



April 2019 Bulletin

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday 9th April 2019 2pm

St John the Baptist Church Meopham

"Ellen Terry - The First Superstar" - Ann Rachlin MBE

Ann Rachlin MBE, is a pioneer of music appreciation for children in the UK, and the founder of "Fun With Music". A gifted storyteller, she began teaching music appreciation in London before creating "Fun with Music". She is a published author of children's books and, most importantly for us, an authority on Dame Ellen Terry, the great Victorian actress, and Ellen's daughter Edith Craig. Ann is a Fellow of Grey College, University of Durham.

During her talk Ann will tell us about the astonishing life and times of Dame Ellen whose colourful personal life, far from alienating her from the public, led to her being adored by the masses and considered to be the leading Shakespearean and comic actress in Britain. Dame Ellen has a local connection, in that she lived in her later years at Smallhythe Place, near Tenterden, Kent. The house is now in the care of the National Trust and you may care to visit it.

The meeting will be followed by refreshments and member's time in the Church rooms.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE CHURCH

Additional Monthly Meetings

We do hope that you found our recent meetings on POA and on Driving interesting and informative. Thank you to Alison Hillman for suggesting these meetings and for making all the arrangements.

We intend to hold a couple more of these meetings in the autumn and will let you know once the topics and dates are confirmed.

These meetings are open to all members of MU3A and are free to attend.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our 4th Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 19th July 2019

2pm

St John the Baptist church, Meopham

****Please make it a priority to attend our AGM****

3Rs - ("Review, Recruit, Re-Register")

Your chance to sign up for your 2019-20 groups

Tuesday August 13th 2019

14.00-16.00.

St John the Baptist church, Meopham

Further details in due course.

GROUPS NEWS

We are coming to that time of year when some of our groups have reached capacity. This is usually simply due to the lack of space for any more members in halls, the library or in homes. If you visit our website you will see these groups are "greyed" out.

We want every member to get as much as they possibly can from their membership of MU3A and understand that it can be disappointing to find that a group you would value being part of is not able to accept any more members. Please be courteous to our group contacts and please don't just turn up at the group meeting and ask to join in.

We do not operate a system of waiting lists but aim to establish another group as quickly as is possible.

If you would like to join a group that appears full then please indicate your interest via a SIGN UP SHEET at the monthly meetings or coffee mornings or let Heather know via mepgroups1@gmail.com. Once sufficient members have indicated their interest in a new group to make it viable, an initial meeting, supported by our groups team, will take place to help it to become established.

More group news

Seeking more members.....

Book Club 2: Circle Dancing: Current Affairs 2 (day time group): Cycling:

Cycling for softies: Kent Village Visits: National Trust visits: Genealogy:

Meditation: London Visits 2: Sea Fishing: Wine Appreciation 3:

If you would like to join any of the above groups then please e-mail the Group Contact via the website and they will be happy to give you more details.

Calling all Group Members

*****PROOF READING*****

Please take a few minutes to visit our website u3asites.org.uk/meopham and read through the pages that concern those groups you belong to.

Your page editors have recently been asked to update their pages and check that all the information and the dates of the meetings are correct. We think we are nearly there but can you please help us by proof reading your pages.

We need to make sure it to be up to date for two reasons.

Firstly:- unless the dates of your meetings and details of the venues etc. are added to your page then that information will not automatically appear in the monthly diary that is emailed to every member. If you need should need further support or guidance about how to add this information or have any other queries about our group pages please contact Chris via meopweb@btinternet.com and he will be pleased to help.

Secondly: - Our web site team, Gus, Lesley and Anne –Marie, have been hard at work and are gradually setting up our new website. I will be much easier for them if they can simply transfer the information about all our groups over to the new site, knowing it is up to date and correct.

Thank you all for your help with this.

PS We are hopeful that page editors will find the new website easier to use. Full training will be, of course, be given once the new site is up and running.

Group Contacts Meeting

Monday April 29th 2019

10:00 -11:30

All group contact are warmly invited to a meeting at the Cricketers on Meopham Green.

If you cannot make the meeting then please ask another member to represent your group and report back.

At these meetings we aim to talk about any changes that groups need to be aware of and consider any issues affecting the smooth running of our groups. We value the contribution made to MU3A by our group contacts and want to offer them as much support as we can. It is often said that groups are the “life blood” of a U3A and that a goodly number of effective groups is the most important factor in assessing the health of a U3A. We have more than the average number of groups for a U3A of our size and, with your help, will strive to continue to grow, adapt and develop our provision.

If there are any items that you would like to see added to the agenda please let Heather know via mepgroups1@gmail.com by April 10th.

On this occasion we would like to ensure we meet with the contact or another member from all our groups so we will arrange one or more follow up meetings for those groups which are not able to send a representative along on April 29th.

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH 2019

Meopham Village Hall

7.15 for 7.30 start

£4 a head (payable on the night)

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Seeking teams from our groups. Please think about organising a team. We ask that at least half of your team are MU3A members but friends, neighbours or family who may be interested in joining are welcome to make up your team.