

DIARY DATES FOR 2016 - (All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

January 13	Mike Payne *	<i>The history of Pinewood Studios *</i> *Please note this change of speaker.
February 10	Colin Oakes	<i>Will talk about Amersham through the ages.</i>
March 9	Denise Beddows	<i>Will speak about Bulstrode House</i>

LOOKING FORWARD

Here we are at the beginning of a new year and all the promise it holds for us – new groups, new friends, new members etc. Please continue to give us your feedback – we need to hear from you – and will endeavour to make improvements and amendments where possible. Groups are starting up again as we get into the swing of normal life following the Christmas season. Could we hope for better weather? Wouldn't it be lovely to have a frosty sunny day now and again? However, one bonus of the recent rainfall is to see the Misbourne flowing freely. Whatever the weather we have lots of opportunities to enjoy good company with like-minded companions as we explore shared interests together in 2016.

INTEREST GROUP DISPLAYS

There will be display tables in the Mary Smithells Room before and after the January monthly meeting for the Cycling, MOTO and Wine Appreciation groups. There will also be a sign up sheet for those interested in joining the new Badminton group. Do come along and see what these groups are all about. The convenors will be pleased to see you there and will answer any questions you may have.

CONVENOR MEETING AND SOCIAL

There will be a meeting for group convenors, administrators and helpers at 5PM on 27th January. This will be followed at 6pm by a social for the convenors, committee and tea team. If you have not yet replied to the invitation email, please RSVP to Helen Whitlum on groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk as soon as possible. Thank you.

THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Chalfonts U3A belong to this network (TVN) whose objectives are to advance the education of members of U3As in the Thames Valley area by arranging occasional study days and encouraging the provision of leisure activities. Please visit their website www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk to find out more about their event programmes for 2016. Open to all U3A members.

NATIONAL U3A EVENTS

- Tuesday 15 March – “The Importance of Being Earnest”, Odeon cinema, London
- Thursday 3 March – U3A West End Sing Out, Savoy theatre, London
- February to July 2016 – U3A group Battle of Britain talk, RAF Museum, Hendon
- U3A Summer Schools – A wide range of topics covered - August – Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester

Please check the U3A National Website www.u3a.org.uk for full details and to book your place. You will need to create a username and password for the Members' area.

INTEREST GROUP UPDATES

Discussion Group - The next meeting will be on Wednesday 20 January @ 7pm – main topic of discussion is 'China today?' More information contact Tricia Reeve – new members always welcome.

Excursion Group - Queen's Gallery and Royal Mews - Tuesday 9 February 2016. This trip is now fully booked and final details for those coming on the trip will be emailed within the next two weeks.

Dates for your diary Thursday 3 March 2016 to the BMW/Mini Plant, Cowley

Full details will be available on the website and emailed to all those on the Excursion database before the end of January.

Thursday 21 April 2016 Tour of the BBC

Local History - our first monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 5 January 2.30 in the Community Centre. John Hatton, a Parish Councillor, took us through the story of the plaques around the village, showing how the places where they are situated looked many years ago. Further plaques are scheduled to appear when the next stage of the photos takes place.

Nordic Walking – Karoline Lamb is offering to run another 4-week course of Nordic Walking lessons providing that there are at least 5 people interested. The course would start on the 29 February either from 9-10am or from 3-4pm. With spring coming, Nordic Walking is a fantastic way to exercise outdoors and get fitter. People do appreciate the benefit after a few weeks. Karoline has walking groups on Thursdays and Sundays with some really lovely people taking part. If you are interested in taking the course, then please contact Karoline.

Photography Group - The next meeting of the group will be at 2pm on Monday 25 January at the Chalfont St Peter Community Library. We intend to take photographs in CSP locations from the time we meet up to around 3.30pm. We will then meet at the Madeira Café (opposite the library) on Lower Road at the end of our photo-shoot, for a drink and a chat. New members are welcome to come along and join us, (but make sure you bring a camera!) Could you let Tony Darbyshire know via email, that you intend to come along please.

Theatre Visits - Both of our December visits were enjoyed by some of our 251 members. The latest was an excellent production of "Jesus Christ Superstar". A group of us went for a Christmas meal afterwards. That seemed to be very successful judging by the notes and e-mails received. We will be planning for the next visit(s) soon! Of course over 50 of us are looking forward to "Motown" in February. Contact Maureen.

NEW GROUPS

Badminton Group Needs YOU!!! – The new badminton group will start in February meeting weekly on Thursdays between 11:30 and 12:30 at the CSP Leisure Centre. BUT!!! We need both a convenor for the group and also a few more members to make the group viable. If you would like to join this group, or better still, run it, please contact groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk

Historic Architecture and Churches – There will be a meeting for those interested in joining this group after the members meeting on 13 January. For further details please contact Geoff Glover

Italian Conversation – Do you speak Italian at an intermediate or higher level? Would you be interested in meeting up with other members to converse in Italian? If the answer is “yes”, contact Geoff Glover

Music Appreciation - the inaugural meeting of the Music Appreciation Group will be held at the Community Centre on Tuesday 19 January at 2.00pm. Contact: David Burbidge

Philosophy – Do you enjoy a thought provoking discussion on some of Life's big questions? If so, this could be the group for you! We have a potential convenor but we need a few more people to join the group before we can get it up and running. If you are interested in joining this group please contact groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk

Sunday Group – The Sunday group is up and running! Please contact Sue if you are interested in joining the group.

Rummikub - Some interest has been shown in forming a group to play in each others' homes but a few more players are needed to make a viable group. Would any member interested in joining please contact Georgina Cane

Membership enquiries only: Valerie Darbyshire, Membership Secretary:
membership.chalfontsU3A@gmail.com

Please remember to bring your membership card to every monthly meeting and all interest groups.

Website: Google – Chalfonts U3A – visit Events, Groups, Gallery etc.

Newsletter: Janice Buchanan – newschalfontsu3a@btinternet.com