

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

10 May *Annual General Meeting*

followed by a talk on HS2 by Keith Hoffmeister a member of Chess Valley U3A

14 June Bernie Knill *Operation Hillside*
National Trust Volunteer *The Secret Life of Hughenden during WW2*

12 July Mike Payne *The story of a very Special Stained Glass Window.*
[who visited us in January last year and gave us an excellent window dedicated to the members of the Burma Star talk on Pinewood studios] *He will tell us about the creation of a special memorial from the Isle of Wight.*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Chalfont St Peter Community Centre - 2pm Wednesday 10 May 2017

AGENDA - Welcome from the Chairman

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| 1. Apologies for absence | 6. Election of Committee |
| 2. Minutes of last AGM | 7. Interest Group Reports |
| 3. Chairman's Report | 8. Thames Valley Network |
| 4. Treasurer's Report and presentation of accounts | & wider U3A activities |
| 5. Appointment of Independent Examiner | |

FROM THE EDITOR

As is the case with many other towns and villages around the country, Chalfont St Peter is seeing a great deal of change. Work is going on apace on the Holy Cross site and most people will be aware that permission has recently been given from the High Court for the Parish Council to proceed with claims against the former owners. A new child care facility is due to open shortly in a former pub and a barbers will open in the old Disability shop. Let's hope that the precinct will soon come to life again when Costa move in and we await with interest news of Marks and Spencer. There is also a new dry cleaners who are advertising 'SUITES CLEANED £16 FOR TWO'. Should we expect to see sofas and chairs queuing along Lower Road for this special offer! However, what really is the life of any village is the people in it and we are fortunate that we have such a busy and thriving group joining us each month for our many and varied U3A activities. Members come from far and wide, but predominantly from the Chalfonts and Gerrards Cross so we really are a group which serves and draws its membership from our local area. The continued support of our members is encouraging as is the formation of new groups month on month and our hope is that you will all enjoy, learn and be stimulated by what our U3A has to offer. Also, if you can help to run a group, your assistance will be most welcome.

WEBSITE

May we encourage members to get in the habit of going on our website where you will find oodles of information, photos, comments etc. etc. In particular, visit the Noticeboard for current items of interest. <http://chalfontsu3a.org.uk>

NATIONAL U3A EVENTS MAY/JUNE 2017

Book through national website (see p.4)

West End Sing Out – 9 May, the Savoy Theatre, London
National Gallery – First Impressions 14 June

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership renewals are now overdue. If you are one of the small number of members who haven't yet renewed, please do so as soon as possible. The Membership Secretary, Val Darbyshire may be contacted at membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

EXISTING GROUPS

Dine in with Friends - This group is now up and running, meeting monthly in members' homes and visiting a local pub or restaurant every quarter. The group comprises couples and singles and new members are more than welcome. Meals are informal and it isn't a cookery competition, so ready-meals from M & S are wholly acceptable! To find out more about this friendly group do email Lynda Scott-Priestly on dineinwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Excursions - Royal Brighton Pavilion – Wednesday 24 May 2017

This excursion is now full with a waiting list.

Hever Castle – Wednesday 28 June 2017

The booking form and factsheet will be emailed to all those in the excursions group on Friday 26 May and posted to those not on email to arrive by the same date.

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

Lawn Bowls - The new season started this week and a few members had a fun morning at Chalfont St Giles Bowling Club. The group is held on alternate Tuesday mornings from 10-12. If you are interested in joining please contact Mike Alderton or Pam Anderson

Singing for Pleasure - This group meets on a Thursday from 10.30 to noon and new members are always welcome, especially Altos, Tenors and Basses! The purpose of the group is to have an enjoyable time and gain new skills. Contact Janice Holmes singing4pleasure@chalfontsu3a.org.uk for more information.

Tap Dancing - Although Chalfonts U3A doesn't yet have a tap dancing class – there is one at Chiltern U3A you might like to join as they have vacancies for new members. They meet on the first and third Thursdays in Amersham at 2.15pm for one hour. There is a professional teacher and the cost of the class varies between £4 and £4.50 per session, payable in advance for the term. There would be a 50p surcharge for non-Chiltern U3A members. The first class is free and tap shoes can be borrowed for the first class. The class has lots of fun trying to be dancers and don't take themselves seriously. For more information: contact Carol Hall

Theatre Group - We are looking forward to our visit to The Mill at Sonning on the 12 May to see Don't Dress for Dinner. Organised trips will not be arranged for the following but they may be of interest to members.

Fourways Theatre Company – The Merchant of Venice: <https://www.fourways.org.uk>

Chiltern Shakespeare Company – Much Ado about Nothing: <https://www.chiltern-shakespearecompany.com> “

NEW GROUPS

Flower Arranging – It has been suggested that we form a group for those wishing 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

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

Science and Technology – There will be a meeting for this group, after the monthly meeting/AGM on Wednesday 10 May. If you are interested, please attend or contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Whist – If anyone is interested, please contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@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.

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>
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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