

MONTHLY MEETING DIARY DATES FOR 2018/19

AT THE CHALFONT ST PETER COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Please Note - All meetings start promptly at 2pm)

14 November	Ken Panchen	<i>Red Kites in the Chilterns. Ken will be donating his fee to the charity Chilterns Conservation Board and will talk to us about the history of the red kite and why it became extinct in England and Scotland, and the Chilterns re introduction scheme.</i>
12 December	Denise Beddows	<i>Will be talking about her adventures when she was working in the immigration service and overseas. Titled – It's no job for a woman.</i>
9 January	Stefan White	<i>Skulduggery in the Shrubbery Stefan White is a professional speaker and he covers the life of John Tradescant and his family who were 17th century plant hunters and also gardeners to royalty. He talks about the plants and other items he brought back to England and the mysteries surrounding his life.</i>

FROM THE EDITOR

Remembrance - Our village centre looks resplendent with the 'Lest we forget' and 'Poppy' banners and the cascade of poppies on the east wall of the church also looks magnificent. Well done to all those who have knitted or crocheted over the last few months to make this possible – a beautiful tribute to the fallen. The Remembrance Day parade will be on Sunday 11th November at approximately 2.30pm with the Wreath Laying Ceremony at 3pm

CHALFONTSU3A NEEDS YOU

This year under the terms of the constitution six of our present committee will be leaving their position and we need volunteers to replace them. Being a committee member is not onerous and can be very enjoyable. You make contact with lots of other members and are able to put their and your own ideas into practice. If you would like to help please contact me. If you would like to see what is involved I can arrange for you to come to a committee meeting to see what goes on. Don't forget the U3A is run for the members by the members. Without willing volunteers it cannot function so please give it a try.

CHRISTMAS GIFT STALL

Some members of the Textile and Craft Group will once again be having a **Christmas Decorations and Gift Stall** in the foyer at the November Meeting in aid of the Medical Detection Dogs. We welcomed a speaker from this organisation to our July meeting and learnt that these dogs are trained to provide life-saving support in the detection of some types of cancer, as well as enabling people suffering from conditions such as diabetes, to lead near normal lives. There is no government funding available for this amazing charity and so far, our group has raised £1,500 to support their valuable work. Our stall will be open before and after the meeting and will have a selection of hand-crafted Christmas decorations as well as gifts (including a 'must have' gift for all dog walkers!!!!) on sale. We really appreciated your generous support last year and hope that you will visit us again, this year.

NOTE TO EXISTING AND PROSPECTIVE GROUP CONVENORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Please let us know how your group is getting on, whether you would like to see new members, news of any forthcoming events, details of events that have recently taken place. Please submit a short item before the end of each month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. Anyone wishing to set up a new group will be given full help and assistance as required from the Group Coordinators and/or Committee members. We welcome your suggestions for new groups.

EXISTING GROUPS

Excursions

Waddesdon Manor – Christmas Excursion – Wednesday 5 December

This trip is full but if you would like to put your name on the waiting list please email excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk or telephone Val or Tricia

If you have ideas/requests for **future excursions** we are always very pleased to receive them. Email: excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk. Thank you to those who send in details - we look at all suggestions and report back to the sender.

Discovering Art Group - We thank John Bailey for successfully convening this group. As John will not now be available he has handed over to two new convenors, Bob Bell and David Martin. Please contact the group at discoverart@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experiences Group has been running for 18 months now and has had 23 activities so far including Segway, Lawn Bowls, Dowsing, White Water Rafting, Sailing, Painting, Archery, Shooting, Ceramics Painting, a Murder Mystery party, Meditation, Climbing, Indoor Skydiving, Go-Karting, High Ropes, Paddleboarding, Orienteering and Treasure Hunts. So not all high adrenalin activities. In October we added to these with Windsurfing, a Murder Mystery Dinner and Paintballing. Some members convinced themselves that they would not enjoy the paintballing but everyone entered into the spirit of it, some with more aggression than others, and all had a great time. Coming up there is an Escape Room (where you have one hour to escape from a locked room using clues available) and a massage workshop and hopefully, in the future, a jiving lesson and a circus skills workshop. So I think you will agree there is something for everyone. If you are interested in joining the New Experiences Group please contact Angela Cranston

Theatre Group - The Christmas outing will be to see Guys and Dolls at the Mill at Sonning. Two outings are in place for 2019. We will see Cirque du Soleil in January, the Dolly Parton musical, and **9 to 5** in April and May. Two visits have been arranged to see **9 to 5** in order to meet the number of requests received from members. Additional outings will be announced for the first quarter of 2019. If you would like to receive details of future theatre visits please email theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Walking Group (up to 6 miles) - On 12 November 35 members of our group travelled to Abingworth Hall in Sussex to take part in a 3-night guided walking weekend. Two groups set out on the first day, one group walking 7 miles on the South Downs, the other walking 9.5 miles. On the second day which was wet, some members walked to Petworth House, and others visited by car, or enjoyed sightseeing in the area. This was our third walking weekend. Next year's guided walking weekend will be at Selworthy on Exmoor. The weekend is already fully booked with 46 members taking part. There is a waiting list for anyone who might wish to join us, in case of a future cancellation. Contact Nigel Trotman at walking2-6miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Wine Appreciation Group 2 - We had our second meeting in October which featured Italian wines. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month and the next meeting is on 19 November and we will be tasting Spanish wines. New members welcome, including those who just want to try it once while considering joining the group on a more regular basis. Contact Dave Hillis

NEW GROUP IDEAS

Chess Group - We have received an enquiry regarding setting up a chess group. Anyone interested should initially contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Walking Football Group - Are there any budding walking footballers who would like to set up a new group. Anyone interested should initially contact Nigel Trotman at groupcoordinator1@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
Bob Borwick	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Smith	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Peter Brady	treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Jan Sawyer	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
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Janice Buchanan	newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
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Suggestion Box	suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Darbyshire	beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

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

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk