

HANDBOOK 2019-20

LAST CHANCE FOR CHANGES

Changes to your group contact details?

New group leader?

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

The 2019-20 edition 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 Group Development at groupdev@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

or communications@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk as soon as possible and definitely by 20 June.

For any queries, please ring 01955 522768 or 01959 533105. All changes need to be notified by email or phone.

Photo: Victoria Granville Baxter



PRESENTATION TO JIM PURVES

After the May Executive Committee Meeting Jim Purves was presented with an engraved glass tankard in recognition of his eight years of service on the Sevenoaks U3A Committee. During this time he served as both Chairman and Treasurer. On the same occasion, three other Committee members – Sue Christy, Jackie Bradforth and Susan Henson - were presented with bouquets (see photo in the June issue).

DIARY 2019

July 10	Bridge for Pleasure
July 17	Ambling
July 22	Half Day Walking
July 24	Bridge for Pleasure

Sept 25th: 25th Anniversary Celebration

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

We are holding our AGM on Wednesday 26 June at 2 pm in St Nicholas Church. I hope to see you there, so we achieve a quorum. The AGM is an opportunity for you to get to know more about your U3A. It's also an opportunity meet the new Executive Committee members and to say goodbye to some stalwarts from the committee, particularly Jim Purves who has been a committee member for a number of years and has served as Treasurer and Chairman in that time. Our Group Organiser Susan Henson and the Secretary Jackie Bradforth are leaving too. I thank them all for their valuable contribution to our organisation. Following the AGM, Musaïc Swing will be performing.

As many of you know, we have been using a new venue for our monthly meetings since April - St Nicholas Church in Sevenoaks town centre, while the Community Centre is being renovated. We have had a few teething problems but hopefully these are now resolved. The Committee would be very interested in any feedback, good or bad, about this new venue, so please contact me or my successor with your views.

Talking of the monthly meetings, we are in dire need of a new person to organise the tea and biscuits for this event, ideally with a rota of support. If you feel you could take on either the Co-ordinator role or be one of the volunteers, please do get in touch with Barbara Coleyshaw, Richard Baxter or one of the other Committee members. In the meantime, can those attending the meeting either get there a few minutes early to help set up, or offer to make and serve teas at the end of the talk. Thank you! A case of many hands make light work.

As I am also leaving the committee, this is my last Chairman's Chat, so my best wishes to you all and to Sevenoaks U3A, now 25 years young!

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM. Thank you for your attendance.

Sue Christy chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Amended Report from the Trustees

FLYERS : Anniversary Celebration

Brick Lane

Judy Hebert



Photo by Geoff Joyce



photo by Charles Hebert

The second day was our longest - about 50 miles cycling south to Carentan. After lingering at a beautiful moated chateau in the middle of nowhere we soon hit the converted disused railway track which formed the route for the major part of the day – how well the French prepare and maintain their cycle routes. It was at lunch time that we made the big discovery – cider! We were in rich apple growing territory and in the evening some of us felt obliged to sample the more serious apple product – Calvados! Our auberge was delightfully quirky – one bedroom had a bath slap in the middle of the room!



Patrick Pascall

European Affairs Group

Having started last year when the European Studies Group became full, we are now just completing our first year as a new group. We decided at the beginning to try not to spend too long talking about B*** and preferred to enjoy the rich cultural heritage and history of the European continent, with everyone joining in the lively monthly discussions.

Four new members joined last month but there remains space in the group if you would like to come along.

Our first meeting next year will be 18th September at 2.30pm, and then every 3rd Wednesday in the month, ending in June.

Rob White euroaffairs@sevenoaks3a.org.uk

U3A Science Seminar



On 5 June, Sevenoaks U3A Science Group held their annual seminar at the East Malling Research Orchards Conference Centre on the theme of Forensics: The Expert Witnesses. This hugely popular topic was heavily oversubscribed and the fortunate 191 attendees were treated to four excellent presentations covering: the origins of forensic science (Professor Ron Denney); firearms (Huw Griffiths); the use of DNA analysis (Julie Allard); and, an investigation into a dismembered body found in the River Thames (Ray Fysh). All speakers had a wealth of experience, ranging from 30 to 45 years, with much of their time spent working for the Forensic Science Service, which was controversially disbanded in 2012. Attendees came from U3As across Kent, in addition to Sevenoaks, participating in a lively question and answer session chaired by Professor Denney. Everyone departed with a much better understanding of the role of "real forensic scientists" involving collaboration across a broad spectrum of technologies including Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology, Psychology and Meteorology, combined with persistence and intellectual curiosity.

Dr Tony Sinden

Art Exhibition



photo by Pamela Murphy

Over the May Day weekend at our art exhibition, we suggested that all of the viewers told us the title of their favourite picture. The results were very interesting. The nicest thing was that every member of the painting group had at least some people really liking (some actually loving) one or more of their masterpieces! So we ended our 3 day event with 20 very happy artists. We sorted out the 5 members who pleased the most people. In the photograph we have from left to right David Taylor (29 votes), Jane Taylor (12 votes), Wendy Lankester (a magnificent 39 votes), and Jack Parker (26 votes). The 5th artist, Lynda Charlton, is not in the photo as she was on holiday, but her result was 20 votes. As you see it was Wendy's day. Not only was she pleasing so many viewers but she sold 4 paintings as well!

Pamela Murphy

Visit to the Mary Rose Museum, Portsmouth 11th September



As a follow up to the talk at the Science Open meeting in January the Science Committee is planning a visit to the Mary Rose Museum in September and we need to establish the level of interest for such a visit to make the trip viable. The outline plan will be to use a 35-seater coach and there are still places available. The trip includes return coach travel from Baker's Yard, Otford Road, museum entry and guided tour of the museum. The cost is estimated to be £34 and will be subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

Further details regarding timings and parking arrangements will be provided nearer the date.

If you are interested in this visit then please send your name, email address and telephone number to:
Rob Weighill at weighills@btinternet.com

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary on page 1 for complete list of events

AMBLING

Wednesday 17 July

There will be a walk in July. Please contact **Mike Davies** for details.

COMPUTER GROUP

No more meetings until October.

Mike Davies

BRIDGE FOR PLEASURE

Weds 10 & 24 July

The Group plays at Otford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month from October to the end of July, from 9.45 a.m. until 12 noon. There will be no bridge in August or September. We start again on Wednesday 9th October. The winners in May were Dave Record and Stephen Hale. New members are always welcome. We are an 'open' group so new players can just come along on the day.

We play ACOL in a 'Chicago' format so you do not need a partner.

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

HALF DAY WALKING

Monday 22 July

Meet in the car park at Halstead recreation ground in time for a 10am start. TN14 7DD, grid reference 489614. The walk is 5 miles with some hills. It goes to Pratt's Bottom, Norsted Manor and Rushmore Hill. Lunch after the walk will be at The Cock in Halstead. All U3A members are welcome.

Leader: **Nick White**

SCIENCE GROUP

There are no more science talks until we start up again on 14th October.

Details of future 2019-20 Science talks programme will be published in the September Newsletter. However, details can be found now on our website via the 'Open Groups' tab:

<https://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Study-Groups/Open-Groups/open-groups.html>

Bob Ruffles

APPLE GROUP IPAD, IMAC, IPHONE & APPLE WATCH

No more meetings until the autumn.

Dave Simmonds

SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



We have been fortunate to obtain 30 tickets for the Evening Meal and Christmas Show at the Brick Lane Music Hall in London's Docklands on Friday Dec 13. Travel will be by coach.

We realise that it might seem rather early to be thinking about Christmas but all tickets would have been sold out had we left it any later. Those who have been to Brick Lane before will know that the package is excellent value for money as well as being lively and great fun. Please apply promptly on the application form enclosed or on the Sevenoaks U3A website, where further details are given.

MEMBERS' CORNER

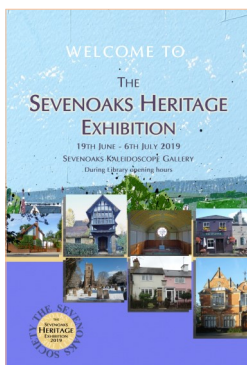
A Midsummer Night's Dream

Come and share some Magic with friends.....

At a Sunday Matinée performance at 3.30 on June 30th In the grounds of the White Rock Inn at Underriver. You could have lunch in the pub before if you wish Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society are offering a special rate of £10 per ticket to groups of 10.

Just contact Pam Walshe if you would like to come and if we get 10 people the party rate is £10 a ticket.

Sevenoaks Society Heritage Exhibition



U3A members Elizabeth Purves and Victoria Granville Baxter are co-author and designer of this ground-breaking Exhibition. Open 19th June - 6th July at the Kaleidoscope Gallery at Sevenoaks Library, library opening hours. During the ramp restoration access is from the side door or through the rear doors. There's a lot to see and you will be warmly welcomed.

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