

• CHAIRMAN'S NOTES •

This month we welcome five new members:

Lesley and Eric Dore (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell)  
Simon Jenkins (Shillingford)  
Andy Morrish, Anne Freeman, Janet Barrett, and  
Prue Porter (Wallingford).

Your Newsletter this month gives a preview of our U3A's seasonal events.

The booking form link for the Annual U3A Celebration Lunch in January 2020 is now available on the Newsletter email, on our website, and at the Coffee mornings & Speaker Meetings. It is again at the Badgemore Golf Club, near Henley.

We are also delighted that the arrangements are once again in the very capable hands of Valerie Roddan, however Valerie is

standing down after many years of organising this. Jane Milne is taking over from 2021 (does that sound many years away to you – it does me?) Jane will be shadowing Val on this occasion. Anyone who has been involved in organising a meal for a large group will know how much hard work is involved. Thank you, Valerie, for what you have done and thanks to Jane for enabling it to continue.

The Outings Committee were quick off the mark this year in organising, in conjunction with the TVN, the Christmas Concert. This concert on 3<sup>rd</sup> December is by the Brandenburg singers.

Also shown below is the special Christmas presentation, arranged by the Speaker Meeting Committee, for the **SECOND** Wednesday in December with the awesome mind reading skills of Mark Cairns. *Malcolm*

• Editorial •

Welcome to the November Newsletter – I hope it brings you glorious autumn colours that we did not get last month!

Some great photos this month from our snappers.

Do check the Outings and Groups sections on pages 3-4 for latest information and availability.

If you prefer the gentle rustle of the printed page and your printer is being awkward or has run out of ink/paper then do drop by the coffee morning and pick up a hot-off-the-press version.

If you are inspired to contribute group activities or outings then send photos (fullsize) or text (max 100 words) to Sarah Boyt Robinson

[newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org)

COFFEE MORNINGS

First Friday each month

For members and prospective new members  
from 10:30 am till 12 noon

at Centre 70 Kincroft off Goldsmiths Lane  
Wallingford OX10 0DT

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Helpers: Sally Fehr, Milli Eaton

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Helpers: Pam Johnstone, Pat Hayton



ORGANISERS' SOCIAL EVENING



in Wallingford  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November  
7 pm till 9 pm

This is a Thank You social for all those of you who month by month organise groups, outings, speakers, coffee-rotas, refreshments, and contribute so much to the smooth running of our many and diverse activities.

You will have received an RSVP email in October. If you are coming you will soon receive an email confirming the venue.

Queries to Yvonne Griffiths  
[groups@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:groups@wallingfordu3a.org)

NEW MEMBERS TEA-PARTY



Tea for Two? Actually it was tea for twenty on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> of October when new members joined the Committee over a cuppa and a slice of delicious cake to learn more about how our U3A operates. It provides an opportunity for newbies to hear how we arrange outings, organise speaker meetings, co-ordinate our interest groups and some information on our finances.

Questions were welcomed and it was a great opportunity to meet and chat with folk who are keen to find out what our U3A can offer them, or indeed if they would like to get involved behind the scenes.

ANNUAL  
CELEBRATION LUNCH



Badgemore Golf Club  
Henley-on-Thames  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
12:30 for 1:00 pm

Come and celebrate our U3A!  
Booking form is a link on the Newsletter email, is on our website, and printed copies are at the Coffee Mornings and Speaker Meetings.

Organiser: Valerie Roddan  
01491 825268

• SPEAKER MEETINGS •

Third Wednesday each month but second Wednesday in December  
at the Baptist Church Thames Street Wallingford OX10 0BH

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2:00 pm

Robert Van de Noort

What archaeology can tell us about adapting to changing climates

Robert Van de Noort is currently Vice-Chancellor at Reading University. However, his first love and academic discipline is archaeology.

In this fascinating talk he will tell us about what we can learn from actual archaeological studies of different settlements that have suffered climate change in the past and how they adapted to changing conditions.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 pm

Mark Cairns

A little Christmas Magic – but not as you know it!

If magic for you means conjuring rabbits from hats, then think again. Mark Cairns is definitely not that sort of magician. Mark is returning to us this year, pretty much by popular demand after he stunned us with his amazing mind reading skills.

Mark is an international performer and we are fortunate to secure his return.

A Christmas treat not to be missed.

## OUTINGS

Links to **Tate Modern & Tate Britain** and **Christmas Carol Concert** booking forms are on your November Newsletter email and on our website (see p4)  
You can also pick up booking forms at Coffee mornings or Speaker meetings.

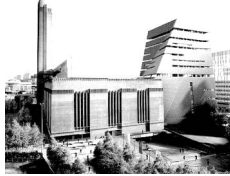
### **TATE** Modern & Britain

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

We will travel by coach to London and visit Tate Modern first. Tate Modern was opened in 2000 and is housed in the old Bankside Power Station. Their permanent collection features, among others, Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, and Barbara Hepworth. We will have the opportunity to enjoy temporary exhibitions by William Blake and Mark Leckey (at an additional charge). We shall receive a short guided tour.

Then we take the boat to Tate Britain, where there will be a further guided visit. Tate Britain is the home of British art from 1500 to the present day. It holds the largest collection of British art in the world and includes masterpieces by J M W Turner, John Constable and John Everett Millais, as well as contemporary work by Francis Bacon, Lucian Freud, and David Hockney among others.

Organiser: **Richard Wooldridge**  
**01491 834786** [outings@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:outings@wallingfordu3a.org)



### Tutankhamun Exhibition

**in LONDON**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

This Exhibition features Tutankhamun's major treasures meticulously recreated, wherever possible, in their original materials. The ante-chamber and burial chamber of Tutankhamun's tomb have been accurately recreated - all the tomb furniture and treasures make it possible for you to experience the wonder of discovery and enter the tomb just as Howard Carter did when he discovered it in 1922.

This is the first exhibition outside Egypt to feature an exact anatomical recreation of Tutankhamun's mummy which involved over two years of research and experimentation to recreate, following x-rays and measurements.

The many wonderful treasures featured include The Golden Mask of Tutankhamun, The Golden Throne of Tutankhamun, Tutankhamun's mummy, The Golden figure of Tutankhamun the Harpooner. A selection of Tutankhamun's jewels is also displayed.



Booking forms for this outing will be released next month.

**ERRATA: The venue was given as Dorchester but it is actually London.**

### Christmas Concert in London

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

Yes, your Christmas celebrations start here!

Our concert, including popular carols, Christmas music, audience participation and seasonal readings, will send you home singing.

Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the interval and there will be an address on an item of interest.

The Brandenburg Singers are a rich and experienced group of musicians, drawn from choral societies, gospel choirs, acappella ensembles and chamber singers. St James's Church has one of the finest organs in any parish church.

Organiser: **Paul Booker**  
**01491 825864** [outings@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:outings@wallingfordu3a.org)

Welcome back to the Sicily trip travellers - see p4 for a couple of preliminary photos



Lindisfarne by Linda Booth A hint of a future Trip?

## INTEREST GROUPS

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

### Groups looking for new members

We have 55 groups of which there are 33 with spaces:

**\*blue stars \*** = ask Yvonne Griffiths if you want to join.

**Writing Life History 1&2:** Both groups have availability. Members are recording stories related to genealogy research or more often to their own memories of the lives of their parents, grandparents and other relatives as well as their own childhood, sometimes illustrated with old photos. Come and join us.

**History 5:** Ray Verral has taken over from Mary Harrison as Group Coordinator. Our thanks to her for getting this group up and running this year. Our subject to date has been The Movement of People and topics have included The Vikings, Settlement in Australia, and Women in India 1600 to 1900.

**Computer iPad Users:** New members are welcome to these two new groups. Bring along your own iPad together with a question or two which you would like to solve. Usually someone around the table will either have the answer or know how to find it.

**Sunday Lunch:** Ken Gough has taken over the role of Coordinator from Paul Booker. Many thanks Paul for your work and welcome to Ken. More diners welcome, come dine in good company.

### New and Proposed Groups

**Smart Apps: New group** Last month was plotting a walk with OSMapp Finder and taking a bus or train with dynamic timetables. Members shared their experience. The group is Full at the moment.



**Garden Visits: Proposed Group** Mary Roadnight has mentioned the possibility of a group for Garden Visits. She opens her garden for NGS (National Gardens Scheme) from time to time. Such a group could use the NGS booklet to organise visits during the summer months. Contact **Yvonne Griffiths** (see above)

### Group waiting lists

If you are particularly interested in a group that is Full, you can let **Yvonne Griffiths** (see above) know that you would like to be put on the waiting list for that group.

On the other hand, if you are already on a waiting list and have changed your mind, please can you let Yvonne know.

# INTEREST GROUPS NOVEMBER CALENDAR

★ = Available spaces = ask [Yvonne Griffiths](#) (as above)

Antiques	Wed 13	10.30 am Vintage Costume talk by Carole Johnson at Valerie Roddan's	second Wed	Full	Carole Johnson
★ Art/Painting	Thur 7	at 10:00 am at The Red Lion, Brightwell	first Thur	★	Angie Thorrington
★ Badminton	Each Mon	2 till 4 pm Berinsfield Sports Centre £3.50 fee	each Mon	★	Hilly Bailey
Birdwatching 1	Thur 7	Otmoor, Starling Murmuration late afternoon/evening	first Thur	Full	Rosemary Garner
★ Birdwatching 2	Thur 21	at 10:00 am Outing to Stanton Harcourt lake	third Thur	★	Pam Johnstone
Book Group 1	Tue 12	The Witchfinder's Sister by Beth Underdown at Ann's	second Tue	Full	Sue Taylor
★ Book Group 2	Thur 28	Beloved by Toni Morrison at Milli Eaton's	fourth Thur	★	Di Young
Book Group 3	Wed 13	Home Fire by Kamilla Shamsie 2:30pm at Sheila's	second Wed	Full	Sheila Findlay
★ Book Group 4	Thur 14	The Carer by Deborah Moggach	second Thur	★	Dee Clarke
★ Book Group 5	Thur 21	A Spark of Light by Jodi Picoult at Maureen's	usually fourth Thur	★	Sue English
★ Cards - Bridge 1	Thur 14 & Thur 28	2:30 pm at Sheila's	second & fourth Thursdays	★	Sheila Findlay
★ Cards - Canasta	Tue 26	2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room	fourth Tue	★	Hilly Bailey
★ Cards - Cribbage	Mon 11 & Mon 25	10:30 am	second & fourth Mondays	★	Joyce Kent
★ Cards - Euchre	Tue 12	at 2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room	second Tue	★	Hilly Bailey
★ Computer: iPad Users 1	Wed 27	NEW group Advice and tips at Sheila's	fourth Wed	★	Sheila Findlay
★ Computer: iPad Users 2	Wed 6	NEW group Advice and tips at Joyce's house	first Wed	★	Joyce Kent
Computer: Mac Users 1	Tue 5	at 11:00 am	first Tues	Full	Ann Truesdale
★ Craft	Mon 4	at 2:00 till 4:00 pm at Centre 70, winter schedule	first Mon	★	Angie Thorrington
Current Affairs 1	Thur 7	at 2:30 pm	first Thur	Full	Trudy Davies
Current Affairs 2	Mon 4	at 2:00 pm	first Mon	Full	Val Mowlam
Digital Photography 2	Tue 14	2:30 pm Topic is Animals at Sylvia's house	second Tue	Full	Sylvia Harrison
Digital Photography 3	Wed 13	Topic is Unusual shapes	second Wed	Full	Malcolm Brooks
French Conversation 1	Thur 14	at 10 am at Veronica's house	second Thur	Full	Janet Franklin
★ French Conversation 2	Mon 4 & Tue 19		first Monday & third Tuesday	★	Susan Renn
Genealogy 1	Mon 18	at 10:30 am subject: A Timeline	third Mon	Full	Linda Matthews
Genealogy 2	Tue 12	at 10:30 am	second Tues	Full	Mary Cozens
History 1	Wed 6	R.A.F by John Roddan at Woodlands	first Wed	Full	Ted Nelson
★ History 2	Thu 21	History of Christian Music	third Thur	★	Mary Hill
History 3	Wed 13	Basildon Park	second Wed	Full	Colin Clarke
History 4	Mon 11	The Highland Clearances	second Mon	Full	Jenny Potter
★ History 5	Wed 27	.	fourth Wed	★	Ray Verral
★ Latin for Pleasure	Wed 20	.	third Wed	★	Roger Morgan
★ Lunch Club	Wed 6	at lunchtime	first Wed	★	Rosemary & Tony Hines
★ Lunch on Sunday	a Sunday	Various venues, new coordinator	Sundays	★	Ken Gough
★ Music - (Broader)	Tue 5	Miscellaneous music at Olive's house, Borough Ave	first Tue	★	Val Wolsey
★ Music - Classical 1	Tue 26	at 2:00 pm Chamber Music at Philippa's	fourth Tue	★	Mike Sedman
Music - Classical 2	Mon 11	at 2:30 pm	second Mon	Full	John Cozens
★ Pétanque	Each Tue	at 10:00 am Wallingford Sports Park, small fee applies	each Tue	★	Loren Butt
★ Play Reading	Wed 6	at 9:30 am Corn Exchange Wallingford	first Wed	★	Philippa Davies
Poetry Reading	Wed 13	at 10:30 am at Jill's house	second Wed	Full	Jill Cooney
★ Science	Tue 19	Morning	third Tues	★	Philippa Cullen
★ Scrabble 1	Mon 25	at 2:00 pm ...click of the tiles... .	fourth Mon	★	Sarah Masters
★ Scrabble 2	Thur 14	at 2:30 pm ...more click of the tiles...	second Thurs	★	Vee Hadley
★ Seminar	Mon 25	.	fourth Mon	★	Gloria Hamilton-Peach
★ Singing for Fun	Fri 8 & Fri 22	Fortnightly 2 till 3 pm at the Baptist Church in Thames St		★	Jan Menzies
Smart Apps	Wed 27	2:30 pm Photocopying Apps & logging freezer contents	fourth Wed	Full	Jan Menzies
★ Spanish Improvers	Wed 6 & Wed 20		first & third Wednesday mornings	★	Frances Willoughby
Writing for Pleasure	Mon 12	Writing exercise as agreed and circulated by email	second Mon	Full	Carolyn Newbert
★ Writing Life History 1	Thur 14	10:30 am Life history stories of members or their families	second Thur	★	Margaret Pritchard
★ Writing Life History 2	Thur 28	10:30 am Life history stories of members or their families	fourth Thur	★	Margaret Pritchard

# Walking in NOVEMBER

\* = Available spaces = ask [Yvonne Griffiths](#) (as above)

* Shorter Walking	Wed 6	3-5 miles	Gentle, easy reach of Wallingford by bus or on foot	first Wed	*	Paul Booker
Rambling	Thur 21	5-6 miles	Circular walk followed by lunch (Dec will be 12 <sup>th</sup> not 19 <sup>th</sup> )	third Thur	Full	Phil Richardson
Moderate 1	Wed 13	6-7 miles		second Wed	Full	Julia West
* Moderate 2	Tue 5	6-7 miles		first Tue	*	Julia West
Longer Walking	Wed 27	8-10 miles		fourth Wed	Full	Julia West



Lotus Flower by Di Benson

Photo group 2



Sicily travellers get off to an early morning start...

Credit: SGR

## THAMES VALLEY NETWORK (TVN) REPORT

The TVN are working on an exciting programme of events for the coming year 2020. This is shown on their website

[www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk)

A hugely successful ukelele day was on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct, which hopefully will be repeated.

Coming up for 2019 are Britain's Ancient Past (full) and the Christmas Concert on 3<sup>rd</sup> December organised by our own maestro Paul Booker, there are a few places still available.

If things go well sometimes events are repeated so keep an eye out if there's something you missed, but get in quick!



Sicily travellers dine well...

Credit: Pam Paddock

## COMMITTEE 2019-20

Malcolm Brooks - Chairman

Ken Johnstone - Deputy Chairman & Communications

Hilly Bailey - Treasurer

Yvonne Griffiths - Secretary & Groups Co-ordinator

Anna Gordon - Membership Secretary

Paul Booker - Outings Co-ordinator & Thames Valley Network Rep

Jane Milne - Minutes Secretary

Neil Kelly - Committee Member

Sarah Boyt Robinson - Newsletter

## NEW MEMBER ENQUIRIES

If someone asks you about becoming a member, bring them to a Coffee Morning or direct them to Anna Gordon

[membership@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:membership@wallingfordu3a.org)

## Next Newsletter

Closing date for December contributions is **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

The Newsletter can be viewed on our website [www.wallingfordu3a.org](http://www.wallingfordu3a.org)

## U3A 2020 DIARIES

We aren't ordering diaries this year but they can be ordered online at [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)



Malcolm Brooks  
[chairman@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:chairman@wallingfordu3a.org)

Yvonne Griffiths  
[groups@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:groups@wallingfordu3a.org)

Sarah Boyt Robinson  
[newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org](mailto:newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org)



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)

### U3A THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A is one of thirty-eight U3As within the Thames Valley Network. Our representative is Committee Member Paul Booker.

### FORTHCOMING STUDY DAYS

These, including the 2020 events, are announced on the Thames Valley Network website [www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk) Information is also emailed to members and displayed at our Coffee Mornings and Speaker Meetings. Please book quickly as these Study Days often fill up quickly. Look on Thames Valley Network website for flyers and application forms.

21<sup>st</sup> Nov Britain's Ancient Past at Benson - fully booked

26<sup>th</sup> Nov Thames Valley Network Day at Benson

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec Christmas Concert - St James's Church, Paddington