

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Our U3A has had a long association with Otford Village Memorial Hall. It is the regular meeting place for our Computer, Science and Bridge for Pleasure Groups and is additionally hired by many of us on a one off basis.



I am therefore very pleased to let you know that we are supporting Otford Village Hall's appeal for contributions towards improvements, and in particular the installation of a hearing loop in the Club Room.

The Executive Committee agreed to match any contributions made by the Computer and Science Groups, who have offered to make a donation of £200 each. So our total donation will be £800 and in addition to supporting the Village Hall it will be of great benefit to Sevenoaks U3A and many of our Members who attend meetings there.

Jim Purves chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

E-NEWSLETTER WATCH

Some comments from our Members.

"I would just like to say that the online newsletter is excellent. It is much better to see photographs in colour. The trip to the Farnborough Air Sciences Trust illustrated particularly how colour brings the write up alive. The fun illustrations throughout such as the Christmas pudding in December make it an interesting lively read. It is great that such an improvement should also be saving money for Sevenoaks U3A".

"Just to say that I was apprehensive about receiving the newsletter in this form, but it has turned out to be most satisfactory – clear, easy to read, well laid out. Good suggestion to download before printing, it really doesn't need to be put on paper."

SIGN UP NOW to receive an electronic copy of the Newsletter in full colour direct into your mailbox.

email enewsletter@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

BERYL'S BLOG

Can you help with research?

The Peace Pledge Union, Britain's oldest non-sectarian pacifist organisation, is working to preserve the memory and forgotten stories of the 18,000 First World War Conscientious Objectors. They are seeking U3A members from around London to join the research for a Shared Learning Project. Meetings will take place fortnightly on Thursday mornings, 11am to 1pm, starting on 17th March, with a presentation on the 23rd June. If you think you might be interested in joining this project, please contact Linda Crook at linda.crook.slp@gmail.com for more information. Applications must be made **by 29th February 2016**.

RHS Gardens - Group visits

U3A groups can claim discounts when visiting RHS gardens. These are usually £2 or 10% of the ticket price. Please see u3a.org.uk, Member's Area, Latest News.

Beryl Mansell vicechair@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

Minutes of

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For anyone interested in reading the Minutes of Executive Committee meetings, these can now be found on our website

<http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk>

Click on Executive Committee in the NEWS menu on the right-hand side of the Home page; this display tells you that:

The minutes of the last meeting on January 7th are available on the [Archive](#) page.

Click on [Archive](#).

On the Archive page, you will see tabs for 2011 – 2016; click on 2016. You'll find a heading Executive Committee Meeting Jan 7th. Click on this to read the Minutes. Future Minutes will also be displayed here.

Judy Hebert secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

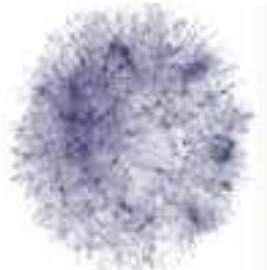
MONTHLY MEETING

2.00pm Wednesday 23 March at the Bat & Ball Community Centre

A talk by Professor Trevor Jones on Infectious Diseases

Professor Jones is a director of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry. From 1987 to 1994 he was a main board director of The Wellcome Foundation with responsibility for research and development of drugs for treating conditions including HIV/AIDS, Epilepsy,

Malaria, Migraine and Hepatitis. He will outline the major global infectious diseases, show how they are transmitted and what is currently available for prevention, treatment and cure.



The Blues Roll On. Jazz and Blues Group 1 Study Afternoon

Four years ago we brought you "Good Morning Blues" an exploration of the country and piano blues with veteran British bluesmen Bob Hall and Dave Peabody.

For "The Blues Roll On" Dave returns in the company of ex Yardbirds harmonica player Alan Glen. They will talk and play us through the migration of the blues from its heartland in the Mississippi Delta to Chicago and beyond where the music with the help of amplification, evolved and flourished. This was captured by such companies as Chess whose records found their way over the pond to UK to kick start a British Blues Scene.

Dave and Alan are themselves part of that history. We are in for a lively afternoon. Look for the flyer in next month's newsletter to get tickets.



For your diary: 19 May 2.00 pm at Otford Village Hall.

Peter Moss Sevenoaks Jazz and Blues 1 jazz1@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

Whist Drive and Buffet Supper

The Whist Group is organising a Whist Drive and Buffet Supper at Kemsing Primary School Hall on Monday 18 April, 6.45pm.

Tickets £10, in aid of Cancer Research.

Come and have a fun evening. All levels of players welcome.

Contact Jill Saunders



YOUR WEBSITE NEEDS YOU!

The Sevenoaks U3A website is becoming an ever more important part of our learning community. It sets out a huge range of information and is used increasingly by members looking for information and activities, and by non-members looking at what we offer and deciding whether to join. All the most recent recruits have joined us after seeing our website. But the website does not run itself, and our U3A is always in need of members who are interested in helping to run and improve our website. To work with the web team, you would not need to be an IT genius, or necessarily to have website skills. You would just need to be able to:

- learn how to insert and remove items;
- solve the occasional problem;
- respond to queries and issues raised by members;
- work with the other team members on generally improving the site over time.

The web team meets about once a month. The (currently) six members work mainly in pairs between these meetings to prepare updates of the site which are then published every month or so. The software used is Net Objects Fusion (NOF) 2015 and you would be given support while becoming familiar with it. If you are interested and would like further information, please email webteam@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk and include a phone number so that we can discuss things in more detail.

SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



Dungeness Visit See flyer with this edition

May 18: Visit to Dungeness Power station and Dungeness Bird Reserve, plus sandwich lunch at the Pilot Inn.

Other Visits



April 21: Guided two hour tour of King's Cross regeneration area, followed by activity of your choice (including guided walk by organiser along the canal path.) This visit is limited to 30 people - so make sure you apply quickly if interested (details on flyer included in last month's Newsletter or available on the website)



June 29: Visit by coach to the Wimpole Estate, a National Trust property which includes a famous Walled Kitchen Garden and Home Farm as well as the Wimpole Hall with its Georgian interiors, plus free guided walks in the acres of parkland. We plan to spend a whole day there.



July 28: Coach trip to Highclere, venue for the filming of Downton Abbey. We have waited two years for this opportunity and have booked places for 49 people to be given a guided tour. This visit is bound to be popular so make sure that you make a note of the date in your diary, along with the other dates given.

Report on the visit to Sonning Mill Theatre last December.

With a recommendation from our Chairman at the time, I booked a Christmas outing to the Mill Theatre at Sonning. This is a very successful theatre/restaurant in a converted mill, in a rural spot by the River Thames. Eileen and Timothy Richards came across the derelict mill that had stopped milling flour. After years of conversion work, the theatre/restaurant opened in 1982. There is a new show every two months and the package always includes a meal. There are Sunday concerts and an events programme in the newly refurbished and most atmospheric Watermill Bar.

We were blessed with a very sunny winter's day and had a good coach journey for the time of year. A most convivial meal at the Mill was followed by the comedy, 'Stepping Out' by Richard Harris, a funny and heart-warming play that had run for many years in the West End. It seemed just the right choice for a relaxing Christmas 'day out'.

Pam Walshe

MEMBERS' CORNER

Please submit items of interest to members to news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

Have you booked your passage on 'The Ragged Road to Swing'?



Tickets are going fast for this exciting Study Day on 24 March, so don't delay getting aboard.

Flyers came out with last month's Newsletter and the response has already been excellent. Places are still available so don't despair; but you will need to send your application in before supplies run out.

Harvey Mahn. jazz2@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

Science Group

Monday 14 March

From Hengist & Horsa to Dreamliner: an overview of advances in airliner design and construction over the past 100 years. Talk by Frank Matthews.

We've moved from fabric and wires, and crossed-fingers, to computer-aided design and manufacture, and replaced metal by composites, resulting in huge improvements in safety and reliability, despite which the basic structural configuration of airliners has remained unchanged since the 1930s.

Oxford Village Memorial Hall, 2pm. All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome. £2 entry includes tea.

Win Gutteridge

Computer Group

Monday 21 March

Printers and Scanners.

Presentation by David Simmons & Don Scales

- Choosing the right Printer for you
- Inkjet and Laser Printers Explored
- Printing From Multiple Devices
- The evils of Printing
- Alternative ways of Scanning
- Trouble shooting
- Are printer Repairs worth it ?

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS

Oxford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks U3A Members welcome

£2 entry includes refreshments

Mike Bamforth

DIARY

MARCH

Wed 9	Bridge
Mon 14	Apple iPad, IMac, iPhone & Watch
Mon 14	Science Group
Tues 15	Strollers
Wed 16	Ambling
Mon 21	Computer Group
Mon 21	Half day walking
Wed 23	Bridge

Wed 23 Monthly Meeting (see p1)

Thurs 24 Jazz Study Day*

APRIL

Mon 11	Apple iPad, IMac, iPhone & Watch
Mon 11	Science Group
Mon 18	Computer Group
Thurs 21	Kings Cross visit*

Wed 27 Monthly Meeting

* flyers for these events are on the U3A website

Ambling

Wednesday 16 March

Meet at Chevening Church for a 4 mile walk, starting at 10 am. Going from Chipstead, the church is at the end of Chevening Road after it continues across the B2211 (Ovenden Road). Park on the road outside the church. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leaders: Jill and Mike Davies

Bridge for Pleasure

Weds 9 & 23 March

9.50 a.m. until 12.15 p.m. The winner on 13th January was Rose Milne and on 27th January was Bill Taylor.

We are an "open" group, so any new players can just come along.

The Group plays at Oxford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month

Colin and Mary Butson

Apple Group

Monday 14 March

iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch

- Apple Maps & Space station spotter
- iTailor & Selectspecs.com
- Booking your holidays
- Using FaceTime

Round Tables Sharing: iPad users, Mac computer users, booking your holiday, Apple Maps and SS spotter.

Oxford Methodist Church Hall from 2 - 4pm

Dave Simmons

Half Day Walking

Monday 21 March

Meet on the green in Weald village in time for a 10am start. A 5 mile walk to Bowzell Wood, Bore Place and Sharp's Place followed by an optional lunch at The Windmill.

Leader: Nick White

The Strollers

Tuesday 15 March

Meet at the Malta Inn at 11.00 for a walk along the River Medway. From Sevenoaks, join the A20 towards Maidstone at Borough Green. Cross straight over the A228, note the B & Q store on the left and soon after that make a left turn off the A20 signposted towards the Aylesford railway station. Follow Station Road, Teapot Lane, High Street and Forstal Road. The turn for Malta is on the right just past the Museum of Kent Rural Life. Optional lunch at the Malta Inn after the walk.

Leader Anne Gutteridge

Newsletter Team:

Victoria Baxter, Elizabeth Purves, Celia Smith

Copy deadline for April Newsletter
(which will be distributed on Wednesday 23 March)

by Tuesday 8 March to

news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk