u3a

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SHOTTERY u3a

NEWSLETTER: August 2026

Tuesday, November 3rd

AGM
Interest Groups Presentations

Please note that the membership card gives the date as 4th November which is a Wednesday. The meeting will be on Tuesday as usual. Thanks to Martin for pointing this out

DESK AND REFRESHMENT ROTA:
November- Rambling
December - Committee

Duties include checking members in at the entrance desk and serving tea and coffee and washing up afterwards (dishwasher available). Generally 4 members are required. Where groups have difficulty in raising the necessary 4 members, please get in touch with Janet via the address at the bottom of this letter

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:
December – Christmas Fun and Festivities

Advertising our group - New members
Our u3a group needs new members and as part of advertising the group it has been posted on two Facebook pages - "Shottery View Community Group" and "Shottery and around". Please do visit these pages and give the posts a 'like' so that it highlighted for those I who may be considering joining a group. Please do also encourage those you know to join us.

Your input needed!

Have you had your 15 minutes of fame? If so, would you share it with us all in the newsletter? Many people have had an encounter with someone famous, done something noteworthy which gave them 'fame' (or notoriety!). It doesn't have to be major, even a smidgeon of 'fame' would be interesting. And the editor is happy to help with finessing the writing if needed. Last month we had Nick's interesting contribution and would love some more. Send your contribution to ***shotteryu3a@gmail.com***

INTEREST GROUPS

We are always interested in expanding the number and range of interest groups that are on offer. If you would be interested in developing a new group, please get in touch with the Secretary via the website group https://u3asites.org.uk/shottery/home .

If you wish to contact any group leader, please do so through the email address at the foot of this newsletter or through the contact details for group leaders on your membership card

AGM

The Chair's report for the AGM is given below. The minutes of the 2025 AGM and the accounts will be available at the meeting.

AGM Agenda

1.Apologies:

2.Approval of the minutes of the 2025 AGM

3.Matters arising from the minutes

4.Chair's report

5. Treasurer's report

6.Approval of the appointment of the examiner of accounts

7. Election of committee members

8.Any Other Business

Chair's Report

I'm pleased to report that we have had another good year at our u3a, with a variety of interesting speakers at our monthly meetings and plenty of opportunities for members to enjoy their interests and spend time together. Our members have been very generous with donations for our charity speakers.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Committee members for their hard work and support throughout the year: Kate as Secretary, Mark as Treasurer, Janet as Speaker Secretary, Jackie as Membership Secretary and David as Vice Chair. I am very grateful to you all for everything you do to keep our u3a running smoothly. Thank you also to Sue for her support to the committee over the past year.
Thank you to all our group leaders for giving their time and enthusiasm to make our groups successful. My thanks also go to everyone who helps at our monthly meetings, particularly those who manage the technology, put out and stack the chairs, and provide the refreshments and to our leaflet distributors, who help us spread the word about what we do.

Although it has been encouraging to welcome new members, our overall membership has reduced this year. It is important that we continue to let people know about the activities and opportunities our u3a offers, so please do spread the word among friends, family and anyone who might enjoy joining us.
Thank you to Lyn for all the work she has done in producing our newsletter. Sadly, she has had to step down, and I am very grateful to Kate for stepping in and taking on this task. However, we do need someone to take over as Newsletter Compiler for 2027 if we are to continue producing it. If you feel you could help, please do come forward.

Finally, thank you to all our members for being part of our u3a and helping to make it such a friendly and enjoyable organisation. We have much to be proud of, and with your continued support and a few more willing volunteers, particularly for the Committee, we can look forward to another successful year ahead.

GROUP REORTS

Local History Group
No report available

Rambling Group
The October ramble has not taken place at the time of writing this newsletter
Remaining Ramble for 2026 is 24th November.

Lunch Club
Next Lunch Club is on 12th November. Lunch Club is at different venues. Signing-up lists with details are put on the table at the Tuesday monthly meeting, For further information contact David.

Ambling
Amble 13 October 2026
The Amble this month was 2/3 miles around Foxcote Estate, starting from the main entrance gate. It was a beautiful day and the scenery across the Vale of Evesham was spectacular. One memorable stop was looking over a lake to the front of Foxcote House.

Foxcote House is an 18th century historic country house, situated near the village of Ilmington. It is constructed of honeyed Cotswold stone. It was built for the Canning family who lived there for ten generations, then it was a school. The Holman family also owned it (heirs to Boots the Chemist) and now in 1997 an American billionaire Les Wexford bought it and has turned it into a Cotswold shooting estate, there were certainly lots of pheasants around. Interestingly, when Jan and I did a recce we spoke to two beaters and they said no dogs were allowed on the shoots.

Refreshments at Ilmington Community Shop and Cafe were welcomed. Margaret





Gardening Group
No report available

Play Reading
Last month we met to Read Act 1 of Just Between Ourselves, a comedy of modern manners by Alan Ayckbourn . We all enjoyed the reading and will continue to finish the play at the end of October at our next meeting. Going into November we will have a new play to read.
We are a small group but we really enjoy ourselves reading diverse plays.
If you would like to find out if you might like to join us, please let me know and we'll welcome you for a taster session. You don't need to read at this session, unless you want to! Lauri .

Digital Photography
The meeting for October had to be cancelled.

Book Group
Our book this month was another non-fiction choice. "Jacobs Room is Full of Books' by Susan Hill is an account of her reading for a full year and the books on her

shelves. That sounds dull but in fact her observations about the surrounding countryside and weather and especially her comments about the authors she had known were interesting. It made for a good discussion including about what makes a good book 'good' and a bad book 'bad. Susan Hill is married to Stanley Wells (Shakespeare scholar who lives in Old Town)and lived locally for some years so the local connection was also interesting. The group currently has two spaces. If you are interested contact Kate

Keep Fit

Our small friendly group consists of both males and females of mixed abilities. The class is designed for our age group, with standing and sitting exercises
We meet every Thursday morning from 10 -11am in the Parish Centre at St Andrews Church in Shottery. We have an excellent tutor and really enjoy the exercises and a chat.
At present there is a waiting list, but please contact me If you are interested in finding out more about the group. Jan Jones

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter or enquiries regarding interest groups or membership leaders via the email
shotteryu3a@gmail.com