

Monthly Newsletter

May 2025

Friday 2nd May. Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon at Cornerstones Café, The Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way. All welcome.

Friday 9th May. General Meeting 2pm to 4pm at The Frank Hutchings Hall, Speaker Lucy Maynard from the Dogs Trust. She will not charge for her talk but will bring a donation tin. Please bring some money so that you can donate, should you feel so inclined. Tea, biscuits, raffle, book and jigsaw swap tables and an opportunity to have a chat. Members free, non-members £2. **Please note that teas will be served from 2 pm, before the talk.**

Wednesday 14th May at 10.30 Thames Valley Network have arranged a talk on Zoom entitled "AI and its use in digital photography" by Alun Morgan. For more information and to book your ticket go to the TVN website <https://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/> it will cost £2 per device.

News from Groups

We have booked a double pitch at the Thatcham Fun Day again this year and will hope to display some artwork at the back of our gazebos. We invite other groups to think of things that they could contribute to help to promote Thatcham u3a. In particular, we would like some fresh photographs of your activities. Please send them to the Chair.

The Fun Day is on Sunday 29th June, from 11 am to 4 pm, on the Henwick Worthy Sports Field. We need a team of volunteers to help with setting up and to man the stand throughout the day. If you could manage an hour or two, let me know and I will draw up a rota. Let me know which times would suit you best.

Opportunities for trips and holidays

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.

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

Other trips offered on the Newbury National Trust site include The American Museum on 15th July and Stowe school and Grounds on 13th August Find booking forms on newburynta.org.uk.

News from your Executive

Thank you to the members and convenors who have helped with redistributing the u3a matters magazine. Due to an administrative hiccup, those who have paid the postage did not receive the magazine while those who had not paid, did! Please bring copies that are not officially yours to the coffee morning or to the General meeting so that they can be passed on to those who should have received them. The problem should not arise again.

If you have not renewed your membership in the last 6 weeks, then it is now overdue. You are living on borrowed time! Forms can be downloaded from our website. Please contact the membership secretary if you are unsure of your status.

We are pleased to announce that the Executive have appointed a team of members to find and manage speakers for our General meetings. They are Dorothy, Frances and Julie. Frances is in charge and Julie, as one of our Trustees, will provide the link to the Executive. We are very grateful to them for volunteering and hope that they find the role rewarding.

Our AGM is on Friday 13th June. Your current Executive are willing to continue in post, but we would welcome some additional help. Specific roles include a Vice Chair, Study Day Organiser and Trips Organiser. Our constitution allows for up to 12 members of the Executive so that there are opportunities for those who are interested in becoming more involved but do not want a particular role. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

Andy Stacey is the editor for our Thatcham u3a magazine. This will be published, in digital form, at the end of June. We are urgently looking for interesting articles from our members. The deadline is the end of May. Send articles to Andy via the Contact page.

Please send copy for the June News to the Chair by 21st May. Items received after this date will be saved for the July News.
