

Update

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News Update

Modern Medicine

The Future of Healthcare

Booking is now open for our Study Morning on the Future of Healthcare. Places will be limited, so an early application for seats is advised.

The event will be held at the Sinden Theatre, Homewood School, on Saturday 14 March 2026.

Science and technology have revolutionised surgery and medicine: we benefit from treatments that would have amazed our grandparents.

At the same time, we are confronted daily by stories about a crisis in the NHS. For lay people and patients, the picture is at once inspiring, worrying and bewildering.

Join three eminent surgeons to hear the story of recent medical developments, explain recent advances and point to ways ahead for healthcare in the modern world.

February Monthly Meeting:

Andy Thomas:

Paranormal Mysteries & Cover Ups



Thursday 19th February

Andy delves into some famous unexplained phenomena, including UFOs, ghosts, strange creatures, psychic powers and ancient enigmas – and why many investigators believe they are covered up.

Andy is a leading researcher into unexplained mysteries, the paranormal and global cover-ups and is author of many books, including the acclaimed 'The Truth Agenda', 'The New Heretics' and 'Conspiracies'. Andy widely writes and lectures and has made numerous radio and TV appearances.

From the Chair

Looking ahead to lighter days and warmer weather, in 2026 we have a full complement of Monthly Meetings with a range of speakers covering many diverse and interesting topics.

Places for the Study Morning on March 14 are filling up fast. I am delighted that we have input from Ivy Court Surgery with Dr Neil Pillai joining the discussion. This promises to be a very popular event.

Details are now available on the website under 'Study Morning'.

The AGM is coming up in May. Nominations for Officers and other Committee members will be

needed. We still don't have a Vice Chair since I vacated this post last year. Anyone interested in joining the Committee is welcome to talk to a member of the Committee to learn what might be involved. Without officers, the organisation will melt away, as has already happened to some local u3a groups. Please consider applying. Any nominations should be sent to our secretary, John Russell who is in charge of the process of election. He will contact the membership well in advance of the AGM which is on 21 May 2026.

John Nicholls

Membership Renewal

Our Membership Secretary, John Badcock, will be sending out membership renewal forms in mid-February, covering the new financial year from April 2026 to March 2027. Membership subscriptions will remain at the current level of £16.00 (or £12.50 if your primary u3a membership is held elsewhere).

Please follow the payment instructions on the form to make John's life easier, for which he will be most grateful.

Elite Pubs Discount Cards

The Pig and Sty is a member of a chain called Elite Pubs. Following our Christmas lunch, Chris Edwards, Head of Operations of Elite Pubs, generously offered an individual discount card to all members of Tenterden u3a. The card can be used in any of the pubs in the Elite Pubs chain <https://elitepubs.com/> and gives a 10% discount on all meals and drinks. It can be used by the card holder for a whole table or group at any given time. The Committee agreed that the cards will be issued and signed for in the first place to members attending the Monthly Meetings.

John Nicholls

Tenterden Creative web magazine

The Tenterden Creative web magazine, showcasing creative writing, poetry, art, photography or any other creative work by members. has been delayed, and will be published in March. You don't have to belong to one of the creative groups to submit work - just email it to Rennie at info@tenterdenu3a.org by the end of February.

Groups

Bowls

We have recently been invited by Biddenden Bowling Club to play at their facilities. This invitation is extended to existing players and to those who have never played but fancy having a go. If there is enough interest, we would like to form a Bowling Group, and make use of their facilities, in a similar way as the u3a Golf Club play at Tenterden. If you are interested, please come to the Coffee Morning, held at 1030 at the Vine, on 27 February to meet Sally, find out more and register your interest. If you are unable to attend, please email Sally on gandswhite@hotmail.co.uk

Vacancies

The following groups can take extra members: are Bridge, Country Book, More French (but need to have a good level of French conversation), World through Maps, Jazz, Science, Causerie Francais, and Lets Improve our French.

Putting the World to Rights

Putting the World to Rights is up and running again with Erik Foster at the helm. Erik was unable to lead the group for much of last year and we are grateful to Graham, who kept it ticking over. This group meets on the second Wednesday of each month and enjoys a good meal at a variety of local pubs and restaurants whilst they discuss local, national and world issues. Further details in the Programme.

Golfer of the year 2025

For the second time in its history Deirdre Thom has won the u3a trophy 'u3a Golfer of the year' 2025 after a superb round of golf, beating a mixed field of 14 u3a golfers.

Congratulations Deirdre.



Singing for Fun

Singing for Fun meets in St Michael's church on the 2nd Thursday each month from 10.30 to 11.30 with time for a coffee. It costs £1 each to cover heating costs.

The group has been led by Aileen Dickson since it started. Aileen plays the piano and chooses what we sing, with the song lyrics projected on to a large screen. This is a great help, as so many of us only know some of the words. Our choice of songs come from many different genres: folk songs, traditional songs, fun songs and the songs we danced to in our early years. The screen helps when we can't remember all the words. Recently we have been revisiting favourites such as Living Doll, Sweet Caroline and Sound of Silence.

Come along. The emphasis is on FUN not if you have a good voice and as you can see we are a jolly group but need more members



u3a Tenterden

February 2026

Strictly Singles

Winter is a quiet time for Strictly Singles. In the last couple of months we have organised our usual activities including 10 pin bowling, film club, lunches, walks. We went on a visit to the Turner and Constable exhibition at Tate Modern, which was fascinating and enjoyable.. We are looking forward to better weather and an early spring for more outdoor activities.



Two great photographs from the Photography group.

