

u3a Update

Announcements | Events | News from the Groups

News Update

Charity Plant Sale

Tenterden Horticultural Society's Charity Plant Sale takes place on Saturday 28 May at Tesco's forecourt from 9 am. It's very popular, so get there early, before the plants sell out.

Summer Break

Once again, 'Update' will be taking a break until September. Many of the Groups pause for the summer and there will be no monthly meeting in July or August, but the Committee will be welcoming new members, thanking Group leaders, and preparing the next 'season'. Keep an eye on the post in August, when we will mail out the Pocket Diary, and 2022-3 membership cards for everyone who has not already collected theirs.

Sustainability Note

The National Trust has committed to going plastic-free this year, using potato

Monthly Meeting, 16 June

Martyn Harrison *Les Mis to Lion King: Forty Years of British Musicals*

Martyn Harrison will take us on a journey through the last forty years of British musical theatre, in a light-hearted narrative illustrated with live music and stories from his career on the London stage. Before retiring in 2012, Martyn sang as an operatic tenor at the Royal Opera House, Glyndebourne, Sadler's Wells, ENO and many other leading houses, gave lieder recitals, and played in West End musicals such as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Bernadette*.



Copyright reasons mean this will be a live event only, with no Zoom or recording permitted. So do come to St Mildred's Hall and meet your u3a friends for a great afternoon of music and entertainment.

AGM: Chairman's Report

Jenny Stevens was delighted to be able to meet members in the hall after another year marked by Covid. We have continued to thrive, with more than thirty-five groups, thanks to Zoom and the Group Leaders, but now is the time to return to meeting in person whenever possible. Jenny reminded us of the great range of other activities, including excellent speakers, an outstanding Study Morning, and a Spring

starch wrappers and recyclable cups, and removing plastic wrapping from items in the NT shops.

Meadows in Bloom

As the hawthorn blossom faded, Tenterden's meadows became a riot of wildflowers, buttercups and cow parsley.



Japanese Haiku, which normally consist of just three lines made up of seventeen syllables (arranged five, seven, five) with a nature theme. The group particularly liked an eighteenth-century poem by Buson: *Ultra-pink peony | Silver Siamese soft cat | Gold-dust butterfly*. Now they are going to try to write their own.

Continuing the nature theme, the **Gardening** group explored the woodland paths of the Ham Street National Nature Reserve, admiring the bluebells in full bloom. Having enjoyed demos by chef Graham White, each member of **Culinary Challenges** now has to cook one of the dishes for the Group's summer lunch party. They are beginning to know what it feels like to be on Masterchef and prepare a meal for the judges. Is it too much to hope that, one day, they may cater for a larger event?

Garden Party that raised funds for the Ukraine appeal. Our Covid Journal and the Street Names project are in production. She thanked the Committee and all the individuals who have made these activities possible. We all owe particular thanks, though, to Suzanne Hore, who is stepping down after more than ten years on the committee during which she has organised many memorable outings. Jenny closed with a plea for a return to some 'normality' and to enjoy each other's company in face-to-face events, meetings, outings and visits.

There have been too many contributions to list in a brief summary, but the full report is available on our website [here](#).

The Committee for 2022-3

The new Committee is: Chairman Jenny Stevens; Vice-chairman and Groups Lindy Bates; Secretary Anna Toombs; Treasurer Rosalind Johnson; Communications Tom Evans; Outings Debbie Jones; Membership Barbara Smith; Catering Liz Hammond and Groups Sally White. You can get in touch through our website [here](#).

News from the Groups

Sharing Words has been exploring

