



# Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Newsletter April 2019



*Easter Greetings*

## New Members:

This month we welcome nine new members: *From Wallingford:* Dianne Blackwell, Graham and Joy Hodder, Di Johnson, and Kieran Moloney; *From Benson:* Jenny and Philip Grinham; *From Caversham:* Vivian Knott; and *From Crowmarsh Gifford:* Gaby Topliss.

## Message from our Chairman

We are back to a single month Newsletter for April. Since the New Year we have welcomed 21 new Members to out U3A and April is the month when all members are asked to renew their annual subscription (*see page 4*). Your Committee also has to make sure that we are prepared for the U3A Annual General Meeting in May.

Last month's talk by Julie Summers (*When the Children came home*) was very well received and if you don't normally come along you may be missing a treat! Why not join us at the Wallingford Baptist Church on the third Wednesday of every month to hear entertaining and knowledgeable speakers assembled by our Speaker Committee.

The Outings Committee have announced the 2019 U3A holiday trip (*see page 2*) and provided a preview of some of the enticing trips that Paul Booker's enterprising and hard-working Committee are planning for us.

Spring has sprung, although you would be forgiven for thinking that it had 'sprung' in February when we basked in an unexpected heatwave. The speaker meeting was on 20 March, the Spring Equinox and the first day of the astronomical spring. According to the Met office, however, spring starts on the first day of March. Take your pick, but either way, have a sparkling spring and an enjoyable Easter.

*Neil Kelly*

## Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Meetings

**U 3A COFFEE MORNINGS** take place on the **first Friday** of the month at Centre 70, Goldsmiths Lane, Wallingford, OX10 0DT, from 10.30 am until 12 noon, for U3A members (and prospective new members).

**Friday 5 April** (Helpers: Jill Hughes and Pam Johnstone)

**Friday 3 May** (Helpers: Joyce Kent and Sally Fehr)

**SPEAKER MEETINGS** take place on the **third Wednesday** in the month at **2.00pm in the Baptist Church, Thames Street, OX10 0BH.**

**Wednesday 17 April: Dr David Jones** will speak on *The most dangerous animals on earth*

Dr David Jones is a research biologist at the Natural History Museum in London and an external lecturer at Imperial College. In this talk, he explores the question 'Which animals kill the most humans?' Based on published research, he lists the top culprits, debunks some popular myths and reveals the scary truth behind the statistics. He then focuses on his favourite killers, the snakes.

**Wednesday 15 May: Thameside (Wallingford) the U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019** will be followed immediately by the Speaker Meeting.

**Tom Way** will give a presentation entitled **Photographing African Wildlife**

Tom Way is a professional fine art wildlife photographer based in the UK, whose work has been awarded in international competitions including European Wildlife Photographer of the Year and Sony World. His passion is Africa and he will show us some of his powerful and engaging images captured by his immense expertise combined with total commitment and extraordinary patience. A treat not to be missed.

## Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Outings Update

<b>Friday 12 April</b>	Outing to the <b>British Motor Museum</b> , Gaydon, Warwickshire, housing the World's largest collection of historic British cars with over 300 Classic cars on display.	<i>Places still available Details repeated in this Newsletter. Outing Leader Paul Booker</i>
<b>Tuesday 21 May</b>	<b>Cruising, Flying and Frying- All in One Day!</b> A two-hour cruise down Southampton water (with fish 'n chip lunch) followed by an afternoon visit to the Solent Sky Museum – famous vintage and modern planes.	<i>Details and booking form in this newsletter. Organiser: Mike Sedman</i>

Further information on Outings on page 2

## Outings update *cont.*

**Sunday 5 to Thursday 10 October 2019:** U3A annual holiday trip: **The History of Western Sicily and Palermo** Leaders Paul Booker and Sue Wright. Details have been sent, by email, to all 'online' members and details are included in this Newsletter. Highlights of the trip include the medieval town of Erice, the Norman Cathedral at Monreale, a tour of Palermo and a boat trip to the island of Mozia.

### Other forthcoming Outings

We are hoping to receive more bookings for the outing to **British Transport Museum** (also known as the **Gaydon Motor Museum**) on Friday **12th April 2019**. We have re-issued, by email, the information sheet and booking form and included it, again, in this Newsletter.

**28th June:** An outing to the **Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust** in Gloucestershire – details in the May Newsletter

**19th July:** A visit to the **Thames Barrier**

## Interest Groups News and Notices

*Please remember* that all requests to join an Interest Group or start a new one must be made through the Interest Group Coordinator, **Yvonne Griffiths** 01491-838214 email [groups@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:groups@wallingfordu3a.org)

### New Groups

**Moderate Walking 2:** Both the current **Moderate Walking Group** and the **Longer Walking Group** have reached capacity and are now *closed to new members*. Julia West has, however, kindly agreed to organise a second *Moderate Walking Group*. The Group will meet on the first Tuesday of each month and the first walk is Tuesday 2 April: 6.5 mile walk from Nuffield to Wallingford.

**History Groups:** History is always a popular subject and Yvonne will be holding a meeting at the next Coffee Morning (5 April) to try and get 4/5 new members to take this forward a proposal for a new Group **History 5** Meanwhile two spaces have come available in Mary Hill's Group, History 2. Further information from Yvonne.

### Other Group News

**Science 2:** We had hoped to establish a second **Science Group** but, despite the best effort of Janet Charleston and John Morgan (to whom we are grateful), this has folded through lack of interest/commitment. The waiting list for the Group has been re-opened. Please contact Yvonne to express interest.

**Euchre and Canasta:** These two Groups now have a **new meeting place** in the private back room of the *Dolphin Pub*, St Mary Street (pedestrian section), Wallingford. The larger venue means that the Group status is changed to *new members welcome*. (Please register through Yvonne Griffiths).

### NEW GROUP proposal:

**Egyptology** – It has been suggested that this may prove to be an interesting new group. Trudy Davis has kindly offered to take it forward if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Yvonne Griffiths (see above).

## Interest Groups Calendar of Meetings for April 2019

*Please remember* that all requests to join an Interest Group or start a new one must be made through the Interest Group Coordinator, **Yvonne Griffiths** 01491-838214 email [groups@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:groups@wallingfordu3a.org)

*Status column: "Full" no space at present; "Ask" and "NMW" New Members Welcome, contact Yvonne Griffiths (see above)*

Group	Meetings in April	Group Contact	Notes	Status
<i>Antiques 1</i>	Wednesday 10 April	Carole Johnson	Topic: <i>History of the Upholstered Chair</i>	Full
<i>Art/Painting</i>	Thursday 4 April	Angie Thorrrington	10.00am. at the Red Lion, Brightwell	NMW
<i>Badminton</i>	Each Monday	Hilly Bailey	Meets 2-4pm, Berinsfield Sports Centre	NMW
<i>Bird Watching 1</i>	Thursday 4 April	Rosemary Garner	Outing to Brandon Marsh	Ask
<i>Birdwatching 2</i>	Thursday 18 April	Pam Johnstone	Outing location to be confirmed	NMW
<i>Book Group 1</i>	Tuesday 9 April	Sue Taylor	<i>The Stars are Fire</i> by Anita Shreve	Full
<i>Book Group 2</i>	Thursday 25 April	Di Young	<i>Raking the Ashes</i> by Anne Fine	Full
<i>Book Group 3</i>	Wednesday 10 April	Sheila Findlay	<i>The Dry</i> by Jane Harper	Full
<i>Book Group 4</i>	Thursday 11 April	Dee Clarke	Meets on the second Thursday month	Ask
<i>Book Group 5</i>	Thursday 25 April	Sue English	<i>Old Baggage</i> by Lissa Evans	NMW
<i>Bridge Group 1</i>	Thursday 11 and 25 April	Sheila Findlay	Group meets on second and fourth Thursdays	Full
<i>Canasta</i>	Tuesday 9 April	Hilly Bailey	Meets on the second Tuesday at 2.00pm.in the Dolphin Pub, back room.	NMW

<b>Group</b>	<b>Meetings in April</b>	<b>Group Contact</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Computer Group: Mac Users 1</b>	Tuesday 2 April	Ann Truesdale	First Tuesday 11.00am at Ann Truesdale's.	Full
<b>Computer Group: Mac Users 2</b>	Monday 1 April	Peter Mason	Spring Clean your hard drive; email distribution groups; Security; more Tips and Tricks	NMW
<b>Craft</b>	Monday 1 April	Angie Thorrington	Centre 70, at <b>2.30pm</b> ( <i>Summer schedule</i> ): More card-making ideas	NMW
<b>Cribbage</b>	Monday 8 April	Joyce Kent	Second and fourth Monday at 10.30am	Ask
<b>Current Affairs 1</b>	Thursday 4 April	Trudy Davies	First Thursday, 2.30pm at Trudy's	Full
<b>Current Affairs 2</b>	Monday 1 April	Val Mowlam	First Monday, 2.00pm at Val Mowlam's.	Full
<b>Current Affairs 3</b>	Tuesday 9 April	Jane Milne	Second Tuesday of the month, at 2pm	NMW
<b>Digital Photography 2</b>	Wednesday 10 April	Sylvia Harrison	Meets on the Second Wednesday (pm0)	Full
<b>Digital Photography 3</b>	Wednesday 10 April	Malcolm Brooks	Topic for photos: <i>Winter scene</i>	Full
<b>Euchre</b>	Tuesday 23 April	Hilly Bailey	Fourth Tuesday at 2.00pm. in the Dolphin Pub, back room	NMW
<b>French Conversation 1</b>	Thursday 11 April	Janet Franklin	11.00am at Wendy Muggeridge's house	Full
<b>French Conversation 2</b>	Tuesday 16 April	Susan Renn	Meetings 2.30pm on the third Tuesday	Full
<b>Genealogy 1</b>	Monday 15 April	Linda Matthews	<i>Challenge on Death Records</i>	Full
<b>Genealogy 2</b>	Tuesday 9 April	Mary Cozens	Meets on the second Tuesday at 10.30am	Full
<b>History 1</b>	Wednesday 3 April	Ted Nelson	Topic: <i>Bloody Mary</i> speaker Ron Hewstone, Venue Woodlands.	Full
<b>History 2</b>	Thursday 18 April	Mary Hill	Topic: <i>Art and Religion</i>	Full
<b>History 3</b>	Wednesday 10 April	Colin Clarke	Wantage Walking Tour	Full
<b>History 4</b>	Monday 29 April	Jenny Potter	Topic: <i>The Norman Invasion</i>	Full
<b>Latin for Pleasure</b>	Wednesday 24 April	Roger Morgan	Third Wednesday 10.00am	NMW
<b>Lunch Club</b>	Wednesday 3 April	Rosemary Hines	Convivial group lunch	Full
<b>Lunch: Sunday Lunch</b>	Sunday 28th April	Paul Booker	Venue to be advised to members	NMW
<b>Music (Broader)</b>	Tuesday 2 April	Val Wolsey	Meeting at Val Wolsey's: <i>This and that</i>	Full
<b>Music Classical 1</b>	Tuesday 23 April	Mike Sedman	At Milli's house, at 2pm for a programme of keyboard music	NMW
<b>Music Classical 2</b>	Monday 8 April	John Cozens	Second Mondays at 2.00pm	Full
<b>Pétanque</b>	Each Tuesday	Loren Butt	Pétanque Wallingford club Wallingford Sports Park, 10.00am. Small fee applies	NMW
<b>Play Reading</b>	Wednesday 3 April	Philippa Davies	First Wednesday, 9.30am, at the Corn Exchange Wallingford	Ask
<b>Poetry Reading</b>	Wednesday 10 April	Jill Cooney	Second Wednesday, am	Full
<b>Science</b>	Tuesday 16 April	Philippa Cullen	Meets on the third Tuesday (am)	NMW
<b>Seminar</b>	Monday 29 April	Gloria Hamilton-Peach	<i>Three Important Numbers. i, e and pi'</i>	NMW
<b>Singing for Fun</b>	Friday 5 April ( <i>break for Easter</i> )	Jan Menzies	2.00-3.00pm at the Baptist Church, Thames Street, with space for everyone	NMW
<b>Spanish (Improvers)</b>	Wednesdays 3 and 17 April	Frances Willoughby	Two meetings each month– First and third Wednesdays	Ask
<b>Writing for Pleasure</b>	Monday 8 April	Carolyn Newbert	Up to 800 words on <i>Sinking</i> or <i>The Emergency Exit</i> .	Full
<b>Writing: Life History Writing Group</b>	Thursday 11 April	Margaret Pritchard	Forum for non-fiction life history stories about members or their families	Full

### Walking Groups:

<b>Shorter Walking</b>	Wednesday 3 April	<i>Organiser:</i> Paul Booker	Gentle walk of 3-5 miles near within easy reach of Wallingford (bus or on foot) Details by email: <b>Registration through Yvonne Griffiths</b> (NMW)
<b>Moderate 1</b>	Wednesday 10 April	<i>Organiser:</i> Julia West	Walk of about 7-8 miles; (CLOSED to new members)
<b>Moderate 2</b>	Tuesday 2 April	<i>Organiser:</i> Julia West	NEW GROUP Walk of about 7-8 miles (NMW)
<b>Longer</b>	Wednesday 24 April	<i>Organiser:</i> Julia West	Walk of about 8-10 miles; (CLOSED to new members) Details by email: <b>Registration through Yvonne Griffiths</b>
<b>Rambling</b>	Thursday 18 April	Phil Richardson	Circular walk of about 5-6 miles followed by lunch Details by email: <b>Registration through Yvonne Griffiths</b> . Ask about space for new members

## Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Notices

**Linda Wild:** We are sad to report the death, in early February, of U3A member Linda Wild. Linda was a member of the Cribbage Group and the U3A Luncheon Club. Our sympathy goes to her husband, Ron and family.

**Graham Hanstock:** We have also been informed that Graham Hanstock passed away on 4 February after a short illness. Graham was a member of the Broader Music group and will be missed by colleagues.

**Stewart Rae** may be remembered by our members who have been part of Thameside (Wallingford) U3A since the very early days. We have heard of the death of Stewart, who was no longer a member, but was one of the first Chairmen of our U3A who served at the turn of the century.

### Wallingford (Thameside) U3A EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

was held on Wednesday, 20 February 2019, at 2.00 pm at the Baptist Church Wallingford.

The Register of Attendees showed 84 signed up members in attendance.

**Objective:** To approve and appoint a new **Inspector of Accounts for Wallingford (Thameside) U3A** for 2018/2019.

**Mr Tony Fletcher** had put his name forward for consideration. Tony Fletcher is the Treasurer for two other groups: Henley Theatre group (300+ members) and the Arts Appreciation group (200+ members).

Hilly Bailey proposed Mr Fletcher and Milli Eaton was the seconder and **Tony Fletcher was unanimously appointed.**

Brian Sanders, who had resigned from the position of Inspector of Accounts after many years, was thanked for all his past his work for our U3A

**New Member Enquiries;** If friends or contacts ask you about becoming a member of our U3A please direct them to our Membership Secretary, **Anna Gordon**, via the link on the 'Contacts' page of the website: [membership@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:membership@wallingfordu3a.org)

**Membership Information:** If your personal information changes (e.g., email address, phone number, address etc.) *please remember* to inform **Malcolm Brooks**, U3A Database Administrator, [projects@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:projects@wallingfordu3a.org)

*Members without email can leave a note at a Coffee Morning or Speakers' meeting*

### Membership Renewal

Renewal of your Thameside (Wallingford) U3A membership is due at the beginning of April. Renewal forms will be sent out during the first week of April 2019. These will be sent to 'on-line' to members with email and by post to those without. The forms give full details on how to update your personal information, if this has changed, and the options for paying, including details for electronic transfer of your subscription fee (£12.50).

Please look out for renewal notices, and check your emails **from 1 April 2019**.

### THIRD AGE TRUST

**The Third Age Trust** is the national representative body for U3As in the UK. Information on its activities can be found at [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk) Contact for members without internet access is **Yvonne Griffiths** (01491-838214).

### THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

The members of the U3A Thames Valley Network are thirty eight U3A organisations within the designated area. The Thameside (Wallingford) U3A representative is Committee Member, **Paul Booker**.

### Forthcoming TVN Study Days

These are announced on the TVN website [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk) and information is sent by email to 'on-line' members and posted on the U3A notice board (Coffee mornings and Speaker meetings) *Please book promptly* as these Study Days often fill up quickly!

**Thursday 4 April: Polar Exploration** - Part 2 of the 2018 meeting, at Benson. Details have been sent to members by email

**Tuesday 30 April: Re-run of Medicine & Art** (previously 1 November 2018) at Benson. The application form has been published and sent to our members by email.

**Tuesday 28 May: Events Day History on Film**, at the Yolande Paterson Theatre, St Helen's & St Kath's School, Abingdon, OX14 1BE. This will examine the value of four films as works of history. Details sent to our members by email

**Next Newsletter: May 2019**

Editor: Margaret Cone: [newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org).

Closing date for contributions 24 April 2019