



Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Newsletter February and March 2019

New Members:

This month we welcome eleven new members: Jennifer Dixon from Wallingford; Diane and Peter Howarth and Carol McKearney from Cholsey; Terry Lawrence, Brian and Jenny Lee and Hugh Norris from Dorchester on Thames; Ann and Graham Hammond from Winnersh; Julet Tower from Woodcote

Message from our Chairman

It is nearly the end of January and may seem a little late for New Year Wishes but I hope that 2019 will be a good year for all our U3A members. Our Committee is certainly working on an interesting and exciting Programme for the next U3A Year (which starts in April 2019 – see page 4 for a reminder on membership renewal).

You will see that we are publishing a two-month Newsletter covering meetings and activities from **1 February to 31 March 2019**. Although Margaret, our Editor, has promised to return to a single-month edition for the busy months of April (membership renewal) and May (AGM) we may need to resort to less frequent Newsletters, in future, until we can find additional helpers for the Editorial work. As always, I value your feedback on this and any other subjects relating to the way we run your U3A. (If this includes offers to assist, your feedback will be even more welcome!)

Many members enjoyed the excellent Annual Celebration Lunch, with delicious food, at Badgemore Golf Club, on Friday 18 January and we have, once again to thank **Valerie Roddan** for her hard work and organisational skills that made it such a success.

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 1 February (Helpers: Pam Paddock and Pat Hayton)

Friday 1 March (Helpers: Jenny Powis and Janie Moore)

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

Wednesday 20 February: Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM – see page 4) followed by a talk by **Andy Smith** entitled **John, Paul, George and Me** in which Andy Smith celebrates the songs of three of the finest songwriters this country has ever produced. Featuring lots of their well-known songs plus a few album tracks and a good dose of 60's nostalgia, he accompanies himself on his collection of musical instruments.

Wednesday 20 March: Julie Summers - When the Children Came Home

Julie Summers returns to tell the story of some of the children who were evacuated in 1939 and what happened when they returned home at the end of the war. Julies' talk is based on her acclaimed book of the same title in which she weaves a collection of personal stories to create a compelling portrait of wartime Britain.

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Outings Update

Thursday 7 March	Outing to The London Guildhall , Gresham Street, in the heart of the City of London. The tours take visitors on a journey spanning more than 800 years from the gothic grandeur of the Great Hall to the largest surviving medieval crypts in London	<i>Details and booking form sent by Email and post in December 2018 Some spaces available but hurry! Leader Richard Wooldridge Telephone 01491 834786</i>
Friday 29 March	The Royal Mint Experience , Llantrisant, South Wales is the only place in the world where you can watch the United Kingdom's coins being made! Go behind the scenes to follow the journey of a coin from a 'blank to a bank' in the Royal Mint's 45 minute Guided Factory Experience	<i>Details in this Newsletter. Outing Leader Sue Wright</i>
Friday 12 April	Outing to the British Motor Museum , Gaydon, Warwickshire, housing the World's largest collection of historic British cars with over 300 Classic cars on display from the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust and the Jaguar Heritage Trust.	<i>Details in this Newsletter. Outing Leader Paul Booker</i>

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;

Closure of Digital Photography 1: At the end of 2018 the members of Digital Photography 1 decided that the Group had run its course and would no longer meet, with the same membership, in 2019. We are very grateful to **Rebekah Robinson** for her work as contact for the Group. Members interested in resurrecting the Group and starting afresh should contact Yvonne Griffiths.

Book Group 2: New Coordinator. Book Group 1 has been led by **Milli Eaton** since it started some twelve years ago. We are very grateful to Milli for all her hard work. The new Group Contact is **Di Young**.

LISTING OF NEW GROUPS SINCE 2018:

Canasta Group started on Tuesday 8 January 2019 and meets on the second Tuesday at 2.00 pm in the afternoon in Central Wallingford. Group Contact: **Hilly Bailey**.

Current Affairs 3: A new current affairs group has been set up and will meet on the second Tuesday of the month starting at 2pm. Group Contact: **Jane Milne**.

Book Group 5: Had its inaugural meeting in December 2018 and will meet on the fourth Thursday with **Sue English** as the Group Contact

Science Group 2 started in January with **Janet Charleston** as Group Contact and will meet on the first Thursday. (Some members have dropped out and additional members are *needed urgently*)

NEW GROUPS: DISCUSSIONS IN PROGRESS

Yvonne Griffiths is working with interested members on setting up two new Groups:

- **History Group 5:** another group to respond to the keen interest in historical subjects.
- **Music: Lighter** (Jazz/Folk music)

PROPOSALS FOR NEW GROUPS (CARRIED OVER FROM 2018)

- **Smart Phone Apps** for users of Androids or iPhones with a focus on *WhatsApp*
- **Cryptic Crosswords:** A group for like-minded members keen on understanding and solving crossword clues'

Expressions of interest on any of the above to Yvonne Griffiths, please

Calendar of Interest Group meetings for February and March 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;

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

Group	Meetings in February	Meetings in March	Group Contact	Status
Antiques 1	Wednesday 13 February	Wednesday 13 March	Carole Johnson	Full
Art/Painting	Thursday 7 February	Thursday 7 March	Angie Thorington	NMW
	Meetings at 10.00am. at the Red Lion, Brightwell			
Badminton	<i>Every Monday</i>	<i>Every Monday</i>	Hilly Bailey	NMW
	Group meets from 2-4.00pm at, Berinsfield Sports Centre'			
Bird Watching 1	Thursday 7 February	Thursday 7 March	Rosemary Garner	Ask
	<i>Locations: Port Meadow (Feb); Collee Lake (March)</i>			
Birdwatching 2	Thursday 21 February	Thursday 21 March	Pam Johnstone	NMW
Book Group 1	Tuesday 12 February	Tuesday 12 March	Sue Taylor	Full
	<i>Three Things about Elsie</i> by Joanna Cannon (Feb) <i>The Paris Secret</i> by Karen Swan (March)			
Book Group 2	Thursday 28 February	Thursday 28 March	Di Young	Full
	Discussion of chosen poets (Feb) <i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i> by Amor Towles (March)			
Book Group 3	Wednesday 13 February	Wednesday 13 March	Sheila Findlay	Full
	<i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i> by Amor Towles (Feb) <i>Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine</i> by Gail Honeyman (March)			
Book Group 4	Thursday 14 February	Thursday 14 March	Dee Clarke	Ask
	<i>Firefly</i> by Henry Porter (Feb) <i>The one in a million boy</i> by Monica Wood. (March)			
Book Group 5	Thursday 28 February	Thursday 28 March	Sue English	NMW
	<i>Book list to be discussed</i>			
Bridge Group 1	Thursdays 14 and 28 February	Thursdays 14 and 28 March	Sheila Findlay	Full
Canasta	Tuesday 12 February	Tuesday 12 March	Hilly Baily	Ask
Computer Mac Users 1	Tuesday 5 February	Tuesday 5 March	Ann Truesdale	Full

Group	Meetings in February	Meetings in March	Group Contact	Status
Computer Mac Users 2	<i>No meeting in February</i>	<i>Monday 5 March</i>	Peter Mason	NMW
	<i>Topics to be addressed: Security, Spreadsheet Tips and Tricks, Managing space</i>			
Craft	Monday 4 February	Monday 4 March	Angie Thorrrington	NMW
	<i>Topics: FIMO modelling (February) Prick and stitch card making (March)</i>			
Cribbage	Mondays 11 and 25 February	Mondays 11 and 25 March	Joyce Kent	Full
Current Affairs 1	Thursday 7 February	Thursday 7 March	Trudy Davies	Full
Current Affairs 2	Monday 4 February	Monday 4 March	Val Mowlam	Full
Current Affairs 3	Tuesday 12 February	<i>Tuesday 19 March (date change)</i>	Jane Milne	Ask
Digital Photography 2	Wednesday 13 February, pm	Wednesday 13 March, pm	Sylvia Harrison	Full
	<i>Topics: Patterns in Nature (February) Movement (March)</i>			
Digital Photography 3	Wednesday 13 February, am	Wednesday 13 March, am	Malcolm Brooks	Full
	<i>Topics: Moving lights (February) Roofs and chimneys (March)</i>			
Euchre	Tuesday 26 February	Tuesday 26 March	Hilly Bailey	Full
French Conversation 1	Thursday 14 February	Thursday 14 March	Janet Franklin	Full
French Conversation 2	Tuesday 19 February	Tuesday 19 March	Susan Renn	Ask
Genealogy 1	Monday 18 February	Monday 18 March	Linda Matthews	Full
	<i>Topics: Language and Words (February) Family Photos (March)</i>			
Genealogy 2	Tuesday 12 February	Tuesday 12 March	Mary Cozens	Full
History 1	Wednesday 6 February	Wednesday 6 March	Ted Nelson	Full
	<i>Topics: Berlin (February) Ovid (March)</i>			
History 2	Thursday 21 February	Thursday 21 March	Mary Hill	Full
	<i>Topics: Uncle Jim's War in the Far East (February) Celts and Queen Boudicea (March)</i>			
History 3	Wednesday 13 February	Wednesday 13 March	Colin Clarke	Full
	<i>Visits: W. O. Bentley Museum, Wroxton (February) River and Rowing Museum, Henley (March)</i>			
History 4	Monday 25 February	Monday 25 March	Jenny Potter	Ask
	<i>Topics: Richard III (February) March TBA</i>			
Latin for Pleasure	Wednesday 20 February	Wednesday 20 March	Roger Morgan	NMW
Lunch Club	Wednesday 6 February	Wednesday 6 March	Rosemary Hines	Full
Lunch: Sunday Lunch	Sunday in February TBA	Sunday in March TBA	Paul Booker	NMW
Music (Broader)	Tuesday 5 February	Tuesday 5 March	Val Wolsey	Full
	<i>Topics: Songs & tunes from the musicals (February) Bits & Pieces (March)</i>			
Music Classical 1	Tuesday 26 February	Tuesday 26 March	Mike Sedman	Ask
	<i>Topics: Memories of Jaqueline du Pré (February) Sibelius and Shostakovich (March)</i>			
Music Classical 2	Monday 11 February	Monday 11 March	John Cozens	Full
Pétanque	Each Tuesday	Each Tuesday	Loren Butt	NMW
Play Reading	Wednesday 6 February	Wednesday 6 March	Philippa Davies	Ask
Poetry Reading	Wednesday 13 February	Wednesday 13 March	Jill Cooney	Full
Seminar Group	Monday 25 January	Monday 25 March	Gloria Hamilton-Peach	NMW
	<i>Topics: History & Culture of Sweden (February) Small Things (March)</i>			
Science 1	Tuesday 19 February	Tuesday 19 March	Philippa Cullen	Ask
Science 2	Thursday 7 February	Thursday 7 March	Janet Charleston	NMW
	<i>The February topic will be a TED.com talk</i>			
Singing for Fun	Fridays 8 and 22 February	Fridays 8 and 22 March	Jan Menzies	NMW
Spanish (Improvers)	Wednesdays 6 and 20 February	Wednesdays 6 and 20 March	Frances Willoughby	Ask
Writing for Pleasure	Monday 11 February	Monday 11 March	Carolyn Newbert	Full
	<i>'Time Stood Still When.. ' or 'Valentine' (February) Writing inspired by a picture (March)</i>			
Writing: Life History Writing Group	Thursday 14 February	Thursday 14 March	Margaret Pritchard	Full

Walking Groups:

Shorter	Wednesday 6 February	Wednesday 6 March	Gentle walk of 3-5 miles near Wallingford Details by email: Register with Paul Booker (NMW) _____
Moderate	Wednesday 13 February	Wednesday 13 March	Walk of about 6-7miles
Longer	Wednesday 27 February	Wednesday 27 March	Walk of about 9-10 miles
Ask about joining these Groups which both have large membership lists: Julia West : _____			
Rambling	Thursday 21 February	Thursday 21 March	Walk of about 5-6 miles from a local pub Details by E-mail:Phil Richardson _____ The Group is currently full

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Notices

Christine Whitehall. We were saddened to hear of the death, in January, of long-time U3A Member, Christine Whitehall. Failing health had prevented Christine from taking an active part in U3A activities in recent years but she will be remembered by many for her past participation, particularly in the original U3A Computer Groups. Our sympathy goes to her family

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of U3A (Wallingford) Thameside will be held at The Baptist Church, Wallingford at 2.00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 20th February, 2019** (Brief formalities, immediately before the Speaker Meeting - *see page 1*).

AGENDA - 1. To approve the appointment of **Mr Tony Fletcher** as Inspector of Accounts for 2018/2019 Annual Accounts.

Note: We are grateful to Mr Brian Sanders who has carried out the task of Inspector of Accounts for our U3A, for many years, but announced, at the 2018 AGM that he would be stepping down from the role. Mr Tony Fletcher has kindly agreed to take on this duty for one year only. Consequently his appointment needs to be ratified at an EGM.

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

Membership Information: If your personal information changes (e.g., e-mail address, phone number, address etc.) *please remember* to inform **Malcolm Brooks**, U3A Database Administrator, projects@wallingfordu3a.org
Members without E-mail can leave a note at a Coffee Morning or Speakers' meeting

Membership Renewal

Your U3A Membership runs to the end of April 2019 and you will be receiving your renewal documents in the first week of April by Email (or post to non-Email users). Please wait for these before taking any action. You will be given full details of payment options (the fee is still only £12.50!) and asked to ensure that your personal details are updated, if these have changed. Full information in the next Newsletter.

Jim Fish, Chairman of Wallingford U3A (*based in Crowmarsh*)

We are sorry to report that Jim Fish, who had been Chairman of Wallingford U3A for many years, died in January. Jim Fish had worked with successive chairmen of our U3A to ensure that two U3As (Wallingford U3A and Thameside (Wallingford) U3A) exchanged information on events and activities.

U3A Trust and Thames Valley Network

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 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 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!

Tuesday 5 March 2019: The Drama of Dunkirk at the River & Rowing Museum, Henley. Details have been sent by Email to members.

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.

Wednesday 28 May: History on Film, St Helen's & St Kath's School, Abingdon

Your Newsletter in 2019

We are grateful for messages from members offering help with the Newsletter We still, however, need to find a new Editor to ensure that the Newsletter continues in its present, or in a similar form. Can you help? Please contact **Margaret Cone**, Editor, : newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

Next Newsletter: April 2019

Closing date for contributions Wednesday 27 March