

GROUPS NEWS

ART GROUP

January's Art Group topic was New Year's resolution. We rose to the challenge with *eat more fruit, take more exercise and drink less wine* (pictured on next page). The next meeting is Monday 10 February at 10.30 when the subject is Boats are difficult. **KEN BERRIDGE**

BREAKAWAY GROUP

We are currently booking places for a Turkey & Tinsel break in the Cotswolds with excursions to Warwick Castle, Birmingham Christmas Market and Cheltenham, 2 for 1 bar every night, 17-21 November. £279.99 pp, single rooms available with a £60 supplement. Email us if you'd like details. **ROSEMARY SCOTT AND CHRIS MATCHAM**

BUS TRIP GROUP

For our January Bus Trip we had a very interesting tour round Winchester College, focusing on the school's history and medieval architecture. Founded in 1382 as a boy's Boarding school, Winchester College has the longest continuous history of any English school and still occupies its original medieval buildings. The Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England, William of Wykeham, founded the school in 1382; his was the original rags to riches story: his education, which he owed to

one or more wealthy Hampshire patrons - gave him social mobility. During his career he assimilated a huge personal wealth with which he founded New College Oxford and Winchester College - both provided a free education for seventy scholars, sons of poor clergymen. The new generation of men educated here were to replace clergy and administrators lost during the Black Death.

Our 26 February and 26 March trips are to the Portsmouth and Southsea Museum and Art Gallery, There are three special exhibitions when we visit.

Ancient Sudan: Enduring Heritage, a touring exhibition from the British Museum, explore the Kushite Kingdom, a fascinating civilisation that flourished in Sudan nearly 3,000 years ago.

The Quietness of Feeling: An exploration of trees through the art of Benjamin Haughton and the Arborealists.

Unfurling Portsmouth's Suffrage, showing original and replica banners, photographs of the Portsmouth suffragettes and a motion graphic telling the story of the Pilgrim's march from Portsmouth to London from 17 July 1913. **ROSEMARY SCOTT**

TEN PIN BOWLING

Eighteen members of the U3A Bowling group had a very enjoyable January session at the Fareham Bowl Centre. Chris Routledge was the top scorer with 142 and Nigel Oram runner up with 140.

We will continue to bowl on

YOUR NEXT MEETING IS ON 14 FEBRUARY

Our speaker will be Richard Vaughan Frankland and he will be talking about the *Writing of the Ian Vaughan Thrillers*. After retiring, Richard began writing the *Thrillers*. Apart from writing, Richard has read for a Masters Degree in Maritime Studies and is a keen sailor.

Fridays but it may not necessarily be the third Friday of the month as this sometimes coincides with school holidays. We also will be starting at the new time of 10.30. Our next bowling session is Friday 7th February at 10.30. **LAURIE PAGE**

GOLF GROUP

As much as I'd like report on the success of our Golf Group activities, I'm afraid the conditions have been against us. The course was closed for a while but, when open, a few of us have braved the weather and got out to play the 9 hole Par 3 course at East Horton Golf Club. So I thank those die hard golfers who have still managed to get a game. Roll on Summer when I hope to see a lot more members joining the Group **HILARY LEE**

WEEKENDERS GROUP

The first Weekenders meeting held at Garsons Garden Centre was well attended and enjoyed by all, with a lot of chat and laughter over a coffee and cake. A few decided to go for lunch afterwards which made a nice end to the day. **LORRAINE SEXTON**

PHOTOGRAPHY

One of our members, Iain Hamer, has had one of his photographs published on the u3a eye website. The photo is in the October and November Gallery, submitted as part of their Orange Theme. The stunning orange doorway was taken inside the Taj Mahal grounds whilst he and Jenny were there on holiday (picture on the next page). **JENNY HAMER**

MEDIUM WALKING GROUP

On Monday 20 January, an enjoyable 3 mile circular, woodland walk was undertaken at Crowdhill, Fair Oak by 20 of our u3a members, (plus Hector the dog) (pictured). After the walk many of the members had drinks and snacks at the In Excess Garden Centre, Fair Oak. In future we may have to limit numbers for safety reasons on the Medium

Walk, particularly if some road walking is involved. It will be then be on a first come first served basis. **LAURIE PAGE**

THE SHEPPERD SINGERS

The Shepperd Singers (pictured on the next page) have now started their Spring Term with a few more new members which is very encouraging. Our choir now has about forty-five enthusiastic singers. We were recently invited to perform two concerts, one locally in Stubbington for the Stroke Club which went down very well, the other in Southampton singing with the Southampton Albion Band. The audience actually had to buy tickets for that event! We all felt very professional singing a variety songs, both modern and classical and enjoy our weekly sessions at St John's church hall, Locks Heath every Tuesday from 1.30 3.00pm. We would welcome anyone who wants to sing along with us. **JAN SLAWSON**

BURNS LUNCH

The u3a Burns Lunch held in the Hook Room of the Victory Hall on Friday 24 January was a resounding success. Forty-nine members attended (many suitably attired in tartan of some nature), had a delicious four course lunch served by six very hard working, willing u3a members.

Grace was said, the haggis was given its due ceremony - addressed in the proper tradition. The Immortal Memory speech was followed by an interesting Toast to the Lassies (provocative - as it should be!) speech by Nick Hammond, but it was agreed that the Lassies reply by Catherine Hallam won hands down - easily! There followed musical items - the pupils from the local primary Academy being the highlight of the afternoon. Thanks go to all involved in making this a very enjoyable event

ROSS WHITEHOUSE

MEMBER'S PICTURES ON NEXT PAGE

I am writing this from Cape Town in a very pleasant 24°, (although it is very windy) hearing that it is below freezing at home. I hope you are all managing to keep warm.

I have visited South Africa many times, as I have family here, but I never cease to be amazed at how happy and friendly the people are. Maybe the sunshine helps. They are quite diverse from the very poor to the very wealthy, but most strive to please. It is also very clean here and they take great pride in their country. We have a lot to learn from this nation.

McCarthy and Stone are developing part of the old Nautical College in Warsash. In the information they have on line, they mention the many advantages of living in Warsash, including the fact that it has a thriving u3a!!! We have hit the headlines in a very positive way. Well done everyone. We hope to continue this excellent reputation.

I hope you are all thinking about how you can do your bit for your u3a, by either serving on the committee, running a group, helping with refreshments or setting up the hall for the monthly meetings. The more helpers we have, the easier for everyone.

I look forward to seeing you at February's meeting, when hopefully, it will be a little warmer. Best wishes **JUDITH**

CHAIR'S CHAT



BURNS LUNCH THANKS

Ross Whitehouse for his organizational and budgeting skills and (left) addressing the haggis, our brilliant cook, our helpers Jenny and Ian Hamer, Kumi Coulthard, Mike Law, Rose Theoharis and Rosemary Scott without their hard work the Burns lunch would not have taken place, finally to all the members who came and supported us, enjoyed their lunch and entertainment, a memorable Burns lunch.

CHRIS MATCHAM



The Art Group (above) created a New Year's Resolution theme with *Eat more fruit, Drink less wine and Take more exercise.* (left) The Shepherd Singers get ready to deliver classics and modern songs they've become famous for. (right) Ian Hamer's Taj Mahal orange door photo.

