

Heathfield & District u3a

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Next Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 16th September 2025

Venue: Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield, TN21 0XG

Doors open 2.00pm. Meeting starts at 2.30pm.

Sussex Murders and Misdemeanours



Paul Green will talk about real life murder cases from 18th and 19th century, which actually happened in Sussex. Who knows some of our late ancestors may well have been familiar with or even involved in them.

Once Paul has talked about the first case he will ask members of the audience to become members of the jury. He will present the evidence on behalf of the defence and prosecution and then ask the members of the jury to deliver their verdict. The cases discussed are not as clear cut as you may expect. This fun talk is both interesting and enlightening.

Also in our calendar is our monthly coffee get together at the Co-op.

Venue: Co-op Café, 110 High Street, Heathfield, TN21 8JD

Next session: Wednesday 1st October

at 10.30am till midday

Coffee mornings take place on the first Wednesday in the month, from 10.30am until 12 noon. Come and have a chat with our members, both old and new, meet some of our Committee members and find out about our u3a and our 30+ groups.

Le Marché

As usual we had a stall at the annual Bank Holiday market and were able to promote our organisation to many visitors. Hopefully it will result in some new members. Many thanks to Fiona for coordinating the members who manned the stall, and to those who gave up their time to promote our organisation.

Forthcoming meetings

Tuesday 16th September - Sussex Murders and Misdemeanours with Paul Green

Tuesday 21st October - First Aid at Home with the First Responders

Tuesday 18th November. - Beacon Down Vineyard



Christmas at the November meeting.

After the success of last year's event we will once again have a number of **Christmas craft stalls at our November meeting.** If you would like to have a stall at this meeting please let me know. Space is limited and therefore priority will be given to u3a members.

Contact : barbara@barbarahibbartcoaching.co.uk

Group news....

Details about groups can be found at <https://heathfield.u3asite.uk/groups/>

Garden Visits – Jan Riddle

Jan organised a trip to Borde Hill Gardens near Haywards Heath for the Garden Visits group. We had a guided tour with one of the senior gardeners & the weather was pretty kind. A great time was had by all



Forthcoming visits are to view the gardens at Glyndebourne on Thursday 18th September. Contact Jan or Keith Benson (keithbenson@mac.com) to ensure you are on the list for this visit.

We usually arrange a visit towards Christmas to one of the gardens with Christmas Light displays. In the past we have visited Wakehurst Place, Leonardslee, and Bedgebury among others. Any ideas for where you would like to visit this year will be welcome.

Vineyard and/or Brewery visits group – Peter Lyons

I hope people enjoyed our last trip to Off The Line Vineyard where we had a very instructive talk and walk around the Vineyard and the tasted 4 Rose wines - overall I thought it was a pleasant way to spend an afternoon. I got everyone to score the wines for fun and for your information the results were;

The Lady Charmit sparkling wine 12.5% was 1st scoring 176 points followed by Hip Rose, 154 points, Dog Rose 144 points and last Dancing Dog Rose 132 points.

Keith and I have booked the next Vineyard at Henners Vineyard at Church Road, Herstmonceux BN27 1RJ, which is larger than the previous two visited to date. The booked date is **Wednesday 24th September 2025** and commencing at 12.00 noon for tour and tasting for the cost of £27 per person reducing to £25 per person for over 20 people. They also are offering a food option of bread, hummus, tomatoes and olives at £5 per person.

I have paid the £135.00 booking fee and we have confirmation we are booked in. If you are interested in coming please send me an email and transfer the £27 into my bank, details are

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If we get 20 people I will reimburse the £2 as before or put it towards the food, If you are interested in the food option please let me know and I will sort it out.

Craft 4 Fun – Penny Chatfield

We made poppies for the Union Church Remembrance Day tribute. These were knitted or made from felt and buttons with ties for fixing them in place. It was a lovely morning with lots of chat and laughs. Many thanks to our host for refreshments and to the member who made us a delicious cake.



Books

You may have noticed the table of books at the back of the hall at our monthly meetings. This is arranged by Jan Riddle, who brings the books for you to help yourself. Please note that this is *not* a book swapping service, just help yourself from what is there. Also please note that many of the books are ‘**proof copies**’ which *on no account may be passed on for money, including gifting to charity shops.*

Our Heathfield u3a website

We produce leaflets and calendars to promote our u3a. Obviously these are only up to date at the time they are printed. There may be many old copies around where the information on meetings is out of date. For up to date information on our programme of speakers etc. please refer to our website.

Our address is..... <https://Heathfield.u3asite.uk>

Click on it and have a look!

.....and on Facebook

We have an active Facebook page where several groups post about their activities, much more than you will find in this Newsletter. Click on the link below -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/heathfieldu3a>

National and Regional News



Over the past few months there have been many changes in u3a at a National level, with a new CEO and many new Board members. We now have a new councillor for the South East Region, Sally Ingledew. If you would like to see what u3a is doing nationwide, look at the website,

If you would like a copy of the most recent edition of the u3a National Newsletter, you can apply for a copy via: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/newsletter>. Or sign up to receive it regularly.

Some legal stuff

In order to comply with General Data Protection Regulations this is to inform you that any personal information you give to u3a will only be used for purposes of membership and communication within the organisation and will not be shared without your consent to any other outside body. We may also take photographs at certain u3a events. If you do not wish to appear in such photos, it is your responsibility to ensure that the photographer is made aware of your objection. Group leaders are advised that they should carry emergency contact details of their group members (ICE). This is only to be used in case of emergency. However if you wish to withhold these details, please be aware that you do so at your own risk, and other group members may be unable to help you if you are incapacitated.

That's all Folks!

Best wishes for Autumn,

Jamie Nicholls. Chairman.