

Notes From the Chair.



I'm tempted to just use the words wet, **wet**, **wet**, and also windy but mainly **WET**...to describe this month's weather. Given that March was the hottest March since records began it's even more of a disappointment.



This month's speaker is Stephen Reid who was instrumental in the conception of Basingstoke's Anvil concert hall, this promises to be an interesting talk especially as it's 30years since the hall's opening.

Our Art group will have a display of their work at Tadley & Baughurst Art Club exhibition, more info below.

Every year we select a charity that's in the gift of the Chair, Treloar School was this year's charity. I am asking for suggestions for next year. While nothing is excluded, we do have a tradition of selecting a children's charity.

We've been offered a piece of land suitable for an allotment, more information below.

The Nordic Walking group needs topping up with some new members, a training session has been arranged for 31st May, see below.

And finally...**We have 20 members who have paid by BACS but have not returned their forms, so cannot be processed.**

April's Monthly Meeting is on Thursday 18th April in the Community Centre. Doors open **10:30** meeting starts at 11:00.

April Speaker

Stephen Reid

"Birth of a Hall" The Story of How the Anvil was Born

The story of the Anvil starts in May 1991 when Stephen Reid was re-elected to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and was made Leader. A month after being re-elected, Stephen was called into a meeting with the Borough's Director of Finance who told him that the Council had made a large sum of money to the order of £6.4 million pounds.

As to what to use the money for, the original context was to go ahead with the larger Civic Hall which had been on the cards for several years, but the preferred architects took a different view. After conducting the required studies, they came up with a conceptual design to show how a much larger hall might look, which could be used as the original Civic Hall, a concert hall with world class acoustics, act as a theatre, an auditorium or a sports arena. The cost sky rocketed to £11 million pounds but was able to be funded by the Council.

After a long period of discussion with the interested parties, Stephen Reid led the project to achieve the successful opening of The Anvil in April 1994.

It had to happen – ‘The UK is facing the prospect of water shortages and hosepipe bans this summer, experts have warned, despite the country experiencing the wettest 18 months since records began’ – The Times

While we’re on the subject of weather it’s also the start of the County Cricket Season!

Saw this gardening tip somewhere, put used tea bags in the bottom of flowerpots underneath the compost to avoid the compost being washed out when you water! Sounds as though it should work?

Tadley & Baughurst Art Club

ART EXHIBITION

Including display of paintings from local schools & U3A group

11th–12th May 2024

Sat 10am - 5pm

Sun 10am - 4pm

**Ambrose Allen Centre,
Tadley, RG26 4ET**

*Paintings and Crafts for Sale
Refreshments & Tombola*

Vecteezy.com



Apparently, we’ve been offered a piece of land in Tadley suitable for use as an allotment. It’s most unlikely to be of interest to an allotment group as it’s only really suitable for one or two people to maintain. If you are interested contact us via the usual email address T&Du3a@gmail.com



Enjoy walking, but not sure your hips/knees/lungs are up to it?

Wish you could walk faster and further with less effort?

Then **Nordic Walking is for you** as you use the poles to let your arms and shoulders take some of the strain.

**Learn the technique from a qualified trainer on Friday 31st May
at the bargain price of £10*.**

To book a place, visit our table at the April or May monthly meeting
or contact the Nordic Walking group leader Cath Cooper 07400
953034 cathcooper48@gmail.com

For more information visit <http://nordicwalking.co.uk/>; [Health Benefits of Nordic Pole Walking | InsideOut Physiotherapy & Wellness Group](#)

*Most trainers charge double this per session.

Don't forget to bring your new
Membership Card to the monthly meeting
as we'll be checking them on the door.

You can pick up your membership card
at the meeting if you haven't already
done so.

Don't forget that you can always contact Tadley &
District u3a via email
TandDu3a@gmail.com

Work is still taking place on the entrance hall at the TCC. So please be ready
for some disruption.

**Entrance to the TCC for the monthly meeting is through the double fire
doors on the right of the building. Well, it was last time I was there!**