

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

**8 February 2017**

Ken and June Brazier *Will give a joint presentation on Mercy Ships which started in 1978 with a mission to provide 'Hope and Healing' to some of the poorest countries in the world. The charity operates mainly in West Africa and especially in Sierra Leone.*

**8 March 2017**

Steve Capel Davies *Life on the Thames. An illustrated talk on the history of the Thames*

**12 April**

Sally Botwright  
A Blue Badge Tourist  
Guide

*Sally will give a talk with a colourful PowerPoint presentation on The History of the City of London*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

All memberships are due for renewal at the end of March. Val Darbyshire, the Membership Secretary, will be writing to you individually during February with a personalised renewal form, and full details of how to renew. We have arranged two opportunities when you can come along to renew your membership and also socialise with other members and get to know those you may not have met before. We look forward to seeing you then and also at our usual monthly meetings. Membership renewal will still be £22 per annum.

**Tues 21 February**      **Coffee Morning** at the CSP Community Centre – 10am – 12noon

**Mon 27 March**         **Coffee Afternoon** at the CSP Community Centre – 2pm- 4pm

## THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Thames Valley Network (TVN) of U3As has sold out its March “Glimpses of the Social History of the Thames Valley” Study Day and a repeat event at Henley River & Rowing Museum on 17 May is already 50% sold. Please see the TVN website for details. [u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

## U3A SUMMER SCHOOLS 2017

Members may be interested in some of our national opportunities – details can be found on the national website. **BOOKING IS NOW OPEN** - book online [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) or call the Summer School team on 0208 466 6139

**South East U3A Forum Summer School University of Chichester**  
19 - 22 June 2017 [South East Forum Summer School](#)

**U3A Science Network Annual Meeting Nottingham University**  
7 - 10 August 2017 [U3A Science Network Annual Meeting](#)

## ACCESSIBILITY OFFICER

Tricia Reeve has kindly offered to act in this capacity. Many of you will already know Tricia through our Excursions and she also looks after our publicity. So if you have any concerns, please get in touch with her. Any accessibility problems will be dealt with on a one-to-one basis. [accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk](mailto:accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk)

## EXISTING GROUPS

**Badminton** - The Badminton group is thriving with about 20 members registered. Although not everyone

attends at the same time we usually have around 10/12 each time so we have quite a few games each. New members are always welcome.

### **Excursions**

**Wednesday 22 February** Steam Swindon (trip now full) but please email [excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk](mailto:excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk) if you are interested in putting your name on the waiting list

**Monday 20 March** - Brooklands Museum. An action packed day full of motoring and aviation race experiences

**Wednesday 24 May** - Royal Brighton Pavilion - private tour of Pavilion, lunch and free time to wander around Brighton

Further information on the March and May excursions will be released nearer the dates.

**Lawn Bowls** - The lawn bowls went well last summer with a lot of interest and some members joining the bowls club. Everyone who came enjoyed the coaching and coffee and chat afterwards.

**London Walks** - We arrange a London Walk on alternate months and try to vary the day each time to accommodate as many people as possible. All group members are advised of forthcoming walks by email. We usually run two groups on each arranged date, so if you are interested in participating an early response and payment is necessary. Walks commence at a London Underground station (members make their own way there) and usually start at 11.00am and last for two hours. We have now organised nine varied London Walks and discovered several hidden areas of London and learnt a great deal from our excellent guides who bring it all to life for us. Group members often complete the day by going for lunch or to a pub. Our next walk will be in March.

**Textile Group** - If you are interested in stitching by hand or by machine, knitting, crochet, beading, etc., then you might well enjoy joining our happy band! We meet on the third Thursday of every month, in the Mary Smithells Room, at the CSP Community Centre, from 2.00-4.00pm. Our meetings tend to alternate between a 'stitch and natter' session (when we each bring along a project to work on and enjoy sharing ideas) and a workshop with an invited speaker, who will demonstrate a new skill. This year we have workshops booked for Crazy Patchwork and Woven Bags, with more in the pipeline. Please go to our page on the Chalfonts U3A website and visit the Gallery, where you can see examples of members' work. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Tai Chi** – The group are benefitting from the exercise given by Tai Chi and now have a waiting list for new members who wish to join.

### **NEW GROUPS**

**Dine in with Friends** - Fourteen members met for our first dining meeting over lunch at Little Istanbul restaurant in Little Chalfont - unfortunately a few people were unable to join us on that day. We had a great time, good food, great company, and it was fun to meet some new and interesting people. The plan is to meet monthly in groups of six in members' homes whereby someone will provide a course (starter or dessert) with the nominated host providing the main course. This is for fun, not a cookery competition; if one is short of time there is nothing wrong with an M&S course or even a last minute trip to the chippy!! We all love fish and chips!!! We are also planning that every fourth month will be a meal in a local restaurant or pub. We would be delighted if a few more people would like to join us. Our group comprises both couples and singles so don't hesitate to contact Lynda Scott-Priestley - Dine in with Friends group [dineinwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk](mailto:dineinwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk)

**Bus Pass Adventures** – We had a great response at the meeting last month with 52 members interested in joining the group. Thanks to Dorothy Bowie and Pam Cox for volunteering to organise the first outing to Chesham market which will probably be in March when (we hope) the weather will be a little warmer! Please contact Dorothy or Pam if you would like to join the group.

**Military History** – We have a nucleus of a group which Keith Bowler has kindly volunteered to run. If you would like to join this fledgling new group please get in touch with Keith.

**Quizzing** – We have had a good response to this proposed new group. There will be a short get together for those interested in joining at approx 3.15/3.30 on Wednesday 8 February, after the monthly meeting and the tea break. Please contact Helen Whitlum on [groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk](mailto:groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk) if you would like to join the group.

**This newsletter is also available in large print if needed. Please allow two days' notice.**

**Contact Val Smith email: [contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk](mailto:contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk)**

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:**

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

National Website: [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)

Thames Valley Network Website: [u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk)