

### Chairman's note

On 12 September I attended the U3A AGM at Cirencester. This event brings together the Chairmen from over 900 groups, together representing a growing membership approaching 300,000. Major functions of the AGM were to review the Annual Report (available from the TAT website) and to elect new officers to the National Executive. We now have a new Chairman, Barbara Lewis, and two new Vice-Chairs, Beryl Mellish and Janet Whitehouse, plus some additional Regional Trustees. With the U3A continuing to grow, and expected to reach around 500,000 members by the end of this decade, the NEC will be faced with considerable challenges.

In our own U3A we are slowly finding people to fill committee roles. One new addition is Nick White who has agreed to be our Hall Manager. His role will be to co-ordinate with the Community Centre and Town Council for our monthly meetings. We still need to find a new Membership Records Secretary. This job has been done conscientiously by Derrick Shaw, but it is time for him to take a deserved rest. So, if you are reasonably proficient with MS Office, and Excel in particular, then please let one of the Executive Committee members know.

*Bob Ruffles*

☎ 01732 461348

### Meetings open to all

**Monthly Meeting**      **Wednesday 24 October**  
 Community Centre, Bat & Ball      Start at 2pm

#### **The Life and Voice of Kathleen Ferrier**

Christopher Fifield

Dr Fifield is a conductor, music historian, lecturer and broadcaster. He has written a number of books including the *Letters and Diaries of Kathleen Ferrier*.

This talk will celebrate the centenary of the birth of Britain's greatest lyric contralto, whose name and voice resonate as much today as they have done since her tragically early death in 1953.

**Car parking is always difficult, both at Otford and at the Community Centre, so please share cars if at all possible.**

#### **Science Group**

**Monday 8 October**

#### **Forensic investigations after the 2004 tsunami**

Identifying Thai victims of the Boxing Day disaster.

David Tadd

The speaker was the first forensic officer from the UK to be sent to Thailand to assist in identifying some 5000 victims of the tsunami. His talk will describe the 15 months of work that it took to complete the programme, including the forensic processes adopted both in Thailand and the UK to ensure that victims were conclusively identified and returned to bereaved families.

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

#### **Computer Group**

**Monday 15 October**

#### **Christmas Is Coming**

Using your computer to make the Christmas Card task easier, quicker and cheaper.

Tired of writing envelopes? Chris Streets will demonstrate how to draw up a mailing list and create labels. Cost of postage? John Bonnett and Celia Smith will demonstrate some e-card websites.

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

#### **Philip Headley Concert** **Sunday 7 October**

A concert to celebrate the life of Philip Headley, long-time U3A member, who died in January, will take place on Sunday 7 October at 7.30 pm in the Aisher Hall.

Tickets (£5) and more information from  
 Patrick Pascal ☎ 01732 452602  
 or Charles Hebert ☎ 01732 464218  
 ✉ [chairman@sevenoaksmusicclub.org.uk](mailto:chairman@sevenoaksmusicclub.org.uk)

Please send copy for the October Newsletter  
 by **Friday, 12 October 2012**  
 to both Linda Young  
 and Magda Sweetland

## News and Views

Articles to Magda Sweetland

### Changes in our Copyright licence

We are not sure how far copyright might be infringed by any of our Study Group activities, but everyone should be aware of the law on copying original work. This is a résumé which will be inserted in future editions of *Time to Learn in Sevenoaks*.

### Appendix 5: Photocopying and Digital Copying

National Office is no longer able to negotiate a blanket Agreement with the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA), and U3A members should be aware of the limits of what they can and cannot photocopy.

- No sheet music, maps, newspaper articles, photographs or images may be used without the express permission of the copyright holder.
- No live performance of music which is subject to copyright may be given without express permission.
- Written material may be accessed for the purposes of non-commercial private study, research or criticism (under the 'fair dealing' rules) but the extract copied should not be more than 5%, one chapter or one article, whichever is the greatest.
- Written material which is now out of copyright (ie where the last surviving author died 70 or more years ago) may be used freely.

Members should be aware that downloading copies of material from the Internet for the use of a Study Group may not be legal. This makes the organisation of work more difficult and, in the end, it may be simpler for each member of a group to buy a copy of a core text. Many titles are available second hand on commercial websites, and at very low cost.

You may wish to refer to the CLA website ([www.cla.co.uk](http://www.cla.co.uk)) for further information.

### Microsoft Software

With the imminent start of the University Autumn term, Software4Student are again offering a variety of Microsoft software at greatly discounted prices for students, including U3A members. Explore [www.Software4Student.com](http://www.Software4Student.com) to obtain copies of Microsoft Home and Student 2010, and Microsoft Office Professional Plus. But hurry, as copies are limited in number.



### New U3As in North Kent

Good progress has been made with the three new U3As in North Kent. Below are the venues and contact details for each initial meeting. If you have friends in that area, let them know. This network of support can make a huge difference to the early success of a new U3A.

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#### KINGSHILL

Inaugural Meeting on Thursday 4 October,  
2pm at the Kings Hill Community Centre,  
70 Gibson Dr, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4LG  
The Chairman is Karen Usher ☎ 01732 220919

✉ [karen.usher@talktalk.net](mailto:karen.usher@talktalk.net)

Inquiries to the membership secretary

Mark Richards ☎ 01622 201985 or

✉ [Khu3amembership@virginmedia.com](mailto:Khu3amembership@virginmedia.com)

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#### MAIDSTONE

Public Launch Meeting on  
Monday 8 October, 2 to 4 pm at  
Maidstone Community Support Centre,  
39-48 Marsham Street, Maidstone ME14 1HH  
Inquiries to John New ☎ 01622 734298

✉ [janda.new@talktalk.net](mailto:janda.new@talktalk.net)

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#### SWANLEY

Public Launch Meeting on  
Thursday 1 November 9.30am to noon  
at The Alexandra Suite  
in St Mary's Rd, Swanley BR8 7BU  
The Alexandra Suite is in the middle of Swanley  
behind the library, and less than 10 minutes walk  
from the station. There is parking at the venue or  
in the shoppers' car park at the rear, or ASDA.  
Contact Pauline Long ☎ 01322 667368  
or ✉ [paulinehawker@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:paulinehawker@tiscali.co.uk)

### Chip-and-Signature Cards

National Office has sent information about a facility, available through your Bank, to use your credit and debit cards with a signature instead of a PIN. Retailers are obliged to accept Chip and Signature cards under the 2010 Equality Act. This may be of use if you find remembering PIN numbers difficult, or if you find terminals hard to read.

More details can be found on the Payments Council's website (below), or visit your Bank.

[www.paymentscouncil.org.uk/current\\_projects/  
chip\\_and\\_signature](http://www.paymentscouncil.org.uk/current_projects/chip_and_signature)

## New website to launch

Over the past six months we have been developing a new website which will shortly replace the present one, but keeping the address [www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk). You will find that there is a lot more information and reference material at your fingertips.

It will be a public site and provide a showcase for our activities. It being public, we have to ensure the privacy of members' details: a firewall system is in place to protect personal e-mail information. Initially only members of the Executive Committee will be contactable from the website, but in time this may be developed and expanded where necessary, with individual permission. We aim to develop this resource further: I will be forming a web development team to ensure that we are reflecting what members need but, in the meantime, please explore the site. If you feel you can offer constructive comments and ideas, please use the facility on the website for this.

*Bob Ruffles*



## Survey of Members' Interests

Over the past few months the returns from the survey have been collated and analysed. Thank you to all who responded.

From this first phase various trends have been identified. In a second phase we shall collect data from Group Organisers in order to validate what has so far emerged.

Why is all of this important? Sevenoaks U3A has been in existence for some time but the Executive Committee does not actually have much statistical information on which to base future plans. One message from the survey so far is that, as we continue to grow, we find that a proportion of the membership is very active, but that there is an underlying number of members who, for various reasons, do not participate in many activities. For the Executive Committee to reflect the total membership it does need to understand our own demographic situation and to respond accordingly.

*Bob Ruffles*

## Computer Courses

Members are reminded that **S&G Training** offer free courses for computer beginners at the offices of **Mind**, 34 St John's Road, Sevenoaks.

☎ 01732 458910

More advanced courses in Microsoft Office, digital photography, Facebook and more are available at a modest charge.

Basic computing courses are also available at local libraries; and at the offices of **Age UK**, also located in St John's Road, Sevenoaks

☎ 01732 454108

Both organisations aim to identify individuals' training needs and then work on a one-to-one basis. Why not give them a call and discuss your needs.

## Social Events News

Pam Walshe ☎ 01732 454769

### Panto 2:

Enclosed is a flyer for the next Panto to be presented by the Drama Group. This was a great success last year, and tickets were at a premium. Apply at once to be sure of a place!

### Two Exhibitions:

There are a few places left for the visit on Sunday 4 November. The flyer is on the website. Applications as soon as possible to Jenny Smith.

### Advance Notice:

We have booked a four-day, three-night trip from 22 to 25 May 2013, staying at the \*\*\*\* Bowden Hall Hotel, in Upton St Leonards, east of Gloucester.

The trips include Cirencester, and a visit to Rodmorton, an Arts and Crafts house and Gardens; a guided tour of Gloucester Cathedral, followed by a choice of visit to Westbury Park Gardens or Gloucester Heritage Docks; and Cheltenham, followed by a choice of journey by steam train to Toddington and Museum, or a visit to Snowhill Manor and Gardens. On the return journey we stop at Waddesdon Manor for the day.

The cost will be under £300, with a modest single supplement. The flyer will be available in October, and places allocated by ballot.



*Floor tile, Gloucester Cathedral*



## Events Open to All

**First Friday lunch** **Friday 5 October**  
The Bell, Kemsing, 12.15 for 12.30.  
To book please contact Norna Munson  
☎ 01959 523076 by Wednesday 3 October.

**The Strollers** **Tuesday 16 October**  
Meet at 11am in the car park at Otford. This is an easy flat walk of about 3 miles that we have not done before. Optional lunch afterwards in Otford. Leader Anne Gutteridge ☎ 01732 454923



**Ambling** **Wednesday 17 October**  
Meet at Penshurst village lay-by (MR 438526) on the road from Leigh (B2176) for a 4-mile walk starting at 10 am. The road to Penshurst is on the left after passing through Leigh. The walk is followed by an optional lunch at a local hostelry. Leaders: Robbie & David Hill ☎ 01732 453185.

**Half Day Walking** **Monday 22 October**  
Meet in the car park on Hosey Hill Road near Westerham GR 454531 for a 10 am start. A five mile walk through the hills to the south of Westerham followed by an optional lunch at the George & Dragon on Westerham Green. Leader: Peter Burt 01959 562245

**Bridge for Pleasure** **Weds 10 & 24 October**  
The Group plays bridge at Otford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50am until 12.15pm. The winner on 25 July was Stephen Hale. The group is an 'Open' group, so new players can just come along. Contacts: Colin & Mary Butson ☎ 01732 458356

**Help, please!!**

**Do you own a Clothing Rail which you could lend or donate to the Drama Section? The Costume Department would be most grateful.**

**Contact Robbie Hill ☎ 01732 453185**

**Editorial team:** Magda Sweetland, Linda Young, Robin Tonge and John Spurway

**SEE U3A 2012 - 2013 HANDBOOK FOR FURTHER CONTACT DETAILS OF PEOPLE REFERRED TO IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

## From the National Trust:

### Help shape the future of Knole house (NT)

Can you help us by participating in one of our focus groups about our plans for Knole? You will be helping us shape the way visitors experience it in the future.

**Who:** We're looking for people who have visited Knole before, but especially people who haven't, to participate in a series of focus group sessions. We're especially looking for people who have a special interest in the arts, architecture or history; or those who enjoy visiting places with children for a family day out with an educational element.

**When:** Starting this autumn, and into next year.

**How often:** Every few months. There will be no obligation to come to every single meeting – though we hope you will.

If you wish to become involved, or receive more information, then please contact  
✉ [inspiredbyknole@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:inspiredbyknole@nationaltrust.org.uk)  
or ☎ 01732 467173.

### A tailpiece ...

With all the excitement of Summer 2012 behind us, we might start to give a thought to our own 20th Anniversary in 2014. The Executive Committee feels that the 2014 AGM should be the focal point of any celebrations.

It takes time to plan and implement such an event. I would like to set up a small working party to formulate a plan, and give members time to contribute anything reflecting our twenty years of activity.

If you feel you would like to be involved, please let me, or one of the Executive members, know.

*Bob Ruffles*

## Diary

### October

Fri	5	First Friday lunch
Sun	7	Philip Headley concert
Mon	8	Science Group Meeting
Wed	10	Bridge for Pleasure
Mon	15	Computer Group Meeting
Tues	16	The Strollers
Wed	17	Ambling
Mon	22	Half Day Walking
Wed	24	Bridge for Pleasure
Wed	24	Monthly Meeting

### November

Sun	4	Queen's Gallery & Tate Britain visit**
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\*\* Flyer in September