

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Along with this edition of the Newsletter you will be receiving a copy of the 2016-2017 Handbook. Please take time to look through it and familiarise yourselves with the extensive selection of groups and activities on offer as well as useful names and contact details.

Our next Newsletter will be delivered by direct mail to all those who have elected to receive a paper copy. You should receive your copy prior to the date of the Monthly Meeting. Members should note that copies of the Newsletter will no longer be available for collection at the Monthly Meeting.

A further consequence of transferring to direct mail (with its economic and practical advantages) is that we will no longer be able to include 3rd party flyers with the Newsletter. You will continue to receive flyers relating to our own U3A activities.

We will continue to accept 3rd party flyers to be placed on the information table at our Monthly Meetings, however these should relate to local, non commercial events only.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Open Meeting on September 28th.

Jim Purves chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

OPEN AFTERNOON Wednesday 28 September

Our first meeting of the academic year 2016-2017 will be held at the Community Centre on Wednesday, 28th September. Group representatives will have set up their stands by 2 pm, after which we hope you will all come to the Community Centre to meet up with colleagues you may not have seen this summer and, of course, to join new groups.

Refreshments will be provided.

Members of the Executive Committee, the Group Development Team and the group organisers themselves all look forward to seeing you there

Susan Henson - Group Development Coordinator

groupdev@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

BERYL'S BLOG

Live Longer, Live Well – Seize the Day

If you would like to see the talk given to U3A members at the Royal Society 7 June 2016 go to

https://youtube.com/watch?v=_prg77TVOQQ

Exclusive offer for U3A members

All U3A members buying tickets for Write on Kew literary event can claim a free tea or coffee in the Gardens. A free exclusive Kew Connections literary guided walk on 22 or 23 September is also offered to U3A ticket purchasers. This offer is limited to 160 tour tickets, so book soon.

To book tickets phone 0871 2305536 or see link below. Enter promotional code U3A at checkout. The promotion is open to 31 August.

www.kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/whats-on/write-on-kew

Beryl Mansell. vicechair@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

FLYERS
INCLUDED WITH
THIS NEWSLETTER
Sheffield Park coach trip
Watts Gallery
and Wisley

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2016-2017

Please remember that a new subscription structure comes into play on **SEPTEMBER 20th** 2016 whereby **each member** pays a common subscription of **£13**.

★ **SINGLE MEMBERS:** there will be no change
YOU NEED NOT TAKE ANY ACTION

★ **JOINT MEMBERSHIP** increases from **£18** to **£26**
PLEASE CHANGE YOUR STANDING ORDER

You can do this through

- 1 Online banking
- 2 Letter to your bank
- 3 By visiting your bank

OUR COMMITTEES

[With acknowledgement to
Helen Green - Cardigan U3A]

Our committees are often undervalued but not a lot would happen without them.

Just imagine what would happen if a committee wasn't there!

- ◆ There would be no monthly meetings as no one would have booked a speaker or reserved and paid for the Community Centre.
- ◆ There would be no one to welcome you, no information table, no PA system, laptop or projector and no one to organise that refreshing cup of tea afterwards.
- ◆ No one would be available to support and advise Group Organisers and help form new study groups.
- ◆ No laptops, projectors, screens or equipment for study groups.
- ◆ No website, no newsletter, no Third Age Matters.
- ◆ No trips, no festive lunch - in fact no social events at all!
- ◆ No management of finances or insurance cover.
- ◆ No membership records (because we would have no members).

In short - NO U3A

Why is it that we struggle to persuade our Members to sit on Committees?

IS IT YOUR TURN? -

EVERYONE NEEDS TO DO THEIR BIT

I wait to hear from you.

Jim Purves - Chairman

WEBSITE NEWS

Much is going on backstage with the website at the moment. Over the next few weeks various pages will be checked and updated to make sure everything is in line with the new Handbook, but this will take time. Meanwhile if you have an officer role or are a GO, please keep an eye on content relevant to you and let us know if any errors creep in.

Jeff Lee.

webteam@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Jim Purves
Chairman



Beryl Mansell
Vice Chair



Susan Henson
Group Development



Brian Cairnie
Treasurer



Nick White
Meetings and Hospitality



Jackie Bradforth
Secretary



Pam Walshe
Social Committee



Jill Davies
Membership Secretary



Vacancy
Communications

SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



Sheffield Park Coach Trip

A coach trip is being organised on October 19 to Sheffield Park, where the trees should be in splendid autumn colour, followed by Standen, where there will be the opportunity to visit the house and grounds and also an exhibition if you are interested. More details on the flyer enclosed.

This visit is bound to be popular - so please fill in the application form and send it off as soon as possible.

Watts Gallery and Wisley Garden

On November 9 a visit by coach is being organised to the Victorian painter G F Watts' impressive Gallery in the village of Compton near Guildford, followed by a visit to the world class RHS Wisley Garden while it is still light. This trip is also likely to generate a lot of interest. So read the flyer enclosed, which gives full details, and act quickly to apply.





Photo: Cherry Moss

All good things come to an end: seven years of a successful Study Group

A *Woman's Place* changed its name twice during its 7-year existence, but the aims remained the same throughout – to explore and discuss a wide range of issues relating to women, both contemporary and from the past. Sometimes we chose 'stand-alone' topics, and sometimes we decided to have a theme running for a few months.

