



• CHAIRMAN'S NOTES •

This month we welcome six new members:

Gillian Bradley and Alec Hayton *Wallingford*, Mary Roadnight *Britwell Salome*, Mary Painter *Crowmarsh Gifford*, Linda Chilcott *Ewelme*, Kathleen Haan *Sandford on Thames*.

I would like to give huge thanks to everyone who helped to make our 21st Annual Garden Party, on Wednesday 21st August, go so well. The weather was just about right - if it had been like today in August, we would have melted!

As usual special thanks go to Sheila Findlay for the use of her wonderful riverside garden and her willingness to take people boating! Also, to her neighbour Stan Williams for his car parking facilities nearby. In addition to our

hard-working Committee, we had a very efficient band of volunteers to help set up and put away, and, as always, our members provided copious amounts of delicious food.

Mike Sedman's eclectic quiz tested our knowledge of the River Thames. The winning team scored an awesome 28 correct out of 30 questions.

Can I just make the point (as others have done before) that we need more people to help on the Outings committee? I'm sure that the members of this committee would be more than happy to tell what's required, and it is a case of 'more hands make light work'.

COFFEE MORNINGS
First Friday each month

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

at Centre 70 Kinecroft off Goldsmiths Lane
Wallingford OX10 0DT

Friday 6 September

Helpers: Jenny Powis, Janie Moore

Friday 4 October

Helpers: Pam Johnstone, Jenny Potter

21ST ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

This went well, with glasses of cold bubbly providing the initial sparkle and everyone giving good cheer!

Rebekah Robinson and Margaret Cone ably managed the logistics of food reaching the tables. The marvellous Buffet Team kept plates full and the tea flowing, the Heavy Gang made light work of the gazebos and tables, and the Press Gang grabbed some nice photos.



• SPEAKER MEETINGS •

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

Wednesday 18 September 2:00 pm

Captain Kamran Irani

Delivering emergency medical supplies

Captain Kamran Irani comes to us highly recommended as a speaker and also for his spectacular mode of transport. After a career as an airline pilot Captain Irani now heads up SERV OBN Emergency Riders. This group of 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. He promises to arrive on his top of the range Emergency motorbike!

Wednesday 16 October 2:00 pm

John Ericson

Art inspired by wine

John Ericson, one of our regular and favourite speakers, will lead us on a gallery tour of numerous paintings of wine being made and wine being drunk in celebration, and take a look at the numerous wicked cartoons and posters inspired by wine. We anticipate an informative and humorous afternoon.

OUTINGS UPDATES

Links to Battle of Britain Bunker and Tate Modern & Tate Britain booking forms are on your September Newsletter email. You can also pick up booking forms at coffee mornings or speaker meetings, or look at our Members part of website (see p4)

Battle of Britain Bunker

Friday 13th September

The Bunker housed RAF Fighter Command's No.11 Group Operations Room from which most of the RAF's side of the Battle of Britain was co-ordinated throughout the Second World War. The Operations Room is a series of rooms on two levels some 60 feet underground reached via 76 steps. (There is a handrail but stairs are steep) We will be going back in time as we experience the Bunker for ourselves with an expert guide.

Organiser: Sue Wright

outings@wallingford.org



The Foundling Museum

Thursday 19th September

The U3A that meets in Crowmarsh Gifford is doing a Tour of The Foundling Museum in London and has spaces that are being kindly offered to our U3A members.

The Foundling Museum tells the history of the first home for babies whose mothers are unable to care for them. It was founded by Thomas Coram the 18th century philanthropist. Among his

Annual Holiday in Sicily

Saturday 5th - Friday 11th October

A few spaces left for this one. Christmas around the next corner....but all is not lost. 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 5th October and return on the 11th with pampered luxury all the way.

So if you've had enough of grey skies and chilly days, contact Paul Booker
01491 825864
outings@wallingford.org

Tate Modern and Tate Britain

Friday 15th November

We will 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@wallingford.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 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 for more details.

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

MacUsers 2 Group has closed. Much was shared and discussed but insufficient members attended to warrant a regular group.

Groups looking for new members

Thirty groups have availability = Ask = blue star* on Calendar.

Sunday Lunch: More diners welcome, come dine in good company.

Singing for Fun: New members are always welcome, truly all abilities 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 til 3pm Baptist Church Thames Street. Just turn up - come and try us out!

New and Proposed Groups

Writing Life History 2: This new group is now full. It will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month starting at 10:30. The first meeting will be on Thurs 26 Sept. The sessions will follow the same format as Life History 1 where 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.

Scrabble: New group setup meeting will be at Sept coffee morning. Will start later in the autumn. It's nearly full already but if you are keen still apply, a second group can be proposed.



Computer iPad Users: New group starting Wed 25 Sept. Members bring along their own iPad together with a question or two which they would like to solve. Usually someone around the table will either have the answer or know how to find it.

American Railroads: New group proposed. The history and present-day workings of railroads in America are very different from Europe and are an interesting topic for informal study offering glamour, technical sophistication, engineering on a massive scale, commercial efficiency, nostalgia, huge variety and scenic appeal. Ian Wheeler is willing to host an interest group of up to eight members. Activities would include video shows, book sharing and general discussion. There will also be the opportunity to develop and operate Ian's digitally-controlled American model railroad layout. Daytime weekday in Cholsey once a month.



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 on a waiting list and have changed your mind, please can you let Yvonne know.

INTEREST GROUPS SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

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

Status Enabler

Antiques 1	Wed 11 Please meet 11am The Swan Antiques Centre Tetsworth	Full	Carole Johnson
*Antiques 2	Thur 26 New group. This is the first meeting (fourth Thursday)	*	Maureen Norton
*Art/Painting	Thur 5 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 5 10:30 am Blashford Lakes, lunch to be arranged	Full	Rosemary Garner
*Birdwatching 2	Thur 19 10:00 am Oxford canal near Kidlington (third Thursday)	*	Pam Johnstone
Book Group 1	Tue 10 <i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i> by Amor Towles at Adrienne's	Full	Sue Taylor
*Book Group 2	Thur 26 <i>Holding</i> by Graham Norton at Mary's	*	Di Young
Book Group 3	Wed 11 <i>Home Fire</i> by Kamilla Shamsie	Full	Sheila Findlay
*Book Group 4	Thur 12 <i>Red Joan</i> by Jennie Rooney	*	Dee Clarke
*Book Group 5	Thur 26 <i>Bodies of Light</i> by Sarah Moss at Diane's	*	Sue English
*Bridge 1	Thur 12 and Thur 26 2:30 pm at Sheila's (Second and fourth Thurs)	*	Sheila Findlay
*Canasta	Tue 10 2 til 4 pm The Dolphin back room on second Tuesday	*	Hilary Bailey
*Computer iPad Users	Wed 25 New group. Advice and tips (fourth Wednesday)	*	Sheila Findlay
Computer MacUsers 1	Tue 3 First Tuesday	Full	Ann Truesdale
*Craft	Mon 2 2:30 pm at Centre 70	*	Angie Thorrington
*Cribbage	Mon 9 and Mon 23 10:30 am second and fourth Mondays	*	Joyce Kent
Current Affairs 1	Thur 5 at 2:30 pm on first Thursday	Full	Trudy Davies
Current Affairs 2	Mon 2 at 2:00 pm on first Monday	Full	Val Mowlam
*Current Affairs 3	Tue 10 2:00 pm Friendly debate & discussion (second Tuesday)	*	Jane Milne
Digital Photography 2	Wed 11 Topic: <i>Things beginning with 'S'</i> at Diane's (second Wed am)	Full	Sylvia Harrison
Digital Photography 3	Wed 11 Topic: <i>Cacti (succulents)</i> (second Wednesday am)	Full	Malcolm Brooks
*Euchre	Tue 24 2 til 4 pm The Dolphin back room on fourth Tuesday	*	Hilary Bailey
French Conversation 1	Thur 12 10:00 am at Jill Cooney's house	Full	Janet Franklin
*French Conversation 2	Mon 2 and Tue 17 First Monday and third Tuesday	*	Susan Renn
Genealogy 1	Mon 16 10:30am <i>Documents, Sources & School Register challenge</i>	Full	Linda Matthews
Genealogy 2	Tue 10 Second Tuesday	Full	Mary Cozens
History 1	Wed 4 <i>King up a Tree</i> by Shirley Hewstone (first Wed morning)	Full	Ted Nelson
*History 2	Thu 19 <i>Moors religion of Spain</i> (Third Thursday)	*	Mary Hill
History 3	Wed 11 Oxford City Walking Tour (second Wednesday)	Full	Colin Clarke
History 4	Mon 9 Winston Churchill / <i>Women in History</i>	Full	Jenny Potter
*History 5	Wed 18 <i>Women in India 1600-1900</i> (Usually fourth Wednesday)	*	Mary Harrison
*Latin for Pleasure	Wed 18 Third Wednesday	*	Roger Morgan
*Lunch Club	Wed 4 First Wednesday lunchtime	*	Rosemary & Tony Hines
*Lunch on Sunday	Sun 22 Various venues, for details email paul.i.booker@gmail.com	*	Paul Booker
*Music (Broader)	Tue 3 <i>Church and Jazz music</i> at Olive's house (first Tuesday)	*	Val Wolsey
*Music Classical 1	Tue 24 2:00 pm playing music from the <i>Three Choirs Festival</i> at Milli's	*	Mike Sedman
Music Classical 2	Mon 9 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 4 9:30 am Corn Exchange Wallingford (first Wednesday)	*	Philippa Davies
Poetry Reading	Wed 11 10:30 am Paul & Annette Booker's	Full	Jill Cooney
*Science	Tue 17 Third Tuesday in morning	*	Philippa Cullen
*Scrabble	Fri 6 New group setup meeting at U3A Coffee Morning Centre70	*	Carolyn Newbert
*Seminar	Mon 23 <i>History and Art of Amsterdam</i> at 2:00 pm Crowmarsh (fourth Mon)	*	Gloria Hamilton-Peach
*Singing for Fun	Fri 13 and Fri 27 Fortnightly 2 til 3pm at the Baptist Church Thames St	*	Jan Menzies
*Spanish Improvers	Mon 4 and Wed 18 First and third Wednesday mornings	*	Frances Willoughby
*Writing for Pleasure	Mon 9 <i>Shadows</i> or <i>That night a cheeseburger exploded...</i>	*	Carolyn Newbert
Writing Life History 1	Thur 12 <i>Life history stories</i> of members or their families	Full	Margaret Pritchard
Writing Life History 2	Thur 27 New group <i>Life history stories</i> of members or their families	Full	Margaret Pritchard

Walking in SEPTEMBER

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

*Shorter Walking	Wed 4	3-5 miles	Gentle, easy reach of Wallingford by bus or on foot	First Wed	*	Paul Booker
*Rambling	Thur 19	5-6 miles	Circular walk followed by lunch	Third Thur	*	Phil Richardson
Moderate 1	Wed 11	6-7 miles		Second Wed	Full	Julia West
*Moderate 2	Tue 3	6-7 miles		First Tue	*	Julia West
Longer	Wed 25	8-10 miles		Fourth Wed	Full	Julia West



COMMITTEE 2019-20

Malcolm Brooks - Chairman

Ken Johnstone - Vice 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, either bring them to a Coffee morning, or direct them to

Membership Secretary

Anna Gordon

membership@wallingfordu3a.org

Next NewsLetter

Closing date for October contributions

Saturday 21 September 2019

Editor: Sarah Boyt Robinson
newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

Current and past newsletters can be viewed on the Members Only part of our website

www.wallingfordu3a.org

password is **U3A15top!**

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

YVONNE HUNT
Yvonne passed away peacefully in her sleep in mid-August. An amazing lady who lived an eventful life spanning 101 years. She still had a sharp mind into her grand old age. Yvonne was our oldest member and we were so pleased that she came regularly to our meetings and joined in enthusiastically with her sharp intellect and sense of humour. Our condolences are sent to Yvonne's family.

LAURIE KENT

It is with sadness that we have to notify our members of the passing in August of Laurie Kent.

Laurie was a long-time member of Thameside U3A and although not a member of any interest groups he could frequently be seen with Joyce, his wife of over 60 years, at our speaker meetings and on our monthly outings. He especially enjoyed our annual celebration lunches and was a most entertaining guest with his quiet demeanour and dry sense of humour. Laurie and Joyce travelled extensively, both on their own and on our U3A holidays and he was very proud of his time in the RAF. He will be greatly missed by those who knew him. Our condolences are sent to Joyce and her family.

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

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 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. The First Aid Day will be held at a later date.

22 Oct Ukulele Activities Day at Benson - spaces available

21 Nov Britain's Ancient Past at Benson - fully booked

26 Nov Thames Valley Network Day at Benson - details later