

## WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT ...

### YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE AND WHAT IT COVERS

The level of membership fee has been debated many times over the years, and each time the consensus from the Committee has been the same: it is not fair to charge members a higher fee, say £40, then abolish group fees in their entirety. Some neighbouring u3as operate on this model.

#### *Prohibitive*

For a member wanting to join just one group the joining cost could be prohibitive, particularly if they were unable to join their chosen group.

#### *Nominal*

Instead, we have kept the overall membership fee at a nominal amount and levied a contribution towards venue hire cost for each group member.



To be clear, the £10 membership fee covers:

- ◆ Third Age Trust membership (includes Public Liability Insurance)
- ◆ Simple Membership Fees
- ◆ Printing and Postage of Report & Accounts and Group Listings
- ◆ Committee meeting room hire
- ◆ Seasonal Social, Open Morning, Group Leaders Meeting, AGM and any other members' meeting expenses (eg venue hire, publicity)
- ◆ Fees for independent examiner for Accounts
- ◆ Provision and maintenance of Audio Visual equipment.

Comments, suggestions or enquiries to: [Bulletin@lewesu3a.uk](mailto:Bulletin@lewesu3a.uk)

## HAPPY TO HELP – BUT NOT SURE HOW?



You may be certain that you do not want to serve on the Committee. (That's OK!)

*Members who joined over the last year, and who have indicated on their joining form that they are willing to volunteer, will receive an invitation to an event, where we will talk about opportunities, within the committee and outside of it.*

If you do not receive an invitation but would like to find out more, contact [bulletin@lewesu3a.uk](mailto:bulletin@lewesu3a.uk).

## TO CELEBRATE VOLUNTEERS WEEK

earlier this month, u3a Trust are profiling a few of the many volunteers who make up the u3a movement. Here is a quote from a longer story from Trust Volunteer Brian. Does this strike a chord?

*'I like to look for challenges and new directions, hoping to inspire others to risk taking wrong pathways, yet finding unexpected opportunities for knowledge and growth. I get my greatest joy from working as part of a team.'*

Read his story on

<https://sources.u3a.org.uk/u3a-volunteering>

## LEWES u3a OPEN MORNING

Wednesday September 4th Corn Exchange, Town Hall, Lewes

Times to be advised



### ***WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS***

TO JOIN OUR TEAM FOR ***COLLATION OF LEWES NEWS*** COPIES, AS PART OF THE DEAL TO INCLUDE A CENTRE PAGE STORY IN THE JULY ISSUE ABOUT LEWES U3A, WHICH WE HOPE WILL PUBLICISE OUR OPEN MORNING.

WE WILL BE COLLATING ON SATURDAY JULY 6TH AT CHRIST CHURCH HALL, FITZJOHNS ROAD, STARTING 9AM.

IT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT 2 1/2 HOURS.

MINDLESS BUT FULFILLING, TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED



CONTACT [BULLETIN@LEWESU3A.UK](mailto:bulletin@lewesu3a.uk) IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE—WHAT WE KNOW NOW AND FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

Nigel Baker tells us what we can expect from his presentation at the Lewes  
u3a Seasonal Social on July 18th

Artificial intelligence (AI) has been around for a while, but it has become a frequent topic in the news, Why is this? What has changed?

While there will be a brief introduction to the concept of AI and current tools, this talk will focus more on the implications for the future. In particular we will consider what there is that we might be hopeful for, or worried about.

### *AI has the power*

AI has the power to develop new medicines, and perform research that is beyond our capabilities. But along with this, it might also threaten people's jobs, or even our relationships. Is this a rollercoaster that we can get off, or do we have to hold on and enjoy/endure the ride?

### *Can we allow it?*

What would happen if it eventually became more intelligent than even our brightest minds? Can we allow it to run things for us, and just focus on what makes us happy?

Nigel runs the AI group for Lewes u3a, which has been considering these issues over the last six months, while trying to keep up with the bewildering pace of



development. He is looking forward to sharing their insights and knowledge with a wider audience.

Nigel is a retired IT consultant with 30 years experience, specialising in the application of emerging technologies for business. He runs the AI course for Lewes u3a, and has previously run courses on electric cars and space technology.

**Hear Nigel's talk at the Seasonal Social  
on July 18th**

**at St John sub Castro, Abinger Place,  
Lewes.**

**Doors open 2.30, talk begins approx.  
3pm. Café will open until 3pm.**

**Free entry—bring a friend!**



**IF YOU ARE THINKING OF STARTING A GROUP, BUT NOT CONFIDENT ABOUT YOUR LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE, THERE IS A TREASURE TROVE OF EXPERTISE A MERE MOUSE-CLICK AWAY!**

As a member of Lewes u3a you are also a member of the u3a organisation, and can take advantage of its resources.

*From the u3a.org's website:*

'We have over 80 advisers who are available to help you and your interest group.

**What is an adviser?** Advisers are passionate u3a members who want to grow their subject and share their knowledge within the u3a movement.

**Who can contact them?** Any u3a member can contact a Subject Adviser. They are here to support any member or group leader with an interest in their subject, whether you have a group or not.

**When can I contact them?** Anytime – you do not need to wait until your group is stuck for ideas, you can get contact them for resources, to connect with others, to energise your group or just to get inspired!

To find out more contact [subjectadvisers@u3a.org.uk](mailto:subjectadvisers@u3a.org.uk)

## **STAYCATION?**

### **YOU ARE NOT ALONE...**

If you are one of the many who will be resident in or around Lewes



over the summer months, you may be interested to know there are Lewes u3a Groups which will be active in July and August.

They are:

- *Badminton*
- *Bridge*
- *Outdoor Sketching*
- *Plant Hunting*
- *Recorder Group*
- *Jazz Club*
- *Social Cycling*
- *Classical Greek*
- *Walks with a Story (formerly Sussex History Walking Group)*
- *Bird Watching*
- *Dowsing*
- *Ecomonics*
- *Russian for Improvers*
- *Film Club*

To enquire about joining in, go to the Groups page on the website ([www.lewesu3a.uk](http://www.lewesu3a.uk)) and, – after logging in! – click on your potential group and then make an enquiry from the Group page.