

## From the Chair



Hi Everyone!

Well at last it looks as if spring has sprung and soon it will be the AGM in May. I do hope you will come, especially the many new members who have joined this year. As I have said many times before, we need new committee members so please consider it carefully. It's your opportunity to get involved with our organisation. If you think you would be interested and want to find out more please speak to me or any of the other committee members. Once you've made up your mind all you have to do is fill out the form, which you'll find on p3, and send to the secretary before 26 April.

I went on the first of the walking group's walks in February. The weather was lovely and we had a very pleasant morning strolling through Wareham forest. Thanks very much to Steve Gent. Please try one of the walks; the details are on page 2.

On a historical note, the U3A in Britain is 30 years old this year. It started in Cambridge in March 1982 with just a few people and it has now grown to 840 local U3As with a total membership of over 275,000; quite amazing for an organisation which is basically made up of volunteers organising themselves. One of the founders, Peter Laslett, wanted to get rid of the distinction between teacher and taught. He said the teacher learns and the learner teaches and this remains one of the founding principles of the U3A.

Just a quick word on Meeting Points: we were given a fascinating talk last month by John Challis, one of our members, all about his charity motorbike ride on the Wild Coast of South Africa, I was left quite exhausted by his energy! The talks at MPs are very varied and it's always worth a visit. It is a great opportunity to socialise with other members and find out what's going on in your U3A.

Lastly I would like to thank, on behalf of all the members as well as to offer my own sincere personal thanks, Jean Edwards, Janet Jones and Marion Morris who are all leaving the committee after many years of hard work and commitment. They will be missed; they are the bedrock of our U3A.

### Summer Term 2012

#### Some Dates for your Diary

- 16 April** Walking group
- 18 April** Science & tech.
- 25 April** Intermediate Computing
- 26 April** Meeting Points, Furzebrook VH
- 29 April** Lunch Club, Half Way Inn

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- 16 May** Science & tech.
- 17 May** Group Leaders' Meeting
- 17 May AGM** Furzebrook VH 2.30pm

- 21 May** Walking group
- 23 May** Intermediate Computing
- 24 May** Meeting Points Harmans X VH
- 25 May** Archaeology

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- 4 June** w/b June newsletter out
- 18 June** Walking group
- 20 June** Science & tech
- 22 June** Archaeology
- 22 June Concert**, Furzebrook VH 2pm
- 24 June** Lunch Club – last
- 28 June** Meeting Points Harmans X VH
- 29 June** End of term for Hall Groups

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Open days end August / beg Sept.  
2<sup>nd</sup> week September our term restarts.

## Group News

Local code 01929 unless otherwise stated. More information on web at: [www.purbecku3a.org.uk](http://www.purbecku3a.org.uk)

