

Ringmer U3A



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Newsletter



Summer 2017 Edition



Announcements

Friday 2 June

Next E-Bulletin (no. 11)

Monday 26 June

Copy deadline for Autumn 2017 Edition of Newsletter

Friday 21 July

Autumn 2017 Edition of Newsletter published

Rosemary Harris - A Tribute

There have only been four chairmen of Ringmer U3A since it began 27 years ago. Rosemary was the second, holding office 1999-2007. She trained first as a nurse and later as a schoolteacher but, with the sad early death of her husband, changed her career to give priority to her children Andrew and Katherine. Her tenacity and organising abilities came through in her Group leadership as did her zest for life and knowledge. Having been a founder member and given great support to first Chairman David Smith, she led a period of development in the noughties helping to establish the lively and expansive Group we are today. Rosemary was also influential in the village, quietly helping groups and individuals in many unseen ways. She was fun to know, and will be sadly missed.

Next Annual
General Meeting
Wednesday 10th
of May 2:30 PM
Village Hall

Pictured above is the Ringmer U3A Committee: (Left to Right) Wendy, Sue, Lynne, Ian, Stephen, Anna-May, Jenny, Sylvia and Barbara

Group Reports

Gardening Group

Jenny West



Planned events include: Pub lunch in February, visits to Camelia Botna and Glyndebourne gardens with Head Gardener, strawberry tea, a talk on soil etc. and various discussions on specific subjects.

What the Papers Say

Sue Wilkins

We continue to meet on a regular basis discussing local, national and international news and areas of interest. There has been a lot to keep us talking this year!

Theatre Group

Ray & Jacquie Churchill

Our current membership list stands at 51 people interested in the Group. We have recently made

trips to see Nell Gwynne at the Theatre Royal, and Not Dead Enough by Peter James also at the Theatre Royal. On each occasion some of us enjoyed a convivial pre-show meal at Pinocchio's next door. Prior to those, since November we have also thoroughly enjoyed *Tale of Two Cities* and *Blood Brothers*. Our most recent Planning Meeting was on March 16, but that was too late to include a report with this newsletter. It also means we cannot give the date of our next meeting. Should anyone wish to join us for that next meeting, however, please call Jacquie or Ray.

Our future plans (subject to numbers) include trips to see:

11 April - *Gabriel* at the Devonshire Park

27 April - *Waiting For God* at the Devonshire Park - (Directed by Flor Grindley's son David)

9 May – *The Play That Goes Wrong* – Devonshire Park

18 May – *Our Man in Havana* – Devonshire Park

17 July – *Shirley Valentine* – Devonshire Park

16 August - Matinee - *La Cage Aux Folles* – Theatre Royal

If any of our activities appeal to you, please get in touch and consider joining us. Although we are apparently a large group, each play or musical we consider only appeals to a proportion of members. As we only attend productions if a minimum of ten people are interested, the more members we have, the more plays will achieve that threshold number.

Bob Takes O Family Histo

Astronomy Group

Brian Wignall



Since September the Astronomy Group has met five times indoors and has had three observation evenings. Observations have been made of:

1. The planets Uranus, Mars and Venus.
2. Three variable stars - Algol, Mira and Delta Cephei - whose variability occurs for different reasons.
3. A number of nebulae, particularly those around Orion.
4. The Great Globular Cluster in Hercules.

The indoor meetings have considered the information from the above observations, and members have contributed information on the achievements of women in Astronomy, Gravity Waves, Gravitational Lensing and individual stars.

We will have further meetings in March, April and May. There will be further observational meetings arranged when the weather allows to

The Group continues to meet monthly throughout the year. A lively and mixed programme has seen over 70% attendance at each meeting. Highlights have included excellent presentations by Jayne Shrimpton and John Kay on 'Fashion Through the Censuses' and 'Taking Care of the Poor' respectively. Members are now working hard to respond to Bob's first challenge to obtain birth, death and marriage certificates for their parents, grandparents and great grandparents, and we can look forward to the annual trip to The National Archives at Kew.

(Continued from page 3, Photography Group)

For the rest of 2017 we are going to:

1. Organise some visits
2. Produce a Ringmer calendar for 2018
3. Produce a few local postcards!
4. Arrange a guest speaker
5. Have another photographic competition

We have room for new members. All abilities welcome. We meet on the last Thursday of each month between 2 pm and 4 pm in the Goldsborough Hall (Ringmer Scout Hut)

Winter scene. Taken by Graham Whitlock



New Year Quiz. Taken by Graham Whitlock

Reading Group

Janet Beirne

As a group, we enjoy reading and discussing quite a wide range of literature - recently we have read Daphne du Maurier, Rumer Godden, Anne Brontë, Stella Gibbons, Roald Dahl and Elizabeth Buchan.

Group members offer suggestions and our local library is very good at supplying our requests. Opinions on each book are usually very divided, which makes for lively discussion. It's certainly satisfying to talk about something one has just read and of course what book groups are all about.

All of us are avid readers but the talk isn't limited to our current reading. The time is satisfyingly filled as we have this chance to wallow in our particular interest.



Spanish Group

Conchita Wigley

We meet in each others' houses in turn.

The meetings are very informal and the topics, chosen by members, change from week to week.

We tell each other our own personal news, talking about holidays, family, friends and life in general.

We also cover grammar points as they arise or when requested by any of the members of the group.



From time to time we play games, which are fun and a very enjoyable way of learning the language.

The aim is to speak only Spanish during our meetings. I personally think that we have managed this very well, and our gatherings are conducted ninety per cent in the target language.

Introducing Your New Editor

My wife Axel and I moved to Ringmer last March from London. The photo shows me with our dog Polly.

Ian will be a hard act to follow as editor, but with your contributions I'll do my best to keep you informed about what's happening in Ringmer U3A.

Stephen van Dulken

Final Thoughts From the Chairman

Well what a fantastic Spring Lunch we had in March. Once again Red Pepper Catering provided an excellent meal and, with a quarter of our membership present, there was plenty of opportunity to chat. This has become a popular event and it goes to show that we need to hold more such events where we get the opportunity to chat to members from other interest groups. We do, though, need volunteers to help us organise it.

Talking of volunteers I am delighted to welcome Stephen van Dulken as our new Newsletter Editor, and Ken Boot-Handford has agreed to take over as Membership Secretary. We are still looking for a new Secretary to take over from Jenny in May and also a new SUN rep to take over from Barbara.

Time seems to fly by these days. Very soon it will be the AGM in May and then our Open Day, with enrolment, in August. Perhaps there are some new interest groups that we could start up next year. Do let us know and we can see if there is sufficient interest. Our next newsletter will cover the next U3A year, from September, and our enrolment process. Meanwhile do enjoy your membership.



Annual General Meeting

Village Hall at 2:30 pm on

Wednesday 10 May 2017

This is an important event in our calendar. It is an opportunity for you to hear what is going on and to elect the committee. We will keep the AGM as short as possible so that you can chat to other members. Tea and biscuits will be served at the end of the meeting.

Coach Trip to Kew

on Wednesday 17 May 2017

There are still seats available on the coach, but please complete and return the booking form soon. This is a popular trip and most years the coach is full.



Chairman:	Ian Loughborough
Secretary:	Jenny West
Treasurer:	Sue Hall
Membership Secretary:	Anna-May Bridger
SUN Representative:	Barbara Cruttenden
Newsletter Editor:	Stephen van Dulken
Group Co-ordinator:	Sylvia Coleman
New Groups Co-ordinator:	Wendy Morgan
Committee Member:	Lynne Booth

Key to Chart Below: Status:

NMM, needs more members

WL, waiting list

SA, space available

The WL groups are full so we would like to start another group if someone volunteers to be convenor. SA groups can have at least one more member joining on Open Day in August. NMM means just that – the group really needs more members to be successful.

