings are totally inaccessible to wheelchair users, while two others have a raised step at the entry. Eight buildings have internal staircases.

The full address is Weald and Downland Museum, Town Lane, Singleton, PO18 0EU. The website is [www.wealddown.co.uk](http://www.wealddown.co.uk) while the telephone number is 01243 811363.

The site is about 10 km north of Chichester. If travelling by public transport, after getting to Chichester by train, the 60 bus from Chichester to Midhurst stops at Grooms Yard which is five minutes' walk away.



## Weald and Downland Museum -- Details of the guided tours

There will be a maximum of 20 persons on each tour. Please select one of the three options.

- (1) Field to Plate. Where did food come from ? And what were the processes involved ? Join this multi-sensory tour to find out more about our rural ancestors' connection to the land. From our market square to historic gardens and Tudor kitchens, you will see, smell and even taste foodstuffs our ancestors knew.
- (2) Tales of Tudor Times. Fascinated by the Tudors ? A unique opportunity to find out about the lives, food, clothing and homes of ordinary people. Your guide will be dressed in Tudor clothing and will explain the garments from this time. Discover how people lived through the use of objects, stories and first-hand accounts of this turbulent period.
- (3) Earning your Crust. What was life really like in a beautiful little thatched cottage ? Making a living was a struggle for many of the people who lived in the homes at the Museum. From the low points of a failed harvest to high points of seasonal festivities, you will get a rounded view of extraordinary details or ordinary life using historical sources. Your guide will explain the crafts, skills and labour that sustained basic living for the rural poor.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ U3A\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Or name of non-member accompanying \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Land line \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile no. for emergency contact on day \_\_\_\_\_

I DO NOT wish to join a guided tour \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to join a guided tour

(1) Field to Plate (2) Tales of Tudor Times (3) Earning your Crust [please delete two tours]

## Anyone interested in oral history ?

When I moved to Ringmer fifteen months ago I inherited all the title deeds of the previous occupants of my Springett Avenue house, from its construction in 1968. This made me think about the experiences of those who moved into the new developments built from the 1960s onwards in Ringmer. I think it would be very interesting to record their memories on audio or, ideally, on film. Other topics are possible, of course.

Is anyone interested in participating ? While we would certainly need (willing !) subjects to be interviewed, we would have to start with devising questions and how to ask for people to come forward. There would be a need for interviewers,

who would need to prompt on occasion. Someone would have to carry out the recording or filming. We would need to ensure that the results were available. The Keep would want a copy, and perhaps the Internet would be used. Edited material could come out as a booklet, as published by Lewes U3A with the "Lewes remembers" series in the 1990s.

I have no technical expertise, nor have I done any oral history, but would be willing in the absence of a volunteer to be the Convenor – I've been told that they are not expected to do all the work !

Stephen van Dulken

## Final Thoughts from the Chairman

Like you I recently received my *Third Age Matters* magazine. What struck me most was the number of adverts for holidays. Do they think that their readers have nothing better to do than to go away on holiday! Come to think of it though we have just returned from our latest caravan holiday and are planning several more holidays this year. Retirement really is hard work!

That said our convenors and committee members do work extremely hard to ensure that our U3A functions effectively. A big thanks to them all. As we approach our Open Day on Wednesday 16 August and enrolment for another U3A year it is a good idea to reflect on what we have all individually achieved this past year and what we hope to do next year. Is there a new activity that

you would like to get involved in? Could you help set up a new interest group? I am hoping to start up a " Computer Group/Forum", although I do not plan to be the convenor in the long term. Could you do a stint on the committee? We are still looking for new committee members, particularly a Secretary. U3A offers such a variety of activities and there are so many ways in which we can all do our bit. Please do think hard this year as you complete your enrolment form.

Most of all though I hope that you have enjoyed your time with U3A and continue to do so. I personally find it so rewarding and enjoyable. I hope to see you at our Open Day.

Best wishes,

Ian

# Your Current Committee

Chairman:	Ian Loughborough
Secretary:	VACANT
Treasurer:	Sue Hall
Membership Secretary:	Ken Boot-Handford
SUN Representative:	Jill Collins
Newsletter Editor:	Stephen van Dulken
Group Co-ordinator:	Sylvia Coleman
New Groups Co-ordinator:	Wendy Morgan
Committee Member:	Lynne Booth

	Convenor	Meets
Ambling	Ann Ballance	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10 am
Astronomy	Brian Wignall	Commences 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept then 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 19.30
Basic French	Denise Hadley	Commences 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept then fortnightly 10.30
French 1	Jenny Hill	19 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct, 14 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00
French 2	Bridget Cross	Commences 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept, every Thursday until 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 11.00
Family History	Bob Cairns	Last Tues of month 2 pm, Scout Hut
Gardening	Jenny West & Joan Wignall	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Sept and Oct, 14.30
2Garden	Teresa Keen	12 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 14.30
Knit One Chat One	Sue Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept, 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov, 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec, 14.00
Mah-Jong	Julia Middleton	Every Monday 10.00 (except Bank Holidays)
Out & About	Valerie King	7 <sup>th</sup> Sept and 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 10.30, Residents' Lounge, Delves House
Photography	Martin Whitlock	Last Thursday of month 14.00, Scout Hut
Poetry	Elsie Bowler	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month 14.15 pm
Reader Circle	Janet Beirne	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov, 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec 14.15
Scrabble	Julia Middleton	20 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 14.00
Spanish	Conchita Wigley	18 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 11 Dec 10.00
Theatre Club	Ray & Jacquie Churchill	Own programme, next planning meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug 19.30
Walking	Lynne Booth	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 1.30 pm
What the Papers Say	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct, 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 14.00	

**Ringmer U3A Calendar for AUTUMN 2017**

**Am** = Ambling      **AS** = Astronomy  
**BFr** = Basic French    **Fr** = French  
**Fr2** = French      **FH** = Family History

**Ga** = Gardening  
**2Ga** = 2 Garden    **Kn** = Knit One, Chat One  
**Ma** = Mah-Jong  
**OA** = Out & About    **Ph** = Photography  
**Po** = Poetry

**PS** = What the papers say  
**Re** = Readers Circle  
**Sc** = Scrabble      **Sp** = Spanish  
**Th** = Theatre Club  
**Wa** = Walking

Day	September	October	November	December
Mon				
Tue				
Wed			1 Wa 13.30	
Thu			2 Fr2 11.00	
Fri	1 Kn 14.00		3 Kn 14.00	1 Kn 14.00
Mon	4 Ma 10.00	2 Ma 10.00; Sp10.00	6 Ma10.00	4 Ma 10.00
Tue	5	3 Fr 10.00	7 BFr 10.30;	5 BFr 10.30
Wed	6 Wa 13.30	4 Wa 13.30	8 Am10.00; AS 19.30	6 Wa 13.30
Thu	7 Fr2 11.00; OA 10.30	5 Fr211.00	9 Fr2 11.00; Po 14.15	7 Fr2 11.00; OA 10.30
Fri	8	6 Kn 14.00	10	8
Mon	11 Ma 10.00	9 Ma 10.00	13 Sp10.00; Ma 10.00	11 Sp10.00; Ma 10.00
Tue	12 BFr 10.30; 2Ga 14.30	10 BFr 10.30; 2Ga 14.30	14 Fr 10.00; 2Ga 14.30	12 Fr 10.00
Wed	13 Am 10.00; AS 1930	11 Am 10.00; AS 1930	15 Wa 13.30; Sc 14.00	13 Am10.00; AS 19.30
Thu	14 Fr2 11.00; Po 14.15	12 Fr2 11.00; Po 14.15	16 Fr2 11.00	14 Fr2 11.00; Po14.15
Fri	15	13	17	15
Mon	18 Sp 10.00; Ma 10.00	16 Sp 10.00; Ma 10.00	20 Ma 10.00	18 Ma 10.00
Tue	19 Fr 10.00; Ga 14.30	17 Ga14.30; Fr 10.00	21 BFr 10.30	19 BFr 10.30
Wed	20 Wa 13.30 ; Sc 14.00	18 Wa 13.30; Sc 14.00	22 Am10.00	20 Wa13.30; Sc 14.00
Thu	21 Fr2 11.00	19 Fr2 11.00	23 Fr 2 11.00; Re14.15	21
Fri	22	20	24	22
Mon	25 Ma 10.00; PS 14.00	23 Ma 10.00; PS 14.00	27 Sp 10.00; Ma 10.00; PS 14.00	25 Christmas Day
Tue	26 BFr 10.30; FH 14.00	24 BFr10.30	28 Fr 10.00; FH 14.00	26 Boxing Day FH 14.00?
Wed	27 Am10.00	25 Am10.00	29 Fr2 11.00	27 Am10.00
Thu	28 Fr2 11.00; Ph 14.00; Re 14.15	26 Fr2 11.00; Ph 14.00; Re 14.15	30 Ph 14.00	28 Ph 14.00; Re14.15
Fr	29	27		29
Mon		30 Sp 10.00;		Dates and times are subject to change always keep in touch with your Convenor
Tue		31 Fr 10.00; FH 14.00		
Wed				

