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Fetcham U3A Newsletter

[This is a reconstruction of this Newsletter in content but not style or layout, for reference purposes only]

Black Rod Is Without!

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STOP PRESS

The visit by Black Rod on the 25th October has been cancelled.

Letter from Black Rod's SPS received 18:38 on 19th September Jakki Perodeau SPS to Black Rod, and Clerk to the Lord Great Chamberlain.

I am writing on behalf of Black Rod who is presently away from the office to apologise on his behalf for the fact that he will be unable to address Fetcham U3A on 25th October. The reason for this being ceremonial duties within the House of Lords. Nine new "people's" Peers have been announced by the Crown and will be introduced into the House of Lords commencing 12th October. Regrettably one of the introduction dates chosen by the Crown is 25th October and Black Rod as you know has a leading role in such ceremonies.

Black Rod is, as yet, unaware of this clash of dates. He returns to the office next week. I thought it advisable to let you know as soon as possible and hope that you will understand his unavoidable inability to address your group.

Sir Michael Willcocks Biography

Margaret — Speaker Secretary scores a first

Our Speaker Secretary, Margaret, has achieved a major success in arranging for Lieutenant General Sir Michael Willcocks KCB Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod and at Arms of the House of Lords to address our U3A at the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music on the 25th of October this year.

A former career soldier, he was commissioned into the Royal Artillery from RMA Sandhurst in 1964. He served in Malaya, Borneo, Germany, Northern Ireland, Turkey/Iraq, the Middle East and the Balkans. He has a London University Honours Degree. He attended Staff College at Camberley in 1976 and the Higher Command and Staff Course in 1988. He commanded 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery from 1983 to 1985 and was Commander Royal Artillery 4th Armoured Division from 1989 to 1990.

Before becoming Black Rod, he was based in Brussels from July 2000 as the United Kingdom Military Representative to NATO, the European Union and the Western European Union. His previous appointments included: Deputy Commander Operations of the Stabilisation Force (SFOR) in Bosnia-Herzegovina for a year from March 1999; Assistant Chief of the General Staff from 1996 until 1999; Chief of Staff Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps, (ARRC) from 1994 to 1996 during which he carried out the planning for, and subsequently deployed with, the Peace Implementation Force, (IFOR) in Bosnia-Herzegovina; Director General Land Warfare, responsible for Army doctrine and force development, during which appointment he led the Defence Cost Review Study on Training and the Joint Headquarters Follow-On Study which led respectively to the establishment of the Joint Services Command and Staff College and the UK's Permanent Joint Headquarters; and Director Army Plans and Programme. In 1991 he was Chief of Staff Land Operations for the period of the Gulf War and its aftermath which included the Kurdish relief operation.

He was made CB in 1997 and KCB in 2000. He was awarded the United States Meritorious Service Medal in 1996 and 2000.

He is Honorary Colonel of 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery and a Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery. A member of the European-Atlantic Group since 1994, he was a Commissioner of the Royal Hospital Chelsea from 1996-1999.

He is married with three children and his interests include fishing, shooting, music, reading, sailing, and tennis.

Chairman's Report

Welcome to an active programme of events for the fourth year of Fetcham & District U3A. At the start the founding committee members were concerned that there might be a general reluctance to forming viable interest groups, but this year we are offering forty four different groups in various fields of endeavour. I hope you all find a group or groups that suit your interests. Our new groups for Gentle Movement and Renaissance Art are recruiting at present. The range of opportunities available extends to those groups in Bookham and Leatherhead U3As which have vacancies and where we do not have a group of our own, speak to Enid about these options, to the regional study day programme listed elsewhere in the Newsletter and to the summer schools organised by National Office or by our local South East Area at Chichester, which runs from Wednesday 28th June to Saturday 1st July next year.

We are holding the October monthly meeting in the new concert hall at the Yehudi Menuhin School, when a talk by Black Rod on his historic parliamentary office promises to be very popular. We have made this an all-ticket occasion with tickets free to members and £1 to guests, inclusive of tea in both cases. Winnie is responsible for issuing the tickets and she will be at the September meeting. The new hall holds three hundred people and we are looking forward to having the opportunity to have a larger meeting in this splendid venue. Feedback forms on how the arrangements have worked and seeking your views on future monthly meetings will be provided on the day.

For the moment we are endeavouring to make best use of St. Mary's Church Hall by moving the groups information into the side room and by moving Sheila and the theatre/outings table to the back of the hall. In addition we have decided to keep the doors closed until 2pm to enable the setting up of the chairs and equipment to proceed safely and efficiently. The initiative of having an August meeting was well received, attracted over one hundred members and will be included as part of the 2006 programme. We are looking for volunteers to help with the setting up at the start of the meetings. If you can help please contact me.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Tuesday 22nd November and the Notice of the AGM is included with the Newsletter. Three members of the committee are standing down at the AGM having served their terms of three years. Marilyn, our Membership Secretary is retiring from the committee and I would like to offer the thanks of the U3A to Marilyn for her splendid work since the start when she was a founding committee member. Brenda and Enid have indicated that they are willing to continue working for the U3A and will be seeking nomination for the elections to the committee. I hope other members will consider offering their services for committee membership and for other roles such as the Social Sub-Committee and the Tea Rota that keep the organisation running so energetically and enjoyably to the benefit of all members.

I recently attended the Annual Conference and AGM of the Third Age Trust at Leicester University on behalf of our U3A. It was a splendid occasion with some noteworthy lectures on the art of glass making and publishing. We also had an impressive presentation of classical Indian dance by several young people who were just starting on professional careers in dance. One of the girls had had a professional debut with a two-hour solo dance at the age of sixteen. The expressive way the complex tales of men, women and gods were told was marvellous to behold. The resume before the dance did help with the interpretation. As well as those activities there was plenty of opportunity to discuss ideas that had proved popular elsewhere, and even to consider the possibility of making contacts with U3As in Spain and Cyprus, or NZ and Oz, while on holiday. The main motion debated was on improving the recognition of

regional groups of U3As in the structure of the Third Age Trust. The motion was passed by an overwhelming majority.

Edna Wright from Sussex had been the Area Representative for the South East on the National Executive Committee (NEC) for two years, but after making some very valuable contributions over the period she stood down at the AGM. I was elected as the new Area Representative for the South East, which covers Kent, Surrey and East and West Sussex. I look forward to learning more about the management and development of the Third Age Trust and contributing in some small way. The growth in membership of 56% over the last five years is very encouraging and a healthy financial position was reported at the AGM. One of the objectives of the Third Age Trust is to expand the provision of U3A activities and the network of U3As to fulfil the demand that is very apparent. Personal recommendation works very well locally but the NEC is working to increase our profile across the country. Good news is often difficult to publicise, but the efforts are being made – an edition of the Radio Four programme “You and Yours” on U3As is in the can but we have not heard when it will be broadcast.

At the conference the main theme was “The Challenge of Change – a vision for the future” and the discussion focussed on the responses needed from all of us. Keeping interested and healthy is all part of the message and I hope our U3A is providing the best kinds of opportunities for you. Very best wishes to you all for the next year of Fetcham & District U3A.

Ian

2005/6 EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

17 th September	Barn Dance	Old Barn Hall, Bookham
27 th September	My Life in Music	Maryetta Midgley
25 th October	The Office of Black Rod	Lt Gen Sir Michael Willcocks
22nd November	AGM+ The Fishmonger's Tale	Ron Fowler
9th December	Christmas Party with entertainment	Mary's Church Hall
24th January	A Word on Plays	Roy Russell
28th February	Westward with the Vikings	Sam Hall
28th March	Biggin on the Bump	Bob Ogley
25th April	Surrey Trading Standards	TBA
23rd May	Campaign for the protection of Rural England	Colin Langley
27th June	A Fist Full of Feathers	Pauline Murphy
25th July	The History & Magic of Playing Cards	Ray Hampton

Group News

Active & Proposed Groups And Their Leaders

Alpine Gardening	Alan	3rd Monday at 14:30	Status: Vacancies
Art - Mixed Media (1)	Margaret	Alternate Thursdays at 10.30	Status: Full
Art - Mixed Media (2)	Janet	1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
Art Appreciation	Jenny	4th Wednesday at 14.00	Status: Vacancies
Aviation & Technology	Lawrence	Contact Group Leader	Status: Full
Book Club	Penny & Elaine	1st Wednesday at 14.00	Status: Full
Bridge For Improvers			Status: Proposed
Bridge (with Lhd/Bkm)</	Pam & John	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 10.00	Status: Vacancies
Computing	Tony	As advertised	Status: Vacancies
Cookery	Diana	2nd Tuesday at 12.00	Status: Vacancies
Current Affairs	Alfred	2nd Tuesday at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
European History	Roger & Gail	2nd Tuesday at 16.00	Status: Vacancies
Explore London Walking (1)	Linda	1st Monday at 9.45	Status: Full
Explore London Walking (2)	Tony & Joan	2nd Monday at 9.45	Status: Vacancies
Family History (1)	John	4th Thursday at 14.30	Status: Full
Family History (2)			Status: Proposed
French Conversation (1)	Anna	1st & 3rd Mondays at 14.15	Status: Full

French Conversation (2)	Lesley	1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 14.30	Status: Full
Gardening	Beryl & Joan	1st Tuesday at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
Gentle Movement 1	Enid	Every Friday at 10.00	Status: Full
Gentle Movement 2	Enid	Contact Group Leader	Status: Vacancies
Industrial Heritage	Ian	3rd Monday at 10.00	Status: Vacancies
Investment Club	Tony & John	4th Thursday evening	Status: Full
Local History	Keith	1st Tuesday at 10.00	Status: Vacancies
Explore London Walking (1)	Linda	1st Monday at 9.45	Status: Full
Explore London Walking (2)	Tony & Joan	2nd Monday at 9.45	Status: Vacancies
Mah Jong	Margaret	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
Music Appreciation (1)	Bryan & Penny	2nd Wednesday at 19.45	Status: Full
Music Appreciation (2)			Status: Proposed
Needlework (1)	Mary	2nd & 4th Fridays at 10.00	Status: Full
Needlework (2)			Status: Proposed
Outings & Theatre Visits	Sheila	Various times and dates	Status: Contact Sheila
Parchment Craft	Genie	Alternate Thursdays at 10.00	Status: Vacancies
Play Reading	Winnie & Geoff	1st Thursday at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
Renaissance Art 1300-1500	Leslie & Bryan	Wednesdays at 14.30	Status: Vacancies
Scrabble For Fun	Janet	3rd Wednesday at 19.30	Status: Vacancies
Singing/Choir	Patricia	Contact Group Leader	Status: Vacancies
Singles Dining	Genie	Contact Genie for details	Status: Vacancies
Sunday Lunch Club (1)	Geoff	1st Sunday at 12.00	Status: Full
Sunday Lunch Club (2)	Fred	3rd Sunday at 12.00	Status: Vacancies
Walking (1)	Jo & Ernie	4th Thursday morning	Status: Vacancies
Walking (2)</	Margaret	3rd Monday at 09:30 Lower shott	Status: Vacancies
Wine Appreciation (1)	Jo & Ernie	3rd Tuesday at 14.30	Status: Full
Wine Appreciation (2)	Geoff	3rd Tuesday at 14.30	Status: Full
Wine Appreciation (3)	Chris & Rosemary	2nd Tuesday at 19.45	Status: Full
Wine Appreciation (4)		3rd Tuesday at 14.30	Status: Proposed

To join a group please contact the group leader to check on vacancies and programme.

To join a proposed group speak to Enid, Groups Co-ordinator at the Monthly Meeting or contact the group leader.

To suggest new ideas for groups speak to Enid at the Monthly Meeting.

Would group leaders please keep Enid informed of any changes to the information given above.

Art Mixed Media (1) - Margaret

When the weather was fine we took the opportunity to paint scenes in the garden. When it rained we were moved to take inspiration from the talk on Velasquez and attempt self portraits. A display board is being assembled for exhibition at a Monthly Meeting, showing a range of paintings of plants, animals and scenery.

Art - Mixed Media (2) - Janet

This summer we have enjoyed drawing and water colour in each others gardens. We had an expedition to Polesden Lacey, where we painted the front aspect of the house.

One of our members excelled herself by winning the cup for the "Blue Theme", and a medal for second place overall, in the Fetcham and Bookham Art Group's exhibition.

In the autumn we aim to experiment with some different techniques, mainly in watercolour. We have places available for new members - contact Janet for details.

Art Appreciation - Jenny

In April we saw the Monet, Turner, and Whistler exhibition at the Tate Britain, then some of us went to view Somerset House in May. In June we visited the Watts Gallery at Compton nr Guildford on a very hot day.

We were going to go to London in July to visit the Arts and Crafts Exhibition at the V&A but due to the aftermath of the earlier events in London it was cancelled so we had a meeting to discuss our future program.

August saw a group of 9 people going up to the Pictures in Britain Exhibition at the Tate Britain. September we are going up to the National Gallery to view the Stubbs exhibition and are also going down to see the Charleston Farmhouse near Polegate which was the home of Vanessa Bell family and friends.

The Group is eagerly awaiting Leslie's series of lectures on the Renaissance.

Aviation & Technology - Lawrence

The main aviation season started in May 2005 with the Great Vintage Flying weekend at Hurlingham Wiltshire. Due to the British weather running true to form it became the Great Washout weekend which came after a very sunny start. We were treated to a spectacular slow flying display which included a short take-off and landing by the Scottish Aviation Twin Pioneer. And sat in the cockpit of the World's biggest Bi-Plane, the Radial Engine Antonov AN2. Joe Burton viewed a 1930 built De Havilland Fox Moth still flying and then realised he had flown in it as a passenger when still a young boy.

Other visits included the Miles/Beagle Aircraft reunion at Shoreham. The British aircraft fly-in at Popham, when the weather was really fine. A good turn out provided some exciting viewing and more recently the Redhill Airshow which featured Tornado, Spitfire, Mustang, Seafury, Catalina and Chinook Helicopter. A sight to gladden any young man's heart.

We are looking forward to the Shuttleworth Pageant and Duxford Air Show in early September.

Book Club - Penny & Bryan

The book reading group has been going now for a full year. We have thirteen members and all have contributed with good ideas, to make this a very happy clan I hope our range of books continues to interest us all. I must admit since starting out Elaine and I have read books we might not have considered before, but this is what it's all about. In June we read 'Spies' by Michael Frayn, a story about war time England and children thinking there was a spy in their street. Then 'The Lady and the Unicorn' by Tracy Chevalier, a story about an ancient tapestry and the people involved who wove it. As there was no August meeting we decided to try a double sized book entitled 'The Pillars of the Earth' by Ken Follett. This gripping historical novel starts in 1123 and tells the story of the building of a new gothic cathedral and is told through the eyes of one of the stonemasons and his family. Our other books in the pipe line to read are 'Persuasion', 'Scarlet Feather' and 'The Queen's Fool' and that brings us up to Christmas.

Bridge (with Leatherhead/Bookham) - Pam & John

Leatherhead, Bookham and Fetcham U3A Bridge will continue to meet at St. Mary's Church Hall, Fetcham, on the second and fourth Thursday mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm. Rubber is played on the 2nd Thursday and Chicago on the 4th Thursday.

Please note the following dates when bridge meetings will be held as below:

Rubber: 8th September; 13th October; 10th November; 8th December.

Chicago: 22nd September; 3rd November; 24th November; 22nd December.

The Hall has been booked for 2006. Subscriptions are due in advance at £1.50 per session. If 4 lessons are paid in advance they are discounted to £4.

Please continue to sign the attendance book on each visit. Newcomers are requested to leave full details on their first visit.

Computing – Tony

Group Meetings

Tuesday 12th July '05 at 7:00pm, Waterfield Room, Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham.

Presentation on "e-bay" by Tony followed by question and answer session.

The Group held two excellent well attended meetings in the last quarter. At the May meeting Bryan introduced the basics of Excel and showed how to portray the data in a variety of graphic forms. He was followed by Graham who brought us down to earth with his use of Excel for managing our domestic budgets. At the July meeting Tony showed how we could auction off all those unwanted items in the attic using the E-Bay auction site. On both occasions our panel of relaxed "experts" shed light on our computer problems and proffered practical solutions.

The next meeting of the Computing Group is on Thursday 1st December in the Harrison Room at the Old Barn Hall Bookham when Colin will talk about "using Excel as a database". Contact Tony if you want to speak on a topic or have it included in the programme.

Fetcham U3A Computer Courses

The eight week Improvers Course starts on Tuesday 20th September at the Howard School. The course will cover file handling/Explorer, improvers word processing, Excel, PowerPoint, formatting and templates, tables, pictures and Word Art, internet searches, back-ups and personalising toolbars. Course registration forms available at the monthly meetings and from the Group Leader.

Programme of Lectures

20th September	Window interface, file management, Explorer	Michael
27th September	Formatting & using Templates	Hugh
4th October	Creating Word Tables	Graham
11th October	Using Clip Art Pictures & Words	Michael
18th October	Creating a Power Point presentation	Tony
25th October	Half Term	
1st November	Excel, an introduction to spreadsheets	Graham
8th November	Mail Merge & Class options	Michael
15th November	Using Internet Explorer & Search Engines	Graham

An eight week Digital Photography Course will start in January 2006, further details will be available in the Autumn.

Contact the Group Leader for further details.

Cookery - Diana

The Cookery Group has got off to a flying start with an increasing number of members. For our meetings so far we have tasted a variety of soups, wonderful pâtés and mousses and cold

starters and now we all have many interesting new recipes to try. For our August meeting we had a picnic at Polesden Lacey on a beautiful day with everyone providing part of the lunch.

Plans include attending a recording session of Ready, Steady, Cook when a suitable date is announced. Next month we will all bring our favourite kitchen gadget or tool. Later we will explore other cookery subjects – we have only tried three so far.

Explore London Walking (1) - Linda

Since our last report we have continued to make monthly trips to London and have walked along canals in Bow, and through Regents Park to Little Venice; paid two visits to see parts of Chelsea which incorporated tours of the Chelsea Pensioners Hospital, and The Army Museum.

In August we had an "Awayday" trip to Arundel – visiting the Castle in the morning and having a Blue Badge guided tour of the town in the afternoon. In September we are visiting Eton College and Windsor.

Explore London Walking (2) - Tony

This group was born out of the success of "The London History Group" We meet on the second Monday of each month at Cobham Station between 9.30 and 9.45 to catch the 9.58 train.

It may be possible to accept another 4 members into the group - more at the next U3A Tuesday meeting.

So far we have visited The City - west of St Paul's, Courts of St James's and the Temple and Fleet Street. Unfortunately the Temple Church was closed because of the bombings on the previous Thursday - however there will be another visit to the church soon.

Thanks to all our walkers for their excellent company - it has been great fun. Many thanks and regards.

>Family History (1) - John

We continue to attract maximum numbers to our monthly meetings and have a waiting list, so if anyone is willing to start a second group there is a nucleus of potential members. Since April we have paid group visits to Surrey's Local History Centre in Woking where we had a conducted tour "behind the scenes" and to the Family Records Centre in Islington. We have also arranged to spend a day at the National Public Records Office at Kew in October. Meanwhile members continue to research their own family histories with considerable success.

French Conversation (1) - Anna

French Conversation (2) - Lesley

Both groups have continued regularly, following much the same format as previously. The year has provided a number of subjects of topical interest relating to France and Europe, to which we have added our personal experiences; visits, holidays etc. We again held a joint celebration on Bastille Day (July 14th) and by the time you read this, members of our groups will have experienced Keith's magnificent *déjeuner gastronomique* in Wimereux on September 2nd, joined by others from Fetcham U3A.

Gentle Movement (1&2)- Enid

Enid has had a great success with the Friday morning Gentle Movement Exercise Class, which she organised for members at the Fetcham Reading Room. In fact, the Friday classes have become so well attended that a Monday morning class has also been booked starting on Monday 19th September.



Kim Skinner is a fully qualified Rosemary Connolly fitness instructress, and she takes the classes with an enormous amount of charm and humour. She expects members to work hard but there is also a lot of laughter and everyone agrees they feel enormous benefits from the hour long class.

The choice of music is great and such steps as 'grapevine' 'mambo' and 'box steps' are now second nature to all the class.



