



## Newsletter : December 2025

### Christmas Party

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm



Our December meeting is a Christmas Party. There will be drinks on arrival and the Cake and Wine Choir will be joining us for Christmas music, carols and a sing along to get you in the Christmas mood. Our Quiz Master - Jamie has created two different quizzes to test your thinking skills and we will have a special raffle with some great prizes. There will also be party food to round off the afternoon.

**Wear your Christmas jumpers and glitter and join us for this fun afternoon. Doors open at 1.30**

### Future Meetings :

- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January** - **The Shed that Fed 2000 Children**  
Roy Peachy from Mary's Meals will talk about his work in Malawi  
+ Cookery Book Swop – details later in this newsletter
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February** - **The History of Lullingstone Castle**  
Tom Hart Dyke will be talking about his work and the history of the site.

### Advance Warning

**January Meeting - Cookery Book Swop.** Cookery Books are some of the most popular book gifts at Christmas and many of our members enjoy cooking. Therefore, it seems to be an ideal time to swop books you don't use for something different. Bring a maximum of 3 cookery books to be exchanged for tokens before the meeting. After the meeting, swop your tokens for new books. Buy any 'left overs'.

### April Meeting – Annual Plant and Seed Swop.

When you're planting seeds or splitting plants, bear in mind our annual plant swop. More details soon.



**Next Coffee Morning at the Co-op – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30**



## News Update

### Christmas Tree Festival in Union Church



Thank you to Fiona and Sue and everyone who was involved in our entry for this year's Christmas Tree Festival in Unions Church. The whole Church was awash with bright lights, colour and beautifully decorated Trees. This year's theme of Peace took some thinking about. However Our tree looked lovely and clearly showcased the numerous activities that our interest groups cover.

### Help Wanted

We are looking for someone to take over the responsibility of booking speakers for our meetings. Speakers are in place for the year 2026-27 and therefore someone could slide gently into the role. Skills required include email to follow up contacts and Word to create monthly posters. Let me know if you would like to find out more about this role.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with teas and coffees. Please add your name to the rota in the kitchen if you can help.

Are you in good health? At the end of our monthly meetings it is often left to a few committee members to put away over 100 chairs – it is quite a work out! If you are able, it would help enormously if you could stay for a few minutes to help us put the chairs away.



### New Interest Groups

We have over 35 Interest Groups within our branch of u3a and there is demand for new groups to be set up. The new year is approaching and it is a great time to try something new!

Would you be interested in getting involved in any of the following existing or potential groups?

- Photography Group is looking for new members
- A German Speaking Group is hoping to start in the new year
- A Shorter Walks Group is hoping to start in the new year (2-3 miles)
- The Dog Walking Group closed recently. We are hoping to start a new buddy system in 2026

If you would like to put your name down for any of these potential new groups or would like to start a different group, please chat to Fiona Godwin or Veronica Blakey or contact them by email :

**New Groups Email Address : [groupshfu3a@outlook.com](mailto:groupshfu3a@outlook.com)**

**We wish you all a very happy Christmas whether you are having a boisterous family event or a quiet relaxing time. May 2026 bring you good health, happiness and many interesting & fun u3a meetings**

*Barbara and the Committee*

# Group News Update

## Garden Visits



The weather was kind and the Garden Visits Group rounded off the year with a trip to Wakehurst to see the Glo Wild lights.

## Vineyard Visits



The group had an interesting talk and tasting about Italian wines, by Marco at Cuculo

## Cooking Up a Storm



More exciting makes this month included Breakfast Burritos.

## Craft and Natter



The group made angels for the Christmas Tree.

## Theatre Visits



This year the group has made 11 outings from Dracula at Assembly Halls, T Wells to a historical performance at Herstmonceux Castle and a London production of Fiddler on the Roof. The group is looking forward to another fantastic year of theatre adventures in 2026.

## Painting



The Painting Group created a range of seasonal Christmas art.

## Crafts



The Craft Group made Christmas Fir Cone decorations - just in time for Christmas!

*For further details about any groups please contact the Group Co-ordinators on their new email address :*

**[groupshfu3a@outlook.com](mailto:groupshfu3a@outlook.com)**