

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

8 March 2017	Steve Capel Davies	<i>Life on the Thames. An illustrated talk on the history of the Thames</i>
12 April	Sally Botwright A Blue Badge Tourist Guide	<i>Sally will give a talk with a colourful PowerPoint presentation on The History of the City of London</i>
10 May	Keith Hoffmeister a member of Chess Valley U3A	Annual General Meeting followed by a talk on HS2

ENTERING OUR THIRD YEAR

March 2017 sees Chalfonts U3A embarking on our third year in existence and what a lot has happened in that time. It would be interesting to count up how many individual member attendances there have been at our varied interest groups and outings and one suspects we are looking at a four figure sum. If we have a statistician in our midst he or she could give us the answer. What we do know is that we have enjoyed a huge amount of pleasure over the last two years which have been stimulating and fast moving. New friendships have been formed which is an added bonus to all of us. We now see new awakenings in the wonderful signs of Spring all around us and looking at our New Groups list in this newsletter, there are similar signs within our U3A. Hold on to your seats as we move forward.

UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The Membership Secretary has been sending out personalised renewal forms (by post and email), so that all you have to do is check the details, sign and date it, before returning it with your cheque or cash.

If you have not received a personalised renewal form, or are unable to print the email version, or have any other queries about renewals or membership please contact Val Darbyshire at membership.secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Renewals will be accepted at the following meetings all of which will be at the Community Centre:

- Members' Meeting - Wednesday 8 March (before and after the Members' Meeting)
- Renewals Meeting - Monday 27 March - 2-4pm
- Members' Meeting - Wednesday 12 April (before and after the Members' Meeting)
- Members' Meeting - Wednesday 10 May (before and after the Members' Meeting)

U3A NEWS AND EVENTS - MARCH/MAY 2017

National Art Pass - Special offers for U3A Members

U3A Members can now purchase a 3-month National Art Pass for just £10. Visit artfund.org/u3a for more information. You have until 20th March 2017 to take advantage of this offer. Additionally, use the discount code U3A2017 for 10% off all services at my-history.co.uk

We are pleased to announce that the video recording of our **Celebration of 1,000 U3As** is now available to view on our [YouTube Channel](#). It is available on the home page of the website.

Please see below details of two new events and one that is still booking via national website www.u3a.org.uk

West End Sing Out**9 May**The Savoy Theatre,
London**Beneath Your Feet:****Hidden Depths of Roman London****18 May**

The Guildhall Gallery, London

U3A Explores**Science at the RI****16 March**

The Royal Institution, London

EXISTING GROUPS**Excursions****Brooklands Museum - Monday 20 March**There are a few spaces available for this trip. If you are interested please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk**Royal Brighton Pavilion - Wednesday 24 May**

private tour of Pavilion, lunch and free time to wander around Brighton

Hever Castle - Wednesday 28 June 2017**Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) - Tuesday 25 July 2017**

Further information on the May, June and July excursions will be released nearer the dates.

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

Local History - Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7 March 2pm in the Mary Smithells room at the CSP Community Centre. The title is *The Grass is Greener* and it is the story of how neighbours in Chalfont St Giles, John Mayfield and Mike Baldwin, shared the idea of starting a franchise for lawn treatment and now there are 250 franchises. Do come along and join us – our topics are varied – there's something for everyone.

Table Tennis – A second table tennis group has started on Wednesday evenings from 5.00 to 6.30, and there will be a small charge. Numbers are limited, please do not attend without first contacting Sue White at tabletennis@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

NEW GROUPS

Bus Pass Adventurers – The first outing is planned for Wednesday 29 March to Chesham Market. All those who have shown an interest in joining the Bus Pass Adventures group will be emailed about this trip.

Jazz Appreciation - Many U3As have such a group. Would anyone interested in joining or convening a Jazz Appreciation Group please email vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk. The group would exchange ideas on favoured genres of Jazz, meet to listen to groups, bands, speakers of their choice and attend Jazz concerts.

New Experiences Group – This group was previously advertised as the Extreme Experiences Group, which did not match the activities which are intended to take place. The group will include one-off activities which are not covered by other groups, many of them not at all extreme. Initial suggestions include:

White water rafting;
Treasure hunt
Segway riding
Designing a ceramic

Juggling workshop
Escaping from an escape room
Indoor skydiving
Murder mystery dinner

If you do not wish to take part in the more active items, just take part in those that interest you. The organiser is open to suggestions from the group. It is intended that some activities are booked, and a trial made to establish their popularity. Details of events will be advised at a later date Please contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Ornithology Group – If you have an interest in ornithology please make contact with the aim of setting up a new group Please contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Quizzing – The quizzing group is now in operation, with their first outing to a quiz night at the White Hart in Chalfont St Giles. Please see details of the group on the Interest Group page on the Chalfonts U3A website. www.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

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

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

	contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Accessibility Tricia Reeve	accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
David Burbidge	chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Geoff Glover	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Smith	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Darbyshire	membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
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Jan Sawyer	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
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Helen Whitlum	groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
	suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A Website: <http://chalfontsu3a.org.uk>

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk