



HAYWARDS HEATH & DISTRICT



WELCOME TO YOUR EARLY SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

Issue No. 112
Contact Wendy Gundry
Newsletter Editor newsletter@haywardsheathu3a.org.uk
Next Deadline: 15th June 2020

Dear Members,

Yes, this is an additional newsletter so as to keep in touch with our members and pass on some information we would like to share with you all.

I hope that everyone is keeping well and as active as possible during this difficult time. For many of us life has changed dramatically and we miss our family, friends and the everyday activities we had come to take for granted. As a Committee we miss seeing members at the various events we had planned and individually we miss attending our groups and talking with our like minded group members. It is difficult to keep in touch with everyone but I know that a lot of groups are continuing using technology such as Zoom and others through email but I am conscious of our members who do not use this kind of technology and would ask you to make a special effort to keep in touch with group members to ensure they are not totally isolated.

HQ is trying to keep in touch with its members by using various methods including Facebook—you do not have to like their page to be able to see their information.

With all best wishes from your Committee—we look forward to seeing you all some time soon.

The Haywards Heath and District U3A AGM had to be postponed and we are now exploring ways that we could possibly hold our AGM virtually for this year. It would mean a reduced Agenda and the new Constitution will be carried over for discussion at an EGM once we are able to meet together again. We are looking at possibly doing our AGM through a Webinar for members who would be happy to join us and interact using the tools available. For those who do not have access to this technology we will be sending out voting forms.

We need your participation—please email me to let me know if you would be interested in joining us in this way so that we can see how viable it may be.

Wendy Gundry at hhu3achairman@gmail.com



Did your latest magazine have 14 blank pages in the middle?

It appears there was a problem with the printers and not all of us will have had this problem.

If your magazine has blank pages you can email tam.editor@u3a.org.uk with your address and they will send you a new complete copy.

Hayward Heath U3A's Charity for the Year.

We do not make a charge for refreshments at some of our events throughout the year but there is the option to put in a donation towards our charity for the year. This is totally discretionary and there is no obligation to do so.

Last year's charity was **NEIL'S CLUB** a unique and specialist service for people with Young Onset Dementia. Based in Haywards Heath with members coming from East Grinstead, Burgess Hill, the Crawley area and beyond. The weekly meeting aims to give Young People with Dementia an interesting, rewarding and stimulating day. People in their 40s, 50s, and 60s are often physically active so there are plenty of walks and pastimes to satisfy these needs as well as outings in the Bluebird Community Minibus.

Your donations for the year amounted to **£176.72** which has now been passed to the charity.

For the forthcoming year we have chosen the IMPACT Foundation which carries out medical work overseas in underdeveloped countries, as well as carrying out work in this country which has brought it a prestigious national award. This charity was suggested by one of our members not only because it is a worthwhile cause but its long serving Chief Executive, Judi Stagg, is the daughter of the late Marjorie Butt who served our U3A successively as Treasurer and then Secretary of the Groups



Unfortunately some unscrupulous souls are exploiting the current Coronavirus pandemic with persuasive messages ranging from vaccines , cures and PPE which does not arrive to tax refunds and fake charity appeals



U3A UK

6 May at 11:21 · 🌐

We're so excited to announce a series of free learning sessions with experts from NatWest.

This will begin with regional sessions about scamming on Tuesday and Wednesday, before a series of livestreamed lectures starting on the 14th May (more details are coming soon!)

Learn more and sign up for the scamming sessions here,
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/.../197.../625-natwest-interactive-talks...>

**DON'T
LET
SCAMMERS
WIN**

QUICK TIPS: Use secure passwords—three random words strung together, like Beach-Grey-Pencil and update regularly.

Do not ignore manufacturers' requests to update operating systems

Never click on links or attachments you have the slightest doubt about.

Make sure your email provider's spam filter is turned on.

Never assume that the person who has sent you an email , text message or voicemail is who they say they are.

RE-ENROLMENT 2020

As it seems unlikely we will be able to hold our usual Re-enrolment and group showcasing event this year committee are currently discussing options to ensure re-enrolment runs as smoothly as possible. This year we have a number of categories and fees:

HHU3A Membership Fees 2020

Full Member	14.00	Joint Members living at same address	12.25	Associate Member belonging to another U3A	10.50
Payment Methods					
BACS Bank details will be advised.	PAYPAL via Website/Beacon		CHEQUE Payable to HHU3A		

Please note the option to join HHU3A half way through the year does not apply to current members.

There has been conversation as to whether we will be reducing the membership subscription due to the pandemic as groups no longer meet. You do continue to have access to vast resources through the U3A national website.

From your membership fee we still have to meet the per capita payment to the National U3A and the Third Age Matters magazine. We also have to meet payment for the website and email hosting. There are also costs in respect of printing and postage. As groups are self-funding, unless a group applies for a grant for equipment, they do not draw down money from the annual membership subscription we receive.

Your committee members continue to provide your U3A with support and are dealing with email enquiries, telephone calls etc. as well as sending out communications to keep members informed and engaged. We continue to carry on as best we can in these uncertain times. My thanks go to them for their continued commitment to HHU3A.

At this time we have taken the decision not to reduce the membership subscription which will mean we are able to meet our commitments going forward.

LOCAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE THROUGH HAYWARDS HEATH TOWN COUNCIL.

Haywards Heath Covid-19 Mutual Aid. <https://www.haywardsheath.gov.uk/Haywards-Heath-Covid-19-Mutual-Aid.aspx>

This consists is a group of volunteers, supported by Haywards Heath Town Council. A new service recently set up through this group is:

Haywards Heath Emergency Food Hub launched by Haywards Heath Town Council and Age UK West Sussex Brighton and Hove. The 'Emergency Food Hub' will provide food to families that the Haywards Heath Foodbank cannot reach due to capacity, and those who find themselves (in the first instance) outside of the referral system.

People can also call 01444 635002 for support if they do not have access to the internet.

This link provides details of the **West Sussex community hub**, set up at the end of March, which can be contacted by people in need who are not already receiving support

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure-recreation-and-community/supporting-local-communities/community-hub-covid-19/>

HELP NHS HELP YOU

The head of the NHS has launched a major new drive to persuade the public to seek the urgent care and treatment they need. The plea comes alongside new findings that four in ten people are too concerned about being a burden on the NHS to seek help from their GP.



It may not have been the bustling street parties and busy parades that we planned to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe—to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of those who stood together for freedom and a better future but for many small communities the celebrations, whilst muted, still happened and still had the same meaning as they sat outside their houses, in their drives dancing and singing along to classic wartime songs. We all remembered in our own way.

Linda Grace and Margaret Nicolle sent in the following extract to mark the occasion.

'VE Day in Lindfield'

Taken from A woman Living in the Shadow of the Second World War; Helena Hall's Journal from the Home Front, edited by Linda Grace and Margaret Nicolle.

Helena Hall was a resident of Lindfield, who kept a journal throughout the Second World War. To mark VE Day, the following has been taken from the final entries in the journal.

May 9th 1945

Another wonderful thing was light everywhere. A procession of flaming torches came along from Pondcroft Road, and the Common to the bonfire, which was lighted about 9.30. A very large swastika and an effigy of Hitler in an old armchair were thrown on to the blaze. It was a perfect night for a bonfire and fireworks, fine and no wind. All the village was about and singing around it went on till midnight. Earlier in the evening at 7.30 we had a Thanksgiving service in the Church, a special service, details printed on a red leaflet given to all who came. The Church was full. The collection was for the Fund for repairing, in some cases rebuilding, bombed churches. Officially hostilities ended at 1 minute after midnight, but in the interest of saving lives, the ceasefire began yesterday all along the Front. Weather forecasts are given in the papers today for the first time since September 1st 1939. No papers will be published tomorrow. And now the war in Europe is over, this war journal, begun on September 3rd 1939 comes to an end. I have written it every day, excepting of course on those days papers were not published, just for a record to dip into sometimes, to remind me of these 5½ years with its varied work, other than ARP, its anxieties and pleasures. It is impossible to give enough thanks to God for our great deliverance. Not until the war of Japan is over shall we have all our men home again. I pray that will not be a long war.

Editorial



We commemorate 75 years since the end of the Second World War in Europe and remember the personal stories of people who witnessed nearly six years of suffering and hardships; saw families and their homes and cities destroyed and cost the lives of millions.

The Family History Group, as part of their VE Day 75th anniversary project, had planned to meet up as usual in the members lounge to hear the voices of its members reading their memories and stories of that day. As that event could not now happen Liz Graydon invited members to contribute their memories or stories and compiled them as a newspaper so they could read and imagine they were sitting and sharing together and print it off to keep with their family history records.

The Group has kindly agreed to share this lovely reminiscence with all our members. It is quite large so we have placed it on our website alongside this edition of the newsletter. For our members who do not have access to the website we have included hard copy with the newsletter.