



Chalfonts U3A Newsletter No.57 December 2019

Monthly Meeting Diary Dates for 2019-2020 at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre
(Please Note - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

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| 11 December | Roy Collis | Roy has been Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire since 2001 and will be speaking on the subject of 'What does a Deputy Lord Lieutenant do?' He has been heavily involved in many charities since 1996 including The Star and Garter Home in Richmond. |
| 8 January | Ian Keable | Ian is a member of The Inner Magic Circle and may well surprise us with a magic trick or two to highlight his research on 'A century of deception: Hoaxes in the 18 th Century' |
| 12 February | Denise Beddows | Denise is a local author will give a talk entitled 'Bulstrode revisited' This follows on from her previous talk about the Bulstrode estate having uncovered new information about one of its past occupants in particular Ambrose Bennet an alcoholic judge and persecutor of the local Quaker community |

Chairman's Christmas Message 2019

Dear All,

It has been another great year for CHALFONTS U3A as the group continues to grow from strength to strength. We have seen a remarkable rise in membership with over 100 members joining in 2019. I am sure you will agree that we have had excellent speakers at our meetings and our excursions and activities have been first class. Our members have walked on broken glass, clambered over the O2, hiked across Exmoor, and sung to the delight of local residents.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my huge thanks to those members who are part of the Really Useful Group who do so much in ensuring that things run smoothly behind the scenes. Also, to Sue and her team who provide vast quantities of refreshments after our monthly meetings. A big thank you to all of our group Convenors, who manage 68 groups. Without them and their commitment, there would not be a CHALFONTS U3A.

Your Committee and Convenors are actively planning for new events, excursions and groups for 2020.

As a result of prudent financial planning by our Treasurer, Peter, I am delighted to tell you that we are able to reduce the 2020/21 subscriptions to just £20 per year! We are also hoping to introduce the ability to pay subscriptions by bank transfer in addition to existing payments by cheque and cash.

Enjoy this festive time. Recharge the batteries. Ring someone on their own. Call on someone new. Make friends. You can never have enough. On behalf of the CU3A Committee, may I wish you and your families a happy, healthy and contented 2020.

Best Wishes

Bob Borwick

Chairman CU3A

Reminder Please note that members should bring their 2019-20 membership card to all meetings.

Please also be considerate to other community centre users when parking. There is the public car park in Church Lane which is a few minute's walk away.

Editor's Update Christmas is almost upon us and I hope you will enjoy reading the monthly update in between catching up with family and friends. Thanks to all those who have contributed to the newsletter during my first year as editor and please continue into 2020!

Existing Groups

Coffee Mornings

Chris Coteman who runs the coffee mornings at The Greyhound pub notified us that the pub is closing for refurbishment at the end of the year. Hopefully the new owners will welcome us all back again, but in the meantime if another suitable coffee venue can be found in the village, we will let you know





Computing Group

All levels of computer users are welcome. We normally start with a discussion of any issue's members may be having with their computers. At our next meeting, as it is close to Christmas, we will have a social event and a quiz. For more information please contact computing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Creative Writing Group

Local author Denise Beddows runs this small group (5/6 members), which works well given the time frame of their meetings, so they are not looking to actively recruit new members but happy if someone would like to join. Please contact creativewriting@chalfontsu3a.org.uk for further information

Italian Beginners

Several people had shown an interest in learning Italian and in October a meeting was held to discuss the format for proceeding with this venture. Currently there are 9 of us but probably room for one more to learn this beautiful but difficult language! We are all complete novices but are very much enjoying learning Italian, none of us are finding it easy but we encourage each other, have lots of coffee and biscuits and are determined to keep practising and improving! We meet weekly on a Monday from 10-12, usually at a member's home. Contact Lesley Bedford italianbeginners@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experiences

21 members of the New Experiences Group tried a very different new experience in November by creating their own unique bottles of gin. After sampling a few different gins and sniffing various botanicals we came up with our own recipes for the perfect gin. We then weighed, steeped and filtered to produce our own bottle. A very enjoyable, if rather boozy, afternoon!! Contact Angela Cranston on newexperiences@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Singing for Pleasure We were invited by St. Peter's Church choir to join them for the Remembrance Service. It was an absolute pleasure, a service to remember. On 14 November, we entertained the residents at Austenwood Nursing Home. The songs we sang were mainly from the shows, The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady etc. We also sang Irish folk songs and two songs, in Italian no less! We have three new members who appear to have settled in nicely. But we still need male singers so, any men out there who can sing in the shower, come and join us. You don't need to read music and our Choir Master is very patient! Contact Brenda O'Gorman singingforpleasure@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New and Proposed Groups

Family History 2 As the existing group is full it has been suggested that a new group is started so please **contact** Sue Fisher groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Robotics, Electronics and Programming Group

The idea of starting this group came from The U3A Robots Constructors' Challenge. No knowledge is necessary, we will all learn together. Members will all be at different levels and we can share our knowledge and enjoy the experience of creating our robotic overlord. please complete the Group Contact Form on the Chalfonts U3A website or you can also contact the Group convenor via the email address robotics@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Scrabble 3 This will be starting in the New Year as 3 people have shown an interest. Contact Sue Fisher groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Table Tennis 3 There has been some interest in starting this new group in the New Year, day and time to be confirmed, so if anyone out there has their table tennis bat handy do join us! Contact Eileen Powell tabletennis3@chalfontsu3a.org.uk



Chalfonts U3A Directory of Interest Groups and Convenors

December 2019

Nigel Trotman – Groups Coordinator 1 groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Sue Fisher – Groups Coordinator 2 groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

If you would like to join a group or find out more, please contact the convenor by email

INTEREST GROUP	CONVENOR	EMAIL
Art Space	Sandie Webb	artpractical@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Badminton	Angela Lindstrom	badminton@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Birdwatching	Tony Micallef	birdwatching@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Book Club 1	Jane Barker	bookclub1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Book Club 2	Alyson Klein	bookclub2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Bridge	Geoff Glover	bridge@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Chess	Tony Micallef	chess@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Computing	Tony Darbyshire	computing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Coffee Mornings	Chris Coteman	coffeemornings@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cribbage	David Burbidge	cribbage@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Creative Writing	Denise Beddows	creativewriting@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Crochet	Jeanette Galletly	crochet@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cryptic Crosswords	Bob Leven	crypticcrosswords@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Current Affairs	Robert Coleman	currentaffairs@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cycling Longer Routes	Dave Duckworth	cyclinglongerroutes@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Dining with Friends	Sandra Bowles Terri Weidner	diningwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Discovering Art	Bob Bell David Martin	discoveringart@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Excursions/Outings	Tricia Reeve Val Smith	excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Family History	Jan Sawyer Mary Kendall	familyhistory@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Flower Arranging	Angela Kemps	flowerarranging@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Beginners 1	Marian Cooper	frenchbeginners@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Beginners Plus	Jacqui Robinson	frenchbeginnersplus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Intermediate 1	Sandy Oldham	frenchconversation1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Intermediate 2	Ray Luker	frenchconversation2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Advanced	Judy Cutter	frenchfluent@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Garden Visits	Jane Barker	gardenvisits@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
German Conversation	Renate Danner	germanconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
iPad User Group	Phil McAvoy	ipad@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Italian Beginners	Lesley Bedford	italianbeginners@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Italian Conversation Advanced	Barbara Lloyd	italianadvconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Lawn Bowls	Pam Anderson Mike Alderton	lawnbowls@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Local History	Elaine Quigley	localhistory@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
London Walks	Pam Anderson	londonwalks@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Mah-jong	Sam Patel	mahjong@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
New Experiences	Angela Cranston	newexperiences@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Old Time Musical Hall Singing	Bob Leven	musichallsinging@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Philosophy	Linda Hagreen	philosophy@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Photography	Tony Darbyshire	photography@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Pilates	April Morgan	pilates@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Poetry & Literature	David Burbidge	poetry&literature@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Quizzing	Margaret Turner	quizzing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Rummikub	Georgina Cane	rummikub@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Scrabble	Anne Higson	scrabble@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Science & Technology	Cathy Williams	science@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Singing for Pleasure	Brenda O'Gorman	singing4pleasure@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Conversation	Stuart Hammond	spanishconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Beginners 1	Ivor Spector	spanishbeginners1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Beginners 2	Peter Shaw	spanishbeginners2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Improvers 1	Margaret Burbidge	spanishimprovers1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Sunday Group	Sue Fisher	sundaygroup@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis 1	Sue White	tabletennis@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis 2	Eileen Powell Pauline Borwick	tabletennis2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Tai Chi Beginners Tai Chi Admin	Margaret Rutter Stella Ellis	taichi@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Textiles and Craft	Teri McAvoy	textiles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Theatre Visits	Sheila Tarrant Danny Robins	theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking 6 – 10 miles	Wendy Bretherick Marion Clegg	walking6-10miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking less than 6 miles	Nigel Trotman David Cooper	walking2-6miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking Strollers	Valerie Hadfield	strollers@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Wine Appreciation	Grace Hunter	wineappreciation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Wine Appreciation 2	David Hillis	wineappreciation2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Yoga	Geoff Clegg	yoga@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A Committee

Chairman	Bob Borwick	chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Vice Chairman	Mike Lawson	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Jane Barker	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Peter Brady	treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Accessibility	Eileen Powell	accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Beacon Administrator	John Hardwick	beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Finance Officer	Chris White	financeofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Interest Group Co-ordinator 1	Nigel Trotman	groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Interest Group Co-ordinator 2	Sue Fisher	groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Val Smith	membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Newsletter	Eileen Powell	newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Publicity	Eileen Powell	publicity@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Speaker	David Morgan	speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Venue Co-ordinator	David Burbidge	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	Gary Tomlin	webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A general enquiries
Chalfonts U3A suggestion box
Chalfonts U3A website

contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

U3A National website
Thames Valley Network website

www.u3a.org.uk
www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk