

# u3a in Kennet



# Yearbook 2023

*This handbook contains full information about u3a in Kennet*

***Redacted copy without telephone numbers***

*Information current at 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022*

*For latest information, go to [www.u3ainkennet.org.uk](http://www.u3ainkennet.org.uk)*

*Charity No 1028680 Established 1992*



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### *Cover Photos:*

*Advertising for u3a Open Day in Marlborough*

*u3a Open Day at Marlborough Town Hall*

*Monday Walking Group near Hungerford*

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## Chair's welcome



Welcome to the 2023 edition of the **u3a in Kennet Yearbook**. This booklet is designed to be an easy reference source for important information about **u3a in Kennet** for both new and established members. It includes an introduction to u3a and its principles, details of the Executive Committee, other sources of information, diary dates for the coming year and full details of our Interest Groups. These details are as up-to-date as possible – but

there will be changes—so please check the latest information on our website at [u3ainkennet.org.uk](https://u3ainkennet.org.uk) and in our monthly Newsletter.

Following a successful year in 2022 in which we returned to many of our face-to-face activities after the Covid-19 lockdowns, plans are underway for our events in 2023. These will include our programme of monthly Coffee Exchange sessions and quarterly Kennet u3a Talks. Our Special Interest Day on the Media will be held in the spring after being postponed from September 2022 due to the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The national u3a Week will be held from 16<sup>th</sup> –24<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Future details of our plans will be publicised in our Newsletter and member mailings.

Whether you have been a **u3a in Kennet** member for some time or have joined more recently please read this booklet and make the most of what we have to offer. If possible please consider getting involved to ensure that our **u3a** remains vibrant and healthy and enables more people to learn, develop and enjoy life. We need more people to come forward and run new groups, help run our events and join the Executive Committee. Please do contact me and find out more.

*Jill Turner*

Chair, u3a in Kennet

[chair@u3ainikennet.org.uk](mailto:chair@u3ainikennet.org.uk)

## What is u3a?

**u3a**<sup>1</sup> is a UK-wide movement which brings people together to explore new ideas, interests and activities in a friendly and informal environment. Members are supported to make the most of life when full time working is over,

**u3a** is a self-help organisation which provides educational, creative and leisure opportunities through a series of interest groups. Members draw on their knowledge and experience to learn from each other.

Formed 40 years ago, there are now over 1,000 **u3as** across the UK with thousands of interest groups between them and more than 430,000 members across the country. The national body, the Third Age Trust, looks after all the **u3as** in the UK and provides educational, legal and administrative support and advice.

**u3a in Kennet** was formed in 1992 by Derek Robbins and Bill Hawes. Derek became the first chairman and has been followed by 13 others. Currently we have 620 members and more than 60 Interest Groups.

The Group Leaders are volunteers who organise and support their groups. They don't have to be experts and most rely on their group members to support them and contribute to their group in many different ways.

Any member with enthusiasm and basic organisational skills can start a group at any time if there is sufficient member interest. Meeting venues can be fixed or shared around members' homes. Guidance on running a group is available from the Executive Committee.

**u3a in Kennet** is located in the u3a Bath and Wiltshire Network which in turn is part of the South West Region:  
[www.u3a.org.uk/advice/u3a-networks#southwest](http://www.u3a.org.uk/advice/u3a-networks#southwest).

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Footnote 1: Formerly known as the University of the Third Age

## Principles of the u3a movement

The **u3a** movement is non-religious and non-political and has three main principles:

### The Third Age Principle

- Membership of a u3a is open to all in their third age, which is defined not by a particular age but by a period in life in which full-time employment has ceased.
- Members promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a **u3a**.
- Members should do all they can to ensure that people wanting to join a **u3a** can do so.

### The Self-help Learning Principle

- Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire; by the members, for the members.
- No qualifications are sought or offered. Learning is for its own sake, with enjoyment being the prime motive, not qualification or awards.
- There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers; they are all **u3a** members.

### The Mutual Aid Principle

- Each **u3a** is a mutual aid organisation, operationally independent but a member of The Third Age Trust, which requires adherence to the guiding principles of the **u3a** movement.
- No payments are made to members for services rendered to any **u3a**.
- Each **u3a** is self-funded with membership subscriptions and costs kept as low as possible.
- Outside financial assistance should only be sought if it does not imperil the integrity of the **u3a** movement.

*You can find out more about the **u3a** including its Vision and Mission at the national website: [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)*

## Membership of u3a in Kennet

Membership of u3a in Kennet entitles you to join as many of our Interest Groups as you can manage. Members are invited to attend the monthly **Coffee Exchange** sessions in Marlborough (or on Zoom) where we also welcome people interested in joining u3a.

Our **Kennet u3a Talks** are held four or five times a year giving everyone the opportunity to meet and discuss any issues as well as listen to interesting and entertaining guest speakers. The Talks are normally held at the Kennet Valley Hall and also on Zoom.

We also have reciprocal agreements that allow members to join one group in Pewsey Vale u3a and/or one group in Devizes u3a as part of their membership of u3a in Kennet.

## Information for u3a members

### Monthly Newsletter

The Newsletter is sent out monthly by email. It contains up-to-date news on upcoming events. Members without email are sent a limited printed version of the Newsletter.

### Yearbook

The Yearbook is published each year after the Annual General Meeting and sent to all members by post. It contains the key information about our u3a including telephone numbers of Group Leaders and Executive Committee members. This information should be kept confidential. The most up-to-date information on our groups can be found on our website.

### u3a in Kennet website [www.u3ainkennet.org.uk](http://www.u3ainkennet.org.uk)

The site is our “shop window”. It allows prospective members to apply for membership and gives access to up-to-date group and other information for our members

## u3a national Website

[www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

The national website has general information about u3a. It also has a “members’ area” where you can get access to information on resources, subject advice and other support. To access this area you need to “create an account” which costs nothing and is very straightforward. You can also request to receive the regular emailed Newsletter from the u3a National Office.

## Third Age Matters (TAM)

This printed national magazine contains news of u3a groups up and down the country, upcoming events, general advice and encouragement. It is funded centrally through advertising and sent to all u3a members. Postage costs are met by the local u3a, so if you don’t want it, please let the Membership Secretary know.

## Social Media

u3a in Kennet has a private Facebook group:

[www.facebook.com/groups/u3ainkennet](http://www.facebook.com/groups/u3ainkennet)

and a public page: [www.facebook.com/u3ainkennet](http://www.facebook.com/u3ainkennet)

Register for the private group and share information about our activities and interests. The public page, along with our website, is our “window to the world”.

The national organisation has its own private group:

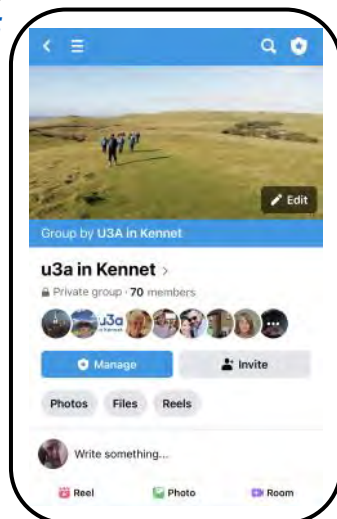
[www.facebook.com/groups/U3AKeepingInTouch](http://www.facebook.com/groups/U3AKeepingInTouch)

where members across the UK can share news and information.

The national organisation also has a public Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/u3auk](http://www.facebook.com/u3auk)

and a Twitter page: [twitter.com/u3a\\_UK](https://twitter.com/u3a_UK)



## Events for all members

### *Coffee Exchange*

This is our primary monthly meeting and is held in the Town Hall in Marlborough and on Zoom and is a great opportunity to meet other u3a members, hear the latest news, listen to a local speaker and chat over a coffee. This is our main opportunity to meet potential new members. Members can also let the Executive Committee know what's on their minds.

**Last Thursday of the month 10.30—12.00 (10.45 on Zoom)**  
**Town Hall, Marlborough and on Zoom**

### **The Kennet u3a Talks**

This series of talks allows all our members to come together and learn from an interesting speaker and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and cake. We also use these events to keep everyone up to date with news.

**2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.15–4.15**  
**(February, April, July, and October)**  
**Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge, SN8 4EL and on Zoom**

### ***Really Usefuls***

The Really Usefuls are a group of volunteers who take responsibility for doing a number of practical things to support u3a in Kennet. The group requires a wide range of skills for different tasks. Come and join with other members to get to know each other better and make a real contribution to the smooth running of u3a.

**Contact:** [usefuls@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:usefuls@u3ainkennet.org.uk)



# Coffee Exchange at St Marys Hall and Town Hall



2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 Town Hall

u3a

in Kennet

Coffee Exchange

Come and join our primary monthly meeting held in central Marlborough and on Zoom. This is a great opportunity to meet other u3a members, hear the latest news, listen to a local speaker and chat over a coffee. This is also our main opportunity to meet potential new members. Members can also let the Executive Committee know what's on their minds.

**Last Thursday of the month 10.45–12.00**

**Recent speaker topics:**

- Plans for Marlborough Cinema
- The History of the Motorcycle
- The Immune System
- American Literature
- How to avoid on-line scams
- The fascinating world of the Beehive
- From Rainsbury to Venice
- Apple Pressing
- The Way Ahead for Marlborough

- Rebuilding Lives After Stroke
- Savemake Forest & West Woods
- Larkhall Airfield
- The James Webb Telescope
- Stories under the Moon and Stars
- Farming in 2022
- St Peter's Church
- Historic Buildings? - Do not miss this local Church!



29<sup>th</sup> September 2022 St Marys Hall

## Executive Committee (Trustees)

|                                      |                        |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Chair<br>and Charity<br>Commission   | <b>Jill Turner</b>     | <a href="mailto:chair@u3ainkennet.org.uk">chair@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:charities@u3ainkennet.org.uk">charities@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a> |
| Vice Chair<br>and Event<br>Logistics | <b>Jeff Hide</b>       | <a href="mailto:vicechair@u3ainkennet.org.uk">vicechair@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Secretary                            | <b>Annette Weaver</b>  | <a href="mailto:secretary@u3ainkennet.org.uk">secretary@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Treasurer                            | <b>Kiaran Roughan</b>  | <a href="mailto:treasurer@u3ainkennet.org.uk">treasurer@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Membership<br>Secretary              | <b>Mike Morison</b>    | <a href="mailto:membershipsec@u3ainkennet.org.uk">membershipsec@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Social Events<br>Coordinator         | <i>Vacancy</i>         | <a href="mailto:socialevents@u3ainkennet.org.uk">socialevents@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Newsletter                           | <b>John Martin</b>     | <a href="mailto:newsletter@u3ainkennet.org.uk">newsletter@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Speaker<br>Secretary                 | <b>David Lacey</b>     | <a href="mailto:speakersec@u3ainkennet.org.uk">speakersec@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Committee<br>Member                  | <b>Alison Dewar</b>    | <a href="mailto:alisondewar@u3ainkennet.org.uk">alisondewar@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Committee<br>Member                  | <b>Jill Chambers</b>   | <a href="mailto:jillchambers@u3ainkennet.org.uk">jillchambers@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Committee<br>Member                  | <b>Georgie Neville</b> | <a href="mailto:georgieneville@u3ainkennet.org.uk">georgieneville@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |
| Technical<br>Support<br>(Co-opted)   | <b>Hamzah</b>          | <a href="mailto:technical@u3ainkennet.org.uk">technical@u3ainkennet.org.uk</a>   |

Any ordinary member may attend meetings of the Executive Committee. If anyone would like to attend any meeting, please contact the Secretary before the meeting.

