



## ● *Chairman's Report*

### **WANTED - Reward Offered !**

Purbeck U3A now has **600+** members and this generates an amount of administration to keep this amazing organisation running smoothly.

Can you help? All we ask is a little of your time - this could be some data entry, keeping information points up to date, tea/coffee rota or many other tasks, none of which will take a lot of your time.

**Your reward?** Ensuring Purbeck U3A continues to offer such a huge variety of interest groups by supporting the U3A ethos of sharing and working together. It will take some of the weight off the shoulders of a very small group of volunteers and keep it all running smoothly.

### **Help!**

### **We need somebody - not just anybody!**



Do you have any website design experience?

Would you like to be part of the team putting the new website together?

If you would like to know more, please contact Jim McGivern - no obligations, just a chat about how you can help.

Email Jim at [jmcgivern02@icloud.com](mailto:jmcgivern02@icloud.com), your help would be invaluable.

*Jim McGivern*

## ● *From the Treasurer*



### **Diaries**

Could those who have paid for a diary but not arranged collection to please contact the treasurer as soon as possible.

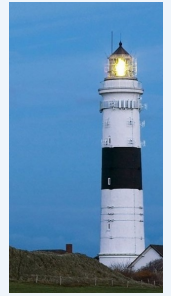
## ● *Membership and Finance*

As some of you will be aware we have been trialling the Beacon System developed by members of various U3A groups.

The system hosted on a remote server provides an integrated Membership and Financial package with many additional features to record Gift Aid, those who have ordered Third Age Matters magazine and those who wish to have a copy of Purbeck U3A Bulletin sent by post. A feature that may appeal to Group leaders is for recording their membership and allowing all or selected members to be contacted by email. The member's list highlights members who have not renewed their subscription.

The Beacon System will also allow payment of subscriptions by PayPal. The member does not have to have a PayPal account to pay in this manner using their bank account or credit card.

As over 40% of current members pay through online banking or by Standing Order, the question is, how many more members would wish to pay online with PayPal if we were to activate it. The Treasurer would welcome feedback to ascertain whether it would be a feature that we should incorporate.



## ● *News From the Groups*

### *New K9 Walking Group to start in January*

The U3A K9 walking group has gone from strength to strength over the past few years and now comprises 23 adults and 16 dogs, with two new members waiting to join.

On average, 12 adults and 10 dogs enjoyed a variety of walks in the Purbeck area each month during 2015/16, each one led by a different member of the group.

The numbers have been manageable, but this year most members are regular walkers with the group, which will potentially have an impact on the number of walkers and dogs each month. It has also become apparent that the capacity of both owners and dogs to walk over a variety of terrains for up to two hours is now more diverse.

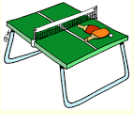
With this and safety in mind, I have decided to set up a second group for owners and dogs who are less active and who would benefit from shorter, flat walks.

This group will be held on the first Thursday of each month, starting in January 2017, walking from 10 - 11am (approx). The current group (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month) will cater for owners and dogs who enjoy walking energetically for up to two hours and who are not averse to hill-walking.

The current group *Walking 4U3AK9s* will be renamed *U3A K9 Walkers* and the new group will be called *U3A K9 Strollers*.

Please contact Hilary Thraves if you would like more information. [K9s@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:K9s@purbecku3a.org.uk)





## Tennis Group

**Keep your eyes on the ball and have fun!!**

We are looking for new members as we have a few vacancies. Maybe you played in your youth or more recently and want to have a go again in a fun atmosphere and improve your play. Why not give it a go and try a free session with us?

Please contact us if you are interested to arrange a suitable date and time.

The group of about 20 people (ages span the sixties to almost ninety years) has been running for about five years and meets at Harman's Cross village hall on Monday mornings between 9 am and 12. We are a mixed ability group who play for fitness and fun. We have three tables that are setup in a spacious hall with access to an adjacent kitchen. We meet every week apart from the month of August and Bank Holidays. The starting time is flexible with most people arriving by 10 am.

There is an optional practice session between about 9 and 9.45 am and then we play double matches for the rest of the time. Players are rotated so that everyone gets to play with others in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Apart from individual games, we do not play competitively and try and mix people at various levels so that they can enjoy the play. If space is available single games can also be played. Coffee and tea are provided at mid-time.

**Contact:** Alan House/ Martin Howell  
at [tabletennis@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:tabletennis@purbecku3a.org.uk)



## Swanage Book Group

The Group now meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month beginning at 10.30 am and ending at approximately 12 30 pm.

We changed the week so that members could attend Meeting Points if they wished. We are full at the moment with one person on the waiting list.

*Carol Buckley* [swanagebooks@purbecku3a.org](mailto:swanagebooks@purbecku3a.org)



## Quiz Group

1. The sun falls into what category of stars?
2. Bedfordshire has a border with Oxfordshire - true or false?
3. The acronym IPA stands for what?
4. Who is Scotland's Patron Saint?
5. How many 125ml wine glasses can be filled from a 75cl bottle?

Answers on page 5



## MOTO (Members On Their Own)

The group continues to grow and we now have 34 members.

In September, members braved wet and windy weather to visit the Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne preceded by a bonus trip to the ethereal Neolithic henge and ruined church at Knowlton, arranged by Derek.



October saw us engaging in a hilarious session of Skittles at the Claypipe Inn, Sandford, organised by Vicki. A very good time was had by all – even by one or two sceptics who said they had only come along to make up the numbers! This was followed by lunch in the pub, the staff looked after us royally.



