



PROTECTED E-MAIL ADDRESSES ON OUR WEBSITE

Approximately one year ago the webteam advised Group Organisers that we were changing the way in which we protected all individual contact details on the website. This move was in anticipation of the 2018 Data Protection Legislation and to protect private emails from phishing and other unwanted electronic approaches. A number of members have commented that this is unhelpful as they would also like to set up a two-way exchange of correspondence with, for example, members of their group using the protected address.

Unfortunately, this is not available within the basic package we have with our web host. We set up the protected address primarily to provide a "Firewall" in front of your private email address such that any incoming email would initially be filtered by our Web Host. Sometimes you will see an email from a site "Kundenserve.ge" stating that the message has been blocked and will appear in your spam box. This is our host doing its first level of security by blocking suspicious email which should be deleted without clicking on any links in the email.

The second line of defence is then down to you. Incoming enquiries can be of several types i.e, a genuine enquiry about a U3A activity, or it may be a site trying to advertise a product or worse. If you get these then again just delete the unwanted emails. For the genuine enquiry it is only when you respond to the message that your private email becomes visible to the enquirer.

The webteam are continuing to explore security features and if our web host can offer a more advanced package that allows two-way communication then we will assess it on the basis of its functionality and cost.

Bob Ruffles webteam@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

DIARY 2018/19

DECEMBER

- December 10 Science Group
- December 12 Bridge for Pleasure
- December 15 Brick Lane Music Hall Outing
- December 17 Computer Group

JANUARY

- January 9 Bridge for Pleasure
- January 14 Science Group
- January 16 Ambling
- January 21 Computer Group
- January 23 Monthly Meeting**
- January 23 Bridge for Pleasure
- January 28 Apple Group
- January 28 Half Day Walking

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

My thanks to everyone who came to the October monthly meeting talk on antiques (a fascinating and entertaining insight into different aspects of the antiques trade). You helped us to achieve a quorum for our adjourned AGM and enabled us to ratify the decisions taken in June. Thus we have a change in the objectives of our Constitution, in line with the recommendations from National Office; last year's accounts have been accepted and we formally have new committee members.

As you know from the last newsletter, we have also had a quick change of roles on the Executive Committee with Jim becoming treasurer and me becoming chairman from 1st November. Many thanks to Jim for the exemplary way he has been chairman – a hard act to follow!

There are just a few tickets left for the Winter Welcome on Friday 23rd November, with plays from the Drama group and songs from the Singing for Fun group. Tickets are £12 to include supper. If you receive the email newsletter in time and are interested, please contact Pamela Murphy.

This is our last Newsletter before Christmas so on behalf of all the members of the Executive Committee may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our annual Festive Lunch is scheduled for February 15th next year and this is a great opportunity to all get together and cast off the winter blues.

Season's Greetings to you all!

Sue Christy

chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

MONTHLY MEETINGS

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 23 January 2019 at the Bat and Ball Community Centre

John Guyatt will be returning to talk to us about *How the First World War changed the world.*





Table Tennis

Table Tennis 2 would welcome new members to join in a friendly game for 2 hours every second Wednesday morning at the Leisure Centre.

Please contact **Diana Esler** for more details.

Photo: Diana Esler

WORLD U3A

Celia Smith

I wonder how many members realise that U3A stretches right around the world?

For a year or more I have been on the mailing list to receive *Signpost* – the monthly newsletter of World U3A. This is a free internet service - not a membership organisation - and their online projects are available to all U3A groups or kindred organisations worldwide.

I have found it fascinating to read about, for example, a U3A conference in Bangladesh, the dancing grandmothers of Qazakistan, a 'walkathon' in Delhi and the opening of the U3A Project Centre in Lagos, Nigeria.

World U3A actively participates in organising teleconference meetings and conferences, such as the U3A Global Forum. On the first Sunday in November I joined

this monthly Forum – a 'virtual' online meeting of U3A people from around the world, using the ZOOM teleconferencing app. This time there were eight participants – three sitting in different parts of the UK, three in different South African cities, one in Lagos, Nigeria and one in Boston, Mass. Our topic this time was *Food*, and we had an interesting discussion, chaired by Tom Holloway, Coordinator of World U3A and editor of *Signpost*. We touched on food banks, food wastage, GM crops, sustainable diets, vegetarianism, water resources and ways of ensuring that the world has enough resources to feed its rapidly growing population. It was an interesting experience.

To find out more about World U3A go to:

<http://www.worldu3a.org/>



Festive Lunch



The very popular Winter Festive Lunch is being held on February 15th 2019, at Wildernesse Golf Club. This is always good value for money and a lively social occasion. If you would like to book a place please fill in the form on the flyer enclosed/attached where more details are given.

FLYERS INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

FESTIVE LUNCH



Many people enjoyed the U3A UK Short Break to Northumbria this year in May. We are planning another UK break for May/June 2020 and have chosen **'The Historic Houses and Heritage of South Wales and the Wye Valley'**. Joyce Allen is prepared to help organise it again by liaising with the professional company which is running the holiday, but she would appreciate help from anyone who might be interested. Please contact Joyce to find out more about what the job entails and the pleasure it can bring.



MEMBERS' CORNER

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



Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids

*After attending the Computer Group meeting on Streaming, **Geoff Howson** submitted this helpful information.*

It's well known that streaming is the delivery of films over the internet by Netflix, and TV by Amazon, and such things, but it is less well known that hearing aids are also now being helped by streaming.

Two devices that are Bluetooth-enabled can be "paired" so

that they can communicate. iPhones can be paired with cars so that an incoming call can be heard hands free in the car.

Similarly iPhones can be paired with Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids so that an incoming call can be heard with greater clarity (and volume).

If a Bluetooth transmitter is plugged into a television, and a Bluetooth receiver is worn around a person's neck, it can enhance the clarity (and the volume) of the sound from television sets that usually contain only poor speakers.

Modern private hearing aids are generally Bluetooth-enabled, and some of the latest NHS aids are as well.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary on page 1 for complete list of events

Computer Group Monday 17 December

Demonstration of the capabilities of Amazon Alexa by a member of Sevenoaks U3A

Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks and Knole U3A members welcome. Entry £2 including tea/coffee and since this is the Xmas meeting mince pies and wine will be on offer.

Mike Davies

Computer Group Monday 21 January 2019

The subject for the January talk will be announced at the December 17th meeting.

Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks and Knole U3A members welcome.

Entry £2 including tea/coffee.

Mike Davies

Science Group Monday 10 December

Dr Steve Plater - *Climate Change and Future Energy Security*

Climate change is real and man-made. A recent IPCC report warns we have 12 years to avert dangerous warming. Though vested interests oppose, 100% renewable energy supply is achievable and desirable. Our speaker will explore the impact of climate change and talk about methods of mitigation.

Venue: Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm.

Entrance Fee: Free for our Christmas talk.

More details of future talks can be found on our website under the Open-Groups tab:

www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Study-Groups/Open-Groups/open-groups.html

Science Group Monday 14 January 2019

The Mary Rose – Conservation – Edward Towne

The raising of the *Mary Rose*, the sixteenth century warship that sank in Portsmouth Harbour, was one of the most exciting historical rescues of the 20th century. The conservation of the ship and its artefacts is nearing completion and our speaker will describe the activity surrounding this work.

Venue: Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm

Entrance Fee: £1: 00 at the door

All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome

Bob Ruffles

Apple Group Monday 28 January 2019

There is no Apple Group meeting in December as the 4th Monday is Boxing Day. Christmas lunch is at the Bricklayers Arms in Chipstead on the 17th December at 12.30

January 28th 2019

What's new forum - discussion

- ★ Making Music CDs - Gwyn
- ★ Control Centre & System Prefs - Dave
- ★ Outside speaker

Otford Memorial Village Hall from 2 -4 pm

Next Meetings, 25th February, 25th March 2019

Dave Simmons

Bridge for Pleasure 12 Dec, 9 & 23 Jan 2019

The Group plays at Otford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50 a.m. until 12 noon.

The winners in October were Mary Arthur and Eileen Stanton.

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

Ambling Wednesday 16 January 2019

Meet in the National Trust car park at Toy's Hill (GR 470517) for a 10am start. From Sevenoaks, turn left off the A25 at Brasted, up Chart Lane passing the Fox and Hounds on the left. The car park is a short distance further on, on the right, and is signposted Toy's Hill. The walk is followed by an optional lunch.

There will be no walk in December

Leader: Grahame Lee

Half Day Walking Monday 28 January 2019

Meet in the centre of Hadlow in time for a 10am start.

There is a wide paved area on the south side of the A26 at the junction with Church Street. Park where you can along the main road. TN11 0DJ, grid reference 634498. The walk is 5 miles, flat, and goes south to the River Medway, along the river bank then back through Barnes Street. Lunch after the walk will be at the Two Brewers. All members are welcome. There will be no walk in December.

Leader: Nick White