

BRAUNTON & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026
10.00 – 12.00 – PARISH HALL

SPEAKER: TODD GRAY
MASS OBSERVATION AND NORTH DEVON 1939-45



Chairperson: Beryl Lloyd 01271 812121
Dave20000@tinyworld.co.uk
Membership Secretary: Brian Gilbert
membershipbrauntonu3a@gmail.com
Newsletter items to Julia James:
Tel: 816884 email: jjdevon45@gmail.com
April Newsletter deadline
17th March 2026
Website: <https://braunton.U3Asite.uk/>

MEMBERS STORIES

Articles and photos (if available) to be submitted to our Newsletter Editor, Julia

BRAUNTON & DISTRICT U3A AGM

The AGM is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 2 June 2026 at the Braunton Parish Hall from 10.30 am. If a member has any item that they wish to be discussed at the AGM, please contact the Chairperson Beryl Lloyd by 5 May 2026.

DAY TRIP TO BUDE THURSDAY 21 MAY 2026

Tickets for the visit to Bude will go on sale at the March, April and May meetings. The cost is £17 which includes coach and driver gratuities. The coach departs Braunton 9.15 am. Contact Beryl for information 01271 812121.

Proposed trips which may be subject to changes:-
June 18 – Lyme Regis
September 17 - Sidmouth and Donkey Sanctuary

Welcome

HEALTH FOR LIFE DAY
WITH ROSEMARY LITTLEWOOD
A chance to learn how you can take
care of your own health

DATES:
Wednesday 18th March
Friday 27th March

Venue: Sundown House
Time: 10.00 am – 4.00pm

Drinks provided. Please bring your own lunch.
Minimum 4 – maximum 6
WhatsApp Rosemary on 07811892686 to book your place

PAPERBACK BOOKS

The 2026 holiday season is only a few weeks away and The Rotary Club of Braunton will again be placing paperback books at the various North Devon holiday camp sites for visitors to purchase. The money raised will be donated to local charities. If you have any paperback books that you would like to donate, please contact Beryl on 01271 812121.

SPEAKERS BOOKED FOR 2026

April – Graham Fairlie – National Trust
Arlington Court
May – Kimberley Colman – Heritage
Ranger
June – Ashley Jones – The Dickin Medal –
Animals at War



VOLUNTEER CAR DRIVERS WANTED

CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS A WEEK OR MONTH?

Braunton Volunteers are looking for friendly, helpful drivers to take older & less able people to their health-care appointments.

These are mainly in the local area covering Braunton, Croyde, Georgeham & Barnstaple.

You can drive as often or as little as you like

- We work around your commitments - you let us know when you want to drive.
- Trip costs are paid direct to you by the passenger on completion of the journey, no waiting for payment.

If you can help or would like to find out more

Please contact Liz Hill on 01271 815222

or email brauntonvolunteers@gmail.com

THE OLDIES TEXTING CODES

Since youngsters of today have their own Texting Codes here are a few for us oldies.

ATD – At the Doctor's

BFF – Best Friend's Funeral

BTW – Bring the wheelchair

BYOT – Bring your own teeth

FWIW – Forgot where I was

GGPBL – Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low

GHA – Got Heartburn Again

TFT – Texting from Toilet

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP


Welcome everyone, our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th March, when Liz Shakesphere will deliver an oral history of a North Devon village entitled "The memory is green" At St Brannocks Rooms, Church Street, Braunton, EX33 2EL. We begin at 10am for refreshments and the talk will be at 10.30am. For more information contact Anne Young on 01271 813255 or email rayvyoung2000@yahoo.co.uk.

Live Music Night
THE HOT HOUSE COMBO Quartet

Saturday 21st March 2026
 7.30pm to 10pm
 Doors open 6.45pm

Bar for Wine and Soft Drinks

Come and enjoy a "TOE TAPPING" evening with 1930's swing
 Follow on Youtube



BRAUNTON PARISH HALL
 BRAUNTON EX33 2ES

Tickets £12 available on line
www.brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk
 or
 cash purchase from
 The Green Newsagents,
 Braunton




All profits from the evening go to




and Rotary supported charities

Braunton Caen
Rotary 

 admin@brauntoncaenrotary.co.uk
 Booking Now

A POEM TO ROSEMARY

The news I've heard is a worry

It fills me full of fear

One we hold most dear

I hear she has turned to acting!!

