

Volume 17, Issue 1 Spring 2019

# Fetcham In Focus

U3A

**Welcome to Springtime**



*The Newsletter of Fetcham University of the Third Age*

## Chairman's Column



Welcome to my first effort as your new Chairman and thank you for electing me. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Chris W for his efforts in a difficult three years and you will be sad to know that I do not have his joke book!

We also welcomed our new Secretary, Anne F, and recycled Chris into the role of Treasurer with Ann C taking over Group Organiser. We know they will do a great job.

We have had some lovely weather recently and hopefully that will extend to the various trips we have organised for the Spring and Summer. The Summer event on 7<sup>th</sup> August will be different this year as we are going to Scotney Castle followed by lunch in a pub in Lamberhurst, so watch out for the details.

A number of you responded to the request for help in organising events and I hope more of you will give a little help - perhaps once every 2 years.

John E  
Chairman

This newsletter may be viewed on our website  
[www.fetchamu3a.org](http://www.fetchamu3a.org).

## GUYS & DOLLS



Members of Fetcham U3A thoroughly enjoyed a trip to the musical “Guys & Dolls” at The Mill at Sonning in January - a first class matinee performance preceded by a delicious lunch.

The show with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser was premiered on Broadway in 1950 and ran for 1200 performances. It has had several Broadway and London revivals as well as a film in 1955 starring Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons, Frank Sinatra and Vivian Blane. It is a timeless New York tale of gamblers, petty crooks, nightclub singers and straight-laced missionaries and includes some of the greatest show tunes such as Luck be a Lady, Take Back Your Mink and, of course, Sit Down You’re Rocking the Boat.

The Mill has an interesting history. The original flour mill, situated by the River Thames with the middle channel forming the mill race, was mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086. During the Civil War it supplied flour to the besieged garrison in Reading and in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century produced flour for Huntley and Palmer biscuits based nearby, using it’s own fleet of barges up until 1950.

The Mill closed in 1969 when Huntley and Palmer closed their Reading factory and remained empty until 1977 when theatre enthusiasts Tim, Eileen and Frank Richards took on the conversion, which took some four years to complete.

The Mill, still owned by the Richards, is now a thriving theatre/dinner venue.

*Mary H*



## Canals & Waterways Group Walk on the Basingstoke Canal

In June 2018, we organised a walk along the Basingstoke Canal from Odiham to the Greywell Tunnel.

The walk started at Galleon Marine in Odiham where we had pre-booked an electric boat to provide a bit of variety for the outing. As there were 12 of us, 6 people walked to the tunnel whilst the other 6 travelled in the electric boat. For the return trip the 6 in the boat walked back and the earlier walkers took to the boat.

When running, the boat was eerily silent and able to proceed at a similar pace to the walkers. We moored up at the small landing stage near the ruins of King John's Castle. Built by King John as a hunting lodge, the castle ruins stand beside the canal near the Whitewater



trout stream and aqueduct. It is reputed that King John rode from this castle to Runnymede in June 1215 to seal the Magna Carta.

Approaching the Greywell tunnel, the water became increasingly clear as there is a freshwater spring within the tunnel that feeds into the canal. The tunnel was built in 1792, is around 1200m long and extends under Greywell Hill in a westerly direction. It marks the beginning of the last 5 miles of the now derelict (and in some places, obliterated) section of canal that once wound its way into the centre of Basingstoke. The tunnel has been impassable since collapses occurred towards the western end in 1932 and again in the 1950s. The tunnel is now a significant bat roost.

After the walk and boat trip, we drove to a short distance to The Mill House at North Warnborough to enjoy lunch. The Mill House staff had set aside a wonderful area for us indoors, but as it was such a lovely day, we elected to sit in the garden near the millpool. This pub is a Grade 2 listed watermill with plenty of character and a lovely beer garden. The food, service and drinks were excellent.

All in all, a lovely time on a beautiful sunny summer's day which we hope to replicate again this year.

**Adrian C**

## Our Christmas Party

The Christmas party was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> December from 14.30 to 16.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall. We ate, we drank, we laughed and we sang to the music played by Colin Jones on his guitar with backing. Knowing the words of the oldies we also had a very good sing song.



Again, our thanks to all involved in the organisation of this event.

**Ann C**

### **Creamy Cauliflower & Curry Soup**

One large onion finely chopped/1 tbsp coconut oil/2 celery stems thinly sliced/600g cauliflower broken into florets/3 tsp curry powder/2 tsp turmeric/chilli powder to taste/1 litre vegetable stock/270 ml coconut milk/ground black pepper and Himalayan salt/parsley or coriander to garnish finely chopped.

Fry the onion in coconut oil until translucent, then add celery and cauliflower, add curry powder and turmeric and fry on low heat for 5 mins. whilst stirring. Add the stock and bring to the boil. Cook on a low heat with lid on until florets and celery are soft.

Blend the soup, stir the coconut milk through the soup and heat it through but do NOT bring to the boil. Season and add chilli powder if required. Pour into soup bowls and garnish.

To make into something more substantial, add cooked chicken, green beans or broccoli.

**ENJOY!**

*See Cookery Group item on page 15*

## Motor Group Plus – 2018 Summary of Events

**D**ue to unforeseen circumstances the group had a slow start to the beginning of the year that resulted in Mike M running the group with assistance from willing members.

The Anchor pub in Bookham was identified as a suitable meeting place where members could meet and express their interest for future visits and events. This occurred in May and from the enthusiasm shown during the meeting it was clear that there would be good support for activities during 2018. One suggestion was to change the name of the group to U3A Motor Group Plus to better reflect the aim of the group's activities moving forward. This has subsequently been carried out.



In June we had a BBQ, which was well attended by members and their partners and was blessed with a hot summer's day. This was soon followed by a car run through the Surrey/Sussex

countryside to the Amberley Historic Museum, with a delicious pub meal to follow. August being a quiet holiday month another noggin and natter over lunch was arranged at the Anchor.

Early September was the Cobham Heritage day where our members were welcomed with their Classic Cars including Kit W's newly purchased and very rare Sprinzel Sprite. A large display of local cars supported the Brooklands museum display. Later on in the month Mike D arranged a trip to the Kempton pumping works museum at Kempton Park, which included a large display of Veteran, Vintage, Classic Cars and Motor Bikes. The event also had the World's largest steam pumping engine running, which is 62ft high and weighs 1000 tonnes (see photo). This popular event will probably be attended again next year.

A visit in early October was made to the Mercedes World followed by lunch at Silvermere Golf Club. In November it was off to the Milestones museum in Basingstoke, unfortunately there

was not enough time to see everything so we are planning a return visit in 2019. 18 members made the visit followed by a lovely lunch at the Barons Mill in Old Basing. This was

followed by David N arranging another visit to Rolls Royce and Bentley restorers PA WOODS near Stanstead for those that could not go the first time and some who wanted a second look.

Another meeting in November at the Anchor was attended by 15 members to discuss next year's events schedule. Finally to finish off the year, a Christmas Dinner at the Italian restaurant in Fetcham was enjoyed by 23 of us.

## Jersey Boys

On the 24<sup>th</sup> October over 50 of our members boarded a coach to Woking Theatre to see the show "Jersey Boys". This told the story of how Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons made their mark on the world of music.

The cast were superb and they looked and sounded just like the real men.

Trying to sit still during their performance was very difficult as we all wanted to get up and dance. So as this was not possible we joined in by singing, if we knew the words, whilst clapping our hands and stomping our feet. For all of us it was step back in time.

Unfortunately our Chairman Chris, who organised this trip, developed flu and could not make it. Sorry Chris, you don't know what you missed, but many thanks for organising this treat.

So that was it for 2018, thanks must go to Mike and Judy for master minding the activities and to all our members who came up with the ideas and helped in any way. Next year's events list can be found on the Fetcham U3A website.

There is a similar programme of events for 2019, so if you would like to be involved, please contact Mike M or David N.

**Mike M**



**Ann C**

## U3A Bowling Group

The U3A Bowling Group has now been running for 8 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 clothing and flat soled shoes. The Bowls Club provides all the equipment 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 U3A.

### DID YOU KNOW!

The oldest bowling green still played on is in Southampton and had been played on since 1299.



The most famous history is of course the famous game played by Sir Francis Drake of Spanish Armada fame on July 15<sup>th</sup> 1588, when he insisted on finishing his game of bowls before transferring himself to

the Man O War sailing to engage the enemy. The war was won but the game of bowls was lost.

Should you be interested in joining our U3A Group and wish for further information, please contact Mary C who will be pleased to hear from you. The Season starts on Monday 29th April



**Mary C Group Leader**



## Vegetable Gardening 1

The Vegetable Group has been in existence for many years, it has 12 members, some of whom have plots on the Eastwick site and some on the Bookham site. The U3A group on the Eastwick side share one plot between 4. This works very well as each of the 4 would find it difficult to manage a full size one.

The Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm sometimes in one of the members' houses where we share ideas, information and plan for visits and talks during the year, otherwise we go out on visits.

Last year the group made some very interesting visits to other allotments and nurseries. We fitted in visits to :

*The Grange allotments*

*The Old Moat Centre*

*Wisley*, where we do regular visits throughout the seasons to see the changes that have taken place.

*Horsell Allotments* with over a hundred plots including heritage and unusual vegetables. We all learnt a lot from Ian who manages the site and gave us a guided tour around the plots. There are

different nationalities there and it was very interesting to see what they had grown on their plots such as a Spanish man who grew artichokes on half his plot. His wife apparently loves making artichoke soup. Another Italian man had built a very large wooden frame to grow and hang squashes

- see photos.



Later on in the year there was a demonstration of fruit bottling in one of the members' houses. Each person took their bottling jars and fruit to preserve.

Other visits are being organised for 2019, one of which is a visit to Barry N's allotment at Partridge Green. He is an expert on allotment growing. We hope to learn a great deal at this visit which will take place in June.

**Judy W**

## French Conversation 2

We celebrated another year of extremely varied talks and lively discussions with our traditional party in January and almost all members of the group were able to attend.

Our delicious lunch included quiches, patés, French cheeses and wines, after which we studied French poems. This is one about Autumn.

Bonne année à tous

*Lesley H*



### Jour pluvieux d'automne

Une feuille rousse  
que le grand vent pousse  
dans le ciel gris-bleu,  
l'arbre nu qui tremble  
et dans le bois semble  
un homme frileux,

une gouttelette  
comme une fléchette  
qui tape au carreau,  
une fleur Janie  
qui traîne sans vie  
dans la flaque d'eau,

sur toutes les choses  
des notes moroses,  
des pleurs, des frissons,  
des pas qui résonnent:  
c'est déjà l'automne  
qui marche en sifflant sa triste chanson.

Michel Beau

## Fitness and Fun

Would you like to improve your fitness and have fun at the same time? Fitness and Fun is just what it says – we meet in Fetcham Reading Room on Mondays and Fridays from 9.30 – 10.30 am. We have a qualified teacher, Janella, and exercise for an hour. The session includes a warm-up, aerobic exercise and a cool-down, plus lots of facial exercises – as we laugh quite a lot. Work as hard as you want to, and meet new friends. First class is a free trial.

You can come once a week or twice a week. Why not give it a try. Contact Enid B..



## April 2019 - Jenny's Puzzle Corner

1. Which zodiac sign comes after Virgo?
2. What name is on the Rugby Union ball?
3. What sentence in the UK would be given to a bigamist?
4. How many dominoes are in (the most commonly used) set?
5. Which patron saint's day is celebrated last each year?
6. What does the 'N' stand for in GNP?
7. What is the wife of a Raja called?
8. Which year did Scrabble come on to the market?
9. Where did Sherlock Holmes die?
10. Name the housekeeper in the series Dr Finlay's Casebook?



*Answers on inside cover*

## Needlework Group

Our project this year (and the end of last year) is a hand sewn "Friendship Quilt". The quilt is made from a number of panels each embroidered with a picture and a lovely quote or saying reflecting the picture.

As usual for our Group, we start off working from the same pattern but each produce a wide variety of objects in a multitude of colours. Our finished articles vary from bags and wall hangings to quilts and cushions.



We manage to produce all of this whilst at the same time drinking coffee and putting the world to rights!

**Eileen J**

Unfinished articles, panels  
ready for making up

## Family History 2

Our group has 11 members, with varying levels of experience in matters of family history. Whilst seeking to help and encourage each other in our researching, we also look at a range of topics which hopefully provide an insight on what our ancestors' lives might have been like.

Recent meetings have covered items such as family photos, workhouses, mental health and how it was treated, wills and legacies, surnames and education. With each of these we also attempt to access specific archives where group members have an interest, and see what we can find.



In the past we have visited The National Archives at Kew, and are planning to go to the Surrey History Centre in Woking.

*Martin P*

### **Neville Frederick Povey OBE - 1926-2018**

Neville Povey, inaugural chairman of Fetcham U3A, died recently at the age of ninety two.

Our U3A was formed from those on the waiting lists for Bookham and Leatherhead U3As, including Neville and his wife Gill, plus many others who attended the initial open meetings. The constitution was accepted at a meeting on 26th November 2002 with seven members on the founding committee and Neville Povey as chairman.

Neville had been honoured for "Services to Civil Service Charities" and he led the committee as Fetcham U3A affiliated to the Third Age Trust in February 2003 and registered as a charity in May 2003. Neville led a Family History group for a few years but later changed his membership to Bookham U3A where he lived.

We are grateful to Neville for his contribution to the early success of Fetcham U3A.



## One Hour Walking Group



Our first walk September 2012

The last five months have seen our busy group enjoy over 20 walks in a variety of Surrey locations. We have walked beside the Wey Navigation, seeing the first lock ever constructed on it (in 1653, if memory serves me well), wandered round Wisley Gardens, ventured over the nearby golf course, and viewed the expanse of the Weald from the summit of Holmbury Hill. Other high points we have explored include Box Hill and Epsom Downs, while we have also meandered through less undulating spots such as Bookham Common, Fairmile Common and Abinger Roughs. Our perennial favourites, Polesden, Norbury Park, Ranmore and Denbies, have also seen us indulge our love of fresh air, gentle exercise and well earned coffee and cake!

The end of January marked a milestone in our history - the retirement of Liz C, who has led

the group since its inception in 2012. The event was marked by coffee and cake at the cosy and welcoming Headley Tea Rooms, preceded by speeches and the presentation to Liz of flowers and a garden token, to show our appreciation of all the hard work



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and thought that she has put into running the group for more than six years. She has organised and led countless interesting and beautiful walks over that time with efficiency and imagination, as well as arranging many seasonal and celebratory lunches. We will miss her planning and organisational skills, but, fortunately, we will not be deprived of her and husband David's company, as they continue to be active members of the group. Thank you, Liz! And thank you David for the photos.

In the future, members of the group will be taking turns to lead walks and to find those all important post walk coffee venues!

**Anne F**

## Fetcham Wine Appreciation 7 - Visit to Bombay Sapphire Distillery

**A**s a change from wine tasting our group visited the Bombay Sapphire gin distillery at Laverstoke Mill in Hampshire. We know it's not wine but who cares.



Arriving early, we were able to relax with a coffee in the Manydown Cafe located in an old double deck bus at the side of the building.

Ours was a self guided tour around the external areas of the distillery using the interactive map provided. At various information points the map was used to obtain details of the various buildings, including their history and usage. The tour included the unique shaped Mediterranean and Tropical Glasshouses where we saw the exotic botanicals that go into Bombay Sapphire. We also visited the Gin Academy to learn about the

history of gin and read about the origins of gin and Bombay Sapphire.

After touring the grounds, we entered the Botanical Dry room where we

were able to smell different herbs and spices to discover our preferred flavours. We received cards to punch out our preferences which would later be used to prepare our complimentary gin cocktails.

Following on from the Botanical Dry Room we were provided with a very informative tour of the unique Vapour Infusion

distillation process in the Dakin Still House. Here we learnt about the infusion processes and were able to take a sip of the raw finished product.

Our final stop was in the Mill Bar alongside the River Test where we handed our taste cards to the barmen and were provided with a gin cocktail suited to our preferences. A very pleasant experience.

To finish our trip we visited the Dove Inn at Micheldever Station where the food was traditional pub grub, reasonably priced and tasty.

***Adrian & Jenny C***

## Workshop - Christmas Wreath Making



In late November there was such a good response to the workshop that we had to hold two sessions. We went en masse

to Hobbycraft to choose what each person wanted to put on their wreath. At each session members arrived full of enthusiasm laden with their seasonal

bits and pieces. On arrival there was plenty of greenery and fir cones etc. ready to be used. As you can see by the photographs everyone made a wreath which rivalled those which were being sold at the RHS Wisley.



*Jenny B*

## Film Appreciation 2

Our group of seven have been enjoying a variety of old films as well as trying to get to see some of the new films showing at the cinemas. There seems to be a good selection just before the Oscars and then very few 'must see' films after that. The golden oldies seem to be varied.

So far we have seen some classics such as Rififi; Soldier Blue; A Touch of Class; The Blue Lamp; Charade; Duel and Some like it Hot. We are looking forward to watching Of Mice & Men in February, and though it is not a golden oldie, in March we are going to watch The Light Between Oceans and in April Midnight Cowboy. We have seats for 2 more members if anyone wants to join our group.

There is a vacancy for an usherette to come round with the ices in the interval, but they need to wear the standard uniform of short skirt and fishnet tights, so we would prefer it if men don't apply.

*Jenny B*

## Crafty Ladies

**C**rafty Ladies has continued to meet approximately once a month, and Jan Edgcumbe our Leader, has kept everyone on their toes with a variety of projects.

The Group has continued to make cards for all occasions, using a variety of media and skills – some members (me) struggled a bit with the skills part! Jan is always encouraging and helpful and makes sure we all go home with one, if not more, items to be proud of.



My recent favourite still has to be the butterflies and flowers cut out from soft drinks containers. I mounted 9 butterflies in a box frame, and they are much admired, and it generally takes people some time to realise the source of the material. Some members also made large daisy like flowers, painted or unpainted, attached to batons, to use as plant supports, or just in a large smart pot for unusual decor.

The group enjoyed a festive meal at Christmas at Effingham Golf Club. Unfortunately just after that, Jan fell over and broke her arm in two places. She has been in great pain and out of action for several weeks. However, as she is beginning to improve, the Group have met up for coffee on a couple of occasions, to catch up, and at the last coffee and chat, Jan said she hopes to be back in action quite soon, so the diaries came out for the first dates in 2019. Get well soon, Jan.

*Ann W*

## Answers to the Mathematical Puzzles in the Autumn Newsletter

- A If you add one quarter of the time from noon until now to half the time from now until noon tomorrow, you will get the time now.

**Answer - 9.36pm**



- B How many times does a clock strike between noon and midnight?

**Answer - clock strikes 90 times**



## Cookery Group

The Cookery Group started in May 2005 with 4 ladies (one of whom is still a member). The numbers were soon added to and our full complement now is 9. Although this first group is full, another one is planned which others might be interested in.

Once a month, the members will be found in one of our homes enjoying a 3 course lunch with wine etc, often surpassing many restaurant meals. So, how does the cookery group operate? At the end of lunch we decide on a topic for the next month. Over the years these have been varied, interesting and, sometimes, challenging, eg a colour/a country/seasons/quick & easy/roots (not vegetables!)/healthy eating/recipes from well known cookery writers, etc. Having decided on the theme, we then sort out who will make the starter, main (usually the host), sides, dessert and bring liquid refreshment. If we are a full contingent, one or two ladies join the meal but take a rest from contributing. We usually try something new and often use the internet for recipes despite owning many cookery books ourselves. This introduces us to new dishes and as we take a copy of our recipe for everyone to the meeting, we can replicate the dish at home.



Our summer picnic

We normally go out for a Christmas meal and try different venues as well as having a summer special. Last year as the weather was so good we had a picnic with M&S supplying the buffet, which can be recommended.



Our Christmas meal

This group has been running since the start of Fetcham U3A and is full but another group is being planned if you feel this is something you would like to be part of.

See the seasonal recipe from our Healthy eating meeting on page 3.

## Answers to 2019 Autumn Newsletter London Quiz

1. **Flour Mill**  
Brixton (founded in 1821 as the 'Surrey House of Correction')
2. **Blue Plaque**  
Mornington Crescent Underground Station
3. **Sorrowful Songstress**  
Camden Market (is of Amy Winehouse).
4. **Building**  
The Greenwich Meridian
5. **Roman**  
In the underpass between Tower Bridge Station and the Tower of London (he is Emperor Trajan)
6. **Good man**  
Thomas Coram, a sea captain who established The Foundling Hospital in 1739
7. **Sad man**  
Jeremy Bentham. His preserved body is displayed in a wooden Cabinet at University College London
8. **Church window**  
St Martins in the Fields (by Shirazeh Houshiary)
9. **Bridge**  
From IK Brunel's original Hungerford Bridge (it was also a landing stage for pleasure steamers)
10. **Camel**  
Under the Imperial Camel Corps statue in Embankment run Joseph Bazalgette's Victorian sewers and the London under ground
11. **Cat**  
Because it is unlucky for 13 to dine together at The Savoy - so Kaspar is invited to make 14
12. **Where for Tea**  
The Thames Foyer at The Savoy

## **April 2019 - Jenny's Puzzle Corner Answers**

1. LIBRA
2. GILBERT
3. 7 YEARS
4. 28
5. ST ANDREW - 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER
6. NATIONAL
7. RANI
8. 1948



<b>Editor this issue:</b>	<b>Judy O</b>
<b>Cover Design:</b>	<b>John W</b>
<b>Insert:</b>	<b>John C</b>

Articles and items for October 2019 Newsletter should be with  
John C (newsletter.editor3@fetchamu3a.org.uk) by the  
**1 September 2019** please.



Queue



Debate



Listen



Break



Hike



Create



Research



Back



Punt



Pose



Spend



Learn