

u3a Horsham

Newsletter

March/April



<https://u3asites.org.uk/horsham/home>

Registered Charity No. 1054606

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of **u3a** Horsham

WILL BE HELD

2.15PM TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2023

AT THE HOLBROOK CLUB NORTH HEATH LANE HORSHAM RH12 5PJ

AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY

A TALK BY Mary Forlenza 'FAMOUS WOMEN'



The talk is about a handful of contemporary women who have improved the female status.

This will not be a feminist presentation, but will be entertaining and informative.



The Holbrook Club is situated on bus routes 51, 61 and 200.
Ample free parking is available.

L e a r n L a u g h L i v e

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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Dear Member,

Spring is finally on the way, and today I was delighted to see that my rhubarb plant has once more made an appearance and is basking in the sunshine. As well as being springtime, it is also membership renewal time, so please don't forget to complete the yellow form and return it to our Membership Secretary.

For this coming year, we have been asked by the Charities Commission to make a few tweaks to our constitution to keep us legal, so we will be voting on these at the Annual General Meeting. Please don't forget to bring your own mug for tea and coffee. We are being asked by venues about our Safeguarding Policy to protect our members. I am happy to report that we have a member who has a previous background in Social Work and Health & Safety and has volunteered to be our Safeguarding Officer. She has written an item in this newsletter and I would encourage you to contact her if you would like her help.

The West Sussex Network (WSN) is getting organised and I hope to be letting you know about summertime sessions soon. Unlike the previous SUN network events, which covered all of Sussex, the WSN events will be limited to West Sussex only.

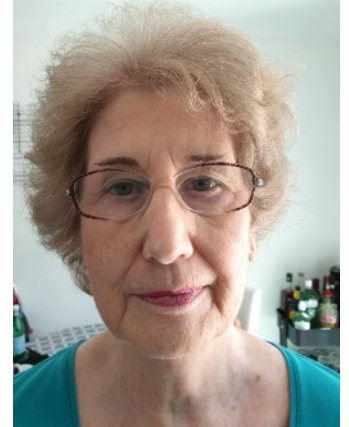
It is regrettable that Covid is still lurking and we are still hearing reports of individuals testing positive and needing to isolate, so please, if you are feeling poorly and have flu like symptoms, do not attend Horsham u3a groups and events.

Kind regards

Jan Cooper
Chair, Horsham u3a

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Formal Notice of the **Annual General Meeting** of the **Horsham u3a**
The **29th Annual General Meeting** will be held at:
2.15 pm on **Tuesday 28 March 2023** at:
The Holbrook Club, North Heath Lane, Horsham.



The following papers will be available at the AGM:

- 1 Agenda
- 2 Minutes of the AGM May 2022
- 3 Chair's Annual Report
- 4 Accounts of Horsham u3a for 2022/2023

The Charity Commission has requested that we make changes to our constitution which was adopted in May 2022, and these have been approved by the Third Age Trust. We intend to vote on adopting these changes at the AGM.

Changes are: Addition to Clause 3, Object and Powers

- 3.2 i. In furtherance of the above, the u3a may purchase, take on lease, or, in exchange hire and otherwise acquire and sell or dispose of real or personal property and any rights and privileges which the u3a may think necessary for the promotion of the Objects, subject to such consents as may be required by law.
- ii. Publish books, pamphlets, reports, leaflets, journals, films, videos and instructional matter.
- iii. Found and carry on schools and training courses and run lectures, seminars, conferences and courses.
- iv. Encourage and assist in the formation and operation of area and regional groupings of other u3as.
- v. Receive donations, endowments, sponsorship fees, subscriptions and legacies from persons desiring to promote the Objects of the u3a or any of them and to hold funds in trust for the same.
- vi. Do all such other lawful things as may be necessary for the attainment of the above Objects or any of them.

Addition to Clause 6, Dissolution

6.1 Horsham u3a may at any time be dissolved by resolution passed by a three-quarters majority of those present and voting at any meeting of the said u3a of which at least twenty-one days notice stating the intention to put forward such a resolution shall have been sent to all members of the u3a.

Addition to Clause 7, Amendment of the Constitution

7.1 Any changes to Clauses 3,6 and 7 need to have prior consent of the Commission and the Trust.
7.2 e. Twenty-one clear days notice shall be given to the members stating the intention to put forward such a resolution.

