

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

13 July	Chris Truran	<i>will be talking about his experiences in the world of Forensic Science</i>
10 August	Tony Eaton	<i>The Curious Disappearance of Major Glen Miller. An Illustrated talk</i>
14 September	Andrew Willis	<i>The History of Harefield Hospital including old photos and Powerpoint presentation</i>
12 October	Alistair Lack	<i>Travels with Auntie – An illustrated talk on the BBC</i>
9 November	Alan Copeland	<i>will give a presentation on Pubs and the way pub sign writers introduce their sense of humour into their work</i>

The month of June 2016 must have been one of the wettest in our recent history but we look forward to glorious sunshine this month and days when we can enjoy our wonderful countryside and new opportunities as we consider our place in the scheme of things now that we are to leave the European Union. Let's look forward to all that our U3A has in store for us week by week. The enthusiasm of all the groups is catching and many members have been heard to comment 'I don't know how I filled my time before U3A'. We don't want to be complacent but always seeking to improve what we do and offer more interest groups as ideas come forward so please continue to keep us informed of your views. At the recent Feast Day 55 people signed up for the "Free Draw for the bottle of Champagne" and it was won by local lady. A very big thank you to all who came along on the day to "man" the stand.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED! – Have you ever wondered what happens at Chalfonts U3A committee meetings and how we make decisions? Well, now's your chance to find out! If you are interested in helping to run our U3A, then please come along to a committee meeting and see what goes on. We are a very friendly bunch and you will be made most welcome. We have a lot of fun as well as the work and it's great to be a part of such a successful team. Please contact our Chairman, David Burbidge for more information.

NEW GROUPS

Canal Boat Trips – Now that the summer season is here, we are arranging a number of canal boat trips from Harefield for groups of up to 12 people. The first trip will be on Friday 22nd July and the second in August (date to be arranged). The cost will be £10 per person for a full day from 10am to 5pm. The boat is equipped with a gas stove, water, fridge and toilets. You can help with the locks if you are feeling energetic or just relax and take it easy. If you are interested on going on either trip please contact one of the organisers – Sue Fisher, Tony Gelder or Clare Jenkins

Dine in with Friends - Would you like to share a meal regularly with friends new and old? "Dine in with Friends" is a proposed new group to do this, possibly starting in the autumn. Many other U3A groups have "Dining Clubs"; some visit the same restaurant regularly, some different ones in the area and others organise meals at their homes. Stephen Sharples would like to sound you out on this, He will send a survey to see how this could be organised. If you are interested, please e-mail him at dinewfchalfont@virginmedia.com

Sailing (Rickmansworth Sailing Club) – Would anyone like to have a go at dinghy sailing? You do not have to be an expert as instruction and coaching can be provided. The club offers all year round sailing at Troy Lake in Rickmansworth and has club boats available for members to use. For those who prefer to stay on dry land, the club promises a friendly atmosphere, bar and a good social programme. If you are interested in forming a U3A sailing group please contact H Whitlum For further information, please see the club website. There will also be some flyers at the tea hatch at the July meeting. The Club is holding an Open Day on Sunday 10 July - open to all

Spanish – Absolute Beginners – We would like to start a new Spanish conversation course for absolute beginners as our beginners group has now been running for over and year and they are no longer beginners! Is there anyone out there who would like to have a go at learning Spanish? It would be great to get another group off the ground. Please contact H Whitlum if you are interested in joining this group.

EXISTING GROUPS UPDATES

Badminton – Come and join our friendly group! We welcome new members of any standard. The badminton group has been running very successfully since February and now has the use of two courts so there is plenty of opportunity for everyone to play. The group meets weekly on Thursdays, 11:30 to 12:30, at the CSP Leisure Centre. The group is of mixed ability. We currently have space for some additional members if you would like to join us. Contact the convenor, Angela Lindstrom, for more details.

Beginners / Improvers Bridge - After a successful start, I plan to continue later this year with a further beginners / improvers course. Some of the class have already joined a bridge club! We play at the Chalfont St Peter Baptist church about every fortnight in the afternoon. Richard Simmons very kindly sorted out the location to keep the costs down at £1 per session per person. After minimal expenses we give the remaining money to the Church. Any new members please contact [John Redwards](#)

Discovering Art - At our June meeting a report was given on the very interesting day on Baroque Art at the National Gallery organised by the Head Office of the U3A "Baroque" is currently accepted as the style that dominated European art throughout the 17th century and part of the 18th. Some of its major characteristics were a desire to appeal to the emotions as well as the intellect, and an interest in spatial and lighting effects. The Roman Catholic Church was important in the rise of Baroque art in its efforts to stop people leaving Roman Catholicism for Protestantism. Slides were shown of the work of Caravaggio, Rembrandt, Rubens, and a French artist new to many - George Delatour. Sixteen of us have booked a small coach to go to Art in Action at Waterperry on 14 July. There will not be a meeting in August, but we re-convene on 1 September. ***** **Hot Press ***** There are two spare tickets available for the Waterperry trip. The cost is £25 which includes the entrance fee and the coach from Chalfont St Peter. Please contact Pam Degen if you are interested (see contact details on Interest Groups page).**

French – Beginners - We are a small but plucky group who meet every other Tuesday to wrestle with the French language. We use a textbook for the basics, tapes to improve pronunciation and always enjoy ourselves. Is our French improving, bien sûr!

Historic Buildings - On Tuesday, 21 June, Fourteen members of the newly formed Historic Buildings group visited St. James Church, Fulmer. They were given a most interesting talk about this historic church and were given plenty of time to look around and to ask questions. Future visits are planned for the third Tuesday of the month (with the exception of July). On 16 August we shall be at St James Church, Gerrards Cross and we plan to go to Amersham on 20 September. New members with an interest in local buildings of historical interest are welcome to join. Please contact Anne Foster or Margaret Turner.

Patchwork – Would you like to join our small but enthusiastic group? We are looking for new members to expand our group. Every level of ability is welcome and you will be pleasantly surprised at what you can achieve with the help and support of our friendly group. We meet every other Thursday morning from 10.00 – 12.00 bringing current tasks to the table for help and advice from all present. Beginners will be able to start a new project and discussions cover how to, best methods, where to source materials and general sharing of knowledge. Please contact Linda Liston for more details or if you would like to join us.

Photography Group have their next meeting at the CSP Community Library on Thursday 28 July at 11am aiming to finish at 12.30pm. Whilst the picture taking aspect of the group is important we also value getting to know each other socially, and to make new friends with an interest or passion for photography. Our group is not competitive! In our second year we are beginning to find our feet and will continue to provide a light hearted platform for helping people improve their photography. Usually we meet in the third week of the month, but vary the day of that week, either Monday or Thursday. We currently have around 20 active members but we have set no limit on numbers, so please feel free to join. Finally there is no need for fancy cameras, even a smart phone takes amazing stuff these days!

Theatre Visits - Our next visit is to "Funny Girl", the story of Fanny Brice at the Apollo, London on 30 August. This is sold out and we have 22 coming. On November 4 we go to Shakespeare's Globe theatre for "the Elizabethan Experience". Our Christmas treat is to "Kinky Boots" at the Adelphi Theatre. This includes a meal at the Strand Carvery and a tour of the Christmas lights. We have a waiting list! We will plan 2017 trips after the summer.

Walking group (up to 6 miles) We arrange two circular walks each month, starting from various locations. We meet at mid morning, and end at a pub for an optional lunch. The walks are arranged by the three convenors, and increasingly by group members. The group is friendly, and much chatting goes on throughout the walks, and over lunch. Over one hundred U3A members have now been on the 29 walks completed to date. Details of walks are posted on the Chalfonts U3A website, Groups page. New group members always welcome.

Yoga - Yoga has got off to a very positive start with the help of our lovely, inspirational teacher Yami. We have today started our second six week session and most people are 'returners'! Also, today we welcomed two new participants, Beryl and Derek. Sun salutations to you all!

****** Thanks to all the convenors who provided an update on their group. We had such a good response that we could not fit all the articles into this newsletter. The rest will appear in August. ******

**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: newschalfontsu3a@btinternet.com

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk