

Bournemouth



Newsletter Spring 2024



*The
Chair and
Committee
wish you
all a
Happy
Easter
and all
the
wonderful
joys of
Spring.*

Visit to Holme for Gardens on Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Arranged by Alan and Audrey Kneller

We had a very enjoyable visit to these gardens near Wareham in 2019 and by request we are returning on the first day of our Summer break.



Join us to walk round these extensive gardens, featuring the Palm Garden, Pear Tunnel, Wedding Pavilion, a Wild Flower field and extensive colourful borders with seating available for a casual break. Later I am sure that many of you will want to relax in the Orchard Café - various refreshments options will be available including lunch, cakes and cream tea. You may also be tempted by the range of produce in the Farm Shop.

The gardens are reasonably level for access. We anticipate starting the return journey at about 4.30 p.m.

The cost to include coach, driver gratuity and entry to the gardens is £17.00 per person.

Written by John Oram

Time of Pick Up

Where

1.00 p.m.	Outside The Bell Inn, opposite Pokesdown Station
1.05 p.m.	Boscombe Bus Station (Ashley Road)
1.10 p.m.	Christchurch Road, Derby Road bus stop
1.15 p.m.	Lansdowne near the bus stop for College in Xchurch Road
1.20 p.m.	Wimborne Road, opp. Homeoaks (near Cemetery Junct'n)
1.25 p.m.	Poole Road, Westbourne opposite the old Bingo Hall

Please complete ONE of the two booking forms sent to you with your e-mail copy of this newsletter – EITHER the FILLABLE file (only with MS Word) or the PRINTABLE file (for PDF Reader)

***** OR*** complete the paper booking form enclosed with your paper copy of this newsletter. Paper copies are also available from the Office at SJL, and on FMH and MCC Notice Boards.**

Payment can be made online or by cheque. Completed Booking Forms can be sent either by e-mail or by post (with Cheques if appropriate).

Any booking/payment queries, then please 'phone the Office, or for trip details please 'phone Alan Kneller on 01202 394386.

E-mail: info@bournemouthu3a.org.uk

Page 2

Office Tel: 01202 420700

Notes from the Chair



Hello to everyone, and welcome to the latest Spring Edition of the Newsletter. Since forming a new Committee after the October A.G.M., John Oram has now retired after many years of volunteering, and he will be greatly missed. We still hope to see John around at our social events and thank him for his dedication and service to the Bu3a charity and its' members.

We were delighted to announce in January our new venue, the Knole, Freemason's Hall, that will replace the Friend's Meeting House (FMH) that has been enjoyed by Bu3a members and their groups for many years. The Knole will be showcased to members on 15th June at our annual Summer Gala event. We have also booked St. Katherine's Church in Southbourne as the second replacement venue for FMH.

As ever, any word of mouth spreading the good word of our great u3a is very much appreciated. We always need more members to ensure that our groups continue to be viable, and we will also run promotion events this year as follows:-

Boscombe Sovereign Arcade – 4th April
Shake & Stir – 22-23 June
National u3a Week – 21-29 September

If you are able to volunteer for any of the above events, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Office (info@bournemouthu3a.org.uk).

The latest 2023/24 Bournemouth u3a Program includes over 100 Groups and I hope you are looking forward to the new Summer term to re-commence your chosen u3a activities and social events.

Kind regards,

Stephanie Gardiner (Chair)

News From the Groups

International Folk Dancing Group - “A Day of Dance”

Another highly successful “Day of Dance” was held at Our Lady, Queen of Peace, Southbourne, on Thursday, 7th December. Over 30 members braved the elements on a cold, wet, windy day to be transported around the world through the magic of dance.

Brenda and Phil Steventon, very experienced folk dance teachers, once again took us through the steps visiting Romania, Slovakia, France, Mexico, Taiwan and many more countries along the way. The two workshops included beginners and experienced dancers with lots of laughter, particularly when everyone did all the right steps but not necessarily in the right order!

As always, there was a bring and share lunch for those who wished to participate. It gave members the opportunity to make new friends and to 'catch up' with existing ones.



If you would like to 'try out' International Folk Dancing then here are five reasons why you may wish to join us :-

- good physical activity
- good for mental stimulation
- good for co-ordination
- good for making new friends
- good because you don't need a partner

We meet at the Friends' Meeting House, Boscombe, starting at 10.15 a.m. on Tuesday mornings.

Just bring along your soft flat shoes and “give it a go”!

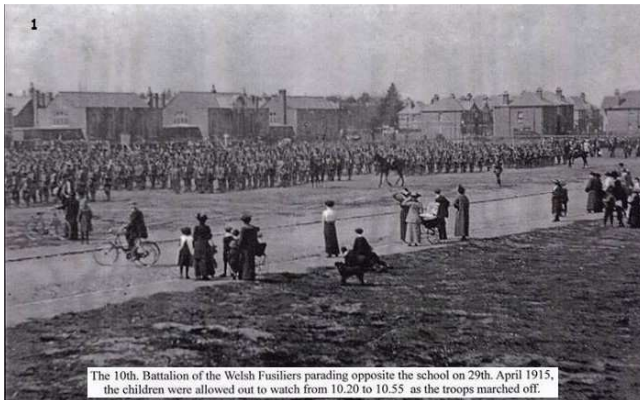
New members are always welcome.

If you would like more information, please contact the **Group Leader Janet Mason** on 01202 433121 or e-mail janetmason22@gmail.com

Bournemouth Past and Present Group

“Following three visits to the Local Heritage section of Bournemouth Library earlier in November, the final session of the course offers members the chance to present a brief outline of their findings if they wish. This year topics chosen included the beginnings of Bournemouth as a seaside place of residence, and tales of 18th and 19th century smuggling in the Kinson area. Personal work experience prompted another participant to research the history of the defunct Green Park hotel, near Boscombe Chine. One group member researched the operation of local cinemas in the Winton and Moordown area from 1910 to 1989, including the now demolished Plaza/Continental at Winton Banks, the Victoria/Ritz in Wimborne Road, Winton, and the art deco Moderne in Moordown (now the Life Centre).

Developments in Bournemouth Square over many decades and remaining clues to earlier buildings provided the focus to one member's studies and field work. Another group member reported on the charitable efforts of the Talbot sisters in the 19th century in the Bournemouth-Poole area. Evidence on the location of Winston Churchill's almost fatal fall from a long-demolished bridge over Branksome Dene Chine was also presented.”



Hopefully, the Bournemouth Past and Present course will run again in the Autumn Term of 2024. This photograph shows Winton and Moordown schools in 1915, part of which now forms Moordown Community Centre,

where many Bu3a courses are held. In the foreground is Queen Mary Avenue, while Coronation Avenue lies between the assembled troops and the school buildings.

Written by **John Langmead** - Group member and **Paul Miles – Group Leader**, Bournemouth Past & Present Group No. 82.

E-mail: info@bournemouthu3a.org.uk

Page 5

Office Tel: 01202 420700

Poets Corner.....

Spring

Walking east along the shoreline,
hugging the lapping waves,
on the sand our silhouettes lengthen
stretching out before us.

Each step lost in shadow
created by the setting sun's
intensifying rays
announcing the birth of spring.



Under the cliff face
rhododendron break into fitful red burst
whilst yellow gorse cackle
in delighted anticipation of winter's final passing.

Above the low equinox tide
a pair of tern drift
in eager anticipation
of sea's bounty and harvest.



That which was disturbed
through storm and wind
gains new purpose as
sand is levelled and beach restored.

Winter was wild and wet:
we sheltered indoors
praying for the lengthening of days
and now this winter is passing.

Alive to nature's call
all of creation responds to its maker:
spring arrives full of promise
bristling with new life.



Where there is life there is hope.

Simon Tyndall (Poetry Reading Group No. 14)

Painters Corner.....



Still life - Painting by Tony Bursey.

Tony says he normally takes photos of his subjects and then photocopies them before painting them in either watercolour or acrylics. He is a Member of Mavis Jackson's Songwriting Group No. 27 - A Lilt of Songwriters.

A chance to learn Lawn Bowls at Bournemouth Electric Bowls Club 115 Broadway Lane, BH8 0AA - just off Castle Lane

Last year we ran a very successful course for your members. Some of them have joined us and others are playing at other local clubs.

Facilities: 6 Rink bowls green with Club House

Course: Free coaching. 31 May from 2pm - 4pm for six Fridays.

Suitability: This 6-week course is suitable for anyone who has always wanted to try the sport of Bowls. Do not worry if you have problems bending as we provide "Bowlers Arms" to help you take part.

Equipment: All equipment is provided; you will need to wear comfortable clothing and flat soled footwear.

Achievement: At the end of the course you will have gained the knowledge and experience to be able to confidently play Bowls. You may then decide to join a local Bowls Club.

Bowls is a very social sport which can be played by both Ladies and Men of all ages. There are not many sports where a teenager can compete against someone in their 90s. It is not over strenuous but does provide a very good form of physical activity.

If you would like to take part or if you would like more information please
Phone: 07593 559103 or Email: bebc1936@gmail.com

Keith Walton – Club Coach

Summer Term Chess Club



Yes folks, it is time to sign up for Group No. 89 at MCC on Fridays from 10.30 - 12.00 noon - for the Summer term..... Just 'phone the Office to enrol.....

Social chess for all..... Meet new people..... Come along, play and enjoy!! Are you an **Absolute Beginner**? This is the term when we also offer "**Chess ABC**", the **Absolute Beginner Course**!

You may then wish to consider joining the Chess Improvers Level 1 in the Autumn term later this year. **Group Leader is Christopher Thomas.**

Fun Photography Group



The Fun Photography Group No. 57 have enjoyed photographing colourful Spring flora and fauna as their theme of "Spring Has Sprung". The snowdrops this year seem particularly abundant.....

We all wish you a very Happy Easter and always welcome new members. We are not a technical

group and just enjoy socialising and taking photos. Our emphasis is on having fun...!!!



Group Leaders are David Cox & Steve Allen.

Photo Above of Snowdrop Carpet submitted by Sue Allibone

Photo Left of Spring Phone Box submitted by Nicole Chattlain.

French Conversation Group – L’Atelier de Français

PLAYING “WOULD I LIE TO YOU?” IN FRENCH.....

You may know this TV game with two teams of three contestants and a compère-referee, the Welsh comedian Rob Brydon. Quite often, European language intermediate and advanced U3A conversation groups play it one time per year or indeed per term.

A French class member begins in one of two ways: (a) telling the others, in about three sentences maximum, the opening of a story about an incident he or she experienced.

Pendant mon enfance, mon père est revenu de son service militaire pour une semaine de congé. Il a ouvert sa valise et il a trouvé qu’elle était pleine d’armes et de pistolets.

(When I was growing up, my father came back from his military service for a week’s leave. He opened his suitcase and found it full of guns and pistols.)

The rest of us ask questions for about 4 minutes. All the questions start with one of: *Où* (Where – was he when he opened it?) *Quand* (What – time of day? for example) *De quelle couleur* (Which colour – was the case?) and similar.....

Then I, the Group-Leader summarise in French what more we have learned, asking: “*Qui pense que nous dit la vérité?*” (Who thinks X is telling the truth? – show of hands)

“*Qui pense que nous dit un mensonge?*”

(Who thinks X is telling us a lie? – likewise). Finally, I tell X to reveal:

Est-ce que c’était la vérité ou un mensonge?

(Was it true or a lie?) It was – TRUE.

The other variant is (b) to bring and introduce an object.

Ceci est une fourchette utilisée par les cannibales aux Îles de la Pacifique, les chefs de la tribu et les prêtres, au banquet (This is a [replica] cannibal’s fork from a Polynesian island, used by chiefs and priests at a banquet.) Much laughter..... It turned out to be – TRUE.

Keith Penfold – Group No. 52 Leader - L’Atelier de Français

SUMMER GALA PARTY

Saturday 15 June from 14.00 – 16.45

**at the Knole, Freemasons' Hall, Knole Road,
Bournemouth, BH1 4DH**



We are pleased to invite you to our annual summer gala at our new venue, the Knole. Our popular annual summer event gives groups and members the opportunity to display a range of interests and talents. All performance groups, including dancing, drama, t'ai chi and singing are invited to provide entertainment for us. Creative groups such as art, craft, poetry, photography, and writing are also invited to demonstrate or display their work. We would like as much variety as possible so maybe there are other groups who would like to let our members see what they do?

NOW IS THE TIME for Leaders who would like their groups to participate, or an individual member, to please contact me either by email or through the Bu3a Office as soon as possible.....

BUT NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 30 APRIL.

Email: chair@bournemouthu3a.org.uk

Performances will run throughout the afternoon with only short breaks between each group. Refreshments will be available in the kitchen at all times to avoid lengthy queues and allow members to take a break and have a chat.

Continued on Page 11.....

SUMMER GALA PARTY..... Cont'd

BAKE A CAKE

In the past, we had a very good response to our appeal and this year a request is made for homemade muffins, biscuits and cakes (pre-sliced please). So, we are asking our members for your generosity once again. If you are able to contribute in this way, would you please e-mail the office (info@bournemouthu3a.org.uk) and provide details in advance.

BOOKING

Members wishing to attend, please book your place by e-mail to Office (info@bournemouthu3a.org.uk). This is a very popular event so please don't leave it too late to book your place. Admission, including tea/coffee and cakes/biscuits, will be £4.00, payable at the door. The full £4 will go into Bu3a funds and will contribute to the significant extra cost we are incurring for the use of the Knole.

PARKING

Please note that the car park has plenty of spaces for all to park, and off-site parking is also available close-by. A few spaces are available for Disabled members, but these must be booked.

The Brochure for 2024/2025 will be available during the afternoon in the Hampshire Room for you to take away. However, we are unable to accept completed membership forms on the day. If you are not attending, you can call and collect both between 16.00 and 16.30. All brochures not collected will be available for collection from the Office.

Stephanie Gardiner

Chair

Online Study Groups



Mary Fyfe introduced this initiative, running her MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) – Science of Happiness course during the Autumn term.

This is her feedback:-

“We did agree at the end that this particular course was quite hard going and that if we were going to look at MOOCs in the future something with a less onerous workload would be better. Our weekly meetings to discuss each week's content were very good and we all enjoyed these. As group leader I tried to have identified some key points for discussion and I think these (on a flip chart) kept us on track without too many conversations wandering off in other directions.

I think there is the potential to use this type of course in the future. The course content of the MOOCs (www.mooc.org) I have come across is very good, they are free, and there is **no necessity for a group leader to have the expertise themselves. As group leader I acted as facilitator rather than instructor and it felt very much in the u3a spirit of mutual learning.** A further benefit is that these courses are time limited, so there is no necessity to commit to a year at a time either as a group leader or as a group member.

Some members of this group were certainly interested in doing another, as a complete contrast I might later in the year - or next year - offer an Open University (Openlearn) one on "Investigating a Murder with Forensic Psychology" which requires around 12 hours of study rather than the 4-6 hours a week for the Happiness one.”

Could YOU lead a short online study course? There is certainly a place for these in our programme and we would be pleased to discuss with you. Email: accommodation@bournemouthu3a.org.uk



The Bu3a Office at SJI

To our dedicated team of Volunteers running the office at St James Institute..... *We Thank You!*

Monday	Sandra Bassett, Dorothee Merton Geoff Black (reserve)
Tuesday	Rosa Milton, Pat Carruthers Dorothee Merton (reserve)
Wednesday	Jennie Pudney, Sue Godwin, Paul Tunnicliffe
Thursday	Mary Lapish, Angela Heasman
Friday	Office closed

Office Tel.: 01202 420700 – Mon. to Thurs. 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Obituaries..... Sadly.....

Caroline Fletcher - Caroline sadly passed away in November 2023. I met Caroline when she became a member of my Social Dance group and we remained friends forever after that. We both enjoyed Janet's International Folk Dancing, Colin's Sequence Dance and many Line Dance classes.

But equal to her love of dancing, was her love of games. She played everything you could think of, cards, board games etc. but her love of Dominoes encouraged her to run a group. Her 5 - 3 Dominoes group took place in her own home every Wednesday morning with her last session only 3 days before she died.

Caroline will be greatly missed by all of us. Valerie Powell

Olive Cooper - Many of our 'dancing' members will remember Olive who sadly passed away in January. She was a stalwart supporter of u3a who ran her groups until reluctantly accepting she was no longer able to continue. Always cheerful and loved by her members.

