

Chalfonts U3A Newsletter No.42 ● September 2018

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

- 12 September** Tom Way *A wildlife photographer who is based in Buckinghamshire. Tom will be giving a talk entitled ' Wildlife on your doorstep'*
- 10 October** Malcolm Nelson *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.*
- 14 November** Ken Panchen *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.*

EXISTING GROUPS

Book Club 2 - We continue to enjoy a wide variety of books, and this often leads to a very interesting discussion as some people love a particular book, whilst others don't. We *Capital; The Past; Cold Mountain; Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine; The Gustav Sonata; The Gift of Rain*. Contact Alyson Klein on bookclub2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Bridge – Intermediate - The Intermediate Bridge group continues to thrive with some 40 regular players making up between 6 and 8 tables per twice-monthly session when there is spirited but friendly competition for much valued prizes awarded to the winning pairs. New members are always welcome – contact Geoff Glover on bridgeintermediate@chalfontsu3a.org.uk for more information.

Canal Boat Trips - It has been a lovely year for trips on the Grand Union Canal, either from Hillingdon or Kings Langley. We have had full boats for all our outings. The last one of the year is going from Harefield during the latter part of September. Members of the Canal Boat trip group will be notified very soon regarding the date, time etc. We will be starting again next May and will, of course, keep everyone notified. For more information about the group contact either Sue Patey or Sue Gillard on canalboattrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Discovering Art - John Bailie will be standing down as convenor of the Discovering Art group at the end of September for personal reasons. John will be available to work alongside a new convenor until 15th of October. Members interested in becoming a convenor of the group should contact John Bailie

Excursions - Ideas and requests for future excursions are always welcome. Please email: excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk or contact Tricia or Val direct.

Upton House and Gardens – Thursday 27 September 2018

This excursion is now full but if you are interested in putting your name on the waiting list please contact **Tricia Reeve**

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

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

Garden Visits - So far this year we have run four local visits and two day trips. We have been very lucky with the weather and have been able to appreciate a wide variety of gardens with many different characteristics. We raised over £300.00 for the Chiltern MS Centre, the charity supported by Sue Medlock (one of our members) whose beautiful garden we visited during the July heatwave. Most of our local visits have been attended by 20-25 members. We will be planning next year's programme over the autumn and hope to kick off with a social event at the Community Centre in February, complete with an expert speaker. For details contact Jane Barker on gardenvisits@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Lawn Bowls - The Lawn Bowls group went well during this summer with a few hot Tuesdays, but a good turn out. There are two more Tuesday plays before the end of the season. Notice of the new season will be given before the restart next May. For more information on the group contact either Pam Anderson or Michael Alderton on lawnbowls@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experiences Group - combined Orienteering with a Scavenger Hunt in Black Park in August. Most participants found most of the control points and the Scavenger Hunt items. Surprisingly a buttercup proved very elusive and only

one couple found one. There were also some very inventive finds for “Something beginning with V”. Congratulations to Mike and Pat Lawson for just pipping the rest to first place. Carolyn & Eileen had the best excuse ever for coming last – as they passed Pinewood they were asked to come in and be extras in a film, consequently they didn’t have time to complete the course! The group has some exciting events coming up – Windsurfing on October 5, a Murder Mystery Dinner on October 6 and Paintballing on October 23. More participants are needed for Windsurfing and Paintballing (with body armour to avoid bruises) so if you are interested in taking part, or in just joining the group, please contact Angela Cranston.

Philosophy Group - The next two meetings of the group will be at 2-00pm on Thursday 4 October and Thursday 1 November in the Misbourne Room at the Community Centre. The subjects for discussion will

be;- Thursday 4 October

Machiavelli based on his book *The Prince*

Thursday 1 November

Wittgenstein

There is an Oxford University Press publication *A Very Short Introduction to Wittgenstein* which could be used as a basis for our discussions in November. We can decide whether to use this at the October meeting. If you are interested in attending these meetings please contact David Burbidge or simply turn up on the day

Photography Group - On Thursday 27 September the group are going to the National Trust Claremont Landscape Garden on the Portsmouth Road, Esher, KT10 9JG which is just along the A3 (M25 - Jcn. 10, turning left towards London and it’s on the right hand side). To save taking too many cars we will meet at the CSP Community Centre at 1.10pm, leaving at 1.15pm to travel together to the garden. Our usual format is to enjoy a walk and take photographs around the garden, meet back at the National Trust cafe between 3.15pm-3.30pm for tea/coffee/cake etc. Return to CSP 4pm back at 4.45pm approx. Anyone not yet a member of the group can come along to see what we do, you’re very welcome to join us. Please send an email to photography@chalfontsu3a.org.uk to let the convenor know you’d like to attend the afternoon. (The group convenor will be coordinating the list of members attending for a member of the group to monitor.)

Note: National Trust members get in to the garden free; non-members pay an entrance fee.

Quizzing - John Bailie will be standing down as convenor of the Quizzing group at the end of September for personal reasons. John will be available to work alongside a new convenor until 15 of October. Members interested in becoming a convenor of the group should contact John Bailie on quizzers@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Science and Technology - August saw the group having a barbeque which took place on the ONLY rainy day until that point in the summer. Thanks to Tony and Imelda Micallef for hosting. We made this relevant to Science and Technology by having a quiz on the science of barbecuing! Thanks to April and David Morgan for the quiz. In

September we will be visiting Maple Lodge Water Treatment Works which looks to be a fascinating trip organised by Richard Simmons. Another visit in October to the Greatmore Incinerator will mean we will be well versed in how ALL our waste is managed! New members are welcome to this friendly and diverse group meeting usually on the second Thursday of the month at the Community Centre. Contact Cathy Williams on science@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Sunday Group - The Sunday group have experienced blazing heat at Knebworth House, enjoying the tastes and atmosphere of a food festival, with live music. The volunteers at the house provided fun stories about previous occupants’ lives – including one lady who locked the Lord into the stables for three days so that he couldn’t leave to join Bonnie Prince Charles’ army. Don’t worry, their marriage survived and they went on to have five children! Another Sunday found us at Savill Gardens using numerous 2-for-1 vouchers. In the rain we virtually had the place to ourselves! Unheard of in the summer! For more information regarding the group contact either Sue Fisher or Sally Lippiatt on sundaygroup@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Sunday Lunch Group - We held our first lunch last Sunday, at the Three Horseshoes in Seer Green. We had a very sociable time as well as enjoying nice food. If you would like to join the group for future lunches, please contact Sue Fisher groupcoordinator2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Table Tennis - Tuesday group is still full and Sue White will continue in her role as convenor. Wednesday group has a few vacancies. Pauline Borwick and Eileen Powell have agreed to take over from Sue as joint convenors.

NEW GROUPS

Greek Conversation – If interested in being part of such a group, please contact Bob Leven.

THANK YOU TO CONVENORS

Thank you to convenors who have submitted articles for the newsletter. We would be pleased to receive items for inclusion in all future newsletters. It is good to know what is going on with all groups.

THE NATIONAL U3A CONFERENCE

Representatives attended the National U3A Conference for 2018 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.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES BELOW:

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Accessibility	accessibilityofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Tricia Reeve	
David Burbidge	chairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Bob Borwick	vicechairman@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Val Smith	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
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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