

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



• CHAIRMAN'S NOTES •

This month we welcome eight new members:

Margaret Biggs (Benson), Ann Griffiths (Chilton),
Doug German, Janice and Les King (Crowmarsh Gifford)
Daphne de Speville Mason, Kate and Kevin Deane
(Wallingford)

It's the end of January but I still wish you all a great 2020. Our Committee is certainly working on an interesting and exciting Programme for this U3A Year, more details later.

This time last year we were wondering whether or not to reduce the number of newsletters we produce, but thanks to Sarah Boyt Robinson taking over the reins, we are no longer thinking this. But we still need volunteers for various posts; why not ask to come and

shadow various members of the committee and sub committees to see if it's something you could do?

We had an interesting talk from Tony Hadland about his family history that spanned Ireland and India. I've been impressed with all our speakers; even subjects that might seem dry as dust have turned out to be anything but.

We also had our Annual Celebration Lunch, with delicious food, at Badgemore Golf Club in January and we have, once again to thank Valerie Roddan for her hard work and organisational skills that made it such a success. Valerie has now retired from the job and has been replaced by Jane Milne.

Malcolm

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 7th February Helpers: Pam Paddock, Milli Eaton

Friday 6th March Helpers: Jill Reeves, Tony Reeves



OUTINGS COMMITTEE PLEA

GOOD NEWS!

Two people have stepped up to join the Outings Committee.

• Editorial •

Welcome to the February Newsletter – get through this month and it will be Spring!!

If you prefer the gentle rustle of the printed page and your printer is being graceless 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

ANNUAL CELEBRATION LUNCH

This was at Badgemore Park and was a great success. Over fifty members enjoyed a three course meal at Badgemore Park in mid January.

A very big thank you to Valerie Roddan for organising her thirteenth Celebration Lunch!



• SPEAKER MEETINGS •

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

Wednesday 18th February 2:00 pm

Julia Miles

Ragbag and Cocktails – 28 Years as a Diplomatic Wife

Unfortunately Timothy Walker is unable to do his talk as previously advertised. Julia Miles has filled in for him and her talk is titled **Ragbag and Cocktails – 28 years as a diplomatic wife**. We are grateful to Julia for stepping in at short notice.

Wednesday 18th March 2:00 pm

Julie Summers

Remembered – the History of the Commonwealth War Graves

Julie Summers, our most regular and popular speaker, returns to give a talk based on her own highly acclaimed book **Remembered** which tells the human story behind the extraordinary efforts of those who felt that the fallen should be remembered in perpetuity, and with dignity.

OUTINGS

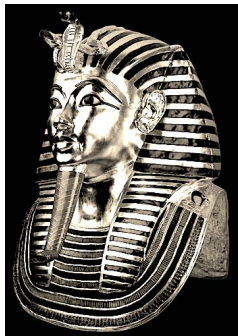
Links to the **TUTANKHAMUN** and **BRIGHTON** Outings are on your February Newsletter email and on our website www.wallingfordu3a.org
You can also pick up booking forms at Coffee Mornings and Speaker Meetings.

TUTANKHAMUN: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh

Saatchi Gallery, London

Friday 28th February 2020

This is now **FULLY BOOKED** but we are running a reserve list. Please contact organiser **Paul Booker** 01491 825864 or 0790 630 8480



Tutankhamun - the boy king, was born in about 1342 BC and inherited the throne at the age of 8 or 9 years. He is thought to have died around 1324.

The exhibition commemorates the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, unearthed by Howard Carter in 1922. A selection of the items discovered then was displayed in London in the 1970's. This new exhibition is larger and displays more than 150 of the tomb's objects.

Unfortunately, the funeral mask has not been allowed to leave Egypt. It is worth noting though that this is the last time ever that Egypt will permit any of Tutankhamun's treasures to leave Cairo.

RIVIERA TRAVEL

Did you know that if you make a personal booking for a holiday with Riviera Travel, Riviera will make a charitable donation of 10% to your U3A group?

This means that if you book a holiday in your name for yourself (who must be a U3A member) and several other friends or family (who need not be members) at absolutely no cost to yourself, Riviera will donate 10% of the full cost of that holiday.

All you need to do is to notify Riviera that you are a U3A member, notify them that your Treasurer's email is treasurer@wallingfordu3a.org and one month after travel Thameside (Wallingford) U3A will receive 10% of your total bill as a charitable donation.

It would be helpful if you also notified Hilly Bailey (Treasurer) at treasurer@wallingfordu3a.org of the total value of your booking, but this is at your discretion.

Please do consider this when you book your holiday, it is an additional way we can raise funds and attempt to keep the subscription down – at absolutely no cost to yourself.



www.rivieratravel.co.uk

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

New and Proposed Groups

Garden Visits: New Group - set up meeting will be held at the March Coffee morning at 10.30 am.

iPad Users 2 Following the meeting I held on Thursday, a new iPad group (2) has been formed which will meet on the 4th Monday afternoon each month at 2.30pm. The first meeting will be 24th February. Carol Chaplin has agreed to be the Group Contact

Yvonne has opened a waiting list for two extra groups:

Rambling 2 Group
Sunday Lunch Group 2

Please contact her if you would like to join.

And is anyone interested in an **UKULELE** group?

BRIGHTON ROYAL PAVILION

27th March 2020

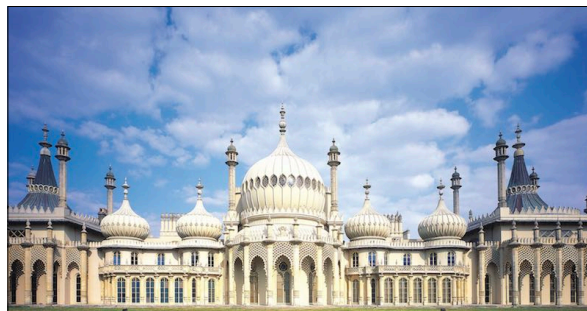
It will soon be time to dust off those dreary cobwebs and shake off the winter blues!

Come with us on Friday 27th March to visit one of the most fantastic and exotic palaces in the world - Brighton Royal Pavilion. Built by George 4th it portrays all the extravagance of his lifestyle. As soon as you enter you are taken in by its overwhelming grandeur.

As an added bonus, a loan by the Queen of 120 works of art that were originally commissioned by the Prince Regent, some of which have not been on display for over 170 years have been relocated to the Pavilion while essential building works are carried out at Buckingham Palace.

Organiser: **Mike Sedman**

01491 825198 outings@wallingfordu3a.org



Groups looking for new members

We have 53 groups of which there are 31 with spaces:

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

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.

Antiques	Wed 12	Two short talks by group members, at the Roddans' house	second Wed	Full	Carole Johnson
* Art/Painting	Thur 6	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 6	Dinton Pastures Lunch on site or at Wheelwright's Arms	first Thur	Full	Rosemary Garner
* Birdwatching 2	Thur 20	Intended footpaths are flooded so email will be sent	third Thur	*	Pam Johnstone
Book Group 1	Tue 11	The Child by Fiona Barton at Ann's house	second Tue	Full	Sue Taylor
* Book Group 2	Thur 27	Pompeii by Robert Harris at Gloria Hamilton-Peach's	fourth Thur	*	Di Young
Book Group 3	Wed 12	Dangerous Crossing by Rachel Rhys at Jane Stubbs's	second Wed	Full	Sheila Findlay
* Book Group 4	Thur 9	Fingers in the Sparkle Jar by Chris Packham at Liz's	second Thur	*	Dee Clarke
* Book Group 5	Thur 23	Fingers in the Sparkle Jar by Chris Packham at Margaret's	fourth Thur	*	Sue English
* Cards: Bridge 1	Thur 13 & Thur 27	2:30 pm at Sheila's	second & fourth Thursdays	*	Sheila Findlay
* Cards: Canasta	Tue 25	at 2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room	fourth Tue	*	Hilly Bailey
* Cards: Cribbage	Mon 10 & Mon 24	10:30 am	second & fourth Mons	*	Joyce Kent
* Cards: Euchre	Tue 11	at 2 till 4 pm The Dolphin back room	second Tue	*	Hilly Bailey
* Computer: iPad Users 1	Wed 26	At Sheila's	fourth Wed	*	Sheila Findlay
Computer: iPad Users 2	Mon 24	10:30 am New Group	fourth Mon	*	Carol Chaplin
* Computer: Mac Users 1	Tue 4	... first Tue		*	Ann Truesdale
* Craft	Mon 3	at 2:00 till 4:00 pm at Centre 70, winter schedule	first Mon	*	Angie Thorrington
Current Affairs 1	Thur 6	at 2:30 pm	first Thur	Full	Trudy Davies
Current Affairs 2	Mon 3	at 2:00 pm	first Mon	Full	Val Mowlam
Digital Photography 2	Tue 11	2:30 pm Topic: Romance at Diane's	second Tue	Full	Sylvia Harrison
* Digital Photography 3	Wed 12	Topic: Portraits	second Wed	*	Malcolm Brooks
French Conversation 1	Thur 13	à dix heures et demie chez Dee	second Thur	Full	Janet Franklin
* French Conversation 2	Mon 3 & Tue 18	Parler français	first Monday & third Tuesday	*	Susan Renn
Genealogy 1	Mon 17	World War II - Effect on my family and home town	third Mon	Full	Linda Matthews
Genealogy 2	Tue 11	at 10:30 am	second Tues	Full	Mary Cozens
History 1	Wed 5	10:30 am Topic: Sutton Hoo at Mike Sedman's	first Wed	Full	Ted Nelson
History 2	Thu 20	Visit to the Oxford Mosque	third Thur	Full	Patricia Shields
* History 3	Wed 12	Oxford Castle and Prison	second Wed	*	Colin Clarke
History 4	Mon 10	Topic: The Barber Surgeons	second Mon	Full	Jenny Potter
* History 5	Wed 19	Subject: Inventions	third Wed	*	Ray Verral
* Latin for Pleasure	Wed 19	Prope finem hiemis	third Wed	*	Roger Morgan
* Lunch Club	Wed 5	...	first Wed	*	Rosemary & Tony Hines
Lunch on Sunday	a Sunday	...	generally third Sunday	Full	Ken Gough
Music: Broader	Tue 4	2.00 pm Olive will be presenting 20th Century Music	first Tues	Full	Val Wolsey
* Music: Classical 1	Tue 25	2:00 pm Beate presents some music by Brahms at her house	fourth Tues	*	Mike Sedman
Music: Classical 2	Mon 10	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 5	Corn Exchange at 9:45 am	first Wed	*	Philippa Davies
Poetry Reading	Wed 12	10:30 am at Jill's	second Wed	Full	Jill Cooney
* Science	Tue 18	morning	third Tues	*	Philippa Cullen
* Scrabble 1	Mon 17	...click of the tiles...	third Mon	*	Sarah Masters
* Scrabble 2	Thur 13	at 2:00 pm ...more click of the tiles...	second Thurs	*	Vee Hadley
* Seminar	Mon 24	LPs or CDs	fourth Mon	*	Gloria Hamilton-Peach
* Singing for Fun	Fri 7 & Fri 21	Choir singing 2 till 3 pm at Baptist Church Thames Street		*	Jan Menzies
Smart Apps	Wed 26	...	fourth Wed	Full	Jan Menzies
* Spanish Improvers	Wed 5 & Wed 5	first & third Wednesday mornings		*	Frances Willoughby
* Writing for Pleasure	Mon 10	Topics: A puzzlement or A piece of string	second Mon	*	Carolyn Newbert
Writing Life History 1	Thur 13	10:30 am Life History stories of members or their families	second Thur	Full	Margaret Pritchard

★ Shorter Walking	Wed 5	3-5 miles	Call Paul for details	first Wed ★	Paul Booker
Rambling	Thur 20	5-6 miles	Circular walk followed by lunch	third Thur Full	Phil Richardson
Moderate 1	Wed 12	6-7 miles		second Wed Full	Julia West
★ Moderate 2	Tue 4	6-7 miles		first Tue ★	Julia West
Longer Walking	Wed 26	8-10 miles		fourth Wed Full	Julia West

DID YOU KNOW?

We now have **466** active members in our U3A?



Have you changed your email address recently? Are you about to?
Or your postal street address or your phone number?

Have you or will you let us know?

Next Newsletter

Closing date for **MARCH** contributions is **Wednesday 19th February**

Newsletters past and present can be viewed on our website www.wallingfordu3a.org

There is no more need for passwords!

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

Malcolm Brooks
chairman@wallingfordu3a.org

Hilly Bailey
treasurer@wallingfordu3a.org

Yvonne Griffiths
groups@wallingfordu3a.org

Paul Booker
outings@wallingfordu3a.org

Sarah Boyt Robinson
newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org

NEW MEMBER ENQUIRIES

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

membership@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

U3A THAMES VALLEY NETWORK

Thameside (Wallingford) U3A is one of thirty-eight U3As within the Thames Valley Network.

Our representative is Paul Booker.

FORTHCOMING STUDY DAYS

Here are the 2020 events, which are also announced on the Thames Valley Network website www.u3atvnetwork.org.uk

Information is also displayed at our Coffee Mornings and Speaker Meetings. Please book early as these Study Days often fill up quickly. Look on Thames Valley Network website for flyers and application forms.

- 18th Mar The History of The Thames is fully booked. This might be repeated later this year.
- 8th Apr Cyber Crime **Protect Your World** held at King's Church, Amersham
- 23rd Apr Understanding Historic Buildings - study day at Benson
- 1st May Geology of the Thames Valley and Why There Are No Volcanoes
- 24th Jun Visit to RHS Wisley
- 3rd July The Environment and Biodiversity
- Oct 5th-11th Holiday to Istanbul
- Quiz Day date to be announced