



Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Newsletter MAY 2019

New Members:

This month we welcome two new members: Dee Crisp, from Wallingford and Brian Benson from Ewelme.

Message from our Chairman

I have almost reached the end of my year as your chairman and with your agreement at the AGM this month, I will hand over to Malcolm Brooks. Malcolm, who is currently responsible for our database has been instrumental in streamlining some of our systems and is more than ready to take over.

The time has flown past and it has been a pleasure to work with such a pro-active and helpful committee. At the moment we are not proposing a deputy chairman, but, for the first time in many years, we have a full committee which will give Malcolm all the back-up he may need.

I am sorry to note that Margaret Cone has decided to leave the committee. It was she who dragged us (without too much kicking and screaming) into the world of modern communication. When she started only about 30% of members had email addresses, now only about 10% do not. She has been a positive presence on the committee for more years than either of us can remember and we all owe her a debt of gratitude for the years that she has skilfully edited our monthly newsletter.

Jane Tuckett is also standing down as a full committee member, but fortunately for us she has agreed to be co-opted to provide information about our speakers from time to time. I am very pleased that we shall still be able to rely on her sound contribution to our discussions.

In conclusion I would like to give my thanks to the main committee and the sub-committees for their support and work to keep our organisation flourishing through the year. A big thank you as well to all the other volunteers who help with events, provide refreshments and organise groups.

I wish you all a happy, sociable and productive future as members of our successful U3A.

With all good wishes

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 3 May (Helpers: Joyce Kent and Sally Fehr)

Friday 7 June

SPEAKER MEETINGS take place on the **third Wednesday in the month at 2 pm in the Baptist Church, Thames Street, OX10 0BH.**

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.

Wednesday 19 June: Jenny Mallin - A Grandmother's Legacy

Jenny Mallin is the author of the prize-winning cookery book *A Grandmother's Legacy*. She was inspired to research her family history when she inherited a handwritten recipe book from her mother. This heirloom was compiled by the women of five generations of her family who lived and worked in the British Raj, leaving Yorkshire at the end of the 18thC and only returning at Partition. Her talk explores her Anglo-Indian family heritage through photographs and anecdotes and shines a light on a fascinating and now by-gone way of life.

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Outings Update

Tuesday 21st May:	Cruising, Flying and Frying- All in One Day! 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>Information in the April Newsletter. The outing is fully booked with a waiting list.</i>
Friday 28th June:	An outing to the Slimbridge Wetland Centre WWT in Gloucestershire. Enjoy a fantastic day out with a chance to get close to amazing wildlife. Don't forget your binoculars and cameras!	<i>Details and booking form in this newsletter. Organiser: Sue Wright</i>
Sunday 5 to Thursday 10 October 2019	U3A annual holiday trip: The History of Western Sicily and Palermo. 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, Leaders Paul Booker and Sue Wright	<i>Details sent with the April Newsletter. Some places remaining, but hurry!</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

New Groups

History 5: This new group had its inaugural meeting on 24 April with Mary Harrison as Group Contact. The May meeting is listed in the Group Calendar and the group will meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10 am. The theme for the Group's first few meetings will be *The Movement of People throughout history*.

Groups looking for new members

The **Sunday Lunch Club** would welcome more members! We meet for a convivial lunch in a local pub or restaurant, usually around the third Sunday in each month. We meet at 12:15 for 12:30 and are usually finished by 2:30 to 3:00. If you are interested, please drop an email to Paul Booker

The Craft Group: Each month there is a meeting, in Centre 70, of a friendly group of members who are interested in practical crafts and hearing about new ideas. Why not come and see what it is all about? The Group normally meets on the first Monday, although, in May, this is postponed due to the Bank Holiday and we shall be meeting at 2:30 pm on **Monday 13 May**. For this meeting, Craft Group members have been asked to bring on-going or completed projects for an informal *Show and Tell*

Swansong

A personal note from your out-going Newsletter Editor.



I should like to thank all our hard-working Interest Group leaders who have helped me, over the years, with the monthly preparation of the Newsletter by patiently providing updates on their groups' activities. I am handing over to Sarah Robinson in June (see page 3) with confidence that the good work will continue

Interest Groups Calendar of Meetings for May 2019

Group	Meetings in MAY	Group Contact	Notes	Status
Antiques 1	Wednesday 8 May	Carole Johnson	Visit to River & Rowing Museum, Henley. Meet 11 am at Museum.	Full
Art/Painting	Thursday 2 May	Angie Thorrington	10 am at the Red Lion, Brightwell.	NMW
Badminton	Each Monday	Hilly Bailey	Meets 2 til 4 pm Berinsfield Sports Centre.	NMW
Birdwatching 1	Tues 30 April - Thur 2 May	Rosemary Garner	Outing to Suffolk.	Ask
Birdwatching 2	Thursday 16 May	Pam Johnstone	Outing location to be confirmed	NMW
Book Group 1	Tuesday 14 May	Sue Taylor	<i>Crazy Rich Asians</i> by Kevin Kwan.	Full
Book Group 2	Thursday 23 May	Di Young	<i>Eleanor Oliphant is Perfectly Fine</i> by Gail Honeyman.	Full
Book Group 3	Wednesday 8 May	Sheila Findlay	<i>The Children Act</i> by Ian McEwan.	Full
Book Group 4	Thursday 9 May	Dee Clarke	<i>Old Baggage</i> by Lisse Evans	Ask
Book Group 5	Thursday 23 May	Sue English	<i>Old Filth</i> by Jane Gardam & <i>The Dry</i> by Jane Harper.	NMW
Bridge Group 1	Thurs 9 th & Thur 23 rd May	Sheila Findlay	Group meets on second & fourth Thursdays.	Full
Canasta	Tuesday 14 May	Hilly Bailey	Second Tuesday at 2 pm in the Dolphin Pub, back room.	NMW
Computer Group: Mac Users 1	Tuesday 7 May	Ann Truesdale	First Tuesday 11 am at Ann Truesdale's.	Full

Group	Meetings in MAY	Group Contact	Notes	Status
Computer Group: Mac Users 2	Monday 13 th May	Peter Mason	• Google Drive storage for Docs. • Can you use Google in place of MSOffice?	NMW
Craft	Monday 13 May (<i>date change: Bank Holiday</i>)	Angie Thorrington	Centre 70, at 2:30 pm (<i>Summer schedule</i>). Bring a project.	NMW
Cribbage	Mon 13 th & Mon 27 th May	Joyce Kent	Second & fourth Monday at 10:30 am.	Ask
Current Affairs 1	Thursday 2 May	Trudy Davies	First Thursday 2:30 pm at Trudy's.	Full
Current Affairs 2	Monday 13 May	Val Mowlam	2 pm at Val Mowlam's. <i>Note date: postponed due to Bank Holiday.</i>	Ask
Current Affairs 3	Tuesday 14 May	Jane Milne	Second Tuesday of the month, at 2 pm.	NMW
Digital Photography 2	Wednesday 8 May	Sylvia Harrison	Frances's house. <i>Portraits Human or other Animal/Street Scenes/Candid Camera shots.</i>	Full
Digital Photography 3	Wednesday 8 May	Malcolm Brooks	Topic: <i>Looking through apertures.</i>	Full
Euchre	Tuesday 28 May	Hilly Bailey	Fourth Tuesday at 2 pm in the Dolphin Pub, back room.	NMW
French Conversation 1	Thursday 9 May	Janet Franklin	10 am Dee Clarke's .	Full
French Conversation 2	Tuesday 21 May	Susan Renn	Meetings 2:30 pm on the third Tuesday.	Full
Genealogy 1	Monday 20 May	Linda Matthews	<i>Finding a Grave.</i>	Full
Genealogy 2	Tuesday 14 May	Mary Cozens	Meets on the second Tuesday at 10:30 am.	Full
History 1	Wednesday 1 May	Ted Nelson	11 am at the Weston Library, Oxford <i>Babel: Adventures in Translation</i> Exhibition.	
History 2	Thursday 16 May	Mary Hill	Topic: <i>John Wesley.</i>	NMW
History 3	Wednesday 8 May	Colin Clarke	Chiltern Open Air Museum.	Full
History 4	Monday 3 June	Jenny Potter	<i>Note: Date postponed because of May Bank Holiday</i>	Full
History 5	Wednesday 22 nd May	Mary Harrison	NEW GROUP: Fourth Wednesday 10 am.	NMW
Latin for Pleasure	Wednesday 22 May	Roger Morgan	Third Wednesday 10 am.	NMW
Lunch Club	Wednesday 1 May	Rosemary Hines	Convivial group lunch.	Full
Lunch: Sunday Lunch	<i>Date to be confirmed</i>	Paul Booker	Venue to be advised to members.	NMW
Music (Broader)	Tuesday 7 May	Val Wolsey	Meeting at Wendy Muggeridge's, for <i>Music of my Travels.</i>	Ask
Music Classical 1	Tuesday 28 May	Mike Sedman	Philippa will be presenting music by Monteverdi at 2pm at her house.	NMW
Music Classical 2	Monday 13 May	John Cozens	Second Mondays at 2 pm.	Full
Pétanque	Each Tuesday	Loren Butt	Pétanque Wallingford club Wallingford Sports Park, 10 am. Small fee applies.	NMW
Play Reading	Wednesday 1 May	Philippa Davies	First Wednesday, 9:30 am at the Corn Exchange Wallingford.	Ask
Poetry Reading	Wednesday 8 May	Jill Cooney	Second Wednesday, am.	Full
Science	Tuesday 21 May	Philippa Cullen	Group meets on the third Tuesday, am	NMW
Seminar	Monday 20 May	Gloria Hamilton-Peach	<i>'Livingstone'</i> .	NMW
Singing for Fun	Every fortnight: Fri 10 th & Fri 24 th May	Jan Menzies	2 pm to 3 pm at the Baptist Church, Thames Street, with space for everyone.	NMW
Spanish (Improvers)	Wed 1 st Wed 15 th May	Frances Willoughby	Two meetings each month - First & third Wednesdays.	Ask
Writing for Pleasure	Monday 13 May	Carolyn Newbert	Up to 800 words on either <i>A Long Journey</i> or <i>Crows.</i>	Full
Writing: Life History Writing Group	Thursday 9 May	Margaret Pritchard	Forum for non-fiction life history stories about members or their families.	Full

