

DIARY DATES FOR 2017 - (PLEASE NOTE - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

12 April	Sally Botwright A Blue Badge Tourist Guide	<i>Sally will give a talk with a colourful PowerPoint presentation on The History of the City of London</i>
10 May	Keith Hoffmeister a member of Chess Valley U3A	Annual General Meeting <i>followed by a talk on HS2</i>
14 June	Fritha Irwin National Trust Volunteer	<i>Operation Hillside</i> <i>The Secret Life of Hughenden during WW2</i>

FROM THE EDITOR

Spring has truly sprung once again and the trees and hedgerows are greening up apace and the countryside and gardens are full of colour and life. Can we say the same for Chalfonts U3A? Yes we truly can. Monthly meetings continue to be well supported and we have enjoyed a wide range of excellent speakers – more to come as you can see in our Diary Dates. Below you will see many vibrant reports from some of our fifty plus Interest Groups and if you go on the Website you will find photographs of the various activities that have taken place over the last few months, together with much more news and information. Happy surfing!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A big thank you to those of you who have already renewed but, if you have not yet done so (due 31 March), could you please do so as soon as possible.

Val Darbyshire, Membership Secretary can supply you with a pre-printed form personalised for you. Email Val at membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Having the form ready printed is less work for you and for us.

We expect the 12 April Monthly Meeting to be busy with renewals so you may wish to put your form and cheque in an envelope, leave them with a member of the team and collect your badge after the meeting. Please wear your name badge to our monthly meetings – it will really help us to get to know one another better.

NEW GROUPS

Bus Pass Adventures group hits the road! – Eight members joined the first trip to Chesham either catching the bus in Chalfont St Peter or Chalfont St Giles to meet up. With plenty of time to visit the market stalls, enjoy lunch upstairs in M & Co and visit the museum, the outing was deemed a great success. Other trips are planned and information will be emailed out nearer the time. If you wish to add your name to the Bus Pass Adventures group contact details are as follows:

Dorothy Bowie
or
Pam Cox

New Experiences Group – This group is now formed, with Angela Cranston as the convenor. The planned events are as follows:

Chalfont St Peter Treasure Hunt. Wednesday 19 April 2pm

Segway Safari in Black Park. Wednesday 17 May 2pm

Please see details of the group events on the Interest Group page on the Chalfonts U3A website www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Use Contact Form to join the group.

Quizzing – The group have taken part in two quiz nights to date. A charity quiz night will be attended in May. Please see details of the group on the Interest Group page on the Chalfonts U3A website www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Use Contact Form to join the group. The next event will be the Rotary quiz night on 28th April at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre.'

EXISTING GROUPS

Canal Boat Trips -Canal boat trips are about to restart on the Grand Union Canal from Harefield. This is a 6+ hour trip, where you can have a go at steering the narrowboat (with help from the qualified crew), help with the locks, enjoy a walk along the towpath or relax & enjoy the views. If you would like to join us, contact Sue Fisher for more information at canalboattrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Computer group – The group has not been meeting in recent months, but we are about to restart. The Group Convenor will be Ainsley Kemps, assisted by our webmaster, Tony Darbyshire. If you wish to join the group please go to the Interest Group page on the Chalfonts U3A website www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Send Ainsley a message using the Contact Form. We are hoping that our initial meeting will be during the first couple of weeks in May. This meeting will focus on how the group will function and take ideas from members on what they want from the group. The frequency or day of the meetings is yet to be decided, but it is likely to be monthly on either Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays, probably in the morning. Ainsley can be contacted at computing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Excursions

Royal Brighton Pavilion - Wednesday 24 May 2017

Private tours of the Pavilion with refreshments on arrival. After tours free to take lunch, stroll along the seafront to the Grade 2 listed Palace Pier, visit Brighton town and explore The Lanes famous for their fascinating small shops and narrow alleyways. £34 per person. The factsheet and booking form were emailed on the 8 April to all those in the Excursions group and posted to arrive the same date.

Hever Castle - Wednesday 28 June 2017

Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) - Tuesday 25 July 2017

Further information on the June and July excursions will be released nearer the dates. If you wish to add your name to the Excursions Group please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.

History group – The History group will sadly no longer be meeting due to lack of attendance. We thank Peter Degen for his efforts as convenor of the group over the last two years.

SUGGESTION BOX

There is a Suggestion Box on the Chalfonts U3A website. If you have any ideas regarding new interest groups, or any other topic, please fill in the form at www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

CHALFONTS U3A WEBSITE

Tony Darbyshire has been updating the Interest Group details on the website. We would ask all Convenors to check their webpages and contact Tony with any required updates at webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

There is a new gallery for Music Hall Singing which includes a video of the guys and gals singing – be sure to have a look.

REALLY USEFUL GROUP

More commonly known as **RUG** are now fully functioning and have given practical assistance at monthly meetings with setting up the chairs and public address system, and also at the recent membership renewals meetings to name just a few. To be able to call on this group for routine and special functions is a huge asset to the committee and their assistance is very much appreciated.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

	contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Accessibility Tricia Reeve	accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
David Burbidge	chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Geoff Glover	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Smith	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Darbyshire	membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Tricia Reeve	publicity@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Sue White	speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
David Edwards	treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Jan Sawyer	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Janice Buchanan	newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Tony Darbyshire	webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Nigel Trotman	groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Helen Whitlum	groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Suggestion Box	suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A Website: <http://chalfontsu3a.org.uk>

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk