

## Newsletter for May 2021

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- 3. Answers to April Wordsearch.



New neighbour in  
Gote Lane

Can you remember what it was like pre-pandemic? Covid 19 just seems to have gone on and on. Hopefully soon we will be able to fully enjoy each others company and not go out of our way to keep our distance. The next relaxation on the 17<sup>th</sup> will enable more of our activities to start up. As ever though caution is needed and we must all ensure that we abide by the government restrictions. Your Convenor will be in touch about any proposed meetings for your interest group.

The saying - "You don't know what you have until it's gone" - is so true. We all take things for granted and never really appreciate what we have. Although we have managed to carry out some u3a activities over the past year it was certainly not the same as our normal programme and I for one cannot wait to get back to our face-to-face meetings. September sees the start of a new u3a year and it will be most appropriate for us to get going again then. We plan to kick off with our Open Day in August and hopefully an AGM not long after. More on this nearer the time.

Meanwhile do make the most of what you can do and always stay safe. I look forward to see you at our meetings soon.

Kind regards,

*Jan*

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### Member Link

Member Link is a new national initiative to support u3as and their members to keep talking and learning together. Member link collates in **one place all the advice, tips and resources** to help us stay connected. [Click here to see.](#)

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# Stay Safe, Stay in Touch

## u3a Zoom Talk on Wildflower Ringmer

Nearly 40 members attended our April Zoom meeting to hear three guest speakers: Anne Duke from Wildflower Ringmer, Basil Dean from the Environment Agency and Betsy Gorman, the Urban Rewilding Officer for Rewilding Sussex.

Anne spoke about what is happening in the village to address the problem of the disappearance of our flower-rich meadows with the resultant alarming decline in thousands of our pollinating species. Locally there are plans to promote the growth of wildflowers on verges, in open spaces and in private gardens. St. Mary's Church are setting aside some areas of both churchyards to allow wildflowers to return as part of their Eco-Church initiative. Other local organisations, such as the Scouts, both local schools and the village hall are becoming involved.

Basil is an expert on biodiversity and pollinators and he gave us ideas on what can be done in our gardens. His advice was 'start small' and 'make it look intentional'. No-one wants to see gardens that just look abandoned, but a shaped area thoughtfully set aside can enhance a garden. Seeing 'before and after' pictures of the previously immaculately mown lawns outside Kings College Chapel in Cambridge now alive with wildflowers and buzzing insects was inspiring.

Betsy's particular slant is the national BLUE Campaign – you may already have noticed areas in the village with a blue heart sign. These signs are made of recycled materials and indicate that rewilding is in process. For more information contact [www.bluecampaignhub.com](http://www.bluecampaignhub.com).

If you wish to contact Anne Duke for more information or to be added to their contact list, email [ringmerwildflowers@gmail.com](mailto:ringmerwildflowers@gmail.com). Additionally, you can find Wildflower Ringmer on Facebook.

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### Computer Group Zoom meeting open to all members

The computer Group will be holding a zoom meeting on **Wednesday 26th May at 14.00 and all Ringmer u3a members will be invited**. A series of short demos will be given by the Planning Group on:

- Google Password Manager,
- preparing an i-movie,
- how to improve and enhance photographs,
- how to use concatenate in excel,
- Restoring photographs & Google Drive storage update.

The meeting should last no longer than one hour.

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# Stay Safe, Stay in Touch

## Interest Groups

With the easing of restriction on 17 May and the plan for most, if not all, restrictions to be lifted by 21 June, most Interest Group Convenors are now planning for a return to normal meetings. We will publish details in the June and July Newsletters. Hopefully, the one after that will be in December as usual.

Please remember that our web site contains all the details about our various interest groups. You might consider joining another group this year or perhaps you would like to set up a new interest group. The August Open Day is the ideal opportunity for such things. Just contact any committee member if you wish to chat over an idea.

### Who was that?

We are a small u3a and we don't tend to hold a formal roll call at Zoom meetings as between us we know who is there. However, at a recent Zoom session someone joined who did not display their name or activate the video feature. When asked who they were they did not answer.

It was probably a member having connection difficulties, but it is worth remembering that we must know who is at a Zoom session as only u3a members can attend.

There are no more Wordsearches. Hopefully you have enjoyed them. The next newsletters will be published in June, July and then December.

**u3a April Wordsearch – Wild Flowers**

This month's theme contains words associated with wild flowers. The words can all be found in the grid – running forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonally.

L	L	E	B	E	U	L	B	L	U		7	<i>Violets</i>
R	E	W	O	L	F	N	R	O	C		7	<i>Nettles</i>
H	E	P	R	I	M	R	O	S	E		7	<i>Cowslip</i>
E	D	I	R	P	O	S	A	T	V			<i>Primrose</i>
M	E	L	C	A	T	M	I	N	T		8	<i>Bluebell</i>
L	V	S	N	E	T	T	L	E	S		9	<i>Crosswort</i>
O	O	W	L	Y	O	N	I	R	P		7	<i>Hemlock</i>
C	R	O	S	S	W	O	R	T	Y		7	<i>Catmint</i>
K	I	C	C	A	T	H	Y	T	S		9	<i>Coltsfoot</i>
V	T	O	O	F	S	T	L	O	C		10	<i>Cornflower</i>

**u3a Anagram – Wild Flower Words**

1. Any nil odd (9) *Dandyion*
2. *Powers* clay (3,7) *Cow Parsley*

### Stay safe online - two useful websites (click the link)



[Action Fraud Link](#)



Get Safe Online  
Free expert advice

[Get Safe Link](#)

**June 2021 Newsletter:** I would like to get the next Newsletter out by 10 June. Please let me have any items before 31 May 2021. Thank you.

# Stay Safe, Stay in Touch