

## Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty Fourth Annual General Meeting of Sevenoaks U3A will be held at 2.00 pm on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018** at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat and Ball, Sevenoaks.

Nominations from Members for Executive Committee vacancies for Vice Chairman, Monthly Meetings Organiser, and External Affairs Coordinator must be lodged with the Secretary by 30th May 2018.

The Secretary and Membership Secretary will have completed their 2-year term of engagement and are standing for re-election under the terms of the Constitution. Further nominations for these posts may be submitted by Members to the Secretary by 30th May 2018.

Any motion that a Member may wish to be debated at the Annual General Meeting must be lodged with the Secretary by 30th May 2018, and be duly proposed and seconded.

AGM papers will be included with the June Newsletter.

**Jackie Bradforth**

[secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

AT THE BAT & BALL COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 2PM

### WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL

**Paul Laundy** will talk about *Churchill and Chartwell*. He will concentrate on lesser known aspects of Sir Winston and his home. Paul has been highly recommended by members who have heard him speak elsewhere.

This is a change to our advertised talk. Janie Ramsay who was to have spoken on the subject of antiques has had to cancel due to forthcoming medical treatment, but we are hoping that she will be able to come later in the year.

### WEDNESDAY 23 MAY

**Kev Reynolds** will give a talk entitled *Mountaineering – A walk in the Clouds*. He is an author, photojournalist and lecturer. Kev has spent fifty years exploring mountain landscapes and thirty writing about his experiences. He will share some of the high points of a full life as a wanderer and writer. He is the leading international authority on many mountain ranges including the Pyrenees, many regions of the Alps and the Nepal Himalayas.

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Nick White, our Vice Chair and Monthly Meetings Organiser, is standing down at this year's AGM.

Very many thanks Nick for your valued input to our U3A.

I am pleased to announce that Richard Baxter has kindly agreed to take over the running of our Monthly Meetings. However we need a volunteer to take over the organisation of the speakers programme and book speakers for future dates. We have a long list of potential speakers to choose from.

If you are interested in taking over this role please contact Nick (01959 564145) or myself (01732 463041)

Jim Purves

[chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## HANDBOOK 2018-19

### Changes to your Group Contact details?

#### New Group Organiser?

Is the text up to date and does it reflect your Group's activities?

The 2018-19 version of the Sevenoaks U3A Handbook will be going to press at the end of June. If you would like any changes to be made to the text, contact details or group organiser, please notify Sue Christy as soon as possible and definitely by 14 June.

All changes need to be notified by email or post.

## DIARY FOR MAY

### MAY

May 9	Bridge for Pleasure
May 14	Science Group
May 16	Ambling
May 21	Computer Group
May 23	Bridge for Pleasure
May 28	Half day walking
<b>May 23</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b>

### JUNE

<b>June 13</b>	<b>Science Seminar</b>
<b>June 27</b>	<b>AGM</b>

## European Affairs

This new group has now started and made some outline decisions. It will meet monthly on the second Wednesday from 2-4pm, rotating round members' homes. Richard Baxter has agreed to chair the first meeting, but the role of Organiser will be taken by Rob White. John Harris from **Europe Today** will continue to assist the group until it is established.

This group hopes to discuss a wide range of topics, including current issues of Brexit and the changes ahead in Britain's relationship with the EU, but also look at the history of Europe in the recent past and how that has impacted on national decisions today. There is also interest in 'culture' in the broadest sense. Members have useful experience of working and living abroad, and several speak a foreign language.



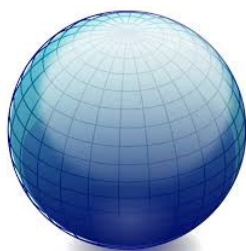
The first working meeting will be on **Wednesday 9th May**, 2-4pm at the house of Rob White, 21 Chesterfield Drive, Riverhead. Members are asked to bring a newspaper and be ready to discuss an article on some Europe related topic. Please confirm to Rob if you will attend, and which newspaper you intend to bring. There are currently six on the list, but further members are very welcome to join.

Group Organiser: Rob White

## Peace and Conflict Group

With the departure of one of our group members to another area of Kent, we have space for one or two new members.

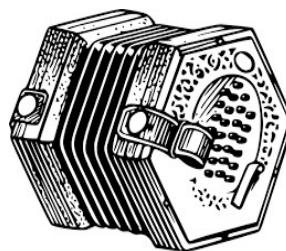
Our Group embraces a much wider area of interest than just military battles. As we have evolved we have recognised that the background to conflict has much wider consequences which embrace factors such as politics, sociology, economics and technology, and this leads to a wider view of the effects of conflict and how it shapes the world in which we live.



Our studies to date have included a family connection to the Battle of Trafalgar, the complex background to the current Middle East conflict, Military Intelligence and its impact on technology. In the future we will be exploring similar topics.

Contact Bob Ruffles. [peace@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:peace@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## English Concertina Group



Up until now this has been meeting as a Knole group, but it will become a Sevenoaks group from this autumn, open to members from both U3As.

The group is a small one and has been running for about 8 years. They would welcome new members and may even be able to help with the tuition of someone who can already read music or who has played an instrument such as a recorder. They may also be able to loan out a concertina.

The group meets on alternate Monday mornings, 10.30, at the Methodist Church Hall, Otford. They play mostly for enjoyment, but occasionally give a small public performance. From time to time they play music together with the Recorder Group.

If you would be interested in joining this group please contact Dave Robson.



## Drama Group

Would you like to join us in the production that we are planning for later this year?

