

## CONGRATULATIONS!

As one of the fastest growing U3A groups, our latest membership count is an amazing 460! We are so pleased that we have been able to accommodate everyone who has applied for membership, especially as we hear that other groups have waiting lists. What did you all do to pass your time before U3A? Feedback from members continues to be positive but we don't wish to be complacent, so please feel free to pass on any comments you may have either directly to a committee member or via the suggestion box.

## THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Chalfonts U3A belong to this network (TVN) whose objectives are to advance the education of members of U3As in the Thames Valley area by arranging occasional study days and encouraging the provision of leisure activities. Please visit their website [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk) to find out more about their event programmes for the remainder of the year and into 2016. Open to all U3A members.

**“Staying Connected” Study Day** – This study day will be about the effect of hearing loss on those affected by it and on those with whom they are communicating. The study day is being organised via the Thames Valley Network on behalf of West Oxford U3A and will be held at Oxford Brookes University on 12 March 2016. It is open to members of U3As. Click on Events Programme 2016 on TVN website for more details & booking form [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

## HAVE YOU JOINED ANY OF OUR INTEREST GROUPS?

We're interested to know if any members have not yet found a group which caters for their particular interests and/or skills. Can we encourage you to look again at the groups listed and see if their remit could be expanded to include what you are looking for. Group Convenors are listed on the blue sheet and will always help you talk through what you are seeking. New ideas are coming up every month and we would love to see everyone participating in group life. Don't forget the suggestion box at monthly meetings, or on line in you prefer, or speak to a committee member.

**Interest Group Displays** – There will be display tables in the Mary Smithells Room before and after the November monthly meeting for the **Textiles, Patchwork** and **Wine Appreciation** groups. Do come along and see what these groups are all about. The convenors will be pleased to see you there and will answer any questions you may have.

**Excursions/Outings** -Tuesday, 9 February 2016 visit to the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace to see 'Dutch Artists in the age of Vermeer' plus a visit to the Royal Mews where we will see the State Coaches and some of the Queen's carriage horses .Further information will be sent to Group members shortly.

**Discussion Group** – the next Discussion evening will be held on Wed 11 November @ 7pm when the subjects for debate will be: 'The Future of Television?' and on a lighter note 'Three things that really worry me!' New members are always welcome.

**Music – Singing4Pleasure** - 15 members met for their first get together which was a great success. Janice Holmes expertly took control and guided us through a short physical and vocal warm up to get us breathing in the correct manner and suggested that we start things off with a few carols. Word is that we might be invited to sing at the Christmas Party on 2 December. Next meeting on 5 November, please come along and join us on subsequent Thursdays at 10. 30am.You'll be most welcome. It is still hoped that a music appreciation and an instrumental group can be formed - but this may need to wait until the New Year.

**Theatre Visits** - Members will have received confirmation of their booking for Lord of the Flies, 21 November and Jesus Christ Super Star, 5 December. Both productions are at the Wycombe Swan Theatre. Tickets for Motown,the musical were certainly very “hot” as all seats have been allocated and we now have a waiting list which will close on 14 November. Suggestions for future outings are very welcome. For further information check the website.

**Wine Appreciation** - Grace Hunter, convenor for this group will be manning a table in the Mary Smithells room and can let members know all about the group activities. New members welcome.

**Basic Computing Help Available!** - Do you struggle with some aspects of using your PC or laptop? Would you like to know how to use your computer more easily and efficiently? Are you afraid to ask for help? If your answer is “yes” to

any of these questions, then U3A may be able to help you. Phil Siddons, who was instrumental in getting the Computing group off the ground, is willing to provide personal tuition at his home to struggling beginners. If you would like to take Phil up on his very kind offer then please contact him.

## **NEW GROUPS**

**Badminton** – Would you like to join a U3A badminton group? We can see from our membership database that there are a number of people who like to play badminton so if you are interested in joining such a group please contact [groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk](mailto:groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk)

**Book Club 2** – Following on from the success of our Book Club group, we would like to set up a second group. There will be a meeting for those interested in this group after the 11 November monthly meeting.

**Cycling** – We are pleased to say that we now have a convenor for the Cycling group. Thanks to David Burry for taking this on. David is planning a ride in Windsor Great Park for members to meet up and talk about what they would like from the group. For further information please contact David Burry

**Historic Architecture and Churches** - Interest is invited in forming a new group to visit, study and appreciate individual buildings of architectural and historic interest including church properties within easy reach of the Chalfonts. The group would be looking for the unusual and the unexpected rather than the already well documented and the obvious. Members interested in meeting others to discuss the concept and hopefully to form a new interest group should contact Geoff Glover.

**Philosophy** – Are you interested in discovering the meaning of life and how to live a “good life”? Would you like to meet up with other members to ponder on these and other questions? If you are interested in joining or helping to set up such a group please contact [groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk](mailto:groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk).

**Rummikub** - Would any member interested in joining a new Interest Group to be formed after Christmas to play Rummikub in each others' homes please get in touch with Georgina Cane Initially we are looking to form a group of 8 players - first come, first served!

**Sunday Social Group** – We are considering setting up a U3A social group that would meet on Sundays, a day when there are generally fewer activities running. The idea would be for members to meet up and socialise during a mixture of activities. These might include a short walk, a trip to the local cinema, a pub lunch, coffee at a garden centre or anything else the group members would like to do. If you would be interested in joining such a group, or better still, interested in helping to run it, then please contact Tricia Reeve

**Swimming** – Would anyone be interested in joining a U3A Swimming group, probably using the CSP Leisure Centre pool? We have had an enquiry and wondered if this was something that would appeal to other members. Please contact [groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk](mailto:groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk) if you are interested.

**Yoga and Pilates** – We have a lot of members who would love to attend one or both of these groups. We need a qualified instructor for each who is also a Chalfonts U3A member. If you are an instructor or know someone whom you might be able to persuade to become a member we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact [groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk](mailto:groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk) if you can help. Thank you.

## **DIARY DATES - (All meetings 2pm)**

**2 December**

*Christmas Social*

**January 13**

Ken and June Brazier

*will talk on the Mercy Ships which was started in 1978 to provide Hope and Healing to some of the poorest countries in the world.*

**February 10**

Colin Oakes

*will talk about Amersham through the ages.*

**Membership enquiries only: Valerie Darbyshire, Membership Secretary:  
[membership.chalfontsU3A@gmail.com](mailto:membership.chalfontsU3A@gmail.com)**

**Please remember to bring your membership card to every monthly meeting and all interest groups.  
Website: Google – Chalfonts U3A – visit Events, Groups, Gallery etc.**