

## Monthly Newsletter

### September 2025

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon at Cornerstones Café, The Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way RG19 4YF all welcome. £1 for tea and biscuits.

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Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. General meeting from 2 – 4 pm at the Frank Hutchings Hall. Speaker Howard Grace – “Beyond Forgiving”. Tea, biscuits, raffle, book and jigsaw swap tables and an opportunity to have a chat. Members free, non-members £2. The new programme trifold will be available.

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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30. Thames Valley Network will hold their Autumn Quiz on Zoom. Teams will be arranged on the day. This is a free event, but you need to book your tickets on their website [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 10.30 am. Thames Valley Network have arranged a talk on Zoom. David Baskerville will speak on “The Thames Valley Air Ambulance”. Tickets cost £2 per device and may be booked on [u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

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#### News from Groups

Convenors meet twice a year to share their experiences and to provide mutual support. The next Convenors meeting is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 10 am for 10:15. Please could you make sure that your group will be represented. We will discuss the forthcoming Festival, our Christmas meeting and more practical concerns about running interest groups. We meet in the Methodist Church Hall.

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The Newbury Architecture Group invite you to join them for a special meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 2PM in Broadway house, Newbury which will be open to all, including non-members and members from other u3as, so please bring any friends who might be interested. James King, Managing Director of Unity Lime, will give a talk on “An introduction to natural building materials”.

For further information contact Newbury u3a

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#### Opportunities for trips and holidays

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Newbury u3a Theatre Group are planning a trip to a matinee performance of Mamma Mia! in Oxford, on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Pick up at 10:30am in Newbury or from the Rugby club. Cost £74.50. Contact Newbury u3a.

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It is worth noting that our own Theatre Group, which is part of Kennet Theatre Group, will probably be going to this same production. Contact Thatcham u3a

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Karen Eggleton has arranged a whole day trip to Waddesdon Manor for 5th December, to see the Christmas lights and to enjoy a meal. Cost £75. The coach will pick up in Thatcham as well as Newbury. Details, including a booking form, are on the Newbury National Trust website.

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### **News from Your Executive**

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As part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations, we hope to have a bumper edition of the Thatcham u3a magazine. Andy Stacey is the editor and articles and photos should be sent to him, in WORD or as JPEGs, at [breakaway@ntlworld.com](mailto:breakaway@ntlworld.com) Please could you all think about your experiences of the u3a and see if you can write a short article to share the most memorable, with other members. It could be from the early days but equally it could be something unexpected or particularly pleasing that happened more recently.

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We have booked the Catholic Hall for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October from 1:30 to 4 pm for our annual open afternoon. It is a part of the Thatcham Festival. All groups are invited to have a pitch to explain what they do and encourage people to join them. This is a great opportunity for existing members to come and find a new group to join, as well as for those who are not yet members of the u3a.

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On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October we will pitch our two gazebos on Thatcham Broadway as part of the Festival Leisure and Craft Fair. We will be looking for volunteers to take an hour turn on the stand. Please email me if you would like to be involved. We were very busy last year. It is an excellent opportunity to showcase our organisation to those who are contemplating retirement in the near future.

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Please send copy for the October Newsletter to The Chair by 21st September. Items received after this date will be saved for the November News.

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