Soon on the boards she will tread

Will all that adoration??

Go straight to her head

No more will we hear her "Ramblings"

No more will we keep fit

I am the sort of person who likes to do her bit!!

So, we may have to job share

A few of us each do a bit

I'd do a bit of thinking!!

Or I'll just plan and sit!!

Written by Betty Foot

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2026/2027 COMMITTEE

**BRAUNTON & DISTRICT U3A COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS
FOR 2026/2027**

I.....nominate the member named below to the committee.

Name of Candidate.....suggested office.....

I.....second this nomination.

I.....accept this nomination, and if elected agree to serve on the Committee.

Signature of candidate.....

Please send the completed form to our chairperson: Beryl Lloyd 1 The Brittons Braunton EX33 2HE by 5 May 2026.

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 2 June 2026 10.30 am
Notice is hereby given of the Braunton & District U3A Annual General Meeting to be held in Braunton Parish Hall 10.30 am 2 June 2026.
If you wish to nominate anyone, please complete the form making sure to include a seconder and the candidate's signature and return to the address above by 5 May 2026.

Current officers:

Chairperson - Mrs Beryl Lloyd

Vice Chairperson - Vacant

Treasurer – David Kent

Secretary – Sandie Hazel

Membership Secretary – Brian Gilbert

Assistant Membership Secretary & Refreshments – Sue Gilbert

Speakers Secretary – Barbara Watson

Assistant Speakers Secretary – Anne Tabour

Newsletter - Julia James

Groups Co-ordinator - Rosemary Littlewood

Webmaster Co-ordinator – Joan Ainsworth

Committee member – Marg Abbott

Please note the following: -

David Kent wishes to relinquish the post Treasurer.

Brian Gilbert wishes to relinquish the post of Membership Secretary.

Current committee members can be re-elected if proposed and willing to stand or replaced by newly elected members.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM FOR BRAUNTON & DISTRICT U3A -2026
Registered Charity No 1168703

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title & Full Name

Address

POSTCODE

Telephone Landline Mobile

Email Address

N.B. To save costs, the committee will use email whenever possible

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership year of Braunton & District U3A is 1st April to 31st March.

Single Annual Membership is **£15** This includes a £3.50 Subscription Fee to our national organization, *The Third Age Trust*, which provides a wide range of services and benefits, including liability insurance cover. The Third Age Magazine (TAM) is issued 4 times a year. The cost is **£4 per year** and this is to cover the cost of postage. **Please make cheques payable to Braunton & District U3A**

A. I enclose a cheque/cash for £19 to cover membership and the Third Age Magazine.

B. I enclose a cheque/cash for £15 to cover membership only.

C. I have made payment of £19 via BACS to cover membership and the Third Age Magazine.

D. I have made payment of £15 via BACS to cover membership.

Payments via BACS to Lloyds sort code 30-90-49 account no 45943360 Account Braunton & District U3A.

Meetings will be held at Braunton Parish Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 10.30am when completed applications can be handed to Membership Secretary, Brian Gilbert

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members must :

1. Abide by the Aims and Guiding Principles of the U3A movement.
2. Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
3. Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
4. Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
5. Comply with and support the decisions of the elected committee.
6. **Advise the committee of any change in your personal details.**

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Your personal details will be held on a secure database and will be used solely for the purposes of administration and the communication of U3A matters. They will never be supplied to an outside agency or party other than for you to receive Third Age Matters directly mailed.

I apply for membership of Braunton & District U3A and confirm that :

- **I will comply with the terms and conditions of membership as stated above.**

Signed

Dated

SUBSCRIPTION 2026/27

Next Year's application/renewal form for membership 2026/2027beginning 1st April 2026 is here.

The cost for membership is £15 and if you wish to receive the Third Age Trust Magazine issued four times a year, there is a postage fee of £4 p¹er year.

Please indicate on the renewal form if you are paying for membership and magazine or just membership only. I would be grateful if you could get your renewals as early as possible to spread my workload, also it makes life easier if you pay by cash. Preferably with the correct amount placed in an envelope with your name on.

NEWSLETTER

For those of you who don't receive the newsletter by email, could you supply me with stamped self-addressed envelopes so that I can post them to you. Post them to me at 16 Homer Crescent, Braunton, EX33 1DT, alternatively if you live anywhere around Saunton Park I'd be happy to deliver a copy to you. Those members using email should receive the newsletter regularly. Due to the size of our distribution list, some members have found that tightened security means that U3A emails have been blocked. Please search your Junk folders in, case they have arrived there. Please also add the email address membershipbrauntonu3a@outlook.com to your personal address book or contact list or send an email to it to ensure that U3A is recognised by your system. This should all help to ensure that your Newsletter arrives safely.

Many thanks Brian

INTEREST GROUPS

RUMMIKUB (BOARD GAME)

Marg Abbott. 07710 201396

margabbott@icloud.com

Meeting on the third Wednesday at members' homes from 2 till 4pm. This group is full at the moment but if anyone else would like to play do get in touch so I can put you on a waiting list.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Lora White 870171

lora@planetmail.com

Come and join the Social Sciences group, learning about interaction and developments in society through Computer & TV presentations with Lora, provoking and sparking new ideas. We would love to hear your views. Meeting once a month, on the 4th Tuesday. 10.30am – 12.30pm at member's homes with Lora, unless otherwise arranged.

STROLLERS

Carole Sellwood 0772989944

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Meets at the Countryside Centre at 10.30am

Wednesday 4th and 18th March

TRIPWIRE

Beryl Lloyd 812121

21 May 2026

Trip to Bude

Tickets on sale at the March, April and May monthly meeting.

Proposed trips (subject to change)

18 June 2026 – Lyme Regis

17 September 2026 – Donkey Sanctuary and Sidmouth

WALKING

Rosemary Littlewood 890066

WhatsApp 07811892686

Most Tuesdays, varied bus/walks, with refreshments at pub/cafe if you wish. Appropriate clothing, light refreshment and poles if required.

Dogs welcome on the walk but restrictions at some cafes.

Tuesday 10th February

Morte Station to Ilfracombe

303 bus from Fire Station at 9.30am (9.28!!)

Tarka trail to Ilfracombe

Lunch in Ilfracombe or back in Braunton

Tuesday 24th February

Saunton – Low or Higher route

21C bus (Croyde Bay) from the George at 10.00am.

Tuesday 10 March 2026

Tarr Steps

Dulverton (walking routes are currently W.I.P.). There is an opportunity to stay over at Tarr Farm Inn, Tarr Steps, Dulverton (Quote Braunton Walking Group for their Black Friday deal of 20% discount). Call 01643 851507 and speak to Hilary. For more information on the venue Visit:

www.tarrfarm.co.uk

Currently 8 walkers have booked two nights: Monday 9th and Tuesday 10 March. Walks can be planned to include from Monday p.m. to Wednesday as required. But you can book one night if that suits you. Enquiries about the Walk/stayover please speak to Cliff, Linda or one of the other regular walkers.

For further information WhatsApp Rosemary on 07811892686

Tuesday 14 March 2026

Combe Martin

Try again following cancellation on the 9th December due to foul weather.

21B bus from George, depart 9.45am

301 bus from Ilfracombe Garage at 10.30am

Circular walk from beach to Little Hangman and Great Hangman. Return bus 10 minutes past the hour.

Convivial eating, where and what's open and available.

Tuesday 31 March 2026

Westward Hoe to Bideford

21b bus departs SQ at 8.58. 21 bus from Barnstaple Bus Station departs 9.45

April Walks

Day trip. Car share. Fingle Bridge, Castle Drogo.

Clovelly - Brownsham

WINE APPRECIATION

Anne Young – 813255

rayvyoung2000@yahoo.co.uk

2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm

U3A MONTHLY RAFFLE PRIZE

We have a new sponsor for our monthly meeting raffle prize, and it is a thank you to Roger Byrom and his team from L Clarke & Sons who are donating a £15 Tesco voucher as the prize.



L. Clarke & Sons
~ Independent Funeral Directors ~