



Registered Charity no. 1073206

January 2018

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Happy New Year from your new Committee

FERNDOWN UNIVERSITY OF THE 3rd AGE

Hon. President : Gerry Lewis

Committee

Bob Reeve	Committee Chairman Chairman: Visits & Events sub-group Chairman: Friday Speakers sub-group
Clare Clayton	Vice-Chairman Chairman: Accommodation & Risk sub-group
Richard Tucker	Vice-Chairman Chairman: Finance and Membership sub-group
John Mullett	Treasurer Equipment Officer
Glyn Bosanko	Committee Secretary Sport Co-ordinator
Derek Holden	Social events
Jean Stone	Liaison with Group Leaders Internal & external advertising
Jenny Bass	Bridge Co-ordinator Friday morning coffees/teas liaison
Judith Hodges	Brochure editor/Newsletter editor
Maggie Shew	Website editor
Malcolm Gill	Beacon system support
Ralph Weeks	Finance liaison
Yvonne Warner	Community liaison

After five very busy years, **Brian Williams** stood down from the Committee and his role as Chairman. Brian is looking forward to deciding himself how he spends his days! The new FU3A Chairman is **Bob Reeve** who many of you will already know.

Prior to moving to Ferndown five years ago, Bob spent all his working life in Cambridge. After university study he joined the Cambridgeshire College of Arts & Technology, one of the institutions which subsequently grew to become Anglia Ruskin University - the 'other' university in Cambridge!

Following a decade as Head of the Music Department, Bob turned his attention to the University's Extended Curriculum and became a strong advocate of 'employment-based learning'. He chaired the Learning & Skills Council for Cambridgeshire, and prior to his retirement was responsible for strategic planning across the whole of the University.

In Dorset, he is a Trustee of the Lighthouse Theatre Poole, and Administrator for the Wessex Festival.

Bob was married to Olwen, a FU3A Group Leader, who died in 2016. You may see him with a red-coated Woofability assistance dog, Olwen's favourite charity which he continues to support.

He is shown here showing off cakes with his grandson Louis!



In November we were advised of the sad death of Ron Ellis. Our thoughts are with his family at this special time of year. Ron was an enthusiastic and popular member of FU3A and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him .

A Tribute to Ron from Eleanor Green and the Drama Group

What A Star

Our drama group was truly blessed
With Ron we got the very best.
Words are very hard to find
To fit a man so truly kind.
His smiling eyes and modest ways,
Our hearts were so easily swayed.
Ron was our own perfect star,
People know him from near and far.
Shakespeare he could do,
Or something written that was new.
Ron always practiced and got it right,
Whatever he had to recite.
A true gentleman through and through.
we are all privileged to have known him.



VISIT BACKSTAGE AT THE LIGHTHOUSE POOLE



We are arranging to visit the Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts, for a back-stage tour on FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16th during our half-term week. The cost will be £5 per head.

The Lighthouse Poole is the largest arts centre in the country outside London, and includes a Concert Hall seating 1500, a Theatre (670), Cinema (150), and the Sherling Studio Theatre.

We will meet for coffee in the Lighthouse Cafe (Kingland Road, Poole, BH15 1UG) at 11:00 (this time takes account of the arrival of the 10:15 X6 bus from Ferndown, which arrives in Poole at 10:48). Alternatively, parking is available nearby in the Dolphin Centre car park. The tour will start at 11:30 and will end about 12:30.

If you would like to take part in this visit, please print off the booking form at the end of this Newsletter, and send it, with a cheque for £5 made payable to 'Lighthouse Poole', to Bob Reeve (2 Henchard Close, Ferndown, BH22 8LH).

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Once again Ferndown Middle School are looking for members to join their Governing Body as School Governors.

If you have an interest in education and would like to make a positive contribution to a successful local school, please contact the FU3A Membership Secretary so that your details can be passed on to the Chair of Governors, Paul Tuttiet, who will then get in touch.

20th Birthday Tea

The tea took place on 19th November and was well received by the 100 or so members who attended. They each enjoyed a glass of Cava, scones with jam and cream and a selection of homemade cakes and sandwiches. The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly and it was nice to see so many members getting together to just chat which isn't always possible.

There was a lighthearted quiz centred on personalities and events which had happened over the last 20 years and this was also enjoyed.

There was only one negative facet to the afternoon and that was that some 25 - 30 members who had taken tickets didn't turn up on the day, especially as the tickets had been limited, and other members had been disappointed by being too late to receive one.

Jean and Jude would like to thank everyone who helped on the day, either by making sandwiches, setting up the room or clearing up afterwards. The clearing of the hall was done in record time of less than 15 minutes!!

A few Photos:



NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

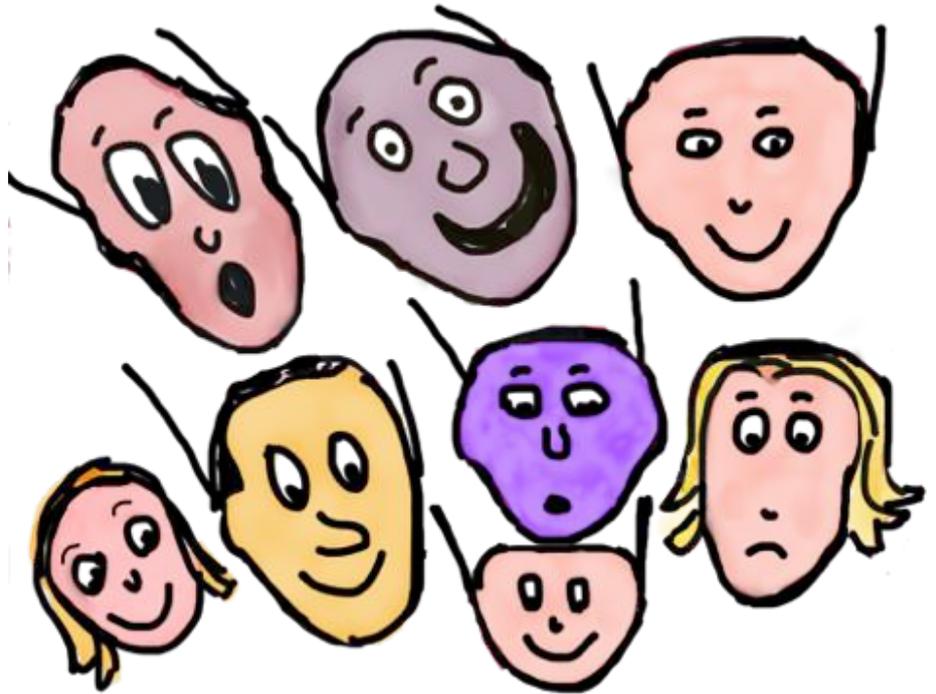
TABLE TENNIS - Experienced 1

After more than ten years, Margaret Hart has 'hung up her bat' as leader of this group. Members and the Committee would like to thank her for her significant contribution to FU3A over this time.

In future the group will be led by Bob Whittal.

DRAMA GROUP

The Show
Another year another show.
The cast chosen
The words, would they know.
Coughs and colds,
Wheezes and sneezes.
Everyone falling to pieces.
December's here too soon,
Would it be gloom and doom?
The calamities they would never know,
So ready or not it's on with the show.
People greeted and seated,
Let the performance begin.
Laughing and cheering,
There wasn't any jeering.
Everyone gave a loud clap.
Thankful for that.
Another year another show.



IT'S OFFICIAL! SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU

The BBC has published a guide on the health benefits of singing; to read it follow this link:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zcc7tyc#zymvcwx>

Of course we at FU3A have long appreciated those benefits with the long running 'Enjoy Singing' group M3 and the more recent 'The Really Awful Singing Group' M9 (for those who can't sing!)

Both groups still have a few places - all welcome!

BON VIVEURS

The group has met four times during the last term. We started with Tapas, cooked by John, Barry and David from the original cooking group. Then enjoyed a great meal at Brasserie Blanc, overlooking the pier, followed by another great meal plus an informative and humorous talk from the Manager, Nigel Reeve at the Marsham Court Hotel. Finally, we had a 'Thai Christmas Lunch at Tien Thai in St Paul's Road.

You can tell from the photos that everyone really enjoys 'living the good life'!



OTHER NEWS

The visit to the Met Office in Exeter was enjoyed by all, whether they took part in the visit, or simply used the time in Exeter for shopping and sightseeing.



AGM - 15th December 2017

The AGM was well attended this year, and members enjoyed the 'Post AGM Brunch'!



DISCOVER WESSEX

Members of this group paid a visit to the Royal Signals' Museum at Blandford Army Camp. You could be forgiven for thinking this would have little to offer for general interest, but you would be wrong!! Signals are communication, and without that the services would be totally unable to operate. Exhibits include medals and insignia, mobile communication trucks, communication equipment, mock ups of life in the trenches, vehicles and much more. There is also a chance to practice driving a tank!!

If you get a chance it is a great destination which appeals to adults and older children alike..

Access the website for full details:

<https://www.royalsignalsmuseum.co.uk/>

There is also a small cafe in the form of a 1940/50's NAAFI - It was interesting to see the two girls manning it engrossed in their smart phones - communication moves on!

<https://www.royalsignalsmuseum.co.uk/>



Does anyone have a history of playing **netball**? If so would you be willing to run a 'walking netball' group? To volunteer, please contact Bob Reeve.

New Year Puzzles

Alice, Ben, Carol, David, and Elsa who are neighbours to each other, decided to celebrate New Year's eve together, using the progressive dinner approach. They would eat one course of dinner at one's place and move to the next person's place. The courses in their New Year dinner include Soup, Salad, Pasta, Steak, and Dessert. For Dessert, each one of them ate a different kind of desert from the following choices: Ice cream, cake, pie, pudding, and trifle.

Soup was served in the home of the person who ate cake for dessert.

Salad was served in Carol's home.

Pasta was not served in Alice's home.

Steak was served in the home of the person who ate pie for dessert.

Dessert was served in David's home.

Ben chose cake for dessert.

Elsa chose pudding for dessert.

Salad was not served in the home of the person who ate ice cream.

Find out which dinner course was served in each person's home, and which dessert did each person eat during the New Year dinner.

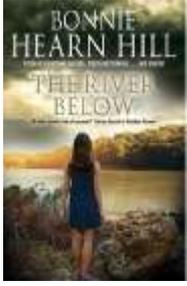


Can you decipher the New Year Resolutions?

Taltdi hyeta asrhet

Rxrgm ctoei eseee

BOOK REVIEW



The River Below by Bonnie Hearn Hill



A convincing psychological thriller

Tessa and Claire are firm friends who both work for river conservation on the San Joaquin River Restoration Project in California. They return from a trip to rescue some ancient grapevines, to find that part of a car has been pulled from the river.

Over the next few days more items are found, including a body, and everyone on the project is on edge. Tessa seems more affected than the others in that she has some worrying memory lapses and also claims to have seen a person by the river after dark.

This novel is as much about friendship, trust, love and old rivalries as it is about crime, and it moves along at a cracking pace. The main plot is well constructed and the sub-plots keep the reader interested as the situation gets more complex and we learn a great deal about the characters and the events leading up to finding the car.

The characters are largely convincing, especially Tessa whose loss of focus is a particular worry for Claire and Tessa's husband Eric. Her symptoms point towards early dementia, but protective Eric is unwilling to put her through the tranche of tests required to confirm this. Claire is less convinced and feels that there is something about recent events which has impacted on Tessa's peace of mind.

I really enjoyed this novel and it had enough about the relationships of the characters to make it a satisfying read. The tension rises as it moves towards its conclusion, which keeps the reader gripped until the very last page. Some questions remain unanswered but that doesn't detract from a jolly good read.

Pashtpaws

The reviews in the newsletter are from Judith Hodges and Glyn Bosanko who are both Founding Members of Breakaway Reviewers. www.breakawayreviewers.co.uk

If you love to read and are interested in reviewing books prior to publication, **and** can commit to as little as one book a month, Breakaway would be delighted to hear from you.

Email Rony Cambell at rony.breakawayreviewers@outlook.com, or speak to Glyn or myself.

A thought for 2018

105 year old woman's remedies to her health



"For better digestion – I drink beer. In the case of appetite loss, I drink white wine. In the case of low blood pressure, I drink red wine. In the case of high blood pressure, I drink scotch. And when I have a cold, I drink Schnapps."

"When do you drink water?"

"I've never been that sick."

Via LoveThisPic.com

This year make the most of every day, hour and minute!

We in FU3A are fortunate to be 'young at heart' and to have the opportunity to enjoy all the benefits our membership provides.

Don't keep it to yourself; share us with your family, friends and neighbours, or point them towards the display in the Library during January.



Ferndown U3A Booking Form

Please reserve tickets for the event below

I enclose a cheque for £
(made payable to Ferndown & District U3A Social Account)

.....

Name of Event

Date Departure Point

Organiser

.....

First Participant

Contact Number Email

Any special requirements?

Emergency Contact *Please provide details of someone who can be contacted in an emergency. This needs to be someone who will NOT be travelling with you.*

Name Landline

Mobile Email

.....

Second Participant

Contact Number Email.....

Any special requirements?

Any further participants need to be listed on a separate form.

.....

Please place form and cheque in an envelope to be returned to the organiser.