



Welcome to the May
2026 edition of
Mayfield and District
u3a newsletter.

Rosa Lady of Shalott

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mayfield and District u3a monthly meetings are held at 2.30pm in Five Ashes Village Hall, TN20 6JA, on the third Thursday of the month.

21st May : Marianne North - Adventurer, Botanist and Artist
by Teri S.Cooper. (See below)

18th June : Living and Nursing in India with Dee Larcombe

16th July : How to Survive in Medieval England by Toni Mount

No meeting in August

Heathfield and District u3a monthly meetings are held at 2pm in The Community Centre, TN21 0XG, on the third Tuesday of the month.

19th May : Churchill's Secret Army by Gilly Halcrow

16th June : The Inn at the Top - Neil Hanson on the Highest
Pub in Britain.

21st July : News from Chailey Heritage with Ian Kirby

No meeting in August

Chairman's Chat

As you may have already received your invitation and can see elsewhere in this newsletter, the committee is organising a summer party. We will be trying a new idea - drinks and canapés at the cricket club.

I hope many of you will be able to come and we will have a beautiful sunny evening. Make sure the date is in your diary, Thursday 25th June.

The East Sussex East network of uzas is holding a History Study Day in Eastbourne on Thursday 22nd October. There will be various workshops, a guided walk and talks. I am pleased to say one of the speakers will be Imogen Corrigan who, if you have heard her speak, you will probably agree is one of the best!

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SWAP (Short Walk and Pub)

The next SWAP will be on Tuesday 16th June.

Details to be circulated later so keep the date free.

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Our April monthly talk by Sarah Slater was a fascinating tale of the fashions and social rules relating to them of Georgian England, and we were shown the many layers involved as Sarah slowly dressed her model in her finery - all hand made by herself, and in the correct designated fabrics. Sumptuary laws governed which fabrics each rank might wear, in order to regulate the social hierarchy, and prevent people from dressing “above their station”

Mayfield u3a Bridge Group

Our bridge group meets every second Thursday of the month at Post Mill House, Argos Hill from 2pm until about 4.30pm.

It is a pleasantly relaxed and social affair, with a range of abilities, but at least a basic level of competence and understanding of the game is required.

For this reason, we usually play four hands and then mix about with different partners.

We stop halfway through for tea and home-made cake (many thanks for this to our generous hosts)

If you enjoy an occasional game of social bridge, why not give us a try ? You can come for a taster session to see if you like it - and us.

We arrange lifts between ourselves, so getting there need not be a problem.

Please contact Nick Gold at nickgold1651@gmail.com if you would like further information or to come to the next session.



YOUR COMMITTEE IS SPOILING YOU AGAIN.....with

DRINKS & CANAPES at MAYFIELD CRICKET CLUB

on THURSDAY 25TH JUNE

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED SO APPLY PROMPTLY

TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



MARIANNE NORTH - ADVENTURER, BOTANIST AND ARTIST

a talk by Teri Sayers Cooper

Five Ashes Village Hall

May 21st at 2.30

We are told that Teri Sayers Cooper “has been living and breathing Marianne North’s story for a long time”, surely a quote that suggests that this talk will be a good one.

A director of the East Sussex based arts charity Creative Force, and also of the Exploring Marianne North Project, Teri Sayers Cooper will be telling us all about this extraordinary Victorian woman who literally travelled from continent to continent, painting fauna and flora in their natural surroundings, and documenting what is becoming a rapidly disappearing world.

This went completely against the accepted norm of her time, which was to show plants in a much more formal setting and from the safety of the ladies’ drawing rooms - not travelling alone as she so often did with local guides. She must truly have been an adventurer, botanist and artist!

830 of her oil paintings are on permanent display at The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.



From the images available on the website, the gallery of her work is truly amazing, and blends her artistic skills and scientific knowledge in a wealth of colour and detail.

Our branch members are always welcome to bring friends to our meetings, for a small charge of £3.00.

It's also possible for those visitors to join us on a more permanent basis on the spot, for a very good value subscription fee of £15 for one, or £27.50 for two.

Plenty of information is available on our website, which is mayfield.u3asite.uk

Anna Thompson.

David Mead

As some of you will have already heard, David Mead, a long-term member of our u3a, has died recently. He was a member of both the Current Affairs and Science groups. If you would like to attend his funeral on Friday 29th May, please contact me for details.

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“Spring is the time of year when it is Summer in the sun and Winter in the shade”

