



Welcome to the September 2022 edition of your newsletter. I really am enjoying being in contact with you all and hope you're recovering from the heatwave - and no, I didn't enjoy it!

This time of the year is probably feeling a little quiet for most of us; you may be on a well deserved holiday whilst the weather is still warm, be focussed on restoring the garden to its usual pristine gorgeousness, or just catching your breath now that the children have gone back to school.

The winter ahead looks at the moment to be challenging, to say the least, so relax and enjoy the peace, think about your u3a plans for the remainder of the year, and if you need inspiration don't forget to have look at our website <https://chalfontsu3a.org.uk> and there is also a copy of our national magazine **Third Age Matters** expected this month.

I'm sure that by next month we will all be recharged and ready to go once more.

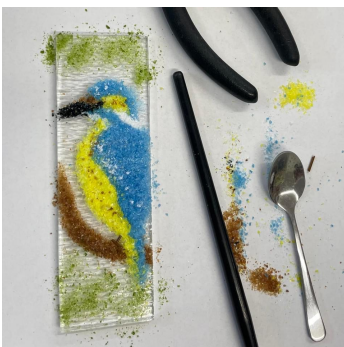
Best wishes

Val Darbyshire

Newsletter Editor

News from our Interest Groups

Textiles & Crafts Group



Members of the Textiles & Crafts Group spent an enjoyable afternoon on Thursday 18th August, decorating sun-catchers and coasters using coloured glass.

Photos were taken before firing.

The workshop was run by Marie Cavanagh of Fired Works based in Chalfont St Peter. Teri McAvoy, convenor textiles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Mixed Walking Cricket Group

We have had a great summer practising our skills at Gerrards Cross Cricket Club and in October we hope to continue indoors at Chalfonts Leisure Centre. I am in touch with Emma from Bucks cricket who is very happy to be involved once again with coaching. I will be offering a Taster Session for anyone who would like to give it a go so please contact me if interested in joining us. Once dates are available I will contact members. Eileen Powell, convenor Mixedwalkingcricket@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experience Group

The group had 2 outings in August. Firstly 20 of us had a lesson in how to play the fast growing sport of pickleball. It is played on a badminton court with hard bats and balls. Once we got the hang of it, it proved to be an exciting, fast-moving and exhausting game.



Secondly 25 of us went to meet some alpacas at Abbots View Farm. We walked the male alpacas and fed the female ones and discovered lots of interesting facts about them. They were gentle creatures with adorable faces and haircuts. The visit concluded with tea and cake in the barn. Angela Cranston, convenor newexperiences@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Photography Group

The group were due to meet in the Chalfont St. Peter Community Library this month but unfortunately we've had to postpone until October because the library is closing for a major refurbishment on the ground floor at the time we were due to meet up.



In August three of us managed to make our trip up to Oxford, which turned out to be an enjoyable afternoon and also productive. The pictures shown were taken from lots we took. They give a flavour of the Oxford Covered Market and other parts of the town, and one of the university quads.



In October we were planning a trip to High Wycombe but instead we've decided to hold our postponed library meeting so members can share the pictures they've taken in the last three or four months. (More on this next month.)

If you want to find out more about the group write to the convenor, Tony Darbyshire, at photography@chalfontsu3a.org.uk - New members are always welcome.

Mac OS Computing Group for Apple Mac Computer Users

This will be an interactive group and members are encouraged to bring their Apple Mac Laptops to the meeting if they wish. Unfortunately, we will not be covering Apple iPhones but we already have an Interest group for Apple iPads run by Phil McAvoy. If you are interested in joining, please email the convenor Gary Tomlin macoscomputing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Update from Lesley Bedford - Interest Groups Co-ordinator



There will be a **Coffee Morning** at the Greyhound Inn in Chalfont St Peter on Thursday 29 September at 10 am. All welcome just let me know in advance so we can ensure there are enough croissants groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk and Please bring £3.50 per person correct money ideally.

Also we have a potential new **Ballroom Dancing** group, for beginners, but we need more couples. If you are interested contact groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Project group - Planning for the future.

A reminder to email our Chair, Jane Barker - chair@chalfontsu3a.org.uk - if you are interested in being part of this short-term project group to explore priorities for future IT investments. We would really value your input as a member of our u3a.

Save these dates for our forthcoming Monthly Meetings

14 September at 2pm

Beacons of the Past - Investigating a prehistoric Chilterns Landscape

Wendy Morrison tells us of her project to discover in the Chilterns, one of the largest collections of hillforts in the UK, yet many are poorly preserved, and little is known about them.

12 October at 2pm

The Perils and Pleasures of a Blue Badge tourist guide

Amanda Bryett's team accompany around 6,000 visitors on private guided tours of Windsor, Windsor Castle and on evening private guided town walks. In this talk, Amanda describes some of her experiences whilst acting as guide.

9 November at 2pm

Age UK Buckinghamshire - its work within the community and services.

Sue Gehnich will present an overview of the big range of services that are provided by Age UK. Sue will also explore opportunities to volunteer your time to help in their worthy cause.

All Monthly Meetings are held in the Chalfont St Peter Community Centre, Gravel Hill, CSP, SL9 9QX <https://www.cspcc.org.uk> Tea and coffee are served after the meeting.

Details of how to participate via Zoom will be sent out to members in advance by Gary Tomlin, Webmaster.

New members' event

In my new role as Vice Chair I will be setting up in the autumn, a 'New members coffee morning' at a local venue. This will hopefully give new members an opportunity to meet each other in person and discuss any queries over a cuppa. Details will be emailed out nearer the time. Eileen Powell



Chalfont St Peter Garden Club Show

The talents of our u3a members were on show at the **Chalfont St Peter Garden Club Summer Show** with many of them winning prizes for their brilliant creations in textiles, photography and plant growing. Amongst the stars were **Jane Campbell, Kate Trotman, Teri McAvoy and Cathy Williams.**

Thames Valley Network

From time to time we send out details of events and activities organised by the Thames Valley Network of u3as, to which Chalfonts u3a belongs. Usually just known as TVN they organise study days to which you are all invited.

To get advance notice of these events go to <http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk> and ask to be put on their mailing list. They only mail out about events so you won't suffer an over-stuffed inbox - if only all mailing lists were like that!

Wanted – hobbyist / model maker

I've designed a small rack for my bike – but it's not a standard part, so will need to be a bespoke build. Probably built using quarter inch aluminium tubing with welded joints.

Is there anyone that can help me out please? Thanks.

Geoff Clegg - geoffclegg8@gmail.com

That's all for this month. I'd love to hear more about **your** interest groups' activities, and photos are always appreciated newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk