



REDBOURN

Registered Charity 1156462

Notes and Information from the Chair

May General Meeting

Wednesday 20th May at Redbourn Village Hall

Our talk was titled – ‘Gareth Williams & The Body in the Bag’ - Paul Barwick

Gareth Williams, an MI6 spy, was found naked, locked inside a sports bag in his bath. Paul traced Gareth's life and introduced us to the murky world of espionage and confronted the various possibilities as to his demise. The outcome was inconclusive but Paul's talk was very good and kept the audience interest throughout.

A plea for new Committee Members.

Our next AGM is fast approaching, and we need willing members to put themselves forward for election to the committee.

Every organisation needs frequent change of Committee Members bringing new ideas and momentum. Three of our members are overdue for replacement; Secretary, Anne 13 years; Groups Coordinator, Val B 5 years; Chair, 4 years. Any member is eligible to apply, so, if you are interested in any of these roles, please have a word with me or any Committee Member. Candidates are more than welcome to join us at our monthly meetings to see how it all works. We are a friendly bunch and easy to work with, so come and see for yourself.

Volunteers needed to join our RUGS Group

A plea from our 'RUGS' leader, Vic Wells, for more volunteers to help set up the hall and refreshments catering for these meetings. It's for one hour before the meeting and clearing up at the end. You will help only when you can to spread the load, so it is not too demanding and the more hands the merrier. Please contact Vic after the meeting or email wellsvic13@gmail.com to offer your support.

National Volunteers' Week – First week in June

This is to recognise and give thanks and support to all volunteers around the country. There are millions of volunteers countrywide and u3a is dependant on the good works of members who freely give their time to the benefit of our wonderful organisation and its members. So, on behalf of our 421 members, **A BIG THANK YOU to every one of our volunteers.**

Theatre and Social events

Annette has worked hard to prepare lots of social events throughout 2026. See 2026 Diary dates below where there is so much entertainment for you to look out for and enjoy! Please contact Annette via annette.cotter@icloud.com with your suggestions on what events you might like her to consider.

Interest Groups – Currently we have over 50 groups, with quite a few more in the pipeline, so there is lots of choice. Most groups are able to welcome new members, but if you wish to join a group that is advertised as being currently full, please contact the group leader direct, or our groups coordinator, Val Brown, via vabrown50@gmail.com or 01582 793174

Diary Dates for 2026

1st July – Coach outing to Sandringham, House and Garden (sold out)

12th September – Coach outing to Duxford 'Battle of Britain Weekend'

(50 tickets to be published end of May)

24th October – The BIG Quiz

5th November – 'Sinatra the Musical' (35 tickets published mid-August)

26th November – Coach outing to Canterbury Christmas Market. Guided tours of the Cathedral a possibility. (50 tickets published early September)

Diary Dates for 2027 4th January – Matthew Bourne's 'Cinderella', Sadlers Wells matinee – (30 tickets published early October)

Wed 17th June – our next talk will be

Bees and Honey: Tradition, Myth, Symbol & Magic - Peter Smith

Peter is a beekeeper and all-round bug enthusiast. His light-hearted talk will focus on some of the stories that continue to influence us today, and how the different aspects of bees and honey permeate our culture.

Finally – if you have any issues or are unsure who to contact, please reach out to me.

Barry Welch, Chair

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