

MONTHLY MEETING DIARY DATES FOR 2018 AT THE CHALFONT ST PETER COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

10 October	Malcolm Nelson	<i>Forty years of catching smugglers. Malcolm will tell us of the war waged by the officers of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise at Heathrow Airport against the international drug smuggling.</i>
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>

FROM THE EDITOR

Recent visitors from New Zealand to our July monthly meeting were very impressed with the number of interest groups run by Chalfonts U3A and have circulated the newsletter and list of interest groups to their own members hoping to spark interest in setting up groups on some of the subject areas run by ourselves. It has been suggested that it might be possible for our own members to attend/visit other U3A meetings when they are visiting other parts of the country or even in another country. There doesn't seem to be a system in place for this but members' feedback is invited.

EXISTING GROUPS

Excursions

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Leamington Spa & British Motor Museum – Thursday 8 November 2018. Members of the excursions group have already been emailed with information for this trip. The factsheet and booking form are also on the website.

Waddesdon Manor – Christmas Excursion – Wednesday 5 December 2018
 Full details nearer the time.

If you would like your name added to the excursion group please email: excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk or contact Tricia or Val direct.

Garden visits - The group has started planning for 2019! So far the dates for your diary are:-

- Thursday 9 May- visit to Ramster gardens in Surrey to see their spectacular display of rhododendrons, azaleas and other spring flowers
- Thursday 24 June - -visit to the National Trust property and gardens at Mottisfont in Hampshire . Our visit is timed to coincide with best of the famous rose season in the walled garden.
- Tuesday 20 August- visit to Great Dixter and Pashley Manor on the Kent/Sussex border. Two iconic but very different gardens that will be ablaze with colour in the height of summer.

All of the above will be coach trips and bookings will be taken approximately two months in advance. They are likely to be popular; why not earmark the date in your diary now if you'd like to come along! There will also be trips to local gardens throughout the spring, summer and autumn. The full programme will be available at the garden visits group early spring social on 27 February at the Chalfont St Peter Community centre.

Table Tennis - Eileen Powell & Pauline Borwick have taken over from Sue White as convenor for the Wednesday table tennis. Tuesday group is still full and Sue White will continue in her role as convenor. Wednesday group has a few vacancies.

Theatre Visits - The theatre group have enjoyed several outings over the summer. In July a local visit to Aylesbury to see The Jersey Boys followed by West End productions of Tina Turner, the Musical which was vibrant and exhilarating and by contrast a nostalgic evening to see the King and I. On the 3 October we saw

the final play in the Oscar Wilde season, The Importance of Being Ernest. We will round off our trips for 2018 to The Mill at Sonning to see Guys and Dolls. Please use the email link to put forward suggestions for future theatre visits. Just to make you aware that we are restricted to those theatres that will allow us to reserve tickets prior to payment. If you would like to join the theatre group please email theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org

Wine Appreciation Group 2 - We had our first meeting in September jointly with Wine Appreciation Group 1. A full meeting of 16 people and a tasting of Argentine wines. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month and the next meeting is on 17 October and we will be tasting Italian 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

NOTE TO 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.

GROUSE (we are in the middle of the grouse season although many shoots have been cancelled owing to the extreme conditions this summer). Seriously though, we do have a **plea from your Convenors** who do a brilliant job in coordinating the plethora of interest groups and they value the support of all their members. However from time to time there does exist a communication problem, namely the lack of replies to emails which do require feedback. For instance *'you haven't attended the group for some time – should I remove you from our list?'* Often lack of appearance at group functions is down to illness, extended holiday, family commitments etc. but it is extremely helpful to provide a reply. Thank you.

U3A HOLIDAY EXCHANGES

If you have a second home, or are interested in a "hospitality exchange" then check out an advertisement in the latest copy of Third Age Matters in the Holidays Worldwide section. A Swansea U3A couple have set up a new holiday website for U3A members, so if you have a second home you can exchange your property with other members gaining a free holiday to somewhere you might not otherwise think of. No money changes hands and the exchange needn't be simultaneous. They will also list properties for holiday rentals, and have an idea which might be nice for single people – hospitality exchanges, so that you stay with your holiday exchange partner. The website is <https://3rdAgeHolidays.com> and they are offering "Earlybird" membership of just £15 for the first year.

MEMBERSHIP

Lanyards and badge holders are back in stock and available at members' meetings for £1.

NEW RADIO STATION – CHILTERN VOICE

In the Chiltern's area we have a new radio station, Chiltern Voice which has been started by a Chiltern U3A member. There is a link to their website on the Chalfonts U3A website Noticeboard and also a link on the footer under the Radio and TV Networks on the left hand side of the footer bar.

THE NATIONAL U3A CONFERENCE

The National U3A Conference for 2018 took place at Nottingham University in August and a video of this has been posted on the website for members to view. Go to www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk and click on the Noticeboard. Nationwide there are now 1033 U3As with 400,000 members. Just under 500 U3As were represented at the Conference including Chalfonts U3A.

RIVIERA HOLIDAYS

We draw your attention to booking your holiday with Riviera Travel who will donate 10% of the total cost of your trip to YOUR U3A. Please mention the name of Chalfonts U3A when you book. We have already received welcome revenue from this scheme during the financial year.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Accessibility
Tricia Reeve

accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

David Burbidge	<u>chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Bob Borwick	<u>vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Smith	<u>secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Peter Brady	<u>treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Jan Sawyer	<u>venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Sue White	<u>speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Janice Buchanan	<u>newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>
Val Smith	<u>membershipsecretary@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>
Val Darbyshire	<u>beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk</u>

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

National Website: www.u3a.org.uk

Thames Valley Network Website: u3atvnetwork.org.uk