

NEWSLETTER

THE ARCHER



u3a
Romsey Archway

October 2025 EDITION

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Members,

It must be Autumn as the flu jabs are now on offer!

We now have a team for the inert u3a quiz, good luck to them.

We had a lot of positive feedback about last month's speaker who debunked some of the stories/myths about the Beatles. This month we have asked back Jeremy Prescott to talk to us about Operation Overlord who previously gave us a fascinating presentation on the Remembrance Poppy

Membership continues to grow which is good news and more groups being considered that in turn helps attract more new members. We rely on volunteers for our continued success. So if you're a new or established member please do think about how you may help with the running of the u3a and the groups with in it. Please consider helping with the running of a new group or helping a current group leader.

Please read the special message from Margaret and Marion in the Groups Section o the Newsletter

Remember, all members are welcome to sit in on our next committee meeting, taking place on 1st Monday of the month. This is an open invitation for anyone curious about how we run things behind the scenes—no strings attached! If you're interested, simply reach out to me so we can arrange your visit.

Wishing you all a fantastic month ahead.

Dave Green - Chair





SPEAKER MEETINGS

FROM DAVE GREEN – CHAIR



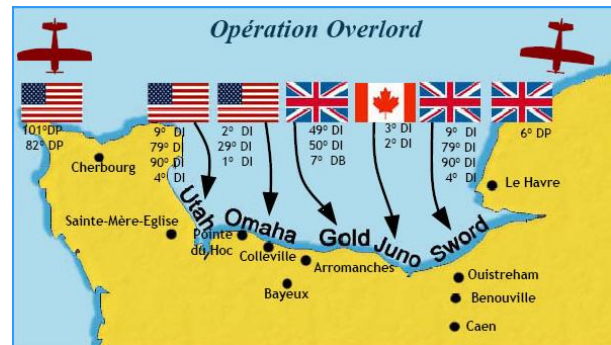
THIS MONTHS SPEAKER MEETING

Monthly Meeting will be on October 9th at Crosfield Hall. Doors open at 2.00pm for teas and coffee with the speaker starting at 2.30pm. We hope you can make it.

Our speaker for this month is Jeremy Prescott who will be talking on the subject of :-

PRESENTATION ON OP OVERLORD, D DAY THE NORMANDY LANDINGS

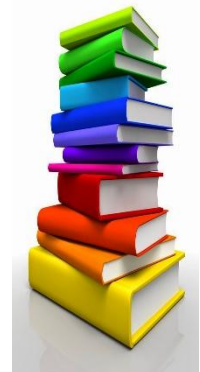
A description of the greatest feat of arms in WW2 which eventually led to the liberation of Europe



BOOK SWAP STALL

FROM RICHARD AND LUCY CROWDER

The book swap stall will be open for business at the next speaker meeting. The organisers would like to remind everyone that it is a book swap – so one in – one out. This help to stop the number of books held becoming excessive. Currently we have far more books available than can be displayed at an individual meeting.





CLUB WIDE SOCIAL EVENTS

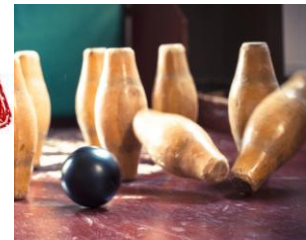
FROM JANET ROBINSON SOCIAL SECRETARY



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

SKITTLES EVENING

Friday 10 October 2025 from 7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.), will be held at Wellow Golf Club. There are no spaces left, this is now fully booked. Thanks to all those that showed interest in this event.



REGIONAL U3A QUIZ EVENT

We now have our team for this event so good luck to them on the 21st as they battle other u3a's in our area



ROMSEY ARCHWAY U3A QUIZ NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2025 (from 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.) will be held at Crosfield Hall, Romsey. Details to follow.

CHRISTMAS EVENT ON THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2025 (from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.) will be held at Crosfield Hall, Romsey. Details to follow.



If you would like to help with social events or join the social group, please contact socialsecretaryarchway@hotmail.com.



GROUP NEWS

FROM MARGARET AND MARION, THE GROUPS COORDINATORS

The development of new groups depends entirely on the talents and creativity of Romsey Archway u3a members. We welcome ideas for new groups and will help you research them to see if there is a core of interest amongst our members.



MAKING NEW ARCHWAY FRIENDS THROUGH THE ACTIVITY GROUPS

Many of us start Autumn looking for a reset after the summer months. I'm not just thinking of the desire to get a bit fitter after holiday indulgences (that's me!) or getting more time to yourself after family responsibilities with lively grandchildren! We might also be searching for a new interest – and maybe some new friends to give us a fresh start and a different view of ourselves and where we're going.

The u3a is a great way to do this. Have a look at our interest groups on the Archway website and get in touch with the group leader if you'd like to give something a try. If a group is full, contact Margaret and Marion, the Activity Groups Coordinators, and let us know that you are interested. With a few more like-minded people, we may be able to put a new group together.



If you join a group, give it a bit of time. Not everyone is super confident and it may take a few meetings before other group members break the ice with you. Faces (and names!) gradually become familiar if you keep turning up. Try to attend every meeting if you possibly can – it's more challenging to make friends without meeting them regularly. Keep going, and over time you'll share highs and lows, funny moments, and points of common interest.



It's harder to make friends in a group that meets just once a month – or less – especially if you miss a meeting. However, once you get to know a few people in the group, you could suggest a café visit between sessions.

Coming to u3a Speaker Meetings or volunteering to help at events are other ways to make friends. Bumping into the same people on a regular basis and having a topic or project to talk about is a good way of finding your community. The person sitting next to you may not be sure how to break the ice, or maybe they've forgotten your name, or they could be new to the u3a – but they could be a future friend in the making. So take the plunge and ask them what they thought of the speaker!

Wishing everyone a warm welcome back after the summer.

Marion and Margaret

Activity Group Coordinators

NEW GROUPS SETTING UP WHICH ARE OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS.

- Bus Pass Explorers
- Curry Club
- Live Classical Music
- Petanque 2
- Woodwind Group

GROUPS LOOKING FOR MORE MEMBERS

- Tuesday 2 milers walking group

Look on the Groups page of the Archway website for more details and click on the link to sign up.



NEWS UPDATES FROM YOUR GROUPS

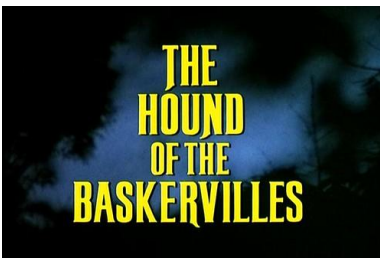
BIG WALK GROUP



Despite the wet forecast, four stalwart members of the Big Walk group met on the 2nd September at Furzey Gardens for a 7.25-mile Forest walk, in the rain. From Furzey Gardens we went to Minstead; up past the church and on to Acres Down farm. Unfortunately, being a Tuesday, the tea room was not open! A little further on along the cycle track, a cow and her calf were stood stock still across the track, but we managed to get round. Further on, trotting towards us, were about twenty horse riders, all smartly dressed in shirts, ties and hacking jackets. With the horse riders, was a pack of hounds; it looked like they were out for some exercise. We think this was the New Forest Hounds who, according to their website, had a meet in that area on that day. We walked uphill, along the cycle track almost to the Canadian Memorial, but turned right just before, heading out of the woods. Once we had completed negotiations with several ponies about who was to have priority in passing through a gateway (the ponies), we moved out of the woods and into the open. Then it was downhill towards Stoney Cross Plain Road and by this time the rain had stopped. We were treated to some very attractive Forest scenery with heather in flower (pictured). We walked past Kings Garn, where there were more cows for us to walk around and we disturbed a deer in the woods. From here it was along a narrow footpath, back to Furzey Gardens and lunch at the cafe.



THEATREGOERS



On 27th September a small group of Theatregoers went to see **The Hound of the Baskervilles** at the Plaza. Fresh from its triumph at the Minack Theatre in Cornwall, this was no conventional production of the Sherlock Holmes classic. From the start it was clear we would be watching a spoof version, and the jokes, slapstick and general silliness lasted until the end. I



was particularly struck by the range and versatility of the actors' facial expressions, along with the well choreographed movement. The beginning of Act 2, when the action of Act 1 was replayed at top speed, was very funny, and one of our number was so amused she could not stop laughing.

Altogether this was a highly entertaining evening. As usual, the Plaza did not disappoint!

Sheila.

MEMBERSHIP

FROM HEATHER TRIM BUSINESS SECRETARY AND MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome to 12 new members this month: Diana C, Jeremy W, Gordon M, Laura O, Vicky de P, Glenda A, Peter H, Adam G, Jo M, Margaret and Ray H and Phillip K. This brings our total membership to 489.



We hope they have fun participating in the wide range of activities we offer and enjoy sharing their expertise with other members.

COMMITTEE MATTERS

COMMITTEE ROLES THAT ARE CURRENTLY VACANT

We are still very keen to get members to volunteer for the following roles:-

- Groups Co-ordinator
- Business Secretary
- Committee Members generally



OTHER VACANT VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

- Speaker Co-ordinator. —Non committee role
- Content Creator—To work on creating web and social media content.



- Facebook Admin—Non committee role
- Newsletter Editor—Non committee role
- Beacon Admin—Non committee role

Please contact Dave Green or any committee member, if you would like any more information about any of the above.

SUGGESTION BOX

A reminder that we have a “suggestion box” on our website that is there for you to give us any feedback on events and speakers etc., and also any thoughts or ideas you might have about, how we may develop our u3a or better support you as members.

<https://romseyarchway.u3asite.uk/contact/>

SOCIAL MEDIA

FROM RICHARD CROWDER – WEB ADMIN

After 18 months, it is time to update our front page. To help move forward I am looking for a number of photographs that represent our groups. So photographs of members enjoying one of the following would be most helpful: Arts and Craft, Food and Drink, Games, History, Languages, Literature, Music, Natural History, Sport and Walking would be most helpful. If your pictures have members in frame, please ensure you have informed them that the images are for the Website and they agree to the use of the image online.

We encourage you to take photographs of the our u3a events and activities that you get up to so that we can publish them on the website and also in this newsletter. This will promote us and share what we do and what we are about.

Also, and in a similar vein it would be good if people could use our members Facebook page more to publicise and provide members with information on activities and, events and group information.





DATES FOR THE DIARY



Thursday 9th October	Monthly Meeting Crosfield Hall 2.00pm for 2.30pm Presentation on Op Overlord Jeremy Prescott
Friday 10th October	Skittles evening to be held at West Wellow golf club. More details will follow
Wednesday 12th November	Quiz Night Crosfield Hall 7.00pm
Thursday 13th November	Monthly Meeting United Reform Church 2.00pm for 2.30pm The Mary Rose. A presentation by Dawn Perrier , one of the divers on the Mary Rose from the Mary Rose Trust.
Thursday 11th December	Christmas Event and Monthly Meeting Crosfield Hall 2.00 for 2.30pm Details to be confirmed
2026	
Thursday 8th January	Monthly Meeting Crosfield Hall 2.00pm for 2.30pm Jackie Dimmock, an ex policewoman, will tell the story of a life as a police woman that was Good, Bad and Downright Funny . Her story is told with the aid of Tapestries!
January (Date TBC)	Solent Sky Museum More details to follow
Thursday 12th February	Monthly Meeting Crosfield Hall 2.00pm for 2.30pm Beyond Beliefs: One Family's Incredible Story (Part 2) Dr Sohail Husain, a return visit for this speaker whose first presentation was extremely well received, and this is Part 2 of that Story
Thursday 12th March	Monthly Meeting Crosfield Hall 2.00pm for 2.30pm



	Ministering Angel. Meet Nursing Superintendent Shaw, good friend and colleague of Florence Nightingale and discover why she left Netley Hospital in disgrace. Speaker is an actress who dresses and acts the part
March / April 2026	See Southampton Guided Tour – More details to follow

NB

For Regular Monthly Speaker Meetings: Doors Open 2.00pm for Tea and Coffee, Speaker Commences 2.30pm

USEFUL INFORMATION

There is a lot of useful information about u3a that can be found on the National U3A Website at <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Our Romsey and Archway u3a Website is <https://romseyarchway.u3asite.uk>

You can contact us at <https://romseyarchway.u3asite.uk/contact/>

Please join our Romsey Archway Facebook at – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/443593039767427>