

Hello everyone ...



If you've been reading my musings for any time you will know I enjoy a special celebration so this month we have one that is pretty big by any account.

I know many of us can remember the last coronation and those memories are now returning to the forefront of our minds. This event won't be the same, nor should it we could argue, but I hope you are able to celebrate having a new king in whatever way you choose. Cake will definitely be involved at my house!

My thanks to those of you who contribute to the newsletter. It's always good to publish your reports and news, and be reminded of the broad range of interest groups we have on offer. Please keep sending them to me – my email, with all the others, can be found on the last page.

Best wishes,

Val Darbyshire, Newsletter Editor

Your Committee

We welcomed a new Committee member at our meeting in April. John Krushner will join us as a co-opted committee member and will be getting to know the ropes and taking part in various projects we are progressing. John is an active u3a member, belonging to the Mahjong, Current Affairs, London Walks, Excursions, Theatre and Wine Appreciation groups. Thank you for volunteering John!

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM)

A date for your diary! Our Annual General Meeting will take place on **WEDNESDAY 12th JULY** at 2pm, and be followed by tea and cakes, and our normal monthly meeting. This is your chance to hear how we are getting on as a u3a, meet committee members and take part in voting.

Your committee works hard on your behalf so please come and support us by attending the AGM.

New Members

A warm welcome to the following new, or rejoining, members: Frances Chidell, Jean Hughes, Brian Westwood, Mazella Moscrop, Susie Williams, Jackie Green, John Green, Helen Peschardt, Yolande Stanley, Keith Stanley, Marguerite Ciombor, Grahame Ciombor, Anita Carolan, Peter Denness, Sue Denness, Francoise De Angelis, Sandy Napolitan, Paul Berry, Christine Smith, Michael Roberts, Susan Ebbutt, Susan Graham, Paul Hirszowicz, Linda Morgan, Peter Ranwell, Anne Ranwell, Richard Campbell, Richard Crosbie, Nichola Capon, Roy Capon, Les Klein, Nicholas Thompson, Elizabeth Mills, Anne Shayler, Lynn Wall, Rita Mackrill, John Abbott, Katharine Wright and Maria Dickinson.

Please see the list of contacts on the back pages of this newsletter to contact anyone.

Monthly meeting dates for your diary:

10 May 2023 at 2pm - A History of Pinewood

Mike Payne talks to us about the past, present and future of one of Buckinghamshire's biggest assets. His talk brings some personal memories of the stars, and is told with a passion that stems from a lifetime of interest.

14 June 2023 at 2pm – Wildflowers in the Chilterns

Dr Brenda Harold has always been fascinated by plants. Studying plants at University, going on to become a lecturer, and became Deputy Head at Brunel University. Brenda lives locally, and so can speak with knowledge and experience on our local flora.

12 July 2023 at 2pm – How horses can educate us

Lynn Kirby will talk to us about her experiences of using horses as a way of aiding the development of education and relationships in children, their teachers, and parents. Her techniques continue to be effective in cases of social and learning difficulties.

All Monthly Meetings are held at CSP Community Centre, Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9QX

News from our Interest Groups

Public Speaking

Just a reminder that there is a potential public speaking group. If anyone is interested please contact Lesley Bedford, Group Co-ordinator

Coffee Morning

Our coffee morning once again was a success and another is planned on Thursday 18 May at the Greyhound Inn at 10 am. If you are interested please contact Lesley Bedford, Group Co-ordinator

Tai Chi groups



Saturday 29th April our Tai Chi groups celebrated World Tai Chi Day inviting any member interested to come along.

The event was very successful with interest from many members.



Short Mat Bowls

We meet on Friday afternoon from 2.00pm-4.00pm. We have 2 spaces available at the moment if anyone would like to give it a try. Please contact Sheila Woolgar, convenor.

Wine Appreciation Group One

Wine Appreciation Group One celebrated the Coronation by having a special dinner on 3rd May, instead of their usual format of tasting six different wines with "nibbles". Hopefully a photo of the event will appear in the next newsletter. Grace Hunter, convenor.

Mixed Walking Cricket Group



Earlier this month a group of us visited Lords Cricket Ground for a tour and really enjoyed hearing about the history. We had two very good guides who took us round the Museum where we saw "The Ashes", visited the changing rooms, and saw the view from the balcony where the coaches and players watch the game unfolding.

Next for us was the famous Long Room which all the players have to walk through on their way to the field passing the many members and then on to the Media Centre where on match day journalists and broadcasters from around the world commentate on the game - they have the perfect view!

Lords was very busy that day as the BBC were there filming in preparation for the Ashes Series coming up this summer, and many guided tours were taking place. No visit would be complete without food so we retired to The Lords Tavern for a well-earned lunch!



New members always welcome so please contact Eileen Powell, Convenor, cricketmixedwalking@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

French Intermediate Conversation Group

We still have 8 active members and continue to meet each week at The Café Madeira in Chalfont St Peter.

Always well attended, and very enjoyable light-hearted discussions in our "best" French. An excellent venue. Ray Luker, convenor.

Singing for Pleasure Group

We were delighted to be invited to Swarthmore Residential Care Home just before the Easter break. It was a lovely afternoon and the Manager, Ann Marie, brought residents from three other homes and as you may imagine, the place was packed.

Prior to that, we sang carols at The Hub's Widows of the Parish luncheon. Both concerts were a great success, and we are hoping to carry on the good work from now on. Brenda O'Gorman, convenor.

Excursions



With two outings to the Royal Hospital Chelsea - home of the Chelsea Pensioner –and the National Army Museum enjoyed in February and early May, our excursion planning continues.

We're off later in the month to the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard with "ultimate explorer" tickets to visit the newly refurbished Mary Rose Museum, HMS Victory, HMS Warrior, wander the dockyard with its museums and, subject to the weather, enjoy a harbour cruise. Still with a slightly nautical theme our trip in June is on a luxury cruiser along the Thames with lunch included and a visit to Henley. Throughout the rest of the year we shall be going to Stratford upon Avon, Chartwell & Quebec House, Boughton House and Estate in Kettering, and Hampton Court.

If you wish to join the excursions group and be notified nearer the trip date please email Val, Kate and Sheila on excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

New Experiences Group



The New Experiences Group have recently held very successful pottery and brush calligraphy workshops. Some wonderful creations were produced.



Coming up we have falconry, mudlarking, canal boating and coastering. Please contact Angela Cranston, convenor, if you would like to join the group.

Sharon Duncan has kindly agreed to help convene the New Experiences Group and will be organising some activities.

Creative Writing Group

The Creative Writing Group meets monthly having pre-circulated each contribution of approximately 500 words in length. Recent topics include 'The Secret', 'True Love', 'Fear' and 'The Charity Shop'.

At the meeting we comment on each contribution in a friendly, yet critical manner, with the intention of all improving our efforts.

We meet in each other's homes, but we are currently exploring alternative venues as our numbers grow. David Brodie, convenor.

Theatre Group

There have been two theatre trips this month - a delayed trip to Moulin Rouge on 4th April and the first of the Oklahoma trips on 18th April. Though these were very different shows the feedback was very positive.

The next trip is the second Oklahoma trip on 9th May which we both hope will be as enjoyable as the first outing.

Thank you all for your continued support and we are happy to take any requests of shows to see next year. Angela Windsor and Howard Dawson, convenors.

Riviera Travel Holidays

Riviera Holidays - Provider of holidays including cruises and signature tours. Unbeatable value for money & honest pricing, backed by price match guarantee. Which recommended.

Book with Riviera Travel, tell them that you belong to Chalfonts u3a and your u3a will receive a payment from Riviera which helps support our activities.

See advertisement in Third Age Matters magazine for details. www.rivieratravel.co.uk

Chalfonts U3A Directory of Interest Groups

For general enquires about interest groups please contact
Lesley Bedford – Interest Groups Coordinator - groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Telephone: 07970 848617

Or, if you know which group/s you wish to join please contact the convenor direct

INTEREST GROUP	CONVENOR	EMAIL
Badminton	Chris Pearcey	badminton@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Badminton 2	Chris Pearcey	badminton@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Ballroom Dancing	Carolyn Edwards	ballroomdancing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Birdwatching	Tony Micallef	birdwatching@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Book Club 1	Carol Lyons	bookclub1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Book Club 2	Marsha Partridge	bookclub2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Bridge for Beginners	Bob Borwick	bridgeforbeginners@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Bridge	Sue Fisher	bridge@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cake Decorating	Jane Douglas	cakedecorating@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Chess	Tony Micallef	chess@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Computing	Gary Tomlin	computing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Coffee Mornings	Chris Coteman	coffeemornings@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cribbage	David Burbidge	cribbage@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cricket- Mixed Walking	Eileen Powell	mixedwalkingcricket@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Creative Writing	David Brodie	creativewriting@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Crochet	Jeanette Galletly	crochet@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cryptic Crosswords	Bob Leven	crypticcrosswords@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cryptic Crosswords Too	Val Darbyshire	crypticcrosswordstoo@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Current Affairs	Val Hadfield	currentaffairs@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Cycling Longer Routes	Dave Duckworth	cyclinglongerroutes@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Excursions/Outings	Val Smith, Kate Trotman, Sheila Tarrant	excursions@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Family History	Jan Sawyer Marguerite Fletcher	familyhistory@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Family History2	Linda Kedge	familyhistory2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Intermediate 1	Sandy Oldham	frenchconversation1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Intermediate 2	Ray Luker	frenchconversation2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Intermediate 3	Pat Lawson	frenchintermediate3@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
French Conversation Advanced	Judy Cutter	frenchfluent@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Garden Visits	Jane Barker Jacqui Greenham	gardenvisits@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
German Conversation	Renate Danner	germanconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Guitar	Bob Borwick	
History	Trish Hart	history@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
iPad User Group	Phil McAvoy	ipad@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Italian Beginners	Awaiting a convenor	groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Italian Beginners Plus	Lesley Bedford	italianbeginnersplus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Italian Conversation Advanced	Awaiting change of convenor	italianadvconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Knitting	Marsha Partridge	knitting@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Lawn Bowls	Pam Anderson Mike Alderton	lawnbowls@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
London Walks	John Hardwick	londonwalks@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
MacOS Computing	Gary Tomlin	macoscomputing@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Mah-jong	Sam Patel	mahjong@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
New Experiences	Angela Cranston	newexperiences@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
New Members Coffee Mornings	Eileen Powell	newmemberscoffeemornings@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Old Time Musical Hall Singing	Bob Leven	musichallsinging@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Philosophy	Rob Robinson	philosophy@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Photography	Tony Darbyshire	photography@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Pickleball	Richard Cranston	pickleball@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Pilates all groups	Lesley Bedford	pilates@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Poetry & Literature	David Burbidge	poetry&literature@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Portuguese	Brian Wapshire	portuguese@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Quizzing	Margaret Turner	quizzers@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
RUG-Really Useful Group	Sharon Duncan	rug@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Rummikub	Georgina Cane	rummikub@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Scrabble	Anne Higson	scrabble@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Science & Technology	To be confirmed	science@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Short Mat Bowls	Sheila Woolgar	groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Singing for Pleasure	Brenda O'Gorman	singing4pleasure@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Conversation	Linda Walton	spanishconversation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Beginners 1	Ivor Spector	spanishbeginners1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Beginners 2	Peter Shaw	spanishbeginners2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Spanish Improvers 1	Margaret Burbidge	spanishimprovers1@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Sunday Group	Sue Fisher	sundaygroup@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis 1	Sue White	tabletennis@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis 2	Eileen Powell	tabletennis2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Table Tennis 3	Gio Pedalino	tabletennis3@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Tai Chi Beginners Tai Chi	Lesley Bedford Lyn Tatnell	taichi@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Textiles and Craft	Teri McAvoy	textiles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Theatre Visits	Howard Dawson Angela Windsor	theatretrips@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Ukulele	James O'Flynn	ukelele@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking 6 – 10 miles	Marion Clegg Sally Buckley	walking6-10miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking less than 6 miles	Nigel Trotman David Cooper	walking2-6miles@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Walking Strollers	Kate Trotman	strollers@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Weekend Group	Kathy Beattie	weekendgroup@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Wine Appreciation	Grace Hunter	wineappreciation@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Wine Appreciation 2	David Hillis	wineappreciation2@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Yoga	Geoff Clegg	yoga@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Yoga Friday pm	Helen Hall	yoga3@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A Committee

Chair	Jane Barker	chair@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Vice Chair	Eileen Powell	vicechair@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Chris Hardwick	secretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Treasurer/Finance	Chris White	treasurer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Finance Officer	Christine Hillis	financeofficer@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Beacon Administrator	Vince Barker	beaconadmin@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Interest Group Co-ordinator	Lesley Bedford	groupcoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Maureen Green	membershipsecretary@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Newsletter & Publicity	Val Darbyshire	newsletters@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Speaker	Geoff Clegg	speakercoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Venue Co-ordinator	Lesley Bedford	venuecoordinator@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Webmaster	Gary Tomlin	webmaster@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Co-opted member	John Krushner	projects@chalfontsu3a.org.uk

Chalfonts U3A general enquiries	contactus@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Chalfonts U3A suggestion box	suggestionbox@chalfontsu3a.org.uk
Chalfonts U3A website	www.chalfontsu3a.org.uk

U3A National website	www.u3a.org.uk
Thames Valley Network website	www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk