

Redbourn U3A Newsletter Summer 2026

Greetings from the Chair.

Barry Welch

Welcome to the summer 2026 edition of our Newsletter. I do hope that you will enjoy reading it and I am grateful to Lynn Kennedy for putting it all together on your behalf.

As I write this introduction, the temperature is soaring and likely to break the May record of 32C on Bank Holiday Monday, or so we're told. If only all school holidays could be like this! Just great for those of us, like me, going on holiday; a rare occurrence, I have to say (the weather, not the holiday!)

Now, the first week of June is a national celebration of all those who volunteer in one way or another. Here in u3a we acknowledge and celebrate all that our very own volunteers contribute to the smooth running of the organisation on behalf of the membership. And don't forget that any one of us can do a great job in helping that extra bit to lighten the load of interest group leaders to the benefit of all.

I know, for instance, that more volunteers are needed to ensure that the monthly general meetings are organised in good time to welcome our audience. You wouldn't be expected to help every third Wednesday for an hour or so, but the more helpers we have, the better to spread the load of those who have been doing it for years! Just speak to Vic Wells at the meetings or have a word with any of the committee members. You will be very welcome, I know. (See Vic's appeal article below)

Thank you also to those who have renewed their membership in good time. The renewal rate was 95 percent plus and we have, in addition, recruited a further 20 members from 1st April, enabling us to grow and further increase our impressive number of Interest Groups.

Many of our members have joined after speaking with someone already involved in Redbourn u3a, so spread the word that we may continue to thrive.

Enjoy all that we have, and I wish you a wonderful summer to come!

Redbourn U3A Interest Groups

Val Brown

The u3a is an organisation that provides opportunities for members to join together and build on and develop their mutual interests. Redbourn u3a currently has more than fifty interest groups.

The most successful groups are those where all members contribute. One of the problems of getting older is that skills tend to ossify. Belonging to and contributing to a group ensures that brain (and the body) continue to develop new skills.

Some of our groups are very popular- Explorers, Solo, History and Wine all have waiting lists or are refusing new members. Leading a group is not difficult. Leaders generally find that members have ideas and are willing to lead sessions.

If you have expressed an interest in a group that is full please consider forming a new group. Many of our existing leaders are prepared to give new groups some initial support.

U3A LIST OF SPEAKERS FOR June – December 2026

Maggie Scarborough

Monthly Meetings are on 3rd Wednesdays of the month, doors open at 2.00pm in Village Hall

17TH JUNE Bees and Honey – tradition, myth, symbol & magic Peter Smith

15TH JULY Rev Henry Small, rector of St Albans and the missing £20,000
Jon Mein

19TH AUG AGM – followed by Al Capone Roger Mason

16TH SEPT Grace Darling and saving lives at sea James Taylor

21ST OCT Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies Martin Lloyd(

18TH NOV The Bayeux Tapestry Gary Fisher

16TH DEC Christmas Music Mark & Jane Andrews

Upcoming Social Events

Annette Cotter

Sandringham (Wait List)

The following will be advertised in the next few months

- Duxford Battle of Britain weekend
- Sinatra the Musical
- Canterbury Christmas Market. With optional tour of the Cathedral
- Matthew Bourne's Cinderella at Sadlers Wells

RUGS (Really Useful Group)

Vic Wells

One of the groups we have within the U3A is the Really Useful Group, known as RUGs for short. The group is made up of volunteers who help out with setting up and taking down of any venue when there is a meeting, they also help with displays and refreshments. When we use the village hall for instance we have between 8 and 9 volunteers who set out chairs and tables, work the reception, put up the display notices, and dispense teas and coffees. The members in the group do an invaluable job and are truly appreciated for what they do. However, there are only a few of them so we are always asking the same small group to do everything. We would benefit from a few more volunteers joining the RUGs.

A week or so before each meeting or event an email is sent to all RUGs members asking if they are able to help. Volunteers respond if they are available and with the sort of role they are able to help with. There is no obligation to help with every event just those for which you have time and feel able for. If you feel you could join the group please could you contact Vic Wells or any other member of the U3A committee to have your name added to the list of potential volunteers.

GROUP REPORTS

Architecture Group

Geoffrey Garrad-Cole



We meet monthly in the Old School Room for discussions and talks on subjects of architectural interest and we have also been given a tour of central St Albans by an St Albans City Guide to learn about the many prominent historical and modern buildings of interest.

Other topics covered recently at our monthly meetings have included 'The Grand Mosque of Abu Dhobi' and 'Spanish Mudejar Architecture' with our next talk being on the development of the Art Deco movement,

New members are always welcome as would be anybody who could give us a short talk on an architectural subject

Bowls

Shirley Brooke

(NB the Bowls Group have now teamed up with the Redbourn Bowls Club but Shirley has asked for this to be included)



New members of any ability are most welcome to join **Redbourn Bowls Club** at any time during the year, so please do get in touch if you would like to come and try bowls (trial sessions are free!).

Our informal roll-ups run on Monday and Friday at 10.00 am. A Coach Bowls level 2 qualified Coach is available for new bowlers and established players.



We are very excited that plans are progressing well for a brand new artificial bowling green, which is part of the Recreation Centre redevelopment and due to be laid later this year. We are a very welcoming club and enjoy various social events throughout the year too.

To find out more, please contact:

Jez Cronshaw – Coach Bowls Level 2 Qualified Coach

Jeremy_cronshaw@hotmail.com

07525 867450

Redbourn Bowls Club, Redbourn Leisure Centre, Dunstable Road, Redbourn AL3 7PP

Canasta group.

Ann Palmer.



The Canasta group continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.

Lately with so many Mondays falling on a Bank Holiday our meetings have been limited. We host in members homes where appropriate.

We welcome new members and if you are interested contact me on annjennie06@gmail.com

Current Affairs Group

Daniela Pountney

We continue to meet on the last Wednesday of every month at 2pm, at the house of one of the group's members. We agree on a topic in advance but are always ready to talk about the news of the day. Of which there is a lot!

We began the new year with a discussion on Pros and cons of introducing ID cards in the UK. The group concluded that while we have a country with a strong parliament, a free press and independent judiciary, ID Cards could be a valuable asset.

In February, we went back to basics with the question: Sources of accurate, verifiable news information that can be trusted: which sources of information do we trust and why? Is the "truth" too often what we want it to be? We looked at TV news, news agencies, newspapers and social media. It was interesting to hear the range and variety of trusted news sources used by group members.

In March we were spoiled for choice, as it were, and we had to choose between legalising assisted dying or Europe's response to Trump's request for military assistance in the Strait of Hormuz. We discussed Assisted Dying: we were broadly in favour of the proposed Bill but detractors were concerned about the dangers for vulnerable people.

At our April meeting the topic was Social Media: blessing or curse? We might have been slightly biased, given our time in life.

For May, we will be discussing the rise of Populist politics and authoritarian politicians. I predict the recent "fun and games" in the Labour Party will also feature.

We are now in a position to expand our group and look forward to welcoming two new members in the coming months. If anyone would like to give the group a try, please do contact Val Brown.

Curry Club

Alan Thompson

The Curry group continues to meet roughly every six weeks and is very well supported with around 18 attendees at each venue. In March we enjoyed a very good meal at Deshi Spice in Hemel Hempstead - unusual location on an industrial estate. The next meal is booked at a new Indian in Harpenden, followed by a Thai in late June/Early July and possibly a trip to London later in the summer.

EXPLORERS 2

Jan Blanchard

So far in 2026 Explorers 2 have enjoyed several trips, including a New Year meal, a tour of Parliament, a guided tour of the Architecture of the Natural History Museum and a visit to the V and A Museum archives.

Most recently we went to Chelsea for the Chelsea in Bloom festival and a tour of the Chelsea Physic Garden. We started off with a walk along the Kings Road looking at the flower displays in front of the shops and the large set piece arrangements in prominent areas. The theme this year was “Out of this World” and many of the displays certainly were. Everyone’s favourite was the huge globe, made of flowers and lichens, dedicated to Sir David Attenborough’s 100th birthday. It featured a life size gorilla, polar bear and baby, a leopard and many other species. As you can see from the photograph, it had to be seen to be believed. Other favourites were a giant astronaut and Poseidon emerging from the waves in his horse drawn chariot. Dr Who’s phone box also made an appearance.

The Chelsea Physic Garden was established in its current location, after its previous premises were destroyed in the Great Fire of London. The land was leased to the Apothecaries by Sir Hans Sloane for £5 per year, in perpetuity, provided the land was used for the training of physicians. Hans Sloane had himself been physician to the Governor of Jamaica and made a very advantageous marriage to a plantation heiress, which enabled him to buy the entire Manor of Chelsea. Thus, although the source of his fortune was rooted in slavery, he was able to use it to benefit society for many years to come.

In the garden and we saw and learned about the uses (and misuses) of the many and various plants in the garden, including uses in cooking, perfume making, industrial processes, dyeing and, of course, medicine – followed closely by the poison garden. Among the hundreds of uses we found that the Wardrobe Manager for the National Theatre visits here to glean plant to make original dyes for costumes; the ginkgo tree, a living fossil dating back to the Jurassic period, is so hardy and resistant to pollution that specimens even survived the Hiroshima bombing fallout; and prickly pear spines were used at the original needles for gramophones. Also, a Wardian Case which was developed to transport plant specimens and which enabled collectors to masquerade as Chinese workmen to steal tea plants and transport them to Darjeeling to set up the tea industry. Medicinal uses were fascinating and it was surprising to learn that 75-80% of the world’s population is still reliant on plants for medicine. It was, therefore, no surprise to hear that new uses for plant extracts are still being discovered and developed, such as the sap of the Silver Birch which is currently used in cancer research. Finally, we inspected the poison beds, and it was here that Agatha Christie came to train in 1917 in her capacity as a nurse and where

she developed her extensive knowledge of poisons to inform her writing. Despite the group's clear fascination with the topic, as can be seen from the group picture, everyone came home in full health and enjoyed a hearty lunch.

FLOWER ARRANGING

Rayna Shiach



*We arrive with foliage and flowers, our arrangements to make.
Rayna critiques at the end, over tea and cake.
We're never quite sure what we'll achieve,
But what we create you'd never believe.
Along the way there's friendship and fun
The most important when all's said and done
(words by Susan Aldridge)*

FUZZY FRENCH

Liz Ellis

The idea of the group is to recover long lost French language skills and pick up new ones. As we have discovered we all read better than we talk such was our school education. Gradually we are becoming more confident and all having a go. We watch video clips and pick up techniques for squashing words together and sounding less formal. It's a friendly group and we have a laugh at our own mistakes but help each other to improve. We read a French story book out loud and are all happy to be corrected on our pronunciation or translation. Of course we try a bit of franglais and ask Google Translate relevant questions.

Topics of conversation are wide and varied. We have brought objects from home to tell their history and manufacture. We have heard about amazing holidays - cycling the length of Europe, visiting jungles, cruising, seeing geysers in Iceland, penguin chicks on remote islands or going underground in neolithic tombs. We play games of

memory and generally time flies during our afternoon. We are becoming more French and a bit less fuzzy!

Garden Group

Jane Allison.



Our 2026 programme began with our planning meeting in January. We decided on a mix of NGS Open Days, National Trust and English Heritage properties and in August we will have our meeting visiting two of our members gardens.

In March we braved cold blustery March winds to visit the gardens of Wrest Park at Silsoe in Bedfordshire. English Heritage took over the estate in 2006 and embarked on an ambitious twenty year redevelopment programme which has included restoring parts of the garden to the original formal French style. Our garden guide took us to various parts of the garden and explained how over three centuries, successive owners of the estate put their own stamp on the gardens. Capability Brown had a hand in the work in the late 1750's designing meandering pathways alongside the canal which flows through the woodland area. A fairly recent addition has been the wild garden, much loved by 21st century garden designers. Our tour started and finished at the Italian parterre garden which was densely planted with bright seasonal bulbs and flowers.

Grumpy Old Men

Geoffrey Garrad-Cole

We meet monthly in The Holly Bush and continue to grump about whatever is topical or has particularly upset us at the time. It is fairly obvious that so far we have totally failed to set the world to rights but its fun trying and we would welcome new members to assist us in this herculean task. Currently we have 9 members with with an average attendance of 4 or 5 so there is room for a couple more.

Italian Group

Dorothy White

We continue to meet twice a month, for general conversation plus discussion on a variety of topics. These have included:



Lotteria per un quadro di Picasso (Picasso painting raffle)

Di cosa hai paura? (What you are afraid of), Viaggiare (Travel),
Le Olimpiadi invernali (Winter Olympics), Proverbi italiani (Italian Sayings),
Mangiare sano (Healthy Eating), Albero genealogico (Family Tree), and Festivals.

Painting & Drawing Group

Peter Brown

The Redbourn u3a painting and drawing group put up a small display of our work for the monthly meeting. Our twice monthly meetings have been well attended

Poetry Readings

Sue Hill

We are a stable, happy group, continuing to meet monthly, choosing themes or poets in a very democratic way. We have 1 new member but, any more than 7 would make it difficult to read and discuss the poems in our 2 hour slot.

Poetry 2

Jackie Haynes

Poetry 2 is discussing poems about Summer at our next meeting....an ideal topic for this heatwave!.

POLES TOGETHER (NORDIC WALKING)

Janet Lang

The Poles Together (Nordic Walking group) has welcomed 3 new members. We had very good attendance throughout the winter. As an all weather group we have not needed to cancel and we enjoy our walks and talks, followed by coffee.

The Spring was especially lovely as we watched bluebells and wild garlic emerge early after a wet Spring. Walks in local woods have been a highlight, appreciating the intense blue beneath dappled sunshine through the beeches.

The weeks commonly welcome 6-12 regular walkers who enjoy walking for about an hour and quarter. All walks are local and start from the Cricket Pavillion

Solos 1

Jackie Maule

We continue to meet regularly, mainly for meals but also cinema/theatre visits, activities within the village and now the better weather has arrived, afternoon tea gatherings in some of our members gardens.

New members are welcome.....

Thursday Dining Group

Val Beale



The Thursday Dining Group is a new group that meets in the evening of the third Thursday of the month. The group will decide collectively where to meet next, choosing among the many local restaurants and hostelrys, with booking of the venues being shared by group members.

The Group met for its first meal out on Thursday 21st May at The Prae Wood Arms, with 12 members attending. The venue didn't require us to pre-order and were happy for us to all pay individually. Unfortunately, the date clashed with the U3A afternoon theatre trip to see *To Kill a Mockingbird*, so a number of us were late getting to the Prae which meant the food was served rather later than we would have preferred. However, this didn't stop us having a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The plan is to book The White Horse for June and Chef Peking on a future occasion.

Ukulele Group

Geoffrey Garrad-Cole



Our main focus over the last few weeks has been on rehearsing for, planning and hosting an afternoon of ukulele playing in the Village Hall attended by eight local u3a ukulele bands. This was held on Saturday 18th April and seemed to go well with everybody enjoying themselves. Many thanks to Val Churchhouse for organising the refreshments and Simon Denbigh for editing and posting the videos.

For anyone interested they can find edited highlights of all the group's performances on YouTube Under 'Redbourn UkeBash 26' - we are listed under our stage name of The Ol' Packers.

We continue to perform at local functions and for care homes and already have a booking for Christmas week. We are looking forward to playing for The Friends of The High Street's 'Gigs in The Garden' afternoon in Cumberland Gardens on Saturday July 18th - come and watch us.



Our walking group now has 25 members. It is a good job that they do not all turn up on our walk days. We seem to average 10 - 12 members at each meet,

We do not walk through the winter, but start in mid-March. The first picture taken 27th March 2026 shows our group walking from Sandridge in a clockwise fashion. This is a footpath along the edge of a farmer's field. Everyone has someone to talk to ... but we change around randomly. As leader, I try to speak to everyone at some time during our walks.

The second picture taken on 8th May 2026, shows a few of our group taking a breather at Cromer Hyde 2/3rd through our walk. Brocket Hall is in the distance. Hertfordshire is such a picturesque county. Our photos have been taken by Sylvia Thompson.

ANSWERS to January's NAME THE MEALS QUIZ

Graham Lawrence

- 1: B5 & E4 – Bacon & Egg
- 2: F4 & C5 – Fish & Chips
- 3: T4 I2 T3 H4 – Toad In The Hole
- 4: R5 B4 & Y9 P7 – Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding
- 5: I5 S4 – Irish Stew
- 6: W5 R7 – Welsh Rarebit
- 7: C7 P3 – Cottage Pie
- 8: L5 & B5 – Liver & Bacon
- 9: B5 B5 O2 T5 – Baked Beans On Toast
- 10: S7 D4 & C7 – Spotted Dick & Custard
- 11: B7 & M4 – Bangers & Mash
- 12: S9 B10 – Spaghetti Bolognaise
- 13: C6 C3 C5 – Chilli Con Carne
- 14: B5 & B6 P7 – Bread & Butter Pudding
- 15: C3 A2 V3 (non-English name) – Coq Au Vin
- 16: C7 P5 – Cornish Pasty
- 17: T5 & O6 – Tripe & Onions
- 18: L5 M8 P3 – Lemon Meringue Pie
- 19: F7 & M5 P4 – Faggots & Mushy Peas
- 20: C7 T5 M6 (non-British origin) – Chicken Tikka Masala
- 21: K8 – Kedgeree
- 22: C6 & B8 – Cheese & Biscuits
- 23: S9 P3 – Shepherd's Pie
- 24: J3 R4 P4 Jam Roly Poly

Redbourn U3A Group List

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
Architecture Geoffgc11@gmail.com	Monthly Thursday		SPACES
Book Group Irene Goodwin 01582-713840 irenecgoodwin@gmail.com	Meets monthly on 3 rd Monday at 2pm. Members' homes	Books are selected in advance and discussed at the next meeting. Library orders books. We never fail to be amazed at the different views and opinions expressed!	FULL
Bridge Improvers Inger Cooper 07504187185 cooper.inger7@gmail.com		Two tables on Tuesdays accommodating ten players, EBU rules.	FULL
Bridge (Social) Janet Walters janet.walters9@gmail.com	Fourth Thursday of month, 2.30pm. 15 Cumberland Drive	Non-competitive, with a cup of tea and a chat.	SPACES
Canasta Ann Palmer annjennie06@gmail.com	1 st and 3 rd Mondays	New group beginning November 2025	Full
Card & Board Games Val Churchhouse valerie.churchhouse@ntlworld.com	2 nd and last Tuesday of month at Woollams. Members required to contribute £2/meeting	Play and learn different card and board games. Games as decided by the group.	SPACES
Cribbage Barry Welch 01582-626443/07956-400493 barrywelch@ntlworld.com	Meets monthly on 2 nd and 4 th Wed 3pm at Hollybush PH	Play Cribbage	SPACES
Culture Vultures Jane Thomas llewellajane@hotmail.com	First Tues of the month At 2pm	Visits to art galleries, etc.	FULL
Current Affairs Daniela Pountney daniela@thepountneys.co.uk	Last Wednesday of month 2.00pm-3.30pm		SPACE
Curry Club Alan Thompson alan1955redbourn@gmail.com	We aim to meet approximately every six weeks at a good local restaurant or sometimes further afield. The Group is aimed at Curry aficionados who do not have the opportunity to visit restaurants.		FULL

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
Explorers Gp 1 Austin Prall (Facilitator) 07910 998423 austinprall@yahoo.co.uk Anne Finnis (Administrator) 01582-794147 annefinnis@hotmail.com	Meets monthly 2 nd Thursday 9.30-5.00pm	Outings by bus or train to places of interest.	SPACES
Explorers Group 2 Jan Blanchard j.blanchard@btinternet.com	Meets every 4-6 weeks on to plan outings which are held on varying days.	Outings by train/car to places of interest chosen by group members.	FULL
Flower Arranging Rayna Shiach 01582-792701 rayna18@hotmail.co.uk	Meets monthly on 4 th Wed 2pm at St John Fisher Catholic Church	Members are given list of requirements. Members provide own foliage. Rayna has supply of florist items available at cost.	FULL
French (Intermediate) Sigrid McFadyen 07402-020330 sigridsmcf@gmail.com	Meets fortnightly on 2 nd and 4 th Monday 2.00-3.30pm	A range of pre chosen topics discussed in a light hearted way.	FULL
French (Rusty) Val Brown 01582-793174 Vabrown50@gmail.com	Meets Fridays 3.30pm -5.00pm	Conversation and no grammar – informal and friendly group. (Note at least A level standard)	FULL
Fuzzy French (Beginners Conversation) Liz Ellis	Meets Monthly 2 nd Wednesday at 2.30pm		SPACE
Gardening Jane Allison jane_allison@hotmail.co.uk	2 nd Wednesday once a month 2.00pm	We meet in a variety of garden settings. Our gardens, private gardens open to the public on certain days, NGS gardens, English Heritage / National Trust gardens and garden centres. We have also included flower related workshops in our programme	SPACES
German (Rusty) brgunson@gmail.com	2nd or 3rd Monday at 3.30-5.00pm	A fun mix of reading, translation, audio/visual and music!	FULL

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
Geography Janet Chard	Meets monthly – usually 2 nd Tuesday of the month.	Topics loosely appertaining to geography – chosen by members.	WOULD WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Grumpy Old Women 1 Alice Bugar 01442-255427 alicebugar@aol.com	Meets 3 rd Thursday of month 2-4pm	Topics decided by members.	FULL
Grumpy Old Men Geoff Garrad-Cole 01582-794147 Geoffgc11@gmail.com	Meets 4 th Thursday of the month 2.30pm at The Hollybush PH.	Topics decided by members.	SPACES
History Mario Violentano 01582-792302 Mario_violentano@hotmail.com	Meets on 3 rd Tuesday of month at 2.30pm in the Hollybush Schoolroom.	Topics chosen and led by the group. Occasional trips out.	FULL But contact GC if you would like to be added to the waiting list.
Healthier Horizons Michael Doyle michael.doyle1404@gmail.com	Mondays and Thursdays 1.00pm-2.00pm	Focus on improving health	New Group Spaces
Italian Dot White 07941 739078 dewhite1951@gmail.com	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday each month, 3.30-5pm.	Friendly group for conversation on varied topics, plus activities to improve our Italian.	SPACE
Italian (Improvers) wendybloisi@btinternet.com	Meets 1st Wednesday and third Tuesday from 2.00pm-3.30pm	Post beginner	FULL
Literature/Books Symon Vegro 07912 398000 symonvegro@me.com	Meets monthly 2 nd Thursday Members' homes	Topics chosen by group for discussion	FULL
Mah Jong Roger Hall 01582 622422 rogerphall@hotmail.com	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday mornings, 10-12 Location: Woollams, Redbourn	Chinese tile game – challenging but fun!	SPACES
Music Appreciation Jane Andrews 07779-143432 janeshill@hotmail.com	Meets 1 st Wednesday of month 3-5pm	Focus on 1 or 2 pieces of music.	FULL

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
Painting/Drawing Peter Brown Pjbrown4242@gmail.com	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Monday 10.30am-12.30pm at the Studio Beaumont Hall Lane	Painting and Drawing Practice	WAITING LIST
Pickleball Lyn Lawrence Lynn Kennedy	Meets every Wednesday 10.00am-11.00am Harpenden Leisure Centre	Play Pickleball	SPACES
Pink Floyd and Opera Symon Vegro symonvegro@me.com 07912 398000	Meets monthly third Tuesday Hollybush PH 7.30pm	Listening to and discussing music of all types	SPACES
Play Reading Mark Andrews 01582-792825 m.bjornsen@hotmail.com	Meets 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2-5pm.	Various plays selected to read.	SPACES (especially men wanted)
Poetry Reading Sue Hill 01582-793785 suemhill7@gmail.com	Meets monthly on first Monday of month.	Small group. Topic chosen and members take a poem to read and discuss.	FULL
Poetry 2 Jackie Haynes	Monthly		Space
Poles Together (Nordic Walking) Jan Lang janetklang@googlemail.com	Meets every Thursday 9.30am at the Cricket Pavilion, Redbourn Common	Nordic Walking 60-90 mins on a variety of Redbourn footpaths finishing with coffee at the Pavilion. Attendance at sessions provided by St Albans to Nordic UK recommended before joining group. Specialist Nordic Poles are required, available to buy online.	Waiting List
Portuguese (Post Beginners) vabrown50@gmail.com	Twice monthly	1 st Monday 2.30-4.00pm 3 rd Tuesday 9.30-11.00am	SPACE
Quantum Physica symonvegro@me.com		Discussions on Science	FULL
Quiz annette.cotter@icloud.com		Meets at the Holly Bush Wednesday evening twice monthly	Full but room for keen quizzers

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
Railway Group Graham Lawrence 01582-793355 grahamlawrence1@btinternet.com	2nd Tuesday of month 2.00-4.00pm at the Chequers pub.	Discussions, visits, etc.	SPACES
Sequence Helen Gillett/Lesley Poulton thehelengillett@gmail.com lwinpoulton@phonecoop.coop	Meets 3 rd Tuesday of each month, 2.30-4.30 in members' houses.	Opportunity to learn and improve skills at Sequence.	SPACES
Solo 1 Jackie Maule jackiemaule4@gmail.com	Last Thursday in month – 12.30pm at the Cricketers for lunch.	For single members who want company for outings, social gatherings, etc. Lunch is followed by a meeting to discuss future trips	FULL
Solo 2 Contact vabrown50@gmail.com	Meeting dates agreed by members.	For single members who want company for outings, social gatherings, etc.	SPACES
Spanish (Rusty) Eileen Kaufman 01582-626050 kaufmaneileen27@gmail.com	Meets twice a month on 1 st & 3 rd Monday, 11- 1pm .	Spend time chatting/reading in Spanish. Some grammar. Members should have some knowledge of Spanish.	SPACES
Sassy Spanish (Beginners) brgunson@gmail.com			Monthly Thursday pm
Sweet Pudding Club Di Redman dredman14@btinternet.com	Monthly meetings as agreed by members, and held in members' homes. .	Sweets, desserts and puddings, made or shop bought by members.	FULL
Table Tennis Carolyn Innes-Wilson 01582-794634 inneswilson5@gmail.com	Meets twice monthly - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays Redbourn Village Hall 2.00pm-3.00pm	Play and improve table tennis skills. Players share cost of hiring facilities.	SPACES
Ukulele Geoff Garrad-Cole 01582-794147 Geoffgc11@gmail.com	Meets Thursday mornings.	Rehearsal of new and learned songs. Some outside performances.	SPACES for experienced players
Visits to Places of Worship Janet Walters janet.walters9@gmail.com	Meets 1 st Friday morning of the month.	The group aims to be all- inclusive, visiting places of all faiths to learn about their history and architecture.	SPACES
Walking (Footpaths) John Ridgwell 01582-626055	Monthly 3 rd Friday 10am	Walks are 4-6 miles long. Members take it in turns to lead walks.	SPACE

GROUP	DETAILS	INFORMATION	STATUS
John-r@ntlworld.com			
Walking 3-5 Eric Ferrand 01442-244132 ferrande@btinternet.com	Meets every 2 nd and 4 th Friday, excluding Jan, Feb and Aug.	Walks are 3-5 miles in length.	SPACES
(Walking) Wine Appreciation – 1 Susan Aldridge susan@mraldrige.co.uk	Meets monthly, 2 nd Tuesday evening at 7.30pm, hosted at members' homes.	Costs £10 per evening.	FULL
Wine Appreciation – 2 David Walters 01582-793005 jdwalters37@gmail.com	Group meets on Thursdays about every six weeks	Explore wines chosen by host.	FULL

Redbourn U3A committee members

Role	Name	Email address
Chair	Barry Welch	redbournu3achair@gmail.com
Secretary	Anne Finnis	annefinnis@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Valerie Churchhouse	valerie.churchhouse@ntlworld.com
Minutes Secretary	Christine Aitken	christine_aitken2@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Austin Prall	austinprall@yahoo.co.uk
Groups Coordinator	Valerie Brown	vabrown50@gmail.com
Meetings Coordinator	Vic Wells	wellsvic13@gmail.com
Speaker Finder	Maggie Scarborough	mtcj.scarborough@ntlworld.com
Theatre & Events	Annette Cotter	annette.cotter@icloud.com
IT Support & Beacon Admin	Lynn Kennedy	lynn.blackwell@btinternet.com
Newsletter Editor	Lynn Kennedy	lynn.blackwell@btinternet.com

END

Lynn Kennedy

June 2026