Chris Moran - The Committee was very sad to hear of the sudden passing in January of our longstanding office volunteer, Chris Moran. Chris was very passionate about Bu3a and always enjoyed helping out in the office and had a wonderful sense of humour. She will be fondly remembered.....



Our Committee Members 2023/24

Stephanie Gardiner	Chair + U3A Beacon System
(Vacancy)	Vice Chair
Michael Crich	Treasurer
Dorothee Merton	Secretary/Beacon Administrator/ Joint Programme coordinator
Jennie Pudney	Joint Programme coordinator/ SJI Representative
Julie Williams	Publicity
(Vacancy)	Office Manager
(Vacancy)	Social Events
(Vacancy)	IT Manager
Nick Monk	Newsletter Editor

Can YOU help us PLEASE..... ???

There are the above-mentioned **FOUR vacancies** on the Bournemouth u3a Committee, and these important roles **MUST** be filled soon.....!!!



If you think you that you would like to help us, or maybe chat things over in person first, then please contact Julie by e-mail to publicity@bournemouthu3a.org.uk



LUNCHING AROUND THE WORLD with Bob Hucklesby

In the Summer term 2024, we will be sampling food from three different countries:-

WONDERFUL LOUNGE & KITCHEN (Chinese) - FRIDAY 19th APRIL –
– from 12.30 onwards - 261 Charminster Road, Bournemouth BH8 9QJ
ROMANZO GREEK RESTAURANT - THURSDAY 9th MAY – from 12.30
onwards - 87 Poole Road, Westbourne BH4 9BB
THAI SMILE - FRIDAY 14th JUNE – from 12.30 onwards
- 674 Christchurch Road, Boscombe BH7 6BT

Information about each meal is sent out to all members via e-mail approximately three weeks in advance. **Places must be pre-booked** and some restaurants will require meal choices in advance.

To book, please contact:

E-mail: bobhucklesby@btinternet.com

Tel: 01202 551401



TEN PIN BOWLING

with John Oram

Monday 18 March AND Monday 1st July 2024 -
At Hollywood Bowl, (Bowlplex), 382 Poole Road,
Branksome, Poole BH12 1DA (Opposite Tesco).

As usual please arrive promptly at 11.00 so that we can organise a group for each lane and all start together at 11.15 a.m. As our sessions will be in school term time, we should get the concessionary rate. We usually play two games finishing by about 1.00 – 1.30 although some may choose to play just the one game.

Bowling shoes are available for hire but ordinary footwear is perfectly acceptable. No need to book, just turn up and by all means bring a friend if you wish. If you don't feel like playing just come along and watch and have a chat. Enjoy the fun and there is a coffee bar.

There is plenty of parking on site and of course many buses pass the door along the Poole Road.



OUR FIRST AND SECOND QUIZZES for 2024 with Alan and Audrey Kneller

Alan and Audrey Kneller presented another bumper Quiz in December to round off our 2023 social events, and fittingly it was a cracker! There were 14 teams and about 80 players. "Literati" won "gold" and "Hit and Miss" were top scorers. As always in a U3A event the refreshment break was enjoyed by all and we learned the magic trick of how to make FOUR plates of biscuits just disappear!

Many thanks, once again, to Alan and Audrey.

And so to our next TWO Quizzes.....

Wednesday 20th March 2024, at 2.00pm, arrive from 1.30, AND

Wednesday 3rd July 2024, at 2.00pm, also arrive from 1.30 p.m.

BOTH at The Annunciation Church Hall, 218 Charminster Road, Bournemouth BH8 9RW.

We again invite group/team leaders to make up a table of a maximum of 6 members and notify the Office by phone or preferably email of your contact details and team name. A group can have more than one team.

If no one in your group wants to make up a team, then contact the Office telling them of your interest and you will be linked with another group that cannot make a full team, or you could be linked with other individuals to make a new team.



Admission is £3 per person, to include refreshments, payable at your table. We had a superb response to our winter Quiz, but we are limited in the number of tables which can be accommodated in the hall. So..... to avoid disappointment, **please be sure to book your team a place** as soon as you can.

John Oram

Quote:- "My favourite thing in the world is a quiz show, 'University Challenge,' so you can see what kind of sad person I am." Lynne Truss - Author

COFFEE CLUB



Come and enjoy a beverage of your choice and meet other members of Bournemouth u3a..... Friendly atmosphere, so do come along.....!!

