

NEW NATIONAL U3A CHAIRMAN – PAM JONES

We offer our congratulations to Pam Jones who was hugely instrumental in helping the steering committee establish the Chalfonts U3A earlier in the year. Pam was elected at this year's National Conference and will serve in her new capacity for three years. In fact she was with us at our last members' monthly meeting, but wished to remain *incognito*. We have found her to be a tower of strength and ever ready to share her knowledge and wisdom – so we wish her well as she willingly takes on this heavy load. At our October meeting, Hilvary Robinson, the Trustee for the South East, will be attending to present us with our U3A Affiliation Certificate.

Our terrific tea team! - Many thanks to Sue Jupp and her wonderful team of helpers who provide us with a very welcome cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit after our members' monthly meetings and who are very much appreciated by our members and the committee. Please could members thank them personally at the refreshment hatch.

Interest Group Displays – At the members' monthly meetings it would be lovely if two or three of the interest groups could set up and man a display table with information about their group and where appropriate display some of their work. This is a good way to publicise your group and attract new members. If your group would like to take part, please email groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk

Suggestion Box – Actual and Online - Do you have any ideas for new interest groups, outings or theatre visits or any other ways to make our U3A even better? If so, we now have a place for them! Look on our website under "Groups" to find the group called "Suggestion Box" and send us an email with your idea. Alternatively, the box will be available members' monthly meetings so just write your idea on a slip of paper and pop it in the box. We look forward to hearing from you!

Events Team – We need a group of members to help us organise events such as the Christmas party, the Chalfont St Peter Feast Day and Chalfont St Giles Show. Is there anyone out there who would like to help? It will not be a huge commitment as events are well spaced out. Ideally, we need a pool of people on whom we can call to help with such events. Please help if you can - email groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk

INTEREST GROUPS UPDATE

Excursion 4 November to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard/Mary Rose Museum: This trip is now full. If any member would like to add their name to the waiting list email chalfontsu3a.excursions@gmail.com

London Walks – Little Venice: The first London Walk took place on Thursday 17 September. Led by our guide Shaughan, 26 members enjoyed a very interesting and entertaining walk around the Little Venice canal basin and local area, learning about architecture, history and celebrities who have lived there. We were blessed with lovely sunshine and everyone had a thoroughly good time. Many thanks to Pam Anderson and Carolyn Edwards for organising the walk and we look forward to the next which will hopefully be in November. Please see the website for further details.

Table Tennis: Due to the success of the table tennis group we have now decided to meet every Tuesday instead of fortnightly. The group is very friendly and has vacancies so why not come along and give it a try? Members are charged £2 per session and we welcome new members. If you are interested in joining us, please see the website for details

Textiles - The Textiles Group has not only taken off but is gaining momentum!!! Do come and join us with that 'unfinished project' or maybe a Christmas craft 'something' that you are working on. We should love to see it. Sally Dinning will be by the tea counter after the 14 October meeting, so do go and chat with her.

Theatre Visits: Booking is now closed for Lord of the Flies and Jesus Christ Super Star. Confirmation details will be sent shortly to everyone who applied for tickets for one or both shows. Just off the press! Top USA show "Motown" arrives in the UK in early February. This is predicted as the next "Hot" ticket. Date

Tuesday 16 Feb 2016, 5.45pm pickup for 7.30pm performance at Shaftesbury Theatre. Cost approx. £55 per ticket including coach. For further information check website

Walking Less than 6 Miles: The first walk took place on 16 April this year. To date we have organised ten walks. Some arranged by the convenors, and increasingly more by group members. Each walk has been run from a different location. The walks go on come rain or shine. Thankfully more by shine than rain and have been interesting in their own differing ways. All of the group have been most friendly, with good conversations along the way, option of refreshments, and a good chat at the end of each walk, mainly in very nice pubs.

Our group membership has now reached 105. 59 different people have walked at least once. Over the ten walks a total of 168 walkers have taken part. Our average walking distance has been 4.2 miles. We hope to continue this enjoyable activity in the same way in future. New members are always welcome to join us. We would urge those members who have not yet ventured out, to come along. More information on the website.

NEW GROUPS

Cycling – We have a few members who are interested in forming a group but we need a few more to make it viable. If you are interested in joining please contact groupscoord1@chalfonts-u3a.org.uk

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

Many Talents Group – Are there any members out there who are just bursting to demonstrate and share their talent with others? It could be anything from singing to playing a musical instrument or even bead making or lampshade making. We have a couple of members who would like to set up a group where people can give a lecture or performance/demonstration of their specialist interest. The group would meet on a regular day, maybe twice a month with two or three people entertaining each time. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Elaine Quigley

Music Interest Group - It is hoped that we can now get a "Singing for Pleasure" group started and perhaps an "instrumental group" too. Please spare a few minutes after the monthly meeting on the 14 Oct. so we can explain more. If you cannot attend, then contact Val Smith stating your musical interest.

Solving Cryptic Crossword Puzzles – There is a possibility that Chalfonts U3A will be able to offer a short course in solving cryptic crossword puzzles. The mysteries of solving these puzzles will be revealed to those who attend. The course will cover anagrams, key words, compilers' etiquette and word endings/beginnings. Group members will be eased in with relatively easy puzzles until confident to tackle the "premier league" level. If there is sufficient interest, the group may continue on a regular basis. If you are interested, please contact Bob Leven

WEBSITE

Please use our website to find all the latest news and information about the Chalfonts U3A. You can find it easily by typing Chalfonts U3A into Google. You can find information about a specific interest group and the convenors contact details on the relevant Groups page. Please contact the convenor direct. Remember to look at the Gallery on the Website for photos of recent U3A events.

DIARY DATES (MEMBERS' MONTHLY MEETINGS 2PM)

14 October	Mrs Eileen Dickson	<i>from the Witness Service based at High Wycombe Magistrates Court will be talking about her work.</i>
11 November	Phil & Kay Wathen	<i>Will give a talk on The History of Candles followed by a candle making demonstration.</i>
2 December		<i>Christmas Party</i>

**Membership enquiries only: Valerie Darbyshire, Membership Secretary:
membership.chalfontsU3A@gmail.com**

Please remember to bring your membership card to every monthly meeting and all interest groups.