



The Life of an Auctioneer
Tuesday 21st April - Doors open at 2.00 for 2.30



John Laurence, a local auctioneer will be talking about his life as an auctioneer and his interest in Delft tiles from Holland. He will also conduct an Antiques Roadshow style Basic, Better, Best competition.

We will be holding our annual Plant Swop. Please bring your contributions of plants and seedlings in before the meeting starts and the swop will take place at the end of the afternoon.



Foreign Coins & Notes for Mary's Meals

Thank you to everyone who has already donated foreign coins and notes. Through your generosity we already have a considerable pile of currency for Mary's Meals. We will be collecting again at the April meeting for the final time this year. Please put your donations in the pot at the reception desk. I also have one last copy of the book about Mary's Meals – buy at reception desk.

Last Months Meeting :

A big thank you to Siobhan who is a guide at Hampton Court. She stepped in at the last moment to talk to us about the life of Mary Queen of Scots, when our speaker from Bojangles advised that she would be unable to join us. It was a fascinating talk and we look forward to inviting her back in the future.

Future Meetings

- 19th May** Gilly Halcrow will be talking about Churchills Secret Army
- 16th June** Neil Hanson will talk about his experiences of running 'The Pub on top of the World'. We will serve a cream tea to celebrate Heathfield u3a's birthday & Sussex Day. There will also be a very short AGM. More details to follow.

Notification of our Annual General Meeting

We are required to give notice that our AGM will take place this year as part of our meeting on Tuesday 16th June. As usual accounts and reports will be circulated in advance to ensure that the meeting is kept short. If any members would be interested in getting more involved in running our group, please let me know. barbara@barbarahibbartcoaching.co.uk

Changes within the Groups

We are constantly reviewing how we run our flourishing group, to ensure that it runs efficiently. Currently people who are interested in joining an existing group contact the Group Co-ordinators, who then contact the Group Leaders. We feel it would be far easier for people to contact the Group Leaders direct. Therefore, we plan to change the contact email on the website and leaflets to those of the Group Leaders. We will be contacting the Group Leaders to check they are OK with this. We will continue using the Groups email for interest in new groups: groupshfu3a@outlook.com

Renewals



Our membership year ends on 31st March. Full renewal information has now been sent out to everyone. Please note that people who joined us from January onwards have already paid membership until 31st March 2027.

Thank you to all those of you who have already renewed your membership. Jamie is doing a great job of processing the renewals and sending out new membership cards. If you haven't renewed as yet we prefer payment by bank transfer. However, we can also accept card payments at meetings and cheques. If you have decided not to renew, please let us know so that we don't send out further reminders.

We do now have a membership form on our website <https://heathfield.u3asite.uk> which can be filled in online and emailed or downloaded. However online payment is not yet available.

Visit to the House of Lords

Tim Williams recently joined a group of 25 u3a members to visit the House of Lords. They had a tour of Westminster Palace and then met 7 of the Peers. They familiarised the Peers with u3a and it's objectives and confirmed that it is no longer known as the University of the Third Age. A full report on the visit will be included in a future issue of u3a Matters.

u3a Summer School

This year the u3a Summer School will be held from 7-10th September at Chichester University. There are 11 different courses which range from AI to Yoga. For further details : [2026 - South East u3a Forum](#)

Groups Update

Veronica Blakey plans to step down from her role as a Group Co-ordinator. We are therefore looking for someone who is comfortable using a computer and talking on the phone, to replace her. Let me know if you would be interested in learning more about this role.

- Lesley Negus needs to spend more time with her family and therefore thank you to Sue and Keith Benson who have taken over as Group Leaders for the Historical Inns Group.
- The German Group is looking for new members.
- An exciting new Bus Journeys Group is under discussion. Let the Group Co-ordinators know if this group is of interest to you.

For further information about groups please contact Fiona Godwin groupshfu3a@otlook.com

Group Activities Update

Antiques



Mark Pattison, a member of the group gave a fascinating talk about textiles and colour.

Cookalong



The group chose lighter food options for Spring.

Painting



The Painting Group visited the South Downs.

Creative Writing



The group worked on a topic 'Do I need glasses?'

Craft & Natter



The group made crazy Quilt blocks.

Vineyard Visits



The Group returned to Cuculo to sample a range of Italian wines with delicious snacks.

Theatre & Live Music Group



The group has recently seen a stage version of the Shawshank Redemption and St John Passion. A recent study has shown that live theatre and music creates better cognitive function – it is therefore a great activity for the older generation!

General contact : heathfieldu3a@outlook.com

Group Co-ordinators : groupshfu3a@outlook.com