## Recognise your Committee



Jill Turner



Jeff Hide



Annette Weaver



Kieran Roughan



Mike Morison



John Martin



David Lacey



Alison Dewar



Georgie Neville



Jill Chambers



Hamzah

Watch out for our

# Special Interest Day on the Media

Postponed  
from  
September  
2022

- A multi-generational event: students from Marlborough College and St John's will join u3a members and their guests to penetrate the smokescreen of the media.
- Like it or not, social media, press owners and journalists affect us all. How does this occur?
- Who holds the power and where might 'truth' lie?
- How might we find a voice and make our own decisions?

***Superb team of speakers, thought provoking debate, stunning surroundings, great company, a genuinely special day.***

We hope to hold this full day event in Spring 2023 with previously announced speakers. Bookings for the postponed 2022 event will be carried forward. Detailed arrangements will be made available as soon as they are confirmed.

**u3a**  
in Kennet



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE



## Diary Dates for 2023

### Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm Kennet Valley Hall / Zoom

### The Kennet u3a Talks

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm Kennet Valley Hall / Zoom

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2.15pm Kennet Valley Hall / Zoom

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2.15pm Kennet Valley Hall / Zoom

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm Kennet Valley Hall / Zoom  
(following the AGM)

### Coffee Exchange

10.30am Town Hall, Marlborough  
/ Zoom (from 10.45am)

Last Thursday of every month except October and December  
Open to all. Zoom invitations from the Chairman

### New Members' Lunches

Dates to be confirmed Kennet Valley Hall (by invitation only)

### National u3a Week

16<sup>th</sup>—24<sup>th</sup> September

### Executive Committee\*

10.00am

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October

(\* Dates and venues to be confirmed)

### Yearbook

Published annually in December

### Newsletter

Published monthly

**Note:** If your group has an event open to all, please let the Executive Committee know and it will be published on the website and in the Newsletter circulated by email.

# u3a at Home

## u3a at Home and Hybrid Meetings

Since the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, we have maintained our arrangements to enable members to join our events 'virtually' online.

Our main events—the Kennet u3a Talks and our Coffee Exchange continue as “hybrid” events with people meeting together and also joining the sessions online using Zoom. This approach will continue as long as there is a demand for it.

To join a Zoom video conference, you need a computer with a camera and microphone and a broadband internet connection.

Any iPad or Android Tablet

Most laptops (Windows or Apple)

Smartphone (Apple or Android)

Any desktop computer with a webcam (Windows or Mac)

Just go to [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and sign up. It's free, but you need to supply an email address and some other information. There is an app you can download if you want to use your phone or tablet. To join a call you will need to enter the number of the call and a password or just click a link emailed by the organiser.

There is detailed advice at:

[www.u3a.org.uk/component/edocman/using-zoom-on-your-desktop](https://www.u3a.org.uk/component/edocman/using-zoom-on-your-desktop)  
[www.u3a.org.uk/component/edocman/using-zoom-on-phones-and-tablets](https://www.u3a.org.uk/component/edocman/using-zoom-on-phones-and-tablets)

## Interest groups

Our groups are the foundation of u3a. Every member can join as many groups as they can manage. Group Leaders are volunteers who run their groups in many different ways. Some split the leadership role between two or more individuals. Most rely on group members to contribute to the activities of the group. This could involve leading a walk, giving a presentation, hosting a meeting or arranging a visit.

There are around sixty groups listed in the directory but there is always room for more. For example, in the past, we have had craft groups. If you have a certain interest which is not yet covered, please do get in touch with a member of the Executive Committee to discuss this further. Even if you do not want to lead a group, please do make contact, as that way we can build up a list of people with that particular interest. If you would prefer to email, there is an email address that relates to groups which is monitored once a week: **[groups@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:groups@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**.

The following directory gives a description of each of our current groups and contact details for the Group Leader(s). If you are interested in joining a group, please get in touch with the Group Leader directly. **These details are up-to-date as we go to print — but there will be changes—so always check the latest information on our website at [u3ainkennet.org.uk](http://u3ainkennet.org.uk) and in the monthly Newsletter..**



**Tuesday****American History**

Friends Meeting House

Tuesday 3rd of month 14.00 – 16.00

The American History Group has now been running for more than 3 years and we are now in the 20th century discussing the 1950s and onwards. New members are welcome and can join in at any point. Past presentations are available on the website if anyone is interested in previous work. The group is led by an American who has a special interest in looking at the details of US History and sharing information for discussion purposes with the group members, who are mainly British though not entirely!

**Email:** [amhist@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:amhist@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** AnnMarie Newbigin

**Friday****Art & Art History****Zoom**

Friends Meeting House

Friday 2nd of month 10.30 – 12.30

The topics are chosen by individual members. We do not follow a fixed curriculum or study a specific period or school. This approach has enabled the group to explore some unusual topics and artists. Discussions are prepared and led either by individuals or a small team. No experience necessary! Some members are new to the subject while others have a long-standing interest. We all learn from each other. Occasional visits to galleries and museums are also on the agenda.

**Email:** [art.history@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:art.history@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Vacancy

**Thursday****The Art Group**

The Scout Hall

Thursday 3rd of month 14.00 – 16.00

Our members have varying abilities ranging from beginners to those with a very good level of artistic expertise. Our monthly sessions consist of Demonstrations, Workshops and Still Life. Sometimes an outside Artist will do a Workshop that might be of interest to the the group. Members learn from each other. Occasionally a group member may have a specific new skill to share with the group. Help and advice is always available when needed. All that is required for an artist to see improvement in their work is plenty of practice, enthusiasm and be prepared to 'have a go'. Quite a few members like nothing more than doing their own piece of work, away from distractions! Artefacts are always on display to give inspiration if required.

**Email:** [art@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:art@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Allan Skipper



**Wednesday****Aviation**

Varies

Wednesday 2nd of month 12 noon

We are an informal and sociable group who meet for a presentation on some aspect of aviation be it an airfield, a particular aviation event, or an aircraft. The field is wide. We also plan visits to old airfields or museums. We will usually meet at lunchtime at a pub for a chinwag over a drink and some food before progressing to the subject of the day.. New members are always welcome.

**Email:** [aviation@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:aviation@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Mike Morison

**Wednesday****Backgammon**

Marlborough

Wednesday 1st &amp; 3rd of month 19.00 – 21.00

Backgammon is a friendly and social game that requires skill, luck and tenacity. It's one of the world's truly great board games – a testament to its enduring fascination. This group is comprised of one or two experienced players but mainly novices. We play for fun and for the challenge at the Green Dragon Pub in Marlborough.

**Email:** [bgammon@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:bgammon@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** David Chandler

**Thursday****Birdwatching**

Varies

Thursday 3rd of month (time varies)

The group visits various sites within Wiltshire and adjacent counties where we hear and see a wide variety of bird species. Outings are generally half day with the more distant being a full day. The meets leader, Steve Edwards astounds the group with his knowledge of birds, wild flowers and fauna while the formal leader, Brian Davies, attends to the administration.

**Email:** [birds@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:birds@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Brian Davies

**Wednesday****Book Circle**

Marlborough

Wednesday 4th of month 10.30 – 12.30

A diverse range of books to discuss, most recently *The Sealwoman's Gift* (Sally Magnusson), *The Vanishing Half* (Brit Bennett) and *We are made of Earth* (Panos Karnezis). In 2023 we plan to read Hilary Mantel, Sylvia Plath, Matt Haig and Rose Tremain; lively discussions are anticipated.

**Email:** [book.circle@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:book.circle@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Sarah Foxall

**Tuesday****Book Club – Short Stories**

Members Homes

Tuesday 1st of month 10.00 – 12.00

This group discusses short stories generally using one book of a variety of short stories. After more than two years using "That Glimpse of Truth", we are now agreeing on a new easy source of short stories and welcome new members and new ideas. Our meetings are informal, enjoyable and relaxed in a member's home. We consider the author's overall body of work and the specific short story learning about writing techniques and why short stories are so special.

**Email:** [book.short@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:book.short@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Cynthia Lawrence

**Thursday****Book Group**

Marlborough

Thursday 4th of month 14.30 – 16.30

The group meet once a month to discuss a book that they have all read. The books to be read are chosen by the members. Over the last year we have read a variety of novels – some recently published and others that were several years old. All led to lively discussions which gave the group members added insights to the books' contents.

**Email:** [books.marl@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:books.marl@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Alison Hammond

**Wednesday****Books**

Members Homes

First Wednesday of each month

The BOOKS group meets monthly in a member's house, initially in Marlborough. Members choose a book and a different member will introduce the discussion each time. Judging from the first meeting this will be a friendly and lively group. A waiting list will have to operate once membership reaches eight people.

**Email:** [BOOKS@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:BOOKS@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Julia Tyler

**Friday****Bowls (Short Mat)**

Leisure Centre Marlborough

Friday (October – April) 13.45 – 15.45

The venue is Marlborough Leisure Centre costing £2 per person per session (dependent on numbers attending). Players of all abilities are welcomed. Equipment is provided and instruction given. The Group is very supportive and an entertaining afternoon is assured. Refreshments are available at the Centre. The group operates from October to April, in term time only, and runs from 1:45 to 3:45pm.

**Email:** [short.mat@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:short.mat@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** John Lafford

**Sat / Mon****Bridge (Online)****Zoom**

Zoom

Saturdays and Mondays

We play on-line bridge using BridgeBase and Zoom which gives interesting hands and the ability to communicate via Zoom. All ability levels are welcome and a crib sheet is available to assist with bidding. You do not have to worry if you don't have a partner to play. One will be provided.

**Email:** [bridge3@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:bridge3@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Cate Mitchell

**Varies****Classic Cars**

Varies

Flexible, various

We are a group of classic car enthusiasts and owners who like to use their cars (of whatever make) to enjoy:

– Country drives and pub lunches; – Visits to car factories and restoration companies; – Classic car events; – Visits to country houses; –Any other car related events organised by our members or their partners.

To join you do need to own a classic car. Any make, any year. We're very flexible as to what is a classic.

**Email:** [class.cars@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:class.cars@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Ashley de Safrin

**Monday****Controversial Discussion 1**

Ogbourne St George

2nd Monday each month 10.30 – 12.30

We discuss a wide range of subjects which are both important and challenging. Many of these will have controversial elements. Our discussions are stimulating, friendly and often amusing. We do not expect to reach agreement. Members of the group are expected to come forward with ideas for subjects, and to lead discussions on them in a rough rota. One of us will act as Moderator at meetings. Group numbers are limited in order to facilitate good quality discussions.

**Email:** [cont.disc.1@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:cont.disc.1@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Cate Mitchell

**Thursday****Controversial Current Affairs**

Axford

Thursday Last of month 14.00 – 16.00

We are a group with strong opinions who take an interest in what's going on in the world. We're not afraid to be politically incorrect and say what we think and enjoy a lively discussion on any topic of the day. We limit ourselves to twelve people so that everyone has a chance to speak and to avoid the interaction becoming a presentation from one person. Unlike other Controversial Discussion groups we do not generally discuss philosophical questions. Once a year we have a lunch at Christmas – if we are all still talking, that is!

**Email:** [cont.disc.2@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:cont.disc.2@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Nick Swan

**Thursday****Controversial Discussion 3**

Members Homes

Thursday 2nd of month 10.30 – 12.30

We meet most months in or around Marlborough often in members' homes for two hours (10.30 am–12.30pm). Topics are suggested by members and the discussion is led by members in turn. Discussion can be lively and humorous, is usually evidence or experience based, but is never confrontational. Minds are sometimes changed – a bit.

**Email:** [cont.disc.3@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:cont.disc.3@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Dan Mace

**Wednesday****Controversial Discussion 4**

Members Homes

Wednesday 1st of month 14.00 – 16.00

We meet in members' homes and discuss a wide range of subjects chosen & usually introduced by group members. Depending on the topic, some research may be helpful. We usually have fun, while respecting everyone's view. Some times we agree but not always!

