

Chalfonts U3A

Newsletter No. 38

May 2018

DIARY DATES FOR 2018 - (PLEASE NOTE - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

9 May	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	Followed by An illustrated Review of Chalfonts U3A's First 3 Years
13 June	Helen Fry - local Historian, Biographer and Scriptwriter	Will give a power point presentation entitled Latimer House Secret WW2 History.
11 July		A representative of the Medical Detection Dogs will be talking about this charity.

FROM THE EDITOR

First of all, my apologies for the incorrect June date in last month's newsletter and for any confusion. Our AGM is this coming Wednesday 9th May – the Agenda will be shown on the screen as space does not permit in this issue of the newsletter. In this United Kingdom of ours, our interest is always stimulated by Royal events – the Queen's birthday followed by the arrival of Prince Louis and of course the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on 19th of May (not to mention the FA Cup Final on the same day). Some communities are having street parties or barbecues and others are gathering around their TVs with friends and family to watch the fashions, the guests arriving and then the splendour of St George's Chapel for the service. Let's hope for a day of sunshine for both events.

EXISTING GROUPS

Book Club 2 - We are a small, friendly reading group, with room for another couple of members. We take it in turn to suggest books for the next month, then as a group choose which one to read. Books we have read in the past couple of months have been: Capital, The Past, Cold Mountain, and Autumn. We often don't agree on our feelings on the book, but always have a good discussion!!! (and a nice cup of tea). For further details of the group please contact Alyson Klein at bookclub2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Canal Boat Group - The Group is already in full swing for the summer. There will be two trips per month up to and including September. We will be travelling from two different boat yards during the season to add variety. We are fully booked for May but will be releasing details for June very soon. For further details of the group please contact Sue Gillard at canalboattrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Dine in with Friends has now been running for 15 months. Each month a member hosts a meal with others bringing starter, dessert and cheese. In this way everyone has three meals each quarter, and meets most of the members of the group. Many of us joined when the group was set up and we are seeking new members to widen our circle of friends. Singles and couples are encouraged to join us, and new members will be added to the existing programme, which runs from May to July, so will be including meals straight away. We also have a restaurant meal each quarter so all members get together as a group. Contact Stephen Sharples at dineinwithfriends@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.fo further details.

Excursions

Tour of Clifton Suspension Bridge and day in Bristol - Friday 18 May 2018

This trip is now full but if you would like to put your name on the waiting list should there be a cancellation then please email the excursions group

Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) - Tuesday 17 July 2018

Those on the waiting list (who didn't get a place last year) have already been contacted as they have priority. Information about this trip will be emailed out very shortly to everyone in the excursions group.

The State Rooms and Gardens at Buckingham Palace - Tuesday 11 September 2018 Full details much nearer the time.

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Leamington Spa & British Motor Museum - Thursday 8 November 2018 Full details much nearer the time.

Intermediate Bridge Group - Attendance at the fortnightly Bridge sessions is on the increase and this month we are pleased to welcome several new members including two who have graduated from the Beginners Group.

Science and Technology Group - This is a keen and lively group of people from various backgrounds. We include those who have a scientific background as well as those who are just interested in learning new things. Our sessions have mostly been talks given by various members of the group, but we are just in the process of organising a trip to the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. Our sessions include discussing energy and water as well as medical equipment. New members are always welcome including anyone who is happy to share their science or technology story with this friendly group. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at the community centre. For further details of the group please contact Cathy Williams at science@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Spanish Beginners groups 1 and 2 - The members of these groups are no longer beginners, and the group names will change to **Spanish Improvers 1** and **Spanish Improvers 2**.

Spanish Absolute Beginners - (proposed new group) We already have members wishing to join this proposed new group. Additional members are required to enable the group to start. More information for those wishing to join please contact Margaret Burbidge at spanishbeginners1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Spanish Intermediate - (proposed new group) We already have members wishing to but additional members are required to enable the group to start. More information for those wishing to join please contact Margaret Burbidge at spanishbeginners1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Table Tennis - groups meet weekly at the Leisure Centre for ninety minutes of fun and enjoyment. Although Tuesday afternoon sessions are full there are still vacancies on the Wednesday evening group starting at 5.00pm.

Theatre Group – We visited County Hall London on the 3 May to see *Witness for the Prosecution*, which has received excellent reviews. Future visits are *Brief Encounter* a mixture of live performance and film, *The Jersey Boys* at the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. Additional London theatre visits are planned to see *The Tina Turner Musical* and *The King and I*. To join the theatre mailing list please email theatre@chalfontsu3a.org.uk.

NEW GROUPS

Coffee Mornings - Our first meeting of the Coffee Mornings group will on Friday 18th May. The group will meet at the Greyhound Inn, Chalfont St Peter, at 10am through to 11am. You are welcome to come along to socialise over a coffee and croissant with the group. There will be a small charge of £ 3.50 to cover refreshments and a tip. Please pre-book to come along with Chris Coteman

OTHER

GDPR

No doubt you've all been bombarded with communications from all sorts of organisations about the new General Data Protection Regulation. Chalfonts U3A look after your personal details very carefully. The committee, in collaboration with the national U3A organisation, is considering what changes, if any, we need to make to our processes and documentation to comply. We intend to send out further details once the process has been completed.

SAILING IN GREECE

In response to a short article in U3A Matters in 2017, five of us got together and have just completed a week's sailing in Greece. We came from four U3As (Chalfont, North Cotswolds, Stoke on Trent and Tarporley). The group consisted of one lady and four men and in terms of sailing experience two had little or none. However, since it was a bareboat charter one of us had to be suitably qualified. The boat from a local Athens charterer was a Bavaria 36, which provided ample room for all. Leaving on a Saturday morning our aim, successfully completed, was to spend each night in a different harbour in the West Aegean Sea. It turned out our moorings were quiet villages with good eating places, bars and significant historical sites. In all places there was a harbour wall to moor at and good local facilities including showers. Going out of season the cost was minimised and the weather was superb (high 20 \square C) with only one cloud seen all week. The group got on well despite being strangers and all had a sense of humour. I will notify through the Newsletter of any future trip.

MEMBERSHIP

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. You can renew at the May meeting or by post and forms are available to download from the website or email membershipsecretarychalfontsu3a.org.uk

CHALFONT ST PETER FEAST DAY, Goldhill Common - Saturday 23 June 2018

This year marks the 10th anniversary of this event and Chalfonts U3A will be taking a pitch for the day. Please email contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk if you are able to spare an hour to come along and help. Plus, it's a sociable time and a chance to meet up with friends.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Accessibility <u>accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>

Tricia Reeve

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

National Website: www.u3a,org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk