

YOUR COMMITTEE



ELAINE KNIGHT-ELSTON
Group Development co-ordinator



CHRIS DANCE
Secretary



DAVID LOWE
Treasurer



JILL DAVIES
Membership



PAM WALSH
Social Committee chair



BARBARA COLEYSHAW
Speaker secretary



DAVID TAYLOR
Communications Chair



RICHARD BAXTER
Vice Chair/ Meetings manager

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Over the coming months the executive committee will be working on a programme to encourage newly retired people to join Sevenoaks U3A, and for members to join existing groups as well as to start new groups.

One of these measures will take the form of monthly coffee mornings. Starting on Monday 2nd December, at 10.30, we will be holding what we aim to be monthly coffee mornings at Miller & Carter in Riverhead. All members are welcome to attend, especially new members, members of the executive committee and supporting committees, leaders of groups seeking new members, and members interested in new activities. We hope that these meetings will help members to maximise the benefits that they gain from Sevenoaks U3A, and for the organisation to make the best use of the individual skills of its members.

Please do bring friends who might be interested in joining us.

There is no need to buy a parking ticket. Just go into the building and enter your registration number on their computer terminal near the entrance.

As this is our last newsletter this year I would like to wish all of our members a very enjoyable holiday season, and I hope that you will find plenty of U3A activities to keep you occupied in 2020.

Nick White chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk



NICK WHITE
Chair

A MESSAGE TO MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER VIA ROYAL MAIL

Would you like to receive it in full colour, and wherever you happen to be; on your computer, laptop, tablet or smart phone?

If so, please send your name and email address to the Membership Secretary
membership@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

MONTHLY MEETING

December:

No Monthly Meeting

January: 22 January. 2.00 pm. St Nicholas Church, Upper High Street

Derek Medhurst will give an illustrated talk on

Early Photographers in Sevenoaks.

Derek is a Member of Sevenoaks Camera Club and will speak about some of the professional photographers who worked in Sevenoaks in the 19th and early 20th centuries. His talk will include examples of the portraits and local scenes they photographed.

THE DIARY APPEARS ON PAGE 4

Newsletter Editorial Team: Victoria Baxter, Elizabeth Purves, Celia Smith

Copy for **February Newsletter** by **Tuesday 7 January** to: news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Foot Tapping Jazz Study Day

Over 80 Members were treated to an educational (and most enjoyable) journey through the history of jazz at Walthamstow Hall on 31st October.

Paul Higgs (trumpet) and his fellow musicians (piano, double bass & drums) guided us through the development of jazz in its various styles from the late 1800s to the present day.

Jim Purves



Photos: Victoria Granville

THIS MONTH'S LIST OF GROUPS WHICH WOULD WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

GARDEN GROUP 2

Cherry Moss

garden2@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

MUSIC APPRECIATION B

Jeff Lee

musicb@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

HISTORY OF TRANSPORT

Michael Harwood

transporthistory@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

GALLERY GROUP 1

Chris Dance

gallery1@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

These may not be the only groups with vacancies.

Please contact the organisers of any groups that interest you using the details in the Handbook and the website.



A reminder: there is still time to apply for the yearly and very popular **Festive Winter Lunch** on **Friday Feb 21** at the Wildernesse Golf course. You will find full details (including the application slip) on the flyer enclosed with the November Newsletter and available on line on the u3a Sevenoaks website. Please apply while it is on your mind. You will, as usual, have a most enjoyable meal in excellent company.

Another date for your 2020 diary: on **Friday March 27**, travelling by train, there will be a **Tour of four London** (mostly **Wren**) **churches**, followed by a visit to the nearby **Mithraeum**. This trip promises to be exciting and interesting.



SECURITY OF PROTECTED E-MAIL ADDRESSES ON OUR WEBSITE AND SCAM ALERTS

Approximately two years 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 done in anticipation of the 2018 Data Protection Legislation and to protect private emails from phishing and other unwanted electronic approaches.

The Webteam have over recent months received a number of enquiries from GO's about annoying messages via their website protected addresses stating 'Message undeliverable'. The message is sent from a server identified as 'kundenserve.ge' followed by a lot of unintelligible computer code, but within it will be one or two real addresses stating 'Reply to:etc'

These messages are in fact being stopped by our Website host firewall and are protecting your personal email from being visible (phished) by the outside world. The web host server is therefore doing its job of stopping spurious messages. Unfortunately the downside is that the host server notifies all recipients of the action it has undertaken.

With the help of our Web host 1&1 Ionos, we have beefed up our security by imposing SSL Certificates which are small data files that digitally bind a cryptographic key to an organization's details and we continually block as many messages from external sources as we can.

However, the scammers are very resourceful and will continually seek out ways of trying to steal your personal information. Despite our efforts you may still get scam messages that bypass the Web site server.

The rules are simple:

- Use and maintain a strong Anti-Virus and Malware programme
- Be vigilant, do not click on any link or attachment from addresses you do not recognise
- Undertake good housekeeping – maintain regular backups of all your data, ideally on a device separate from your main computer and undertake regular disc cleaning operations especially if you use the Internet on a regular basis. Many sites allow 'Cookies' to be placed on your machine and they will slow things down - delete them.
- Use strong passwords to protect sensitive data

We have a lot of information on computer security on our website and it is worth exploring the page as it does give information on the latest scams. <https://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Links/links.html>

The webteam are continuing to explore security features and we are exploring options that allow two-way communication. This will be assessed on the basis of its functionality and cost.

Bob Ruffles webteam@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

MEMBERS' CORNER

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

**NO FLYERS INCLUDED
WITH THIS NEWSLETTER**

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

COFFEE MORNINGS

Mondays 2 December & 6 January

10.30 at Miller & Carter Riverhead. No need to pay for car parking: just enter registration number inside.

Do bring your non-member friends.

COMPUTER GROUP

Mondays 16 December and 20 January 2020

The December meeting details are being prepared but as it the Xmas season it will be a light hearted afternoon and good fun. Mince pies ,wine ,tea and coffee available.

The January meeting will feature the new BBC Sounds app. Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks and Knole U3A members welcome.

£2 entry includes refreshments.(No entry fee in December)

Mike Davies

APPLE GROUP iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch

Monday 27 January

We don't have a meeting in December as the 4th Friday 22nd December is too close to Christmas. Our Christmas lunch is on Tuesday 17th December.

Next meeting is on the 27th January and we have a very special offer for everyone who attends and signs our attendance register.

Otford Village Memorial Hall from 2 -4 pm

Call or email Dave Simmons for more details

BRIDGE FOR PLEASURE

Wednesdays, 11 December, 8 and 22 January

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. The winners in October were Ceris Williams and Christine Edden.

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. No partner needed.

For more information, please ring John and Sue Christy

GRESHAM COLLEGE LECTURES

Wednesday 11 December

In partnership with Knole U3A, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from 2 – 4pm at Holmesdale Bowls Club, a video of a Gresham College lecture will be shown, with a discussion afterwards.

Further details from Richard Baxter

SCIENCE GROUP MEETINGS

Monday 9 December

Back to Basics with Architectural Glass - Chris Stewart

Following last year's very successful talk Chris Stewart will give us an appraisal of the different glass types and historical development. This gives an understanding of their different properties and uses of glass to provide high performance in today's buildings.

Entrance: Free with Christmas refreshments

Monday 13 January 2020

Otters and Beavers in the face of urban development and sprawl - Jonathan Bramley

Jonathan, from the Kent Conservancy, will be discussing the problems facing wildlife in SE England with progressive urban development. The talk will focus on Otters and Beavers in Kent.

Entrance Fee: £1.00 at the door. Otford Village Memorial Hall. 2pm

All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome.

Bob Ruffles

AMBLING

Wednesday 15 January (no ambling in December)

Meet in the National Trust car park at Toy's Hill (GR 470517) for a 10am start. The walk is about four miles with some hills. From Sevenoaks, turn left off the A25 at Brasted, go up Chart Lane, signposted Toy's Hill passing the Fox and Hounds on the left. The car park is a short distance further on, on the right. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch at a nearby pub. This is an open group and all U3A members are welcome to join at the start.

Leader: Velma Keys

DIARY

DECEMBER 2019

2	December	Coffee Morning
9	December	Science Group
11	December	Bridge for Pleasure
11	December	Gresham College Lecture
13	December	Brick Lane Music Hall
16	December	Computer Group
17	December	Apple Group Christmas Lunch

JANUARY 2020

6	January	Coffee Morning
8	January	Bridge for Pleasure
13	January	Science Group
15	January	Ambling
20	January	Computer Group
22	January	Bridge for Pleasure
22	January	Monthly Meeting
27	January	Apple Group