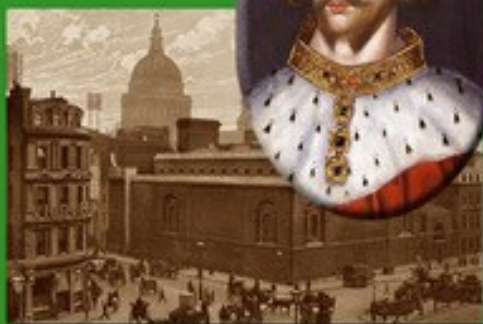
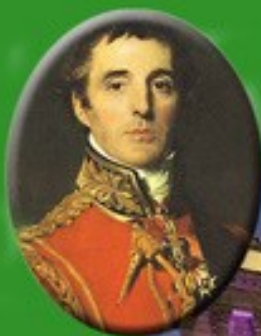


Volume 15 Issue 2 Autumn 2017

Fetcham In Focus

U3A



Chairman's Column



Welcome to our Autumn newsletter. We have lost Tony R as Membership Secretary after many years of service. Thank you! Tony. We are very pleased that Brenda K and Mick J have joined our Committee, so now we are seven! We might be just a few, but we certainly have produced an eye watering programme!

This includes a Shuffleboard Evening with lovely food in October, a trip to the Harry Potter Studios in November, on the 9th December the Christmas Party with mulled wine, festive food and a Joyce Grenfell tribute, a trip to the theatre 'Strangers on a Train' in February, March sees our regular Quiz night, in April a visit the tulip festival at Arundel Castle, and in May to the Isle of Wight by coach for five days. I'm exhausted by just writing this out. June sees a visit to Mottisfont Abbey to admire the roses and so it goes on and on!

All this is in addition to the programme of very interesting monthly talks. Our birthday was in October - Fetcham U3A was fifteen years old! We celebrated with the cutting of our birthday cake at the October meeting.

Chris W

Holiday at Bembridge IOW May 2018

The committee is organising a 5 night stay at Warners at Bembridge departing on Monday 7th May and returning on Friday 11th May 2018.

A coach will come from the Island to collect us and take us on outings while we are there and bring us back on Friday. I am sure you are familiar with Warners but if not have a look at their website which is warnerhotels.co.uk. The hotel is Bembridge Coast Hotel.

It is on a dinner bed and breakfast basis with entertainment.

I plan trips to Osborne House (English Heritage), Carisbrooke Castle (EH) and The Needles Battery which is National Trust. If a large numbers of members belong to either or both then I will suggest that individuals make payment for entry but if not then I will arrange a group booking.

There are a number of single rooms available the cost of which is £285 pp and there are standard rooms which are either twin or double which cost £255 pp or £270 pp if you want a new room which has the small supplement. We need to pay a deposit of £39 pp by late October so need to firm up on numbers. The numbers will also determine the cost of the coach. As we go to press there are only a few places left.

The cost of Osborne House as individuals is £14.60, Carisbrooke Castle £8.50 and Needles £5.85 all at this year's prices.

Can you please let me or Mary H know if you are seriously interested so that I can finalise room numbers and the size and cost of the coach?

John E



LONDON REGION SUMMER SCHOOL

A small paragraph in Third Age Matters prompted a visit to the Annual London Region Non-Residential Summer School earlier this month. It was a most rewarding experience with a lively programme of talks, workshops and walks spread over three days.

The venue is also a delight; the Victorian Architectural gem of the St Bride Foundation, just off Fleet Street and adjacent to the lovely Wren Church of St Brides with its famous Wedding Cake Spire.

Luckily the Programme did not begin before the civilised hour of 11am giving plenty of time to catch the train up from Leatherhead on each of the three days or indeed one or two days as you wish at a Daily cost of £35 to include an excellent Buffet Lunch, Morning Coffee and Afternoon tea.



