

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

14 June	Bernie Knill National Trust Volunteer	<i>Operation Hillside The Secret Life of Hughenden during WW2</i>
12 July	Mike Payne [who visited us in January last year and gave us an excellent talk on Pinewood studios]	<i>The story of a very Special Stained Glass Window. He will tell us about the creation of a special memorial window dedicated to the members of the Burma Star from the Isle of Wight.</i>
9 August	David Ramsay who is from our local - Services Sound And Vision.	<i>David will be giving a talk on BFBS working for company the military in conflict zones.</i>

FROM THE EDITOR

Many of our members will be taking holidays this month and early in July before the schools break up for their summer vacations. Going by the success of our foreign language groups, France, Spain and Italy are undoubtedly popular choices. However, the UK - our green and pleasant land – remains a favourite - our excursions and walks enable us to visit beautiful places within easy reach. To visit a lovely garden with its peace and tranquillity is a wonderful way to take a short time away from the turmoil of recent events. Let's enjoy what is on our doorstep and also continue to partake of the many activities and events on offer through U3A – see below for more information.

EXISTING GROUPS

Canal Boat Trips - The first trip of the year was on 18 May. The twelve people on the trip had a great time heading up the Grand Union canal to Rickmansworth, where they had a pub lunch at the White Bear, before heading back to Harefield. The "crew" enjoyed helping Colin the skipper to steer and operate the locks. If anyone would like to join the group for future trips please contact Sue Fisher for more information at canalboattrips@chalfontsu3a.org

Excursions

Hever Castle - Wednesday 28 June 2017

There are a few spaces left for this trip. Please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk if you are interested in coming along.

Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) - Tuesday 25 July 2017

Further information on this excursion will be released nearer the date

If you wish to add your name to the Excursions group please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Local History - Last Tuesday 6 June, popular lecturer Julian Hunt presented *The History of Gerrards Cross*. On Tuesday 4 July, Claire de Carle, who led our walk around Chalfont Park, will give us a talk about CSP's wonderful herbalist Maude Grieve. We meet at 2pm the first Tuesday of each month in the Mary Smithell's room at the CSP Community Centre. Do join us if you can.

New Experiences Group - has recently been set up and provides a wonderful opportunity to take part in activities you have never tried before. Activities may be adrenalin-fuelled, artistic, thought-provoking or just fun. The group's first event was a treasure hunt in Chalfont St Peter which involved a route round the village looking for various clues to identify where the treasure was hidden. The second event was a Segway Safari. The Segways proved to be fairly easy to ride and we were soon whizzing round Black Park. Great fun was had by all. Further planned events are:

1 September - White Water Rafting on the Olympic course at Lee Valley White Water Centre.

4 September - Sailing for beginners at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre.

4 October - Painting Workshop for the Non-Artistic – yes really!

Please see the New Experiences Web page for more information and contact Angela Cranston if you are interested in joining the group or taking part in any of the activities.

Sunday Group - The current Sunday Group visits National Trust properties, open gardens, garden centres, other interesting places, and walks, usually having lunch. The current group is now full. There are U3A members who would like to join a new group. If you would like to join a **new Sunday Group**, or alternatively a **new Sunday Lunch group**, please contact Sue Fisher at groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Table Tennis – There are vacancies for the Wednesday table tennis group. All levels welcome. We play from 5.00 to 6.30pm at the Leisure Centre: tabletennis@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Theatre Group - We had a very enjoyable visit to the Mill at Sonning. The Christmas outing to see 42nd Street is full. An additional trip is being planned for the spring. In the meantime we will be looking at a theatre outing in the autumn: theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Walking Group (up to 6 miles) - The walking group completed its 50th outing on 8 June. The group started its walks in April 2015. The group has two walks every month, starting in different locations on each occasion, with walks through our wonderful countryside. The group is well known for socialising during the walks, and afterwards over an optional lunch. We have organised our second 3-day guided walking holiday, this year going to Shropshire. If you would like to join the group please contact Nigel Trotman for more information at walking2-6miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk or see details twice monthly on the Chalfonts U3A website. No need to be an existing group member to join the walks.

NEW GROUPS

Another French Conversation Group? Please get in touch as set out below if interested.

Y a-t-il quelqu'un intéressé à rejoindre un nouveau groupe de Conversation Française? Nous avons déjà trois de ces groupes qui sont pleins mais il semble y avoir d'autres intérêts. Tout le monde décrit leur français comme 'rouillé' pour commencer, alors n'hésitez pas à vous présenter si vous êtes intéressé. Veuillez envoyer un mel à vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Flower Arranging - A new group has now been formed and will have its first meeting later this month. The group aims to allow its members to learn how to do basic flower arranging. There may be other members who would be interested in finding out about this subject and others with some ability/knowledge who would be willing to demonstrate or help with such a group. If you are interested please respond to Sue Fisher at groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk for more information.

Creative writing - There are a few members who have shown an interest in a creative writing group. There may be a fair few U3A folks who are writing, or considering writing their memoirs, if not a novel or some research etc. This would be a self-help group with a view to members networking and giving each other feedback on their writing, sharing experiences of writing, publishing and self-publishing etc. Denise Beddows has writer friends who might from time to time come and speak to the group. If you are interested in joining, please contact Sue Fisher at groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

SUGGESTION BOX – There is a Suggestion Box on the Chalfonts U3A website. If you have any ideas regarding new interest groups, or any other topic please fill in the form at www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT BLEDLOW MANOR GARDENS – FRIDAY 23 JUNE

Chalfonts U3A members have been invited to visit Lord Carrington's beautiful Bledlow Manor Gardens on Friday 23 June from 2-00 to 5-00pm in aid of the South Bucks Branch of The Motor Neurone Disease Association. Tickets are £6 on the day or £5 in advance from Brian Tordoff. Home-made cakes and tea etc. will be available and there is ample parking in the grounds.

CHALFONTS U3A WEBSITE

Tony Darbyshire has been updating the Interest Group details on the website. We would ask all Convenors to check their webpages and contact Tony with any required updates at webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Offers a Study Day on *Aspects of Archaeology in the Thames Valley* on Wednesday 15 November at Benson, Oxon (about 40 mins by car from CSP). The day will cover 1000 years of archaeological record. A copy of the flyer is on our Noticeboard at CSPCC and on our Website. Application Forms are on the TVN website.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

	<u>contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Accessibility Tricia Reeve	<u>accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
David Burbidge	<u>chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Geoff Glover	<u>vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Smith	<u>secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Darbyshire	<u>membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Tricia Reeve	<u>publicity@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Sue White	<u>speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Peter Brady	<u>treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Jan Sawyer	<u>venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Janice Buchanan	<u>newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Tony Darbyshire	<u>webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Nigel Trotman	<u>groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Sue Fisher	<u>groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Suggestion Box	<u>suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Chalfonts U3A Website:	<u>http://chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk