

Monthly Newsletter

March 2025

Friday 7th March. Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon at Cornerstones Café, The Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way. All welcome.

Friday 7th March 2.30 by Zoom. TVN have their Spring Quiz. There is no charge for this event. Teams will be arranged on the day. Book via the TVN website <https://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/> by 5th March.

Tuesday 11th March at 10.30 by Zoom. TVN have organised an illustrated talk by Ruth Nobbs on “Key Species and Rewilding”. For more information and to book your ticket go to the TVN website <https://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/> It will cost £2 per device and bookings close on 8th March.

Thursday 13th March. Convenors meeting at the Methodist Church. 10 am for 10.15 start. Please could every group send a representative. We will finish by 12 noon. Items on the agenda will include the Thatcham Fun Day, The Summer Picnic and the refreshment rota.

Friday 14th March. General Meeting 2pm to 4pm at The Frank Hutchings Hall, Speaker Amanda Shora “Folk music – Sing with Mandy”. Tea, biscuits, raffle, book and jigsaw swap tables and an opportunity to have a chat. Members free, non-members £2.

News from Groups

Our Scrabble group have 3 or 4 spaces if anyone would like to join. Should you have your own Scrabble board it would be welcome, but we can provide if you do not have one. We meet the first Thursday of each month at St Mary’s Church, Thatcham. 2pm-4pm. Please contact Angela via the group page.

Thatcham u3a is increasing its range of interest groups with the addition of the small but beautifully formed Recorder group. Ann Moore is the Convenor and there are currently 4 members. They are meeting weekly, on Thursday mornings at 10.30, for just one hour. Please contact Ann via the group page.

Sue and John Gammer have been joint convenors for the Lunch Group - Tuck In for a significant percentage of the lifetime of Thatcham u3a. They have finally decided to call it a day. We are very grateful to them for the careful research and efficient organisation that has resulted in many memorable meals. This lunch group will close – but of course – that does leave an opportunity for anyone else who thinks that opening a new one could be their contribution. Please contact Sue via the contacts page.

Opportunities for trips and holidays

Friday 4th April. Day out to Osterley Park, a National Trust property in West London. £40.00 for those with National Trust membership. Contact newburynta.org.uk for forms and details

Friday 16th May. Day out to Croome Park. A National Trust property in Worcester. £40. More details and the opportunity to book can be sourced from the Newbury National Trust website given above.

Thursday 5th June. Day out to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. £75.00. This is another trip arranged by Newbury National Trust but you don't need to be a member of the National Trust for this one.

News from Your Executive

March is the season for membership renewal. We are pleased that the fee can be kept at the same rates as last year. The only increase is for those of you subscribing to the u3a matters magazine and this is simply because of postage costs. Our membership secretary will be in touch soon.

VE Day 80

A booklet was produced last year and published by Bucklebury Parish Council, to celebrate D Day 80. Some of you will have seen it and I can send an e copy to anyone who is interested. Shane, who masterminded the project, has approached Thatcham Town Council with a view to doing something similar to celebrate VE Day 80 and this time to include the wider community. He is particularly interested in any photos and memories (written, handed down or first hand) from the time. You can contact him directly on 07590 985145.

Please send copy for the April News to the Chairperson by 21st March. Items received after this date will be saved for the May News.
