



**Welcome to the January 2026 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.**

**15th January 2026 - 'Punch and Judy' with Bertie Pearce**

19th February 2026 - The Curious Tale of the Surrealist Gentleman,  
by Jane Scotchmer

19th March 2026 - Weather Lore - fact or fiction, by Ian Currie

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

20th January 2026 - Mary's Meals by Roy Peachey

17th February 2026 - Lullingstone Castle with Tom Hart Dyke

17th March 2026 - Bojangles Chocolates unveiled by Pam Bateman

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Happy New Year!

Our Christmas Lunch On December 18th was a great success.

Thanks to Sue Wright and her team for the delicious food, the committee for their excellent organisation, and friends and local businesses for donating raffle prizes.

The raffle raised over £300 so we shall be planning another party!

In February we shall be having the postponed party for new members. If you joined during 2025 and you have not received an invitation, please let me know.

Mary Brentnall.

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### SWAP (Short Walk and Pub)

The next SWAP will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

We shall meet at 10.45 in the Memorial Hall Car Park, Mayfield, TN20 6PJ, to walk or at the Middle House TN20 6AB at 12.15 for lunch only.

Please let me know if you would like to join us.

[marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com](mailto:marybrentnallu3a@gmail.com)







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### BOOK CLUB CHAPTER 3

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"Mayfield U3A is lucky enough to have three book groups but it's not always easy to find a space in one.

However, Book Club - Chapter 3 currently has space for a new member. We are a friendly group and have been running for three years now.

Recent book choices have included: Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo, Convenience Store Woman by Sayaka Murata and The Hearing Trumpet by Leonora Carrington.

You'll find our choices interesting and we include non-fiction as well as novels.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Christine Roberts on 07967593520."

This month we have an unusual entry - one of the original founders of Mayfield U3A , and most importantly someone who has been deeply involved in convening a group for all of the 20 years since it was started, died recently and we have an appreciation of her life, her dedication and her enthusiasms from her husband Chris Lyle.



PATRICIA ROBSON

1942-2025

My wife, Patricia Robson, died peacefully at Heffle Court Nursing Home on 25th November. Her full obituary describing her life as teacher, storyteller, local poet and ardent socialist is in the January Mayfield newsletter.

We came to Mayfield in 2004 just at the time Ann and Matt Scott were setting up our Mayfield U3A. Pat was already one of the governors of Mayfield Primary School. Pat suggested we formed a monthly poetry group.

The group began as Wordsworth Onwards to study British and Irish poetry chronological beginning with the lake poets, and in its expanded form is still thriving. (See Poetry Group). When Mayfacs was established Pat with Johnny Marsh started a monthly Dementia Support Group, with their carers, to share well-loved poems which Pat continued until her last few weeks..

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And Chris continues to carry the torch as below:-

#### POETRY GROUP

Month by month but for a summer and Christmas break as the last 20 years have gone by the Poetry Group has worked its way poet by poet through the canon of

British, Irish and American poetry. We start by studying six to eight poems by the chosen poet, and then after coffee each of us reads a supporting poem we've brought along. It's remarkably enjoyable.

This year, instead of a set programme, it will be a free choice of the poets to study. We meet at 10am on the fourth Monday in the month.

There's room for two new members, so should you wish to join please ring (01435 872445 ) or email me ([chrislyle@btinternet.com](mailto:chrislyle@btinternet.com))

We start in January. The poets we'll be reading include Longfellow, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost and William Carlos Williams.

Unfortunately for us, Gill Moore and her husband Ian moved to Leicester in September. Gill was a wonderful contributor to the group. So we're looking for someone to join us on our three-year venture into American verse.

Chris Lyle.

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