Only one meeting in the Summer Term due to other events:-



Thursday 16th May - Parry's Cafe, St. Peter's Church, Hinton Road, Bournemouth.

10.30 - 12.00 noon

Plenty of buses come to Bournemouth Square, and then a short walk, or the M1 and M2 buses stop outside the church.

While you're there, don't forget to check out the beautiful windows. The south window was designed by Percy Bacon in 1896. The east window was designed by G.E. Street in 1866. More information online. The spire is 202 feet high and is a local landmark.

Quote:- "What goes best with a cup of coffee?..... Another cup."
Henry Rollins – U.S. Singer/Writer

u3a Festival 2024 – in YORK on 18th - 20th July

This year's festival gives you a choice of participating in the many activities and workshops for either one, 2 or all three days.

This takes place at the University of York around their exhibition centre.

It is a residential course with single en-suite rooms priced at £61.80 for bed and breakfast. However, these have since all been taken, but there is still some room at the Stem Centre nearby.

**For more information please check out
festival@u3a.org.uk**



Dates for your Diary



Date	Event	Venue	Time
2024			
Fri. 15 March	Coffee Club	Ludo Lounge, Southbourne	10.30
Mon. 18 March	10 Pin Bowling	Bowlplex, Branksome	11.00
Tue. 19 March	Uni-Sing Concert	Moordown Com. Centre	14.00
Wed. 20 March	Bu3a Quiz	Annunc'n Church Hall, Charminster	14.00
Thur. 04 April	Bu3a Promotion Day	Boscombe Sovereign Centre (Near Lidl)	10.00 -16.00
Fri. 19 April	Lunching around the World	Wonderful Lounge & Kitchen Charminster	12.30
Mon. 22 April	Start of Summer term	All Bu3a venues	
Thur. 09 May	Lunching around the World	Romanzo Greek Restaurant, Westbourne	12.30
Thur. 16 May	Coffee Club	Parry's Cafe, St. Peter's Church, B'mouth BH1	10.30
Fri. 14 June	Lunching around the World	Thai Smile, Christchurch Road, Boscombe	12.30
Sat. 15 June	Summer Gala Party	The Knole, Freemason's Hall, Boscombe	14.00 -16.45
Sat./Sun. 22/23 June	Bu3a Promotion Days	Southbourne Shake & Stir Festival	10.00 -16.00
Mon. 24 June	End of Summer term	All Bu3a venues	
Mon. 01 July	10 Pin Bowling	Bowlplex, Branksome	11.00
Wed. 03 July	Bu3a Quiz	Annunc'n Church Hall, Charminster BH8	14.00

New Bu3a Website is on its way.....



To start our work on this project, a handful of members with digital experience attended a Zoom meeting at the start of January.

We have a Training Workbook to use to practise our website building skills. As Easter approaches, we shall be allocated our hosted production website. Then

the real construction work begins as we attempt to showcase the opportunities that our u3a gives us to approach healthy ageing as an adventure ... with some laughs along the way.

We hope to unveil our new website at the Summer Gala to be held on Saturday, 15th June.

Howard Fincher

Dates for your Diary.....

Bournemouth u3a will be holding a Promotion Day and Membership Drive on **Thursday 4th April 2024** at the Boscombe Sovereign Centre (Near Lidl) between 10.00 and 16.00 hrs.



If you're in the area, please stop by and say "hello" to the volunteers manning our stand. And if you know someone who is interested in joining us, then do tell them about this event where they can come and chat to current members and get more details about our organisation. Don't forget, membership for the Summer term is only £22.

Also, similar Promotion Events will occur on **Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June 2024** at the famous **Southbourne Shake & Stir Vintage Music and Lifestyle Festival.....** Come along and support this fun Festival..... It is ALWAYS a great day out!

Julie - Publicity



UNI-SING

presents
a concert of songs through the decades
and from popular musicals

Tuesday
19th March 2024
2pm

FREE Admission

Refreshments available

**Retiring CASH donations
to U3A and MCC funds**

Moordown Community Centre
Coronation Avenue
Moordown
Bournemouth
BH9 1TW

**We look forward to a fun afternoon
and your generous support**

