



Fetcham

U3A

10th

Anniversary



2012

2012 is a monumental Year for the UK celebrating both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics.

2012 also marks:

the 40th Anniversary of the formation of the
Universite du Troisieme âge (U3A) in Toulouse, France:

the 30th Anniversary of the U3A in the UK;

the 10th Anniversary of Fetcham U3A.

Fetcham U3A – The Beginnings

Frustrated by the long waiting lists to join the U3As in the area, an initial meeting was called in September 2002 to gauge local support and to form the first Fetcham U3A committee. News of the initiative spread quickly and by the November meeting there were 90 full members with a further 30 joining on the day.

Such was the enthusiasm that ten groups had already formed by this meeting, encompassing Country Walks, Wine Appreciation, Painting, Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation, Needlework with Genealogy and Local History groups in prospect.

Our 10th anniversary is a time for self congratulation and an opportunity to express thanks to all those who have been members of our Committees or Group Leaders. The future looks assured with the continuation in the growth of new members who will in their part ensure that we remain stimulating and innovative U3A Committees and Group Leaders.

**Currently there are 471 full members and 94 associate
members giving a total membership of 553 with over 90
Groups**

Joint Editors - Caryl & John

Copy assembled by Malcolm

Cover Design by John

Fetcham U3A Chairmen 2002 to 2012

Neville	2002 - 2003
Ian	2003 – 2006
Tony	2006 – 2009
Bryan	2009 – 2012

Neville, First Chairman (2002 - 2003)

I was honoured to be asked to be the first Chairman of Fetcham & District U3A. Like so many of you I suffered the frustrations of long waiting lists elsewhere lasting for years. When I arrived on the scene to take the offered position as Chairman most of the preliminaries had been completed. I must also pay tribute to Bookham and Leatherhead U3As together with the Regional organiser of the Third Age Trust for their help and guidance.



I cannot close without recognising the work done by the Steering Committee before I appeared on the scene. Their work in the early days ensured our successful start.

The Early Years

A prospectus was produced for the programme for 2003 and listed the Groups that had been set up so far. It also detailed the Members of the steering committee who had been approved en bloc at the November 2002 meeting. The lectures and meetings were advertised on notice-boards in libraries and elsewhere. By April 2003 the membership stood at 187 which was an astounding achievement over the six months since the first meeting.

THE THIRD AGE TRUST

Certificate of Membership

This is to certify that the
FETCHAM & DISTRICT
University of the Third Age
is a member of the
THIRD AGE TRUST

Date 03.02.03

No. 550.529-03



Registered Charity No. 258007
National Representative body
of U3As in the UK.

K.D. Wood
CHAIRMAN

Ian, Second Chairman (2003 - 2006) & International**representative for the UK Third Age Trust.**

When I retired I found that Bookham U3A was full but a colleague told me that Guildford U3A had an open door policy and I joined them in September 2002. After my first meeting I came home and bumped into a neighbour who enquired where I had been. I told him and was surprised and delighted to hear that he had been at the first open meeting of a prospective Fetcham U3A in St Mary's church hall. I attended the next meeting and joined my first group, Wine Appreciation. At the next meeting I volunteered to join the committee and soon got to know Neville.

We were fortunate that many people had been waiting to join Bookham and Leatherhead U3As and those people and many others joining Fetcham U3A meant we got off to a very good start. We were soon affiliated to the Third Age Trust and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

We were soon affiliated to the Third Age Trust and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

It has been a pleasure to be involved with Fetcham U3A for ten years.





Bastille Day
French Conversation



Tripping the light fantastic



Welcome coffee morning



Gentle Movement



The Golden Girls & Boys?



Cheers for Christmas



Walking Norbury Park

Tony - Third Chairman (2006 - 2009)



I was present at the inaugural meeting when the first committee was formed under Neville's chairmanship and several years later when Ian heard of my interest I joined the committee. I accepted without hesitation the Vice Chairman's job not appreciating at the time that this put me on the countdown for Chairman in 2006 and three enjoyable years building on the success of my predecessors and adopting the Japanese philosophy of "continuous improvement". Life was more relaxed than expected with a committee that covered all the angles in a highly professional and organised way. One of the important steps we took was to appoint a member to ease the load on the Group Coordinator with special responsibilities for forming new groups. This proved to be a great success as is evident now in Fetcham's 90+ groups. We also created the post of Meetings Manager to organise the 101 jobs that have to be done to ensure the monthly meetings run smoothly.

When the time came to step down I was pleased to have been associated with such a dynamic committee with an ethos that was both pragmatic and sufficiently flexible to cope with the unexpected.