To give you a taste of what was on offer, I chose to attend a friendly Workshop on Public Speaking and Debating Skills. This was followed by fascinating talks about Odd Corners of London and of 'Ibsen's Women'. We were also given an excellent 2 Hour Guided walk around Medieval Religious Foundations in the City of London and St Pauls Vicinity. But my favourite was a lively and most amusing series of talks and insights on aspects of Shakespeare's Works and Language performed by six members of the Barnet U3A Shakespeare Group. Apparently enthusiasm for the Bard is so great in North London that Barnet have no fewer than four Shakespeare Groups with a fifth being formed !

For those tempted to attend next year the Programme and Application Details are available on the Events page at www.U3Asites.org/london-region and you can make all your choices and booking online .

Richard and Amanda R

Jenny's Quiz Corner

1. In the children's programme Camberwick Green who was the last fireman to be called? Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble and
2. Who composed 'Land of Hope and Glory'?
3. In which country was Sir Cliff Richard born?
4. What is a dog called if it is a cross between a Collie and a Greyhound?
5. What is a 35 years wedding anniversary called?
6. Which is the hottest planet in our solar system?
7. Which film star died on 5th August 1962?
8. In which country is the source of the Rhine?
9. Is a boomslang a a) a frog b) a snake c) a bird d) a wombat ?
10. What turns litmus paper red?

Find the word that can be added to all three

- | | | | |
|-----|---------|----------|-------------|
| 1. | Frog | Year | Lovers |
| 2. | Ray | Table | Oil |
| 3. | Star | Festival | Silent |
| 4. | Duck | Shell | Easter |
| 5. | Jelly | Puffer | Silver |
| 6. | Half | Lane | Farthing |
| 7. | Gun | Silk | Blood |
| 8. | Drums | Fever | Blackboard |
| 9. | Time | Anthony | Punctuation |
| 10. | Postage | Terrance | Duty |

Answers page 12

Book Club 3

Book Club 3 started in January 2012 because the other two groups were full. Members take it in turns to host the meetings, which are normally held on the third Tuesday of the month, starting at 1430. We're a friendly group that enjoys discussing the books in a reasonably non-academic manner.

The group includes a librarian, who is responsible for ordering and collecting copies of the books from the Surrey Library service. Everyone is invited to select books for future reading and the librarian maintains a shortlist, since the library is sometimes unable to provide enough copies of our first choice.

We read a wide range of books ranging from well-known classics to modern thrillers. We also aim for books set in different parts of the world and in various historical periods as well as the present. Members therefore find out about new authors of books that they wouldn't otherwise have thought of reading.

The group now has a few vacancies for new members. Please contact the group leader if you're interested in joining the group.

Richard G

Something for the Mathematically Minded

Let

$$a = b$$

Multiply both sides by a

$$a^2 = ab$$

Subtract b^2 from both sides

$$a^2 - b^2 = ab - b^2$$

Factorise

$$(a + b)(a - b) = b(a - b)$$

Dividing both sides by $(a - b)$

$$(a + b) = b$$

Substitute

$$a = b = 1$$

Therefore

$$1 = 2$$

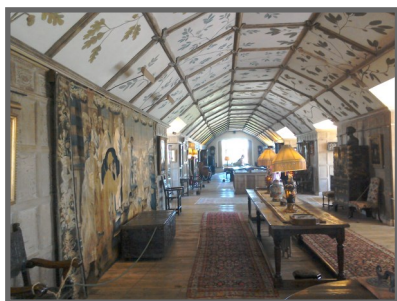
QED (?)

Visit to Parham House

On one of the hottest days this year June 17th, the brave ones amongst us with sun block in hand, and sun hat at a jaunty angle boarded our coach in Leatherhead for the trip to Parham House in West Sussex.

On arrival we were met by a tour guide who gave us all the information needed to help us enjoy this wonderful afternoon. I expect you all know where our first stop was, yes you are correct and they were good.

