

u3a Update

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Membership Renewal

A Gentle Reminder

2023-24 subscriptions expire on 31 March (except for new members who have joined in 2024), so if you haven't yet renewed your sub, now is the time to do it. Please note: only paid up members will be eligible to vote at the AGM on 16 May. If you have mislaid your renewal form, mail info@tenterdenu3a.org and Tom will send you another.

AGM, Constitution Amendment and Committee Elections

Our monthly meeting in May will start with the AGM, when we review the past year's events and accounts, and appoint the officers and committee for the next year. We will also be updating the constitution. So please look at the papers and come to the meeting on 16 May. The business shouldn't take long and there will be a fascinating monthly talk as usual.

Monthly Meeting, 18 April

Andrew Baker Nelson Mandela: triumph over oppression

Following the centenary of Mandela's birth, our speaker celebrates the triumph of warmth, humanity and generosity over ruthless oppression. Drawing on Mandela's writings, his years in prison and his leadership of his country, the talk offers a vivid portrait of one of the most remarkable people of our times.

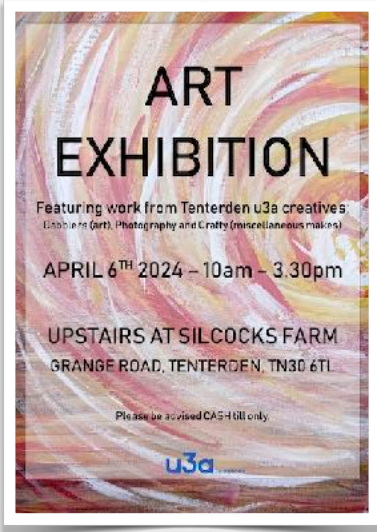


Andrew is the author of a bestselling book on contemporary British politics and was headmaster of an Essex grammar school for over 22 years. He is well-known to the u3a as an engaging speaker.

From the Chairman

How lovely to see a bit of sunshine after so much rain this winter. At last the daffodils are out, nodding in the stiff breeze blowing down my garden. We saw our first butterfly of the season a couple of days ago. Spring really is on its way. Which brings me to our rewilding study morning in April, with its focus on ways we can support wildlife in the face of habitat loss and climate change. We have three experts on the subject coming to advise us about how we can make a difference. If you haven't booked your place

Tenterden Creative Annual Exhibition



Our art, crafts and photography groups are holding hold their second exhibition at Silcocks farm shop from 10 am on Saturday 6 April. Bring your family and friends: the café will be open it's an opportunity to buy paintings and cards (cash only) and for non-members to join our lovely u3a.

[Enquires to Sally.](#)

Cab You Help the Mildred Trust?

The Mildred Trust supports Tenterden's communities in cases of poverty, illness, distress, lack of education, housing, mental health and runs the Old Schoolhouse Larder food-bank. **The Trust urgently needs a new volunteer Treasurer** to look after the books. If you can help, please [contact Emma Isworth by email](#) or ring 01580 765518.

yet, you can download the form [here](#). It promises to be an enjoyable and informative morning.

On a separate matter, we are approaching our AGM. Under our present rules we need 20% of our members to vote in the election, either in person at the meeting or by using a proxy vote to allow us to complete our business. That's eighty members, and approaching the capacity of the Church Hall. You will see from the Agenda that we are proposing to reduce the quorum for the AGM to 15%. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, please send your proxy vote for the committee elections to Anna. Proxy forms will be sent out after nominations close.

News from the Groups

Strictly Singles now has more than seventy members, and a new group leader as Mike Subert takes over from Jo Winston. Jo has thoroughly enjoyed her stint as leader of this vibrant group and thanks everyone for their support and friendship. To learn more about the group activities, [contact Mike](#). The **Yoga** group have just had their last session under the guidance of the wonderful Margot, one of our own members.

In March, **What I'm Drinking Tonight** explored the delights of white Bordeaux, in an upmarket 'special session'. The quality of wines was dazzling and showed the value of occasionally pushing out the boat. **Art Appreciation** learnt about the history of Islamic art forms from Sue James (right), while **Culinary Challenges** enjoyed the subtleties of curry. Let nobody say our u3a lacks variety!

