

## AGM- Springtime-Brenda remembered

### Chairman's Report

The lovely warm spring is with us. Beautiful Magnolia, Clematis and Wisteria together with the verdant countryside give us so much pleasure. Indeed the cold disruptive winter seems a long way in the past.

The AGM was held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Riverside, Newport. Over 100 attended. Thank you all for your support and interest. The old committee was re-elected en bloc –sadly without Tony Key who died suddenly in February. Two new committee members were elected – Ann Thorp and Catherine Thorp (not related!).

After the AGM Richard Smout, Island Archivist gave an excellent talk about the Tunnel Schemes under the Solent to the Isle of Wight.

The Group Leaders informal coffee morning was held again at Wootton Community Centre. It was relaxed and very successful. Several topics were discussed, especially related to setting up of new groups, the problems of attendance and the importance of updating Group Activities on the Internet. The new Welfare Procedure is in place.

Open Day has been confirmed for THURSDAY October 6<sup>th</sup> at the Parish Hall Newport. With the increased number of groups (40), the logistics of table planning and running the day are being addressed early – with the co-operation of Group Leaders.

The new Plant Swap and D and A groups have just had their first meetings – both were very successful.

Brenda James was the Founder of the U3A on the Isle of Wight and was responsible for so much of what has been good in our U3A. Sadly she died in 2003. Joan Livingstone who had been a friend for many years has written an excellent well researched tribute about Brenda's life and work. We are forwarding this to be considered for the National U3A Roll of Honour.

The AGM and National Conference takes place in the East Midlands conference centre at Nottingham University from 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September. We will attend and report back later.

Enjoy the summer and your involvement with our U3A.  
Lionel Alexander.

## JOVIAL EVENING WITH JUNE

### DINING OUT

In February we had our usual jovial evening out at Valentinos and this was followed by a pleasant evening also with good food at Morgans restaurant in March. Everyone appeared to be having a great time conversationally (22 of us) at the Little Glosters in April but sad to say, some of us were not happy with our main courses.

Our next venues will be;  
25th May. Highdown Inn.  
Totland Bay.

29th June; Mojacs Restaurant. Shooters Hill. Cowes.  
27th July. Lakeside Park Hotel. Wootton Bridge  
31st August. The New Inn Shalfleet.

28th September; the Folly Inn Whippingham.

26th October. Yelfs Hotel . Ryde.

30th November. The White Hart Inn. Havenstreet.

I will need your orders in advance for Mojacs, Lakeside Park, Yelfs and the White Hart; so I will pass around the menus at the previous venue as usual.

We meet at 6.30 to 7.30pm and if you should have to cancel, please let me know as soon as possible.

June Reddiex

## Chichester Theatre Summer

### Festival Visits

This year we are going to 4 shows

June-Rosencrantz and Guildenstern; July, - Singin' in the Rain . August-The Deep Blue Sea . September-South Downs And The Browning Version. All is booked now but if you are interested contact me next January  
Lily Stafford

## Changes- CATS AND GARDENS and magic!

Reminiscing-remember when  
Our group of eight has had some excellent sessions with subjects as diverse as 'The Last War' and 'Changes' and 'Gardens'. It proved most interesting to read and keep Bob's resume of the changes over the last 50 years, with many not to our benefit!

Gerry gave us an insight into working under the oppressive regime in Rhodesia. Edna and Wendy gave interesting views on the changes in their lives and we are most fortunate to have Brian, an entertainer and Magician whose skill in mystery and deception keeps us all on our toes. And of course Adrian who creates an atmosphere of his own and has selected our next subject 'Children'.

We would always welcome new members. We meet at the Park Center, Ryde. Third Tuesday, once a month  
2.30pm.

Bill Robson

### Poetry at Ryde

Cats! you either hate them or adore them. However, they are covered by a plethora of poetry from Thomas Hardy's "to a dumb friend", a poignant lament on the death of his cat to Peter Porter's humorous "Mort Aux Chats" ( He was a dog lover). Our beloved late member Betty Footer wrote many charming Cat poems and they had good airing at a recent meeting. 'Gardens' was a subject which uncovered some beautiful verse and remind us of what memories they contain as well as the

horticultural content.

