

## Newsletter from your Chairman



Hi everyone,

I was pleased to see many of you at the March meeting with Jonathan Allbut talking on '*Gardening in a modern environment*'.

His view on the way we should change the management of our garden areas was about taking into account sustainability, and his illustrated talk was a thought provoking presentation! I have

to confess that I still like to see a daisy free lawn rather than

having a small meadow at the back of our house. It reminded me of when I started

teaching gardening in the 60's, then called Rural Studies, and one of the tasks

detailed in a text book for teachers suggested a whole class activity to clear daisies

in a school lawn. It involved equipping them with a dinner fork each, organising them

into a line and then, on hands and

knees, covering the lawn area using the

dinner fork to dig out the daisy plants!

No mention of selective weedkillers in

that book!

Spring has certainly arrived. Having

moved my tulips last year I was hoping

they would thrive from the move and

they certainly have!



This month our guest speaker Geoffrey Mead will be talking on '*Landscapes of the*

*South East*'. Covid restrictions and lockdown procedures made us look to things

closer to home and we have some beautiful landscapes here in the South East. I am

looking forward to his talk. Put Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April in your diary, 2pm at Crockham

Hill Hall.

As you know we are always looking for 'new blood' to join our committee. I am

delighted to inform you all that we have two new members who would like to join our

committee. Maggie Buckingham will be taking over from Lynn Swift as New members

co-ordinator. Maureen Young will be taking over from Molly Ward as organiser of the

speakers for our monthly meetings. I am asking both to be co-opted onto the

committee until their official ratification at the AGM in July. If you have been at a meeting where you found the speaker inspirational Maureen would love to hear from you. Kent u3a are currently updating a list of speakers that individual branches, like ours, across Kent are recommending. We have sent in our 3 chosen good speakers based on your feedback. Also if there is a particular topic that you would like to be covered by a speaker, please let us know.

Are you a new member of our u3a? You may have a hobby, interest or specialism that you would like to share. How about starting up a group to share that knowledge? Talk to Brian Swift, our groups organiser, who will help you set up your new group.

At the moment we have 185 paid up members and some of you may receive an email from our treasurer if we haven't received your subs for 2021/2022. Some may have moved away and some may have just forgotten – we are trying to bring our membership records up to date after the break due to the covid infection and lockdowns.

So, to conclude, I look forward to seeing many of you on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April and, once again, take care, stay safe and keep healthy!

Best wishes *Mike*

Mike Collins ([chairman@edenbridgeu3a.co.uk](mailto:chairman@edenbridgeu3a.co.uk))

PS – 3 more Spring images including an intimate photo of a tulip

