

# Mid-Bucks (Aylesbury) u3a

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

## Newsletter – September 2026

Editor: Solo Awadzi - Email: [solokawadzi23@gmail.com](mailto:solokawadzi23@gmail.com)

Meet at Community Centre, Prebendal Avenue

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

Free Refreshments available.



### **SPEAKER - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2026 - Dr Stephen Goss - *Opulence, Innovation and Intrigue - the history of the Orient Express***

Dr Stephen Goss is an academic historian who has been published in peer-review journals, and has been a popular speaker in local historical societies and community groups for 15 years.

Talks from Stephen give history based on the highest standard of research and analysis, presented in an engaging, witty and enjoyable way. He tailors his talks to suit the audience and guarantees that we will be fascinated with the insights, and hear humorous anecdotes which will stay with us. We look forward to hearing from him.

### **SPEAKER - 15<sup>th</sup> October 2026 - Nigel Crompton - *History of the British Fire Service***

### **SPEAKER - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2026 - Sara Shelby - *10 years inside***

### **SPEAKER - 17<sup>th</sup> December 2026 - Sun Jester - *A Christmas Entertainment***

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

Welcome to our Newsletter for September 2026.

Is summer nearly over?! It rained this morning for the first time in what seems like months, though the sun soon came out to make it feel very muggy once again.

The warm and sunny weather over the last 3 months has meant that those of us who attended the outdoor Walking Cricket at the Aylesbury Cricket Club didn't have play rained off at all. At the start of September the Walking Cricket will have moved back indoors to the Stoke Mandeville Stadium. The change of location has also brought a change in the timings. We will now be

**WALKING CRICKET**  
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FREE SESSIONS FOR ALL AGED 55+

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SUPPORTING PEOPLE TO CONTINUE PLAYING CRICKET

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Every Tuesday  
from Sept 1st  
10am - 11.30am  
Stoke Mandeville  
Stadium  
HP21 9PP

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FOR MORE INFO - MELISSA.WING@BUCKSCRICKET.CO.UK

playing from 10:00 to 11:30 every Tuesday. I have sent a recent email about this, please come along if you fancy giving it a go.



With the changing seasons we get to thinking about closing down some of the activities that we organise each year. September will see the last of the Coach Trips, to Stamford and Rutland Water. Many of us will be looking forward to that. We will have our penultimate Pub Walk at Waddesdon at the start of September, and our final one of the year at Cholesbury in early October (do sign up for this

at the monthly meeting). Let's hope that neither of those walks has to pass through as much smoke as we experienced at Mop End on the recent walk from the Red Lion at Little Missenden. Don't forget that many of the other Groups continue to meet over the autumn and winter months, see later in the Newsletter for more information.

We had a successful test of the hearing loop at the Southcourt Community Centre at the last monthly meeting and I have let the caretakers know. Please remember that if you do use a hearing aid and are attending the Community Centre please try switch your hearing aid to pick up loop 'T'.

Please note that we have a change of speaker for our November meeting. Sara Shelby will be replacing Mike Sheehan. If you feel the need you could amend your Membership Cards accordingly.

Enjoy the newsletter, if you have any suggestions for new or additional content please let us know.

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

**September Meeting Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 11.00 Third guided walk around Quainton price £4.00.** It is not necessary to have walked 1 & 2. Meet at top of the green by the entrance to the windmill for 11.00. If you would like a coffee before you start, we will be meeting at the George & Dragon coffee shop at about 10.30. If you want lunch at the pub, please book yourself at <https://georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk> or you can lunch at the Coffee shop. Please, park around the green with consideration.



Wear appropriate clothing. Organiser is Rupert Anson. (This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA)

**October Meeting Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 14.00 for 14.30 at Southcourt Community Centre HP21 8LF. Talk by Nigel Males. Willie & Ettie: The Souls of Taplow Court price £3.00.** A tale of triumph and tragedy. For 30 years before WWI, William Grenfell, Lord Desborough and his wife Ethel entertained elite friends at Taplow Court. The group was known as The Souls. How could the story end so sadly for so many ....

Volunteers for hospitality and “administration on the day”, please. ([This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA)



**November Meeting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 for 11. 00 Methodist Church, Buckingham Road, HP20 2NQ**

£2.00 Rupert's ever popular, pictorial resume of the Local History past year. Request for admin and hospitality help, please. (Your arrival will be 10.00)

### **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 donate it to another worthy cause such as a charity shop?



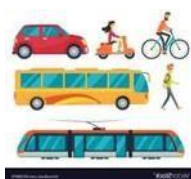
**QUIZ GROUP - Ann Burman (07709 226884 / 01296 422084) Chris Blaik (01296 425964)**



The next Quiz will take place on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 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 – Simon & Jasmine Reeks**



Our next meeting will be at 2pm on the 16th September **at 9 Barge Crescent, Broughton, HP22 7BH** - a video of "The British Coach - A journey Through Time". There will also be a group discussion about the programme for the next few months. Any queries, please contact us by email / phone **on [reesks@fangio.co.uk](mailto:reesks@fangio.co.uk) / 01296 482735**.

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



Our next meeting is cancelled due to Jim's hospital appointment. In the period before the October meeting the future of the group will be discussed by those that normally attend.

## **GADGET GROUP - Simon Reeks**

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 / **[reesks@fangio.co.uk](mailto:reesks@fangio.co.uk)** and I'll see what I can do.



## **COACH TRIPS 2026**

**Pickup points: Exchange Street 9.00 am / Tennis Club 9.05 am / Jansel Square 9.15 am.**

The last trip of the year is to Stamford and Rutland Water.

**Tuesday 8th September Cost: £30**

The coach will take us to Stamford, a charming town in Lincolnshire with a rich heritage and plenty to see and do.



After lunch we are booked on the Rutland Belle for a 45-minute cruise of Rutland Water

Lead : **Jan Paver (07768 205950)**

**Trips 2027! Where do you want to go? Please pass any suggestions to the Trips Team**

### **PUB WALKS – Colin White (07941 652918)**

The final pub walk of 2026 will take place on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026**, meeting for an **11:00** start at **The Full Moon, Cholesbury Lane, Hawridge, Chesham, HP5 2UH**.

The walk is just over 3 miles long and is generally over gentle gradients. However, you should **note that there is a total of 277ft of ascent, which occurs in two short stretches over about ¼ mile each and one gentle stretch over about a mile.** Having had no stiles on most of our walks this year, I have saved them up for this walk where there are 5 to contend with! There will also be two pieces of walking on footpaths along quiet roads of about ¼ of a mile.



Please sign up at the **September** monthly meeting or call Colin (07941 652918) if you would like to join us.

The Pub Walks Group has now had six outings this year. We have had walks from: The Cock and Rabbit at the Lee in March; the Harrow at Bishopstone in April; The Squirrel at Penn Street in May; The Golden Eagle at Ashley Green in June; The Dinton Hermit at Ford in July and The Red Lion at Little Missenden in August.

Shortly after the Newsletter will be published, we will be going on our seventh walk of the year from The Bow at Waddesdon.



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

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

The next sessions are due to take place from **2:30 to 4:30 on Sundays: 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October, and 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 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 11:15am to 12:45pm 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 2.00pm 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:solakawadzi@hotmail.com) or [colinwhite100@virginmedia.com](mailto:colinwhite100@virginmedia.com)

**Sudoku Puzzle September 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)

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

**Sudoku Puzzle August 2026 solution**

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

**Next Newsletter latest contribution date – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026**