

Monthly Newsletter

May 2026

Tuesday 5th May at 2.30 on Zoom. A talk by Dr Helen Fry on Women in Intelligence across 2 World Wars. This is arranged by Thames Valley Network and costs £2 per screen. It can be booked on <https://u3atvnetwork.org.uk/> Closing date for booking a ticket is Sunday 2nd May.

Friday 8th May. General meeting from 2 – 4 pm at the Frank Hutchings Hall. We are pleased to welcome Eve Hughes and G McConkey who will give a talk on 'Newbury Street Pastors'. Book and jigsaw swap tables and an opportunity to have a chat. Members free, non-members £2

Thursday 21st May. Chris Belcher will tackle her wing walk to raise funds for The Royal Air Force Association and to celebrate 60 years since she first enlisted in the RAF. We cannot join her at the airfield but do think about her on this day and send your best wishes. We will hope to see some photos afterwards. Contact Chris through the website to wish her well and to make a donation.

Friday 5th June. Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon at Cornerstones Café, The Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way. All welcome. Please remember that there will be no coffee morning during May.

News from Groups

Tadley Travel Group invite you to their Summer Barbecue at Newbury College on Wednesday 24 June, to start at 12 noon. Its £23.50 £10 deposit. Contact Lynda Mead, through Tadley U3a website for more details and to book your place.

Opportunities for trips and holidays

Thatcham u3a have our own trip. It is to Brooklands Motoring and Aviation Museum in Weybridge and will cost £50 per person. The date is Wednesday 16th September 2026. For more information contact the Treasurer through the website.

Tadley u3a Travel Group Summer Day out, on the beach at Weymouth, on September 10th 2026. Cost £22 per person. The coach will depart from Thatcham at 8.20am approx. Contact Lynda Mead through the Tadley u3a website.

Bookings will open on 8th May for the South East u3a Forum Summer School, at the University of Chichester, from Monday 7th to Thursday 10th September. The summer school with standard accommodation will cost £360. See [2026 - South East u3a Forum](#) for more details.

News from Your Executive

Andy Stacey is gathering copy for our Summer magazine which will be published in June. Please send him material as it becomes available. His address is breakaway@ntlworld.com. Remember that anything that tickles or impresses you is welcome. Reports from groups can be entertaining but the aim of the magazine is first and foremost something that we can enjoy perusing.

We have missed having a monthly raffle, but it will return as a super Raffle for our AGM on 12th June. Donations of prizes may be brought on the day or given in advance to any member of the Executive. Come and see what you can win and help to make sure that we are quorate for the meeting.

At the AGM we need to appoint a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and a Vice Chair. We should also elect other people to the Executive committee. Lynn and Jan are happy to continue in their Treasurers' roles and other Exec members will also continue. However, Kerry Thomas is standing down as Secretary, a role he has filled admirably for the last three years, and currently we do not have anyone prepared to take on this very important position.. Please would you give serious thought as to whether you could become our next Secretary, or can think of someone who would be ideal for the post. Maybe two people would like to share the role as Kerry and Angela did. Contact the Chair or the Secretary through the website to discuss the position in more detail, or talk to them at the General Meeting on the 8th May. If we cannot find anyone, your u3a will be in trouble.

June 2026 will be the conclusion of my second year as Chair. At the moment we have no Vice Chair. I am only allowed, by our constitution, to do three years so we would all be very grateful if someone would take an interest in standing for the Vice Chair position this year with the prospect of taking over as Chair in 2027. Have a chat with any member of the Executive to find out more.

Nominations have to be with Kerry by 29th May. Those who would like to join the Executive without having a specific role to fill are also invaluable. Please volunteer and help to keep our u3a going.

Please send copy for the June News to chair@thatchamu3a.org.uk by 21st May. Items received after this date will be saved for the July News.
