

As this version of our Yearbook is available online for anyone to see, all names and contact details of our group leaders have been removed. If you are a member of our u3a and would like a copy with this additional information, please let any committee member know.

# BASINGSTOKE – OLD BASING U3A

Registered charity number 1086263

## Yearbook 2021/22

### Committee members

<b>Rod Marshall</b>	Chair
<b>Janet Field</b>	Business secretary
<b>Sue Seamour</b>	Treasurer
<b>Linda Wain</b>	Membership secretary; monthly meetings secretary
<b>Margaret Hayes</b>	Group facilitator
<b>Liz Horner</b>	Systems Manager
<b>Richard Field</b>	Webmaster; assets manager
<b>Madeline Hussey</b>	Marketing
<b>Janice Vaughan</b>	Member
<b>Audrey Bird</b>	Member
<b>Marie White</b>	Seconded
<b>Brenda Austin</b>	Secretary to the committee

## A list of our groups

Art and craft	Latin – beginners
Art history and appreciation	Line dancing
Art 4 all	Literature
Badminton	Mah Jong
Ballroom dancing	Meditation
BCOT luncheon group	Members on their own (MOTO)
Biography	Music and words
Board games	Needles and pins
Bridge	Patchwork and quilting
Calligraphy	Philosophy
Circle dance	Photography
Creative writing	Poetry appreciation
Croquet	Quiz group
Cycling	Rounders
Environment and us	Rummikub
Excursions and holidays	Science and technology
Family history	Scrabble
Film studies	Simply sewing
Flowers for fun	Singing for pleasure
Folk and country dancing	Spanish
French	Strings and things
Gardening	Table tennis
German	Walkers
History	Walking netball
Ladies who lunch	Walking football
	Walks with your camera

## Monthly meetings

Our monthly meetings are open to all members and are held on the second Wednesday of each month. They start at 14:00 and finish by 16:00. They take place at Queen Mary's Hall, Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke RG21 3HF, or online using Zoom.

Details of each month's talk can be found on our website and are publicised in our newsletters.

## Group schedule

### **Monday**

French Intermediate/Advanced	Every Monday	10:00 – 12:00
Scrabble	Third Monday	10:00 – 12:00
Latin beginners	First and third Monday	13:30 – 14:30
Singing for pleasure	First and third Monday	14:00 – 15:30
Art 4 All	First and third Monday	14:00 – 16:00
Bridge for improvers	Every Monday	14:00 – 16:00
Film studies	Fourth Monday	14:00 – 16:00
Meditation	Every Monday	14:00 – 16:00
Mah Jong	First and third Monday	14:00 – 16:30
Walking football	Third Monday (see Thursday too)	17:00 – 18:00

### **Tuesday**

French improvers	Every Tuesday	9:45 – 11:45
French conversation	Every Tuesday	10:00 – 11:30
Calligraphy	Third Tuesday	10:00 – 12:00
Science and technology	First Tuesday	10:00 – 12:00
Philosophy	Third Tuesday	10:00 – 12:00
Bridge for Beginners	Every Tuesday	10:00 – 12:30
Walking netball	Every Tuesday	12:00 – 13:00
Art and craft	Second and fourth Tuesday	13:30 – 15:30
Quiz group	Alternate Tuesdays	13:30 – 15:30
Board games	One Tuesday a month	13:45 – 15:45
Circle dance	1st and 3rd Tuesday, September to April	14:00 – 15:30
Photography	First Tuesday	14:00 – 16:00
Duplicate bridge	Every Tuesday *online*	14:00 – 16:30
Poetry appreciation	Fourth Tuesday	15:00 – 17:00

### **Wednesday**

Line dancing 1	Every Wednesday	10:00 – 11:00
Biography	First Wednesday	10:00 – 12:00
Patchwork and quilting	Second and fourth Wednesday	10:00 – 12:00
Line dancing 2	Every Wednesday	11:00 – 12:00
German beginners	Every Wednesday	11:00 – 12:30
Rounders	Most Wednesdays	13:30 – 14:30
History	First Wednesday	13:30 – 15:00
.Art history and appreciation	Third Wednesday	14:00 – 16:00

Environment and us	First Wednesday	14:00 – 16:00
Family history	Last Wednesday	14:00 – 16:00

*Strings and things*

*Under discussion*

**Thursday**

Music and words	Second Thursday	9:45 – 12:00
Flowers for fun	Second Thursday	10:00 – 11:30
Simply sewing	First Thursday	10:00 – 12:00
Ladies who lunch	Third Thursday	12:30 onwards
Duplicate bridge	Every Thursday	13:30 – 16:30
German intermediate	Every Thursday	14:00 – 15:00
Literature	Fourth Thursday	14:00 – 15:15
Gardening	Fourth Thursday	14:00 – 16:00
Creative writing	First and third Thursday	15:00 – 16:30
Walking football	First Thursday (see Monday too)	17:00 – 18:00

**Friday**

Folk and country dancing	Every Friday	10:00 – 12:00
Needles and pins	First and third Friday	9:30 – 11:30
Spanish Levels 1 to 3	Every Friday	9:45 – 11:15
Spanish Level 4	Every Friday	11:15 – 12:45
Badminton	Every Friday	15:00 – 17:00
Ballroom dancing	Every Friday	13:30 – 15:30
German conversation	First and third Friday	14:00 – 15:00
Rummikub	Third Friday	14:00 – 17:00
Table tennis	Every Friday	15:00 – 17:00
Walks with your camera	Third Friday	14:00 onwards

**Others**

BCOT luncheon group	As advertised	
Bridge playing	Various	
Croquet	Various	
Cycling	Various	
Excursions and holidays	Various	
Members on their own (MOTO)	Various	
Walkers	Sundays	13:00 onwards

## Art and craft

### Where

Ridgeway Community Centre, Blackdown Close, RG22 5BN

### When

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month; 13:30 – 15:30

### Leaders


Drawing, painting in different media, card-making and assorted crafts. Advice, ideas and experience are shared among members – there is no formal tuition.

## Art history and appreciation

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


Have you ever looked at an artwork and wondered about its meaning, about the artist, the context or the techniques involved? If so, then you'll enjoy the Art History and Appreciation group. No expert artistic knowledge is assumed or necessary – just a liking and interest in art in its many and varied forms.

Presentations by group members are appreciated and enjoyed. Everyone's opinion and contribution is valued in this friendly, informal, and enthusiastic group.

The group aims to provide opportunities to socialise, discuss and learn from each other. We warmly welcome new members.

The programme for the coming year will include:

Art nouveau, record album covers, quizzes, members' choices, 20<sup>th</sup> Century art movements

## Art 4 all

### Where

Ridgeway Community Centre, Blackdown Close, Buckskin, RG22 5BN

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


A sociable group of painters from beginners to artists with more advanced skills working with a variety of media including water colour, acrylic and oil paints. Advice, ideas and experience are shared freely within the group.

Artists of all abilities are welcome.

## Badminton

### Where

Everest Community Academy, Oxford Way, RG24 9UP

### When

Every Friday; 15:00 – 17:00

### Leader

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We play badminton, mainly doubles, for exercise and enjoyment. Not played for a long time? All abilities are welcome. Don't have a racquet? No problem - we have a spare you can use, so come along for some activity and enjoyment!

## Ballroom dancing

### Where

Royal British Legion, Old Basing, RG24 7DN

### When

Every Friday; 13:30 – 15:30

### Leaders


Our group learns ballroom and Latin American dances. Each week we are taught new variations and then have an opportunity to practise what we have learned. There is a short break for refreshments (bring your own). Time is also allocated for revision and further practice. The classes are very relaxed and sociable and the group welcomes both beginners and experienced dancers. With the current Covid-19 guidelines, it is preferable that members attend with a partner. 30 Sep 2021

## BCOT luncheon group

### Where

Robert Newman restaurant, Basingstoke College of Technology, Worting Road, RG21 8TN

### When

As advertised – usually Thursday

### Leader

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This luncheon is open to ALL paid-up members of our u3a. Forms for each lunch are available from the group leader in the weeks leading up to the event. This is just a pleasant social event with good food and good company.

## Biography

### Where

Old Basing Pavilion Room, The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Old Basing, RG24 7DA

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month: October to December, February, April, June; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


We read a mixture of recent and earlier biographies suggested by group members. These will often be available in paperback or on Kindle. Usually, one member introduces the selected book to start our discussions.

## Board games

### Where

St Andrew's Church, Western Way, RG22 6ER

### When

One Tuesday a month; 13:45 – 15:45

### Leaders


If your memory of board games is Snakes and Ladders or Ludo then the Board Games group can introduce you to a variety of modern games which are fun to play and interesting. Favourites include Scotland Yard and The Great Game of Britain but we have many more. If you'd like to come along to see what we play then contact the group leader to find out when the next meeting is likely to be. Get some practice in ready to beat the grandchildren at Christmas!



# Bridge

## Where

Beginners: members' home or online, using Zoom

Improvers: Basingstoke Bridge & Chess Club

Duplicate: Sherborne St John Village Hall, Kiln Road, RG24 9HP (Thursday); online using Zoom (Tuesday)

## When

Beginners: every Tuesday, 10:00 – 12:30

Improvers: every Monday, 14:00 – 16:00

Duplicate: every Thursday, 13:00 – 16:00; every Tuesday, 14:00 – 16:30

## Leaders


## Beginners

A new Beginners Class starts on Tuesday 5th October. Lessons will be face to face, if possible, at a member's home in Oakley, but students must also be able to play bridge online, using Zoom. Full instructions will be given on how to access the Bridge online platform and Zoom. The class will be limited to 8 students.

Absolutely no knowledge of bridge is expected, though we would welcome back anyone who has previously done the beginners course and wants to go through it again.

## Improvers

This is a sequential course in the bridge card game. Each session takes the form of a one-hour lecture followed by a one-hour practice session with prepared hands. Students are expected to start with a basic knowledge of ACOL (Standard English) bidding. Everything taught in the Beginners course is revised and further techniques added.

For further details about either course or to reserve a place, email [basu3abridgegroup@gmail.com](mailto:basu3abridgegroup@gmail.com).

## Duplicate

We have returned to playing face-to-face competitive bridge every Thursday in a friendly and unimposing atmosphere. All are welcome to drop in and play. Results are available as soon as play stops and are emailed to all players.

We are also playing online every Tuesday afternoon.

On your own? Most players arrive in pairs, but if you would like help finding a partner, please contact the group convenor who will match you with someone else who has asked for help. You can contact the Bridge group convenor by email to [basu3abridgegroup@gmail.com](mailto:basu3abridgegroup@gmail.com).

We have a weekend away and host the South of England U3A Swiss Teams Tournament each year.

## Calligraphy

### Where

Parish Room, St Mary's Parish Church, The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7BW

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leader

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Make your mark with calligraphy and discover some of the things you can do with this pen script lettering. Our experienced teacher, Jane Hussey, gives attention to beginners while also helping the more experienced to develop a variety of techniques and undertake creative projects.

## Circle dance

### Where

Ridgeway Community Centre, Blackdown Close, RG22 5BN

### When (see NB below)

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from September to April; 14:00 – 15:30

### Leaders


Dancing in a circle is an ancient tradition used to celebrate the seasons of the year and the cycles of life as well as for marking special occasions. Inspired by the songs and dances of village life from around the world, it helps strengthen a sense of community and encourages togetherness. Each dance is taught, complete beginners are welcome and you don't need partners – so why not come and revitalize mind, body and spirit?

**NB** This group has yet to resume activities due to concerns about inadequate ventilation in the Hall.

## Creative writing

### Where

To be decided

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


Are you someone who has always felt you have a short story or even a book in you? Then our small, friendly group could be just what you need to improve your technique and discuss your problems with sympathetic, like-minded writers. Most of our members enjoy writing for fun and we share our writing in a relaxed, supportive setting. While those members with greater expertise willingly provide assistance within the group, this is not a teaching group for absolute beginners. We do expect potential members to be able to demonstrate a knowledge of creative writing or to be able to submit a sample of their work to ensure that the group is suitable. Access to a word processor is highly desirable.

## Croquet

### Where

Thornycroft Bowls Club & Basingstoke Croquet Club, St Andrew's Road (off Pinkerton Road), South Ham, RG22 6PT

### When

10.00 – 13.00 Monday, Wednesday & Thursday; 14.00 – 17.00 Monday & Tuesday

### Leaders


There are five weekly sessions. You may join one session to play Golf Croquet. A session leader looks after their group and everyone, beginner or more experienced, is welcome to participate in playing hard and enjoying the atmosphere and friendly banter. The sessions are well attended, so have fun. Play is from April through to the end of September.

