

WARSASH **u3a** NEWS

JUNE 2026

GROUPS NEWS

►► NEW GROUP

We're excited to announce a brand new U3A **GAMES GROUP**, starting on Monday 1 June. The group will meet every 4 weeks at the Silver Fern Pub at 7.00pm. The evening will feature a number of tables hosting different games. Expect some old favourites - perhaps Cluedo or Scrabble.

Why come along? Get to know other u3a members. Learn new games and skills. Share and teach your own favourites. Enjoy a relaxed, sociable evening. Discover your inner gaming whiz!

Whether you're a seasoned player or just curious to try something different, everyone is welcome. If this might be for you please reply to me and I will add you to the list.

JENNY HAMER

AMBLERS/SHORT WALK

On Thursday 30 April 2026, nine members of the Amblers Walking Group met in Hook Park and enjoyed a walk from Cowes Lane, along the shore and down Workman's Lane.

Along the way Robert H gave us a history lesson on the Hook area. The modern hamlet of Hook is linked to the return to England of William Hornby, Governor of Bombay. The British Government granted him land at Hook where, in 1785 he built a country mansion modelled upon Government House in Bombay. The mansion was destroyed by fire in 1903 but a group of listed buildings associated with it still exist.

After the walk we met in the Silver Fern for refreshments.

LESLEY ODDIE

Catherine says

Walking with Warsash u3a offers far more than just a chance to stretch your legs—it's an invitation to improve your well-being, connect with others, and rediscover the simple pleasure of being outdoors.

Whether you're someone who prefers a gentle amble or enjoys clocking up the miles,

A big thank you to all our members for being part of Warsash u3a — you're what makes it such a friendly, lively and slightly addictive community! I will be sorry to miss our meeting this month as I return to the land of my birth with high hopes of all our home teams in the World Cup. I've been reflecting on those members who do so much to ensure our u3a is a lively, welcoming addition to our Warsash Community.

CHAIR'S CHAT

But let's be honest... our amazing group leaders deserve a proper round of applause. So, let's take a moment to shine a spotlight on our volunteer group leaders. These are the people who organise the trips, plan the activities, share their skills, open their homes — and still keep smiling when we turn up late, forget things, or ask "*what are we doing?*" (again!).

As well as the group leaders there is the Committee and of course the army of unnoticed volunteers, signing us in, setting up the hall, providing refreshments and clearing everything away. Providing us with our Newsletter, informing us of Courses and Events and providing technical support. I see you and I thank you for what you do for our Warsash u3a members.

So here's the challenge: Don't just think "*they're doing a great job*" — tell them. Today. A quick thank you, a kind word, a bit of appreciation — it really does make a difference. And here's another thought... Have you ever considered being a group leader yourself? Before you say "oh no, not me!" — remember, you don't need to be an expert, just enthusiastic. New ideas, new groups, new energy — that's how we keep Warsash u3a thriving. So: say thank you... and maybe take the leap. Contact me or a Committee member to join the merry band.

CATHERINE

there's a place for you. Some walkers take things at a relaxed pace, savouring the fresh air, noticing the changing seasons, and enjoying unhurried conversations along the way.

The health benefits are clear. Regular walking supports heart health, improves balance and mobility, and can lift your mood. But just as important are the social benefits. Walking with a group creates a sense of belonging—faces become friends and then there's the setting. From coastal paths to quiet countryside, each walk brings its own character and charm. Even on a grey day, there's a shared sense of purpose that makes getting out worthwhile—and often a well-earned cuppa at the end to round things off.

ART GROUP

The challenge for our May session was to paint a landscape with only two

colours on the palette. Red and Green, or Yellow and Purple, or Blue and Orange. 13 budding artists rose to the challenge. Here are some of the exhibits on the next page.

KEN BERRIDGE

BREAKAWAY GROUP

The Breakaway Group was set up with a simple idea in mind — to give solo travellers the chance to enjoy a holiday as part of a friendly group, rather than going it alone. Over time couples have joined in and have become an integral part of our group.

It's all about good company and shared moments! We reserve an area in the dining room for the whole group to eat together: so, whether it's chatting over breakfast, swapping stories at dinner, or simply having a familiar face to enjoy a drink or game of cards with — in the evening, the aim is to make holidays more sociable and enjoyable.

Since we started friendships have formed and this has led to smaller groups booking their own holidays where they can spend time together — which is great! So,

if you're on your own, looking to enjoy friends on holiday, then our Breakaway trips could be just the thing for you.

CHRIS AND ROSEMARY

DISCOVERING WINES

At our last wine tasting in April the white and rose went down better than the reds. A big thank you to Laurie Page and John Wass for presenting the wines, on the picture page. Mike Olive Jones and Janet Burgess have kindly agreed (or was it press ganged?) to present the wines at our next tasting around the end of June. We also have a fledgling idea for a late summer event tasting Pimms, Sangria and Rum Punch. Watch this space!

KUMI AND TERRY

FINE DINING

This group is paused until October, our first date for Fine dining is Thursday 15 October.

CHRIS MATCHAM

MEDIUM WALKING GROUP

On our walk on 4 May in north Fareham and Wellington, we were walking through a field of cattle, when they decided to join the walk. After cantering past us (we thought it best to move out of the way) they got bored and stopped under a tree. Photo attached.

KUMI COULTHARD

SKY WATCHING

This group is now paused until September. The proposed date to restart is 23 September.

NICK HAMMOND

THEATRE GROUP (TFT)

The Theatre Group have already been advised that although Titchfield Festival Theatre has had to close, Jack will be performed on 12 June 7.30pm; 13 June 2.30 and 7.30 and 14 June 4pm. If any one wants to go they should apply for seats at the Parish Rooms Titchfield to actya77@gmail.com. Seats are a £10 cash donation.

We have to keep TFT running somehow. Look out for notices perhaps on Facebook and check out on YouTube a video called *Titchfield Festival Theatre - Show of Support*.

DAVID KNIGHT

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NEXT MEETING

Friday 12 June. Our speaker will be Mike Williams talking about Dickens and Doyle.

MAYFLOWER THEATRE VISITS

Our Visits to the Mayflower are proving to be very popular. We are so lucky to have this beautiful theatre on our doorstep, showing London productions at a much lower price. In October and November we will see *Moulin Rouge* and *Operation Mincemeat*, both of which are fully booked, but if you would like to go on the waiting list in case of a cancellation, please let me know.

I am now taking bookings for *Blood Brothers*, on January 21, 2027 at 2pm. Tickets are £32.50 each, a £7 reduction on the theatre list price. As the Mayflower policy is full payment, three months after booking, payment must be made by July. I admit it seems a very long time until January, but it will soon be

here again.

If you are interested in any of these productions, or in future ones you would like to see, at the Mayflower and would like to go on the information list, please contact me with your suggestions

JUDITH

CHILL AND CHAT

Our June Weekenders Chill and Chat will be held on Saturday, 20 June, at Haskins Garden Centre, Mansbridge Road, Gaters Mill, West End, SO18 3HW meeting in the restaurant at 11.00am. In addition to the garden centre there is a Hobbycraft next door for those of you who are creative.

Please let me know if you will be coming and whether you require a lift or are able to offer a lift.

LORRAINE



Left
An artistic view of Catherine's philosophy of life

Top right
The Art Group's depictions of a two-colour landscape

Centre
painting in Southampton Art Gallery by James Bateman - *Haytime in the Cotswolds*

Bottom
The bus Trip group on their visit to Southampton Art Gallery



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