



• **CHAIRMAN'S NOTES** •

This month we welcome eleven new members:  
Maisie Appleton *Brightwell-cum-Sotwell*,  
Garth Curtis *Crowmarsh Gifford*,  
Maureen Fitzgerald *Dorchester-on-Thames*,  
Carol Chaplin *Henley-on-Thames*,  
Lesley Higgs *Moulsoford*, Richard Glover *Newington*.  
*From Wallingford*, Alison Blyth, C. Franklin,  
Ian Rayner, Kate Rayner, and Diane Nelson.

This time last year the holiday to Bucharest and legendary Transylvania had happened. Now those going to Sicily are

preparing for their trip, and no doubt hoping that the weather will be as fine as it is here as I type this.

We had an excellent speaker meeting when Captain Kamran Irani told us all about delivering emergency medical supplies and showed off his magic motorbike. There is much more to what they do than might be inferred. Emergency milk anyone?

October's meeting is all about wine and its effect on people, illustrated by paintings and cartoons.

There are plenty of outings to look forward to so don't forget to look at what's coming below.

**COFFEE MORNINGS** — 

**First Friday each month**

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

at Centre 70 Kinecroft off Goldsmiths Lane  
Wallingford OX10 0DT

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

Helpers: Hilary Taylor, Jenny Potter

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Helpers: Pam Johnstone, Pat Hayton

• **Editorial** •

Welcome to the October Newsletter – I hope it brings you glorious autumn colours!

Some great photos this month from our Digital Photography groups - keep snapping!

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)

**NEW MEMBERS TEA-PARTY**



**Centre 70 Wallingford**  
**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 3 pm**

This is for new members who have joined over the past several months. It is a chance to get to know each other and meet your Committee and hear what we do and about the structure of U3A nationally and internationally.

You will receive an RSVP invitation by email.

**Captain Kamran Irani** gave a fascinating talk in Sept about his head role in SERV OBN Emergency Riders. These intrepid volunteers provide a rapid response transport service to the NHS, carrying urgently needed medical items out of hours, saving lives as well as NHS resources. Here he is leaving us on his top of the range Emergency motorbike! His jacket and bike bear the tags BLOOD and the bike is called 'Grace'

We raised £301.80, that's £100 fee plus £201.80 on the day.

If you feel inspired to donate more to the charity you will find a donation site here: [www.serv-obn.org.uk](http://www.serv-obn.org.uk)



Photo credit: SER

**ORGANISERS SOCIAL EVENING**



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

This is a thank you social for the all those 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 receive an RSVP invitation by email.

• **SPEAKER MEETINGS** •

Third Wednesday each month at the Baptist Church Thames Street Wallingford OX10 0BH

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2:00 pm**

The scheduled talk by John Ericson (Art inspired by wine) has had to be cancelled at short notice. However, it's been replaced and we present to you...

**Ian Keable**

**A Century of Hoax and Deception**

Ian has given us several talks (last year was The Secret World of Charles Dickens), and he returns to entertain us with accounts of 100 years of hoaxes, comedy and credulity, all with brilliant presentation interspersed with his amazing and baffling tricks.

**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 Pro-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.

## OUTINGS UPDATES

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

### Annual Holiday in Sicily

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**Still time to book** a holiday in the sunshine by the warm blue sea. Leaving in early October for five days in historic Sicily. Come and enjoy warm sun, balmy breezes and a few nights in comfortable hotels - in October! This year's U3A Annual Holiday is in Sicily, with five nights half board at Castellammare Del Golfo. But we are not just basking by the sea, although there will be time for that. We will visit Palermo, Mozia Island, Monreale Cathedral and many other places of interest. We leave Wallingford on the 5<sup>th</sup> October and return on the 11<sup>th</sup> with pampered luxury all the way.

So if you've had enough of grey skies and chilly days, don't **DELAY** phone **Paul Booker**



**TODAY!!**  
**01491 825864**  
outings@wallingfordu3a.org

### The Postal Museum

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

The Bensington Society History Group (based in Benson) are organising a trip to the Postal Museum in London. They have spaces that they are offering to us. Booking details are on this Newsletter email and on our website.



### Modern & Britain

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

We will travel by coach to London and visit Tate Modern first, receive a short guided tour, then take the boat to Tate Britain, where there will be a further guided visit.

Organiser: **Richard Wooldridge**  
outings@wallingfordu3a.org



### Christmas Concert in London

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

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, a cappella 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

### OUTINGS COMMITTEE PLEA

The Outings Committee extends an invitation to anyone with appropriate skills to join them. At present there are five on the committee which meets every six weeks. They do a brilliant job of providing monthly outings and an annual holiday. But they dearly need more organisers to help maintain the current frequency and quality of outings.

You would undertake to organise, with full support from experienced fellow organisers, as many or as few outings as you have time for. Even one a year is fine. They have fun!

Please contact **Paul Booker**  
**01491 825864**



Battle of Britain Bunker outing in September

Credit: PB

## 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)

**Antiques 2** and **Current Affairs 3** have closed due to insufficient numbers.

### Groups looking for new members

There are 32 groups with spaces:

**\*blue stars\*** = Ask Yvonne Griffiths.

**History 2:** There is space for three more members.

**Computer iPad Users:** New members are welcome to this new group which started last month. 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:** More diners welcome, come dine in good company.

**Singing for Fun:** New members of truly all abilities are welcome. A range of songs from musicals to spirituals to modern arrangements, ably brought together by a professional choirmaster. Three parts - soprano, alto and bass. Every fortnight 2 till 3pm Baptist Church Thames Street. Just turn up - come and try us out!

### New and Proposed Groups

There are five new groups and one proposed group.

**Smart Apps: New group** The idea is to explore Apps (phone and tablet) to make life easier. Apps like what3words, now used by the emergency services to find you, to WhatsApp for keeping in touch with a specific group. Or maybe to sort out a better utilities contract, or control your heating remotely.

**Scrabble: Two new groups** are up and running!

**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 OCTOBER CALENDAR

\* = Available spaces = Ask Yvonne Griffiths (as above)

Antiques	Wed 9	Second Wednesday	Full	Carole Johnson
* Art/Painting	Thur 3	10:00 am at the Red Lion, Brightwell (first Thursday)	*	Angie Thorrington
* Badminton	Each Mon	2 til 4 pm Berinsfield Sports Centre £3.50 fee	*	Hilary Bailey
Birdwatching 1	Thur 3	10:30 am <i>Farmoor Reservoir</i> Lunch on site (first Thursday)	Full	Rosemary Garner
* Birdwatching 2	Thur 17	10:00 am <i>Otmoor RSPB nature reserve</i> (third Thursday)	*	Pam Johnstone
Book Group 1	Tue 8	<i>The Lost Man</i> by Jane Harper at Paula's	Full	Sue Taylor
* Book Group 2	Thur 24	<i>Conclave</i> by Robert Harris at Maureen Hussain's	*	Di Young
Book Group 3	Wed 9	At Chris's (Second Wednesday)	Full	Sheila Findlay
* Book Group 4	Thur 10	<i>This is going to hurt</i> by Adam Kay	*	Dee Clarke
* Book Group 5	Thur 24	<i>The Time Traveller's Wife</i> by Audrey Niffenegger at Sue's	*	Sue English
* Bridge 1 card game	Thur 10 and Thur 24	2:30 pm at Sheila's (Second and fourth Thursdays)	*	Sheila Findlay
* Canasta card game	Tue 22	2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room on fourth Tuesday	*	Hilary Bailey
* Computer iPad Users	Wed 23	NEW group. Advice and tips (fourth Wednesday)	*	Sheila Findlay
Computer MacUsers 1	Tue 1	First Tuesday	Full	Ann Truesdale
* Craft	Mon 7	2:30 pm at Centre 70	*	Angie Thorrington
* Cribbage card game	Mon 14 and Mon 28	10:30 am second and fourth Mondays	*	Joyce Kent
Current Affairs 1	Thur 3	at 2:30 pm on first Thursday	Full	Trudy Davies
Current Affairs 2	Mon 7	at 2:00 pm on first Monday	Full	Val Mowlam
Digital Photography 2	Wed 9	Topic is <i>Culture</i> and will be at Janet's (second Wed pm)	Full	Sylvia Harrison
Digital Photography 3	Wed 9	Topic is <i>Macro</i> (second Wed am)	Full	Malcolm Brooks
* Euchre card game	Tue 8	2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room on second Tuesday	*	Hilary Bailey
French Conversation 1	Thur 10	10 am at Janet Franklin's house (second Thursday)	Full	Janet Franklin
* French Conversation 2	Mon 7 and Tue 15	First Monday and third Tuesday	*	Susan Renn
Genealogy 1	Thur 3	10:30 am <i>Oxford Family History Show</i> arrangements by email or phone (usually third Monday)	Full	Linda Matthews
Genealogy 2	Tue 8	10:30 am Second Tuesday	Full	Mary Cozens
History 1	Wed 2	Carole Johnson will talk about <i>Mary Seacole</i> at Woodlands	Full	Ted Nelson
* History 2	Thu 17	Trip to the <i>Methodist Church in Oxford</i> (Third Thursday)	*	Mary Hill
History 3	Wed 9	<i>RAF Benson</i> visit and tour (second Wednesday)	Full	Colin Clarke
History 4	Mon 14	<i>20th Century Food</i> (second Monday)	Full	Jenny Potter
* History 5	Wed 23	Fourth Wednesday	*	Mary Harrison
* Latin for Pleasure	Wed 16	Third Wednesday	*	Roger Morgan
* Lunch Club	Wed 2	First Wednesday lunchtime	*	Rosemary & Tony Hines
* Lunch on Sunday	a Sunday	Various venues, for details email <a href="mailto:paul.i.booker@gmail.com">paul.i.booker@gmail.com</a>	*	Paul Booker
* Music (Broader)	Tue 1	2:00 pm for <i>Queen Victoria's Prom</i> at Val's (first Tuesday)	*	Val Wolsey
* Music Classical 1	Tue 22	2:00 pm Mike will present <i>Music for Oxford and beyond</i>	*	Mike Sedman
Music Classical 2	Mon 14	2:30 pm on second Monday	Full	John Cozens
* Pétanque	Each Tue	at 10:00 am Wallingford Sports Park, small fee applies	*	Loren Butt
* Play Reading	Wed 2	9:30 am Corn Exchange Wallingford (first Wednesday)	*	Philippa Davies
Poetry Reading	Wed 9	10:30 am at Phil and Janet's	Full	Jill Cooney
* Science	Tue 15	Third Tuesday in morning	*	Philippa Cullen
* Scrabble 1	Mon 28	2:00 pm NEW Group (fourth Monday)	*	Sarah Masters
* Scrabble 2	Thur 10	2:30 pm NEW Group (second Thursday)	*	Vee Hadley
* Seminar	Mon 28	<i>Durer</i> at Walter Bigg Way (fourth Monday)	*	Gloria Hamilton-Peach
* Singing for Fun	Fri 11 and Fri 25	Fortnightly 2 till 3 pm at the Baptist Church in Thames St	*	Jan Menzies
* Smart Apps	Wed 23	2:30 pm NEW Group Plotting a walk with OSMap Finder and taking a bus or train with dynamic timetables at Jan's house	*	Jan Menzies
* Spanish Improvers	Wed 2 and Wed 16	First and third Wednesday mornings	*	Frances Willoughby
Writing for Pleasure	Mon 14	<i>There was a bullet lodged in the woodwork</i> or <i>Lavender Lady</i>	Full	Carolyn Newbert
Writing Life History 1	Thur 10	Life history stories of members or their families	Full	Margaret Pritchard
Writing Life History 2	Thur 24	NEW group. Life history stories of members or their families	Full	Margaret Pritchard

# Walking in OCTOBER

\* = Available spaces = Ask Yvonne Griffiths (as above)

* Shorter Walking	Wed 2	3-5 miles	Gentle, easy reach of Wallingford by bus or on foot	First Wed	* Paul Booker
* Rambling	Thur 17	5-6 miles	Circular walk followed by lunch	Third Thur	* Phil Richardson
Moderate 1	Wed 9	6-7 miles		Second Wed	Full Julia West
* Moderate 2	Tue 1	6-7 miles		First Tue	* Julia West
Longer	Wed 23	8-10 miles		Fourth Wed	Full Julia West



Surprise Visitor by Di Benson Photo group 2



San Juan by Linda Booth Photo group 3



CARIBBEAN SUNSET  
by Alan Lovegrove Photo group 2

## COMMITTEE 2019-20

- Malcolm Brooks - Chairman
- Ken Johnstone - Deputy Chairman & Communications
- Hilary Bailey - Treasurer
- Yvonne Griffiths - Secretary & Groups Co-ordinator
- Anna Gordon - Membership Secretary
- Paul Booker - Outings Co-ordinator
- 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)



## 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)

## Next Newsletter

Closing date for November contributions  
**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Current and past Newsletters can be viewed on the MembersOnly part of our website  
[www.wallingfordu3a.org](http://www.wallingfordu3a.org)

password is **U3A15top!**

Observe upper/lower case, numbers, no spaces, and include the exclamation mark!

## STEPHANIE TOOLE

We are sad to report the death, on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September, of Stephanie Toole, who had been a member of our U3A for over ten years.

Stephanie was a talented artist and a founder member of the U3A Art & Painting, and the Craft Groups. She was also an early member when the Singing for Fun group was inaugurated.

Stephanie will be remembered for her gentle humour and willingness to help others.

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 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 promptly as these Study Days often fill up quickly. Look on Thames Valley Network website for flyers and application forms.

- 4 Oct First Aid Day at Benson - spaces available
- 22 Oct Ukulele Activities Day at Benson - fully booked, waiting list
- 21 Nov Britain's Ancient Past at Benson - fully booked
- 26 Nov Thames Valley Network Day at Benson
- 3 Dec Christmas Concert - St. James's Church, Paddington