## Cycling

### Where

Various places

### When

Various times

### Leaders


The cycling group enjoys social rides at a relatively easy pace, with a break for refreshments and chat. The group normally rides twice a week on different weekdays throughout the year. The routes generally follow quiet roads, cycle paths and occasional trails. To give a variety of ride routes, we take the train or drive to some starting points. The group always waits for stragglers so that no-one is left behind. We usually have two or more longer multi-day trips each year - these have included the Mosel, Rhine and Hunsruck in Germany, across Wales from Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth and the Viking Trail in Kent. Further information and the group rules can be found at [basu3acycling.joomla.com](http://basu3acycling.joomla.com).

## Environment and us

### Where

The Small Hall, Chineham Village Hall, Thornhill Way, Chineham, RG24 8YE

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


This is an informal discussion group with the aim of finding out about environmental issues with a particular emphasis on our local environment. From time to time, speakers are invited and sometimes visits to sites of interest to the group are arranged. The programme develops during the year based on the particular interests of the group. We are a friendly group and love to welcome new members.

## Excursions and holidays

### Where

As advertised

### When

As advertised

### Leaders


Excursions and holidays of varying lengths are organised, both within the UK and abroad. Look out for information in newsletters and emails.

## Family history

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

Last Wednesday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


Each meeting generally takes the form of a presentation by a group member on a family history topic, followed by questions, tea and an open discussion. In the discussion, there is the opportunity to ask for advice or to tell the group of your research successes.

## Film studies

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


The aim of the sessions is to share members' interests in films and to deepen our pleasure and understanding of the cinema. We look at a range of films from different cultures, at different genres, at particular directors and are always keen to discover films we are not familiar with. It's an adventure in cinema appreciation!

We have lively discussions and are always happy to meet new cinema enthusiasts. No previous knowledge required. The films we watch and topics we explore are decided by the group as a whole.

## Flowers for fun

### Where

Hook Scout Hut, Raven Road, Hook, RG27 9HH

### When

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month; 10:00 – 11:30

### Leader

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We are a small, friendly group who enjoy learning about and being creative with flowers, foliage and accessories – real and artificial – in various ways. We have different monthly themes, usually chosen by the members who bring along their own equipment and materials. You are very welcome to come along and participate, or just to have a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits.

## Folk and country dancing

### Where

Ridgeway Community Centre, Blackdown Close, RG22 5BN

### When

Every Friday; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


New members will be welcomed into this friendly group which enjoys dancing to a mixture of mostly English country music. All dances are taught and then called with music.

# French

## Where

St. Leonard's Centre, Rectory Road, Oakley, RG23 7ED (Intermediate and Advanced)  
Leader's home (Improvers)  
By Zoom (Conversation)

## When

Every Monday; 10:00 - 12:00 (Intermediate and Advanced)  
Every Tuesday; 9:45 - 11:45 (Improvers)  
Every Tuesday; 10:00 - 12:00 (Conversation)

## Leaders

## Improvers

## Intermediate

## Advanced

## Conversation

## Improvers

This Group is for people whose French is at present only basic. Typically, they may have studied it for 2 - 5 years at school, and nothing since. The group has been studying *Facon de Parler* Book 1 on Zoom since lockdown and have now finished Chapter 12. We start the sessions with basic conversation in the present tense and increasingly in the past too. However, I am prepared to do some revision with newcomers. **Intermediate**

This is for people with a good knowledge of French. We study from a book called *Façon de Parler 2*, but we also read, translate and converse on various French subjects, particularly French history. The atmosphere is very relaxed and everyone is encouraged to speak.

## Advanced

The Advanced group is for people with a good knowledge of French, who wish to write and converse in French, as well as learn about current events in France and who are also prepared to read fairly extensively. **Conversation**

Conversation in French on a variety of subjects, not just Covid, that interests all members and our everyday lives - and discussions about all things French. Conversation with varying degrees of ability and seriousness - and often humour as well.

We have been meeting via Zoom for some months now, with two sessions on Tuesday morning around a "pause-café". There are around twelve regulars amongst a group of fourteen Francophiles. We have come to know each other well and to our surprise we like meeting via Zoom. We have also managed a couple of Tuesday morning coffee sessions at a local café to "test out" face to face meetings.

## Gardening

### Where

Brookvale Village Hall, Lower Brook Street, RG21 7SD

### When

Fourth Thursday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leader

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The group is for the sharing of knowledge, plants, seeds and all things horticultural. It will meet once a month throughout the year with more get-togethers in the summer months.

## German

### Where

Zoom (Beginners)  
Members' homes (Conversation)  
St. Leonard's Centre, Rectory Road, Oakley, RG23 7ED (Intermediate)

### When

Every Wednesday; 11:00 – 12:30 (Beginners)  
Every Thursday; 14:00 – 16:00 (Intermediate)  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday; 14:00 – 15:00 (Conversation)

### Leaders


### Beginners and intermediate

Both classes start with a little conversation, but while the Beginners tend to just read what they have prepared for homework, we try to extend the contributions made by the Intermediates into more of a conversation. The classes are informal and all are welcome.

Beginners are studying the book *Willkommen Book 1* and Intermediates *Willkommen Book 2*.

### Conversation

The group members hold discussions entirely in German, except for the occasional translation. There is no set agenda and no textbooks are used. Occasionally we agree to talk about a certain topic, otherwise we just talk on anything of interest.



## History

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month; 13:30 – 15:00

### Leaders


Talks and then discussions on historical topics and events.

## Ladies who lunch

### Where

Members' homes

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month; 12:30 – 16:00

### Leaders


We all take a turn at hosting a lunch in our own home with the hostess making the main course, someone else bringing the starter and a third person bringing the pudding. We enjoy swapping recipes and any culinary tips and facts as well as putting ourselves and the world to right!

## Latin – beginners

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month; 13:30 – 14:30

### Leader

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The course covers basic Latin, which is used to tell the story of a family who lived at Vindolanda from 96AD. Now we have moved on about five years and the family move to York. A lot of what we learn is the history of the time based on fact. We learn about customs, family life and festivals.

## Line dancing

### Where

Royal British Legion, Old Basing, RG24 7DN

### When

Group 1: Every Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00 Improvers  
Group 2: Every Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00 Beginners and Improvers

### Leaders


Group 1 – Music and instruction by David Graham with a small additional charge.  
Group 2 – If you are interested in fun, a bit of exercise and a lot of brain training, why not join our enthusiastic group? An ability to commit to a course is desirable since each week we go over some old routines but are also learning new routines. Therefore, regular attendance ensures the group moves forward. If you want to try Line Dancing but have not done it before, why not try our bespoke Beginners session from 11:00 to noon – an hour specifically to teach you the basics whilst still dancing with more experienced dancers. As with Group 1, music and instruction are by David Graham with a small additional charge.

## Literature

### Where

By Zoom for the time being.

### When

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month; 14:00 – 15:15

### Leaders


We are a group of readers who discuss one book a month. The selection of ten books is made by proposal and vote in early summer. We alternate between a classic novel and a more modern one. One member gives a short introduction to get us started. It is not essential to finish the book; your opinions are still welcome.

We don't meet in December or August so sometimes the books for January and September are a little longer.

This is an opportunity to try out books you might not have thought to read. You never know, you might discover a new author to indulge in!

## Mah Jong

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month; 14:00 – 16:30

### Leaders


Beginners are very welcome, no previous knowledge of the game is required. The rudiments can be picked up quite quickly and we aim to have you playing on your own by the end of your first session.

## Meditation

### Where

Member's home

### When

Every Monday; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


Meditation is a time for relaxation using themes, music, poetry and experiences. Laughter is never far away. This leads to a period of peace and quiet, something many of us value in our busy lives.

## Members on their own (MOTO)

### Where

Various

### When

Various

### Leaders


The name of the group speaks for itself. It is run by members for members and everybody is a participant. Our aim is to provide like-minded companionship for members wishing to take part in a variety of activities but who would rather not do so alone. General meetings are held three or four times a year, both as an excuse to socialise and for discussion and planning purposes.

## Music and words

### Where

Parish Room, St Mary's Parish Church, The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7BW

### When

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month; 09:45 – 12:00

### Leaders


We are a popular and friendly group with a shared interest in music and the written word. Talks given by our members are interesting, instructive and entertaining: as a result, we have the opportunity to hear a wide variety of music and poetry or narrative.

## Needles and pins

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month; 09:30 – 11:30

### Leaders


We are a very friendly and sharing group, exchanging advice, patterns and ideas. Members bring along their own work, any form of knitting, crochet, tapestry, cross stitch, bead work etc. If nothing is needed for themselves then there are many ideas for items for one of three charities: small teddies, hats and mittens for the neo-natal unit; hats, scarves, mittens, toys and blankets for orphanages in Eastern Europe; and twiddlemuffs for dementia patients N.H.H. For all of these we usually have a supply of donated wool if needed. We try to have a workshop or demonstration each month so are always very busy. We welcome new members, including those who wish to learn knitting or crochet.

## Patchwork and quilting

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


The group is a mixture of beginners and more experienced quilters. There are demonstrations and projects usually on the 4th Wednesday, and we bring our own work to do at the other meeting.

## Philosophy

### Where

Member's home / online using Zoom

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leader

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We are still in the early stages of finding the best format and study topics and it is likely that these will cover both some individual well-known philosophers and also an area of philosophy. By way of example, our first discussion looked at John Locke and his impact on the American Declaration of Independence and Constitution.

We aim for a balanced mix of self study and informal relaxed Zoom group discussion, with each member choosing their level of self study / investigation to share with the group during the Zoom session.

The programme of topics is chosen and agreed by the group's members on a rolling basis. You don't need to know all (or indeed anything) about philosophers, just be willing to share ideas.

## Photography

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month; 14:00 – 16:00

### Leaders


Through a programme of talks, demonstrations and practical sessions we aim to improve the pictures we take. This year we aim to cover the following topics:

- understanding our camera features
- improving composition
- understanding raw
- how to take interesting pictures of various weather conditions
- editing of digital pictures
- looking at various filters
- two or three practical sessions, including looking at members' pictures

## Poetry appreciation

### Where

Online using Zoom

### When

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month; 15:00 – 17:00

### Leader

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We are continuing online for the time being. Members decide on the poet or theme for the following month and the facilitator. Each member can enjoy the reading and selection of their two poems which, currently, for our online meetings are collated and circulated prior to the Zoom discussion session.

## Quiz group

### Where

St Andrew's Church, Western Way, RG22 6ER

### When

Alternate Tuesdays; 13:30 – 15:30

### Leaders


This group is for those with a surfeit of useless information! We usually have 6 to 8 rounds of various quiz questions and a "table" quiz. Teams are selected at random on the day, so you can just come along and join in.

## Rounders

### Where

Russell Howard Park, St Andrew's Road, RG22 6PT

### When

Every Wednesday except the 2<sup>nd</sup> one in the month; 13:30 – 14:30

### Leaders


Walking or trotting – whatever you can manage! We make sure you are warmed up with stretching, walking round the perimeter of the posts, practising bowling, hitting, throwing and catching. We practise with soft and hard balls to get used to playing after what seems like many years ago! We still have good time for a couple of games and a cool down afterwards. What are you waiting for – do come and join us!

## Rummikub

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

3rd Friday of the month; 14:00 – 17:00

### Leaders


We play Rummikub and have tea (or Christmas lunch!). A very friendly group, beginners and experienced players are welcome.

## Science and technology

### Where

Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, RG21 3HF

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


Our friendly meetings cover a wide range of topics presented by members of the group, with some visiting speakers. Whilst the presentations will have some technical content, the speakers know that audience members will rarely have specific knowledge of their field, so presentations are never difficult to understand. Hence, you just have to have an interest in science/technology to enjoy them.

## Scrabble

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


A light-hearted morning for those with a love of making words. Beginners and experienced players are most welcome.



## Simply sewing

### Where

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month; 10:00 – 12:00

### Leaders


We are a small friendly group for anyone interested in meeting other stitchers. Sewing can be a very solitary hobby and meeting with friends that share ideas and experiences is good for the soul.

Simply Sewing was started for dressmakers, however more people have returned to sewing in all its guises over the last year. With that thought, we would like to invite those who enjoy creating anything more with a needle and thread regardless of their skill level or experience. This may be either hand or machining sewing, i.e., cross stitch, appliqué, soft furnishing, toy making – the list is endless). There will be no teaching. Our aim is to share our passion and knowledge with one another, whilst chatting and enjoying refreshments.

As the U3A is a charitable organisation, the group will not be making any donations, but individuals are welcome to choose and make for a charity of their choice.

## Singing for pleasure

### Where

Parish Room, The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7BW

### When

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month; 14:00 – 15:30

### Leaders


A friendly and informal group which meets to sing songs from the musicals, old pop songs from 50s to 90s, old time music hall and evergreens. Each meeting is led by one or two volunteers who produce a list of songs from our 50 song sheets to be sung during the meeting.

## Spanish

### Where

St. Leonard's Centre, Rectory Road, Oakley, RG23 7ED

### When

Every Friday; 9:45 – 11:15 (Levels 1 to 3), 11.15 – 12.45 (Level 4)

### Leaders


The Spanish Group is in four levels, ranging from complete beginners to upper intermediate level.

**Level 1** is for beginners.

**Level 2** is for people who have learnt Spanish for at least one year and will use *Pasos Book 1* as a text book.

**Level 3** is for people who have either studied *Pasos 1* or a similar textbook or have a reasonable knowledge of basic Spanish including the use of past and future tenses.

**Level 4** is for people, who have been on Level 3 or are at a similar level.

We are very flexible and often rely on our more advanced students to help out with both the lower and higher levels. We are a self-help group who appreciate the teaching and other contributions of native and fluent speakers which are offered from time to time. Any help from Spanish speakers is always welcome! There is a friendly and relaxed atmosphere in all the groups.

## Strings and things – under discussion

### Where

Elizabeth Hall, Raven Road, Hook, RG27 9HH

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, but flexible

### Leaders


This small group of musicians has got together to play a variety of tunes and songs. We aim for an inclusive, but professional approach, and perform at various charitable clubs and groups in the Basingstoke area with venues agreed between us.

Rehearsals are held at Elizabeth Hall in Hook once or twice monthly.

Would anyone like to play with us? Any instrument can be accommodated. We would be pleased to hear from any likeminded competent musicians, who wish to join.

## Table tennis

### Where

Everest Community Academy, Oxford Way, RG24 9UP

### When

Every Friday; 15:00 – 17:00

### Leaders


We are a friendly group playing table tennis for fun and we welcome new members of all abilities. We have 3 or 4 tables, allowing 12 to 16 members to play at any one time. We also have the advantage of sharing the Sports Hall with our badminton group, so you can try your hand at this too. Just come along with your table tennis bat (we have a spare if you need to borrow one) and enjoy a happy afternoon.

## Walkers

### Where

Various

### When

Sundays; 13:00 start

### Leaders


We are a group of medium to fast walkers and our walks are normally between 5 and 8 miles. We do not stop for coffee or tea breaks, but have several pauses for water and chats. The walks are notified to all members of the group by email.

## Walking football

### Where

Everest Community Academy, Oxford Way, RG24 9UP

### When

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month; 17:00 – 18:00

### Leader

Do you love football, but maybe not quite up to running round a pitch any longer? Why not join us for Walking Football, with men and women, who enjoy football and physical activity?

- The pitch we use is a self-contained, outdoor, artificial turf pitch, with small goals and a wire net around the outside
- It is slightly larger than a 5-a-side pitch, so ideally suits 6-a-side
- We pick the teams on the day, depending on the number of people attending • We have a short break every 15 minutes or so

## Walking netball

### Where

Russell Howard Park, St Andrew's Road, RG22 6PT

### When

Every Tuesday; 12:00 – 13:00

### Leader

Do join us for a lot of fun! We start with warm-up exercises practising stretching, throwing, catching, bouncing, shooting and cooling down at the end of the session. Then a couple of short games in two teams with changeovers. Nothing serious, but good to regain old skills lying dormant for a number of years! It's amazing how you surprise yourself at how they return!

## Walks with your camera

### Where

Various

### When

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month; 14:00 –

### Leaders


A series of walks of no more than 2–3 miles for those who want to take photographs using all forms of camera. The walks will cover landscapes, buildings, animals and plants etc with a range of both indoor and outdoor locations. Some indoor lighting conditions may not be suitable for some mobile phones and tablets. The walks will complement lessons learnt from the Photography group but are open to all.

Past walks include:

- Ashford Hill Nature reserve
- Micheldever Woods for snowdrops
- The Rainforest, Newbury
- Wayfarers Walk, Overton