

DIARY

March

March	8	Bridge for Pleasure
March	13	Science Group
March	15	Ambling
March	20	Computer Group
March	22	Bridge for Pleasure
March	22	Monthly Meeting
March	27	Half day walking
March	27	Apple Group
March	28	Crossness Pumping Station visit
March	29	Half a Sixpence Theatre visit

April

April	10	Science Group
April	23	Brick Lane Music Hall
April	24	Apple Group
April	25-8	Sevenoaks U3A Arts Exhibition
April	26	Monthly Meeting

MONTHLY MEETINGS

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 22 March at the Bat and Ball Community Centre.

Ian Porter, who specialises in English history, will give a talk on **The History of Suffragettes**.

FLYERS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Lewes trip

Faversham trip

Science Study Day

Jazz and Blues

Arts Exhibition registration form

Crossness Tour and Steaming Event

Please go to [Home](#) / [Members Info](#) / Flyers /
To download any of these

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Much of my time these days is spent trying to persuade Members to take on committee posts. I can't be very good at it because I am having little success!

Our current Treasurer Brian Cairnie comes to the end of his term in a few months time and we need to find a replacement. I have asked a number of Members but all have declined.

I need to be very clear with Members regarding the consequences of not having a Treasurer in place on the Executive Committee.

It is a requirement of both our own Constitution and the Charity Commission that our funds are properly managed. Without a Treasurer in place we would have to limit our financial activities to the bare minimum. There are certain bills we would have to pay (such as the Third Age Trust levy), but other items of expenditure such as the printed newsletter, hall hire, capital equipment etc would have to be reviewed and in some cases stopped.

Furthermore we could only carry on limping along like this for another year at which point we would have no alternative but to wind up our U3A.

IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT?

The ethos of our U3A is that we are a learning cooperative. Our success depends on all of us contributing in some way and thanks are due to those who already do. We are a 1,000 strong and it should not be so difficult to get Members to take on committee roles - but it is!

So, please consider what you can do to contribute to your U3A - particularly with regard to the Treasurer's job - so that we can confidently look forward to the future.

Please give me a call.

Jim Purves 01732 463041

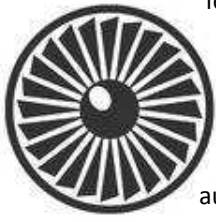
chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



Newsletter Team:

Victoria Baxter, Elizabeth Purves, Celia Smith

Copy for April Newsletter (which will be distributed by 22 March) by Tuesday 7 March to:
news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

New Group: Aviation

The group would have the standard U3A format with members giving talks/presentations on topics of individual interest or themes decided by the group. Possible subjects include: personalities, aircraft, engines, airlines, airfields, military, civil, auxiliary equipment, instrumentation, government influence, etc. The group might also organise outings to places of interest.

Contact Frank Matthews

**Music Appreciation Group B:
two places available**

We have two vacancies in this group for members who enjoy listening to and learning more about (mainly) classical music. We meet on the 4th Monday from 2-4 pm in members' homes to listen to recordings of works, for example those of specific composers or linked with a particular style, period or theme. Members present programmes individually or bring pieces linked to an agreed theme. Usually, shorter items or extracts are played. The aim is to widen members' knowledge and appreciation of music by learning about the pieces and their composers and origins.

Ideally you would need to have room for nine members including yourself, reasonable audio equipment, and access to recordings usually on CD.

If you are interested or would like further information, please call me on 01959 525225 or email me from the red email link on our website at <http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Study-Groups/Group-Categories/Arts-Appreciation/arts-appreciation.html>

Jeff Lee. Group Organiser, Music Appreciation Group B

Bird Watching

Several members have expressed interest in starting up a new Bird Watching Group to begin next September.

If you are interested in joining then please contact Jim Purves at chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

**Proposed Folk Dancing Group**

We are aiming to set up a Folk Dancing Group, starting in October, which will take in Folk and Country dancing, including some traditional 'Playford' style dancing (the sort you would see in Jane Austen's Country Balls!) as well as more modern dances.

No experience at all is needed. We have an expert instructor on board who will take us through all the steps and movements, and as each dance is 'called', i.e. the instructions are prompted throughout the dance, titanic feats of memory will not be an issue. If, however, you do have folk dancing experience, or have undertaken Scottish, Irish or English country dancing in the past, please do join us.

There is no need to be a couple to take part: most folk groups have a number of single people who can easily take up either 'men's' or 'women's' parts. Couples, of course, will also be more than welcome.

If this sounds an interesting proposition, please contact Peter and Lyn Nixon so we can estimate numbers, as a certain minimum number is needed for a group to be viable. We can also provide you with further information and answer any questions you may have.

Folk dancing provides an ideal combination of gentle exercise of both body and mind and a great deal of sociability and fun. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Nixon

Science Discussion Group 2

A new science discussion group is now up and running. We have a core number of members to make the group viable but there are vacancies for new members.

The group plans to explore topics of scientific topic interest that may be in the news, or perhaps a joint activity to investigate some of the bigger global and environmental issues.

The group will research topics of interest with findings presented to the group in any form for discussion. The research can be done individually or shared with one or more group members. Some of the more complex topics will require participation of all group members to maximise the expertise that may exist within the group.

Prior scientific knowledge is not essential, just a keenness to explore topics of interest.

The Meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday of each month 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

For more information please contact Bob Ruffles

sciencediscuss@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

There are a few places left for the visit to the **Crossness Pumping Station** plus 'steaming event' specially for us on **Tuesday March 28**. If you would like to join the group for what promises to be a fascinating day please use the flyer on page 11 of this newsletter as soon as possible, and post to Sue Christy.



On Thursday May 18 there will be a visit by coach to the attractive and historically interesting town of **Lewes** with a guided tour arranged. More information is given on the flyer included with this Newsletter. Please apply promptly as spaces are limited.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS (continued)

Calling all Sevenoaks U3A artists!

You are invited to submit up to 5 items: paintings, photographs, sculpture, pottery & other crafts for the

SEVENOAKS U3A ARTS EXHIBITION

At the KNOLE ACADEMY

Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks

April 25th – 28th 2017

For further information please contact **Ann Evans**
and send your completed registration form to her.

Application
form with this
newsletter

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary page 1 for complete list of events

Computer Group Monday 20 March

Using **Excel Spreadsheets** (rescheduled from January)
Presentation by Chris Streets showing how Excel can be used in everyday tasks

Oxford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks and Knole U3A members welcome.
£2 entry includes refreshments.

Mike Davies

Ambling Wednesday 15 March

Meet at Kemsing Village Hall car park (grid ref. 557588) for an approx. 4 mile walk starting at 10:00am. The Village Hall in Kemsing is next to the church and close to the junction of High Street with St Edith's Road. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leader: Grahame Lee

Apple Group Monday 27 March

iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch

- ◆ Introducing iMovie - Gwyn
- ◆ Taking and sending photos - Dave
- ◆ Round Tables: iMovie, Sending Photos, New to iPad, & Converting to a Mac.

Oxford Village Memorial Village Hall from 2 -4 pm

Next Meetings 24th April & 22nd May (4th Mondays)

Dave Simmons

Bridge for Pleasure Wednesdays 8 & 22 March

Bridge for Pleasure will take place on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings of the month.

For more information please contact Sue and John Christy

Half Day Walking Monday 27 March

Meet at Nizels Country Club, Nizels Lane, Hildenborough, TN11 8NU, NGR 545502, in time for a 10.00 a.m. start. After entering the car park turn left, and meet by the green and white hut at the bottom. The walk is 6¼ miles to Wickhurst Brook and Fletcher's Green. It is flat with easy going. Lunch for those who wish to stay will be at Nizels where the leader is a member.

Leader: Nick White

Science Group Monday 13 March

Exploring the safety and efficacy of new medicines: design and operation of a human clinical trial. Talk by David McGibney

The development of a new medicine is a long, expensive and uncertain process with many failures to every success. This talk will describe elements of the clinical research process from first administration to humans and will illustrate how the safety and efficacy is determined with examples from different therapeutic areas.

Oxford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome. Entry £2.00

Bob Ruffles

MEMBERS' CORNER

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

Syrian refugees

U3A Member Elizabeth Purves is running a Petition calling upon Sevenoaks District Council to take part in the Kent Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme and provide at least one Syrian refugee family a home, as has every other district in Kent. If you would like to sign the Petition on line, you will find it at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/petitions (4th paragraph down, view e-petitions received).

Opera & Ballet

Opera Group Organiser Ken Brown is enthusiastically promoting a series of live screen performances from the Royal Opera House organised by "The Space" an umbrella organisation running events at the Pamoja Hall, Sevenoaks School. Events are usually screened on a Sunday afternoon and concessions are available. The next Opera screening is Madam Butterfly on April 2nd. For further details go to www.thespacesevenoaks.co.uk/roh/