

JUNE MEETING

The turnout of members to listen to Tony Maisey last month was really encouraging – the hall was almost full and our chairman David Burbidge was able to use the recently acquired PA system. Our speaker used his own projection system and we hope everyone was able to hear his amusing stories regarding the spare parts we might acquire during our Third Age. **Tea and coffee** – We do hope you enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee after the meeting and the chance to socialize – we will serve drinks again after the July meeting and we hope you will to stay to enjoy this. Additional **volunteers are needed** to help with the tea rota, so if you enjoy these refreshments please consider joining our friendly team! Just have a word with one of the tea helpers and put your name down for a future meeting. It is not a lot of work and is a great opportunity to meet other members.

THANKS!!!

To all convenors who have done an outstanding job in making Chalfonts U3A the best it can possibly be in a really short timescale. Our members are enthusiastically partaking in a myriad of group activities, outings and theatre visits which are the result of much planning and hard work behind the scenes by the convenors. Well done to them – we really appreciate all that they are doing, but we need more

H E L P. Can you volunteer to convene, administrate or help with an interest group? Are you able to help set up a group of your particular interest? We have around 220 subjects that members have expressed an interest in so there is lots of potential for new groups. You do not need to do everything on your own. One of the main principles of U3A is that the work is shared. So even if you are just willing to help with the admin. side of a group we would still love to hear from you. Contact groupscoord1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

CHALFONT ST PETER FEAST DAY

Saturday 27th June. Our U3A pitch was manned all day - leaflets and newsletters were available for everyone together with membership details for those who haven't yet realised that we are now firmly established in the village. A Free Prize Draw for two bottles of champagne and beautiful flower arrangements attracted nearly 100 visitors - many showing an interest in joining our U3A.

INTEREST GROUP UPDATE – for all group enquiries contact: groupscoord1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Book Club – The first book club is up and running successfully with Jane Barker as the convenor and is currently full. There is a waiting list and members on this have been emailed to ask for someone to volunteer to convene a second group. This requires little work by the organiser as the group will probably meet in members' homes so we are very hopeful that someone will step forward. Please contact Val Smith or groupscoord1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk if you are able to help.

Discussion Group will reconvene after the summer break on Wed. 16 Sept. 7pm when the main topic for discussion will be 'GM Foods – good or bad'. Contact – Tricia Reeve for more information.

Excursions - The first trip for Chalfonts U3A was to the Mapledurham Estate in Reading with a stop at the Herb Farm in Sonning Common and a Thames River boat trip from Caversham. Fifty people supported this outing on a brilliant warm sunny day and a great time was had by all. Do visit the gallery on the website to see all the photographs. More outings are planned for the autumn.

French - Many members have shown an interest in improving their French Language skills resulting in four groups getting off to a flying start thanks to our active and imaginative convenors. The groups cover Fluent, Intermediate (2) and Beginners standards and meet fortnightly in members' homes and number 6-9 per group to encourage active participation by everyone.

Local History – We have 48 members who are interested in joining this group but we need a convenor and helpers/administrators to get the group off the ground. Can you help please? There will be a meeting for those interested in joining this group after the next speaker meeting on 8th July. If you would like this group to run, please think about what you can do to help. We need you!

London Walks – There is a lot of interest in this group with 77 members wishing to join, but who will run it? The answer is some of you! Because this is such a big group, we would like 4-6 people to help run it so that the work is shared rather than one person doing everything. There will be a meeting for those interested in

joining this group after the next speaker meeting on 8th July. If you are interested in both Local History and London Walks please join the meeting where you are most likely to volunteer to help!

Music - The initial meeting held on 10 June identified three interest topics within Music - Singing for Pleasure, local concert outings and forming an instrumental group. Numbers for each of these are low and it is hoped that with more members signing up these groups may take off. If you are interested please contact Val Smith who is retaining the lists.

Photography Group - Ten members of the group spent the afternoon in Marlow on Monday 22 June taking pictures of the town and along the river. You can see some of the pictures on the Chalfonts U3A website, just go to **Interest Groups** and click on **Photography**

Poetry & Literature - The first two meetings will take place on Thurs. 2 July & Thurs. 6 August at 9-45am.

Theatre Group – The latest outing of the Theatre Group on Saturday 20th June was to see “The Taming of the Shrew” by the Chiltern Shakespeare Company at Hall Barn open air theatre in Beaconsfield. The production was very enjoyable. It was witty, well cast and costumed and of a standard that would be appreciated by any theatre audience. What made it different was the glorious outdoor set which was versatile and spacious. We were undercover in ranked seating. There was a choice of taking a picnic or ordering a very tasty meal from the caterers. Everyone seemed to enjoy the experience. We look forward to our next theatre visit which we expect to be in September/October. See website or e-mail newsletter for recent photos. Please contact Theatre Visits convenor.

NEW GROUPS

Cinema/Films – We have 21 members interested in cinema/films. Is there someone out there who would be prepared to suggest a regular outing to see a film and invite other members to join them? There are also local film clubs that a group of members could join and attend screenings together. This really is a minimum work, maximum enjoyment group! We would love to hear from you if you can help to set up this group.

Cookery – According to our membership database there are at least 20 members who are interested in cookery so how about one of you offering to set up a group? It may not be necessary to have hands on cooking facilities as members could talk about recipes, bring along samples, go to cookery demonstrations and so on. If you are interested in helping to set up this group contact groupscoord1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.

Textiles – So far there has been limited interest in this group but we will try again to get the group off the ground in the autumn when indoor pursuits may be more popular. If you are interested please contact Sally Dinning

DIARY DATES

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| 8th July | Hugh Granger | <i>The Art of deception in WW2. How we faked everything from maps, bomb damage, lorries, tanks, parachutists, harbours and airfields to entire invasions.</i> |
| 12th August | David Richards | <i>will give a talk on Isambard Kingdom Brunel</i> |
| 9th September. | Paul Whittle | <i>Hill Stations of the Raj In British India. The hill stations gave a welcome respite from the summer heat of the plains. Nostalgic reminders of the Raj, tea gardens, stunning mountain scenery & a visit to four hill stations in India, Burma (Myanmar) and Sri Lanka. (Paul Whittle actually gives his fees to support several charities)</i> |
| 14th October | Mrs Eileen Dickson | <i>from the Witness Service based at High Wycombe Magistrates Court will be talking about her work.</i> |

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.

Members are invited to contribute to the Newsletter with comments, items of interest, special birthdays, suggestions for activities etc. Please send them to: **newschalfontsu3a@btinternet.com**