	<p><b>MEETING POINTS – Juliet Greves, Paul Lurie, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 10.00 – 12.00</b> email: <a href="mailto:meetingpoints@purbecku3a.org.uk">meetingpoints@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <p>Transport is available: Wareham area, Nicky Rance – 550265; Swanage area, Shirley Cannon – 421401.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>26 April</b> Furzebrook VH, Swanage Weather past and present, David Haysom</li> <li>• <b>24 May</b> Harmans Cross VH, Nelson’s Women, Cdr (Rtd) Alan York OBE</li> </ul>
	<p><b>ARCHAEOLOGY– Robin Humphries, Sandford Community Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Friday 10 – 12</b> email: <a href="mailto:archy@purbecku3a.org.uk">archy@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>27 April – no meeting.</b></li> <li>• <b>25 May –</b> Badbury Rings and Roman Temple, Nancy Grace</li> </ul>
	<p><b>COMPUTING FOR BEGINNERS (9-10.30); IMPROVERS (10.30 – noon) – Paul Lurie; 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays HX VH.</b> Email: <a href="mailto:computerbasics@purbecku3a.org.uk">computerbasics@purbecku3a.org.uk</a> Improvers bring your laptop if you have one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20 April; 4, 18 May; 1, 15 June; 6, 20 July.</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>DISCUSSION GROUP – Diana Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 2.30 – 4.30</b> email: <a href="mailto:discussion@purbecku3a.org.uk">discussion@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12 April</b> What is India’s future on the World Stage – Diana Morgan.</li> <li>• <b>10 May</b> We are what we eat. Why and how do we make our choices? Helen House</li> </ul>
	<p><b>INTERMEDIATE COMPUTING- John Hale Sandford Community Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10 for 10.15 – 12.30</b> email: <a href="mailto:computing@purbecku3a.org.uk">computing@purbecku3a.org.uk</a> Info at: <a href="http://www.purbecku3aComputing.org.uk">www.purbecku3aComputing.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>28 March</b> Audio editing: basic guide using audacity. Computer Housekeeping – clean up your computer, John Hale, Ian Mackenzie.</li> <li>• <b>25 April</b> Family History revisited – using your computer. John Patrick (Swanage Museum).</li> <li>• <b>23 May</b> Computer security - Malware, spyware, viruses, phishing; botnets; hoaxes, etc. Guest speakers Ian &amp; Angela from Happy Lappy Ltd. <b><i>Not to be missed!!</i></b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>LUNCH CLUB – Marion Morris (let Marion know if you would like to go).</b> email: <a href="mailto:lunch@purbecku3a.org.uk">lunch@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>29 April</b> Half Way Inn. Contact Marion by <b>8 April</b>.</li> <li>• <b>24 June</b> last meeting tba. Contact by <b>3 June</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>PHOTOGRAPHY – Brian Case, Tony Smith 427335, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 10-12 Methodist Hall W’ham</b> email: <a href="mailto:photography@purbecku3a.co.uk">photography@purbecku3a.co.uk</a> <b>New members welcome. All abilities. Contact either leader.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>17 April</b> White Balance – Tony Smith; Photography in Forensic Analysis – David Harris</li> <li>• <b>15 May</b> Understanding Exposure – Tony Smith; Photos from Vietnam – Trevor Smith</li> </ul>
	<p><b>SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY – John Churchill, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 9.45 for 10.00 – 12.00,</b> Parish Hall, the Quay, Wareham. There are spaces in this group. email: <a href="mailto:sandt@purbecku3a.org.uk">sandt@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>18 April</b> ‘Breakout!’ The story of the 1942 Channel dash and ‘More Deadly than the Male’, Dr Phil Judkins.</li> <li>• <b>16 May</b> Tides on the Earth – James Fragley</li> </ul>
	<p><b>U3A K9s – Juliet Greves, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10 – 12</b> email: <a href="mailto:K9s@purbecku3a.org.uk">K9s@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>19 April</b> contact Juliet for details</li> <li>• <b>17 May</b> “</li> </ul>
	<p><b>WALKING GROUP – Steve Gent, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 10 – 12. Leisurely walks lasting about 2 hours.</b> Bring stout shoes, rainwear and a drink. Dogs allowed unless indicated. email: <a href="mailto:walking@purbecku3a.org.uk">walking@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>16 April</b> ‘Welcome to Swanage’ layby, Ulwell Road.</li> <li>• <b>21 May</b> NT car park at Bankes Arms, Studland</li> </ul>
	<p><b>WINE TASTING – Rosalind Ham, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 6.30 – 8 pm HXVH committee room.</b> email: <a href="mailto:wine@purbecku3a.org.uk">wine@purbecku3a.org.uk</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23 April (please note date)</b> - Chenin Blanc &amp; Pinot Grigio</li> <li>• <b>21 May</b> Rioja (directly from Spain) <b>18 June</b> Riesling and Syrah/Shiraz</li> </ul>

SPACES: Art Appreciation – 2 spaces, Poetry Reading, W’ham – 1 space; for both ring Shirley Mansell 553959. Singing for Pleasure – 3 spaces, Tai Chi – 5 spaces; for both these ring 423039. Spaces also in Short Tennis & Intermediate Computing.

**January Meeting Points – review by Ann Churchill**



It sounded quite intriguing; PLAY FIVE- Watch, Listen then Play, led by conductors Dave and Di Cook. What did it mean exactly? Real instruments? What if you didn't know your G sharp from your A flat? Would it be possible to hide at the back? I need not have worried. This was my first Meeting Points attendance and it was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. Dave was a relaxed and engaging personality who talked and played us through a variety of instruments, demonstrating the main ways we can all make music- banging, blowing, plucking, scraping and of course singing.

We all appreciated Dave’s expert use of the aforementioned techniques on guitar, recorder, bassoon and violin ably accompanied by Di on the piano and tambourine. Equally we loved his demonstrations of pitch on improvised instruments such as bottles, lengths of wood, rubber piping and straws. Then the audience was invited to have a go on these carefully tuned improvised instruments.

Nobody held back and after ten minutes spent practising, each group played "When the Saints Go Marching In". As each player was responsible for only one note this was not too difficult. The rest of us who did not manage to get our hands on an instrument were turned into an ad hoc backing group for a song about Uncle Joe's mint balls sung to the tune of "My Old Man's a Dustman".

Looking around, I was struck by how much fun everyone was having; the power of music to bring people together? Perhaps. The wonderfully laid back but informative duo of Dave and Di? Certainly. Thanks to them and thanks to the organisers whose work is appreciated. If you have not been to a Meeting Points occasion yet, why not give it a go. Oh and the coffee's not bad either.

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**Nomination Form For Members of the Committee**  
**At Purbeck U3A Annual General Meeting**  
**On Thursday 17 May 2012 at Furzebrook Village Hall at 2.30 pm**

We wish to nominate ..... for election to the Committee at the above meeting.

Proposed by ..... (full name)  
..... (signature) .....

Seconded by ..... (full name)  
..... (signature) .....

Approved by ..... (nominee) Date.....2012

Please return this form to the Secretary at: 50A Victoria Avenue, Swanage BH19 1AP by Thursday 26 April 2012 or email: [secretary@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@purbecku3a.org.uk) .

**All names should be members of Purbeck U3A. Please indicate membership number by each name**

## ***New Members***

**Welcome to Purbeck U3A:** Celia Weigh, Roni Morrison, Bill & Moira Purver and Janice Thomson, **Swanage;** Dennis & June Hebden, Sally Harrison, Rozanne Longstaff, Charles Miller, Anne Mills, Brenda O' Reilly, Mrs Purver, Peter Sibthorp, Val Smith, Nelson Townsend, Graham Watkins, Sheila Watters, Mark Watts and Greg Whatmough, **Wareham;** Lizzie Peckover, **Puddletown;** Colin & Val Baker, **Poole**

## **Invitation to all members of Purbeck U3A Annual General Meeting**

At 2.30 pm on Thursday 17 May at Furzebrook Village Hall

At the end of business, there will be a short performance  
by John Almond's Singing Songs from Musicals group  
Followed by refreshments

## ***Committee Meeting***

### **At the Committee Meeting on 7 March:**

- John Hale will liaise with the web master on website issues. The printable version of the newsletter will be clearly labelled for members who wish to print a hard copy.
- The annual Group Leaders' Meeting will precede the AGM on Thursday 17 May 2012 at Furzebrook VH.
- Nigel thanked retiring committee members Jean, Janet Jones and Marion for their support and hard work during their terms of office. Ian Platt was co-opted onto the Committee.
- All members of U3A groups must be paid up members; if not, the group will not be listed as a U3A group.
- The next Committee Meeting will be on 30 April at 10.30.

### **Committee 2011 / 2012 – Contact Details**

Nigel Tennant	<b>Chairman</b>	<a href="mailto:purbeck-chair@dsl.pipex.com">purbeck-chair@dsl.pipex.com</a>
Marion Morris	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:m.morris22@btinternet.com">m.morris22@btinternet.com</a>
Patrick Webb	<b>Treasurer</b>	<a href="mailto:purbecktreasurer@aol.com">purbecktreasurer@aol.com</a>
Janet Clark	<b>Secretary / Newsletter Editor</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@purbecku3a.org.uk">secretary@purbecku3a.org.uk</a>
Janet Maley	<b>Group Co-ordinator / Development</b>	
Janet Jones	<b>Publicity &amp; Catering</b>	
Jean Edwards		
John Hale	<b>Website liaison officer</b>	<a href="mailto:u3a@greenacre.info">u3a@greenacre.info</a>

**Membership secretary:** Clive Bacon, email: [memsec@purbecku3a.org.uk](mailto:memsec@purbecku3a.org.uk)

**Newsletter Distribution:** Wareham: Patrick Embleton, Swanage: Connie Beasley

**Our website:** [www.purbecku3a.org.uk](http://www.purbecku3a.org.uk)

<b>Future Newsletter Editions</b>	<b>Copy in By</b>	<b>Main Content</b>
<b>June (out late May / Early June)</b>	<b>Thursday 31 May</b>	AGM, GLM & 1 <sup>st</sup> Committee Meeting
<b>September (out mid August)</b>	<b>Thursday 16 August</b>	Open Days reminder, Updated groups list
<b>October (out mid September)</b>	<b>Thursday 20 September</b>	Latest news