

January-February 2023

Message from our Chair

Warmest wishes to you all as we launch ourselves into 2023. I'm hoping that this year we shall see the formation of some new interest groups ... but no matter how many good ideas are put forward, the groups won't run themselves and I hope some of you will feel bold enough to step up and offer to host and/or lead them.

You will see in this newsletter that there is to be a workshop in January to encourage and enable new group leaders to fulfil this role... it would be really lovely to see some of you there.

The start of a new year offers us an opportunity to create new beginnings. My hope is that we all find something within our thriving u3a during the coming 12 months to provide us with fun, friendships, challenges, knowledge and a sense of fulfilment.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

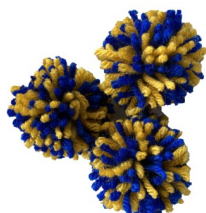
Alison Botha
chair@u3awight.uk



Speaker and Social Meetings

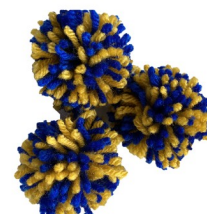
14:00, 2nd Thursday of the month
St John's Hall Newport PO30 1LN

We have a great line-up of speakers arranged for
January 12th, February 9th and March 9th.
Details on Page 15 & 16.



New Coffee Mornings around the Island,
in addition to 1st Wednesday of the month
at the Bargeman's Rest in Newport.
Details in the Diary.

Look out for the **blue** and **gold** pom-poms.



u3a National Events

While we in u3a Isle of Wight can enjoy a wide range of groups, activities and events on the Island, your u3a membership enables you to access an even wider range of events provided by our umbrella body the Third Age Trust (TAT). Such events are usually 'on-line' and free of charge, but there are also some in-person events available on the mainland, although these obviously incur higher costs, if only to get to the relevant venues etc.

Additionally, TAT's relationship with leading organisations, built up over many years, has meant they are in a position to offer selected national events online. This includes events with the National Gallery, Royal Institution, Guildhall Art Gallery, and the British Library (for which there may be a charge).

TAT therefore offers a wide range of events which complement those we can offer locally. But these cannot replace the social aspect of local groups which is such an important aspect of our u3a membership. Such events may even inspire you to set up a new group within our own u3a!

Content from TAT changes by the month: some talks and courses etc. may be available as a recording for ongoing access, others may be interactive via 'Zoom' providing a Q&A session during the event.

Those with internet access can find out more via www.u3a.org.uk/events. You can also subscribe to receive regular monthly updates to keep you informed about current and future events and how you can join them. Most require you to register with your name, u3a branch name "Isle of Wight", your membership number and email address, to which they then send a link which you click on - quite simple really!

Most of these online events are on 'Zoom' or 'Youtube' - if these terms mean nothing to you, or you have any problems or concerns about accessing these events, we can help you with the technology. If you have an internet connection you can watch them via laptop or desktop computer, smartphone or tablet, or you may want to create your own interest group of like-minded members to watch them together. If you would like help either getting online or joining an interest group to share access then call Sally on 740511.

The subject matter is wide-ranging - many examples:

Talks:

- Writing Poetry for Publication and Performance
- Learning is the nub of Healthy Life – How to live healthily and longer
- Sleep and Dream's – how our brains make us sleep and dream
- Holocaust Memorial Day – the speaker presents his parents' remarkable story of survival.
- Relativity – Numerical Illustrations (!!)



Online Workshops:

- Repurpose and Upcycle – Showcase your items and get inspired
- All our Yesterdays – Collecting Memories from the 1950s and 60s
- Cake decorating – techniques and skills
- Extreme crochet and knitting – challenges and workshops
- Learn Digital Life Skills – taking photos on your smartphone.

History

- Kindertransport – members' memories of the Kindertransport children
- Battle of Britain and the Blitz – read their stories
- The Story of Motown Records

Online competitions, games and Crosswords

- Poetry Competition - annual
- Creative Writing Competition - annual
- Monthly Logic Puzzles – with solutions the following month
- Maths Challenge – weekly
- Cryptic Crosswords explained
- Cryptic Crossword Competitions



Photography and Technology

- Themed regular national photo competitions - ([note we have our own photo group/competitions too! Winter Warmers—closing date 15th February](#)).
- Themed Paint or Draw online art galleries - submit your creations via a photo.

Nature, the Environment and Green Issues

- Found in Nature - the weird and wonderful
- Slow Ways - help create a national walking network
- Birdtrack - keep track of our garden birds
- Climate Change and Biodiversity - how the world is addressing loss of biodiversity due to climate change
- Fashion and Sustainability
- The Swan - its life, its nature and its future

Our Green Issues group get together to discuss the monthly Climate Crisis meeting run by u3a Climate Change Network.

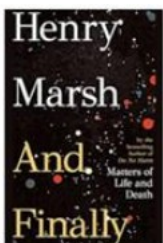
Physical Activities

- Monthly Laughter Yoga Workshop
- Yoga at Home – standing or seated Workshop
- Learn, Laugh and Move – Fitness and Wellbeing
- Mindfulness and Meditation
- Run for the world – help raise money for u3a sports and exercise groups

Other resources on the Trust's website include information about running groups, subject experts, health and safety and also what the Trust are doing in the way of outreach and influencing: positioning themselves to make our voices heard.

Dave Vodden

vice.chair@u3awight.uk



Editor's book of the month: Henry Marsh, “**And Finally...**” [Amazon Kindle 99p](#) - time limited. The brilliant neurosurgeon confronts his own mortality. Especially important for **blokes**, of course, and everyone who cares for them.

Winter Photography Competition “Winter Warmers”

Deadline for submissions - noon 15th February 2023
Winning announcement - Mar-April newsletter 2023

The judges will be Fred Dawson LRCP and Elizabeth Fox.

Please send photos to Fred at:
fred.wp.dawson@googlemail.com



Digital Support



Informal and friendly community-based ‘IT help’
drop-in sessions

Bembridge Library
2nd Wednesday of
the month
10:00 - 12:00

Ryde Library
2nd & 4th Wednesday
of the month
10:30 - 12:00

**West Wight
Community Centre**
Tuesdays
10:30 - 12:00

Newport Library
2nd & 4th Thursday
of the month
10:30 - 12:00

Brading Youth & Community Centre
2nd Monday of the Month
11:00 - 13:00

Regisend Charity Number: 1130711

Call: 01983 525282
Email: digital@ageukiw.org.uk
Visit: ageukiw.org.uk



If you would like to explore what the internet could do for you, speak to a committee member at a coffee morning or speaker meeting or call Sally on 740511 and we will see what we can do to help. Age UK also run courses in addition to the drop-in groups advertised above.

“Focus on Groups”

We are holding an afternoon gathering to focus on groups.

Thursday, January 26th
St. John's Hall, 14:00-17:00

Groups are the lifeblood of our u3a. They provide the main opportunity to meet new people, learn new things, and have some fun along the way. Do you have ideas for a new group? Are you already running a successful group? Have you run a group and had difficulties? Have you been in a group that has encountered and overcome tricky situations?

Whatever your experience of groups we invite you to join us on Thursday, January 26th to consider what we are doing, what we could do better, what the Third Age Trust can offer, how we can help ourselves to improve our group offering.

We look forward to seeing you there! Refreshments will be served.

Contact groups@u3awight.uk

Craft & Games, Newport

Last Tuesday afternoon of the month - January 31st 14:00

We held our first Craft & Games afternoon in December. We played Rumikub, Mah-Jong and Tri-dominoes! And the crafters were inveigled into playing games for the afternoon.

This will now be a regular feature on the last Tuesday of the month. Come and join us, bring your craft or game whether its sketching, ludo, cards, scrabble or knit and natter.

Everyone welcome.

Contact groups@u3awight.uk

Extra Coffee Mornings

Following the success of the monthly coffee mornings at the Bargeman's Rest in Newport and our first at the Ryde Castle Hotel in December, we are experimenting with others in different locations:

January

Monday 9th, 11:00

Winter Gardens, Ventnor

Tuesday 24th, 10:30

The Gossip's café, Yarmouth

February

Tuesday 14th, 10:30

Cowes Yacht Haven

Friday 24th, 10:30

Animal Sanctuary, Yaverland

March

Tuesday 28th, 10:30

Ryde Castle Hotel, Ryde

Would you like to host a coffee morning at your local? Suggest a date and we will let people know. groups@u3awight.uk

New Monthly Wine Appreciation Group



Starting on Thursday
February 16th
from 2.00 – 4.00 pm.
(accessible and non-stuffy)

It will be hosted by Frank Kelly
frankj.kelly@icloud.com and the first meeting will be at his home in St. Lawrence.