Walking Groups:

For all walks: Details are provided by email from the organiser.

Registration of new walking group members must be through Yvonne Griffiths

Organiser:

Shorter Walking	Wednesday 1 st May	Gentle walk of 3-5 miles near or within easy reach of Wallingford (bus or on foot). (NMW)	Paul Booker
Moderate 1	Wednesday 8 th May	Walk of about 6-7 miles. (CLOSED to new members)	Julia West
Moderate 2	Tuesday 7 th May	Walk of about 6-7 miles. (NMW)	Julia West
Longer	Wednesday 22 nd May	Walk of about 8-10 miles. (CLOSED to new members)	Julia West
Rambling	Thursday 16 th May	Circular walk of about 5-6 miles followed by lunch. (Ask about space for new members)	Phil Richardson

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A Notices

New Editor for the Newsletter

We welcome **Sarah Boyt Robinson** who will be taking over as Editor of the U3A Newsletter in June 2019. Margaret Cone is stepping down after having produced your Newsletter since the baton was handed to her by Valerie Roddan, in June 2004.

This May issue is jointly edited by Margaret and Sarah, but the Editorial responsibility will then pass to Sarah for the June issue. If you have comments and suggestions on the Newsletter and future directions, the Committee and the new Editor will be pleased to receive them. Please email to newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org or drop a message into the Suggestions box at a Coffee morning or Speaker meeting.

Wallingford (Thameside) U3A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

Our U3A's twenty-first AGM will take place on **Wednesday 15 May 2019**, in the Baptist Church, Wallingford, starting at 2 pm immediately before the monthly Speaker meeting (*see p1*).

The AGM **Convening Notice** with the Agenda for the 2019 AGM and report of the 2018 AGM and was sent by email and made available in print (for members without email) at the time of the April Speaker meeting and is enclosed with this Newsletter. The other formal papers for the AGM are the **Annual Report** and the **Treasurer's Audited Report**, copies of which will be sent by email as soon as available and printed copies will be available at the AGM.

If additional nominations for **Committee Members** are received before the deadline of **8 May 2018**, an updated version of **Agenda Item 9 Election of Committee** will be issued. Nominations (using the form sent out in April) can be sent to, or discussed with, Neil Kelly email: chairman@wallingfordu3a.org

Membership Renewal

Renewal notices were sent to all Thameside (Wallingford) U3A members, in April, by Email and post. The membership fee is unchanged at **£12.50** and details on how to pay (electronic transfer or cheque) are given in your renewal letter. (Cash may be handed, in person, to the Treasurer at a U3A meeting). It is important to check and update your personal data to ensure that you receive all future U3A information.

Thank you to those members who have already renewed. If you will not be renewing, please let us know: treasurer@wallingfordu3a.org (01491-836517)

Improving Communications

We are using a more efficient and more secure method for sending out multiple emails when we wish reach all Thameside (Wallingford) U3A members. This will be used, for example, when distributing the Newsletter, or official notices (e.g., AGM papers) or sending reminders of upcoming events.

Attachments to these emails can be opened by clicking on the active links and will open from the secure website of r1.technology-trust-news.org.

A further step towards improving the efficient use of resources within your 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

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 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 have been sent to our members by email.

Future Study Days – full details not yet on the TVN website: 4th July 2019 **First Aid day** at Benson;
30th August **The Work of William Morris** at Kelmscott Manor; 22nd October **Ukulele Day** at Benson

Next Newsletter: June 2019 Closing date for contributions: 22 May 2019
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