

The Buntingford Banner

Registered Charity No. 1185575

www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford/home

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It's that time again. A call for members to step forward and join the committee.

We have committee members stepping down at the October AGM as they will have reached the limit imposed upon their service by the Third Age Trust. It will be necessary to replace them.



We have had a lot of new members join us during the course of this last year, which is good news. New members may join the committee, there is no requirement for the committee to have been members for a minimum time.

The only requirement for committee members is a desire to get stuck in helping to coordinate the events and activities of the u3a. No experience is necessary nor any great expertise in any particular field - just enthusiasm.

The 2024-25 committee will be elected at the AGM on 14th October, nominations must be in shortly before then. If you would like any more detailed information on what the committee entails, just contact any of the existing members.

Please come forward, or, if you know someone who ought to come forward, please give them a nudge.

Martin Gray

LETTER from our Vice Chairman, Keith Bradfield

Hi Jean, I don't know whether my little story would be suitable for the newsletter.

The other day I lost my phone and credit card at Hartham while with my granddaughters. The phone has a security code on it so the lady who found it could not get into the phone, but the phone wallet had my u3a card in it with the phone number of my daughter on the back of it, hence she phoned my daughter who phoned one of my granddaughters, and I returned to Hartham and got my phone and card back. Of course many thanks to the lady who found it.

So putting my next of kin details on the back of my u3a Membership Card and always carrying it with me saved the day.

Keith

(PS. I never keep any credit cards with my phone but there is a note giving my home tel.no. if the worst were to happen.)

HERTFORDSHIRE YOUNG BOWLERS at RIVERAIN INDOOR BOWLS

If you have
grandchildren or
great grandchildren aged 8 - 18
this may be of interest.

It is being
organised by
Buntingford u3a member
Eddie Plume

**Hertfordshire Young Bowlers
at Riverain IBC**

Are YOU Aged between 8 and 18?
Are YOU Free on a Saturday Morning?
YES - then come and have some FUN with Indoor Bowls

**New to bowls or wanting to improve your Bowling skills
come along and join in with other young people. We have
a number of qualified coaches who are experienced in
helping young people develop their bowling skills from
Absolute Beginner to National Awards while having FUN.**

Saturday mornings starting from 28th September 2024

We have a full programme of coaching, fun bowls, competitions
as well as County and National Award schemes
Riverain is open at 9am and we run from 9.15 until 11.30
After their first session and if they wish to continue,
participants are required to join Riverain IBC,
£10 per annum and £4 per session attended.
Riverain IBC, Woolgrove Road, Hitchin, Herts.

A parent or guardian must be present for the whole session
Coaches are DBS checked and are nationally qualified.

For more information, please contact Eddie Plume via email at
edpley20@btinternet.com

NEW GROUP

Sunday Lunch for Solos 2

It is hoped that we will soon have another Sunday Lunch for Solos Group which is great news as our existing one is full. Details had not been finalised for this Newsletter but will be sent out asap.

Group News

THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

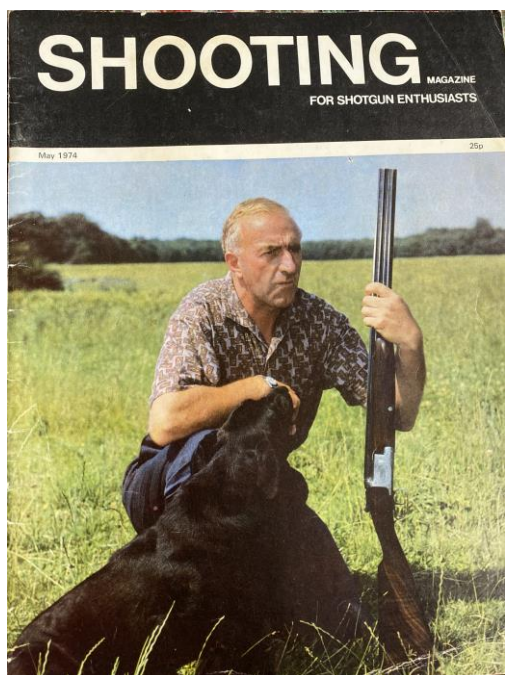


Steve Hisgrove, Sue Hisgrove, Steve Deeks, Jan Spong, Carol McKimmie, Mary Deeks, Jenny Helbig, Naomi Olley, Cynthia Kattau, Chris Burleigh, Christine Newman, Malcolm McKimmie, Dave Austin, Paul Clifton, Brian Tebbutt, Peter Remnant, Greg Amos.
Photo: Roger Henderson.

On Thursday 4th July (American Independence Day) the Thursday Walking Group walked through the former American Air Force Base at Nuthampstead and the picture shows them beside the American flag. The walk was organised by Peter Remnant, Dave Austin & Greg Amos who obtained permission for them to walk through the airfield which is now closed to the public.

OLYMPIC HISTORY

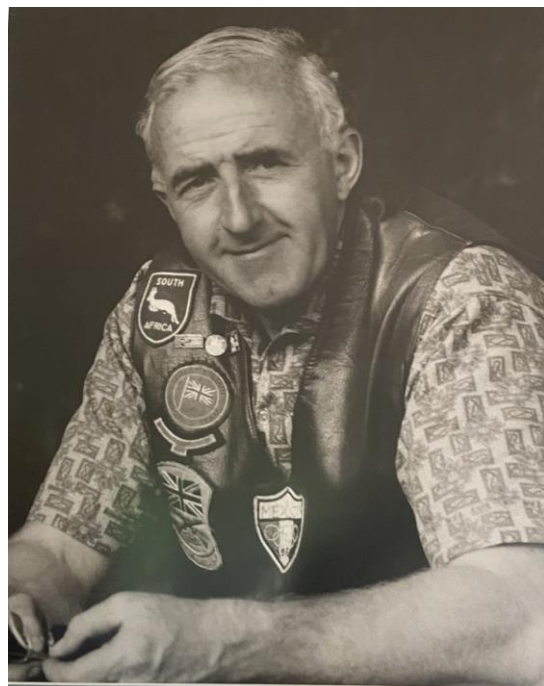
Member's News



Alec Bonnett



A few of Alec's badges from around the world



With faithful companion 'Judy'

Some of us were glued to our tv screens in July & August watching the Paris Olympics. After the trap shooting I saw a Facebook message to one of our members, Mary Deeks. The writer said it had reminded him of her father who had been in the 1968 Mexico Olympics. Wow, I couldn't let this go, so I asked Mary if I could write a piece about him for our Newsletter and she said yes, even arranging for me to meet his widow, Janet, for a chat.

Alec Bonnett was a farmer who was well used to handling a gun on the farm and was by all accounts very good at it. He lived at Cold Christmas, Ware. One day he went to a Game Fair and came top in the shooting competition. He was then invited to join the International Shooting Union and Eley, the company that made the clays and shots, offered to sponsor him.

He travelled to shoots all over the world and Janet showed me just two trophy cabinets full of his superb trophies – the rest had to be given away – plus another two with his fabric badges, showing the many countries that he had competed in.

In 1968 he received a letter telling him that he had been chosen to be one of the team of 10 Shooters going to the Olympics in Mexico, he was 45. Unfortunately, things didn't go his way - he wasn't feeling too well and sadly a medal was not to be his.

Back home he continued to compete and won more trophies and in 1974 was featured on the cover of 'Shooting' – "International Skeet team member and Winner of Last Year's BMW All-round Championship." Alec died in 1992 from Leukaemia aged 69.

(Mary and husband Steve are in the Thursday Walking Group photo above)

NB: It was at the 1968 Mexico Olympics that Dick Fosbury used his new technique, nicknamed the Fosbury Flop, in the High Jump, winning a Gold Medal for the USA.

GROUP NEWS

MONDAY KEEP FIT

Jacqui Smith posted this on our Facebook page on Monday 12th August. The temperature later rose to 32 degrees.

Super Super proud of my Monday U3A Exercise guys. Before it becomes too warm today 💙💛



WINE APPRECIATION



Shotley Vineyard: Graham, a professional WSET trained guide, talks to the group with the port of Felixstowe in the background.



Flatford Mill: Some of the group in front of the setting for the 'Hay Wain' the painting they are Holding.

At the end of July the Wine Appreciation Group visited Shotley Vineyard in Suffolk. The small vineyard was found derelict by young married couple Charlotte Davitt-Mills and her husband who purchased the 4 acre site in 2017 after falling in love with the beautiful setting and views. After seeking professional help and enrolling in a college course, Charlotte, with the help of family and friends, has turned the vineyard around and produced award winning wines. In the afternoon the group had a tour of Flatford Mill - 'Constable Country.'

LETs



The Engine



Upstairs on the Heritage Bus



Group photo taken from a small open window on the top deck of the Heritage Bus.

The LETs group visited the Epping & Ongar Railway where our u3a Vice Chairman, Keith Bradfield is a volunteer. The group had two trips along their track in a Vintage Train (whilst eating their Fish and Chips lunch) pulled by Thomas the Tank look-alike, followed by a short ride on a Heritage Bus.

FORTHCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 9th - Tim Perkins - Midshires Search and Rescue.
Tasked by the Police to search for vulnerable missing persons in Herts and Beds area.

MONDAY OCTOBER 14th - AGM

We meet at the Seth Ward Community Centre on the Second Monday of the month - doors open 1.30pm.

OUR GROUPS

Buntingford u3a Interest Groups

SWCC** – Seth Ward Community Centre * BBC** – Buntingford Bowls Club

#OGPS – Old George Pottery Studio, Puckeridge

~ URCH United Reformed Church Hall (opposite the Post Office)

If you wish to join a group please contact the Group Leader

Group Co-ordinator Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com

GROUP	VENUE	DAY & TIME	GROUP LEADER
Badminton FULL	*SWCC	Fridays 11-12	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Bookworms FULL	Fairfield	Last Wednesday 2.30 – 4.30	Anne Austin 01763 272 066 anne.austin555@btinternet.com
Braughing Shed Group NB: This is not a u3a gp	A Barn at Furneux Pelham	Wednesdays 12noon – 4pm	Jacqui Thorne 07557 966 526 jacquithorne@mail.com
Bridge	The Bury	Tuesdays 10-12	Phil Anderson 01763 274 201 philpoppy@btinternet.com
Canasta	The Golden Fleece Braughing	Tuesdays 2-4pm	Shelagh Mavin shelagh.disney@gmail.com
Carpet Bowls FULL	**BBC	Thursdays 10-12 (Late Sept-March)	Gill & Martin Gray 07717 220 431 gill.gray@mail.uk
Church Crawlers	Various Churches	1 st Tuesday 10am	Keith Bradfield 01763 448 914 - 07704 945 209 u3abuntchurchcrawlers@gmail.com
Clay Pigeon Shooting	Various	Occasional	Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Clay Pigeon Shooting Royston u3a	Nuthampstead Herts League Ground	Contact Group Leader for monthly date	Frank Martin theofmartin@outlook.com
Computer Group	On-line	Email	Martin Gray buntingfordu3a@proton.me
Crafty Chat	Various	1 st Monday 2-4pm	Kate Farquhar 01763 287 393 farquharkate@yahoo.co.uk
Current Affairs	Bridewell Close	1 st & 3 rd Thursday 7.30pm	Derek Cooper 01763 271 115
Guitar for Beginners	Crown Pub	Alternate Mons 2-4	Bill Hooper 01763 273 123 bunthoop@hotmail.com
Keep Fit	*SWCC	Mons 9.30-10.30 & 10.30-11.30	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Keep Fit Seated Exercise	~URCH Opp Post Office	Thursdays 1pm	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Leisure Afternoons	*SWCC Bunters Suite	3 rd Monday 2-3.30	c/o Keith Bradfield 01763 448 914 - 07704 945 209
Line Dancing	*SWCC	Tuesday 4.30	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
LETs	Various	London, Elsewhere & Theatres	Jean Cook Jean.M.Cook@btinternet.com
Mah Jong	The Bury	Tuesdays 2-4	Liz Cooper 01763 271 027 lizandmikecooper1@gmail.com
Musicians United The A Train Jazz Band	Cheshunt u3a	Mondays 10-12	Colin Meehan 07768 278 064 Steve Deeks 07392 298 788
Pétanque	The Crown	Fridays 12.30–3pm Summer	Dave Austin 01763 272 066 daustin2020@btinternet.com
Photography	Tann Bar	3 rd Tuesday 10am	David Dixon interestingplace@hotmail.com
Pickleball FULL	Cottered Village Hall	Mondays 11-1	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Pickleball 2	Cottered Village Hall	Fridays 10-12	Ditto
Pilates	*SWCC	Fridays 12.30-1.30	Jacqui Plummer plummerkj11@aol.com
Pottery	#OGPS	Thursdays 10-12	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Quizzes	Various	Occasional	Tim Marks timbo2256@yahoo.co.uk

Scrabble	Vicarage Road	Thursday afternoons Fortnightly	Sue Neal 07862 220 787 sueneal2957@yahoo.co.uk
Seated Exercise	~URCH Opp Post Office	Thursdays 1pm	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Sunday Lunches for Solos - FULL	Various	2 nd Sunday	Lyn Kendal-Archer 01763 271 972 lkendalarcher@outlook.com
Table Tennis	*SWCC	Wednesdays 1.30- 3.30	Dave Austin 01763 272 066 daustin2020@btinternet.com
Tennis NB. This is not a u3a Grp	Standon & Puckeridge Tennis Club	New Members welcome	Chairman Diana Foster dianafoster@btinternet.com
They Matter FULL	*SWCC Bunters Suite	Last Monday 2-4	Hilary Curtis 01763 661 508 hilarycurtis38@icloud.com
Walks – 3 Mile Walk	Various	Last Wednesday 11am	Liz Wright 07931 412 874 lizmoorsup@hotmail.com
Walks	Various	Wednesday am	Carol McKimmie 01763 271 054 carolmckimmie@yahoo.com
Walks	Various	Thursdays am	Barbara & Roger Henderson 01763 272 035 barbarahenderson87@outlook.com
Walks in London	London	Monthly Wed or Thurs	Mike Murfitt 07803 708 181 mikemurfitt@sky.com Tim Marks 07754 583 599timbo2256@yahoo.co.uk
Wine Appreciation FULL	*SWCC Bunters Suite	Last Thursday 8pm	Ron & Maureen Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk

Quiz Corner:

1. What are lasers and inkjets?
2. What was the first name of Bismarck, the 19th-Century German chancellor?
3. Which famous Scottish battle took place in 1314?
4. Where did the Flintstones live?
5. What sort of creature in a zander.

Answers at end of Newsletter.

Committee Contact Details

Chairman	Martin Gray	07588 708 257	buntingfordu3a@proton.me
Vice Chairman	Keith Bradfield	01763 448 914	krbradfield@googlemail.com
Treasurer	Michael Murfitt	07803 708 181	buntingfordtreasureru3a@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Tony Phillips	07518 169 682	a.phillips500@btinternet.com
Secretary	Sue Peters	07723 343 282	suemary1958@hotmail.com
Assistant Secretary	Tim Marks	07754 583 599	timbo2256@yahoo.co.uk
Membership Secretary	Lesley Stevens	01920 822 066	lesleystevens44@gmail.com
Groups Co-ordinator	Gill Alderton	01763 272 276	gillalderton@yahoo.com
Speaker Secretary	Mary Godfrey	07802 482 721	marygmusic@btinternet.com
Welfare Officer	Janet Murrells	01763 274 341	j.murrells@icloud.com
Webmaster	Martin Gray	07588 708 257	martingray@mail.uk
Non-committee: Greeters	Val Reedman	01763 272 135	valbuntu3a@gmail.com
Non-committee: Tea Rota	Hilary Curtis	01763 661 508	hilarycurtis38@icloud.com
Non-committee	Newsletter Editor & Buntingford Journal	Jean Cook	Jean.M.Cook@btinternet.com

Quiz Corner Answers: 1. Printers 2. Otto 3. Battle of Bannockburn 4. Bedrock
5. Fish