



**AGM 2.15pm TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2024 INCLUDING SPEAKER  
and OPEN EVENT 11- 4pm TUESDAY 21 MAY 2024**

**u3a Horsham**

**AT THE HOLBROOK CLUB NORTH HEATH LANE HORSHAM RH12 5PJ**

**26 March 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWED BY:  
'SECRETS, SCANDAL & SALACIOUS GOSSIP OF THE ROYAL COURT'  
BY SARAH SLATER**

Sarah was theatrically trained and worked as a child actor, then spent over 20 years in finance, working for one of the big four banks. After she had her children, she became a tour guide for Hampton Court Palace.

This talk is based on the Royal Court 1660 to 1830. She talks about some of the naughty bits of court history and discusses the royal mistresses, prostitution and the diseases of that time.



**21 May 2024**

**OPEN  
EVENT**

This event showcases the groups run by our members. We will also take this opportunity to celebrate our **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary**.

Please see our Events Co-ordinator's article on page 8.

Refreshments will be available.

**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**

## CONTENTS



Chair's Letter	4
Secretary's Notes	5
Attention All Members	7
Open Event	8
Group Vacancies	9
Idea for New Group	10
Membership Renewal	12
Horsham u3a Holiday	14
Speaker Reviewed by Marlene Chase	19
Group News	20
Meet your Committee	23
Committee Contact Details	Back Cover



*The flowers of spring, help make your heart sing*

## CHAIR'S LETTER



Dear Member,

Welcome to the Spring newsletter of Horsham u3a.

My name is Simon Hill and I have taken over from Shirley as Chair of Horsham u3a. Shirley decided to step down due to ill health and I thank her for the time she spent as our Chair and wish her a speedy return to full health.

As mentioned in our Newsletter update, emailed on 12 February, Shiela Campbell and David Bowyer will step down from their positions as Secretary and Social Secretary respectively from the AGM in March. David will continue to organise the 2024 holiday.

We are therefore urgently looking for enthusiastic and willing volunteers for the positions of Vice Chair, Secretary and Social Secretary.

These are great opportunities to be involved with the running of Horsham u3a and to help to shape its future. If you feel that you could be the one to take on one of these challenging yet rewarding roles you can contact me by email at [chair@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@horshamu3a.org.uk).

I do hope that you will attend the AGM on the 26th of March. It is an important date as we will be electing new committee members.

Also please pencil in the 21st May as this will be a big celebration of 30 years of our Horsham u3a. I look forward to meeting you soon and chatting over a cup of tea or coffee.

*Simon Hill* Chair, Horsham u3a

## SECRETARY'S NOTES



### Formal Notice of the Annual General Meeting of Horsham u3a

**The 30th Annual General Meeting will be held at:**  
2.15 pm on Tuesday 26 March 2024 at:  
the Holbrook Club, North Heath Lane, Horsham.

**The following papers will be available at the AGM:**

- 1 Agenda**
- 2 Minutes of the AGM March 2023**
- 3 Chair's Annual Report**
- 4 Accounts of Horsham u3a for 2023/2024.**

If you would like to nominate someone or yourself for the committee, please contact me for a Committee Nomination Form on:

**01403 240358 or by email: [secretary@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@horshamu3a.org.uk).**

Please be aware that completed forms must be in my hands by Tuesday 12 March 2024.

Pam and Simon Hill, who run our book stall, would be pleased to receive any paperbacks which you no longer use. Bring them along to the General Meetings, but please, please, **NO hardbacks**. Thank you.

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

Kind regards

*Shiela Campbell*

Secretary



The committee wish to **WELCOME** all these first-time members who have joined us recently:

Frances Bluhm  
Jim Burlong  
Ted Burst  
Graham & Pat Distin  
Jacquie Griffey



Peter Hardy  
Pat Johnson  
Trudy Lyon  
Margaret Marks  
Dave & Heather Monk



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024:

### **Urgent ASAP MARCH**

Return Completed Renewal Form  
& Pay Membership Sub. Details on page 12/13

Tuesday 21 May	-	Open Event
Tuesday 16 July	-	Rupert Toovey Investing in Art & Antiques
8-12 Spetember	-	Horsham u3a Holiday
Tuesday 17 September	-	To be arranged
Tuesday 19 November	-	Jackie Marsh-Hobbs Secrets of the Royal Pavilion

Please send me your articles, news, views, group reports and ideas.  
I would also be pleased to hear any suggestions for changes  
you would like to see to improve your newsletter.  
Thank you, Anne. [newsletter@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@horshamu3a.org.uk)

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.

**ATTENTION**



**ALL MEMBERS**

**IMPORTANT  
ANNOUNCEMENT!**

Sadly we had to cancel the outing to Salisbury planned for 20 February. We received only 23 applications for this visit which made it financially unviable. There are no further planned daily outings for now.

We are still hoping to organise the Horsham u3a September holiday but this will depend on your support. There is an overview of the itinerary together with an application form in this issue of the newsletter. If you are interested I urge you to sign up now.

**David Bowyer Social Secretary**

## SHARING SKILLS WITH HACCS

Members of U3A know all about sharing skills. It's the very essence of U3A. But can I draw your attention to another local voluntary organisation relying on a different kind of sharing. Let's suppose that Jane has got an appointment at East Surrey Hospital next Thursday. She would usually drive but can't now because of an injury. Unusually none of her family or friends are free to take her. How does she get there? There's no easy public transport.

But... she is registered with the Horsham Area Community Car Scheme (HACCS). She calls them to say that she needs to be taken to East Surrey for an appointment that will last about an hour and then to be brought home. The HACCS office volunteers will try to find a volunteer driver to take her. As long as they have enough notice it is very likely that they will be able to find someone. And the whole trip will cost her about £20.

But if there are not enough volunteers to run the office on Monday to Friday mornings or if there are not enough drivers volunteering their time and their cars, none of this will happen.

I am sure that many of you are registered with HACCS and recognise how valuable it is, but perhaps some have tried to register but can't because HACCS hasn't got enough volunteers to take on more clients.

The purpose of this short note is to make sure that everyone who might need its services does know about HACCS and also to encourage those of you who have time and/or cars to consider sharing your skills and facilities with others. After all, you might need to use HACCS' services one day. If you phone **01403 250202** on weekday mornings or e-mail [haccsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:haccsoffice@gmail.com) someone will be delighted to talk to you about registering or volunteering with HACCS.

**Brenda Large**





## IT'S PARTY TIME on 21 May

**Horsham U3A was started in 1994, so it's 30 years old this year. Just a baby by the standards of most of us, but well worth a celebration, don't you think?**

We are going to make our **Open Event on 21 May 2024** a birthday celebration. We hope as many groups as possible will be represented; it doesn't matter if your group doesn't have vacancies – we need to showcase all we do. And you never know – someone might be inspired to lead a second similar group.

As usual we will be at the Holbrook Club, but for longer, from **11am till 4pm**. We will have the whole of the hall and the bar area, and outside seating if the weather smiles. The bar will be open, tea and coffee will be available to purchase, and simple lunches can be ordered in advance. There will be a 'Bakes and Cakes' stall, a raffle, a birthday cake - and balloons!

Please put this date in your diary and think about who you can bring with you. We want to encourage people who are not already members to come and see us, so we will need as much publicity as possible.

Any ideas about how to enhance the joy, fun and success of this day would be very welcome by your very inexperienced

Events Coordinator *Brenda Large*

# OPEN EVENT



### 'IT COSTS TO WASTE'

**IT'S ESTIMATED THAT 600 BILLION DISPOSABLE CUPS ARE USED AND SENT TO LANDFILL GLOBALLY, EVERY YEAR!**

**Do your bit to reduce this.**

Stop single use cups and bring your own mug to the General Meetings and events.

Your drink will taste so good from your own mug too.

**Thank you, you're tea-riffic.**



# GOOD NEWS GROUPS WITH

# VACANCIES

From Pam Your Groups' Co-ordinator

If you have decided to leave a group of which you have been a member, please would you, out of courtesy, tell the group leader of your decision. This means that he/she will be able to fill the vacancy as soon as possible either from the waiting list or when a new member enquires about joining the group.

## THE GROUPS BELOW HAVE VACANCIES:

If you would like to join any of them please contact the group leader and quote your membership number when enquiring. There may be vacancies in other groups: see the Groups Directory for contacts.

<b>Armchair Play Readers</b>	Carol Matthews	armchairplayreaders@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Being Curious</b>	Isobel Bogucki	beingcurious@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Bridge for Fun</b>	Suzie Kidd	bridgefun@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Bridge Intermediate</b>	Gillian Rantell	bridge@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Coffee &amp; Chat</b>	Jill/Adrian Lovett	coffee@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Cycling</b>	Tim Hossack	cycling@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Discussion Group 1</b>	Rosalind Meigh	discussion1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Enjoying Art</b>	Isobel Bogucki	enjoyingart@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Exploring Board Games</b>	Isobel Bogucki	boardgames@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Garden visits</b>	David/Angela Spurr	gardens@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Golf</b>	Malcolm Smith	golf@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Jazz &amp; Big Band</b>	Frank Chard	jazz@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Just Playing Cards</b>	Margaret Skipper	justplayingcards@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Local History</b>	Jill Lovett	localhistory@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Long Walks</b>	Eunice Allen	longwalks@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Mahjong 1</b>	Norah Campbell	mahjong1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Mahjong 2/Rummikub</b>	Brenda King	mahjong2@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>People &amp; Their Times</b>	Bob Dommett	people@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Photography for Fun</b>	Jill Lovett	photography@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Science &amp; Technology</b>	Derek Reynolds	sciencetech@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Scrabble1</b>	Gillian Rantell	scrabble1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Short-Mat Bowls 1</b>	Paul Davies	shortbowls1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Short-Mat Bowls 2</b>	Chris Mason	shortbowls2@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Short Walks 1</b>	Mary Breeze	shortwalks1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Spanish Conversation</b>	Sarah Kane	spanish@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Stroll in the Reserve</b>	Heather Glenny	stroll@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Theatregoers</b>	Celia Keiller	theatre@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Towns &amp; Villages 1</b>	Margaret Bailey	tv1@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Towns &amp; Villages 3</b>	Steve Bunnage	tv3@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Towns &amp; Villages 6</b>	Veronica Cackett	tv6@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Travellers' Tales</b>	Jill Lovett	travellers@horshamu3a.org.uk
<b>Ukulele</b>	Rita Norris	ukulele@horshamu3a.org.uk

## MESSAGE TO GROUP LEADERS

When members join or leave your groups, please let me know: [groups@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@horshamu3a.org.uk)

If you would like vacancies to feature in the next newsletter, please tell me by **Monday 13 May**.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

**Pam Johnson** Groups' Co-ordinator Contact: [groups@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@horshamu3a.org.uk)

# IDEA FOR A NEW GROUP

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

Would you like to be part of a small group that meets once a month to reminisce about all those things that still bring a smile to your face, or even about things that you may not remember so fondly?



Would you like to go back to the days before computers, mobile phones and social media and instead talk about topics like songs you used to love, or that drove you mad, radio or TV programmes that you just couldn't miss, or that you turned off as soon as you heard the title music, sweets that you couldn't get enough of, but that were withdrawn from production, shops that used to grace the town centre, but that have sadly disappeared; the list is endless.

Studies show nostalgia improves psychological well-being and each like minded person brings something different to the chosen subject. It can improve mood, increase social connectedness and much more. We look forward to hearing all about your experience.

If this appeals, a lady who is housebound would like the company of a small group at her home off the Brighton Road on any afternoon except Tuesday, so please contact me initially, saying which afternoon would suit you best, and we'll take it from there.



**Pam Johnson**  
**Groups' Co-ordinator**  
**Email: [groups@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@horshamu3a.org.uk)**

## SETTING UP YOUR OWN GROUP

As you may now appreciate, it is beneficial to start your own group by sharing your knowledge, skills, experience and interests with others, in a friendly informal environment.

You do not need to be qualified; just have a willingness to learn together. If in doubt, give it a go. You will then have the group you love.

**Please contact Pam who will be able to help you.**

**Groups' Co-ordinator**

**Email: [groups@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@horshamu3a.org.uk)**



## The Christmas Walk

They gathered on an icy day  
All decked with colours bright and gay  
And staggered forth in disarray,  
The walkers from the U3A

The rascals did it year on year,  
This Christmas walk so full of cheer.  
Why Jane was there was not too clear  
Until the party stopped in fear.

They'd come across a crooked stile  
Before they'd walked a crooked mile,  
And when the stile became a trial  
Then Jane was there to help a while.

She'd lift the legs of those too weak  
To scale this insubstantial peak,  
But Jane soon found the prospect bleak  
Of helping out from week to week.

And so she left them all dejected  
In the cold and unprotected  
Hoping they could be collected  
When their loved ones reconnected.

**by Martin Turner**



This poem was written by Martin Turner at the request of Helen Ward for this Horsham u3a newsletter.

Martin is a u3a member but not a member of the walking group.

## RENEW YOUR HORSHAM U3A MEMBERSHIP – IMPORTANT

The annual subscription for Horsham U3A's 30th anniversary year commencing **1st March 2024 is £14.**

If you receive a paper newsletter, your renewal form is enclosed with it. If you receive the newsletter by email, a renewal form will be in the post to you. Please note that everybody who was a member as at 30th November 2023 must complete and sign a form if you want to renew, so if you do not receive one for any reason, please contact me. Those of you who joined after that date and who already have a green membership card do not need to take any action.

**Members renewing their membership can qualify for a discount by acting immediately so don't put the form away to be dealt with later: DEAL WITH IT NOW.**

1. If your completed renewal form **AND** your subscription, are **BOTH** received in the month of **March**, with payment either online or by cheque, the sub to pay is just **£10.**
2. If either your completed renewal form **OR** your subscription is received **ON or AFTER 1st April**, the sub will be **£14.**

It's your choice: **ACT NOW** to save money. It's easy to renew; just follow the flow-chart on the opposite page.

**PAYING ONLINE BY BANK TRANSFER** is a great help as it reduces my workload at what is a very busy time of the year. If you pay this way, please;

**(i) NOTE THE CHANGE OF SORT CODE AND BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER**

- (ii) enter only your 4-digit membership number in the reference field online
- (iii) ensure that the payment is NOT made before 1st March
- (iv) ensure that you have cancelled any payments or standing orders that you have set up in the past to Horsham U3A's previous bank account with HSBC.

**IF PAYING BY CHEQUE** the payee is Horsham U3A. Please ensure that the cheque is signed and dated and that the words agree with the figures. Yes, sounds obvious I know, but the opposite does happen...!  
**Please note that there is no facility for me to pay cash into Horsham U3A's bank account.**

If you will be at the AGM on Tuesday 26th March, you will be able to collect your membership card from me there, as long as I have received payment of your subscription and your renewal form, so there is no need to enclose an SAE with the completed form. Please arrive early! However, if you will **NOT be at the AGM**, please enclose an **SAE - minimum size 6½" x 4½"** on any side - when returning the form. Your membership card will be sent once both the payment, by bank transfer or cheque, and the completed form have been received.

You will need to show your membership card if you attend our **general meetings and Group Leaders will be asking to see your card from April onwards**, so please ensure that you renew promptly and have yours to hand.

Please be good enough to tell me if you decide not to renew your membership so I can delete your records in accordance with **UK GDPR.**

Thank you for your co-operation.

*Jenny Faulkner* **Membership Secretary** Email: [membership@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@horshamu3a.org.uk)

## ACT NOW TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2024/2025

Can you pay the sub by bank transfer?



Complete page 1  
of renewal form

Log in to your bank and  
set up a single payment to Horsham U3A  
(**new** bank details on page 2 of renewal form)  
Ref = your 4 digit membership number  
**ENSURE THE PAYMENT IS MADE  
IN EARLY MARCH 2024**

Complete both sides of renewal form

Return completed renewal form  
with a cheque if you can't pay by bank transfer.  
As long as your renewal form and payment of your sub have  
been received, you can collect your membership card at the  
AGM on 26th March, so no need to enclose an SAE.  
However, if you will not be able to attend the AGM  
**please enclose an SAE with the renewal form,**  
no smaller than size C6; 6<sup>1/2</sup>" x 4<sup>1/2</sup>" on any side.

Form AND payment must be  
**received BEFORE 31st March** to  
qualify for reduced sub.

# HORSHAM U3A HOLIDAY 2024

## The North West Highlights

(A Tale of 2 (+ 1) Cities)

Sunday 8 – Thursday 12 September 2024

Specially organised on behalf of Horsham u3a



We stay at 3\* Best Western Frodsham Forest Hills Hotel. Located in a forested setting on the outskirts of Overton, this modern hotel with a glass-domed atrium has views of the Mersey estuary. There is an indoor swimming pool. Friendly staff and good food make this an ideal base for our stay in the area.

We leave on Sunday morning and head north, comfort stop en route, arriving at Coventry Transport Museum lunchtime. Free time to explore the museum and have lunch at leisure (not included). Continuing on to our hotel, we arrive late afternoon. Time to relax before dinner, evening at leisure and overnight at the hotel.

**Monday** - Today we head into Chester – the attractive, historical Roman city, complete with cathedral, walls, Rows (2 tiered shops), museums, remains of the Roman amphitheatre, and so much more. The city is situated on the River Dee so boat trips are also available! We begin the day with a local guide who will takes us on a coach tour of the city and some of the local area. Free time to explore and enjoy lunch at leisure before we finish the day with a boat cruise on the River Dee. Return to the hotel late afternoon for dinner, evening at leisure and overnight

**Tuesday** - We leave after breakfast and drive to Liverpool where our guide will meet us for a half day guided tour of the city taking in the main sights - Albert Dock, Anglican and Catholic cathedrals, Walker Gallery, Liver Building, Beatle connections plus so much more. Perhaps an afternoon with time to do as you please. Time at Albert Dock complete with its various museums (most of which are free entry!). The Beatles Story is also here (admission charge). The Walker Art Gallery is reputed to be one of the finest outside London and is free! The Museum of Liverpool is the most visited museum outside London and tells the story of this proud city (free entry). St George's Hall is also worth a visit. So much to see! A poignant trip down memory lane! Dinner, evening at leisure and overnight at the hotel.

**Wednesday** - After breakfast we drive to Port Sunlight, a model village on the Wirral Peninsula. It was purpose built by William Hesketh Lever starting in 1888 for the employees of Lever Brothers soap factory. The name is derived from Lever's most popular brand of cleaning agent, Sunlight. Port Sunlight contains 900 Grade II listed buildings. The garden village was founded to house his factory workers. Between 1899 and 1914, 800 houses with a population of 3,500 were built, together with allotments and public buildings including the Lady Lever Art Gallery, a cottage hospital, schools, a concert hall, open air swimming pool, church, and a temperance hotel. One of the great buildings in Port Sunlight is the Lady Lever Art Gallery. A keen art collector, Lever travelled all over the world and liked to show the villagers the art he collected - this is why he built Lady Lever Art Gallery. We enjoy a guided tour of the village from the coach. We have included admission to the Museum. Refreshments available. Freetime for lunch and a chance to explore a little more! Returning to Liverpool around 1430 hours we head to the Pier Head to finish the Day with a Ferry Cross the Mersey. Return to the hotel for dinner, evening at leisure and overnight.

Continued Over.....

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**Thursday** - We begin our homeward journey after breakfast. Comfort stop en route, we arrive at Canons Ashby (NT) around midday. Canons Ashby was first built by the Dryden family during the Elizabethan period, using stone from the Augustinian priory which previously occupied the site. The private church is all that remains of the priory. The interior is welcoming and atmospheric, with Jacobean wall paintings, plasterwork and tapestries.

The house was updated in the 18th century with the south-facing rooms remodelled, and again in the 19th century, when Sir Henry Dryden's *The Antiquarian* recorded much of the history of the estate and the surrounding area. The gardens are a rare surviving example of early 18th century garden design, typifying the formal style then fashionable. The layout and structural elements of the garden have remained the same ever since, defying the changes in taste which saw many contemporary gardens substantially altered. Refreshments available. Time for lunch and a chance to explore.