Group size will be limited to 12, so please contact him right away to express your interest. (There will be some modest cost involved in belonging to this group.)

Feel Good for Spring!

Continuing our successful campaign to pay attention to our eating in the run-up to Christmas - we are now ready to welcome people to join our newly rebranded group - **Feel Good for Spring**. This is a group which focuses on our individual eating habits – and what we need to change in order to lose weight whilst trying to avoid the words ‘fat’, ‘diet’ and ‘naughty’.

We are learning to challenge the idea that trying to lose weight is a miserable process and we’re having a lot of laughs every week doing this.

Everyone is following their own route and the group offers support and encouragement when required.

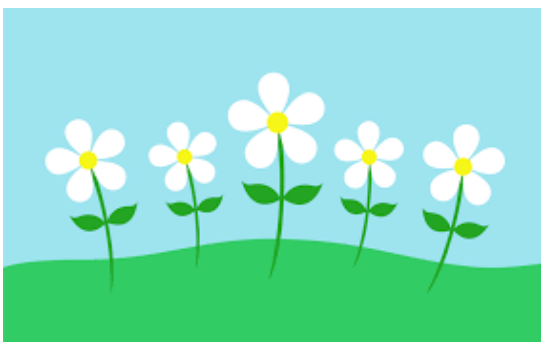
So far the nine of us have lost a total of 70lbs! The discussions are fun and enlightening.

We meet weekly on a Friday and the first meeting of the new group in the New Year will be: Friday January 6th, 10.30 - 12.00.

Currently we meet in St Lawrence but if there is enough interest we could move to Newport.

New members very welcome. Please contact me right away if you are interested.

Happy eating!



Alison Botha

Contact: alisonbotha@hotmail.com

Walk & Lunch

Held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at various locations around the Island - please let me know if you would like to come - particularly if you are a slow walker.

Non-walkers are welcome to join for lunch. Please do let me know.

Wednesday, January 18th, will be Yarmouth circular walk to Freshwater departing at 11.15 from the main car park opposite the ferry terminal with lunch stop at the Red Lion in Freshwater at 12.30, before continuing the walk back to Yarmouth. This is a mostly flat walk, about 4 miles in total.

Carole Anderson

carolea48@gmail.com

Knitting with Jane Bowskill in Binstead. Would you like to learn to knit, to read a pattern, or develop a more ambitious project? All levels welcome.

Jane says, “I have a lot of experience and my kitchen will seat 10 easily.! Lots of free parking, plus close to bus stop.”

Enquiries through groups@u3awight.uk

Card Making with Teresa Reed - regrouping for a new start.

teresareed@btopenworld.com

Let's Go!



A group to support members doing whatever takes their fancy - hands up those in favour of saying YES.

A small number of us had an extremely satisfying visit to the Mary Rose. Having heard about it and read a great deal about the discovery and recovery of the ship, nothing quite prepared me for the detailed and intimate information that the research team managed to distil from the treasure trove that was raised with the ship and from the surrounding seabed. Detailed analysis of skeletons revealed both wear and tear associated with particular professions as well as their probable nationality.

Trunks were discovered that had remained sealed against the ocean for all these years leaving intact jewellery, personal hygiene equipment and indicators of wealth. Sixteenth century nit combs and hypodermic syringes were easily recognisable.

There was so much to take in that I shall certainly be going again. If you are interested in a visit and would like some company then please let me know.

Sally
groups@u3awight.uk

What would you like to "Say Yes" to?

- Goodwood - A day at the races
Friday, May 26th
- * The Terry Seabrooke Trio at the Apollo Theatre Newport - April 2nd
- Mottisfont Garden, June 2023 for the Roses?
- Moonlight Swim Tues, August 1st
- Isle of Wight Jazz Festival, 14th - 17th September

- A trip in a paddle steamer?
- Your wildest dreams?

Share your ideas and Let's Go!

The Secret Lives of Words

Attention all fans of Channel4's Countdown and words in general. OED lexicographer Susie Dent is bringing her one-woman show "The Secret Lives of Words" to the Mayflower Studio, Southampton, at 3.00 pm on Saturday, 7th January, 2023. Tickets need to be bought in advance and may sell out.

Please contact sheilaherrando@gmail.com if you are interested in going.

Ahoy there!

Is there any interest in a day cruise aboard either of two heritage steam ships sailing in our area during the summer months? If enough are interested then a group discount is probably available. Itineraries for next year are not yet finalised but a summary is:

Paddle steamer Waverley - sails from Southampton mostly but also Portsmouth and Yarmouth, the latter to Swanage and Lulworth Cove. Other destinations are on her website.

SS Shieldhall - sails from Southampton to cover Cowes week, Needles, and the Solent.

Both ships have restaurants and bars as well as the usual facilities.

Please contact Chris on

chrisanne_champness@yahoo.co.uk

Eat Out & Review - November

We ate well at the Isle of Wight College in November, sampling the Thursday Night Tasting menu. Good tastes, good company, and of course fantastic value while supporting a local institution. Definitely to be recommended.

On a freezing cold December morning we had a tasty brunch at The Lifeboat Inn in East Cowes. Service was good, food was tasty and well presented, although inflexible - so check that you want exactly what is on the menu! Definitely worth a return trip.

Also let me know if you have a place that you would like to try - whether it is an old favourite or somewhere that you are keen to try - just book a table for 10 at your chosen date and time and let us know.

Forthcoming meals:

Dinner: Masala Bay Indian, Ventnor,
Monday, January 30th, 19:00.
groups@u3awight.uk

Lunch: The Terrace, Yarmouth, Tuesday
February 21st 12:30
sheilaherrando@gmail.com

Mah-Jong +

Mah-Jong is played every Friday afternoon at the Cowes Community Centre (check for 2023 start date). In addition we have a Craft & Games group that meets in Newport on the last Tuesday of the month and we meet in people's homes from time to time. Next game - Tuesday, January 10th, 14:30, Yafford, followed by Tea.

Contact:

Sally

groups@u3awight.uk

Beach Walks

The January 2023 beach walk will be on Wednesday 25th at 10:30 in Ryde. We will meet by the Hovercraft pedestrian steps, on the bus station side. The walk will be along the sands if the tide is out but along the promenade if the tide is in. We will head for Seaview and have a coffee perhaps at the Old Fort and then walk back; or you could get a bus back. There are several cafés along the way, so if that sounds too far there could be several 'shorter walk groups' which we can organize on the day.

The February beach walk will be on Wednesday, 22nd and will be at Yaverland. The start time will be dependent on the tide times which this time I will hope to get right!

The March beach walk will start in Bembridge on Wednesday 29th. More details will be available in the monthly diaries and I will send places and times to you by email nearer the time of each walk.

Everyone is welcome. Come and have a walk by the sea, a bit of a chat and perhaps a hot drink at the end of it. Let me know if you would like to come.

Carol Bradshaw

carolbradshaw@u3awight.uk

077488 86246



Film Studies

Reviews of recent films we have seen and discussed:

"Keep Sweet, Pray and Obey" (2022)

A true crime documentary about a fundamentalist offshoot of the Latter Day Saints' movement, run by Warren Jeffs. They practise polygamy although it is illegal in the USA. We found the abuse of women and children depicted in the film distressing. The authorities' response was ineffective and even at the end, when Warren Jeffs is in prison, it is suggested that he still exerts power. The film makes you think about extreme organisations and the reasons people join them. An appropriate subject in our age of "alternative truths"

"The Father" (2020) A psychological drama about dementia. We thought Anthony Hopkins was superb in the role of Anthony, a retired engineer with dementia, well supported by Olivia Coleman. The events in the film are seen through Anthony's eyes and portray the confusion of dementia, when one's grasp of reality fails. Highly recommended.

"The Talented Mr Ripley" (1999) A thriller directed by the Island's own Anthony Minghella. Matt Damon plays Tom Ripley who befriends, impersonates and kills a wealthy socialite, Dickie Greenleaf, played by Jude Law. This is an entertaining film and we considered the photography depicting Italy in the 1950s excellent. However, some of the plot is a bit strained, especially towards the end. We considered that Tom Ripley had a psychopathic personality although he is undoubtably interesting and went on to feature in four more novels, written by his creator, Patricia Highsmith.

"The Good Nurse" (2022) Eddie Redmayne is an apparently caring ITU nurse, Charles Cullen, who was randomly killing his patients. This is a story based on fact and there is also a Netflix documentary dealing with the same subject, "Catching the Killer Nurse". The events in the film are very close to what actually happened. The film is also a critique of American health care as Charles Cullen was employed at several hospitals who suspected him. They asked him to resign, or sacked him on a technicality, but did not inform the police as they were concerned about damage to their reputation. We discussed whether this could happen here and felt it was certainly possible. A worthwhile film to watch, but not if you are in hospital!

Future Films (Zoom Discussion on Mondays):

9th January "The Young Victoria"
2009 Period drama based on the early life and reign of Queen Victoria.

23rd January three short YouTube films. We like to watch and discuss a variety of film formats.

6th February "Seven Years in Tibet" or **"The Swimmers"** - to be decided at our next meeting.

All meetings are via Zoom and start at 5.30pm on Mondays. Anyone interested in the group can contact me at this address: bowskill.paul@gmail.com



Spanish Improvers

Space available for someone with a basic foundation in Spanish.



The group is friendly and welcoming. There is no pressure - we are here to enjoy ourselves and get the satisfaction of learning a new language. If you are interested please make contact with Keith.

Keith Pritchard 01983 407942
keithswonderfulworld@gmail.com

French Conversation

Friday am: Lake
Tuesday pm: Brading
Wednesday pm: Newport



These three conversation groups are all aimed at having fun while endeavouring to speak French. There is no teacher and we share the responsibility for supporting each other to improve, or at least not lose, what French we have.

The Tuesday French group, meeting at Brading Roman Villa, are actively seeking new members. We meet on Tuesday afternoons at 1.30pm, drink coffee, eat cake and chat about anything - sometimes serious stuff, current affairs, books we have read etc, sometimes just the local badinage. People have various levels of competence and there is no pressure, no homework, just a chance to practise what we know and maybe pick up a few words we didn't. This group is open to new members.

Please contact groups@u3awight.uk if you are interested in French conversation or Film Club.

French Film Club

In conjunction with
Ventnor Arts Club.



Monday January 16th, 15:00

~~La femme d'à côté by François Truffaut~~
Le Chateau de ma mère

German:

Two groups, alternate Friday mornings at Brading, Improvers and Intermediate/Advanced.



The intermediate/advanced group is small and would welcome new members.

The Beginners/Improvers' Group has a couple of vacancies now, so if you'd like to refresh vague memories of schooldays' German, now is the moment to join.

It is very informal; we aim to have fun, make new friends, and learn a thing or two at the same time.

Mary

melongley1@gmail.com

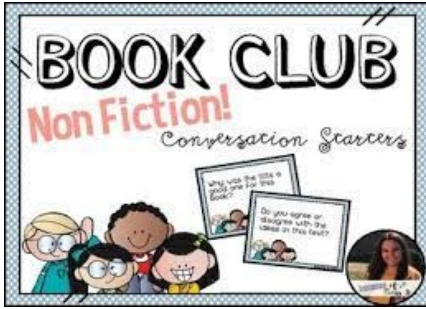


New language groups

Beginners' Spanish (13.00) and Beginners' Italian (14.00)

Resuming Saturday. January 7th in Newport.

Led by Isabelle Schloesing.
Contact groups@u3awight.uk



Non-Fiction Book Group

Zoom, 3rd Tuesday, at 16:45

Who would have predicted the extraordinary events of 2022?

I'm thinking, of course, of the remarkable range of books we loW u3a non-fiction readers selected to digest and discuss through 2022. We don't all have the same interests or views on the books we choose, but that's what makes for interesting discussions, and for reading books you might not otherwise select. The year's choices covered the remarkable contribution of a convicted murderer to the first Oxford English Dictionary; a coal dynasty and its workers; corruption and incompetence in science research; the biography of a ship; the biology of life; climate change and regeneration; the lives of the family of a young bandsman lost on the Titanic; cosmology ...and more.

Who knows what choices we will make for 2023? We will soon find out. Interested? Come and join our Zoom meetings.

Nigel Hastings

hastingsnigel01@gmail.com



Reading Group

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month to talk about what we are reading.

The next meeting will be in Newport, Tuesday, 3rd January, at 15:00 at Utilita, in Newport High Street.

We sit and natter about the books we are reading, those we loved and those we struggled with or abandoned. If you love reading, and like to talk about what you have read, come and join us.

Sally groups@u3awight.uk

Traditional Book Group

The latest book we read in December was 'Once Upon a River' which we all agreed was a superb book and had a bit of 'everything'. We unanimously gave it 10 out of 10.

We reviewed the book over lunch. Everyone brought a dish and we enjoyed chatting in Judy's kitchen by her lovely Aga. We also went for an early Christmas lunch in late November at the Isle of Wight College.

Books on our list for 2023 include 'Hamnet' by Maggie O'Farrell, 'Exit' by Belinda Bauer and 'The Switch' by Beth O'Leary. I'm sure that these books will all generate lots of discussion.

Our next meeting is Friday, 6th January. First Friday of each month in Wootton.

Allison Rogers

01983 616634

davidallison36@hotmail.com

We are planning to set up a second, traditional book group starting in April. If you are interested then please [contact groups@u3awight.uk](mailto:groups@u3awight.uk).

Green Issues - Climate Crisis

The January meeting of Climate Crisis is on Wednesday, 25th January 2023, at 10.30 and the topic is "Cheaper EV Batteries".

There have been many new developments in battery storage systems lately and this session will update this information and help dispel misinformation that is being passed around. If you want to see more details then use the "u3acommunities.org" link.

Don't forget, you can ask questions about any green subject by submitting them before the meeting. There is a wealth of knowledge out there as participants come from many different walks of life across the whole of the UK. I will send a reminder of the Zoom link a few days before the meeting. Happy Christmas everyone and a Greener more sustainable New Year.

Dina

Dina.jung@gmail.com



u3a Climate Change Network
[www.u3asites.org.uk/climate-change/
events](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/climate-change/events)

Creative Writers

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 5th January, 2023 in the Utility Hub in Newport High Street at 2.00 pm. Bring along a pen and paper to write in response to challenges for that day and the month ahead. Contact Helena for any further details.

Regards to all, Helena Hewston
sybug@aol.com

Family History

The Family History group continues to evolve and meet the needs of our members through small 'hands on' workshops. These are held on the 3rd Thursdays and focus on research skills to help make the most of online websites such as Ancestry and FindmyPast.

During January, February and March, extra workshops will be held on the 1st Thursdays. All are full at present but please register your interest now for the coming Spring.

All members ideally need to bring their own laptop, iPad/device and have a paid subscription to either Ancestry or FindmyPast but this is not essential. Just be enthusiastic!

Alison

rhawebb@gmail.com



As a new member I would like to voice my appreciation of the warm and friendly welcome I've received.

I had hoped to participate more, but work has interrupted my retirement!. Happy New Year to All!

Sherlie Burridge

Winter Evenings in the Sun

During a prolonged and enforced period of down-time this year and not being a gardener, I binge-hopped onto a Netflix Korean drama series called "*Extraordinary Attorney Woo Young-Woo*". Not being able to hear film sound-tracks, the sub-titles become a delight. And with a touch of romance and hardly any violence I have found a new comfort resource.

The next one I tried was called "*Do you like Brahms?*" I have watched this twice and bought the box-set for maybe another year. "*Chocolate*" was charming and bitter-sweet, while "*Encounter*" looks a promising modern fairy-tale and gets 5 star reviews. Sports fans might like to get their heads round "*Hot Stove League*".

I call these series "K-Dramas" (after K-Pop which I don't follow), and they seem to be unashamedly romantic, somewhat complex, completely engaging and have



the most beautiful cine-photography. I worry about when I run out of them! Netflix does help you find more, of course, because that's the way these things work.

If you enjoyed "Downton Abbey", "Queen's Gambit" and "The Crown" then these should appeal on a Winter's evening.

Roger Skidmore (Ed.)
rogerskid@zen.co.uk

Let me know if you enjoy them :)

Laptops for Ukrainians

While not watching K-dramas on Netflix, your editor is still supplying a trickle of laptops to Ukrainian guests on the Island. So far we have been able to pass on 83 refurbished laptops to our guests.



If you have lurking under the stairs and gathering dust a viable laptop then do please contact your editor who will find a new owner for it (after wiping all data, etc.)

Roger S.
www.laptops-for-ukrainians.weebly.com

Newsletter

16 pages this time... the newsletter has to be either 12 or 16 pages for production reasons - and we try to avoid blank pages. Feel free to offer content of interest - it may get held over, but can always be useful to have. *Thank you!*

Roger S.

Oatmeal Raisin Cookies -

BBC recipe recommended by Angi
(and your newsletter editor).

Ingredients

100g raisin
150ml vegetable oil
200g golden caster sugar
1 large egg, beaten
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp vanilla extract
140g plain flour
¼ tsp bicarbonate of soda
300g oats



Method

STEP 1

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4 and line 2 baking trays with baking parchment. Pour 50ml/2fl oz boiling water over the raisins and leave to soak for 20 mins until plump. Drain, reserving the liquid.

STEP 2

Meanwhile, in a large bowl, mix together the oil and sugar. Gradually beat in the egg, along with the reserved water from the raisins, the cinnamon and vanilla extract. Sift the flour, bicarbonate of soda and a pinch of salt into the bowl, then add the oats. Finally, mix in the raisins.

STEP 3

Drop heaped tbsps of the cookie dough onto the baking trays, well spaced apart as they will spread when cooking. Bake for 12-15 mins until golden. Leave to cool on the trays for 10 mins before tucking in, or transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely. Will keep in an airtight container for up to 3 days.

(If the dough seems too stiff I usually add a little milk - Angi)

These were very much enjoyed at the last committee meeting. Don't think committee meetings are all dry as dust. We carve out the future path of the group and rely on good coffee and oatmeal raisin cookies, kindly provided by Angi.

from www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/oatmeal-raisin-cookies

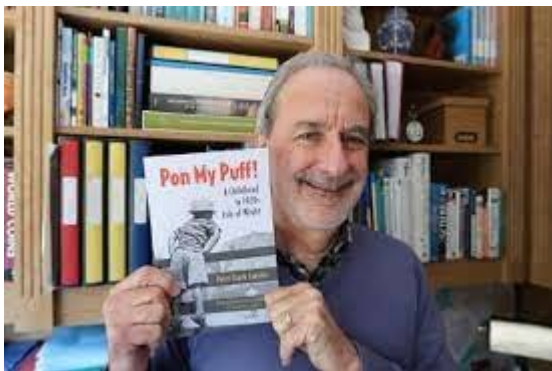
Thursday 9th February

Dr Charles M Lansley & Claire Lansley

“Pon my Puff!” A Childhood in 1920s Isle of Wight

Author Dr. Charles Lansley accompanied by Claire Lansley will give an illustrated talk about his book entitled “Pon My Puff” - apparently an old IW expression often used by his grandfather to express surprise.

It centres around the Wootton and Newport areas in particular and is a true story.



Dr. Charles Morris Lansley has strong connections to the Isle of Wight through his father's side of the family who lived on the Island, his Stark and Morris ancestors having had grazing rights in 1425 in the reign of Henry VI.

He still maintains his connection to the Island through his home in Shanklin and his interest in Island family and social history.

Thursday 9th March

‘Invasions of the Wight’ by Mark Earp.

Mark Earp is a well known speaker on the Isle of Wight and has been giving talks for some years. He will look back at the many invasions of the island, some more successful than others!

"Invasions of the Isle of Wight " is a chronological timeline of both successful and unsuccessful attempts to invade, capture or bridgehead the Island. Many attempts will be known to the audience but there are some that have been lost over time or deliberately erased from history.

Some of our members may fondly remember John Bradshaw, who passed away on 10th October at Northbrooke House.

Thursday January 12th 2.00 pm
St John's Hall, Newport, IW



“Stokey” (Peter Woodall)



A remarkable man from the Island,
a Ventnor based yachtsman with 31 trans-Atlantic
crossings under his belt.

He also created the “Solar System” walk from Bonchurch
to Wheeler’s Bay and has a wealth of knowledge to share
about the planets.

He will help us make sense of the immensity of it all, in an
engaging and entertaining way.



Bring friends - and a contribution to the refreshments if you can.