

St Albans U3A Mathematics group: past meetings 2021 – 2025

22 July 2025	(a) Dijkstra's optimum path algorithm, and how Sat Nav works (Mike Collins); (b) Discussion of future activities for our group
24 June 2025	(a) Numerical solutions to differential equations (Paul England); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
27 May 2025	Discussion of National U3A problems (Andrew Apps)
29 April 2025	An introduction to Information Theory (Andrew Apps)
25 Mar 2025	(a) The mathematics of audio reproduction (Simon Browne); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
25 Feb 2025	(a) Estimating dates of the great conjunctions of Jupiter and Saturn (Simon Thompson); (b) Problems from Mike Rawlins and Tony Crilly
28 Jan 2025	Discussion of National U3A winter problems
26 Nov 2024	(a) The Rev. Thomas P. Kirkman and the 15 Schoolgirls Problem: the gentle art of Combinatorics (Tony Crilly); (b) Problems from Mike Rawlins
22 Oct 2024	(a) Game Theory and human behaviour (Simon Browne); (b) Problems from Mike Rawlins
24 Sept 2024	Discussion of National U3A summer problems
23 July 2024	(a) Nonlinear regression (Paul England); (b) Discussion of problems (Mike Rawlins)
25 June 2024	Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems (Andrew Apps)
21 May 2024	Integer partitions (Simon Thompson)
23 Apr 2024	(a) Two surprising results from A-level maths (Kevin Thompson); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
26 Mar 2024	(a) Kepler's laws of planetary motion (Simon Thompson); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
27 Feb 2024	(a) Some real life applications of conic sections (Richard Buchta); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
23 Jan 2024	(a) Fourier series - or when is a function not a function? (Andrew Apps); (b) Discussion of two problems circulated for Christmas (Simon Thompson)
28 Nov 2023	(a) Hunting for large primes (Tony Crilly); (b) Problems from Mike Rawlins
31 Oct 2023	The use of Fourier transforms in microscopy (Michael Moody)
26 Sept 2023	(a) Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems; (b) Suggested solutions to the birthday card ages
25 July 2023	An introduction to elliptic curves (Andrew Apps)
27 June 2023	(a) The anomalous integral of $1/x$ (Gillian Stansfield); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
30 May 2023	(a) Calculating square roots by hand (Simon Thompson); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins

25 Apr 2023	(a) The new algebra, and new mathematical words: an introduction to group theory (Tony Crilly); (b) Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems
28 Mar 2023	Quantum Theory in Astrophysics - a very brief overview (Kevin Thompson)
28 Feb 2023	(a) The geometry of solar panel installations (Richard Buchta); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
24 Jan 2023	(a) Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems; (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
29 Nov 2022	Special relativity (Gillian Stansfield)
1 Nov 2022	(a) Some mathematics of sound and pitch (Simon Thompson); (b) Discussion of problems (Mike Rawlins)
27 Sept 2022	Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems
26 July 2022	(a) Infinity and beyond: a new way of counting (Tony Crilly); (b) Discussion of problems (Mike Rawlins)
28 June 2022	(a) Some different proofs of Pythagoras' Theorem (Simon Thompson); (b) Discussion of problems (Mike Rawlins)
24 May 2022	Harmonic series and its extension to the Riemann Zeta function, and why the Primes are involved (Gillian Stansfield)
26 Apr 2022	(a) A super-golden ratio (Tony Crilly); (b) Discussion of problems (Hilary Moore)
22 Mar 2022	(a) Different types of mathematical proof (Simon Thompson); (b) Video: Can computers prove mathematical theorems?
22 Feb 2022	(a) The Golden Ratio (Sue Nguyen); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins
25 Jan 2022	The tail/tale of pi (Gillian Stansfield)
23 Nov 2021	(a) Explaining why two minuses make a plus; (b) A gentle quiz (Simon Thompson)
26 Oct 2021	(a) Mathematical problems for the many: A new online free computer resource from history: 1847-1917 (Tony Crilly); (b) Discussion of Pythagorean Triples problems (Gillian Stansfield)
28 Sept 2021	(a) Discussion of questions from the National U3A problems (Gillian Stansfield); (b) Discussion of problems from Mike Rawlins (Angus MacDonald)
27 July 2021	A problem in mechanics, with an amazing solution (Simon Thompson)
22 June 2021	(a) Continued Fractions (Gillian Stansfield); (b) Boat collision problem (Paul England)
25 May 2021	(a) Progress in mathematics in the ancient world (Brian Songhurst); (b) Discussion of problems
20 April 2021	(a) Building Bridges - a gentle introduction to Graph Theory (Tony Crilly); (b) Magic Squares (Sue Nguyen)
23 March 2021	(a) Some alternative definitions of 'e' (Simon Thompson); (b) Discussion of

	problems (Peter Graham)
23 Feb 2021	(a) Irrational Numbers (Gillian Stansfield); (b) Discussion of future topics and interests (All)