**Email:** [cont.disc.4@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:cont.disc.4@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Jean Gray

**Thurs / Fri****Current Affairs****WhyPay**

Conference Call

Thursday 2nd &amp; Friday 3rd of month 10.00 – 11.00

This group considers current affairs from a variety of perspectives: economic, social, political and medical. Topics are chosen on monthly basis in accordance with prevailing events and have included the Covid-19 pandemic, the US election, "wokism" and Chinese territorial expansion. New members are always welcome and contributions are encouraged. No particular knowledge is required other than an interest in current affairs.

**Email:** [current@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:current@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Michael Hart Jill Turner

**Monday****Cycling**

Varies

Monday 1st &amp; 3rd of month 10.00

Fed up with cleaning muddy boots and scrambling over stiles? Want some exercise in the open air in the beautiful local countryside? Haven't cycled for years but still remember how you enjoyed it? Then why not join us? We usually cycle around 20 – 25 miles at a leisurely pace mostly on quiet lanes and cycle paths, and we always stop for coffee and cake at some point on the route. We also have occasional whole day rides when we stop for lunch and cover up to 40 miles. We are a very friendly mixed group.

**Email:** [cycling@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:cycling@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Toby Crampton

**Varies****Day Trips**

Varies

Three or four trips per year

We aim to offer three or four Day Trips each year to places of interest within approximately two hours travelling distance from Marlborough. We have no preset ideas, but aim to take full advantage of the abundance of places of interest in our region, spanning the arts, gardens, historic properties/sites, towns, cathedrals, exhibitions and combinations of these to provide interesting and enjoyable days out without the hassle of driving. By joining this group you are under no obligation to join trips, but it does ensure you are first to hear about them.

**Email:** [daytrip@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:daytrip@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Kate Karstedt  
Enid Mitchell

**Friday****Digital Photography**

Minal Village Hall

Friday 1st of the month

We are a friendly group owning a variety of camera types. We either go on a photo shoot or set ourselves a topic and individually take photos. At the monthly meetings we view the results, some of us put these photos onto our site on Flickr which can be viewed using a link from the u3a in Kennet website. We aim to get more from our cameras by helping each other, watching teaching videos and general discussion

**Email:** [digi.phot@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:digi.phot@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Brian Wood

**Tuesday****Dog Walking**

Varies

Tuesday 2nd &amp; 4th of month 10.30 – 12.30

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month usually starting at 10.30am. The walks take place in many different areas with members of the group volunteering to lead. Steep hills and farming stock are avoided! Details of the meeting place and a short precis of the walk are communicated to members by e-mail. It is hoped that those intending to walk notify the walk leader in advance.

**Email:** [dog.walks@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:dog.walks@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Barbara Davis

**Wednesday****Exploring English**

Marlborough

Wednesday 2nd of month 10.30 – 12.00

We research and discuss a huge variety of topics, from rhyming slang to Proto-Indo-European roots. We look at reference works, new words, old words and how they have changed, the reform of spelling, the jargons of different crafts and industries. We have devilish quizzes on odd themes. And when we run out of existing phrases, we invent our own. In short we enjoy every aspect we can imagine of this quirky language of ours.

**Email:** [exp.english@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:exp.english@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Juliet Keel

**Tuesday****Flora & Fauna**

Varies

Tuesday 2nd of month 14.15 – 16.15

The group meets monthly March – November at various sites suggested by members. The aim is to learn about the local flora and fauna, with group members identifying and recording our observations. Members share knowledge and expertise as well as photos, between meetings.

**Email:** [flora.fauna@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:flora.fauna@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Betty Dobson

**Tuesday****French Conversation (Adv)**

Axford

Tuesday 3rd of the month, 14.30 – 16.30

This group is for those with a reasonably fluent knowledge of the spoken French language who are interested in all things French but especially current affairs à la française. International and French current affairs as seen by the French press are discussed in French. You should be comfortable speaking French and reading advanced French magazine articles. Si vous parlez bien français, eh bien soyez les bienvenus! On parle et on s'amuse!

**Email:** [french.adv@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:french.adv@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Ashley de Safrin

**Thursday****French Lang & Current Affairs**

Marlborough

Thursday 2nd &amp; 4th of the month 14.15 – 16.15

This is a lively and engaging conversation group intended for participants with a firm familiarity with the French language. The group is focussed on gaining confidence in discussing and expressing opinions on a wide range of current affairs affecting all aspects of life in France. The content is diverse and dynamic, drawing on articles from recent French magazines/newspapers combined with related videos and music and taking advantage of the latest free language development tools available on the internet.

**Email:** [french.lang@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:french.lang@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Philip Elias

**Monday****German (Advanced)****WhyPay**

Marlborough

Monday 3rd of month 14.15 – 16.00

We read and discuss articles on a wide variety of political, social and cultural subjects from the leading German weekly "Der Spiegel". High level journalism; A-Level comprehension skills an advantage! The group has a few places available.

**Email:** [german.adv@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:german.adv@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Michael Hart



**Wednesday****German Conversation****Zoom**

Members Homes

Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00

This group is for people with some knowledge of German who would like to talk German more easily, without being too concerned about the technicalities of the grammar. A sense of humour is an advantage. We meet weekly on Zoom and at a member's house once a month.

**Email:** [german.talk@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:german.talk@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Bill Buxton

**Tuesday****German Improvers****Zoom**

Zoom

Tuesday Fortnightly 17.00 – 17.45

This an intermediate group for people with some knowledge of conversational German, who are self-motivated and want to develop their language skills through conversation. Daily use of Duolingo or equivalent is recommended.

**Email:** [german.beg@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:german.beg@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Karen Smith

**Tuesday****History (Local)**

Members Homes

Tuesday 1st of month 14.30 – 16.30

The group for people interested in learning more about the fascinating and extensive history of Marlborough and the wider Wiltshire area. All are welcome whether you have little knowledge of the history of this area or know a great deal and would like to pass your knowledge onto others. The group's programme comprises talks by a mixture of external speakers and group members and visits to places of historic interest. A truly diverse range of topics are covered from pre-history to the present day. There is always something new to discover.

**Email:** [loc.hist@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:loc.hist@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Geoff Hill

**Tuesday****History 1 (English)****WhyPay**

Conference Call

Tuesday 3rd of month 10.00 – 11.00

The group has been studying aspects of English history including politics and society including the constitution, the legal system and social policy. We have considered British Prime Ministers from Clement Atlee to Boris Johnson. Other topics have included the English Reformation, invaders and immigrants as well as protest and dissent from the 17th century onwards including the Civil War and the Levellers, Chartism and the Captain Swing Riots. New members are always welcome and contributions encouraged. No particular knowledge is required other than an interest in the historic context of aspects of life in England.

**Email:** *history1@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Michael Hart Jill Turner***Tuesday****Italian Conversation**

Marlborough

Alternate Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.00

This is a group of friends of Italy who meet to talk informally, but chiefly in Italian, on any topic, particularly those relating to modern life in Italy. No special level in the Italian language is required to enjoy the activities of this Group.

**Email:** *italian1@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Bruce McCrae***Friday****Jazz Appreciation**

Broad Hinton

Friday 1st of month 14.00 – 16.00

Members present an informal recital or illustrated talk or just come and share their love of aspects of jazz – historic vintage performances, classic 'golden era' jazz, British jazz – trad or modern – Swing Era greats – Ellington, Goodman, Basie, Heath etc. – Bebop, West Coast, Cool, Progressive. There's a huge, free CD and book library available – all this plus tea and biscuits! We hope in the future to add the possibility of outings to jazz venues, concerts & festivals to our core activities.

**Email:** *jazz@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Roy Oakshott*

**Wednesday****Life Sciences**

Friends Meeting House

Wednesday 3rd of month 10.00 – 12.00

The aim of the Life Sciences group is to learn about and discuss major topics in the study of human and animal life, including basic aspects of Physiology and Psychology as well as broader topics such as Evolution. We live at a time when a huge number of advances are being made in the understanding of these subjects; our goal is to try to keep abreast of some of these developments. Group meetings generally involve presentations of about one hour duration on specific topics, followed by discussion. Presentations mostly use recorded video lectures from reputable sources, such as the Royal Institution, but we also welcome

**Email:** *lifesci@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Graham Barnes***Wednesday****Mahjong 1**

Burbage

Wednesday Weekly 14.00 – 16.30

Mahjong is a Chinese game originally, now played all over the world. It is similar to many card games but played with pretty tiles. It is very easy to learn and extremely enjoyable. We are a small friendly group who meet to play. Few of us had heard of the game before joining! Beginners welcome, or anyone who played "years ago" and wishes to re-learn. Come along and try just to see if you like it!

**Email:** *mahjong1@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Linda Sloan***Tuesday****Mahjong 3**

Marlborough

Tuesday Fortnightly 14.00 – 17.00

The Marlborough Mahjong group has limited availability for anyone interested in playing this compelling game. Please contact Roland Fisher to discuss the possibility of joining the group.

**Email:** *mahjong3@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Roland Fisher*

**Tuesday****Music Maestros**

Members Homes

Tuesday 2nd of month

The group meets in Marlborough and, facilitated by the leader, discusses the music of composers early to modern times. Only a member's interest in the music is required without the need to perform or, indeed, to know any. Refreshments are enjoyed in comfortable surroundings.

**Email:** [music@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:music@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Jeff Hide

**Wednesday****Pétanque**

Great Bedwyn

Alternate Wednesdays 10.30 – 13.00

Pétanque, also called Boules, is an outdoor game where players toss boules (metal balls the size of an orange) as close as possible to a little wooden sphere (the jack). Play can be between individuals or teams. The game is played on a terrain or 'piste' that has a hard but rough surface. For more detailed information, refer to <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pétanque> on the internet. It is easy to play and will benefit hand/eye co-ordination, general fitness and most importantly in our case, social contact. There is no charge involved but participants are expected to provide their own boules.

**Email:** [petanque@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:petanque@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Des Clarke

**Wednesday****Pétanque 2**

Great Bedwyn

Alternate Wednesday to Petanque 1

This group also meets at the Three Tuns, Great Bedwyn but on alternate Wednesdays to Petanque 1. Often called Boules, the two Petanque groups provide fun from beginner level in an ideal venue where parking, coffee, toilets and lunch are all available. Members use their own boules once accepted into a group.

**Email:** [petanque2@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:petanque2@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Jeff Hide

**Friday****Poetry Appreciation**

Varies

Friday 1st of month 10.00 – 12.00

A small friendly group welcoming new members who enjoy reading, sharing and discussing poetry. We touch upon a wide range of eras and genres depending upon the various choices made by members. Some enjoy taking the lead in selecting poems and poets and leading discussions while other members prefer to listen and reflect in their own way. There is a wide range of knowledge of poetry to enjoy sharing within the group but those new to appreciating poetry are very welcome to join.

**Email:** [poetry@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:poetry@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Mary Caudell**Thursday****Quiz****Zoom**

Zoom

Thursdays 1st of month 14.30 – 16.30

We meet once a month for 5 rounds of questions on varied subjects: from Art to Words & Language. When we meet on Zoom, the teams of up to 4 members are changed each time to give us a chance to make new acquaintances. Now that Covid restrictions are relaxed, we may meet up, on occasions, at local village halls or pubs. New members are always welcome.

**Email:** [quizzing@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:quizzing@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Mike Morison**Varies****Really Usefuls**

As required

The Really Useful Group has been set up to help and support u3a members – those who have difficulties getting to group, monthly and quarterly meetings as well as other activities. The volunteers aim to provide their services to help members participate in the many events offered by the U3a, as well as contribute to their enjoyment by providing refreshments and helping in the kitchen. Please note that we need a few days' notice to contact our small list of volunteers. Do contact us if you would like to be involved.

**Email:** [usefuls@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:usefuls@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Vacancy

**Tuesday****Recorder Ensemble**

Collingbourne Ducis

Tuesday 14.00-15.00 and 15.30 – 16.30

If you already play, if you have played in the past and would like to play again or if you have never played and would like to learn, then come along and enjoy making music. There is a beginners session from 14.00-15.00 and a session for more advanced players from 15.30-16.30. The group leader has recorders available to borrow if you would like to try before you buy. All music is provided.

**Email:** *recorder@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Harriet Oliver***Tuesday****Science Tech Eng & Maths**

Lockeridge

Tuesday 4th of month 14.00 – 15.00

Absolutely no previous knowledge of, or qualifications in, science, technology, engineering or mathematics is needed to join our group, just an interest in the way the world and the universe works. We have monthly self-prepared presentations on a wide variety of subjects, sometimes given by outside speakers. We also have visits to places like observatories, museums, laboratories and factories.  
More details at [www.u3ainkennet.org.uk/science-engineering-and-technology-group/](http://www.u3ainkennet.org.uk/science-engineering-and-technology-group/)

**Email:** *stem@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Nick Stedman***Thursday****Scrabble**

Axford

Thursday 1st of month 14.30 – 16.30

For keen or aspiring wordsmiths join our once monthly Scrabble group. We are a friendly group and meet at the Group Leader's home.

**Email:** *scrabble@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Ashley de Safrin*

**Monday****Spanish 1**

Friends Meeting House

Monday 1st &amp; 3rd of month 10.30 – 12.30

Two parts to each session divided by a Café “pausa”...: the first is led by individual members of the group who introduce a topic of general or personal interest for discussion. In recent month these have included: the BBC and its role in the dissemination of news, the future of the monarchy and Spanish Fiestas. The second part of the morning takes the form of a recording in Spanish on a topical subject from the internet. This improves listening and comprehension skills and allows for further and wider discussion on the particular topic.

**Email:** [espana.1@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:espana.1@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Sarah Foxall

**Tuesday****Spanish 2**

Eating place in Marlborough

Tuesday 1st &amp; 3rd of month 10.30 – 12.30

We are now well established as a group of Spanish improvers and are open to new members. The format is that members discuss topical issues followed by extracts from their own diaries. After a break for refreshments, elements of the Pasos Course Book, Read & Think Spanish or Spanish Short Stories are completed. The two hour programme concludes with a session about Spanish verbs.

**Email:** [espana.2@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:espana.2@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Patrick Mason

**Tuesday****Spanish for Self Starters**

Members Homes

Tuesday 2nd &amp; 4th of month 14.00 – 16.00

This friendly group started meeting in February 2019 when all participants were beginners but, since then, they have made steady progress towards understanding and learning the basics of the Spanish language. The focus is on mutual support of learners and the main emphasis is on communication. We broadly follow a course book accompanied by CDs and a DVD to reinforce learning and listening to the spoken language. Recently we have also started reading and translating short stories.

**Email:** [espana.ss@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:espana.ss@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Lorenza Johnston

**Wednesday****Table Talk Luncheon**

Eating place in Marlborough

Wednesday 2nd of month 12.15 – 14.00

We are currently meeting for lunch at The Roebuck in London Road on the second Wednesday of each month. Cost is dependent on how much you eat and drink. We are a very informal group and our aim is to discuss any item of interest or concern and if we prove to be a large group there could be several topics at the table at once. If we run out of topics we get out the "Table Talk" cards (hence the name) to keep the conversation flowing without falling into general chatter.

We are a friendly group and are an ideal group to join, especially if you are new to the area.

**Email:** [table.talk@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:table.talk@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Cate Mitchell

**Friday****Table Tennis (Advanced)**

Leisure Centre Marlborough

Friday Weekly 11.00 – 12.00

The group aims to provide an opportunity to play more competitive table tennis. Depending on numbers, we should have a mixture of singles and doubles games. There is a small charge to cover hire cost. Balls are provided, but members should bring their own bats. We do not meet during school holidays as the hall is taken up by children's clubs.

**Email:** [tabtenfri@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:tabtenfri@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** David Radford

**Wednesday****Table Tennis 1**

Leisure Centre Marlborough

Wednesday Weekly 10.30 – 11.30

This very sociable group occupies three tables at Marlborough Leisure Centre. All levels of ability welcome. It's been known that playing Table Tennis will improve your co-ordination and reaction, so do come along and enjoy it. There is normally a small charge made to cover the cost of the court hire. Bats and balls can be provided. We do not meet during school holidays as the hall is normally booked for children's clubs'

**Email:** [tabtenwed@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:tabtenwed@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Hamzah



**Thursdays****Table Tennis 2**

Leisure Centre Marlborough

Thursdays Weekly 11.00 – 12.00

This friendly group hires two tables at Marlborough Leisure Centre. All levels of ability are welcome. As well as improving your co-ordination and reactions, table tennis is a lot of fun so do come along and try it. There is usually a small charge to cover the cost of the table hire. We do not meet during school holidays as the hall is taken up by children's clubs.

**Email:** [tabtenththu@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:tabtenththu@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Simon Caudell**Varies****Theatre**

Coach to various theatres

Varies, 2 or more per year

2022 saw members enjoy plays in Oxford, "Private Lives", Cheltenham, "The Two Popes" as well as visits to Salisbury and The Watermill in Newbury. We always book a matinee which allows us time to look around the town and have lunch before a performance. Trips are currently being planned for 2023 but we return to The Watermill in February to see Notes from a Small Island, a new production based on Bill Bryson's book of the same name.

**Email:** [theatre@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:theatre@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Sarah Foxall Jenny Oakshott**Varies****Travel**

Within the UK

Varies, 1 – 2 per year

This group goes on short coach trips to different parts of Britain twice a year. The trip is usually for four days. The group includes members from Kennet and Pewsey u3as. There are no meetings. Communication is via email and priority for places is given to those who have travelled previously, but spaces often come up. If you would like to know more, please email Anne to be added to the mailing list.

**Email:** [travel@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:travel@u3ainkennet.org.uk)**Contact:** Anne Carroll

**Monday****Walking 1 (Monday)**

Varies

Monday Weekly 10.30

As a group, we aim to provide a congenial weekly walk of 4 to 5 miles for about 2 hours. Group members take turns leading the walks. Afterwards, walkers may choose to lunch at a nearby venue. A programme of walks is distributed to group members by email and published on our webpage. Dogs are not permitted on our walks.

**Email:** [mon.walk@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:mon.walk@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Betty Dobson Dawn Twelftree

**Thursday****Walking 2 (Thursday)**

Varies

Thursday Weekly 10.00

Programmes of walks of around six or seven miles are organised in advance and published on the website as well as distributed to members. Our walks are proposed by volunteers willing to lead a walk and a programme with descriptions of the routes and details of meeting points is sent to members by e-mail by the Group Leader, usually with a few days to two weeks' notice (as well as posted on the website). Proper walking footwear is essential and clothing appropriate for the weather should be worn and/or carried, as well as any medication possibly needed. Dogs are not permitted. Plans may change at the last minute.

**Email:** [thu.walk@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:thu.walk@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Gerald Long

**Tuesday****Walking 3 (Strollers)**

Varies

Tuesday 1st &amp; 3rd of month all year. 11.00

Our walks are approximately 2 – 3 miles at a slower pace and take approximately 1 and a half hours. We organise lunch after the walk for those who would like to. Group members lead the walks on a rough rota basis and the programme is distributed by email. Dogs are not permitted on our walks.

**Email:** [strollers@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:strollers@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

**Contact:** Marion Oatley

**Tuesday****Walking 4 (Striders)**

Varies

Tuesday 2nd &amp; 4th of month 10.00

The Striders Group is what it says. The object of each walk is to cover around 10 – 12 miles through interesting and beautiful countryside at a sensible distance-walking pace. The aim is to enjoy the walking, the distance, the situation and the conversation. If there is no conversation, we're going too fast! Walkers are expected to take drinks, packed lunches, and be suitably equipped re waterproofs, spare sweaters and any anticipated medications. Please contact the Group Leader for future walk information. Dogs are not permitted on our walks.

**Email:** *striders@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *John Williams***Thursday****Wine Appreciation**

Marlborough

Thursday 4th of month 19.30 – 21.30

If you enjoy a glass of wine and would like to extend your experience of tastes and your knowledge of types why not consider joining WAG? We meet once a month (except August and December) at the Rugby Club in Frees Avenue to sample and discuss around 6 wines. We compare grape varieties, countries and price ranges. Members present wines to illustrate their experience and share their knowledge. From time to time we have guest speakers from the wine trade. There is no subscription but there is a charge to cover the costs of each enjoyable and entertaining evening.

**Email:** *wag@u3ainkennet.org.uk***Contact:** *Gordon Hutt*

Group Activities



Monday Walking Group 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022



Thursday Walking Group



Wine Tasting at Majestic Wines  
27<sup>th</sup> October 2022



u3a Day in Marlborough – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022



## u3a in Kennet Resources

To support groups we have: digital projector, projection screen, laptop, display boards and guillotine. Also available is a list of available meeting venues in Marlborough. Just contact a member of the Executive Committee or Groups Liaison at

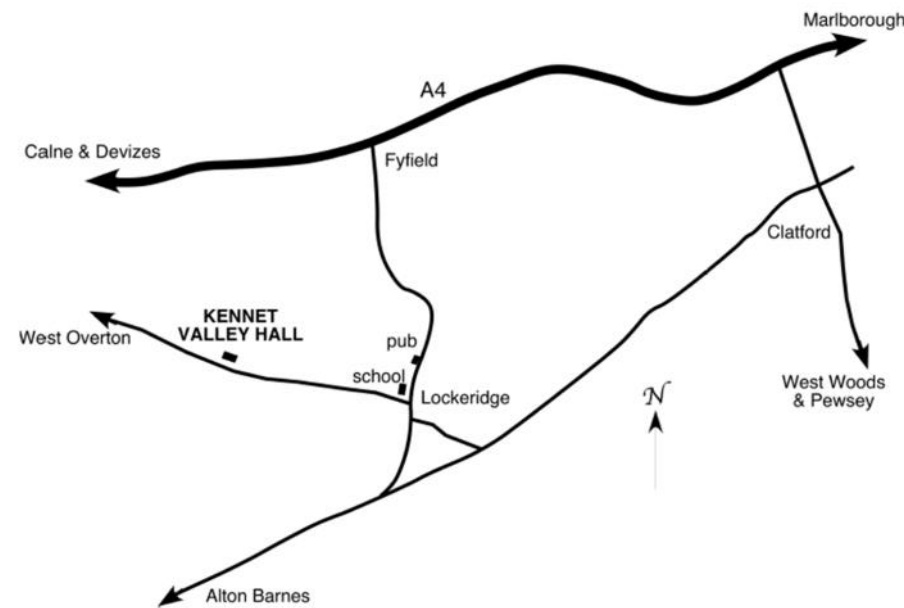
[groups@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:groups@u3ainkennet.org.uk)

## Sharing travel costs

The Executive Committee has been asked on occasion for advice on sharing the costs of using private cars to attend u3a group meetings or visits. We have no formal rule on this but appreciate that people who provide the transport should not be expected to pay all the costs. Applying the national business rate (45p a mile) is unrealistic. The Executive Committee feels that having a central policy at all can lead to arguments. Our recommendation is that members who share transport should agree their own policy. A figure of 20p to 30p per mile shared between driver and passengers has been suggested to cover fuel and other costs. Some prefer a “tit for tat” arrangement and some drivers provide generously or freely. Whatever approach you adopt we do feel it should be discussed within your group so that no-one feels put upon in terms of subsidising other members. Please, don’t assume the driver will pay!

If you represent u3a in Kennet at a regional or national event then the standard business mileage rate applies. This, or public transport fares, will be reimbursed by the Treasurer. For more guidance on what expenses can be claimed, please contact the Treasurer on [treasurer@u3ainkennet.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@u3ainkennet.org.uk).

# Directions to Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge, SN8 4EL



# Directions to Town Hall Marlborough







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