



## From your Chair

This is the first Newsletter since I was elected as your Chair. So first of all, let me introduce myself. I have lived in Milford on Sea for around 7 years, but was a regular visitor to the area before that. I spent my career working in the oil and gas industry in a variety of roles around the world. Since retiring and moving to Milford I have spent my time indulging various hobbies including cycling, gardening, and classic cars.

Since joining the u3a, I have been active in the Classic Cars, How Things Work, and Birdwatching Groups. I also enjoy learning calligraphy and am the contact for that group. You might also see me volunteering at The Bridge where I regularly provide technical support with sound and lighting for various events.

As your Chair I hope to meet many of you throughout the year. I normally attend our monthly meetings, and will try to visit some of our groups when I can. If you see me around, please come up and say hello.

Our u3a continues to thrive. At the start of the new membership year we lost a few members and gained some new ones. Our overall membership remains steady in excess of 400 members and we have nearly 60 active groups. We also welcomed more of our members onto the committee as Trustees: new members, Kathryn Marsh as our Secretary, and Don Campbell as a Committee Member. Previous members, Angela Bunting, webmaster and responsible for Beacon, and Jenny Whitley who produces the Newsletter have also become Trustees.

Finally, a word about the members who are either leaving the committee or moving to new roles. We were sorry to lose Liz Christian and Tom Gateley (our membership secretary) who are both stepping down, and also Hilary Harris and Maria Thompson who will remain on the committee but with new roles. The U3A couldn't run without a committee, so thank you for your support and good luck in your new endeavours.

Ewan.



Our New Committee

Returning and previous members of the Committee:



Ewan McGregor  
Chair



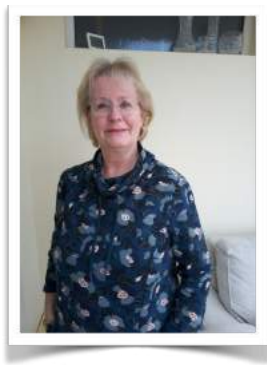
Annette Hodgson  
Membership Secretary



Hanlie Croeser  
Treasurer



Maria Thompson  
Committee Member &  
Social Sub Committee



Hilary Harris  
Committee Member &  
Social Sub Committee



Angela Bunting  
Website and Beacon  
Manager



Jenny Whitley  
Newsletter Editor

Introducing our new Committee Members:



Kathryn Marsh  
Secretary

I joined Milford on Sea u3a when I came to the village in 2018. I'm in Canasta 1, Canasta 3, Cribbage and Table Tennis.

I have been a member of Milford U3A since we moved to Milford over 5 yrs ago.

I am a member of the How things work group, the Investment Group and Conversational French.



Don Campbell  
Committee Member

Dates for your Diary

Monthly Meetings:  
1st Tuesday of the Month  
At 2pm at The Bridge

July 7th

August 4th

September 1st

Save the date!  
🌲 Xmas Do 🌲  
Friday December 11th

**Monthly Meeting Speakers**

**July: Andy Skinner - History of Southampton Docks**

We welcome back Andy Skinner, Learning and Engagement Officer with Southampton Museums and Gallery. His talk traces the creation and evolution of Southampton’s docks from their medieval origins, through the engineering triumphs of the Victorian era and into the modern age that earned the City its famous epithet of Gateway to the World. Along the way, expect tales of medieval merchants and daring pirates, sharp-witted entrepreneurs, and the soldiers who passed through the port during times of war



**August: Dr Henry Goodall - "Hobart’s Funnies"**

Henry Goodall is the Life President of FONFA (Friends of the New Forest Airfields Heritage Centre) which was formed by a group of aviation enthusiasts, service veterans, historians and authors.



“Hobart's Funnies” is the nickname given to a number of specialist armoured vehicles derived from tanks operated during the Second World War. They were designed to overcome problems that more standard tanks experienced. They were forerunners of the modern combat engineering vehicle and took their nickname from the 79th Division's commander, Major-General Percy Hobart.

*The Coffee Mornings and Tea Afternoons will be returning in the Autumn*

## News from the Groups

### Happy Wanderers Become Detectives!

The Happy Wanderers Group tried a new venture when it embarked on a treasure trail around the witch and smuggler village of Burley. The team were co-opted to assist the Bureau of Bad Magic, to catch the murderer of a villager who dared to laugh and joke in the witch's domain.

A series of clues with appropriate facts and directions took the team around the village, visiting everything from drain covers to milestones to gravestones and notice boards.

Magic tricks were needed to attack the 17 clues, each requiring either a suspect or a piece of evidence which could be eliminated. Observation and interpreting fact were essential skills, as were basic arithmetic and anagram solving.

The threat posed by the wicked witches was forever present - some pavements had disappeared, the White Witch Sybil had a presence, as did the Witch's Coven shop with its array of cult items.

After the customary stops for coffee and lunch in the Old Farmhouse, the crime was finally solved and the answer submitted to Treasure Trails.

Well done team, a correct solution.

The Photo mid investigation shows the team somewhat replete after lunch.

The Church is very beautiful with stained glass windows spanning the last 100 years - well worth a visit on any Burley trip.

Terry Daniel



### How Things Work Group

The Group visited Marwell Zoo on 18<sup>th</sup> June. We had fascinating talks from the keepers on three different animals, their behaviour, likes and dislikes and families. We also heard about the conservation work undertaken by Marwell in the UK and internationally.



Fabulous pictures captured by John Turner. You'll all recognise the tiger below, but the bird is a Southern Caracara, from South America.



## Looking for something new to try?

**Playreading** still has room for new members. They meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Beach House from 2pm – approx 4pm.

## Calligraphy

We have space in the calligraphy group for new members. We have a good number of regular attendees, but would be happy to welcome a couple more.

## The Language Groups are always popular

Do you want to do more than order a couple of drinks, or do you want to read classic books in the original? Learning a language in later life means making a choice, since how you learn will be very different to how many of us learnt a language at school when we had to practice grammar. But few ended up with the confidence to communicate in real life situations. In French for Fun and Spanish for Fun we practice ways of getting the confidence to make conversation without worrying about getting it wrong. Learning a few simple phrases go a long way.

We can always squeeze in a keen learner! - John Whitley

## Fancy something more active?

**The Cycling Group** meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10.30. There's room for a few more members. See the website for more information

**The Wild Flower Group** will be starting up again soon, and there is always room for more enthusiasts. Keep an eye on the website if you're interested and there will be more details in the next Newsletter.

**To contact any of the above Groups and for more information on all our Groups, go to our website**

## Milford on Sea u3a Groups

To read the AGM minutes click here [Milford on Sea u3a AGM Minutes](#)

Community Information



ST. JOHN'S WATERFALL GARDEN

Crafted waterfall garden raising funds for local charities

GARDEN AND CHURCH  
12 June to 15 July  
CREAM TEAS 2 till 5 on  
SUNDAYS 21, 28 June, 5,12 July  
WEDNESDAYS : 24 June, 1, 8 July



Use QR code to donate

St John's Church  
Church Lane  
Boldre, Lymington  
SO41 5PG

Waterfall Garden Fundraising Event

Liz Keenan, a u3a member, has invited fellow members to visit this event. She writes:

The Church of St John the Baptist, near Boldre, is a thousand-year-old landmark whose historic churchyard is carefully managed as a wildflower meadow, providing a vital haven for local wildlife.

Building on the success of last year's Remembrance poppy cascade, the churchyard has been transformed into a cascading waterfall and a garden with radiant meadows. The installation has been crafted, by the Church's community

creatives group, almost entirely from donated recycled materials, including wool, unwanted clothing and plastic packaging. The garden is a stunning demonstration of creativity and sustainability. Hand-crafted dragonflies, butterflies, bullrushes, lilies and fish appear to dart among the foliage, and hundreds of vibrant fabric flowers radiate outward from the water's edge.

All visitors are warmly invited, with donations welcomed in support of three local charities: The Boldre Church Trust, the Countryside Education Trust, and CODA Arts and Music. Follow the link to see the article by the BBC. BBC article

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Please send articles for the Newsletter to [jenny@whitleyonseanet](mailto:jenny@whitleyonseanet)

The next edition will be published late summer/early Autumn. Please send photos too!

To contact us with comments please email: [milfordonseau3a@gmail.com](mailto:milfordonseau3a@gmail.com)

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