The next visit was to the enormous marquee, to take in all stalls and admire the local crafts from embroidery to wood carving. Liquid refreshments were next on the agenda as the temperature was HOT. Once refreshed, we then had the pleasure to stroll around the magnificent gardens of flowers, shrubs and vegetables.



We next made a very educated decision, let's visit the house it will be cooler inside. What a truly beautiful mansion with so much to see and the usual helpful staff to answer all of our questions.

We visited the grand dining room, but lunch was not being served yet, so we took a ride in this wonderful Sedan Chair, 20p return, walked along this wonderful long corridor

and then finally fell asleep on this four poster bed. No we didn't but it was tempting.

Our last venture was to take another long walk in the grounds to visit the very old family church, say a prayer and thank you to Chris Wimble for organising a wonderful day at Parham House.



Ann C

One Hour Walking

This year has seen several of us baby-boomers reach the grand old age of 70 and we have joyfully taken the opportunity to celebrate these with lunch out after our walks, which has been immensely enjoyable. We have decided to carry on celebrating birthdays this way.

We have found new walks in Friday Street, Milton Heath, East Clandon, West Horsley to name but a few and group members are becoming very adept at going out to recce walks. This has been marvellous for me and I am very grateful for all the help I have received. The attached photo was taken during a walk from Garsons Farm earlier this year, but even during August we were averaging about 10 or 11 people walking.

Autumn is on the way and by all accounts it is going to be a good year for tree colour so although it is a shame to see summer disappearing, it is cheering to know we have other sights to look forward to.

Liz C



Explore London 4

In August our group led by Geoff H visited the Runnymede Memorials and took a walk along the Thames. We set out across the meadows to The Jurors, an artwork by Hew Locke marking the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta. The Jurors is formed of twelve bronze chairs, each decorated with images and symbols relating to past and on-going struggles for freedom, rule of law and equal rights. Images include Nelson Mandela's prison cell on Robben Island, Clause 39 of Magna Carta stating that no-one is to be imprisoned without "lawful judgement of his peers" and the Chinese script describing the Confucian principles of Ren, Li and Yi on how society should be organised in the Han Dynasty from 260 BCE, namely humaneness, ritual and justice.



We walked up the path and fifty steps to the Magna Carta Memorial which was presented by the American Bar Association in 1957. In America Magna Carta is revered as the basis of their democracy, is represented on the doors of the Supreme Court and has been cited over one hundred times in its judgements. On the 800th Anniversary on 15th June 2015 the memorial was re-dedicated in a ceremony led by HRH The Princess Royal in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal family and American representatives. From there our walk took us past the Langham Ponds to lunch at the Runnymede on Thames Hotel.

Ian and Gill F

Wildlife Aid Foundation — the monthly meeting in July 2017

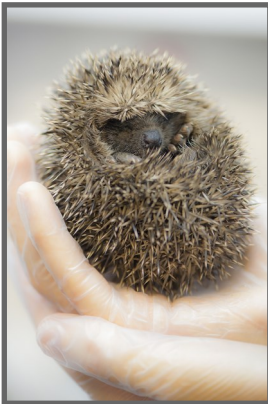
It was lovely to spend some time with such an engaged and interested group of people in July, when I was invited to speak about my work at the monthly meeting of Fetcham U3A. I set up the Wildlife Aid Foundation 37 years ago and in our long and successful history, we have always received wonderful support from the retired and semi-retired community.

Now, as I reach my own third age, I don't envisage that I will slow down or stop any time soon, there is simply too much work to be done saving wild animals in need and over the years we have come to realise that education is so desperately needed. In fact, our work at WAF is more vital now than ever. As a consequence, we still rely



heavily on the senior members of the community, both as volunteers to help us in our work, and for financial support. With age comes wisdom, which makes us the perfect custodians of the planet because we increasingly appreciate the value of wildlife and nature.

As unpalatable as it is to discuss, legacies are increasingly important for charities such as ours. At WAF we have been lucky enough to benefit from a few bequests from animal lovers over the years and they have made a world of difference. We have been able to secure land on which to build a much-needed, new wildlife hospital and education centre which we believe is a world first. Having continually grown over the past four decades, we had been in need of new headquarters for many years. The process has been long and frustrating, given land costs in Surrey where WAF is based, but in early August we finally cleared a major hurdle and secured planning approval for our proposal. If all goes well, by the end of the year we will start fundraising the £5.5



million needed to build the first phase of our legacy project (I'm still not sure if it is inspired or insane, given the amount of money needed).

The need to start building for the future has never been more pressing. A wide-ranging report published earlier in the year showed that the UK is one of

the most nature-depleted countries in the world. One in seven of our wildlife species is at risk of extinction and more than half (56%) are in decline. WAF deals with 20,000 wildlife related incidents a year and the number continues to grow. Through our own investigations we also discovered that vets receive minimal training in wild animal care and needlessly euthanise tens of thousands of wild animals because they do not know how to treat them. Our new centre will educate the public about the environment and will also act as a repository for wild animal care veterinary knowledge that all vets can access. This will undoubtedly save many lives.

Nothing illustrates the crisis in domestic wild animal numbers more than the fate of the poor hedgehog. I'm sure many readers will remember a time, not so long ago, when the sight of hedgehogs in gardens was common. Today it is a rarity. Their numbers have crashed by a staggering 97 percent in the last 50



years. At WAF, we treat and care for hundreds of hedgehogs a year and return them back to the wild to breed and boost populations. We continue to rescue and rehabilitate every conceivable species of British wildlife, from grass snakes and badgers, to red kites and stoats. We send thousands of healed animals back to the wild each year for a second chance at life

and we could none of this without the generosity of the nature-loving public. The following has become something of a mantra to me as I believe it perfectly represents our work.

As the old man walked the beach at dawn he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea.

He asked him why he was doing this and the youth said the stranded starfish would die if left until the morning sun.

"But the beach goes for miles and there are millions of starfish," countered the old man. "How can your efforts make any difference?"

The young man looked at the starfish in his hand and placed it safely in the waves.

"It makes a difference to this one," he said.

Simon C MBE

Alpine Gardening

Just over a year ago, husband David drew my attention to the rather shabby-looking area under and around the front windows of our house and suggested I did something about it. We had two climbing plants one of which kept having to be cut back as it reached the gutter and threatened the fascia boards, and



the plant under the window had grown forwards towards the light. It was time we had something slightly different at the front and wondered if a small rockery-style area would be suitable. I contacted Alan, Group Leader of the Alpine Gardening group and joined it. Alan is an alpinist *extraordinaire* whose breadth and depth of knowledge is ace.

The situation in my front garden was not ideal as it is north-east facing and gets little sun. However Alan thought it was possible, so out came the existing plants and, with irregular-shaped rocks which used to surround our pond, a design emerged. It has to be said that Alan was the only one who could, at this stage, envisage the finished rockery, and David and I and the Alpine Group merely followed his directions on what to do next and how to do it. Fortunately planting time coincided with the sale of spring bulbs so they went in first and then in went the plants from Alan's 'nursery' area in his garden. We had a lovely display of bulbs in the spring, and increasing growth during the year of the plants supplied by Alan and some of them have even flowered. There are still some finishing touches to make to the surround, as you can see, but these can be tackled over winter.

So if you have an area of your garden that needs a makeover then think about alpinism – a vast and fascinating subject and it's lovely to learn something new. Please contact Alan for more information.

Liz C

London — a Green City: continued from Autumn 2016 Newsletter

Henry VIII's insatiable appetite for hunting caused him to confiscate from the Church the land now known as Regent's Park. In the time of George III the Royal coffers were low, so the Prince Regent (then in charge of Royal affairs) decided to raise funds by allowing the land to be developed and let out on lease, thus explaining the Park's name. In 1811, the Prince commissioned John Nash to prepare a master development plan which included a new road (Regents Street) to link the estate with Westminster. The scheme envisaged a

fine terraces surrounding the Park, with 56 villas in the Park itself. The terraces were built, and remain today, but changes in the Royal finances resulted in only a handful of villas being built.

The Park was not opened to the public until 1845. Nowadays our Explorers will discover a boating lake (formed by damming the River Tyburn), the London Zoo (founded in 1826), an especially fine rose garden, other gardens and sports facilities. In a corner of the Park stands the London Central Mosque. Audiences have, for many years, braved the weather at the Open Air Theatre. Many other places contribute to the green-ness of London. There are parks owned by municipal councils, the grounds of the Inns of Court and squares with grass, trees, statues and flowers; also there are private gated garden squares, tree-lined thoroughfares and other places too numerous to mention here. Perhaps there is material enough here for another article at a later date. Meanwhile, whether you are a U3A London Explorer or not, do come and enjoy the green-ness of our capital city.

Geoff R

Mole Veterans Brass Band

The Band was formed some eight years ago by euphonium playing ex-Welsh Guardsman and local retired music teacher Alec W. It is composed of musicians from several U3As in Surrey and the adjacent London boroughs who are available for rehearsals and engagements during weekday afternoons. This

means that the band is largely composed of, but not restricted to, retired people of mature years. We have a regular programme of concerts centred on the Fetcham Parish Hall and including The Old Barn Hall at Bookham and



Leatherhead Parish Hall. The repertoire is traditional brass band music but with selections from the shows and older pop stars like ABBA, Cliff, The Beatles and Queen. In October we play a Last Night of the Proms programme with much singing and flag waving. Entrance to concerts is free as are the refreshments including homemade cakes provided by our enthusiastic group of supporters. Everyone is always welcome.

We rehearse on Thursdays from 4.30 to 6.30 in the Fetcham Reading Room 181 Cobham Road (KT22 9RU). New members are keenly sought. Secretary John C



You can now be educated by the best brains at say Harvard or Oxford Universities completely free of charge and without moving from your home! It sounds too good to be true! These course evolved from work originally at Stanford University, USA. From 350 courses available in 2012, there are now over 5000 courses from around the world, from which to make your choice. They are challenging the current model of education. The lists are always being added to, and old courses are constantly being updated. The only cost is when you apply for a certificate.

The U3A trust thinks that some of the courses available are ideal for the U3A and they give advice to groups wishing to access these courses.

<https://www.mooc-list.com/>

Jenny's Puzzle Answers

	Quiz	Word links
1.	Grub	Leap
2.	Edward Elgar	Lamp
3.	India	Film
4.	Lurcher	Egg
5.	Coral	Fish
6.	Mercury	Penny
7.	Marilyn Monroe	Shot
8.	Switzerland	Jungle
9.	Snake	Mark
10.	Acid	Stamp

Group Leader's First Aid Course

Having attended the First Aid Course along with most of the other Group Leaders who wanted to attend, I wondered if I would ever be called upon to use the skills I had learned.

Recently my neighbour phoned me to say she had a bad pain in her chest. I phoned for a paramedic. When hooked up to the monitor it was showing that it was serious. At that point my neighbour went into shock and fainted. The paramedic asked for my help to get her stabilised. I was surprised how much of the instruction I actually remembered. My neighbour is now in hospital under observation.

I would like to thank the committee for giving me the chance to go on the course which was well worth attending. I am wondering if any of the other Group Leaders have been able to use the skills they learned from the course?

Jenny B

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

Editor this issue:	John C
Cover Design:	John W
Insert:	Judy O

Thank you to all contributors. There were not quite so many as usual but no doubt people are waiting for the next issue in Spring 2018.

Can you spot the people and places on the cover? Answers in the Spring.

John C

**Articles and items for April 2018 Newsletter should be with Judy O
by the 5th March 2018 please.**

London History Group



People & Places



The Newsletter of Felcham University of the Third Age