

Message from the Chair



The first group I joined when I became a member of Romsey Archway was the birdwatching group and I now enjoy my outings with the three different groups we run (Archway birders, Fishlake birdwatching and Osprey birders). Getting outside, taking a walk and looking out for different birds is a relaxing way to clear my mind. It certainly meets the u3a principles of peer-led learning and staying intellectually curious and I have learnt so much from the other group members, whether that's identifying birds by sight or sound, keeping track of seasonal changes at Fishlake Meadows, or sharing knowledge about local wildlife. My personal favourites are raptors so a highlight was seeing the White-tailed Eagle at Fishlake; however, whilst trying to identify a "little brown bird" at Keyhaven last week an elusive and secretive Water Rail emerged from the hedge and that summed up the sheer joy of birdwatching.

My sincere thanks to Marion and Margaret for organising the groups and introducing me to a new hobby but thanks must also go to all the members of the three groups for sharing their expertise, helping lead the walks but particularly for their friendship. Thank you!

Message from the Interest Groups Coordinators Marion and Margaret

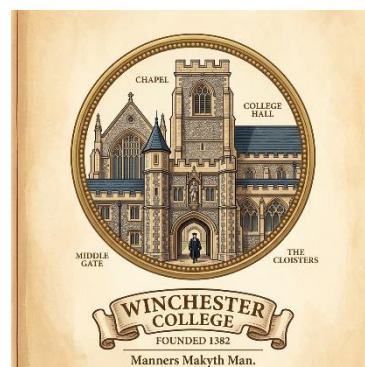
New members, come along to our coffee morning especially for you on Monday 5th October at 10:15 Crosfield Hall annexe. We will be there to talk with you about the interest groups we have on offer and you will be able to meet some of our group leaders.

All members new and old: Would you like to try a new activity this Autumn? Check out the Interest Groups page on the website (<https://romseyarchway.u3asite.uk/groups/>) for ideas. Get in touch if you have something new in mind.

Social Activities

Friday 17 November 2026: Tour of Winchester College – from 11.00 a.m. (Further details to be announced)

Thursday 10 December 2026: Christmas event held at Crosfield Hall, Romsey – from 2.30 p.m. Archway u3a Ukulele group performing



September 2026 Speaker Meeting



The September speaker is "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times", the secret life of Charles Dickens.

2:30pm Crosfield Hall, Romsey. Doors open at 2:00. Bookswap and refreshments will be available.

Membership News

A warm welcome to Gillian G, Julia W and Martin I.

Dates for Your Diary

10 September 2026 2:30pm	Speaker meeting: "It was the best of times it was the worst of times: The private life of Charles Dickens"
28 September 2026 1.30pm	Mill Lane Meadow, Sherfield English (Currently full)
5 October 2026 10.15 -11.45am	New members coffee morning. Annexe room Crosfield Hall
8 October 2026 2.30pm	Speaker meeting: "Hampshire Birds of Prey" Royal British Legion
16 October 2026 11am	Southampton City Art Gallery, Southampton (Currently full)
17 November 2026 11am	Tour of Winchester College (Details to follow)