U3A Chairman



Industrial Heritage

500th member



U3A South East Forum



Uffizi Gallery, Florence



Wartime dance raffle

Bryan - Fourth Chairman (2009 - 2012)

I have the honour of being the fourth Chairman of Fetcham U3A and as such have been able to continue in the same manner as my predecessors. With the hard work of Enid, Mary C and Mary H we have increased the number of groups to just short of 100, a great achievement and my thanks to everyone involved. This enables every member to find something suitable for them to join and

forever be a part of Fetcham U3A. We have also managed to bring many of our Associate members up to full membership. In this past year we have entertained a group from Korea who came to see how we operate in this country in order that they may start something similar over there and, following an invitation from the U3A in Iceland, we are looking to take a small group of our members to see how they are getting on. As this will be my last issue of the newsletter as Chairman I must take this opportunity to thank all committee members, group leaders and helpers past and present for all their hard work in ensuring that Fetcham U3A continues as a vibrant and successful U3A and to thank you the members for your support during my tenure as your Chairman. It has been an honour and a delight.

Quiz Nights -

Well, he does it again and again! Bryan has provided us with a wealth of questions which, he said, would be easy. I worry about him sometimes - of course they are easy when you know the answers! However, they do cause a great deal of puzzled merriment.

Wooden spoon anyone?





Antiques & Collectibles



"What a Battle of Britain!"



Word competition winner



Music Appreciation



Bird Watching



Bowls

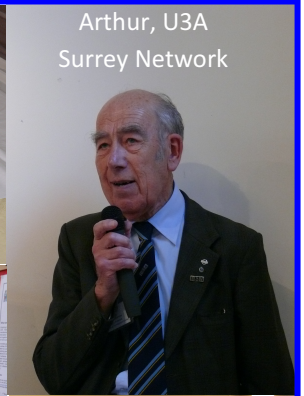


Needlework quilting



Walking - Reigate Fort

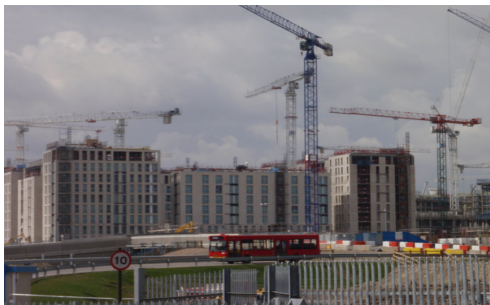




Exhibition
St. Mary's
Hall

Explore London

There are now nine Groups whose mission is to 'explore' the areas of London that are not on the main Tourist trails. Even after 10 years of exploring there are still huge areas which are 'undiscovered'.



- and only recently, Explore London Group did an Olympic Mascot Walk, with a Japanese TV company spending two days filming the activities of Fetcham U3A for a TV programme that will explore how retirees in Europe spend their retirement.



Growing, Tasting & Cooking

Two Vegetable Gardening groups started in 2011. The groups include the growing of fruit, sharing seeds and plants, exchanging information on growing, advising on pest disease and control, and going on visits associated with vegetable and fruit growing. The Cookery Group was an early starter and they have been cooking, tasting and enjoying the fruits of their labour.

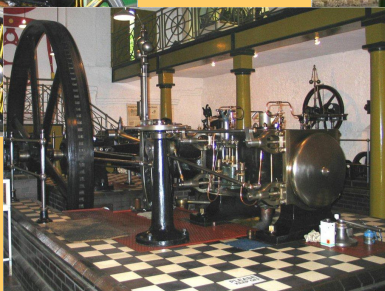


Technology & Industry

Aviation - In 2004, an initial group of eight persons with either experience in aviation or a general interest, met once a month in different homes for lectures, films, quizzes etc. We have expanded to incorporate other local U3A societies at Ashted, Leatherhead, Bookham and East Horsley and now have over seventy-five members.



Industrial Heritage - Our mission is to explore Britain's industrial heritage through talks, discussion and site visits, which are organised to suit the group and the opening arrangements of the sites to be visited.



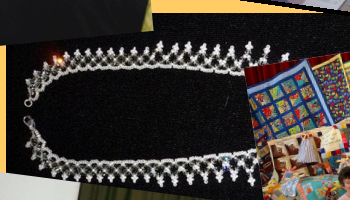
Wine & Dine

Since the first meeting in 2002, there are now eight and rising Wine Appreciation Groups, all thirsting for knowledge about wine and after all that imbibing many of them are becoming quite expert. Between the Groups they have sampled over 4000 bottles of wine; not all in one session one must add. Sunday Lunch Clubs, Party nights, you name it, we enjoy a good meal, with wine, of course.



Arts & Crafts

Where do you go to have a very interesting afternoon, good conversation and company whilst learning new skills? To one of Fetcham's many Arts and Crafts Groups that include: Art Mixed Media, Beading, Card Craft, Hand Knitting, Jewellery & Accessories, Model Making, Needlework, Parchment Craft, Photography, Basket making and various Workshops.



Exercising the mind



Current & Social Affairs



Walking & Dancing

Keeping fit - some do walking, some do dancing and some do both!



We've tried to fit in every activity - sorry if we missed one or two - Ed.

International



THE
THIRD AGE TRUST
Certificate of Membership
This is to certify that the
PETHAM & DISTRICT
University of the Third Age
is a member of the
THIRD AGE TRUST
Date: 03.02.03
No. 000-000-000
Registered Charity No. 1505007
National Representative body
of Clubs in the U.K.



year 2



year 3



year 4



year 5

year 7



year 8



year 9



year 10