Our next event will be an evening theatre trip to the Tivoli Theatre, Wimborne on 12<sup>th</sup> November, this time arranged by Rozanne. Another member, Jenny, is organising a Christmas lunch for us in December.

Early in 2017, we plan to try something new in addition to organised trips and visits. For a trial period of three months, we have hired the Corfe Village Hall on the second Friday afternoon of the month for informal get-togethers where we can meet socially with fellow members. It will be very much a “play it by ear” event to start with tea, cakes and chat - and we will see how it evolves. This venue has been selected as it is on a bus route.



The hall has been booked for the dates of Friday 13 January, 10 February and 10 March between 2 – 4 p.m. (this is flexible). If successful and members wish to continue the arrangement we will make it a regular feature, As always, we are open to and welcome ideas and suggestions from everyone.

We suggest a donation of £1 from members for each visit. If you would like to make a cake to bring along, please liaise first with Sue Galise.

We look forward to welcoming existing and new members.

*Sue Galise and Derek Monk* [moto@pu3a.org.uk](mailto:moto@pu3a.org.uk)



## *Singing*

**Much has been talked about how singing is a real boost to people's wellbeing.**

Purbeck U3A **Choir** has just celebrated its **1st birthday** so, with winter approaching, this seems a good time to come along and see the enjoyment you can gain.

Singing takes place at Carey hall fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 2 – 4 pm.

New members are always welcome.

Find out more about the choir and how you can be part of it - just email [singing@purbecku3a](mailto:singing@purbecku3a)



## *Beginners' Computer Group*

Are you struggling to send out an email, having problems doing a Google search, are not sure how to shop online or are worried about breaking your new computer?

If yes, we have some spaces on the Computer for Beginners Course.

We cater for the absolute beginner to those who can do a little but would like to do more.

We are only able to help those with Personal Computers that can run the Windows operating system.

No Apple Macs, iPads or smart phones.

The Group meets 1st and 3rd Friday of each month 9 a.m. at Harman's Cross Village Hall.

Contact Paul Lurie on [01929 439028](tel:01929439028) [computerbasics@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:computerbasics@purbecku3a.org.uk)).



## *Intermediate French*

French 2 meets at Harman's Cross Village Hall on Monday mornings, 10.15 - 12.00, starting with coffee.

The group is ideal for anyone with a little basic French and is relaxed and friendly. Why not come along one morning for a taster.

Contact Sue Sides by email: [soosides17@gmail.com](mailto:soosides17@gmail.com)

ANSWERS to QUIZ on page 3

1. Yellow Dwarf.
2. False.
3. International Phonetic Alphabet or India Pale Ale!
4. St Andrew.
5. Six



## Gardening Group

Hillier Gardens, near Romsey, were at the height of their glory when the Gardening Group visited at the beginning of November.



Many shrubs were strangely unseasonal, confused by this wonderfully warm Autumn but there were breath taking colours at every turn !

Eternally young members abandoned their 3<sup>rd</sup> Age and recaptured their 1<sup>st</sup> Age on the play equipment !





## Country House Group

The Group have enjoyed guided tours of Longleat House, Montacute House and Stourhead following the development of the English Country House from Tudor to Palladian.

We are extremely appreciative of Jim Humberstone, our course tutor, who has explained the historical background and sequence of events that caused the styles of architecture to change.



We have been shepherded by Nick Greenwood with great tact and patience.

The group were privileged to be shown the ground floor of the private wing on their tour of Longleat House.

Strong views were expressed on the art of Alexander Thynn, 7th Marquess of Bath, and there was a frisson of excitement when the lower treads of the 'Wifelet' staircase were sighted!



Longleat House



The Library, Stourhead



Montacute House



Stourhead House



U3A at Stourhead



## Discussion Group

Unfortunately, after more than 20 years of existence, the next meeting on Thursday 10th November will have to be the last meeting for the Discussion Group UNLESS NEW MEMBERS COME FORWARD to replace those lost to natural causes and incapacity.

Anyone interested in joining either e-mail Diana Morgan [home.jd.morgan@btinternet.com](mailto:home.jd.morgan@btinternet.com) or telephone 01929 423929



## Just Desserts

## ARE YOU TEMPTED?

The Pudding Club (aka Just Desserts) has been running for some time and a delicious time is had by all. Some members have left, not a waistline issue I've been reliably informed.

Can you be tempted to join this very enjoyable group? Please contact Chris at [chrisbonanni@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chrisbonanni@hotmail.co.uk) who will tell you about the group and put you in touch with the chefs/testers.

They meet monthly on the **last Friday of the month.**

**Could be something to cheer you up this winter!**

**Check out the U3A Website  
for current list of  
Group Activities!**

## Next Meeting Points - Thursday November 24th

Refreshments from **10.00am.**

Note: This is the last Meeting Points for 2016.

For our last Meeting Points for 2016, the topic is

### **THE REAL DAD'S ARMY**

Our speaker, **Dale Johnson**, is a member of a history and e-enactment group which travels the country giving talks about the **Home Guard**.

They also entertain as Dad's Army lookalikes.

**Dale owns a 1933 Austin 7 van kitted out in Home Guard livery, which he hopes to drive to our meeting!**

Go to the Meeting Points website for photos and more detailed information.

The first Meeting Points of 2017 is on **Thursday 26th January 2017**

**Please send us your copy in WORD for the FEBRUARY BULLETIN by 1 February**

To [bulletin@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@purbecku3a.org.uk) Or phone or text Vicki Fawke 07464 607 407