Your Current Groups and Convenors

	Convenor	Status	Nos	Meets
Ambling	Ann Ballance	NMM	7	2 nd & 4 th Wed 10 am
Astronomy	Brian Wignall	WL	16	2 nd Wed 7.30 pm
Basic French	Denise Hadley	WL	5	Provisionally 25 th April; 2 nd May and 23 rd May
French 1	Jenny Hill	WL	11	2 nd , 16 th , 30 th May-10-12
French 2	Bridget Cross	WL	6	Every Thu 11 am
Family History	Bob Cairns	SA	48	Last Tues of month 2 pm
Gardening	Jenny West & Joan Wignall	WL	16	3 rd Tue 2.30 pm until Oct
2Garden	Teresa Keen	WL	20	11 th April; 9 th May; 13 th June; 11 th July; 8 th Aug
Knit One Chat One	Sue Hall	WL	9	7 th April; 5 th May; 2 nd June; 7 th July 14.00-16.00. No meeting in August
Mah-Jong	Julia Middleton	SA	7	Every Mon 10 am until August
Out & About	Valerie King	WL	47	1st June, 7th September and 7th December at 10.30 am in the Residents' Lounge in Delves House.
Photography	Martin Whitlock	NMM	20	Last Thursday of month 2 pm
Poetry	Elsie Bowler	WL	9	2 nd Thursday of month 2.15 pm
Readers Circle	Janet Beirne	WL	8	27 th April; 25 th May; 22 nd June
Scrabble	Julia Middleton	SA	6	19 th April; 21 st June; 16 th August in Julia's home. 17 th May; 19 th July will be held in Axel Forester's home
Spanish	Conchita Wigley	WL	9	3 rd April 24 th April 8 th – 22 nd May & 5 th June 10.30 – 12.00
Theatre Club	Ray & Jacque Churchill	NMM	51	Own programme next meeting booked provisionally P4 th May 14.30
Walking	Lynne Booth	SA	34	1 st & 3 rd Wed 1.30 pm
What the Papers Say	Sue Wilkins	WL	6	24 th April; 22 nd May; 26 th June; 24 th July.

Ringmer U3A Calendar for Summer 2017

Am = Ambling

As=Astronomy

BFr=Basic French

Fr = French

Fr2 = French

FH=Family History

Ga=Gardening

2Ga = 2 Garden

Kn = Knit One, Chat One

Ma = Mah-Jong

OA = Out & About

Ph = Photography

Po = Poetry

PS = What the papers say

Re = Readers Circle

Sc=Scrabble

Sp=Spanish

Th = Theatre Club

Wa = Walking

DAY	May	June	July	August
Mon	Bank Holiday			1
Tues	2			2 Wa 13.30
Wed	3 Wa 13.30			3 Fr210.00
Thurs	4 Fr2 10.00; Fr 10.00; Th 14.30			4
Fri	5 Kn 14.00	1 Fr2 10.00 <i>E-Bulletin comes out</i>	1	5
		2 BFr 10.30; Fr1 10.00; Kn 14.00		
Mon	8 Ma10.00; Sp 10.30	5 Ma 10.00 Sp 10.30	3 Ma 10.0	7
Tues	9 2Ga 14.30	6	4	8 2Ga 14.30
Wed	10 Am 10.00; AGM 14.30	7 Wa 13.30	5 Wa 13.30	9
Thurs	11 Fr2 10.00 Po 14.15	8 Fr2 10.00; Po 14.15	6 Fr2 10.00	10 Fr2 10.00; Po14.15
Fri	12	9	7 Kn 14.00	11
Mon	15 Ma 10.00	12 Ma 10.00	10 Ma 10.00	14
Tues	16 Ga 14.30	13 2Ga 14.30	11 2Ga 14.30	15 Ga 14.00
Wed	17 Sc 14.00; Wa 13.30; Coach trip to Kew	14 Am10.00	12	16 Sc 14.00; Wa 13.30; <i>Open day</i>
Thurs	18 Fr2 10.00	15 Fr2 10.00	13 Fr2.10.00; Po 14.15	17 Fr2 10.00
Fri	19	16 Fr 10.00	14	18
Mon	22 Ma 10.00; Sp 10.30; PS 10.30	19 Ma 10.00	17 Ma 10.00	21
Tues	23	20 Ga 14.30	18 Ga 14.00	22
Wed	24 Am 10.00	21 Sc 14.00; Wa 13.30	19 Sc 14.00; Wa 13.30	23
Thurs	25 Fr2 10.00; Ph 14.00; Re 14.30	22 Fr2 10.00; Re 14.30	20 Fr2 10.00	24 Fr2 10.00
Fri	26	23 BFr 10.30	21 <i>Publish Autumn Newsletter 2017</i>	25
Mon	29 Bank Holiday	26 Ma 10.00; PS 10.30 <i>Deadline for Autumn Newsletter (Sept; Oct; Nov; Dec)</i>	24 Ma 10.00; PS 10.30	28 Bank Holiday
Tues	30 FH 10.00	27 FH 14.00	25 FH14.00	29 FH14.00
Wed		28 Am10.00	26	30
Thurs		29 Fr2 10.00 ;Ph 14.00	27 Fr 10.00; Ph 14.00	31 Fr2 10.00; Ph 14.00
Fri		30 Fr 10.00	28	
			31	