We depart mid-afternoon and return to our original pick up point late afternoon/early evening.



**Price per person £625.00 which includes:-**

- All travel by executive coach
- 4 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the 3\* BW Forest Hills Hotel, Frodsham
- Admission to Coventry Transport Museum
- Guided Tour of Chester & area with local guide
- Boat trip on the River Dee
- Guided tour of Liverpool
- Guided tour of Port Sunlight
- Ferry Cross The Mersey
- Fully escorted by a representative from Avalon Tours

**Supplements:**

- Double or twin room for single occupancy £84.00
- Fully comprehensive/travel cancellation insurance £31.50
- £12.00 approx - if non National Trust Member

**● £50 deposit to secure your place**

See over for booking form.....

**3 HORSHAM**  
**u3a**  
**1994-2024**

# BOOKING FORM

For Horsham u3a HOLIDAY 2024

## The North West Highlights

(A Tale of 2 (+ 1) Cities)

Based at 3\* BW Frodsham Forest Hills Hotel, Overton

Specially organised on behalf of Horsham u3a

**Pick up Horsham train station**



**SUNDAY 8th to THURSDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2024**

Subject to a minimum of 25 attending

To: Mr David Bowyer, 30 Millfield, Southwater, Horsham RH13 9HS (u3a Social Secretary)

### Please enclose:

Completed Booking Form

Stamped Addressed Envelope

Cheque for £50 Per Person Deposit Plus £31.50 per person if Insurance is required

**NOTE: £50 DEPOSIT IS NON REFUNDABLE UNLESS THE HOLIDAY IS CANCELLED BY AVALON TOURS DUE TO INSUFFICIENT NUMBERS**

Name(s) .....

(Full Forename and Surname, please)

Address .....

.....

Tel Number, Landline .....

Mobile Number.....

Email .....

Room .....

Twin/Double/Single (£84.00 supplement)

Fully comprehensive travel/cancellation insurance if required £31.50.....Yes or No

Please make cheques payable to **Horsham U3A Social**

**CHEQUE ENCLOSED FOR £ .....** to include insurance, if required, per person.

.....**Please tear out or print this page for booking**.....

**“Jump! The story of Dolly Shepherd” Talk by Tony Turner,**  
at General Meeting on 16 January 2024. Review by Marlene Chase



In this talk we were given a fascinating glimpse into the surprising and adventurous past of an Edwardian lady. She achieved a significant degree of fame in her early lifetime, although her name is less well-known today.

Elizabeth Shepherd, known as Dolly, was born in Potters Bar in 1886. Our speaker, Tony Turner, described how his interest in her life was sparked by coming across her book “When The Chute Went Up. The Adventures Of An Edwardian Lady Parachutist” in a charity shop.

He introduced some interesting anecdotes from her early years, including exploits and boyish dares which were often egged on by her older brother, but her main story starts when she went to Alexandra Palace in her teens to hear a Sousa concert. As she had no ticket, she offered her services as a waitress there and, through this, met the celebrated parachutist and balloonist Captain Auguste Gaudron and also Samuel Franklin Cody,

who had brought his Wild West Show “Klondike Nugget” to the UK. She helped Cody out by stepping in as a replacement in one of his spectacular stunts at the Bijou Theatre, seemingly “volunteering” from the audience. Captain Gaudron introduced her to his world of balloons and parachutes, and Tony showed us many examples of the different types being used at the time.

Soon Dolly was in front of large audiences, along with other members of Gaudron’s troupe, ascending under a balloon, holding onto a trapeze bar, and then descending by parachute. As a young female doing such a daring activity, she was particularly popular and brought good publicity.

One benefit for Dolly was of course the money. She received £2 10s per jump. She even devised her own knickerbocker costume for the jumps. On one occasion, however, when she had not intended to participate and was clad in a long skirt, she had to improvise, using a large safety pin to divide the skirt.

She made both solo jumps and dual ones. Tony mentioned several near misses and equipment failures, some extremely dramatic, such as when Dolly was dragged against a barbed wire fence and had her clothes ripped off.

The worst incident he described was during a dual jump, when the second parachute failed to open. Descending under the one useable parachute, Dolly landed underneath the other jumper and was badly injured and temporarily paralysed. Four doctors tried unsuccessfully to straighten her out, then indicated she would be in a convalescent home for the rest of her life. Dolly, however, had other ideas and eventually took to the skies again. Further descents followed and she became so famous that she even had her picture on the side of the balloon.

.....Continued Over

This all ended when war was declared. Dolly became a driver for officers, including one who objected to having a female driver. Six months later, they were married!

Another interesting fact (and negative comment) which Tony mentioned to us was that the War Office claimed that pilots did not want parachutes and that (in 1918) no parachutes were suitable. One inventor, Calthrop, created the "Guardian Angel" parachute. Although sent to bases, no parachutes were actually issued. However, in 1918, US pilots noticed that German pilots were using parachutes. Later inventors included Leslie Irvin whose ripcord parachute has become the industry standard.

From a variety of types of balloons and early parachutes, Dolly's aerial exploits were witnessed by throngs of enthralled onlookers who flocked to see such stunts. As a neat modern conclusion to such an eventful life, Dolly managed a flight with the Red Devils display team in 1976, and when she died in 1983, aged 96, they did a fly by.

Our thanks to Tony for bringing the story of such an unusual Edwardian lady and her adventurous life to our attention.



## GROUP NEWS

### Monday Morning Golf Group

The very wet December caused most of the local golf courses to close, it seemed mostly on Mondays. We did get together for a pre Christmas coffee at Horsham Golf and Fitness but that was as near as we got to hitting a golf ball. With the New Year came much better conditions and we have returned to playing, with good turnouts, in recent weeks. However very white, frosty but sunny weather days have felt like putting on concrete.

Our Birdie Champion for 2023 is Dave Kerr. He was duly presented with the trophy by last year's winner Derek Reynolds. Congratulations Dave.

Our regular venue is the Firs, at Horsham Golf, teeing off usually at 09.00 each Monday.

**Malcolm Smith**



# GROUP NEWS

## **U3A Jazz & Big Band By Sylvia Graves**

**Leader Frank Chard.**

**(jazz@horshamu3a.org.uk)**

**We meet: 1st Friday in month (10.30 am to 12.30 pm) in Wallace Room, The Barn, Pondtail Road Horsham.**

Although I missed the November meeting, I have it on good authority that Ann Chance (Music We Love) and Esme Cloherty (More of My Favourite Tracks) delivered a very enjoyable, varied and interesting programme.

Whilst interspersing interesting background stories at our Christmas meeting, Frank offered such gems as Night Train (big hit of the 50s) and Sunny Side of the Street (Tommy Dorsey). Django Reinhardt (considered a French genius of the acoustic guitar in spite of losing two fingers in a fire) delivered Sweet Georgia Brown. Seasonal treats also came with Ella Fitzgerald's, Let it Snow, plus Dave Brubeck's Santa Claus is Coming to Town.

New Year brought in Bernard Graves and selected records retrieved from his Loft. Enjoying numbers from Chris Barber, Humphrey Lyttleton and others, we also mentally danced to a pot pourri of British bands like Ray Noble (The Very Thought of You), and the Squadronaires' Jersey Bounce. Who could forget Billy Cotton's Somebody Stole My Girl especially after learning that he was an erstwhile amateur footballer, a racing driver at Brooklands and a Gypsy Moth pilot! There was band leader Ambrose (I'll Be Seeing You) who had a doubtful start in life as his father was a dealer in rags with mother "assisting in the business", yet he made it as did so many others.

David Spurr returned in February with more lively jazz and swing numbers. In addition to Glenn Miller and Ted Heath, we had Teddy Hill & Orchestra performing King Porter Stomp and Sydney Bechet & Orchestra's I'm Coming Virginia. Locally known Chris Walker & His Pedigree Jazz cooled us down with Ice Cream. New City Jazzmen with Penny Page appeared, as did Lionel Hampton with In The Mood. Duke Heitger's Steamboat Stompers rolled us around in Mississippi Mud, whilst crooners Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Sammy Davis Jnr also gave some of their best.



# GROUP NEWS

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GROUP (S.A.T.)



We are a Science and Technology group, quite a small group around 10 or so and we have vacancies for new members.

The name is what it is all about. We are curious about scientific research and what developments in technology have taken place recently and what might be coming in the near future and their effects. We are just ordinary people from our club interested in exploring and finding out and sharing our knowledge.

Different topics are chosen each month and indeed we even went to Surrey Space Centre recently for a change. This was enjoyed by all, and we discovered the many uses satellites play in our daily lives and how useful the different applications are from Sat Nav for finding one's way, weather forecasting, ice melts, farming, forests, planet changes, effects of things like global warming, atmosphere and ocean monitoring, coastlines, deserts, mountains, cities and towns and natural and manmade disasters and many more observations and uses.

We vary the subjects each month, choosing together Some present the introduction and we discuss the subjects eg, 3D printing, AI what is it? medical advances, alternative foods, water needs, droughts and so on.

We meet each month, first calendar Thursday, in Horsham Trafalgar Road Baptist Church rooms in the morning 9.30 to mid day. We rent a room, currently £3 per head per month.

**If you want to find out more  
Contact Derek Reynolds, Group Leader  
email: [reynoldsderek48@gmail.com](mailto:reynoldsderek48@gmail.com)**

Anyone welcome with an enquiring mind, interested in science and technology developments.

We are a friendly lot from mixed backgrounds!



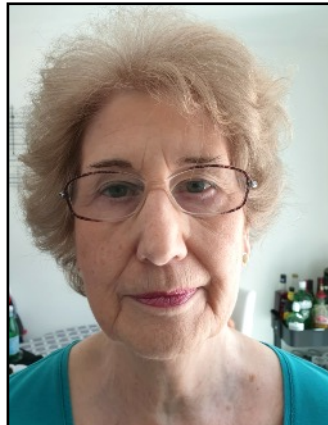
# Meet Your Committee for 2023/2024

## Officers/Trustees

Contact details on back page



**Chair**  
Simon Hill



**Secretary**  
Shiela Campbell



**Treasurer**  
Jeff Brockett

## Members/Trustees

Contact details on back page



**Membership Secretary  
& Data Controller**  
Jenny Faulkner



**Minutes Secretary**  
Esme Cloherty



**Social Secretary**  
David Bowyer



**Events' Co-ordinator**  
Brenda Large



**Speakers' Secretary**  
Ann Valentine



**Website Manager**  
Mike Harrod



**Groups' Co-ordinator**  
Pam Johnson

# The Committee for 2023/2024

## Officers

Simon Hill	Chair	chair@horshamu3a.org.uk
Vacancy	Vice Chair	
Jeff Brockett	Treasurer	treasurer@horshamu3a.org.uk
Shiela Campbell	Secretary	secretary@horshamu3a.org.uk

## General Committee

Brenda Large	Events Co-ordinator/ Publicity	events@horshamu3a.org.uk
Pam Johnson	Groups' Co-ordinator	groups@horshamu3a.org.uk
Jenny Faulkner	Membership Sec & Data Controller	membership@horshamu3a.org.uk
Esme Cloherty	Minutes Secretary	minutes@horshamu3a.org.uk
Dave Bowyer	Social Secretary	social@horshamu3a.org.uk
Ann Valentine	Speakers' Secretary	speakers@horshamu3a.org.uk
Mike Harrod	Website Manager	web@horshamu3a.org.uk

All of the above can be reached with one single email [committee@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:committee@horshamu3a.org.uk)

## Non-Committee

Anne David (attends meetings)	Newsletter Co-ordinator	newsletter@horshamu3a.org.uk
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We are looking for a replacement Vice Chair and Secretary ASAP, also a Social Secretary after the AGM. If you think you can help, please contact Simon, Chair, as above.

## Obituary

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

**Thérèse Carey**  
**John Hammonds**  
**Don Hope**

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

If you have any news, views, comments or contributions,  
**THE FINAL DATE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS**  
**BEFORE Thursday 23 May 2024**

Please send articles for the newsletter to Anne: [newsletter@horshamu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@horshamu3a.org.uk)