



WELCOME TO  
THE SEPTEMBER  
2025 EDITION OF  
MAYFIELD AND  
DISTRICT u3a  
NEWSLETTER.



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Mayfield and District monthly Meetings are held at 2.30pm in Five Ashes Village Hall, TN20 6JA, on the third Thursday of the month.**

September 18th: AGM with “Mary’s Meals” and Cream Tea.

October 16th: Vivian Widgery tells us about “Unusual MPs”.

November 20th: “Sherlock Holmes .v. Jack the Ripper” by Tony Hams.

December 18th: Christmas Lunch Party.

**Heathfield and District monthly meetings are held at 2pm in The Community Centre, TN21 0XG on the third Tuesday of the month.**

September 16th: Paul Green with “Sussex Murders & Misdemeanours”

October 21st: First Aid at Home by First Responder Hannah Crush.

November 18th: Alice and Paul Pippard of Beacon Down Vineyard.

December 16th: Christmas Party at 1.30pm.

## Chairman's Report

Following weeks of warm sunshine, the last few days have certainly felt more autumnal and the nights are definitely 'drawing in.'

The good news is that we have plenty to look forward to in the u3a. The AGM and cream tea this month, with information about Mary's Meals, and a full programme of speakers in the following months.

It is a good time to widen your interests and perhaps to join a new group. You will find the groups on offer and the contact details for the leaders on the website: <https://mayfield.u3asite.uk> or in the new programme card.

These will be distributed with your new membership card during September.

*Mary Brentnall*

## **NEWS FROM THE GROUPS**

### **Short Walk and Pub (S.W.A.P.)**

Ten of us enjoyed a walk through the fields and woods south of old Heathfield on a glorious sunny morning in August. The weather was perfect and the company excellent. We returned to The Star, where most of the group spent a relaxed lunch, appreciating the delicious food.



The Next SWAP is on Friday 19th September.

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Meet at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Station Road, Mayfield.  
TN20 6BW at 10.45 to walk to Whites Garden Nursery in Meres Lane.  
We shall have lunch there at 12.15 and walk back afterwards.  
We can arrange lifts or leave a car at Whites if you would prefer to walk  
one way.  
As usual there is the option to join us for lunch and to leave the walking  
to others !  
Contact Mary Brentnall [marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com](mailto:marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com)

**MORE WALKING WITH THE JOINT MAYFIELD & HEATHFIELD  
LONDON WALKS..... .**

### **Exploring London on Foot**



“There was a good turnout for a fascinating walk through this historically rich area of London, which continues to change and evolve to this day. Highlights, for me, included the now defunct London Necropolis Railway Station but the most lasting impression was the deeply moving COVID Memorial Walk along the Albert Embankment.  
A big thank you to Mary and Sue for a wonderful walk.” Sandra Day

"I found the National Covid Memorial Wall along the embankment facing the Houses of Parliament very moving and very thought provoking.

<https://www.nationalcovidmemorialwall.org/>

Lambeth Palace was also a 'first' and I have made a personal note to revisit and spend some time there. After our lunch we made our way to an area that used to be known as Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, which has now reverted to its original name of Spring Gardens. Mary told us some of its history and of those who used it, including John Evelyn, Samuel Pepys and Becky Sharp (in Vanity Fair). Ending our walk here at the Pleasure Gardens, a few of the group took tea and cakes at a very quirky cafe known as Tea House Theatre which made a very pleasant end to the walk. Kathryn Dewhurst [dewdropk@mac.com](mailto:dewdropk@mac.com)

\*\*\*\*\*The next London walk explores Marylebone on 29th September\*\*\*\*\*

and for something considerably more sedentary, but burnishing the little grey cells.....

If you want something to get you out of the house on a grey winter's day, I can't recommend **Scrabble** highly enough.

No preparation needed, no real competition, just an opportunity to test those brain cells in good company for a couple of hours. Who cares who has the highest score – far more impressive are those 2 letter words people can use to good effect!

We have members from Burwash, Heathfield and Mayfield, so we meet mid-way, in the Co-Op cafe in Heathfield. They are very welcoming, with plenty of space and comfy seating. The number of small tables also means we are not restricted on player numbers (we have several Scrabble boards)

We meet on the **3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm**, and usually manage a couple of games, with a break for refreshments. Our next meeting is **Wednesday 17th September** and we would be delighted to welcome you to come and give it a go (we have all grades of players)

If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me,

Annie Schofield.

[annie.schofield21@gmail.com](mailto:annie.schofield21@gmail.com)

and for something very different.....

Wadhurst & District u3a has started a Ballroom and Latin Dance class which we are opening up to other local u3a's.

It runs on Fridays from 11am to 1pm (all the details can be found on our website but if you need any more info just give me a call on 07837 958867).

Is this something Mayfield members may be interested in? The cost is £7 per hour (for non-Wadhurst members) and £3 as a contribution to the room hire. I look forward to hearing from you.

Jane Austin ([e.jane.austin@btinternet.com](mailto:e.jane.austin@btinternet.com))



and finally .....the proposed singing group, which still has no name.....

Vocalise ? Melody Mavericks ? Sound Seekers ? Voice Vibes ? etc....

Really singing for fun, melodic show songs, perhaps some Gilbert and Sullivan,  
with good old fashioned tunes .....[madelynmeredith565@gmail.com](mailto:madelynmeredith565@gmail.com)

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“ As long as autumn lasts, I shall not have hands, canvas and colours enough to paint the beautiful things I see ” - Vincent van Gogh



