

Chalfonts U3A Newsletter No.49 ● April 2019

MONTHLY MEETING DIARY DATES FOR 2019 AT THE CHALFONT ST PETER COMMUNITY CENTRE (Please Note - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

10 April	Alan Copeland	This month we welcome the return of Alan Copeland speaking on Eccentric London . Alan was the very first speaker we had at Chalfonts U3A.
8 May	AGM Followed by talk with Keith Hoffeister	We welcome the return of our speaker. Keith spoke to us at our AGM in 2017 when he informed us of the progress of HS2. Keith is coming back to tell us of what is happening now and what has gone on during the last two years.
12 June	Mike Casson	After leaving the army Mike was accepted into the Tower of London as a Yeoman Warder (aka Beefeater) in early 1988. He lived and worked there until June 2003 when he took early retirement to concentrate on his other interests. He has appeared on various TV programmes and is currently working on an historical novel and a book on anecdotes from the Tower.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held at the May members' meeting in the main hall of the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre on Wednesday 8 May 2019 at 2pm. Under the terms of the constitution the Chairman, Secretary and a number of the general members of the committee are required to stand down. The March newsletter gave details for the nomination of officers and general committee members.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Chalfonts U3A membership runs from 1 April – 31 March so subscriptions are due. It is good news to report that over 85% of our members have renewed and a big welcome to all new members. We shall be taking memberships at the 10 April members' meeting and of course you can renew by post. If you would like a membership form these are available on the website www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

MEMBERS' EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Please note that with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) we are no longer able to ask for your emergency contact information and any emergency data we held from previous years has now been deleted from the database. The membership card for 2019-2020 has been designed so that you are able to hand-write these details on the reverse and we advise you to complete this information and remember to bring your card to all CU3A meetings and events.

EXISTING GROUPS

Coffee Mornings - After a tentative start for 2019 and a great effort by several committee members (thank you) we had a great coffee morning at the end of March. Almost 30 members joined us many of them new to the U3A. Thank you to all those who came and especially to everyone who helped. Please give me

feedback so that we can enjoy our future coffee at the Greyhound. Contact Christine Coteman for more details - coffeemornings@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Discovering Art - Attendance has gradually risen over the last six months. Meetings are normally held on the first Thursday in each month, at 2.00 pm in the Community Centre. Our next meeting is: **2 May – The Life and Work of Edward Burne-Jones**. A presentation by Joan Greening who last year talked to us about “reading a picture”. Contact Bob Bell.

Mah-jong - The group currently has a membership of over 20. Mahjong is a tile-based game very similar to the card game rummy. Whilst it is a game of skill, strategy, and astute calculation, it is also a game of chance. In terms of ability we have a full range from the very experienced to those who are very new to the game and it is surprisingly easy to pick up the basics, although a small degree of homework helps. We meet the first and third Wednesday of every month usually at Oakland Park Golf Club in Chalfont St Giles. Contact Sam Patel mahjong@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experiences - the group were very busy in March. Two painting workshops resulted in very artistic seascapes and Highland cows which may by now be displayed on walls to be admired by all. A very successful barn dance was attended by 55 enthusiastic dancers. Although some had trouble remembering the moves, especially as the evening wore on, that just made it more fun. Then to round off the month a circus workshop had us all trying to juggle, spin plates and ride unicycles. In the coming months we will be walking on glass, cycling in the velodrome, climbing the O2 and sailing. Contact Angela Cranston

Sunday Group – We have had a walk around Cliveden to see the snowdrops. We also visited the River & Rowing Museum at Henley. If you would like to join us on future outings, contact Sue Fisher sundaygroup@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Wine Appreciation Group 2 - We meet on the third Wednesday of the month and our next meeting is on 17 April when we will be tasting English wines, which have improved enormously over the last few years.

Excursions A Day in Oxford – Thursday 11 April

This trip is now full. If you would like your name added to the waiting list please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Interest in this trip has been very high and we plan to arrange another date. Those on the waiting list will be given priority next time.

Loseley Park and Watts Gallery – Tuesday 21 May. Members of the excursion group have been emailed with information on this trip. Details are also available on the website. **Hindu**

Temple and Shayona Restaurant, Neasden – Friday 7 June 2019

We visited the Temple earlier this year and those who didn't get a place have been given priority for this June trip. There are still a few places left so if you are interested please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk. A booking form and factsheet are on the CU3A website.

NEW GROUPS

French Beginners Plus - A new group is being set up administered by Jacqui Robinson. For more details contact frenchbeginnersplus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A website

Some work is needed on our website that will take several days to complete. For this reason the website will be offline from 5pm on Friday 19 April. A notice will be placed on the front page so that members are aware of what is happening. Bear with us whilst this work is done please. If you need to contact a committee member or any of our Group Convenors then please use the email addresses on the last page of the newsletter. A message will be sent out to all members when the work is completed and the 'site is back online again.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

U3A General Contact	<u>contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Tricia Reeve (Accessibility)	<u>accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
David Burbidge	<u>chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Bob Borwick	<u>vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Smith	<u>secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Peter Brady	<u>treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Jan Sawyer	<u>venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Sue White	<u>speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Janice Buchanan	<u>newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Smith	<u>membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Tony Darbyshire	<u>webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Nigel Trotman	<u>groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Sue Fisher	<u>groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Suggestion Box	<u>suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Darbyshire	<u>beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Chalfonts U3A Website	<u>www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
National Website:	<u>www.u3a.org.uk</u>
Thames Valley Network Website	<u>www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk</u>