In addition to a presentation by a member, we always left time for people to introduce topics relating to women which they had spotted in the media or elsewhere. Discussion (and even argument!) always formed an important part of each meeting. Occasionally, in place of a presentation by one member, we held a current affairs activity in which everyone brought relevant news cuttings to the session. Space here does not permit me to include the impressive list of the 70+ presentations we have had, but just a few examples were: Women in Medicine, Women's role in WWII, the Status of Women in Islam, or sometimes a focus on individual brilliant women, such as Fanny Burney and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson. We arranged three outings, and organised a Study Afternoon in order to bring our activities to the wider membership. With the same aim in mind, in 2012 we produced a booklet, *Achieving Women*, containing shortened versions of some of our presentations.

Of course, we have made new friendships over the years, enjoyed fun and laughter as well as the more serious side of our sessions. It is sad to see the end of the Group, but it has been a very good seven years, and it is probably time for a rest. We congratulate ourselves on keeping the

Group interesting and vibrant for so long – I hope it won't be too long before some enterprising member decides to start up something similar.

Group Organisers during the seven years were Celia Smith, Susan Henson and Barbara Eastwood.

To see the full article, go to the website: <http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/WomenIW-Topics-over-7-years.pdf>

Celia Smith

Apple Group

If you have a Mac computer, an iPad, iPhone or Apple Watch come and join the Sevenoaks Apple Group as we are expanding and moving to the Otford Village Hall in Otford High Street. The meetings have been changed to the 4th Monday in the month and the first meeting after the summer break is at 2pm on Monday 26th September.

Most of the Apple software both for Mac computers, iPads and iPhones is going to change with the announcements happening at the Las Vegas convention in September. The software names are changing and the new Sierra upgrades will be introduced together with introduction of iPhone 7 and possibly new iPads and computers. We hope to cover all this in detail in our next few meetings. If you own an Apple product or are thinking about ditching Microsoft and the virus problems please come to our open meetings on the 4th Monday in the month. To register please send an email to david.simmons22@btinternet.com or give Dave Simmons a call on 01732 457646.

DIARY

September

Tues 13 Spitalfields Tour

Wed 21 Ambling

Mon 26 Half day walking

Mon 26 Apple Group

Wed 28 Open Afternoon

October

Mon 10 Science Group

Wed 12 Bridge for Pleasure

Mon 17 Computer Group

Wed 19 Sheffield Park coach trip

Mon 24 Apple Group

Wed 26 Bridge for Pleasure

Wed 26 Monthly Meeting

MONTHLY MEETINGS

We have the Open Afternoon on Wednesday 28 September.

The next monthly meeting will be on 26 October when Tom Hart-Dyke of Lullingstone Castle will give a talk about his horticultural interests and experiences.

MEMBERS' CORNER

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

U3A Member's Flea Market

If you are having a "life laundry" of collections at home, I run a Fleamarket every Friday morning at the Angel Centre in Tonbridge for anything and everything! Just come along and start selling! Contact U3A Member Sue Carmichael. sue.carmichael@btinternet.com

Download your favourite magazines for free!

You can now download electronic versions of some popular magazines via the Kent Libraries website. Anyone with a Kent Library card can access the Zinio service. Titles can be read online or downloaded to Android, Apple and Kindle Fire devices via a free app. Thalia Sayer.

Sevenoaks Literary Festival 23 September to 7 October.

The Festival includes talks by Sophie Hannah, Lemn Sissay, Juliet Nicolson, The Milton Consort and Anne Sebba. Tickets from Sevenoaks Bookshop.

www.sevilitfest.com

Florum Art Exhibition 10 - 17 September

Florum 2016 has invited over 50 artists to create a colourful and inspiring exhibition of works celebrating plant life and the landscape. 10 to 17 September at the Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve. Open daily 10am to 5pm, Free admission.

www.florum.co.uk

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

Ambling

Wednesday 21 September

Meet at Shipbourne Common car park for a 4 mile walk starting at 10 am. The car park is about 100 yards along Upper Green Road, which is opposite The Chaser Inn (post code TN11 9PE) on the A227 Tonbridge to Ightham road. New members welcome.

Leader: Grahame Lee . 01474 852007.

Apple Group

Monday 26 September

iPad, iMac & iPhone

- ◆ Presentation from MacMan
- ◆ Getting the most out of OS7
- ◆ Round Tables: iPad new and existing users & your question discussion.

Otford Village Hall from 2 - 4pm

Dave Simmons. 01732 457646

Bridge for Pleasure **Weds 12 & 26 October**

The Group plays at Otford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50 a.m. until 12.15 p.m. The winner on 8th June was Jean Stackhouse and on 22nd June was Pam Callahan.

Please note that we do not meet in September.

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

Colin and Mary Butson. 01732 458356.

Half Day Walking

Monday 26 September

Meet in layby at fork in B2188 south of Penshurst. Turn right at T-junction in the middle of Penshurst and continue for 3/4 mile. The walk leader will be there early. An easy 6 mile walk to Speldhurst and Poundbridge. Lunch afterwards at the Leicester Arms. All members are welcome.

Leader: Nick White 01959 564145

Science Group

Monday 10 October

Our new season of open Science talks will begin on October 10th. The talk "Whither our transparent sacks: rubbish recycling in Sevenoaks" will be given by Charles Nouham.

A number of members have already undertaken a visit to the Allington rubbish recycling site to see how our black sacks are disposed of and help to generate electricity. This talk complements the previous visit and addresses how our white sacks are managed in the recycling process.

Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks U3A Members welcome. £2 entry includes tea.

For details of our full season of talks visit our website and click on the "Study Groups/Open Groups" tab.

Bob Ruffles