

AUTUMN BULLETIN 2025 –Liphook & Bramshott Area u3a



As we head into Keat's "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" we have some great speaker events lined up over the next 3 months. These kick-off with Neil Tucker on **October 6th** talking about his enthusiasm for aviation and his charity Aerobility which changes lives by providing the disabled community access to the magic and wonder of flight.

On the **3rd November** author Bobbie Darbyshire will deliver an entertaining talk on how the complex world of character, location, plot and subplot arrives in a writer's mind. It is said that we all have "a novel in us" and maybe this will inspire some of us to become the next JK Rowling !

Our final offering, as winter closes in, will be Jenny Mallin (**1st December**) giving us a rare and fascinating behind the scenes look at production life at the BBC at a time when it had only ITV for competition. We are promised hilarious and intimate insights ranging from her chats with Alan Bennet to her days on Mastermind and Top of the Pops.

The programme for 2026 is already taking shape with a number of guest speakers confirmed. For the first 4 months we have:

5th January – Sheila Willis "Beside the Seaside"

2nd February – Tony Harris "Donald Trump"

2nd March – Jim Miles "William Morris"

13th April (AGM) Barrie Watson "Domesday Liphook"

More details to follow in due course and on the website.

In the meantime, come and bring your friends to our next Open Event to learn more about what Liphook u3a can offer:-

OPEN EVENT

22ND OCTOBER 2-4PM

MILLENNIUM CENTRE

A number of the groups will be demonstrating their activities together with some new groups which are beginning to emerge in response to demand, including a new Poetry Appreciation Group to be led by Sue Widdup.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The Committee has decided that associate members will be charged a nominal £5 per annum. This will take immediate effect for new members and will come in from 1st February for existing associates. To qualify as an associate it will be necessary to provide evidence, each year, to the Membership Secretary (Lyn Cope) of a current full cost registration with another u3a. If this is not possible then the full annual charge for membership will apply. The position regarding associate membership will be kept under review.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

At the risk of becoming (even more) boring I must reiterate our ongoing appeal for volunteers. If you would like to donate a little time to supporting the u3a please do let us know and we can discuss how best you might be able to contribute. Some specific vacancies include:

- Web Design and Maintenance – we need someone with experience of Wordpress to shadow and support our existing webmaster.
- Speaker Organiser – Carolyn Williamson is currently undertaking this on a temporary basis but we need a more permanent arrangement.
- Member support volunteer – This is in response to comments regarding the need to make new members more welcome at our monthly meetings.
- Secretary – this is a committee role that needs filling.

SOUND QUALITY AT MC

The issue of sound quality at the monthly meetings has again been raised. The committee are exploring various options. Purchasing our own sound system carries no guarantee that this would necessarily work any better. As a first step we are looking at whether the internal control panel might be adjusted further and we will trial this at the next meeting.

U3a MAGAZINE

Due to a technical glitch some members have not been receiving their u3a magazine. Apologies to anyone affected. We are working to get the system back on track.

Have a great Autumn !

Andy