



JERSEY U3A NEWSLETTER

AUGUST EDITION

Welcome

As we step into August, the Island seems to settle into that familiar rhythm of long sunny days, warm evenings, and the gentle hum of summer activity. It is also a time when many of us pause, take stock, and enjoy a slower pace before the busy autumn season begins.

Within U3A, August often brings a blend of continuity and quiet renewal. Some groups take a well-earned break, others thrive in the good weather, and many of us use the month to think about new ideas, new interests, and new ways to connect. Whether you are travelling, gardening, reading, exploring, or simply enjoying the company of friends, we hope this edition brings you a sense of belonging and inspiration.

Thank you, as always, for being part of our vibrant community. Your curiosity, enthusiasm, and generosity of spirit are what make Jersey U3A such a special organisation. Enjoy the sunshine, enjoy the conversations, and enjoy this month's newsletter.



Committee. After a successful AGM last month, the new committee for the year ahead was elected, as follows:

Chairman – **Steve Read**, Treasurer – **Nick Bone**, Web Manager – **Juliette White**, Magazine Distribution – **Michael Talibard**, Minute Secretary – **Teresa Dorey**. Member–**Tom Bunting**.

If any member is interested in joining the committee, please contact me accordingly.

You can view all the AGM paperwork, including the 2026 Minutes, Chairman's and Treasurer's reports, and the Statement of Accounts for 2025, on the Jersey u3a website.

[Links - Jersey](#)



This month's **coffee morning** will be held on **Wednesday 12th** at the **Radisson Blu Hotel, at 10.30am**. Weather permitting, we will try to sit on the terrace. Please note that the hotel has introduced a new parking policy. Everyone who parks in the hotel car park must register their "J plate" either at reception or at the lounge bar. This helps the



hotel give priority parking to guests and people using its services. Other users will be charged for parking. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.



Talks. Tom and Donal have lined up another varied list of speakers for this autumn's talks. If you are not already on Tom's mailing list and would like to attend one or all of the talks, please contact him by email. tombunting@localdial.com The talks take place at the **Old Rectory, St Saviour, at 2.30pm**. Tea and biscuits are served at the end of each meeting.

The programme is as follows:

Fri Sept 11	GROW visit	Sheena Brockie
Fri Sept 25	Custer's Last Stand	Gordon Richard
Fri Oct 9	Jersey's Historic Environmental Records	Susan Freebrey
Fri Oct 23	Komodo Dragons	John Carlile
Fri Nov 13	Writing to the Future	Caro Bowes
Fri Nov 27	My Life and Times	His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor Sir Jeremy Kyd KBE
Fri Dec 11	Gerald Durell	Catherine Kirby



Global Issues. The Global Issues group continues to go from strength to strength and always welcomes new members. The group explores major world issues—including climate change, conflict, inequality, and human rights—in a way that makes complex subjects accessible, engaging, and open to discussion. Meetings also include country analyses, which give members the opportunity to look more closely at individual nations, their current challenges, historical context, and place in the wider world. Through shared discussion, members hear different perspectives, connect global events to real decisions and communities, and develop a deeper understanding of the forces shaping our world. The group offers a stimulating and friendly forum where ideas matter and everyone can contribute. The programme for the remainder of 2026 and early 2027 is as follows:

- Tuesday 29th September – Iran and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps
- Tuesday 27th October – Operation Mini-Concorde
- Tuesday 24th November – The Baltics
- Tuesday 26th January – Andy Burnham
- Tuesday 23rd February - President Trump's Imperialist Legacy
- Tuesday 23rd March - World Food Insecurity: causes, impacts, and solutions



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- Tuesday 27th April – Climate shift - environmental degradation, heatwaves, pollution

If you are interested in joining the GI group, please contact Chris Davey via email. tudordavey@gmail.com



History Group. The History Group holds its inaugural meeting later this month on **Wednesday 19th at the Old Rectory, St Saviour, at 2.30pm**. Mark Rabet convenes the group and welcomes enquiries by email. markrabet@icloud.com. Mark intends to deliver the first talk on **historical individuals with a connection to Jersey**, whether well-known or less familiar discoveries from his research. This is a new interest group, so I hope as many members as possible will give it their support.



Jersey Festival of Words celebrates the power of storytelling, language, and imagination, bringing together authors, poets, performers, and readers for a vibrant programme of events, more than half of which are free to attend. This year the **festival takes place between 18th and 27th September**. Set across a variety of local venues, the ten-day festival features inspiring talks, lively discussions, creative workshops, and memorable performances. Jersey u3a has several literary groups, including **Book of the Month, Creative Writing, Crosswords, Literature, Play Reading, and Poetry Reading**. You can find details on our website: [Groups - Jersey](#). If you are interested in the festival, please see details on its website: [Jersey Festival Of Words | Jersey's Literary Festival](#)



Jersey Battle of Flowers 2026 takes place on **Friday, August 14 and Saturday, August 15, 2026**, returning to its traditional coastal route along Victoria Avenue. The organisers offer **free admission** for general public viewing. A number of members play an important part in these festivities, and I encourage everyone to support this wonderful, historic local celebration. Let us hope for fine weather.

- **Day Parade** (Friday, August 14, 2026): Pre-parade entertainment begins at **2:00pm**; the main daytime procession starts at **3:00pm**.
- **Moonlight Parade** (Saturday, August 15, 2026): Gates open after **6:30pm**; the illuminated evening procession starts at approximately **8:45pm**, ending with a fireworks finale over St Aubin's Bay.



Each month I bring you a selection of **events offered online by u3a (UK)**. You can book all events via Eventbrite, and they are available exclusively to u3a members. You can also sign up to the events mailing list to receive the full monthly programme. Email events@u3a.or.uk,



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or visit the online learning events page: [u3a - Online learning events](#). This month's sample events include:

- **Deepfakes demystified**: understanding the risks and staying safe – Friday 14th August at 2.00pm
- **Cryptic crosswords** in context: how they work – Tuesday 18 August at 2.00pm
- **The Scottish colourists on Iona** – Thursday 20th August at 2.00pm
- **Triumph to trauma (940–1042)** – the Danes before the Normans – Monday 7th September at 2.00pm.



Members' Christmas Lunch. Please hold **Friday 4th December 2026** in your calendars for this year's members' Christmas lunch. Details to follow over the next months. We had an incredibly good turnout last year and I hope for equal success this year. All things being equal we will return to the St Brelade's Bay Hotel. I wait a response from the hotel about menus and cost. (122 days – countdown begins).

Conclusion

As always, thank you to everyone who contributes to Jersey u3a, whether by organising groups, attending events, sharing ideas, welcoming new members, or simply bringing friendship and enthusiasm to our community. I hope August gives you time to relax, enjoy the Island, and look forward to the many activities ahead in the autumn. I wish all members a happy, safe, and enjoyable summer.

Best Regards

Steve
Chairman