"Mystery", a subject which worried some members at first, turned out to be a most enjoyable theme, both serious and funny; haunting, strange happenings and 'What Lies Beneath'.

We revisited John Clare and Robert Southey again and for our next meeting on 19th May it will be the poetry of Philip Larkin.

We meet at the Park Centre, Ryde every other Thursday afternoon from 2.15-4pm. We are very welcoming!

Evelyn Robson  
Sheila Day

## Calligraphy - and eating ?

We are all working very hard to complete our current projects before we start our Summer Break at the end of June-- I doubt I will !. Just to encourage us we are going to visit Portsmouth Cathedral on June 8th to attend an Exhibition of the work of the South Hampshire Calligra-

phers. We have seen their work in the past and it is inspiring ( for me jaw droppingly good).An important part of our days out is to find somewhere to eat, I mean--walking round an Exhibition does give one an appetite !

Lily Stafford

## Island Theatre visits

There are no limits to the size of this group; if any U3A member wishes to join us for one of the advertised productions please phone me. I book about two weeks beforehand. You will be most welcome. The group has been enjoying very varied productions, and I aim to keep this mix and try to find something good for most tastes.

### THE PROGRAMME FOR THE NEXT 3 MONTHS IS:

Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> 8.15 at the Shanklin Theatre 'The Best of the West End' £11.50( possibly less if party is big enough) A new show for 2011, this is a musical compilation which has been enjoyed for several summers. Bar Open.

Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30 at the Apollo Theatre Newport 'A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum' £7 This Stephen Sondheim musical was a vehicle for Frankie Howard so expect some saucy but sparkling comedy and music .Book also for a meal at Pizza Express beforehand if you would like to join us.

Thursday August 18<sup>th</sup> 8pm at the Quay Arts 'Bolt from the Blue' £5 A second visit to this intimate theatre and the talented Red Tie company, this time the adult company. The plot of the play is described as 'hilarious', and it will certainly be something new and different. Bar Open.

I note that Red Tie are to repeat their production of 'Immaculate', which this group saw in March, at the Ventnor Fringe in August.

Ann Allen

We love to send this newsletter by e-mail because it saves an enormous amount of postage.

**BUT ONLY IF WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS!**

We are at;  
bpedmunds@aol.com

## ALL QUIET ON THE WEST WIGHT FRONT

West Wight literature

During this last session we have studied a wide variety of authors and their works. Helene Wright spoke of Erich Maria Remarque, a German veteran of WW1. He wrote 14/15 novels but is best known for his 1929 novel 'All Quiet on the Western Front', describing the mental and physical distress of German soldiers during the war. He was born on 22/06/1898, conscripted into the army when 18 and sent to the western front when 19.

Although he only spent about six weeks at the front (having been wounded and hospitalised until the end of the war), the experience severely traumatised him. After the war he went to live in Switzerland and later moved to the USA. In 1933 the Nazis burned all his books and later guillotined his sister. He had affairs with several Hollywood stars including Greta Garbo and Marlene Dietrich. His last marriage was to the actress Pauline Goddard. He died in 1970.

At the following meeting Sara Pivonka's subject was Greek Poetry. We heard how the Greeks (800BC-200AD) invented the alphabet from the Phoenicians, and how all the poems developed from many generations of oral storytelling. Sara, a Greek scholar herself, explained how professional scribes would have written down the words whilst Homer, who is revered as the greatest ancient Greek epic poet, was reciting his work. All the dramas were written in poetry.

The Iliad tells the story of the seduction of Helen, wife of the king of Sparta by the Trojan Prince Hector and of Achilles, the Greek warrior. In the Odyssey we hear of Odysseus' return home after the war and how Helen returns to her husband. The subject of our following talk by Roz Charlish, was the author, Barbara Trapido. She was born in 1941 in Cape Town

and after graduating, emigrated to London. She taught for many years, before becoming a writer in 1970. Roz read extracts from Trapido's novel **Sex and Stravinsky** (2010) illustrating her complex plots and excellent characterization.

The story tells of Caroline McCleod who comes to England in the 70's from Melbourne. Unloved in her childhood, she seeks to gain the approval of her cold, sour mother. The pangs of adolescence are explored, as are the social upheavals in South Africa and Oxford. **Barbara Trapido** has been described as having the mind-teasing skills of the crime writer combined with a sense of humour as dry as a Martini.

Before the Easter break we met for a meeting of planning/free for all. Each member brought a piece of writing which they thought would be of interest to the rest of the group. The topics ranged from 'The Tunnels under the Solent', 'Family Values' by Wendy Cope, 'The Month of May' by Decker, readings from Laurie Lee, Thomas Hardy, 'It Must be Shakespeare', Bat's Eye and Margaret Attwood.

We resumed after Easter, the subject being 'Passages from King James Bible plus corresponding ones from a modern version'. One of our members speaks Hebrew, another speaks Greek, so we had some expert guidance when discussing different translations. We listened and discussed many passages in different versions of the Bible from the Psalms and other books of the Old and New Testament.

We continue to meet in the Vine Inn, Freshwater at 2.30pm every alternate Monday. This session the subjects will include **Love Poems**, **William Hazlitt and John Masefield**, **John Kempster** **Wendy Williams**

## Sleuthing-gambling and bullying

BOOK GROUP 1

The Modern Novel

Our Group is now completely full with two of our three newcomers being new U3A members. We continue to read a good mixture of books which lead to lively discussion. The year started with 'Heartstone' by **C.J.Sansom**, this is a recent book in a series set in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century whose chief character is Matthew Shardlake, a hump backed solicitor and sleuth. There were very mixed marks for this medieval mystery but Sansom's research was praised. Again the group were sharply divided over the next choice, Peter Carey's Booker winner 'Oscar and Lucinda', set in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Australia and England, it is the story of a bizarre romance between two odd characters both obsessed with gambling.

Following this was **Margaret Atwood's 'Cats Eye'**, the theme of this novel was bullying and how the narrator was haunted throughout her life by the girls who had cruelly picked upon her as an outsider in their youth. This story left us with unanswered questions. All these three books are long ones and personally, I am hoping for something equally stimulating but less challenging in length to follow them!

Ann Allen

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## ESCAPING IN FRANCE

FRENCH CONVERSATION

Our small group has got off to a good start reading "Un sac de billes" by Joseph Joffo. As we are few in number each member has quite a long piece to read and translate, which is very good practice.

The subject of the book is the escape into the zone (France) not yet occupied by the Germans. Although the facts about the journey are sad, in reality the tone is light-hearted and amusing.

Kay Hayles

Georgina Marsh

# Homework enthusiasm!

## French Conversation 1.

The attendance and subsequent hospitality at Abbeyfield and Seaview was always good and very much appreciated. There was much enthusiasm and comment for the individual homework supplied, in French of course. The homework varied and covered gardens, French life and architecture in Provence, poetry, guessing games and funny episodes in members' lives. Also French history and the tale of Sophie Dawes, a local girl, which was told to us before the piece was published in the May copy of the Beacon. We also celebrated two members' birthdays during this time. Finally, we are all looking forward to Jack's return, and hope it will be soon.

**Georgina Marsh**

## PUB LUNCHES

Tues. 7th June 12.00 -  
12.30pm

The Wheatsheaf, Bridge Rd.  
Yarmouth

Bus No. 7 from Newport.  
Tues. 5th July

Cream tea at the Old Smithy,  
Godshill  
2.30 - 3.00pm

A choice of cream tea or savoury scone with pickle. Will need to know your choice be it cream or savoury a week before the date. It has been suggested by Christine Addison who organises pub lunch 2 that the two groups get together on Tues. 5th July for the cream tea at the Old Smithy. So this will be a venue for the two groups in July. Phone Christine on 282570 after 6pm or myself Maggie 292689.

No Lunch in August.

**Maggie Hough**

## STRONG FAMILY TIES AND WAR TRUTHS

### Cowes Book group

Our 1<sup>st</sup> read this quarter was **Sister** by **Rosamund Lupton** telling of the quest to find the truth behind a younger sister's death. Learning aspects of genetically inherited diseases and gene therapy in a book narrated with a strange use of tenses not to everyone's liking, a near continual conversation was held with the dead sister, almost akin to that of a twin. Characters were well drawn and the book provided a very surprising twist.

**Operation Mincemeat** by **Ben Macintyre** developed the true WW2 story originally filmed as *The Man who Never Was*. Generating much discussion over the gullibility of the Nazi espionage chiefs it told how a surprisingly complex team of bizarre characters masterminded a web of deceit so convincing, they almost believed it themselves. Impressively researched, Macintyre has used material released only in later years from M15 files and naval intelligence.

**Room** by **Emma Donoghue** proved a disturbing book for some, predicted in advance as depressing by others, but nevertheless judged unusual and beautifully written. Told using the language of 5 year old Jack, it tells of his daily life, from birth upwards, in captivity with his mother totally within the confines of one room. The psychological consequences are inevitably deep, but highly thought provoking. The book however, was by no means all doom and gloom.

Meetings - Cowes, monthly, 3rd Friday - 2pm. Future Books being reviewed:- **Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day** by **Winifred Watson**, 20/5: **The Colour** by **Rose Tremain**, 17/6: **The Road** by **Cormack McCarthy**, 15/7

**Shirley Mawdsley**

# PLANT SWAPPERS FIRST 'POTTING'

This took place on Saturday 7 May chez Debbie and John Zumbeel in Lake and there was a wide variety of plants on offer. Although the fine, hot weather had decided to break 24 hours too soon for us, we still managed to keep this an outdoor event, with just the odd spot of rain. We were pleased that Jan Tavill, our Group Leaders' Co-ordinator, supported us both with her Committee hat on and also as a keen and very accomplished gardener. We also received a lot of support (and plants) from both June and Colin Withers; their tea-making equipment and horticultural knowledge were invaluable. Thank you Jan, June and Colin for all you did. In fact, the gardening knowledge of all those who supported us was phenomenal, I felt very much the amateur.

After arriving with plants and receiving tokens relevant to the number and type of plants donated, members were then offered refreshments by John and June. Debbie had com-

pleted a challenging gardening quiz, with questions dotted all around her lounge and garden and this produced much amusement and scratching of heads! Answers were given later in the afternoon.

Then came the time for good natured bargaining and bartering of plants and I think everyone who attended went away happy with the proceeds of their 'swaps'. We now have to decide on future events - should we organise visits to, say, English Heritage or National Trust gardens? Should we have another swapping event later in the year and maybe include packets of seeds? Will there be support for another swapping session next Spring?

If you would be at all interested in any of these events or have other suggestions, please e-mail me [suedescasey@hotmail.com](mailto:suedescasey@hotmail.com) or telephone 614095 and let me know. Further information on this Group will be in the next (September) edition of this newsletter.

**Sue Casey**

## BRIDGE SUCCESS

Pleased to say we're continuing to get a reasonable turnout for bridge on Thursday afternoon at the I.O.W. Community Club in Park Road Cowes.

We now have Bidding Boxes thanks to Inge Westwood who recently retired from teaching Bridge at Ryde & has kindly sold them to us at a very good price. The members have been extremely pleased with them since using them these last few weeks, so thanks again Inge.

The summer recess will be upon us soon & we have decided to finish on Thursday the 14th of July, restarting on Thursday the 1st of September. Hoping one & all will enjoy the break.

**Vern Morris**

## PATCHWORK AND QUILTING

Our small friendly group continues to meet monthly in Ryde at our leaders house. We have all been busy making hexagons which we are in the process of making into Charity Quilts.

We recently had a talk and demonstration from an experienced hand quilter. She also brought along some of her own hand quilted items which were exquisite and I'm sure an inspiration to us all. We continue to practice.

**Anne Tilley**

**Next Newsletter deadline is August 15th for September-October and November. Text to ;  
[iowu3a@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iowu3a@yahoo.co.uk)**

## LAUGHTER-MAINLAND LINKS-AND MAGIC

### General Meetings

The subjects of the talks at the General Meeting in February and the AGM in March could not have been more diverse but both attracted large audiences.

Ray Allen brought much laughter when recalling stories of becoming and then being a writer, in particular on the TV comedy series 'Some Mothers...'. County Archivist, Richard Smout provided handouts and, together with many references to archive material, talked on a subject that has interested Islanders for more years than I imagined - that of a link to the mainland.

At the General Meeting on 21st October, U3A Member, Dr. Ian Thomson will talk of his time in South Africa, in particular the 'Magic World of the Witchdoctor'. Another interesting topic - I hope the date is in your diaries.

Audrey Bendon

## Days Out Group

In April a small number of members enjoyed a coach trip to London followed by a river cruise from Westminster to Greenwich. By the time that this Newsletter is published some members will have been on a visit to Winchester.. If you are interested in any future outings that may be planned please contact me.

Wendy Williams

## Science Group

As a group we have been involving ourselves in science based projects, either in conjunction with Island groups or via subjects we have developed through our own discussions. We are working at present on an archaeological survey using our own ground resistivity machine to record any underground structures of interest.

Derek Bean

## ARE YOU FUNNY?

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE JOKE?  
WHO'S YOUR FAVOURITE COMEDIAN?  
TICK YOUR PREFERRED ENDING.

### IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED

- a) Skydiving is not for you
- b) You're not related
- c) Get out of bed and go home

SO, WE NEED NEW MATERIAL, NEW IDEAS AND NEW MEMBERS  
DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A FRIENDLY GROUP

- 1) THINK FUNNY - be funny?
- 2) HAVE A LAUGH - no obligation!

Give it a TRY - ring ROY now at 822485

**NO SALESMAN WILL CALL!**

## BEAN BAG DEBATES AT BRADING

### The New D and A Group . ( Discuss and Argue )

Seven of us met at the Bugle Pub not knowing what to expect ! After a brief discussion to form a few "rules", We were off , and what a lively debate we had . It ranged from ; **AV , to be or not to be ? to Love does it exist,? to Death in the form of euthanasia, and was Osama Bin-Laden. really such a bad man!** Very eclectic ! this was because we each entered a subject on a folded ticket and then tackled them randomly. Who ever was holding the blue bean bag bear, held the floor and was not interrupted until the bear was scooped up by the next speaker .It worked well , a bit dizzy for the bear however. We didn,t have time to conclude the last ticket ;. **What makes me Angry!** so I expect we may start with that at our next meeting . So come and see how good it feels to get things off your chest ....Wednesday . 18th May . 2-4pm, at The Bugle Pub, Brading.

Janet Hope

## Round the world on a plate

Would you enjoy a frothy fricassee of geography, cuisine, biology, folklore and economics? If so, this group could be for you. Participants will sail out of Lake every month on a fact-finding gastronomic cruise.

Each person attending provides a 'dish' which features an interesting ingredient of their choice. The ingredient could be local or exotic, perhaps a herb or spice or something more substantial. We all sample the dish and the provider then feeds us some tasty titbits of background information about their ingredient.

Cost: Your 'dish' plus 50p. When? 11.30 to 1.30, fourth Thursday of the month, starting in September.

Interested? Please e-mail [debwyke@hotmail.com](mailto:debwyke@hotmail.com) for details of quantities etc, or, if not on line, phone 400300. Numbers will be limited, so hurry before all the places are gobbled up.

Debbie Zumbeel

## TWITTERING-PUNGING-KONGS-ITS ALL IN THE GAME!

### Mah Jong

The players are now *twittering* vigorously, *punging* enthusiastically and declaring *kongs* with aplomb. *Double Knitting* hands and *Wriggling Snakes* have both been seen occasionally but what everyone really wants is a *Unique Wonder*. Beginners are still very welcome (4<sup>th</sup> Monday, pm). I now have a brand new set of tiles fresh from Hong Kong which is certain to bring good luck, so we may see *Heavenly Twins* before long.

Debbie Zumbeel

## MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MEMBERS

### Treasurer's Report

In the last Newsletter our Chairman reported that we (nominally) had 473 members. This has now fallen to 428 and nearly 80 whose membership has lapsed. Thus, although we ended 2010 with about 60 more members than at the end of 2009, our current paid up membership is only 11 more than at this time last year. The question is "Why have a higher percentage of our members failed to rejoin for 2011?" The reason does not appear to be obvious.

Recently we have made two major annual payments to The Third Age Trust. The first was for the Capitation Fees totalling £1645. The second was £619 for the direct mailing of four issues of U3A News to members addresses. My thanks to those who contributed to the raffle and sales table at our AGM. They raised £106, leaving net proceeds of £66 after paying for refreshments.

Our Account Balances are Business £3852, Social £957 and Business Premium £572 giving a **Total Balance £5381.**

Roy Williams, 24 Dove Close, St Helens, Ryde PO33 1TQ

## HOLIDAY FRENCH

### FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP II

The weekly meetings of French Conversation Group II have only recently resumed after what seems to have been a lengthy break for holidays, Bank Holidays and the Royal Wedding. This has meant that we have all had plenty to talk about (mostly in French). We are now looking for and exploring new ways of improving our language skills.

Sue Casey

# TWO SMASHING BOOKS!

Shanklin Book Group

I have two really smashing books to report on for the group. We have indulged in good writing by two brilliant women novellists, one English and one French.

The first is "**Cold Comfort Farm**" by **Stella Gibbons** published in 1932. A comic parody of the rural novels of the time. Gibbons has the touch of the comedic genius and like Hardy believes in naming characters for what they are – hence the cows are Feckless, Graceless, Aimless and Pointless.

The heroine Flora Poste believes anything can be achieved through reading the "Higher Common Sense". She descends from the well ordered planet of London metropolitan life to become part of the midsummer madness down on the farm of her cousins the Starkadders, the matriach of whom is Ada Doom who once, "saw something nasty in the woodshed", although we never learn, exactly, what that was.

An added enjoyment to our discussion was to find Stella Gibbons had been at university with the mother of one of

our group. Such a small world. "**The Elegance of the Hedgehog**" by **Muriel Barberry** was our second book. It tells the story of two females living in the same building. The 54 year old concierge Renee who adopts the persona of her employment while hiding her true intelligence, cultural interest and love of the arts. In the most expensive flat in the building is Paloma a disturbed 12 year old who like Renee hides her true passions and intellect.

The stories are interlinked and some found this format worked well while others had the opposite reaction.

Barberry is a teacher of philosophy and at the beginning of the book is a diatribe on Marx, but don't let this put you off, once you meet Renee you will be drawn into her world for good or bad and you will meet Kakuro Ozu who befriends both Renee and Paloma and opens up their horizons and expands their friendship. It is a worldwide best seller with good reason. We thoroughly recommend both books.

**June Withers**

# History Corner

## GOOD SPEAKERS GOOD ATTENDANCE

Island History Group

We continue to enjoy good speakers, and consequently, excellent attendance at monthly meetings. The next two events are a visit to the Hermitage Country House on Friday 3rd June and to see the Princess Beatrice Garden at Carisbrooke Castle on Friday 1st July. No meeting or visit during August. In September we return to the usual routine. The meeting on the 2nd will hear from John Matthews speaking about The History and Work of the Coroner.

Meetings continue at 14:30 hours, usually on the first Friday in the month at St Mary's Church Hall (behind the Church), Church Road, Cowes. Doors open approximately 14:00 hours. Tea/coffee and biscuits follow meetings.

Contribution of £1.50 requested to cover meeting expenses and refreshments.

**Sylvia Sillar - Sally Hayes David Baldwin**

## The Queens (continued)

East Wight History

At our fortnightly meetings during the summer months, we will be continuing with our look at the life of **Eleanor of Aquitaine** as portrayed by Alison Weir in her book 'Eleanor of Aquitaine' - By the Wrath of God, Queen of England.

**Lionel Alexander Wendy Williams**

## AND

West Wight History

We now meet at 2.30pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Conservative Club, Queens Road, Freshwater. We expect to finish our study of '**Isabella of France - She Wolf of England**' before the August recess. When we resume our meetings in September we are intending to start to look at the lives of Queen Victoria's children and grandchildren. With nine children and nearly forty grandchildren this should give us plenty of scope for thought!

**Wendy Williams 872276**

## UNEMPLOYMENT ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT-

Feasibility study Group

Today, most people are suffering from financial problems & cuts. Three of the worst hit unemployed sectors are the young, the not so young & the infirm. Bill Robson has suggested this as a topic for the Economic Feasibility Studies Group, Chaired by Adrian Ould, to look for practical solutions. Our first meeting on this new topic will be on Monday, September 12th at 2.30, to be held at Adrian's house, St. Marys House, 6 St. Marys Close, Haylands, Ryde, PO33 3HJ [off UptonRoad]. Thereafter, meetings will be on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2.30 [chinese dental time]. Our last topic, "A University for the Island", has sprouted wings & is now in the hands of Shakespeare University Steering Group. Thank you to all who helped.

All those IWU3A members who are interested in tackling unemployment please contact.

**Adrian Ould**

## New Astronomy Group

There have been a few requests for the group and I hope to get a few more to start regular meetings at Fort Victoria in the Autumn. There will be an initial Summer Meeting at 2.30pm on Thursday June 16th in the Planetarium at Fort Victoria. I shall talk about **How we found out the size of the Solar System**. If you intend to come along, please let me know on 761555 at the Planetarium. We shall discuss also what people's interests are, what they want to do and how we proceed. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Paul England**

## New Maths Group

I have received some requests for the group and hope to get a few more to start regular meetings at Fort Victoria in the Autumn. There will be an initial Summer Meeting at 2.30pm on Thursday June 23rd in the Planetarium at Fort Victoria. I'll be talking about **Different types of Numbers**. If you would like to come along, please let me know on 761555 at the Planetarium. We shall discuss also what people's interests are, what they want to do and how we proceed. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Paul England**

## PLUS 'End of American History'

Mid-Wight History Group.

We are reaching the end of our study of American History. It has been instructive & enjoyable - made even more so by everyone's participation. The next subject we will be exploring will be Edwardian England. As always we would like to thank the Sheldons for the warm hospitality they give us in their home.

**Eva Alexander.**

# SKYPE IS TOPS!

## IT - Newport

All the IT sessions are now fully booked for the spring summer sessions.

I am planning to hold another SKYPE session at my home on 27<sup>th</sup> September, it's a Tuesday 2 - 4pm. This will be the third session on skype that I have run and they have all been very successful.

The email session I ran on 23<sup>rd</sup> March was also very much oversubscribed so I am proposing to run an additional session on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at the Riverside Centre, also 2 - 4pm.

Commencing on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October, I will run a further absolute beginners course comprising of 6 sessions.

If you are interested in any of the above sessions please contact me as soon as possible on 562565 or email [jan\\_tavill@lineone.net](mailto:jan_tavill@lineone.net) (note there is an underscore between the jan and tavill)

Jan Tavill

## Update from the Group co-ordinator

In the last newsletter I reported 8 new groups were forming. I am delighted to say that 6 of these groups are now well and truly up and running. Sadly there was little response for the Camera-Action group; its not too late to contact Louis if you are interested now that the lighter nights and warmer weather is here.

In September another new group is to be formed - its called 'Round the World - on a plate' please see Debbie's article which will tell you what it is all about.

I would like to re-iterate again what a great job all your group leaders do, they all volunteer their services and spend a lot of their time to make sure you have an interesting class/outing etc. On the whole most people, should they not be able to attend a session, do contact their group leader, but unfortunately a few don't. Please can you try and let your group leader know as soon as possible if you think you cannot attend a session. We appreciate that this isn't always possible, but do bear in mind that your non-attendance can sometimes incur a cost for your group leader.

Jan Tavill

## Amazing gardening results!

It is amazing what comes from a brainstorming session, and the idea of a Plant Swap afternoon was the result of Debbie Zumbel and Sue Casey sharing thoughts over a cuppa. It was a most successful event with lots of people bringing dozens of plants. I thoroughly enjoyed the quiz and the chat as well as coming home with trays full of lovely plants, some of which I would never have found in a garden centre. So full marks to Debbie and Sue, and thank you both for an unusual, entertaining, and productive afternoon. Looking forward to the next one.

June Withers.

## GROUPS & LEADERS 2011

Art Workshop	Eileen Ellis-Williams	613381	St Helens
	Barbara Edmunds	862108	
Astronomy	Paul England	752194	Nr Yarmouth
Bridge	Vernon Morris	292976	Cowes
Books - Bonchurch	Ann Allen	852037	Bonchurch
Books - Cowes	Shirley Mawdsley	883612	Cowes
Books - Shanklin	June Withers	866459	Shanklin
Books - Yaverland	Barbara Harrison	406617	Yaverland
Calligraphy	Lily Stafford	740280	Newport
	Sheila Bell	853303	
Classical Music	David Shirley	756162	Totland
Craft	Sally Hayes	289805	Cowes
Creative Writing	Janet Hope	404387	Sandown
Days Out	Wendy Williams	872276	Various
Dining out for fun	June Reddiex	294628	Various
D & A (Discuss & Argue)	Janet Hope	404387	Sandown
Economic Feasibility Study	Adrian Ould	563674	Ryde
English Literature	John Kempster	752308	Freshwater
	Wendy Williams	872276	
Folk Dancing	Brenda Benson	562047	Ryde
	Shirley Burns		
French, Brush up your	Sandra Thearle	752979	Freshwater
French Conversation	Jack Eales	760591	Ryde
French Conversation 2	Sue Casey	614095	Ryde
French Reading	Kay Hayles	564847	Ryde
	Georgina Marsh	564217	
Genealogy	Linda Jones	863031	Shanklin
History East Wight	Lionel Alexander	852688	Ryde
	Wendy Williams	872276	
History Mid Wight	Eva Alexander	852688	Brading
History West Wight	Wendy Williams	872276	Freshwater
Island History	Sylvia Sillar	883924	Cowes
	Sally Hayes	289805	
	David Baldwin	290144	
IT - Newport	Jan Tavill	562565	Newport
Knit and Yarn	Georgina McKenzie	612113	Seaview
Laughter/Humour Group	Roy Howett	822485	Newport
Mah Jong	Debbie Zumbel	400300	Lake
Mathematics	Paul England	752194	Nr Yarmouth
Patchwork & Quilting	Dinny Card	564749	Ryde
Plant Swap	Sue Casey	614095	
	Debbie Zumbel	400300	
Poetry	Evelyn Robson	868073	Ryde
	Sheila Day	615947	
Pub Lunch by Bus (1)	Maggie Hough	292689	Various
Pub Lunch by Bus (2)	Christine Addison	282570	Various
Recorded Music	Peter Bell	853303	Wroxall
Remember When?	Bill Robson	868073	Lake
Science	Derek Bean	872945	Various
Solo Whist	John Zumbel	400300	Lake
Spanish	Peter Neeves	404263	Brading
Theatre - Chichester	Lily Stafford	740280	Chichester
Theatre - Local	Ann Allen	852037	Various
Walking	Michael Beardmore	754327	Various
Coming Soon:			
Camera - Action!	Louis Lawrence	521027	Newport
Around the World - Food	Debbie Zumbel	400300	

### Committee for 2011/2012

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Peter Edmunds

V-Chairman & Distribution

Sue Casey

Secretary & Welfare

Roy Williams

Treasurer

Georgina Marsh

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