

# Mid-Bucks (Aylesbury) u3a

[www.u3a.co](http://www.u3a.co)

## Newsletter – January 2026

Editor: Solo Awadzi - Email: [solokawadzi@hotmail.com](mailto:solokawadzi@hotmail.com) Meet

at Community Centre, Prebendal Avenue

1.30 p.m. for start at 2.00 p.m.

Free Refreshments available.



### **SPEAKER - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - Bobbie Darbyshire - 'A BEGINNING, A MUDDLE & AN END: Where do novelists get their ideas?'**

Bobbie's novels are varied in their plot lines and contain a plethora of different characters. What they all seem to do is develop stories from what appear to be everyday life situations – or do they? Bobbie will join us to tell us more about how she approaches the subject of writing a novel.

### **SPEAKER - 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 - Bill Hamilton - Man on the spot.**

### **SPEAKER - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 - Tony Lyster - Bucks (Quinton) Railway.**

### **SPEAKER - 16th April - Keith Muras - Guerrillas in the mist.**

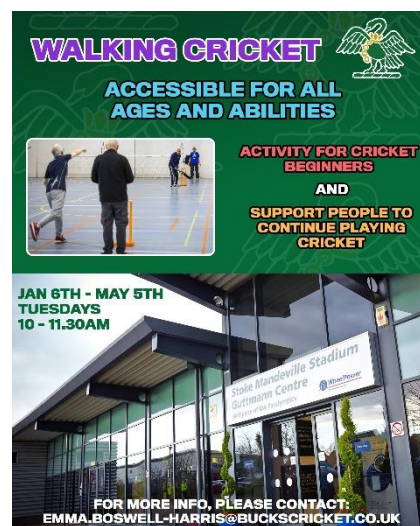
### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Colin White**

Welcome to our Newsletter for January 2026 – Happy New Year.

I'd like to let you know that the Christmas raffle held at our December meeting raised £177, which is up on last year's £160. Thank you all for your generosity.

The Tea Rota for 2026 has recently been added to the website. If you are on the rota and find yourself unable to attend a Monthly Meeting that you are due to help at, could you please ensure that you let Louise know so that alternative arrangements can be put in place? Many thanks.

I recently heard back from the Buckinghamshire Cricket contact that I have been in touch with about Walking Cricket. Please note that this is not a Mid-Bucks (Aylesbury) u3a event, but we have been specifically invited to attend. The sessions are free and will take place **every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 11:30 from Tuesday January 6th 2026 to Tuesday May 5th 2026**. If you are interested in attending please complete the registration form that must be accessed from this link - [Bucks Cricket Walking Cricket- Aylesbury](#). I have signed up and will look forward to hopefully being accompanied by some of you!



I received notification of the Karibuni Children Quiz Supper which takes place on **Saturday 24th January 2026** at Fairford Leys Community Centre. If you are interested in attending please follow the instructions that are detailed in the poster that I sent out by email. A few of us attended the last such quiz in October and I can heartily recommend the event. If others are interested in forming a team please let me know.

As I reported at the December monthly meeting I recently heard about the passing of two of our members, Pat Freeman and Rosemary Wilson. Pat sadly passed away at the end of July and Rosemary more recently during December. Both had been members with us for a number of years and I am sure that we would all like to send our condolences and best wishes to Michael Freeman and David Wilson and their families and friends at this sad time.

## **LOCAL HISTORY GROUP Jasmine & Simon Reeks**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

**January Meeting – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 2026, 14.00**

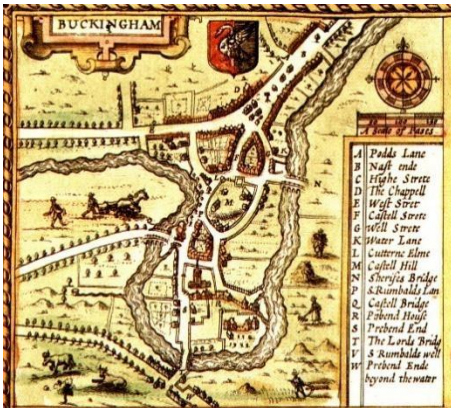
**Southcourt Community Centre**, Prebendal Ave, Aylesbury,  
Buckinghamshire England, HP21 8LF.

Planning Meeting. Ideas and volunteer leads required, well ideas anyway! Volunteers for hospitality and a cake or two for the day, please.

## February Meeting – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 14.00 for 14.30 talk Southcourt Community Centre

Prebendal Ave, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire England, HP21 8LF By popular demand, a return visit by Julian Hunt with an illustrated talk on Buckingham, the original county town. Volunteers for hospitality and a cake or two, please.

**Note change from normal date.**



(photo: copyright from BAS Records)

## **JIGSAW TABLE** - Julie Leach

The suggested contribution for a jigsaw is 50p. Our supply of puzzles is good at the moment. However, we are always grateful for any donations that are made, and if we don't sell them they will still go to a good home. If you have finished a jigsaw that you previously obtained from the table, why not bring it back?



## **QUIZ GROUP** - Ann Burman (07709 226884 / 01296 422084)



The next Quiz will take place on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026** at **Foxhill Indoor Bowls Club**, starting at **2.00pm**. **Cost £2 per person** (including tea/coffee and biscuits). All members are welcome. It would be nice to see some new faces, why not give it a go?

*Quiz is normally on the third Tuesday in the month, apart from December when we do not meet.*

## **HISTORY OF TRANSPORT - Jim Wilding (01296 623628)**



I regret that I am having to give up co-ordinating this group, but we are extremely fortunate that Simon Reeks is taking over.

The next meeting will therefore be on **21st January, at 9, Barge Crescent, Aylesbury, at 2.30**, when Simon will continue with his history of the London Underground.

## **MUSICAL APPRECIATION - Jim Wilding (01296 623628)**



Our next meeting will be at **9, Mill Mead, Wendover, at 2.30 on Tuesday, 27th January.**

## **GADGET GROUP - Simon Reeks**

A happy New Year to you all!

The build up towards Christmas seemed to decrease the demand for my services but I still managed to resurrect a dead laptop, persuade a printer to actually print, install Microsoft Teams (similar to Zoom for video conferencing), update McAfee antivirus, source and set up a new mobile phone and provide help setting up a new Freely television.



I "play" with many gadgets, for example PCs, laptops, Android phones (including connection to get SatNav onto car screens via Android Auto), televisions, printers etc. As long as Apple is not involved, I'll happily try to help. Please contact me by phone/email on 01296 482735 / [rees@fangio.co.uk](mailto:rees@fangio.co.uk) and I'll see what I can do.

### **BOWLS GROUP – Colin White (07941 652918)**

The Bowls Group meets and plays at the Foxhill Indoor Bowls Club.

The next sessions take place from **2:30 to 4:30 on Sundays: 18<sup>th</sup> January, 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026** (meet at 2:15pm). The sessions will cost **£5 per person** (which includes refreshments).

We will have booking sheets available at the monthly meetings for those interested in coming along to play.

Please remember that you will need to play in clean, non-marking shoes. Either bring your own or wear a pair provided by the Bowls Club.

The primary contact for this Group is Colin White (email [colinwhite100@virginmedia.com](mailto:colinwhite100@virginmedia.com)) and the secondary contact is Sandra Chaudhry (07881 768449).



### **BRIDGE GROUP – Martin Lock (01296 433838)**

This group meets regularly, on days to be confirmed, at various members houses.

For more information see the branch website or contact Martin Lock.

### **SINGING FOR FUN – Sheila Bulpett (01296 622540)**

This Group is run in conjunction with Wendover u3a and takes place from 11:15 to 12:45 on the second Wednesday of the month at Halton Village Hall. The Group is looking for more singers, particularly men.

For more information see the branch website or contact Sheila Bulpett using the number above or [sebulpett@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sebulpett@yahoo.co.uk) – and remember to say you're from the Mid-Bucks (Aylesbury) branch of the u3a.

### **YARN CRAFTERS – Sheila Haldane (01296 488267)**

This Group meets from 2.00 to 4.00pm on the second Monday of the month.

For more information see the branch website or contact Sheila using the number above.



**WEBSITE – Solo Awadzi – (07748 750547) & Colin White – (07941 652918)**

The website is the door to our u3a and in need of contributors to submit items to the website manager who would gratefully publish them. Please contact Solo or Colin using the numbers above or [solokawadzi@hotmail.com](mailto:solokawadzi@hotmail.com) or [colinwhite100@virginmedia.com](mailto:colinwhite100@virginmedia.com)

**Sudoku Puzzle January 2026** (Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 9 by 9 box contains the numbers 1 to 9)

3		6	5				7	9
			8		9			
	8	9						
					5	6		
	4	3	2			7		
	5		3	1			9	2
	9			5	7			
	3	5					8	7
7	6				3		5	4

**Sudoku Puzzle December 2025 solution**

5	4	8	2	6	7	3	9	1
2	3	1	8	4	9	6	5	7
6	9	7	1	3	5	8	2	4
9	2	3	5	8	4	1	7	6
8	1	6	9	7	3	2	4	5
7	5	4	6	1	2	9	8	3
4	7	2	3	9	1	5	6	8
1	8	5	4	2	6	7	3	9
3	6	9	7	5	8	4	1	2

**Next Newsletter latest contribution date – Sunday 1st February 2026**