

MEMBERS' NEWS UPDATE MAY 2024

FROM THE CHAIR-

I am privileged to have been elected to serve u3a Gosport for another year as your chair. I am equally privileged to have been joined by such a supportive management team to take on the challenges that lie ahead. The real work though is done by the leaders and members of over

u3a Gosport AGM 26th April 2024



40 groups that comprise our u3a.

The AGM was held in the very versatile premises of the Gosport Methodist Church and upwards of 50 members really came up trumps providing a magnificent

Archaeology Group Display 260424



'American Supper' table for sharing thus encouraging a really good social occasion between the more formal event of the morning followed by the fascinating talk from speaker Martin Marks, on the history of Seaside Postcards in the afternoon. Grateful thanks to all who helped on the day – especially Judy Foster and Judith Ridley – and those behind the scenes who provided the group displays

Poetry Group
Display
AGM 260424



However, the real purpose of the day was of course to review what we had achieved during the year and to plan ahead for the next one. I did report that it was a 'two steps forward and then one step back' year for membership levels – which I referred to as the 'leaky bucket' but the trend is definitely upward. We did have a few management upsets on the way, not least of which was the enforced changes to team e-mail addresses – a technical issue now resolved. Treasurer Judith presented the accounts for the past year which showed reasonably healthy balances

despite a fall in income. Both mine and Judith's full reports will be attached to the minutes of the AGM.

All Things Crochet - AGM display 260424



Members also approved the revised Constitution recommended by Third Age Trust so bringing us up to date with both good practice and the latest legislation governing organisations such as ours.

You'll notice that I refer in my report to 'the team'. The usual

term 'Committee' within the constitution highlights, for certain legal instances, that some are elected as Officers, some as Trustees, leaving some posts as 'non-committee' – this is not a notion on my watch - we are a team!



The following members were elected to the team, but sadly, we still have to find a Vice Chairperson. Please consider volunteering for this role!

George Cantrill.

Role	Nominee
Chair (T) *	George Cantrill
Vice Chair (T) *	Vacant
Secretary (T) *	Maggie Gavin
Treasurer (T) *	Judith Ridley
Group Leader Coordinator (T)	Judith Ridley
Website Admin	Jennifer Bellamy
Beacon Admin (T)	Judy Foster
Member mentor/welfare	John Draper
News Update Editor (T)	George Cantrill
Speaker Secretary (T)	George Cantrill
Publicity	Tricia Stevenson
Membership Secretary (T)	Tinou Neal
Meets and Greet	Rota by Judith Ridley
Technical support	Barrie Bullimore

* = as per Constitution elected at AGM as Officers of the Association

T = Trustee Status (i.e. 'Committee' as defined in Constitution).

THORNGATE MEETINGS

As previously announced, we will not be meeting at Thorngate in May, but we will return to our usual calendar on Wednesday 5th June when George will be delivering his talk "The life and legacy of Sir Randal Cremer MP". Sir Randal, born in Fareham went on to become the first Englishman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership lists from last year have now been closed off and membership matters are now in the hands of our newly elected Membership Secretary, Tinou Neal who is currently taking over the email address as listed at the end of this update. However, lapsed members can still be reinstated on payment of the membership fee.

Personal message from retiring Membership Secretary, Linda Clachan –

Dear Members,

I was sorry to miss the AGM because of illness. Thankfully, I'm feeling much better.

I owe a big thank you to my colleagues who covered for me as well as fulfilling their own roles.

I'd also like to say thank you to members for their support during my time as membership secretary.

I leave you in the safe hands of Tinou who will be an excellent membership secretary.

Best wishes

Linda

PUBLICITY

How did you first find out about Gosport u3a? If you saw a poster, a leaflet or an advert, where did you see it?

What was it that made you think "I want to find out more about Gosport u3a?"

How, where & what do you think Gosport u3a should advertise?

Please email publicity@u3agosport.org.uk or speak to me at a Group, or if you see me in the High Street or wherever.

Tricia Stevenson

WELFARE

The next new members coffee morning is due to be held on Monday 3rd June, from 10:30 - 11:30 in the Discovery Centre and will be hosted by newly elected John Draper and our regular helpers. So, if you or your friends want to know more, join them for a 'free' coffee and a chat about how you can get the best from your U3a membership.

GROUP REPORTS AND NEWS FROM GROUP LEADERS

All Group Leaders can be contacted via the blue bird link on the relevant page on the website.

ALLOTMENT GROUP

On 6th April, seven members joined a coach trip, organised by the Gosport Allotment Holders and Gardens Association, to RHS Wisley. We were surprisingly lucky with the weather and enjoyed looking around the various gardens and displays. The glasshouse was of particular interest and we picked up some tips from the 'allotment garden.' Progress on our own plot has been hampered by the prolonged wet weather but we're now busy catching up with all the essential jobs and hoping for a warmer, drier May.

Alexandra Richardson



CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

"We meet on the second Monday of the month at The Museum, Gosport from 10.15 am - 11.45 am. Our next meeting is on 13th May and we would welcome any new members."

Pauline Potter

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD SOLVERS GROUP

Our group has changed the day on which we meet. So, if you had wanted to join, but couldn't make the time, now is the opportunity to come along. We will now meet on the 3rd Monday of the month, from 2pm to 3.30pm. We are improvers, but don't be shy if you are a beginner, as we work together quite slowly and we will explain as we go along. (On this basis we are probably not suitable for experienced cryptic crossword solvers, although you are welcome to try the group.) Get in touch with Jennifer via the page on the website.

Jennifer Bellamy

EXPLORING ART GROUP

Wednesday 1st May saw 7 members of the group set off by bus for a visit to the Pallant Art Gallery in Chichester. After coffee in the courtyard, the group were able to see some of the art work, including paintings from the Hussey collection, 'The British Studio Ceramics From Bernard Leach to Magdalene Odundo'. The large dolls house sized art gallery which houses miniature art works created by artists in the lockdown including paintings by Damien Hirst, ceramics and lino prints by Grayson Perry is part of a collection of 3 dolls houses in the Pallant Gallery.

Maggie Gavin

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

What a grand day out! Twenty two of us boarded the catamaran at Portsmouth Harbour for the journey to Ryde Pier, Isle of Wight. From there we rode on a 1970s London tube train to Smallbrook Junction where we transferred onto a steam train. The memories returned as we sat in well upholstered carriages, without corridors, breathed in the smell of smoke and gazed at the bluebells and celandines which carpeted the woods. The train took us to Wootton and then to Havenstreet where we alighted to spend time looking round. We watched a falconry display and finished our trip with a cream tea. Thank you Ian for organising it all. Our next meeting in May is back in the Museum. The topic is men and women of church and chapel.



Joy Hammond

PHILOSOPHY GROUP

The **Philosophy** Group meet on the second Monday of each month bar August & December in the Gosport Museum and Art Gallery from 2pm until 3.30pm. Members take it in turn to choose & present Topics, alone or in pairs. Our schedule for the rest of 2024 is

May 13th	Pierre Hadot : John Draper
June 10th	Is there a God? : Sheila Carr
July 8th	Multiculturalism or Assimilation? : Janet Roebuck
September 9th	Do Angels Exist? : Renate Goddard
October 14th	Assisted Dying : Tricia Stevenson
November 11th	Morality of War : John Draper

New Members Are Welcome

Take a look at our webpage for more information <https://u3asites.org.uk/gosport/page/55574>

Admin & Contact: Tricia Stevenson

PSYCHOLOGY CRIMINOLOGY & FORENSICS GROUP



Twelve members of the **Psychology, Criminology & Forensics Study Group** visited Portsmouth Combined Courts on Wednesday 17th April 2024. We met with a Court Clerk, who explained how the court was structured and her role in proceedings. She was very helpful and gave us information about the cases being heard on the day, before answering our questions.

Next a judge explained his role, how long he had been a judge, and the type of cases he heard. He wore a red sash denoting that he was a Crime Court Judge. A Lilac sash is worn for civil cases. He was also very open to questions, explaining that some answers were where the law stood, and others his opinion.

Following this we split up to sit in the public areas of various courts to observe the cases being heard and sentencing procedures. Everyone found the visit very interesting.

Carole & Tricia

WORLD VEGETARIAN FOOD GROUP



World Vegetarian Food group meets on the first Monday of the month at members' homes at 6.30.

We choose a country for the month, research and prepare a small dish at home and then share the recipe



and tastes with the group.

We are a small group and would love some new members who love food and enjoy exploring new recipes from around the world.

It doesn't have to be complicated just interesting!!

Do come along and try us. For further info contact Neena on

nvadra@yahoo.com The picture on the right is of Vietnamese Pigs Ear biscuits.



CONTACTS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ROLE HOLDERS 2024-2025

Chairman	George Cantrill	Chair@u3agosport.org.uk
Secretary	Maggie Gavin	Secretary@u3agosport.org.uk
Beacon Administrator	Judy Foster	Beaconadm@u3agosport.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Tinou Neal	Memsec@u3agosport.org.uk
Group Coordinator	Judith Ridley	Groupcoord@u3agosport.org.uk
Member Mentor	John Draper	Mentor@u3agosport.org.uk
News Editor	George Cantrill	Newsed@u3agosport.org.uk
Publicity	Tricia Stevenson	Publicity@u3agosport.org.uk
Speaker's Secretary	George Cantrill	Speaker@u3agosport.org.uk
Website Administrator	Jennifer Bellamy	Webadm@u3agosport.org.uk
Welfare Officer	John Draper	Welfare@u3agosport.org.uk
Treasurer	Judith Ridley	Treasurer@u3agosport.org.uk

TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR u3A EMERGENCIES: 07424 685261

This mobile telephone will be held by committee members by rota to be used where there is an urgent need to contact U3a on issues where the regular contact is not available.

Committee members and other members with an email address for their role will usually check their emails at least once a week. As part of their role many committee members check their emails more frequently. If members need an urgent reply or do not get a response to emails, they should ring at a reasonable time or contact another committee member.

And news of non-U3a events which may be of interest to members

Spithead Arts arranges fascinating lectures from experts in their field and this month's will be "Art & architecture of Britain's historic pools and lidos".

If you wish to attend it starts at 7pm in the main hall at Bay House School, Alverstoke. As a guest you will be welcome for £7 which is deductible from the annual membership fee if £40 if you enjoy it so much you decide to join.

Further information is available on the website www.spitheadarts.co.uk

Tinou