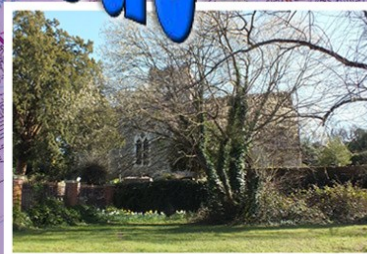


Fetcham In Focus

U3A



Chairman's Column



Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. Hopefully when you are reading this, the cold weather will be gone and we'll all be enjoying a lovely Spring.

We have a series of excellent lectures at the Monthly meetings to look forward to. Can't end a sentence with a preposition, oh who cares! In May members of our London History groups are presenting 'A Bit of London History'. This really is what the U3A is all about!

In June we are repeating our highly successful BBQ at Manor Farm Barn, and have an interesting holiday to Buxton Military Tattoo.

We welcome Ann C to the committee as Treasurer, she will certainly inject humour into our meetings. We are still hoping for a member to join us as Groups Co-ordinator; the only requirements are for you to be able to see and hear, albeit with the appropriate aids.

Chris W

Christmas Party 2016



As the years roll by it gets more difficult to find something different for our Christmas Party. However, Geoff R – with the help of members of our U3A and Leatherhead Operatic Society – put together a theatrical production of ***“The Grinch who Stole Christmas (Allegedly)”***.

Many of our members may well have read the story of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” to grandchildren, or maybe watched the film with them. The story was written by Dr Seuss in 1957 but was not published in this country until 1973. In its very title Dr Seuss assumes that the Grinch was truly guilty of theft. But was he really?

where our members (the audience) came in. They were the jury and had to make the decision. The cast consisted of Geoff R as The Grinch (complete with an extremely untidy long wig and coat), Roger M the Judge, Brenda K and Judy K the Counsels, Colin B Sgt Plod, Alfred L Clerk of the Court, Geoff H the Rev. Cassock and Beryl H as Mrs Merry.

Although the cast read from the script it in no way detracted from the performance and, looking around the audience, I saw that everybody appeared to be listening intently. At the end the Judge asked for a verdict and poor Geoff (the Grinch) was found ‘guilty’. However, he has lived to tell the tale!

This could only be tested in a court of law in front of a jury and that was

Coincidentally the original play was being performed locally but I am sure our cast gave the other players a 'run for their money'.

I would like to thank all who took part and, judging from the comments afterwards, it was enjoyed as something different. Goodness knows what this year will bring!

Winnie B

Fetcham U3A Emails



I am sure you are aware that early in 2016 we had to stop using my personal email address and change to using Mailchimp (an Email Service Provider) to send out our 'bulk emails' (now some 430 different email addresses). Using Mailchimp ensures that my personal email address is not permanently blocked as a 'spammer' but it cannot tell your email receiving device how to treat the email. Rather than it going into the Inbox it appears that some of you are finding our emails in the Spam/Junk/Trash or Bulk folders (or whatever your computer/device calls it) or, in some cases, the emails are not reaching you at all.

Despite extensive enquiries it would appear that, at the moment, we can do nothing to combat the problem. All I can ask is that you look in those particular folders, from time to time, to see if you have received any emails headed Fetcham U3A. If you do find our emails in those folders you may choose to move them to your Inbox to view them but, if you feel uncomfortable doing so, or are just not sure then delete the email and email me on my home personal email address, so that I can send you a copy directly and avoid Mailchimp. While I am precluded from sending out the 'bulk emails' I can still send out individual emails, or emails to small numbers without problem.

I would also ask that you speak with other Members who are friends or in the same Interest Groups and tell them of any U3A emails you receive, just in case they are among those experiencing problems and they can contact me too, or perhaps you would forward your copy on to them. Hopefully, in due course, we (they) can find a more satisfactory solution but in the meantime, with your help, we should be able to minimise the effect of this problem.

Tony R
Membership Secretary

Calligraphy

Heads down and pens tightly gripped, this is the Calligraphy group at work.

A workshop last summer inspired us to have a go at this exacting art. At the outset we hoped to have a visiting tutor but it was not to be, so very much in the spirit of the U3A we have had to help ourselves, although George, as the only one with experience, has been able to give us a bit of guidance. This is not something for the impatient! There is a lot of measuring out of lines, the spacing between them depending on the width of the pen nib, before you can start practicing the script you have chosen. And practice is certainly at the heart of it. If we can achieve decent enough results to write our Birthday cards we will be happy.



Mary C

Jenny's Quiz

1. Where was the Flying Scotsman built?
2. What was the comedian Dave Allen's real name?
3. Who was the last official executioner/hangman (who was apprentice to Albert Pierrepoint)?
4. What was the name of the Captain of the 'Titanic'?
5. In which country was the reality programme host Jerry Springer born?
6. In the MASH television series what was the nick name of the head nurse?
7. How many 'moons' does Saturn have?
8. What goes into a 'SIDECAR' cocktail?
9. What has Queen Elizabeth II achieved that no other British monarch has?
10. Who were the makers of Licorice Allsorts?



Answers on page 16

Bridge Group

Fetcham U3A members play Bridge at St Mary's Church Hall Fetcham, usually twice a month unless the hall is needed for a Church event, and the sessions are organised by Leatherhead U3A. Current Group Status: Vacancies

We play Chicago on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 10am to 12.30pm.

The dates for 2017 are -

January 12, 26

February 9, 23

March 9, 23

April 13, 27

May 11, 25

June 8, 22

July 13, 27

August 10, 24

September 14, 28

October 12 (Only one this month as hall in use by church)

November 2, 9, 23 (3 this month in lieu of one missed last month)

December 14

Subscriptions are due on 1st January and are £22 if paid in

advance for the year's meetings, or £2 payable at each meeting for those not paying the lump sum. These amounts include coffee/tea and a biscuit. All players must be a member of a U3A but not necessarily Fetcham.

New members are very welcome. The meetings are very friendly and relaxed and there is usually no need to bring a partner. Please feel welcome to come along, meet new friends, and enjoy playing bridge.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to join us or if you need more information. If you are interested send Trevor a message via the Contact Point page.

This is a joint venture with our friends in Bookham and Leatherhead U3As

Trevor A



French Conversation Group

French Conversation

We celebrated another year of wide-ranging talks and lively discussions with a party which was held in January. All members of the group were able to attend this very enjoyable occasion.

Our delicious lunch included quiches, patés, French cheeses and wines after which we studied French poems. This is a poignant one referring to an incident in 1941.



Les Fusillés. De Chateaubriant-René Guy Cadou

Ils sont appuyés contre le ciel
 Ils sont une trentaine appuyés contre le ciel
 Avec toute la vie derrière eux
 Ils sont pleins d'étonnements pour leur épaule
 Qui est un monument d'amour
 Ils n'ont pas de recommandations à se faire
 Parce qu'ils ne se quitteront jamais plus
 L'un d'eux pense à un petit village
 Où il allait à l'école
 Un autre est assis à sa table
 Et ses amis tiennent ses mains
 Ils ne sont déjà plus du pays dont ils rêvent
 Ils sont bien au-dessus de ces hommes
 Qui les regardent mourir
 Il y a entre eux la différence du martyr
 Parce que le vent est passé là où ils chantent
 Et leur seul regret est que ceux
 Qui vont les tuer n'entendent pas
 Le bruit énorme des paroles
 Ils sont exacts au rendez-vous
 Ils sont même en avance sur les autres
 Pourtant ils disent qu'ils ne sont plus des apôtres
 Et que tout est simple
 Et que la mort surtout est une chose simple
 Puisque toute liberté se survit.

Bonne Année à tous - *Lesley H*

Fetcham Aviation & Technology Group

In April 2017 I will have been running this group for 12 years since I first joined Fetcham U3A and now feel that it is an appropriate time for a new leader to take over in order to have a new sense of direction and ideas to maintain our current membership of over 70 persons from Fetcham, Bookham, East Horsley, Leatherhead and Ashted. Recently I proposed that the group could possibly expand future interest by renaming itself as the Aviation & Modern Transport Technology group, which received some good support from members, whilst a few others preferred that it remained for aviation only. My idea was that we could look into the technology fields of electric cars, robotic driving, drones, railways and spacecraft etc., apart from the historical aspects of aviation plus current/future developments.

Apart from organising monthly meetings between October-April each year with one highlight being an annual Pilot's Forum until recently, ad-hoc outdoor events in the warmer months over the years have included visits to the RAF Museum, IWM Duxford, a flight in a Piper Archer from Shoreham Airport to Brighton Pier and the South Downs, Charlwood Aviation Museum and the Berkshire Aviation Museum. Other events included the Farnborough and RAFA Shoreham Air Shows, the Popham Microlight Exhibition, Hampshire, the Hovercraft Museum at Lee on Solent and to see the RAF VC10 start its engines and make a taxi run down Dunsfold's runway. More recently we joined the Hawker Association for a visit to North Weald to the N Weald Aviation hangar for a preview of their engineering and renovation workshop and similarly to the Shuttleworth Collection's Open Day to see their unique vintage aircraft being carefully restored.



Our website is currently well endowed with multiple aviation date possibilities including our own U3A events and can be viewed on <http://www.fetchamu3a.org.uk/aviation1.htm>

Lawrence H

Quiz Night

For years Bryan D had been our Quizmaster, always promising that his dastardly questions would be easier the next year, so members didn't quite know what to expect when Jenny B stepped in front of a full Barn Hall on Saturday, 4 March.

Members had got used to Bryan's mindset, so Jenny really set them the task of discovering something new. She had obviously put a great deal of time into devising questions which taxed the brains of the contestants and the scores on the screen after each round showed that tuning into Jenny would take time and concentration. We broke for refreshments after the fourth round (with a certain amount of relief for some players) and enjoyed Tony Banks' chicken in a white wine and cream sauce accompanied by rice and his usual array of salads. A menu on each table indicated what delectations of desserts were to come and we were not disappointed.



Then, Jenny despatched the next three rounds, plus two table rounds in good time and the resulting winners - Liz and Larry R, Terry and Janet L, Richard and Amanda R, Veronica and Terry T, Geoff H and Kit W- were duly presented with their troughs, planted with

spring flowers and the runners-up with bowls of polyanthus.

She may have started out as an unknown quantity as far as Fetcham U3A was concerned and she knew that following Bryan would not be an easy task, but Jenny passed her test with flying colours. I know all the members appreciated the hard work she had put into making her first foray into the serious business of Quiz Nights a success and I understand she has already started putting together questions for next year!

Winnie B

Thursday Morning Walking

We have had some varied walks this winter with an exceedingly cold one in January around the Wisley area. The temperature did not get above minus one degree the whole morning! Nevertheless ten hardy souls turned up to get some fresh air and exercise along with a good chat. We were very glad to thaw out in the pub with a hot lunch afterwards.



We take turns to lead a walk each month and some members bring their dogs so that they too get a change of scenery. The lunch, which always follows our walk at a nearby hostelry for those that wish it, is our reward for our efforts. Our numbers have sadly decreased mainly due to health reasons and therefore we have a few places available on our monthly Thursday walk - see the website for details. We walk anything between three and five miles.

Heather D

Bookham Help Your Neighbour Scheme

The Bookham Help your Neighbour Scheme was formed more than 40 years ago, to help local residents, who live within the Bookham parish boundary, to access medical appointments. Most of our clients are elderly and are no longer able drive and do not have nearby friends or relatives to help them.

We have nearly 100 volunteers, who either man our mobile phone or drive our clients to their appointments. They give as much time as they choose and are not tied to any regular commitment. The Duty Volunteer's job is to answer the calls on our mobile phone and ring round our team of volunteer drivers to fulfil the appointment.

If you feel you would like to spare a little time to help or you would like to know more about us. Please ring Heather on 01372 454403 to find out more.

Heather D

Vegetable Gardening 1

Last year we had several very interesting trips, including a visit to a enormous composting plant in Pease Pottage, where all the green waste you put in your brown bin is taken by MVDC. On arrival, it is screened and shredded and put into giant windrows - piles triangular in cross-section, 15-20 feet high and 50 yards long. It rapidly heats up and starts composting. Temperatures and moisture is monitored and adjusted if needed. Every week the whole row is turned and mixed. After a dozen or so of weekly turns, the material, now looking like compost, is put through a giant sieve to produce an excellent compost. The photo shows the compost after it has been sieved, but still warm and steaming. We came away with bags of the finished product, most impressed with the process and the compost.



Another visit was to Littlehampton to see the production of nematodes. These are microscopic parasitic worms that naturally occur in the soil. They enter their target prey eg slugs, and cause the prey to stop eating and die. To breed the nematodes in the factory a small starter colony is fed with their favourite food, and just after they have bred, they are moved to a larger stainless steel vat. Temperature, Ph and dissolved air are monitored and adjusted for optimum conditions for the nematodes. They are moved several times just after they have bred, each time into larger and larger vats, and given fresh food. The final vessel is 4 storeys high, by which time it will contain 8 trillion nematodes. They are then centrifuged, washed, and mixed with 'formulated product', before being packed and stored in refrigerators. We visited the QC lab, where they check the viability of the nematodes using powerful microscopes. We were also able to see how they burrowed into the slugs.

Last month we made the first of several trips planned to RHS Wisley, with the idea of seeing the vegetable and fruit areas during the different seasons.

Hugh B

One Hour Walking

Having read in the last edition about the causes of 'winter dripping nose syndrome' we have been extremely lucky that the harbingers of doom who forecast an Arctic Freeze have been proved wrong and that we have enjoyed weather for our walks without prolonged sub-zero temperatures or incessant rain. In fact Wednesday mornings seem to be particularly blessed with fine weather, the clouds coming in for the afternoons when we are all safely back home.

Our walkers' Christmas lunch was at The Plough in Effingham this year (and was delicious) and we like to walk beforehand somewhere that is not muddy so that we look respectable for our celebratory lunch.

In December 2016 we went on a delightful guided tour of Horsley Towers. Not only did we go around the ground floor 'public' areas and the Great Hall, but we went upstairs along many 'behind the scenes' corridors to the Chapel and the cloisters which had a distinctly Moorish feel to them and were quite different from the architecture on the lower floors, with its blue tiles, polychrome brickwork and decorated

pillars. A fascinating tour and most enjoyable.

We have, during the winter, kept to walks where we know the paths will be well-made and the picture is taken by Pyrford Lock on the Wey Navigation as we came to the end of our walk through Wisley Golf Course and then along the towpath back to The Anchor pub. As you can see, not a bad turnout for a winter walk. We are



already seeing snowdrops and it won't be long before we start going on our bluebell walks.

Our regular walkers have led many of the walks over the winter and I am immensely grateful to them. We welcome new members so please get in touch if you would like to join us.

Liz C

'Dressmaking - To Sew Successfully'

This is an extract from an article in a Singer Sewing Machine booklet – circa 1953.



Approach the job with enthusiasm. You must want to make something lovely, to have the fun of putting pieces of fabric together, to make a garment, to handle the fabric with appreciation, to watch the beauty of the article grow as a result of your planning and effort. Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically. Good results are difficult when indifference predominates. Never try to sew with the sink

full of dishes or beds unmade. When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so that your mind is free to enjoy your sewing.

When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible. Go through a beauty ritual of orderliness. Have on a clean dress. Be sure your hands are clean, finger nails smooth – a nail file and pumice will help. Always avoid hangnails. Keep a little bag full of French chalk near your sewing machine where you can pick it up and dust your fingers at intervals. This not only absorbs the moisture on your fingers, but helps to keep your work clean. Have your hair in order, powder and lipstick put on with care. Looking attractive is a very important part of sewing, because if you are making something for yourself, you will try it on at intervals in front of your mirror, and you can hope for better results when you look your best.

Again, sewing must be approached with the idea that you are going to enjoy it, and if you are constantly fearful that a visitor will drop in or your husband come home and you will not look neatly put together, you will not enjoy your sewing as you should. Therefore, “spruce up” at the beginning so that you are free to enjoy every part of any sewing you do.

Brenda D

U3A - Outdoor Bowling



The U3A Bowling Group has now been running for seven years on a Monday afternoon. We have an arrangement with East Horsley Bowling Club to use their Green and facilities which are set in a splendid quiet local setting.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY YOUR HAND !

All you need is casual clothes and flat soft soled shoes. The Bowls and all equipment will be supplied to us along with tuition.

We have a very friendly Group and will welcome new members, It is certainly a Sport for all ages, with the added advantage of maintaining regular fitness in the open air and meeting with like minded people from the Club and the U3A.

Did you Know?

History reveals that the oldest UK Bowling Green still played on is in Southampton , and has been in continuous use since 1299.

The most famous historical link with the sport recorded is that of Sir Francis Drake of Spanish Armada fame. As on July 15th 1588 he is reported as saying "his game of Bowls upon Plymouth Hoe had to be completed before he transferred himself to the Man O War sailing ship to engage the enemy" The War was won although he lost the Bowls game.

Should you be interested in this sporting pursuit and joining our U3A Group and wish to obtain further information, please contact our Group Leader Mary C who will be pleased to hear from you.

The Season starts on Monday the 8th May until September.

Mary C



Silent Pool
Distillery

Wine 1

Silent Pool Distillery is found on the Albury Estate, which is owned by the Duke of Northumberland, next to the mythical and beautiful Silent Pool – a spring-fed lake linked to a folklore tale in which a beautiful young woodcutter's daughter is swimming naked and is seen by a nobleman riding by (reputedly Prince John). He was said to be captivated by her beauty and tried to woo her. However, she was terrified and swam to the centre of the pool and drowned, and it is said that her screams can still be heard at midnight.



include taking over a derelict building next to their current premises so they can expand. They export the gin to about 16 different countries already and it is being sold in supermarkets here now. We then moved into the boiler room, with the wood fired steam boiler is fuelled by local wood. Then on into the distillery, where the process was explained, including the use of 24 different

botanicals, which include Bosnian juniper berries, liquorice root, cassia bark, bergamot, rose petals, kaffir lime leaves, linden, lavender, honey and elderflower.

Last October, Wine Group 1 members had a tour at the Silent Pool Distillery. We started by going to see Albury Vineyard, which we had visited some five years ago when it had just opened. Then on to the Sherbourne Pond and the Silent Pool before walking round to the Distillery to begin our tour. Our guide, Danny, initially talked to us outside, overlooking the Pool, telling us about the history of the Distillery, which had only been open two years. They have been very successful with their gin – production has exceeded targets with 140,000 bottles being produced in year 2. Danny described future plans which

The bottle is beautiful – a clear, aqua-green glass with copper coloured illustrations representing both the legend and botanicals used in the gin.

Finally we tasted several of their products, including fruit flavoured gins, and were able to purchase some bottles as well. They usually do two production runs a day, and they are open 7 days a week and run tours most evenings – they certainly work hard! We enjoyed a very different visit and will look forward to hearing about their future progress.

Jo and Ernie H

Motor Sport

After an inaugural visit to Brooklands Museum the group has had a busy and interesting year.

We now have a membership of twenty two plus people, but are always happy to welcome new arrivals.



During the last year we have enjoyed visits to various museums, have undertaken two trips around the Surrey Hills, ably organised by Mike M, had two visits to car main dealers, both of which were truly fascinating, with magnificent cars to admire. Other activities included a quiz based on historical F1 facts, and a film show. The events for the year concluded with a festive get together at The Shy Horse in Leatherhead which was enjoyed by all who attended.

This year we are planning an equally enjoyable programme - including a Summer BBQ!!!

Charles P

Fitness and Fun

Every Monday and Friday morning there's a Fitness and Fun class. Forty-five minutes of keep fit and enjoying friendly chat and banter in the Reading Room at Fetcham. Some of us come only once a week and some manage two.



Our claim to fame - two of our keep fitters have recently had surgery and have made such good recovery that the consultants involved have credited it to their regular gentle exercise. So not just fun but a healthy reason to come and join us!

Enid B

U3A Cookery

We are a U3A group who like to lunch and at our monthly meeting we have a themed three course meal at a member's home. Six members bring a cooked contribution (starter/main/sides/dessert and wine) and the host

usually decorates the table according to the theme of the month.

Monthly topics have included: chocolate (even included in the main course), Mary Berry recipes, Lemon, Easter, Thanks- giving, Valentine, St Patrick's day and Autumn celebrations.

We usually dine "out" once or twice a year and occasionally arrange visits to tour local food producers, often with demonstrations.

Jackie S



U3A International

The Third Age Trust supports the idea of collaborating with overseas U3As and arranging exchange visits. Fetcham U3A has already been involved with exchanges with Japan, Poland and Sweden. In February I led an exchange group visit to Mauritius U3A that arose from discussions with Mr Armoogum Parsuramen at recent International

Association of U3As (AIUTA) conferences. The group consisted of members from Ashted, Chester, Chichester, Fetcham, Foyle, Horley, Horsley and Lanark U3As. We took part in various ceremonies of welcome and introduction to local activities, including the opening of two new centres and the induction of new members in a special event at the University of Mauritius. The photographs show the exchange group with hosts in the garden of our main host, "Parsu", and a typical group of dancers in a big Hindu festival that took place while we were there. The festival known as Maha Shivaratri is the largest Hindu festival outside India and involves over half a million people according to the guide books.



Ian F

Explore London 3

London is a wonderful city to explore. Just walking a short way off the main thoroughfare brings you to a quiet mews, some interesting buildings or a secluded public garden.



Already this year our group has visited places as diverse as the Old Operating Theatre of St Thomas' Hospital, Southwark Cathedral and the Design Museum in its new home in the Commonwealth Institute building in Kensington. City of London alleyways and the many Wren churches that we heard about at a recent members' meeting are always a delight, while modern developments such as those at King's Cross are equally interesting.

This picture shows us exploring Kensington Roof Gardens, high on the roof of the former Derry and Toms building. We had coffee up there, although this hasn't been our highest coffee stop for we were delighted one day when the leaders of that walk took us halfway up The Shard for our morning refreshment.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month, and we do have room for a few more to join us. Do get in touch if you are interested.

Veronica and Terry T

Answers to Jenny's Quiz

1. Doncaster
2. David Tynan O'Mahoney
3. Harry Allen
4. Captain Edward Smith
5. He was born in Highgate tube station
6. Hotlips
7. 62
8. Brandy, Cointreau and lemon juice
9. She has been the longest reigning monarch of the British Isles
10. Bassetts



Photos on back cover, clockwise from bottom right

The Rising Sun
Entrance to Badingham College
Kennel Lane
Old Street
Junction of Old street and The Street
The Bell Inn
Shamrock Gardens
The Old Post Office
Reading Room on Cobham Road
St Mary's Church
Badingham College

Look carefully at those on the front cover, you may see a connection.

This newsletter with its many photographs may be viewed in colour
on our website www.fetchamu3a.org.

Editor this issue:	Judy O
Cover Design:	John W
Insert:	John C
Historical photos:	Veronica T

Articles and items for October 2017 Newsletter should be
with John (newsletter.editor3@fetchamu3a.org.uk) by the 3rd
September 2017 please.



Local History Group Two