



SHEPWAY AND DISTRICT

shepway.u3asite.uk

Registered Charity No. 1149472

Newsletter October 2026

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COFFEE MORNINGS

Dates for the next coffee mornings are

Wednesday 21st October – Voco (Clifton) Hotel, Folkestone 10.30am

Friday 23rd October – Stade Court Hotel, Hythe, 10.30am

Friday 30th October – Ship Hotel, New Romney, 10.30am

It would be very helpful if those attending can bring the correct money for their coffee i.e. £3.00 at the Clifton, £2.50 at the Ship Hotel and the Stade Court Hotel. This will ensure that there will be no problem with providing change.

You will be able to register for groups, book for events, and discuss anything with the committee. If you have friends interested in joining, please bring them along. New members are always welcome.

MEMBERS' MEETING

Wednesday 14th October, Burton Hall (Scout Hut), Albert Lane, Hythe CT21 6BY 2:00 pm

Tracy West, Chair of the Hythe Dementia Awareness Forum, will talk about Dementia, and the support available from the Forum and other local organisations.

'With the right support you can change the journey' Tara Reed

Entrance charge is £2

COMING EVENTS

Thursday 22nd October. Green Spice Curry evening. (See page 4 for more details)

Friday 13th November. Afternoon Tea at Voco Clifton. (See page 4 for more details)

Friday 11th December. Festive Lunch. (See page 4 for more details)

OUR U3A CONTACT EMAIL

For all enquiries please contact the u3a through its website:

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

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

So here we go. Into the last quarter of the year. Leaving summer behind we head into Autumn, maybe with the beginning of John Keats' September 1819 poem *To Autumn*, in our heads:

*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;*



Or maybe not! Did any of us not have to read that at school? I was brought up in Enfield where the town railway station has a plaque saying that it stands on the site of the school which Keats attended as a boy. Maybe that's why the beginning of the poem has stuck in my brain!

You may prefer the more modern *An Autumn Tale* by the American poet James Study:

*Autumn with all the metaphors I can muster
The beauty of the season and it's golden luster
The raking of leaves
And cleaning of eaves
And my annual trip to the back adjuster*

I suspect a lot of us have some sympathy with regard to the back adjuster!!

Anyway, as I write, the U3A has had a good few weeks. Groups are in full swing again, with more in the pipe line. The Stade Court Hotel Coffee morning, mentioned in my notes last month, went extremely well, and our members meeting on protecting ourselves from fraud was very well received with Emma Swietochowski-Hay our speaker from the Kent Police.

Our next members meeting, at the Burton Hall, Hythe, on Wednesday 14 October at 2.00 pm promises to be every bit as good. We welcome Tracy West, Chair of the Hythe Dementia Awareness Forum, to talk about dementia and the support available. I wonder if dementia is a concern of yours? It's certainly becoming one of mine, as I think of friends who have fallen prey to this illness. This is a chance to learn a bit more, and ask questions.

On a different note, our new venue, The Shed, is beginning to work quite well. We are hoping to redecorate some of it, to make it lighter, in the near future.

Please do spare the time to look through this newsletter. Many thanks to Tony Scofield who puts it all together. Another of our many unpaid volunteers devoting time and energy to make our U3A a success. Thank you to all of you!

And finally, our thanks to John and Eileen Hubbard who have run our film matinees for many years, but now feel it right to step down. Is there anyone who would like to take over?

Steve

P.S. Those of you off on the U3A trip to Somerset – have a good time!

TRAVEL AND TRIPS WITH VIV KENNY, REAL SOCIALISING – ISSUED 20TH SEPTEMBER 2026

REAL Socialising are very pleased to share an update on our latest travel and trips as we glide into Autumn we are finalising some new trips for you and as we prepare for the final quarter of 2026, we also share news of some trips which will help get you into the festive spirit.

But first, our Autumn trips still with spaces include a day visit to **RHS Wisley** which hosts its '**Festival of Flavours' Food Festival on Saturday 10th October**. The cost is £45pp but if you are an RHS member then with your free member entry, it's a 'coach only' cost of £28pp. Book soon if of interest!

Next is the **Brooklands Museum and London Bus Museum Transport Fest**. This trip takes place on **Sunday 18th October**. This event features extensive bus displays, including rarely-seen early examples, coaches, taxis, commercials, military vehicles and more!There will be heritage bus trips, a collectors' market, live music and family entertainment. This event is not just for transport enthusiasts, but fun for all the family. The day also offers an optional extra (£7pp) to do the Brooklands 'Concorde Experience' when you get to see inside the world's most famous aircraft. Re-live the excitement of the supersonic age in this fascinating 35-minute tour and you leave with your Concorde Flight Certificate. The cost of the Brooklands visit is £49pp which includes return executive coach and entry, the Concorde Experience is plus £7.

We are busy planning a whole new batch of days out and short breaks running through to 2027. However, we would continue to emphasise the importance of inviting you to subscribe to receive news directly from our website as interest is usually very good for our trips and sometimes things are full within a few days!

To get you 'festive ready' we offer a great shopping opportunity with a visit to either **Romford or Lakeside on Saturday, 14th November**. Other destinations include:

Beautiful Brighton, on Sunday, 15th November

Winchester Cathedrals Festive Market on Sunday, 22nd November

Brick Lane Christmas Wonderland – Wednesday, 2nd December with 3-course festive lunch (Adults only)

The wonderful **Thursford Spectacular**; we offer a 2 day break staying in Kings Lynn, on half board and seats for Thursford in the raised centre section. We have limited rooms available over two dates either 19/20 November or 25/26 November. The cost is £205pp based on two sharing a twin or double room and we have a very limited number of single rooms with a £30 supplement....Contact us to book soon to avoid disappointment.

Theatre trips..... we are pleased to announce that Terri Hatcher, (aka Lois Lane) takes over in the lead role in '**The Devil Wears Prada**'join us on our trip for the **Matinee, 6th January 2027**.

We are also pleased to share new of tickets available for **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** starring Michael Ball. Our date is **Thursday 17th June** and it will be a matinee show.

At the time of writing we are finalising a few bits for short breaks to Liverpool , Newcastle as our base for touring Northumberland with a visit to Beamish. In March, our destination will be Antwerp with days out to Brussels as well as spending time in Ghent.

To find out more about these on issue, we would invite you to subscribe to news on our website and you will be among the first to hear about our new trips.

You can book trips online, or contact us by one of the methods shown in the box below and we will add you to our list...and don't forget, pop your email address into our Newsletter box on our website too!



Viv Kenny, REAL Socialising
Email anytime: viv@realsocialising.co.uk
M: 0777 3946828 (10am-4pm - Mon-Friday)
W: www.realsocialising.co.uk
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/REALSocialising>

COMING EVENTS

Some new events have been arranged and these are as follows;

- o **Curry Night**, again at Green Spice, Sandgate, on Thursday 22nd October, same price as usual. £14.95 for starter, main course, side dish with Rice or Naan.
- o **Afternoon Tea** on Friday 13th November at the Clifton Voco @ £15.50, no cakes but tea or coffee. 15.00pm
- o **Festive Lunch** 1.00 for 1.30, also at the Clifton, on Friday 11th December. The price will be £29.00 for 2 courses and £33.00 for 3 courses, includes the service charge.

To book please reply to [Jacqueline Mack](#) via email using her address that is also included in the email recently sent to all members announcing these events. Bookings can always be made with Jacqueline or other committee members at coffee mornings.

See the menu below for the Festive lunch.

Festive Lunch - Friday 11th December Menu

Two Courses £29 | Three Courses £33

STARTERS

The Box Tree Chicken Liver Parfait

Raisin sec, Madeira gelée, Melba toast, watercress salad

Beetroot & Goat's Cheese Salad (V)

Merlot dressing, candied walnuts

(Vegan option available)

Mr White's Smoked Salmon

Finest quality, properly garnished, lemon, brown bread & butter

Roasted Vine Tomato Soup (VE)

Basil oil, sourdough croûtes, fresh herbs

MAINS

Escalope of Salmon Forestière

Buttered leaf spinach, grilled woodland mushrooms, vintage balsamic, extra virgin olive oil, soft herbs

Roast Breast of Turkey

Served with all the trimmings, bread sauce, cranberry, roasting juices

Steak Frites SERVED PINK OR WELL DONE

Butcher's steak, roasted Piccolo tomatoes, Koffmann chips, watercress, peppercorn sauce

Pumpkin, Sage & Ricotta Ravioli (V)

Roasted butternut squash, white wine, cream, crispy sage (Vegan option available)

PUDDINGS

Traditional Christmas Pudding (V)

Warm brandy sauce, candied walnuts

Mr Coulson's Sticky Toffee Pudding (V)

Vanilla ice cream, toffee sauce

Seasonal Fruits Poached in Sparkling Wine (VE)

Flavours of the day

Dark Chocolate Fondant (V)

Caramel sauce, vanilla ice cream

Guests with food allergies and intolerances, please make us aware before placing an order for food or drink. Please note all of our dishes are prepared in a kitchen where cross contamination may occur, and we cannot guarantee an allergen free environment. Our menu descriptions do not list all ingredients. All weights are uncooked. (V) does not contain meat. (VE) does not contain any animal products.

British Red Cross
Flood Awareness and Basic First Aid for Adults Workshops

Hawkinge Community Centre

The Hope Inn Stade St Hythe

Unfortunately, and due to my own error, I had booked the Flood Awareness Workshop for 8th October as an on-line session – dunce's cap firmly on!! I do apologise to all those this will be a nuisance to but I felt that you would prefer a face to face session, rather than a virtual experience.

I was deep in the process of re-scheduling, when I learnt that a long awaited op, that will, hopefully, improve my dodgy hearing, was being scheduled for mid-October. I have no knowledge or experience to inform me how long it might be before I am fit to continue, but, as soon as I am sure I am fit to resume I will start the process of fixing another date. If at all possible, it will be this year.

I will, in addition, be setting up further Basic First Aid for Adults Workshops, this year if at all possible, but if not, then early 2027.

If you have not already notified me that you are interested in attending either workshop please do drop me a line, stating the Workshop(s), and whether you prefer the Hythe or Hawkinge venue, or are happy for either. I will add you to the list of members who will receive notification of further dates.

Once again, sincere apologies!

Sue Dickie click for email: [Sue Dickie](#)

A Time for Reflection

It has been a long time since we started showing feature films with initially a Film Group, around 2012, and with the closure of the Tin Tabernacle, we have decided to retire the showing of feature films for the time being.

Looking back, we started in the Red Lion, in the back room, all crammed in, after a good meal in the restaurant. The films were from the past. There was the occasional interruption from a guest checking in but that did not matter much.

The first film ever shown was 'The Jazz Singer' at a member's meeting in the Sports Pavilion. We had problems with light coming in and that was not repeated.

After the Red Lion, we moved to the Tin Tabernacle, around 2016, by special arrangement with the then owners, and started the Film Nights, which included a meal, wine and other soft drinks. The meals were prepared by a restaurant in Folkestone and cooked by them at the Tin Tabernacle. This was extremely popular. Looking back, a film, good food, drink all for £10.

In those days the hall suffered from electrical problems, and this came to a head one evening, when the ovens blew the power out and we were left with meals ready to serve in the dark. Improvisation came to the rescue, and we at least enjoyed the food using lights from our mobile phones. No film though.

Then came covid, the caterers sold the restaurant and closed, we changed to an afternoon get together with the Film Matinee. A serving of tea and cakes followed by the film. The hall facilities were ideal for the showing of films with blackout, a large screen and good sound.

So, the story ends. We have shown hundreds of films, some of the all-time greats, epics like 'Gone with the Wind', many musicals and especially films with strong story lines. A thank you to everyone who came along and perhaps leaving you some memories.

PS. The first film shown was 'The Jazz Singer' and the last film 'Song Sung Blue' both with Neil Diamond music. Completely coincidental.

Eileen and John Hubbard

GROUP NEWS

CALENDAR OF GROUP ACTIVITIES

Download the October calendar here: [October Calendar](#)

Group Information

A reminder that for insurance and administration purposes members of each Group need to be registered as such on our Beacon system.

