

Monthly Meeting Diary Dates for 2019 at the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre (Please Note - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

12 June	Mike Casson	After leaving the army Mike was accepted into the Tower of London as a Yeoman Warder (aka Beefeater) in early 1988. He lived and worked there until June 2003 when he took early retirement to concentrate on his other interests. He has appeared on various TV programmes and is currently working on an historical novel and a book on anecdotes from the Tower.
10 July	John Tyler	John Tyler is a local naturalist, who will be giving an illustrated talk on The Changing Wildlife of the Chilterns. From warm seas, through Ice Ages, tundra and forest to the farmland and beechwoods of today, we travel through a hundred million years to follow the story of the Chiltern landscape and its wildlife.
14 August	Michael Hodges	Michael is a metal detectorist, who will be giving a talk entitled "History beneath my feet"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that all members should bring their 2019-20 membership card to all meetings.

A gentle reminder to you all that we would appreciate a donation of 50p per member towards tea, coffee and biscuits which, as always, are organised by Sue Jupp and her helpers .

Editor's update A very well attended AGM and the subsequent presentation on HS2 by our speaker Keith Hoffeister made for a very informative afternoon. This was unfortunately interrupted by numerous requests to move badly parked cars. It can be difficult finding a space at our meetings at the Community Centre, but complaints have been received and we would appreciate it if you could park with consideration for all users. Remember that there is also the public car park in Church Lane – a few minutes walk away.

Annual Chalfont St Peter Feast Day will take place on Saturday 29 June and as in previous years Chalfonts U3A will have a pitch. We hope you will support the day. We will need help to man this event so if any Convenors or members have an hour to spare on the day please contact Eileen Powell at newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk who would love to hear from you.

EXCURSIONS

Lacock Abbey, Fox Talbot Museum and Village (National Trust) – Tuesday 9 July 2019 **Sandhurst** –

Commandant's Parade and Guided Tour – Wednesday 7 August 2019

Members of the Excursion group are emailed or receive by post full details of proposed trips.

EXISTING GROUPS

Dine in with Friends

This group has two new convenors. If you would like to join the group, please contact Sandra Bowles and Terri Weidner dineinwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Garden Visits

The garden visits group has had two lovely outings so far this year. In April we went to Ascott House and gardens near Wing and enjoyed a lovely afternoon admiring the tulips, spring flowers and some interesting and unusual features in the gardens as well as looking round the house, which is still a holiday house for the Rothschild family and contains a few great works of art. In May we took a trip down to Surrey to see Ramster Hall woodland gardens - not well known but beautiful with some spectacular rhododendrons, azaleas and acers - well worth a trip. We then visited the private garden of the Caroe family at Vann, where we heard the history of the family, house and garden from the characterful owner. We have many more trips planned for the coming months and are always happy to welcome new members. Contact Jane Barker convenor at gardenvisits@chalfontsu3a.org.uk for more details.

Photography

The group are visiting The Lyde Garden Bledlow on Thursday 20 June in the afternoon. This beautiful garden is owned by the late Lord Carrington's estate. We are looking for a few members to help us with the portrait session so

any friends, family, children, or grandchildren who would like their free portraits taken contact photography@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Quizzing Group

The list of members who are interested in quizzing needs to be re-done, as unfortunately the original list was deleted from the system. If you wish to become a member of this group please email Margaret Turner, Convenor. New members are very welcome

New Experiences Group

Thirteen brave souls decided to test their mettle by 'walking on glass'. Everyone rose to the challenge and emerged (almost) unscathed, thus proving to themselves that they were invincible.

To further test this theory, sixteen of us attempted to replicate our Olympic heroes by cycling around the Velodrome in which all those gold medals were won. When we realised the bikes had no brakes, we were far too high to touch the ground, our feet were strapped to the pedals and that fixed wheel meant we couldn't stop pedalling without having a nasty accident, we were not feeling quite so brave. Nonetheless, we persevered and were soon whizzing around at the top of a very steep slope. Much less scary – though possibly more exhausting – was the Zumba taster session. Who would have thought it would be so hard to follow a few basic steps. More practice required!

Coming up soon will be a climb over the O2, sailing, archery, a Samba drumming workshop and perhaps another treasure hunt. To join the New Experiences Group please contact Angela Cranston

Sailing in Croatia (April-May 2019)

Following on from our sailing week in Greece in 2018 eight of us chartered two boats in Croatia and completed ten days sailing. This was a mixed group and we came from several U3As in England. In terms of sailing experience three had little or none, the oldest crew member was over 80 having never sailed before. Although few of us knew each other beforehand, we got on well, there was a lot of laughter and sharing of duties. The aim, which was accomplished, was to get everyone, however inexperienced, to handle all the activities necessary to sail the boat. We started from near Split (at Trogir) and visited a different harbour each day on a variety of islands off the coast. Our nightly moorings were quiet harbours with good eating places, at least one shop, bars, some with shower facilities and near some historical sites. The sailing in general was excellent, the weather was kind to us, and we were able to have two days sightseeing. I will notify through the Newsletter of any future trips. Colin Smith (cherryacre@gmail.com)

Spanish Beginners

Three new Spanish Beginners Groups have started recently so if you would like to join one,

Beginners 1 meets on Mondays – contact Ivor Spector at spanishbeginners1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Beginners 2 meets on Tuesdays, but unfortunately there are no vacancies at present. The new convenor is Peter Shaw spanishbeginners2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.

Beginners 3 meets on Thursdays – contact Ros McDonnell at spanishbeginners3@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Theatre Group

We are currently looking at a theatre visit between now and our August outing to Sadler's Wells to see Romeo and Juliet. In the meantime, you may like to see The Chiltern Shakespeare Company presenting A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Hall Barn in Beaconsfield. The dates are 12 - 15 June and 19 - 22 June. The Box Office Phone No. is 01494 573 559 or look at their website <https://www.chiltern-shakespeare.co.uk>. If you would like to become a member of the theatre group or have suggestions for future theatre visits please email: theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.

PROPOSED GROUPS

The following NEW groups have been proposed:

Cribbage

It has been suggested that we start a Cribbage Group. If you are interested in joining this group or becoming a convenor, please contact groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

iPad users

Phil McAvoy has very kindly offered to run this group which we imagine will be very popular with us new age techno geeks! Please contact Bob Borwick to register your interest chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Walking group (Strollers)

We have had interest from many existing members of the 'Walking Group (up to 6 miles) for more gentle walks, involving only slight climbs. The new group members would decide on the name and its aims. A new convenor would also be required to administer the group and support would be given setting it up by Group Coordinator Nigel Trotman.

We hope that the new group can be started soon. Please contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk to register your interest.

Chalfonts U3A Directory of Interest Groups and Convenors June 2019

Nigel Trotman – Groups Coordinator 1 groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk **Sue Fisher – Groups Coordinator 2** groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A Committee (following May 2019 AGM)

Chairman	Bob Borwick	chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Vice Chairman	Mike Lawson	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Jane Barker	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Peter Brady	treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Accessibility	Eileen Powell	accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Beacon Administrator	John Hardwick	beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Interest Group Co-ordinator 1	Nigel Trotman	groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Interest Group Co-ordinator 2	Sue Fisher	groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Val Smith	membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Newsletter	Eileen Powell	newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Publicity	Eileen Powell	publicity@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Speaker	David Morgan	speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Venue Co-ordinator	David Burbidge	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	Tony Darbyshire	webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A general enquiries
Chalfonts U3A suggestion box
Chalfonts U3A website

contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

U3A National website
Thames Valley Network website

www.u3a.org.uk
www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk

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