

## April 2026 Activities

### CHAIR'S CHAT



#### **AGM & Swing Band**

At the next open meeting on Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 2pm (good to arrive by 1:45) it is our AGM (about half an hour) followed by the Almost Big Band which is a foot stomping 12-piece swing group playing some all-time favourites. I do hope you can come along.

### **Membership Renewal**

Thank you to all those members who have already paid their renewal and if not then please do so by April 24<sup>th</sup>. Membership cards will be issued at the April open meeting, via Groups, at future open meetings, but not by post.

### **MARCH SPEAKER**

Julian has asked me to say thanks to you for being a kind and attentive audience. He also said that you donated £216 after his talk and he sends his sincere appreciation and thanks for that. He said that this is the largest amount donated at any of his talks. This amount plus the fee we paid him to give the talk means he can donate just over £140 to both MacMillan Cancer Support and Cancer Research UK.

**Les**

### **INTEREST GROUP NEWS**

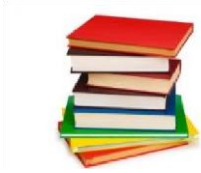
#### **UKULELE GROUP**



I am interested in getting together those who would like to think a little more about whether playing a ukulele is for them. No ukulele necessary for the preliminary meeting, as all information will be provided, types, costs, etc. If members then attend, with a ukulele, basic level instruction will be given, simple chords, easy tunes to sing and play. I am no expert, having only been playing myself for 18 months, but I have joined two local groups, play and have fun and think that this is something for everyone. Let me know if you are interested and we will arrange a preliminary date. (If you've already let Graham know that you are interested then there's no need to contact again.)

**Pat**

## BOOK FRIENDS



We had an interesting chat today comparing George Eliot with Jane Austen. Our next book is completely different. A thriller - the Blackbird by Tim Weaver.

**Maureen**

## SKITTLES



Remember, Remember the 13<sup>th</sup> of April! This is the date of our next meeting to play Skittles and have a good chinwag with our friends! The time and venue are the same 1pm for 1.30pm start at the Kings Head in Wickham Square.

Remember, Remember the 11<sup>th</sup> of May! This is the date of our **May** meeting because of the Early May Bank Holiday on the first Monday. **Les**

## HERITAGE AND CULTURES



This month we are meeting in the Grove Room at 10:30am on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>. Ann Gardner is giving a talk on the history, design and cultural significance of gardens. We hope to follow this up in May with a visit to the house and gardens of Stratfield Saye near Basingstoke, home of the Duke of Wellington, on May 19<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing you. **David**

**CINEMA GROUP** - Contact: Kathy Kanji, Solent u3a.



Because of Easter and this month's early newsletter we have yet to see our April film, "Wuthering Heights". Our film for May, on the 14<sup>th</sup>, will be "Mother's Pride", a light hearted comedy/drama. As usual, Kathy will email members and anyone else wishing to attend should book through me, either by phone or text, on 07845 916361. **Celia**

## LUNCHEON GROUP



The next lunch is at the Beefeater Oast and Squire, Peak Lane, The Avenue, Fareham PO14 1RJ which is on the X4/5 bus route on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 12 for 12:30pm.

Pre-ordered menu is required so if you would like to come please see me on April 24<sup>th</sup>

or by 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**Rachel**

## WALKING GROUP



Thank you to all who joined us for the walks in March including Coldeast Estate, Warsash Shore and Cams Hall Estate.

In April and May, we have planned the following walks starting at 10:30am. Full details of the April walks were in the last newsletter. Dates, place to meet and walk leader are below with full details for May walks.

**22<sup>nd</sup> April:** Meet at Holly Hill Woodland Park and walk along the River Hamble to Mermaids in Universal Boatyard. This is a long walk of up to 5 miles and John is the walk leader.

**29<sup>th</sup> April:** Meet at Porchester Crematorium Overflow car park and walk to Fort Nelson. This is an uphill walk. Maureen is the walk leader.

**13<sup>th</sup> May:** We will meet at Alver Valley overflow / Wildgrounds car park and walk through Alver Valley Country Park to the west car park returning to the start by a different route. We will have refreshment break at the end in the Garden Centre café. This is a short walk and John is the walk leader.

**27<sup>th</sup> May:** We will meet at Bursledon Railway Station and walk to Barnfield in Hamble Country Park for refreshments. We will return along the shore of the River Hamble. There are three stiles on the route which we will have to cross twice. This is a long walk (3-4 miles) and Maureen is the walk leader.

We look forward to catching up with you on one or more of these walks. Please be aware of weather conditions and bring appropriate clothing, boots. Please be aware that when we receive a walk and find adverse conditions, we may have to change the route. Please let John or Maureen know if you are joining any of the walks so that we know who to expect and avoid leaving anyone behind. Also, please let us know if you need to change your booking. Please try to share transport to the start of each walk to save parking spaces, parking charges and the environment. **Maureen and John**

## CANASTA



Once again we had a good turnout for our two meetings this month. One of our newbies said Canasta was the best game she had ever played, which was good to hear. We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at the Victory Hall in Warsash from 2pm – 4pm. If you would like to join us you will be made very welcome. **Liz and Pauline**

## ALL THAT JAZZ



Our group of jazz aficionados has been running for almost eight years now. Meeting monthly, usually on the third Monday, we play and discuss tracks from themes chosen by members. Over eighty themes have been selected so far, with little duplication. We also have a monthly quiz, and have a selection of books on the subject which we have formed into a small library. We attend local gigs occasionally and had a treat on 7<sup>th</sup> March attending a concert at Stubbington, given by The Solent Community Choir and the Brass Breakout Orchestra. Our next meeting will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, when the theme will be "vibraphones"

**David**

## PLAY READING



The Playreading Group met earlier this week to read 'The Days of Mischief' by Lesley Storm. I think it's fair to say this story of a missing schoolgirl caused some anxiety amongst the cast, but all ended well and Graham breathed a sigh of relief!

We meet again on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April to read 'After You've Gone' a comedy by Bryan Stocks.

**Pat**

## ART AND ARCHITECTURE



At our next meeting in April, Matt Dolan will present Brutalist Architecture which should be an interesting subject. The Southampton Civic Centre presentation is now postponed to a later date. Instead, we will finalise the summer visits. There are still places on the Nadya Waterfield fine art gallery visit near Andover on the 14<sup>th</sup> May and also on the

Salisbury 1.5 hour Architectural Walk on the 7<sup>th</sup> July. Contact us for details.

We meet on 14<sup>th</sup> April in the Grove Room at St. John's Church. 10:10 am admission £2 to include tea/coffee and biscuits. All welcome. **Andrew and Ray**

## GEOLOGY



Our next meeting is at 14:00 Hours on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting will be presented by Dillys, a member, who will speak about two subjects.

Firstly, Stratigraphy, which is the study of Sedimentary Deposits.

Secondly, An introduction to the geological time scale. (A system of Chronological dating)

Michael's Note:-

An interesting aspect is in respect of the geological time scale as can be seen on the web.

Bishop Usher 1581-1656. The Bishop set out a timescale that served as the standard 'Age Of The Earth' before the rise of Modern Geology. The Bishop Stated that 'Everything started at noon on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 4004 BC'. **Michael**

## APPROACHES TO BETTER HEALTH



The April meeting was small, as several members naturally had previous Good Friday commitments. We had a lovely, guided meditation given by one of the members and discussed different topics, such as movement and activity, herbal supplements and diet, all of which impact our quality of life. Next month we will be talking and exploring 'energy healing', particularly Reiki. Reiki is one of the most ancient healing methods known to mankind. It originated in Tibet and was rediscovered by a Japanese monk named Dr Mikao

Usui. It will be an interesting meeting, healthy sceptics meeting the converted! **Grani**

## GENTLE EXERCISE



My Gentle Exercise class was held on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> March. We had a new Member joining our group and who was made very welcome.

I have now received weights and stretch bands for my class, and they have added a new dimension for my members.

These, added together with 60s music, has been very uplifting and everyone enjoyed the extra challenge. It's a great class with a brilliant atmosphere; very friendly and big smiles and the class is growing.

To anyone who would like to enjoy this fabulous experience, please contact Glenice via the website

**Glenice**

## SHEPPERD SINGERS



Our group goes from strength to strength with some new members joining us in the last few weeks.

Our very successful performance last month delighted the Warsash u3a group, some of whom sang with us, always a good sign when your audience is engaged.

We hope to be celebrating the Christmas Season with a combined special performance with them. More news on that later.

Meanwhile we are refreshing ourselves with a few older songs we have practiced before, (Amazing how much we manage to forget) particularly timing and diction!!

Best wishes I hope you all had a good Easter break.

**Carol**

## TITCHFIELD THEATRE GROUP



If you would like to be notified of forthcoming productions, with tickets available at a reduced rate, then please let me know and I will add your name and contact to the group list. There are some excellent productions coming up. **Graham**

[Chair@locksheathu3a.org.uk](mailto:Chair@locksheathu3a.org.uk)

## CREATIVE WRITING



A Short Story from the Group:

### **Mobile shops**

In the 1950's, large mobile shops toured remote Hampshire communities in all weathers, sometimes becoming stuck on sand or gravel tracks. Customers entered up steps at the back and the two staff brought their requirements from the shelves to the counter.

**Sue**



### TABLE TENNIS

In March the Table Tennis group's second get together took place at Fareham Shopping Centre and the next session is on Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:30-12:00 with bats and balls provided. Please see the website for more details. No cost.

Graham [Chair@locksheathu3a.org.uk](mailto:Chair@locksheathu3a.org.uk)

### RUMMIKUB GROUP



The numbers playing Rummikub have been steadily increasing to potentially 13 players and I can no longer host the group at home.

I am moving the group to Hook Room at Victory Hall from April 16<sup>th</sup>. Sadly to cover hire charges the cost will be £2 per session. I will be contacting all interested parties in good time. All welcome to join us for a friendly 2 hours of competitive relaxation

**Mari**

### SOCIAL BRIDGE



We continue to play most Monday mornings at my house. Recently we have had only enough for one table so 1 or 2 more people would be most welcome. We are a very chatty group but a basic knowledge of the game is necessary. **Lesley**

### POETRY READING



Our poetry reading group continues on the fourth Thursday of the month. We have had an array of subjects and many approaches which makes our meetings lively.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be looking at two poets Carol Ann Duffy and Ted Hughes. For our May meeting 28<sup>th</sup>, we will return to a theme, poems about Destinations in Europe. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, we shall consider poems about Water, in all its forms.

Our meetings start at 2 p.m.

It would be great to see new people. **Jenny**

### LET'S GO TOGETHER

May	2 <sup>nd</sup> 10am	Charity Plant sale in aid of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance	66 Catisfield Road, PO15 5LY	Meet outside the property
	3 <sup>rd</sup> late morning, time TBC	Titchfield Village Fayre	Barry's Field	Meet outside the Parish Rooms
	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10am	Warsash Horticultural Society plant sale	Victory Hall, Warsash	Meet outside the entrance

If you would like to join me at any of these events just turn up and meet me at the time stated. **Stephanie**

### **GARDEN GROUP**

In April we looked at 'The Flower Patch' and considered the many benefits of growing your own flowers. We also planted sunflower seeds and will keep track of whose grow the tallest.

At our May meeting members are encouraged to share ideas of how they have personalised their growing spaces with objects and items.

Do take a look at the website to see photos of our activities and contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Our regular meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month in The Grove Room at St John's Church, 1.45pm for a 2pm start.

**Stephanie**

### **CRAFT GROUP**

At our meeting at the end of April, we will be making foil flowers.

There are photos of our creations on the website if you would like to see what we get up to.

**Jenny and Stephanie**