If, as a member of our u3a, you are interested in a particular Group, you can, with the Group Leader's permission, attend a meeting as a guest. Make the arrangements through the *membership secretary* on <https://shepway.u3asite.uk/contact/>. If you wish to continue you must register your interest by contacting *shepwaygroups* through the contact page on the website: <https://shepway.u3asite.uk/contact/> or register at a coffee morning.

The Group Leader will be informed and add you to the list or put you on the waiting list if the Group is already over-subscribed. Either way they will let you know.

Non-u3a members may attend a single group session with the leader's permission but must do so by contacting the membership secretary on <https://shepway.u3asite.uk/contact/>. Should they wish to continue they must join our u3a.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, please always let the group leader know in advance as it helps them with arrangements

If you belong to a Group which you are no longer able to attend please inform the Group Leader so that your place can be given to someone else.

When you apply to join a group make it clear which group you wish to attend by giving the exact name and the timing.

Military History

Our September meeting discussed:

1. Investigating War Graves
2. The Battle of Cannae 216 BC
3. Major General Frank Horton Royal Marine Commando
4. Dover's 900-ton gun turret with 16-inch guns

Mike

Short Walks (East/Central)

These are monthly on the 4th Tuesday and about 2 - 2½ miles long departing from different locations in our area at 11.00 finishing with refreshments in a pub or cafe whenever possible. Apply in the usual way (see above).

Book Circle 3 – Romney Marsh

This group meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month to discuss our current reading. Members take it in turns to suggest a topic, or author for us to read. These can cover a wide range of subjects and the meetings are always interesting.

Bryony

Short Walks (West)

The short walks cover the Romney Marsh area and take place on the second Tuesday of each month, meeting at 10.45am for setting off at 11am. They usually take around an hour and end with refreshments at a suitable pub or cafe. An invitation is sent out to all members a week or so in advance giving the walk location and where to meet.

Bryony

Long Walks

FRIDAY 2nd October 10.00am

The October walk will be from the village square in Elham (CT4 6TJ). It will be led by Michael.

Critical Analysis of Poetry

The dates for the poetry group for next session:

6th and 20th October

3rd and 17th November

1st and 15th December.

Ray

Climate in Crisis

Last month, we viewed a couple of video presentations on the potential and practicalities of Geothermal Energy. We learned that the low hanging fruit of the technology for electricity generation exists only where there are fault lines in the earth's crust. Iceland and California are notable for successful installations but each location is different so costs are high compared with packaged solutions such as wind and solar. The major advantage over those technologies is, of course, that the geothermal source is always available and its use is controllable.

A new approach to expand the extraction of geothermal energy from more geologically stable locations is gaining traction. In enhanced geothermal systems (EGS) underground rock is fractured hydraulically by pumping pressurised water into one well, and then collecting steam or hot water from another. However, like the fracking employed by the carbon fuel industries, this risks generating earthquakes. It also presents significant engineering and materials difficulties dealing with the pollutants extracted from the rock with the steam or hot water. We also saw a number of UK projects for collecting low-level heat for space heating from less deep levels, specifically old coal mine workings.

Roger Wood Group Leader

World at War 1930-1945

The group reopens in October with a new time and location.

Venue: Sports Pavilion, South Road, Hythe. CT21 6AR.

Time: 1st Tuesday of each month starting at 2.30pm

The session in October will be covering a review of the 1930s and the events leading to the declaration of war in 1939.

We are looking forward to a successful new series at the new location.

John & Eileen Hubbard

Local History 3

At the last local history 3 meeting we welcomed two new members who had come along for their taster session.

We also had four presentations:

The first was about a soldier, George Cooling, who served at the battle of Waterloo in the royal wagon train regiment. After the battle the regiment returned to its base in Hythe where George retired due to ill health. We were told he then got married and were shown pictures of the houses in Kent where he lived.

The second presentation was about the railway line through the Warren between Folkestone and Dover. We were told about and shown photos of the several landslides that have occurred disrupting the rail service over the years.

The following presentation was about Sam Rocket the well known cross-channel swimmer. He was also the Deputy Manager and swimming coach at the Folkestone Rotunda swimming pool in the late 1950s and early 1960s. It turns out that through his career at the pool he taught five members of our group to swim.

The final presentation was on St Martin's church off Horn street in Cheriton. We were told about its history and some of its outstanding architectural features. We were also told who is buried in the churchyard which includes Samuel Plimsoll the man who saved many lives at sea by campaigning to put the load line on ships.

John Anstiss

Romney Marsh Pub Visits

This group will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at a nominated Pub in the Romney Marsh area in order to have a social get-together in a convivial setting somewhere other than your usual "local".

We would meet at 6.00pm and spend an hour or more socialising. Those who wish to may decide to stay on for an evening meal which many pubs serve until up to 9 o'clock. An invitation is sent out to all members about a week in advance giving the pub location.

Bryony

Poetry

Our meetings on 3rd and 17th September were devoted to the great but gloomy Philip Larkin (1922-1985). Our first meeting covered some of his lesser-known poems while the second featured "*An Arundel Tomb*" "*Whitsun Weddings*" and the powerful but bleak "*Aubade*". We listened to recordings from a Radio 4 series in which Simon Armitage and others discussed the two latter poems.

"*The School in August*" (1943?) is a survival from Larkin's youthful work. The summer holidays are here and the poet surveys a locked, silent classroom in a girls' school: "... slow across the floor / A sunbeam creeps between the chairs / Till the sun shines no more." He thinks about the girls who had filled the scene with life: "Who did their hair before this glass? / Who scratched 'Elaine loves Jill' / One drowsy summer sewing class / With scissors on the sill? / Who practised this piano / Whose notes are now so still?" Juniors will transform into seniors, and seniors will leave school and become adults. In this contemplation of erasing time we can detect the intimations of mortality that would pre-occupy Larkin more and more until they were crystallised in his great poem "*Aubade*".

With characteristic black humour Larkin first published "*Aubade*" in the Christmas edition of "*The Times Literary Supplement*" 1977. An aubade is a hymn to the dawn – usually a happy song, sung perhaps by a departing lover as he leaves his mistress to venture out into the new day. The persona of Larkin's "*Aubade*" is a solitary despairing individual. "I work all day and get half drunk at night" he begins. The alcohol first induces a drugged sleep then triggers early wakefulness, so "Waking at four to soundless dark, I stare." As he gazes into the dark, he perceives what is "really always there: / Unresting death, a whole day nearer now, / Making all thought impossible but how / And where and when I shall myself die. / Arid interrogation: yet the dread / Of dying, and being dead, / Flashes afresh to hold and horrify."

The second stanza contains what sounds like an atheist's creed: his mind blanks "...at the total emptiness for ever, / The sure extinction that we travel to / And shall be lost in always. Not to be here, / Not to be anywhere, / And soon; nothing more terrible, nothing more true." Other poets may harbour doubts but (perhaps mindful of book sales) they will produce rhetoric to assure

readers that God's in his Heaven and all's right with the world. Larkin is brutally honest. He rejects the comforts of religion, which he calls "That vast moth-eaten musical brocade / Created to pretend we never die." For good measure he adds "Courage is no good ... Being brave / Lets no one off the grave."

The final stanza is about stoically facing "all the uncaring / Intricate rented world" for one more day. It is lighter now: "The sky is white as clay with no sun. / Work has to be done." It is surprising to note that Larkin was only fifty-five when "*Aubade*" was published.

Larkin's particular skill was in selecting exactly the right words so that others could identify with his own feelings. ("What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd" as Alexander Pope put it.) The writer Bryan Magee mentions Larkin's "*Aubade*" in his book "*Confessions of a Philosopher*". Magee says that, as a young man he felt as Larkin did, but he found renewed calm in the study of philosophy, and of Schopenhauer in particular.

Frank

Classical Music

At our very first meeting at the Shed we continued with our series of listening to the slow movements from Mahler symphonies with the serene 3rd movement of No 4 (1899/1900). We concluded with a complete performance of Mendelssohn's 'Italian Symphony' composed in 1832.

Michael

Knit and Natter - Hythe

Come and join our friendly craft group. We meet at *The Hope* on Stade Street on the first Wednesday of the month between 10am-12pm.

We share craft ideas and knowledge. At the moment some of us are making hats for the Age UK Innocent Smoothie campaign and also poppies for the Folkestone Poppy Project.

The Hope generously let us use their cabin free of charge and just ask that we purchase a drink whilst we are there.

Looking forward to welcoming new members to come and join us.

Carol Croker

Books&Co has space for two more ...

We are a small U3A book group that meets at 6pm on the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Pullman pub in Church Street, Folkestone.

We read one book each month, chosen by group members, that we discuss over a glass of beer, wine or soft drinks.

We currently have space for one or possibly two new members and if you would like to join us please apply via shepwaygroups@gmail.com or at a regular U3A coffee morning.

Jean Hatton

The Sunday Lunch Club has space for two more ...

The U3A Sunday Lunch Club meets on the final Sunday of each month for a traditional roast lunch at a restaurant in Folkestone.

We currently have space for two new members and if you would like to join us please apply via shepwaygroups@gmail.com or at a regular U3A coffee morning.

Jean Hatton

Fitness 1 Thursday morning (Hythe Sports Pavilion)

and **Fitness 2 Thursday afternoon (St Andrew's Methodist Church, Cheriton)**

Both groups have been running for a year now and have a committed number of people that turn up each week to have their bodies (and brains) pushed a little bit past "comfortable". We vary the format every three weeks, using handweights, or resistance bands, or learning a simple(?) aerobics routine. Floorwork and balance exercises, as well as mobility and stretching provide a whole body workout.

We have room for more members if you would like to try the class. Christine, our instructor aims to make everything achievable; exercises can be adapted for differing levels of fitness to ensure everyone benefits from the class.

Christine Hughes

Line-Dancing:

We are a very social group enjoying our Line-Dancing every week, on a Monday morning at Newington Village Hall from 0930 till 1045am, under the patient guidance of our Teacher, Sue Culling! We have spaces for newcomers, and there is plenty of parking at the Hall. If you have had no experience of Line-Dancing please come along to see how you enjoy it. Later when we have enough beginners, we will start a new Beginners Class for those who are wanting to learn from scratch. For those who have had experience, you are welcome to come along and join the fun!

Ros Battrick and Barbara Moscrop, Group-Leaders

Ukulele Group

We have now made a successful transition from the Tin Tabernacle to the Hythe Pavilion in South Road. It is very nice indeed. It is also slightly smaller, which unfortunately means we have had to activate a waiting list for new members. But we continue on, fulfilling the U3A motto, "Learn, Laugh, Live", exploring different musical styles and techniques, now and then adding another songsheet to our repertoire, and enjoying Christine's refreshments!

Jim McMahon

Courses and Events being held by the Third Age Trust On Line

The Third Age Trust have arranged an ongoing series of online courses and single events which members of any U3A in the UK can join. To review the current schedule please go to the Third Age Trust website on u3a.org.uk/events where you can also book your place. The majority are provided free as part of your membership. They will also be reviewed at the coffee morning.

NEW GROUPS

Fitness Pilates

Wednesday 14:30 in the upper room at St Andrew's Methodist Church, Surrenden Road, Cheriton, CT19 4DY. Starting 7 October 2026

Please apply via the usual way through shepwaygroups@gmail.com

£5.00 per session. Church has its own carpark and there is additional free parking in neighbouring roads. Bring your own mat (spares available to borrow if you don't yet have one)

Christine Hughes

November Newsletter

If you have any material about group activities or other pieces that may interest members, including poems, quizzes etc, please send them to Tony at shepwaynews@gmail.com by the **21st October**.

A new DVD Lecture series

Understanding Greek and Roman Technology – From Catapult to the Pantheon

In twenty-four, thirty-minute DVD lectures, Professor Stephen Ressler, of the US Military Academy at West Point, presents his subject matter with infectious enthusiasm and admiration.

Using working models, film and photos, his demonstrations and explanations of ancient structures of all kinds, make complex design and function understandable.

He places the innovations in their historical context and discusses the influence each technology had on the geo-politics of the ancient world itself and continue to have on our lives today.

Venue: To be decided according to your response.

Please get in touch with Katherine Robinson via shepwaygroups@gmail.com so that I can put you on the list and assess the accommodation needed to host our sessions.

PS Anyone who would like to help me run this series please get in touch.

Creative Poetry Writing

Hi Everyone. Very sadly I have not had enough interest in this proposed group to get it going.

Perhaps you were interested, but life got in the way of you sending me your note of interest. Perhaps you have a mental block about writing poetry, and think it is not something that you could do.

You don't need to aspire to Benjamin, Tennyson, or even Ayres (Pam), so have another think this small, friendly group will be very informal, and be as much about getting together for a relaxing natter that might raise your creative inspiration. There will not be a formal structure of what, or how you should write, other than it having a poetic rhythm - e.g. writing down your thoughts (light or dark) using a poetic lilt to the words - this can prove to be very cathartic, and you can choose whether or not you wish to share your work with the group - no pressure to do

so.

I do hope this will encourage you to join in to follow a dormant ambition, or try something new.

If you are interested, let me know - if we can get this up and running this year, we will.

Sue

email: Sue Dickie

Lyminge Friends

Wednesday 7th October 2026

10.30am in The Methodist Church,
Church Road, Lyminge

"Flying- A Life in the Cockpit"



**From the Buccaneer
and the Hawker Hunter,
to instructing on the
B777/787 – Pete is still
fascinated by flying.**

Speaker – Pete Warren

Entrance Fee is £4.00 (includes tea/coffee)

We are a friendly social group and welcome new members/visitors so just drop into a meeting or call 07904 157897 for more information.



**Do you find it hard to
follow speech in noisy
settings or take part
in conversations?**



If you are over 18 and...

- Experience listening difficulties
- Have access to the internet

**We invite you to be part of an online study.
The study aims to improve two new
listening and thinking games for people
with hearing loss.**

To take part 📱 <https://tinyurl.com/PLUS-Optimal1>
Or email: Natalie.Lerigo-Smith1@Nottingham.ac.uk



Emma Swietochowski-Hay, from Kent Police Action Fraud talking about fraud at the September members' meeting at the Burton Hall

GROUPS

Afternoon Tea on the Marsh	Local History 4
Art - Mixed Media	Mahjong
Badminton	Meditation
Bird Watching	Mid Week Supper Club
Bolivia (Canasta alternative)	Military History
Book Circle - 1 - Hythe	Music - Classical
Book Circle - 3 Romney Marsh	Music and Drama
Book club	Novels 1
Books&Co	Patchwork & Sewing
Bridge	Petanque - Elham
Carpet Bowls	Petanque - Folkestone
Chess	Philosophy
Climate in Crisis	Photography
Computer Users	Photography 2
Crafting Club	Pickleball
Cribbage	Pilates (Friday)
Critical Analysis of Poetry	Pilates (Wednesday)
Current Affairs - Folkestone	Play Reading - Folkestone
Current Affairs - Hythe	Play Reading - Hythe
Current Affairs - New Romney	Poetry
Cycling	Romney Marsh Pub Visits
Early Evening Drinks	Saturday Dining
Earth Science	Scone Rangers
Family History	Shakespeare
First Friday Coffee	Singing for Life
First Monday Breakfast Club	Sunday Lunch Club
Fitness 1	Swing Band
Fitness 2	Table Tennis
Flora, Fauna and Foraging	Tai Chi - Class 1 - Form
Flower Arranging	Tai Chi - Class 2 - Qigong
French - Beginners	Tai Chi - Class 3 - Qigong
French - Conversation	Tai Chi - Class 4 - Sticks
French - Intermediate	Tai Chi - Class 5 - Form
French - Online	Ten Pin Bowling (Friday Group)
Gardening 1	Ten Pin Bowling (Tuesday Group)
Gardening 2	Ukulele
Gardening 3	Walks - Long
Geoffrey Chaucer: Life & Times	Walks - Short - West
Golf	Walks - Short -East/Central
Italian Beginners	Whist & Other Card Games
Knit and Natter - Groups 1, 2 & 3	World at War – History 1930-1945
Kurling	Writing Circle 1
Line Dancing	Writing Circle 2
Local History 3	Your Favourite Poems