If you want a Committee Nomination Form, please contact me on 01403 240358 or by email: secretary@horshamu3a.org.uk. Completed forms have to be in my hands by Tuesday 14 March 2023.

Bringing your own cup or mug at refreshment time would be very much appreciated!

Thank you.

Shiela Campbell

Hon. Secretary



WELCOME to all these first-time members who have joined us recently:

**Carol & Raymond Allen
David Bingham
Jeff Brickett
Gill French
Jan Harris**

**Bridget Pestell
Ninetta Reindl
Vee Rice
Sandie Tjok-A-Tam
Richard Wilkins**

FUTURE GENERAL MEETINGS

Dates for your diary:

16 May: Horsham u3a Open Event: see pages 9 and 10

Other General Meetings dates for the year are:

18 July: Canine Partners/Assistance Dogs

**19 September: 45 Years Flying and Frightened of Heights (Part II) -
Peter Griffiths**

**21 November: Grace Darling, Saving Lives at Sea -
Dr James Taylor**



**Individual views, opinions and statements expressed in
correspondence, letters, articles and other published
material appearing in the Horsham u3a Newsletter,
are not necessarily those held by
Horsham u3a or its Committee.**

Please continue to send in your articles.

**I would be pleased to hear any suggestions for changes you would like
to see to improve your newsletter. Thank you, Anne.**

spideranne@live.co.uk



2023/24 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & CARDS



The 2023/24 membership subs were due on 1st March. Thank you to all of you who have paid your sub by bank transfer. As long as I have received your completed renewal form, your membership card will be posted out to you once your sub has been credited to Horsham u3a's bank account.

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please see the January/February newsletter and complete the renewal form that was sent to you in January and return it to me without delay; my address is on the form. If you can't find the form please ask for another one. If you pay the sub by bank transfer there's no need to

forward-date the payment now that we're in March, you can just press the "pay now" button, which a lot of you couldn't resist doing anyhow, even in January and February. Cheers for all the extra work that gave me!

This year's membership cards are daffodil yellow and Group Leaders will be asking to see everybody's cards at the group meetings during the next couple of months. To attend group meetings you must be a member of Horsham u3a so please have your card with you. Group Leaders have the right to show you a RED card and send you off if you do not produce a valid membership card!

Should you for any reason not want to renew your membership, please tell me so that I can update the records to comply with UKGDPR. Silence is not golden: it's courteous for you to let me know please rather than saying nothing and letting me wonder.

Jenny Faulkner Membership Secretary
Email: membership@horshamu3a.org.uk





As many of you may be aware, the matter of Safeguarding is increasingly being brought to the forefront of the minds of

Safeguarding in u3a

individuals, particularly those of us who are responsible for running organisations and facilities where people gather. This is a positive move within our society to ensure the vulnerable amongst us are protected and cared for, and one which we at u3a are of course keen to embrace.



We have therefore created a new role, that of Safeguarding Officer; I have the privilege of taking on this role. I am a retired Social Worker, a job I enjoyed for over 20 years, and am now

a Compliance Manager which includes health & safety management, so have a background that equips me well for the task. My email address and mobile phone number are provided here for you to contact me if you want to check out a health & safety issue or to raise a concern or check something out regarding yours or another person's safety or well-being.

I will retain a high level of confidentiality, but of course this cannot be absolute; I am accountable to the Committee and will therefore be required to share a level of information regarding issues brought to my attention with the Officers of Horsham u3a, not the whole of the Committee and certainly no other members. I may need to consider involving outside agencies such as Social Services but will always seek to discuss this with you before doing so.

We are in the process of finalising a Safeguarding Policy, and in the coming weeks and months I will be looking at what we have in place regarding risk assessments ... yes, I know, a phrase that brings ice to the soul! But we will keep it simple and won't be making this an onerous task.

I would like to finish with a reminder that we should all consider ourselves to be responsible for our own and for each other's safety. If you see something that may pose a risk to yourself or others, please raise it with me and/or the appropriate person on site. If you suspect or know that someone is in a vulnerable situation or may be in need of support or protection, do come to me or contact the relevant agency directly. Please don't feel you are intruding where you have no right to; everyone's safety and well-being is everyone's business, though this should never overshadow the individual's right to make their own choices for their own life.

I look forward to working alongside the Committee and getting to know more of you, the members, as I work to make the u3a experience a safer one in Horsham.

Angie Cooper

safeguarding@horshamu3a.org.uk



'(ALMOST) DEATH IN PARADISE, PIRATES AND RUM'

Talk by Neil Sadler at General Meeting on 17 January 2023

Review by Marlene Chase

Some of our u3a members may remember our speaker, Neil Sadler, talking in 2014 about boating on Britain's canals. This time he regaled us with his experiences in the Caribbean and threw in some fascinating historical details about piracy in this part of the world.

Referring to the title of his talk, Neil mentioned the popularity of TV series featuring islands and the often small forces policing them e.g. Bergerac in Jersey, Perez in the Shetland Islands and, of course, "Death in Paradise", set in the fictional island of St. Marie (actually filmed in Guadeloupe).

In 2007 Neil came to Trinidad to help with training local policemen (presenting the best student with a Bobby's helmet!). Steel pan music and glimpses of tropical beaches gave us a delightful impression of Trinidad, but Neil drew our attention to some worrying island newspaper headlines. These showed not only that crime was rife, but also kept a tally of the murders on the islands, making Trinidad and Tobago the 11th most dangerous location per capita in the world.

It was also during his stay there, while giving a lecture, that a frightening earthquake (7.3 on the Richter scale) hit the island. Other natural hazards he mentioned included the flooding of the Orinoco River (in Venezuela!) which led to caimans arriving on the tip of Trinidad (which was only 7 miles away from South America apparently!).

On a historical note, Neil talked of the prevalence of piracy, particularly in the 18th century when the Caribbean was the playground of men like Edward Teach (Blackbeard) and the man he 'befriended' and later betrayed, Stede Bonnet, known as "the Gentleman Pirate" because he came from a privileged background and had even bought his own pirate ship!

One interesting fact concerned the 'Piratical Code', the Captain's rules for the ship, which

forbade gambling, imposed a curfew, insisted everyone had to fight, but on the positive side, gave compensation to crew members if injured (lost a limb etc.) Disobedience was punished by being marooned on an island. Neil described the actual case of Alexander Selkirk (marooned for over 4 years), who met Daniel Defoe in Bristol after his rescue and which in turn led to the creation of the famous novel "Robinson Crusoe".

The "Pirates of the Caribbean" films may be popular cinematic entertainment, but Neil pointed out that there are still acts of piracy in the world today, particularly off the coasts of Somalia and Venezuela.

And finally - on to the subject of rum, with Neil treating us to a number of amusing rum jokes and facts about the Royal Navy's daily rum tot ration. This was stopped on 31 July 1970 (Black Tot Day), presumably because of the dangers of continuing this tradition while handling modern machinery, warheads etc.

Despite vividly describing rum manufacture and traditions, sadly, Neil was not able to provide his u3a audience with any samples.

Local Technology Coconut Weather Station



OPEN EVENT

Groups are the heartbeat of the U3A and it's three years since Horsham U3A had an open event, when groups can show themselves off to members and visitors.

But we have one coming up – on **Tuesday 16 May 2023** at the Holbrook Club. You have all had the list of groups and it is on the website, but there is nothing like talking to the group leaders to find out what they really do. There might be something new that just takes your fancy.

So for a sociable few hours come along to Holbrook between 1pm and 4pm on 16 May. Bring friends and enjoy tea and cake and chat. The bookstall will be there, with plenty of time to browse, and the ever popular cake stall will tempt you with its goodies.

We will need people to help to make the event a success. If you could spare an hour during the session to meet and greet people and assist them if needed, **please contact Brenda Large at: events@horshamu3a.org.uk**.

See you there!

OPEN EVENT

We're back – the U3A Open Event Cakes and Bakes Stall!



Last time we had an Open Day, in November 2019, the Cakes and Bakes Stall was almost sold out before I could get to it. So I hope all you keen cooks and bakers will be able to contribute to the stall on **16 May 2023** at Holbrook. We would love to greet our visitors with a table laden with small cakes, large cakes (sliced or whole) and biscuits.

Folk have asked if we could have some savoury items, so if you are a dab hand at cheese straws, sausage rolls, quiches or samosas, items like that would be very welcome.



Put a reminder in your diary to get baking and let me know nearer the time if you will be able to contribute something but can't bring it yourself on the day; I can collect it.

Brenda Large Events Co-ordinator events@horshamu3a.org.uk

GROUP NEWS

HORSHAM U3A FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Leader: Janet Wilkins

Deputies: John Commins and Jean Hammonds

Venue: Wallace Room, The Tythe Barn

Day: 2nd Tuesday of the month (except August)

Time: 1030-1230 cost for hire of room /tea biscuits is £2.50 a person

Contact Details: *commins.familyhistory@gmail.com*

We are a self help group. If someone has a problem, and another member who can answer the question or suggest a line of enquiry or a website not tried. Members new to family history research will receive all the help they need to get them started. We share our highs and lows, our heroes and villains and try to break down brick walls. Of course along with family history, goes social and local history as we call it in family history circles, putting flesh on the bones and thinking where did our ancestors live?

Was your female relative a suffragette or even a VAD in WW2?

It is good to add information to the births, deaths & marriages and bring our ancestors to life?

We have planned the first six months of the year's meetings: **January** - family facts and legends; **February** - a visit from Gary Cooper on war memorials in Horsham; **March** - advice on using websites for family research; **April** - Janet discussing her graveyard research; **May** - visit to Denne Rd graveyards led by Vee Willis; and **June** - schooldays - happy or not?

New members will always be most welcome.



BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS

For those with an interest in bridge but who have not had the opportunity to progress with it, I will be starting a group at a social level. Let's see if we can improve. I'm planning for one afternoon a week from my home, but I can be flexible.

A maximum of 12 people would be great, but I'm happy to go ahead with fewer and would like to start in March.

Suzie Kidd 01403 259998

Venue 1 Hampers Lane, RH13 6HB



GROUP NEWS

DISCUSSION GROUP

This group has had a varied life in recent months, but has now settled at a member's home in Horsham. Ten to twelve members have brought tales of their lives, debated local and national news items, and compared experiences and views. Some moist and fruity Christmas cake has been enjoyed with tea and coffee in January. This group meets on the first Monday morning in the month, but is now full.

A second Discussion Group has now started and will meet on the third Monday of each month.

At: 11.00am-12.30pm

At: The Topsy Fox Pub, Worthing Road, Southwater, RH13 9HG

Buses 23 and 98 from Horsham stop here. There is plenty of free parking.



The members will choose a subject beforehand giving time to do a little research or thought. All contributions will be permitted and controversial views should provide lively debate. There is no charge at this venue but purchasing refreshments would be appreciated.

I hope you can join us, **contact Rosalind Meigh, email rmeigh@outlook.com. Tel 07421 142714**



Monday Golf Group:

Our 2022 birdie champion, Derek Reynolds, collected his trophy but not the green jacket, at our final meeting just before the Christmas break. Heavy rain, as so often this autumn, prevented any play on the day, so Derek retained his lead over his nearest challenger, Tim Hossack.

All the local courses have played very wet and muddy over the last month or so. Our regular

Monday morning venue, Horsham Golf and Fitness has remained open but Cottesmore and Mannings Heath, which we play every other month or so, have had to close their courses on occasions.

Regular meetings resumed in January. We welcome new players joining us. And you don't have to be Ryder Cup standard to do so. The Horsham Firs course over 9 holes is ideally suited for new players or if you want to restart playing. **Contact Malcolm Smith (07550 002115) or simply come along and say hello at Horsham Golf and Fitness, most Mondays around 08.30.**

GROUP NEWS

JAZZ & BIG BAND - Friday's 6 January and 3 February 2023

**Meeting: 1st Friday in month (10.30 am to 12.30 pm) in Wallace Room, The Barn, Pondtail Road Horsham.
Leader Frank Chard (01403 891489).**



If your musical memories are tweaked and stirred call Frank (number above) - do come along and give us a try! Two hours of such memorable music!

Chilly January welcomed David Spurr and two hours of Mississippi steamboat, New Orleans Jazz and a wide selection of old, new and blue music. Great music was featured from Duke Heitger's Steamboat Rompers, Jelly Roll Morton, Bix Beiderbecke, and Bob Crosby. Louis Armstrong gave us Coal Cart Blues, the unforgettable Blueberry Hill and Mack the Knife. The now sadly disbanded New City Jazzmen were remembered in Muskrat Ramble and we enjoyed two distinctive renderings of Honeysuckle Rose, firstly Sidney Bechet, then Count Basie later on.

There were also numbers from Jools Holland and Fats Waller whilst Humphrey Littleton beguiled us with Snake Rag. Tempo and style varied with Frank Sinatra's I won't Dance, big band giant Ted Heath's Sabre Dance Boogie and Dave Brubeck's surprising Basin Street Blues. Chris Barber's Bobby Shaftoe helped to round off a great morning.

February brought David back again with pot pourri of jazz and swing. We quietly foot-tapped our way through Black and White Rag. Beguine the Beguine and Minnie the Moocher. There was also Gene Kruger's Drum Boogie and Dave Brubeck with Take Five. Cushion Foot Stomp from New City Jazzmen featured, as did Acker Bilk's sauntering Sweet Georgia Brown. Louis Armstrong performed Ain't Misbehaving with song and trumpet before Chattanooga Choo Choo chugged merrily along with Glenn Miller before meeting up with Chris Barber's Petite Fleur, Count Basie's One O'Clock Jump and Peggy Lee's sultry Fever, finishing with Bix Beiderbecke's Mississippi Mud.

Malcolm Butson's jazz and swing swung with Artie Shaw, Humphrey Littleton and those three B's (Acker, Kenny & Chris). Benny Goodman offered Rose of Washington Square, whilst the unmistakable Ray Conniff sound produced Smoke Gets in Your Eyes. Tommy Dorsey's Sunny Side of the Street was interspersed between a crackingly paced Alexander's Ragtime Band, and a really slow Burgundy Street, followed by Glenn Miller's lively American Patrol. Atmospheric Green Leaves of Summer from Kenny Ball was a foil to the racing Rock Island Line with Lonnie Donegan and soaring Skyliner from Charlie Barnet before the morning ended on a high with Chris Barber's Bugle Boy March.

Many thanks David and Malcolm for two terrific sessions of jazz and big band sounds.

Sylvia Graves



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR U3A NEWSLETTER READERS

From **Shiela Campbell**

Age UK Advice Line	0800 678 1602
Citizens Advice Horsham	0808 278 7969
Community Link Personal Alarms	01403 215230
Horsham Area Community Car Scheme	01403 250202
Horsham & Crawley Counselling Group	01403 217900
Horsham District Council (General)	01403 214100
Horsham Hospital	01403 227000
Horsham Library	01403 224353
Silver Line Helpline	0800 470 8090



ARE YOU GETTING MORE SCAM CALLS AGAIN?

This is a good site to check/report the numbers.

<https://who-called.co.uk>

Contributed by **Isobel**



I KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN...

Gary Cooper holds the list of local contractors and workers who have been recommended by other u3a members.

If you are in need of having anything done, give **Gary a ring on:**

01403 241620.

He would also be interested in hearing from you with any recommendations.



MESSAGE FROM THE HORSHAM U3A COMMITTEE

COVID 19, flu and other **viruses** are with us and although some may display mild symptoms, it may be more severe for others.

Therefore, the Horsham u3a committee asks you to please not attend meetings and events if you feel unwell or have cold/flu symptoms.

We trust you will use your judgement to keep each other safe.

Thank you, *Jan Cooper* Chair, Horsham u3a.

The Committee for 2022/2023

Officers/Trustees

Chair and SUN Representative	Ian Cooper	07885 538675
Hon Secretary	Shiela Campbell	01403 240358
Hon Treasurer	Mike Harrod	07768 363209

Members/Trustees

Membership Secretary, Data Controller	Jenny Faulkner	01403 617344
Minutes Secretary	Esme Cloherty	01403 266934
Social Secretary	David Bowyer	dave.bowyer@talktalk.net
Speakers' Secretary	Ann Valentine	01403 260702

Co-optees (voting)

Vice Chair	George Stringer	01293 851574
Events Co-ordinator	Brenda Large	07855 790985
Groups' Co-ordinator	Pam Johnson	groups@horshamu3a.org.uk

All of the above can also be reached via one single email address: committee@horshamu3a.org.uk

THERE IS A VACANCY ON THE COMMITTEE FOR A WEBMASTER

Newsletter Co-ordinator	Anne David	01403 891126
Safeguarding Officer	Angie Cooper	07899 831013 safeguarding@horshamu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	Tony Bailey	webhu3a@gmail.com



Obituaries

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of the following Horsham U3A members:

Jenny Kabiri
Judi Leddy

Our thoughts are with their families and friends at this sad time.

If you have any news, views, comments or contributions, the
THE FINAL DATE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS:
Wednesday 19 April 2023

Please send articles for the newsletter to Anne: spideranne@live.co.uk