u3a learn, laugh, live
Haywards Heath & District

Haywards Heath
Bulletin 21 2026

Looking forward

Friday 6th November is when you will be able to hear Ian Rumley-Dawson give his talk entitled 'The birds of St Kilda'

Ian is a wildlife photographer and lecturer and his talk will include facts about the geography, weather, flora and fauna as well as human history on the island.

The talk will be held in HH Methodist Church, Wesley Hall at 2pm and entry is free.

Winter Social

This eagerly awaited opportunity to meet and mingle with fellow members whilst imbibing seasonal fare such as mulled wine and mince pies will be held at Cuckfield Baptist Church in Polestub Lane on Wednesday December 9th from 2pm – 5pm.

New members are especially welcome to attend and meet members of the committee and various group leaders and convenors who will be able to enlighten you on their group activities.

A caricaturist will be present to create masterpieces for you to frame and display on your walls.

There is a health & safety limit on the number of members the Church can accept, so pre-booking is essential.

Contact our Social Secretary Mary Richard if you wish to attend. hhu3asocialsec@gmail.com

Play Reading

Do you enjoy reading? Do you like talking? Can you manage both at the same time?
If so, Play Reading 1 would be delighted to hear from you! See below for details.



PLAYREADING!



Are you ready to channel your inner THESPIAN?
DO YOU ENJOY A GOOD PLAY?

CAN YOU READ WELL OUT LOUD?

WE MEET ON

ALTERNATE THURSDAY MORNINGS

IN MEMBERS' HOMES

DISCOVER THE FUN OF PLAYREADING
Contact: **Bridget Lane tel: 01444 452508**

mob: 07977471159

Eco- Friendly Living

Also looking to welcome new members, the EFL group's next meeting details are below.

The timings link with the 271 bus from Haywards Heath to Cuckfield

Ecofriendly living meeting.

Monday, 2nd November 2026, 10:10 am
9 Mytten Close, Cuckfield, RH17 5LN

Our health and feeding the world
For more details, contact group leader Peter Lovett: hhu3anaturewalks@gmail.com



Film Group

This group is now up-and-running and is looking for new members.
Do you have an interest in films? This could include directors, actors or genres including war films, love stories, adventures etc.
The group members take it in turns to select their favourites, the trailers of which can be shown on the Methodist Church Upper room large TV screen.
The group meet on the 1st Friday / month at 10am, so the next one will be on Friday November 6th. Contact Group Co-ordinator Mike Fawcett, hhu3agroups@gmail.com or just turn up – you will be most welcome.

Venues for Live Music, Theatre and Cinema

A couple of members have recently asked if we have a list of "cultural" venues near Haywards Heath, for use by those who are maybe new to the area.

Group Co-ordinator Mike Fawcett and Membership Secretary Pete Cogle have put their thinking caps on and come up with two documents that members may find useful.

- **Live Music Venues near Haywards Heath**
- **Cinemas and Theatres near Haywards Heath**

If you think we've missed a venue then please let Pete Cogle know and he can make updates.
You can email Pete on hhu3amembershipsecretary@gmail.com

Clair Hall

At a recent Council meeting, it was agreed that a planning application will be submitted by the Summer of 2027 for the Clair Hall site to be redeveloped.

This redevelopment will include 39 homes as well as a 133 seat theatre complex complete with a cinema screen and stage. There will also be three smaller auditoriums, a community and event space, a green room, a café and restaurant.

If the application is approved, demolition will start early 2028 and work should be completed by Autumn 2029.

Perhaps a little too soon to be contacting our venues officer Anne about booking a room for group meetings but watch this space – ever the optimist!

Bird Watchers

A sunny morning visit to RSPB Pagham coincided with an exceptionally high tide which helped concentrate the waders onto patches of high ground.
Altogether, 31 species were spotted, the highlights being Snipe, Avocet & Little Gull.
Other sightings included Buzzard, Curlew, Black-tailed Godwit, Marsh Harrier, Sky Lark & Whimbrel.

Strength & Balance

Group leader Mary Richard is looking for any member with an interest and ability in assisting her to run this very popular group to contact her on hhu3asocialsec@gmail.com

Spire Computer Help

'Back to basic' technology jargon explained. Have you ever been told to 'accept cookies', 'stream' a programme', 'clear your cache', 'click the link' or 'scan the QR code' and wondered what on earth it all meant? You are not alone!

Spire have translated nearly 300 technology words into plain English. They have also gathered together 140 trusted and useful websites covering health, travel, TV, saving money, staying safe from scams and much more. Join them on Wednesday 11th November at St Wilfrid's Church hall, Station Rd, Burgess Hill at 2.30pm.

In Memoriam

Bryan Jennings

Sadly, Bryan Jennings passed away on 9th October.

Bryan joined HH u3a in January 2012 and he was made a Life member in 2020.
He was a long time, and very keen member of the railway studies group.

Our condolences go to his wife Shirley and to other members of his family and friends.

Burgess Hill u3a events

On Wednesday 4th November, Margaret Watson will be talking about the Harp – it's history, design, lore and recital.

This will be at Cyprus Hall, Cyprus road from 10.30am to 11.30am and entry is free.
The film 'Pressure' is going to be shown to u3a members on Wednesday 18th November at the Orion Cinema, 1.30pm for a 2pm start. This film is about how weather forecasting played a decisive role in the timing of the D-Day landings.

The cost is £5, contact Val on chads.kingslodge@btinternet.com to book your place.

Hurst, Hassocks & Ditchling u3a event

On Friday 27th November, Michael Blencowe looks back through his wildlife notebooks and takes you on a month-by-month journey, highlighting some of the amazing wildlife that can be seen in and around Sussex.

The End of the World!

Are you stocking up for '**Armageddon'**? if so, here are some handy hints.

1. Spirits, obviously for emergencies, will last indefinitely if stored in a cool dark place - but once opened, they only last 1 or 2 years.
2. You'll need to store plenty of liquids. White & Rose from 1 - 3 years, Red 2 - 3 years, Champagne 3 - 4 years.
3. Foodstuffs. Canned Fois Gras 1 -4 years, unopened pasteurised Caviar – up to 6 months. However,

unfortunately, when stored in proper conditions Spam will last indefinitely! Cheers,

Paul