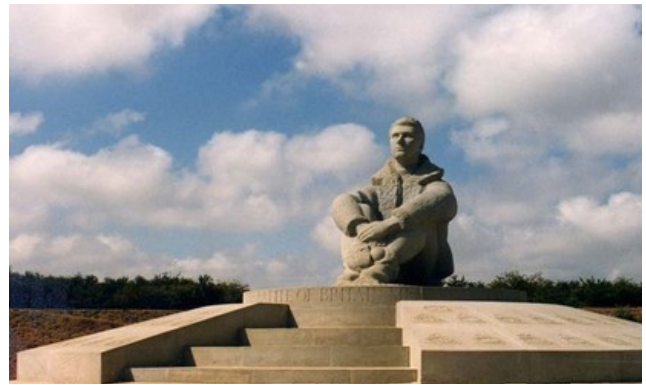
We would love to have a few more people, especially two or three men, to be part of the show either on stage or back stage.

If you are interested or would like to know more please contact Pamela Murphy

On **Wednesday September 12** there will be a trip by coach to Folkestone to explore this historic town, which was involved in air wars and the evacuation of Dunkirk.

After free time there will be a visit to the Battle of Britain memorial - with its exhibitions, flight simulator, etc., and we will then travel on to the Kent Battle of Britain Museum which is based on the site of RAF Hawkinge.

This will be a full and fascinating day which is bound to excite a lot of interest - so be sure to apply promptly on the flyer attached where full details are given.



### Report on the visit to Chichester



PHOTO BY JIM MORTON-ROBERTSON

After a welcome cup of coffee in the Refectory Restaurant we entered by the West Door of the Cathedral to meet our guides. The party was divided into three groups.

The building of the cathedral was commenced in 1076 and was consecrated in 1108 with additional buildings added over the centuries. Chichester Cathedral is forward looking, the pulpit being of modern design, replacing the old large Victorian one.

There is a most striking piece of tapestry at the High Altar which was designed by John Piper in 1966, with very bright colours. When it was unveiled there was a mixed reaction and at the first service some of the congregation wore dark glasses in protest! When over the years the

windows were replaced, due to bomb damage, Marc Chagall was commissioned to design a window based on Psalm 150.

In a smaller chapel a work by Graham Sutherland is on show.

The remainder of our time in this Roman city was free, some visited the Pallant Gallery to view the Pop Art Exhibition, others met up with friends and as it was market day in the city this was an additional interest.

Thank you to Copper Earthrowl for organising the trip.

**Joyce Allen**

### ALSO ON THE WEBSITE:

Flyer for trip to Folkestone on 12 September  
Paper on Data Protection(2)



## MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary page 1 for complete list of events

### Bridge for Pleasure Wednesdays 9 and 23 May

The Group plays at Otford Village Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50 a.m. until 12 noon. Dates for your diary are 9 and 23 May.

The winner on 14 February was Jackie Bradforth, on 14<sup>th</sup> March Isobel Pedersen and on 28<sup>th</sup> March, Jill Sharp.

New members are always welcome. We are an "open" group, so new players can just come along on the day. We play the 'Chicago' format so you do not need a partner.

For more information, please ring **John and Sue Christy**

### Science Group Open Meeting Mon 14 May

Our talk for May - ***Bloodhound SSC Update - Progress on the attempt to break the 1000 mph barrier and set new world records for a car.*** **Mary McKinley**

In the Autumn of this year, Bloodhound SSC is scheduled to run for the first time on its specially created race track at Hakskeen Pan, South Africa. The team will be targeting 500 mph – a key milestone on the journey to setting a new World Land Speed Record.

Mary McKinley introduced us to the Bloodhound SSC project at our October 2014 Science Meeting and the SSC tail fin now includes our Sevenoaks U3A name as a supporter of the project. Mary will update us on the technical challenges that have been overcome and progress toward the final goal of 1000 mph.

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

**Bob Ruffles**

### Sevenoaks U3A Science Summer Seminar 13th June 2018

#### DEADLINE APPROACHING!

Applications for our Science Seminar on "Technology meets Medicine - Bio-Engineering & Robotics" are coming in from U3A members from across Kent. Do not miss out on this event and make sure your application is received by the **18<sup>th</sup> May**.

A flyer for this was issued in the March and April Newsletter and is also available on our website <https://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Flyer-Science-Seminar-2018-Flyer.pdf>

**Bob Ruffles** for the Science Committee

### Ambling Wednesday 16 May

Meet at 10 am in the car park of the Leicester Arms (post code TN11 8BT) in the High Street in Penshurst. This Hotel is approximately opposite the St John the Baptist church. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leaders: **Anna and Chris Rowley**



### Half Day Walking Monday 28 May

Meet by Chiddingstone church and the Castle Inn in time for a 10am start. TN8 7AH, grid reference 502452. A five-mile walk to Bough Beech with easy going. Lunch afterwards for those who wish to stay will be at the Castle Inn. All U3A members are welcome to join the walk.

Leader: **Velma Keys**

### Computer Group Monday 21 May

This month's talk will be given by Tony Fishpool who is one of our regular speakers and probably well known to most Sevenoaks U3A members. Tony will be talking about file storage and finding lost files, but those who have heard Tony before will know he has a vast knowledge of computer topics and the question and answer sessions are always very lively.

We are still in need of more volunteers to make the tea at the meetings as well as people to serve on the committee.

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

**Mike Davies.**

### Apple Group

**iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch**

As the 4th Monday in May is a bank holiday there is no Apple Group meeting this month. Our next meeting before the summer break is on **25th June**.

If you want to join the group or get more information please email David Symmonds