

2026 August



The Buntingford Banner

Registered Charity No. 1185575

www.u3asites.org.uk/buntingford/home

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As I'm sure you know, the Data Usage and Access Act 2025 has been passed, updating both the old Data Protection Act and GDPR. This month your committee has been examining the effect these updated regulations have on the way that we keep and use your information.

Many of the more ridiculous requirements have been dropped, for example websites don't have to ask you about cookies any more. But the rules still require us, as keeper of Personally Identifiable Information to keep your information private. Many of the detailed requirements have been clarified.

Just to remind you, we keep information on the Membership Database, which is itself protected and is not accessible even to all committee members. We don't pass that information to anyone except as required by law.

Where photographs are taken of u3a events, if you don't wish your photo to be published, in the Newsletter or elsewhere, let us know.

In the coming weeks we will be replacing the GDPR statement on the website with a DUAA statement and making some changes to the Membership Database to comply with the updated law.

GDPR = General Data Protection Regulation. DUAA = Data Usage and Access Act

Martin Gray



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT 1

Our apologies but there will be no Monthly Meeting in September as well as no meeting in August. This means that the next Monthly Meeting will be Monday 12th October which is also our AGM.

Please come and support your committee who work behind the scenes to make our u3a the success it is today with non-members – i.e. those still working - asking if they can join!!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT 2

Our Chairman, Martin Gray, has now finished his four year term of office – it's normally three years, but Martin kindly agreed to do a fourth.

No-one from the existing committee is able to take it over so we are appealing to the membership for someone to come forward and be our next Chairman.

If you enjoy being a member and belonging to one or more of our wonderful interest groups and would hate to see it fold, please contact Martin Gray 07588 708 257 or buntingfordu3a@proton.me who will be happy to give you a brief overview.

GROUP NEWS

CHURCH CRAWLERS



Susan Peters, Revd Sarah Bignall, Val Reedman, Gill Jackson, Maggie Bell, Sue Timbers, Carol Noble, Maron Ling, Trustee Dr Zahidi, Imam Moynul Islam, Jenny Dingley, Roger Murray, Heather Jackson, Pat Murray, Rita Eastman, Jean Handley, Group Leader Keith Bradfield.



It was a second visit to the Stevenage Muslim Community Centre for the group who first visited it in September 2018.

They were warmly welcomed by a young 44yr old Imam Moynul Islam who has been serving the community since 2005.

It was a blisteringly hot day in the middle of another heatwave. Imam Moynul gave two very interesting sessions with an outside break in the shade, in between, ending with some enthusiastic Q&As. They were delighted that the Revd Sarah Bigall, Buntingford's Assistant Curate could join them again.

THURSDAY WALKING GROUP

Hi Jean

Instead of sending you the usual posed group photo we thought we'd send this pic for a change.

Our last walk on Thursday 2nd July was just over 5 miles starting and ending at the Black Horse at Brent Pelham and was organised and led by Chris Burleigh.

Fifteen of us walked, of which fourteen travelled to and from Brent Pelham on the Lynx bus. This worked well and we all used our bus passes for a free trip.

The weather was nice and sunny but not too hot, unlike the 36 degrees the previous week.

The photo shows some of the group making their way in single file across a very ripe cornfield. The photo was taken by group member Bryan Roberts but we haven't included names of the individuals as it's a rear view.



Regards, Barbara & Roger (Henderson, Group Leaders)

(This is our second group using the Lynx bus for 'local' trips – so much nicer than car sharing and cheaper too with bus passes!)

SEATED EXERCISE GROUPS



Group 1

Back Row: Sandra Lewis, Lesley Jerome, Mary Palmer, Maureen Robertson, Jill Walshe, Lyn Chapman, Janet Murrells, Helen and Grant Sowerby

Front Row: Christine Menzies, Jill Palmer, Carlye (Instructor), Dennis Robertson, June Fairbrother, Maggie Bell, Sylvia Hamilton Hilary Curtis



Group 2

Back Row: Ian Simpson, Sandra Allports, Brenda Gladding, Janis Candler, Mary Lewis, Sandra Menzies, Ray Bedborough, Chris Hoefkins

Front Row: Keith Bill, Julia Peacock, Trudi Weber, Ann Griffin, Carlye (Instructor), Gill Gray, Ann Batten, Maureen Bedborough

And then there were two! At one time the Seated Exercise group was struggling then, all of a sudden, we have two – both full!! Please contact Ron Brighten for further information on

01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk

QUIZZES

Once again our u3a Quiz Team were victorious at a Quiz at The Pheasant in Great Chishill donating the £30 prize money to the local Food Bank.

Quizzers were Jenny Gottfried, Robert Bentley, Janice & Dave Baxter, Paul Booth and Tim Marks.

Congratulations again!

SWIMMING POOL UPDATE

The Trustees are now recruiting for a General Manager – closing date 7th August, proposed start date mid September.

They will shortly be recruiting for Full time/Part time casual Lifeguards – valid NPLQ qualifications required.

If you know of anyone who might be interested please contact Joanne Willett
jobs@wardfremanpool.org.

FORTHCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

AUGUST – NO MEETING

SEPTEMBER – NO MEETING

OCTOBER - Monday 12th October - AGM

**We meet at the Seth Ward Community Centre on the
Second Monday of the month - doors open 1.30pm.
AGM - 2pm prompt.**

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 Fran Feek fran.feek@hotmail.com			
<u>GROUP</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DAY & TIME</u>	<u>GROUP LEADER</u>
Badminton	*SWCC	Fridays 11-12 noon	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Bookworms FULL	Fairfield	Last Wed 2.30 – 4.30	Anne Austin 01763 272 066 anne.austin555@btinternet.com
Bridge	The Bury	Tuesdays 10-12	Phil Anderson 07484 122 847 philpoppy@btinternet.com
Carpet Bowls FULL	**BBC (Late Sep-Mar)	Thursdays 10-12	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	Nuthampstead Herts League Grnd	Monthly – contact GL	Bill Hooper 01763 273 123 bunthoop@hotmail.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	Black Bull Pub	1 st Thursday 7.30-.30pm	Susan Peters 07723 343 282 suemary1958@hotmail.com
Guitar for Beginners	Crown Pub	Alternate Mons 2-4	Bill Hooper 01763 273 123 bunthoop@hotmail.com
Keep Fit	*SWCC	Mondays 9.30-10.30 10.30-11.30	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Keep Fit Seated Exercise 1 strictly no casual drop-ins contact Ron Brighten (see column 4)	~URCH Opp Post Office	Thursdays 1pm	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Keep Fit Seated Exercise 2 strictly no casual drop-ins contact Ron Brighten (see column 4)	~URCH Opp Post Office	Thursdays 2pm	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Leisure Afternoons Come along for company, chat and learn some new board games.	*SWCC Bunter Suite	3 rd Monday 2pm-4pm with some adjustments for bank holidays!	Maggie Bell 01763 274 259 07485 360 012 a.bell100@btinternet.com
LETs (London, Elsewhere & Theatres)	Various	Various	Cindy Greaves cindykgreaves@me.com
Line Dancing	*SWCC	Tuesdays 4.15-5.15	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
London Walks See Walks			
Mah Jong	The Bury	Tuesdays 2-4pm	Liz Cooper 01763 271 027 lizandmikecooper1@gmail.com
Musicians United The A Train Jazz Band	Cheshunt u3a	Mondays 10-12	Cheshunt u3a Colin Meehan 07768 278 064 Steve Deeks 07392 298 788
Pétanque	The Crown	Fridays 1pm-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 11-1pm	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Pickleball 2	Cottered Village Hall	Fridays 10-12	Ditto
Pickleball 3	Cottered Village Hall	Wednesdays 10-12	David Baxter 07745 501 965 coverupholstery@aol.com
Pilates FULL New day and time w.e.f. Thurs 15 Jan 2026	*SWCC	Thursdays 3.30-4.30	Jacqui Plummer plummerkj11@aol.com
Pottery FULL	#OGPS	Thursdays 10-12	Gill Alderton 07984 039 016 gillalderton@yahoo.com
Quiz Nights	Various	Occasional	Tim Marks timbo2256@yahoo.co.uk

Scrabble FULL	Vicarage Road	Thursday afternoons Fortnightly	Sue Neal 07862 220 787 sueneal2957@yahoo.co.uk
Seated Exercise - See Keep Fit	-	-	c/o Ron Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk
Sunday Lunches for Solos 1 FULL	Various	2 nd Sunday	Lyn Kendal-Archer 01763 271 972 lkendalarcher@outlook.com
Sunday Lunches for Solos 2 FULL – reserve list	Various	4 th Sunday	Fran Feek 07775 857 335 fran.feek@hotmail.com
Table Tennis	*SWCC	Wednesdays 1.30-3.30	Dave Austin 01763 272 066 daustin2020@btinternet.com
The Thursday Group Go along and try your hand at darts, crib, dominoes, snooker, pool or just for a chat.	Social Club	Thursdays from 2.15	Ian Round 01763 272 276 ianround@yahoo.com
They Matter - FULL Making activity mats for people with dementia. Donations of buttons, ribbons, fabric, zips, etc., always appreciated	*SWCC Bunters Suite	Last Monday 2-4	June Fairbrother 01763 271 600 fairjune1181@gmail.com
Walks – 3 Mile Walk	Various	Last Wednesday 11am	Norman Jones 07766 367 983 normanbjones1@gmail.com
Walks	Various	Wednesdays 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
Wine Appreciation FULL	*SWCC Bunters Suite	Last Thursday 7.30pm	Ron & Maureen Brighten 01763 273 175 ron.bofcw@tiscali.co.uk

Committee Contact Details

Chairman	Martin Gray	07588 708 257	buntingfordu3a@proton.me
Vice Chairman	Tim Marks	07754 583 599	timbo2256@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer	Michael Murfitt	07803 708 181	buntingfordtreasureru3a@gmail.com
Secretary	Christopher (Chris) Candler		chriscandler@hotmail.com
Membership Secretary	Lesley Stevens	07767 152 259	buntingfordu3a@gmail.com
Groups Co-ordinator	Fran Feek	07775 857 335	fran.feek@hotmail.com
Asst Groups Co-ordinator	Sue Batchelor	01763 271 884	sue.clark2007@googlemail.com
Speaker Secretary	Susan Peters	07723 343 282	speakersecu3abunt@gmail.com
Welfare Officer	Caroline Nash	07746 068 275	carolandynash@aol.com
Webmaster	Martin Gray	07588 708 257	martingray@mail.uk
Monthly Meeting Chairs Rota	Mike Murfitt	07803 708 181	mikemurfitt@sky.com
Non-committee: Greeters	Val Reedman	01763 272 135	valbuntu3a@gmail.com
Non-committee: Tea Rota	Sue Batchelor	01763 271 884	sue.clark2007@googlemail.com
Non-committee: Raffle	Evelyn Smith		
Non-committee: Library	Maureen & Dennis Robertson		
Non-committee	Newsletter Editor & Buntingford Journal	Jean Cook	Jean.M.Cook@btinternet.com
Our Website	https://buntingford.u3asite.uk/		
Our Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/groups/143301880900601/?locale=en_GB		