There are still a few places for the Monday class so if you are interested hurry to book a place. Please contact Enid.

Patricia

Investment Club – John

Our twelve members meet every month to discuss our investments and receive reports on how the Stock Market is performing. Thanks to the market improving to a 3 year high (and to our own shrewd decisions!) we have made a modest surplus in our first year. We are holding our AGM in September when we intend to rotate the offices so everyone plays a full part in the Club's activities. We held a supper party for members and their partners in August to prove that the Club is intent on being both enjoyable and instructive. If you really want to know which companies we have invested in please contact me.

Music Appreciation (1) - Bryan & Penny

The variety of music which we seem to appreciate never ceases to astound me. In May we watched the video of Cliff Richards 'Heathcliff'. He really is talented you know!

The next meeting we had the music from the films, 'Harry Potter', 'Lord of the Rings', 'The Mission', 'Cptn. Corelli's Mandolin' to mention but a few. Then we had a quiz of the music from the war films. We all recognised the tune but was it from 'The Guns of Navarone', 'Where Eagles dare', or 'The Battle of Britain'. We get a lot wrong but it was fun. In July we went to the other extreme and watched the video of 'Tales of Hoffman', beautifully sung in French. The story was a bit weird (I couldn't get my mind round it all of the time) but the singing was very enjoyable. There was no meeting in August.

Our next few meetings will see us listening to various Choral works and music from the Ballets before the build up to Christmas, gosh is it really that close?

Needlework (1) - Mary

The group continues to meet regularly twice a month at members' homes. We are continuing with beading projects and are making 'Precious Parcels', which combine embroidery skills and beading. At the end of May several of us had an outing to Ramster House near Chiddingfold where an exhibition of Needlework and Embroidery was being held. We enjoyed a fascinating morning looking at the exquisite displays of many different examples, followed by lunch, and then a walk round the gardens which are famous for the rhododendrons and azaleas. The weather was fine and hot and the gardens were looking at their best.

Further to our production of the quilts etc for the orphanage in Zambia in memory of Rhianna Davenport, Val Hook has heard from the Home that a new Hall has been completed where the local church and wider community are able to meet, and the Home is due to open in September. We hope then to receive some photos of the finished project complete with quilts and teddy bears on the beds!

Outings & Theatre Visits – Sheila

6th October	Nelson & Napoleon Exhibition Commemorating Battle of Trafalgar	Greenwich	£20.00
19th October	Otherwise Engaged—Simon Gray's new play	Woking	£15.50
27th October	La Traviata by Northern Ballet Theatre	Woking	£19.50
9th November	The History Boys	Woking	£15.50
23rd November	The Real Thing	Woking	£15.50
10th December	Christmas Celebration	Royal Albert Hall	£20.00
15th December	Billy Elliott (matinee)	Victoria Palace London	£43.00 or £28.00

Play Reading - Winnie & Geoff

We meet in a member's house on the first Thursday of the month to talk about, and then read, a published play. We don't take it too seriously - the more mistakes there are in the "sight-reading" of the script the more fun there is. We need a few more "gentlemen actors" but, sadly, we cannot accommodate more ladies at present.

Sunday Lunch Club (1) - Geoff

Sunday Lunch Club (2) - Fred

Meeting at lunch-time on Sundays for a good meal which someone else has prepared continues to be popular, to the extent that there are now two groups in existence. We have explored

many interesting venues where we have enjoyed good fellowship and good conversation on matters of current interest. Visitors are welcome when accommodation permits. Geoff can give you more information about both groups.

Walking (1) - Jo & Ernie

Recent routes have included Norbury Park in May, the Wotton Estate in June, the Sheepleas in July and Ranmore in August. The weather has been kind to us for all of these walks. However, we were greeted with temperatures of 30° for the Wotton walk, but as much of it was under trees, we managed to keep cool.

Please note that from October, the walks will start at 10.30am.

Future walks planned are:

September 22nd 3.5 miles Epsom Downs

Meet at 10am in the car park at Tattenham Corner (over the road from the Race Course).

The walk is undulating in places with no stiles.

Refreshments at The Rubbing House pub afterwards, if required.

October 27th 3.5 miles Bookham Commons

Meet at 10.30am in the car park in Commonside, just off Church road, near Bookham Station. A flat walk, with 2 stiles.

Refreshments at Ye Olde Windsor Castle afterwards, if required.

Sheets with additional details are available at the monthly meetings, or from Jo and Ernie.

Walking (2) - Margaret

The group meets at 9.30 am on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Lower Shott car park, Guildford Road in Bookham. We then drive to the start of the walk in the minimum number of cars. Each walk is between 4 and 5 miles and any hills are taken at a gentle pace! Some of us like to round off the morning with a drink or a bite to eat.

New members of the group are very welcome. If you would like further information ring Margaret.

The next walks are on September 19th, October 17th, November 21st and December 19th. Put the dates in your diary!

Wine Appreciation (1) - Jo & Ernie

This summer has seen us indulge in two very different but immensely enjoyable visits. In July we went with members of the two other U3A wine groups to Waddesdon Manor, a magnificent National Trust property near Aylesbury. We started with a visit to the Lafite-Rothschild wine cellars, then went into the House, which is filled with treasures in every room. After lunch in the Stables Restaurant, we had time to admire the wonderful gardens and aviary before returning home.



Why were they

listening with such rapt anticipation
to Eileen Holland?

'Cos they wanted to get at this in
the cellars

In August, our group went to Lurgashall Winery, near Petworth. Professor Jordan Schooler, the proprietor, told us about the development of the Winery and we saw 'behind the scenes'. They produce up to 500,000 bottles a year of country wine, meads and liqueurs, all from natural products. Mr Schooler was very informative and hugely entertaining and we finished our visit with five tastings – elderberry, plum and silver birch wines, English mead and raspberry liqueur – wonderful! After making many purchases, we went on to The Hollist Arms in Lodsworth for an excellent lunch – it was a great day – and the sun shone again!

Central Surrey Region Study Days in 2005/2006

From October to May the study days will be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon in their new concert hall and the July study day will be held in Banstead Community Centre. The programme for each study day will normally start at 9.30am with registration and will run from 10am to 4pm with breaks for coffee, lunch and tea. The cost including coffee/tea and biscuits will be £9, with attendees bringing a packed lunch. For latest information see www.fetchamu3a.org.uk/studydays.htm.

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|----------------------|--|
| Friday 14th October | Kings & Princes of the Keyboard
John Hursey, Open University
To be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon |
| Friday 11th November | Has the EU a future?
John Broad, Gordon Williams, Steve Isaac, Hugo Frey & John Roberts
With U3A & Outside Speakers
To be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon |

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| Friday 10th February | Jane Austen
Jill Anderton & Marion Dell, Open University
To be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon |
| Friday 10th March | Industrial Archeology
Alan Crocker & Paul Sowan, Surrey Archaeological Society
To be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon |
| Friday 12th May | Views on a Changing World – Iraq, Afghanistan & China
Gail & Roger, Phyllis May & Jean Thompson. All U3A Speakers
To be held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke d'Abernon |
| Saturday 15th July | Mozart: Salzburg & Vienna – A Celebration |

Janet Canetty-Clarke, University Lecturer, Conductor & Pianist
To be held at the Banstead Community Centre

Booking is necessary and booking forms will be available at Monthly Meetings. Jennifer acts as bookings secretary.

Renaissance Art

A Weekly Art History Course of Twenty Sessions will start on Wednesday 28th September.

The Course will be given in Fetcham Village Hall, John Rumble Room at 2.30pm.

Renaissance Art from 1300 to 1500 by Leslie Pitcher

Session 1 – Introduction

Sessions 2 to 4 – Early 14th Century Italian Art

Sessions 5 to 7 – International Gothic Art

Sessions 8 to 14 – The Renaissance in Florence

Sessions 15 to 16 – Early Flemish Painting

Sessions 17 to 18 – Piero della Francesca and the Palace at Urbino

Sessions 19 to 20 – The Cult of Classical Antiquity

As with the Art in the Ancient World series, there will be about thirty slides per session, with many showing close-up details so that we can get a better idea of artistic techniques etc. Lists of slides, with location, date and dimensions etc. will be provided. The notes for the first three sessions are already available. The notes will contain literary/documentary texts relevant to the artistic works, to be studied before the next session. Certain questions can then be discussed at the start of the session. Such texts will include, for example, extracts from Vasari's "Lives of Artists", original contracts between artists and patrons, extracts from the accounts of the Dukes of Berry and Burgundy showing their artistic tastes and treatment of artists like Van Dycke, "extracts from Alberti's "On Painting", Castiglioni's "Courtier", apocryphal Biblical texts illustrated by Giotto at Arena Chapel, extracts from Cennini's "The Craftsman's Handbook" etc.

The cost of the course up to Christmas, covering room hire, handouts and tea/coffee and biscuits, will be £20. Cheques made out to Fetcham U3A should be handed in at the Monthly Meeting to Enid or Bryan, or can be posted to Bryan. Please remember to refer to the Art History Course and to include your contact details. Arrangements for two required venue changes on 12th October and 9th November will be available at the first meeting at 2.30pm on Wednesday 28th September in the John Rumble Room at Fetcham Village Hall.

Summer Barn Dance

The second Fetcham & District U3A Barn Dance was held on Saturday, 17th September, at Bookham Barn Hall. This is, of course, a perfect venue for a Barn Dance, and the members and their friends who came to enjoy a fish and chip supper and a live band had a wonderful evening.

The Band was called "The Crooked Stovepipe" and had Don on accordion, Gilly on keyboard and Dave on second accordion (they do have a violinist as well but he was away in China!). The Caller, Peter, was extremely amusing and from the first dance he had us all laughing at his wonderful line of patter, quite apart from the helpless mirth that accompanied our attempts to follow his instructions without crashing into each other or ending up facing the wrong way or dancing with the wrong partner! The directions were very clear, the music was perfect, there

was enough space for us all to dance, but somehow the majority of people (there are always a few people who can get it right straight away!) spent anxious moments turning left rather than right, or even ending up trying to dance with someone in the set next to them. Then there was the problem of remembering which was right or left in the heat of the moment, and during the Oxo Reel there was some confusion of when you were meant to form a circle or a cross! I know this does not sound like rocket science, but believe me you had to be there to understand the problem!

Supper was a choice of fish and chips or chicken, followed by delicious desserts and a cup of coffee. People had brought their own wine or drinks with them and there were nibbles on the tables when we arrived. The evening was very well organised and thanks should be given to Winnie, Brenda, June, Joan and Beryl, and to Yvonne for organising the raffle.



The Crooked Stovepipe



The Old Barn Hall floor



Awaiting Supper



Chairman & Secretary lead the way

Patricia

Ceremony Visit

Ian, Arthur Browne – Regional Representative for Central Surrey U3As - and I attended the Awards Ceremony of Adult Learners' Week, co-ordinated by NIACE, the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education and supported by SEEDA – South East England Development Agency - at Denbies Vineyard on Wednesday, 25 May, 2005.

Introduced by Charlotte Hawkins, of Meridian Television, Adult Learners' Week Awards recognised and celebrated the achievements of learners from across the country, many of

whom have overcome substantial difficulties to achieve their goals. One of the successes each year has been in broadening popular understanding about how, why and what adults learn. We found many award winners had overcome seemingly insurmountable problems in order to unlock their passion for learning, knowing the way it will open doors, transform their lives and touch other people. The pride with which they received their awards was inspiring and moving to those of us who are able to take education and learning in our stride. Very little appeared to be known about the U3A organisation, although a few had heard about it in some form or another. We were therefore able to talk to people over refreshments after the ceremony and, as we had taken along boards showing some of the activities we pursue, could show them how diverse our interest groups are. The social side was also stressed as an important part of the organisation.

We hope that we have been able to 'spread the word' to those more mature that, when you eventually retire or have more time, there is a world out there for continuing education in the way you want to go and a great social empire in which you can be an important player, if you choose to take part. Sharing dreams and hopes for the future is not only for the young; it has its time and place in every generation. At the end of the evening we came away feeling that every single participant was an inspiration to us all.



Our U3A Display Panels at Denbies Vineyard

Winnie

Website

Did you know that if you enter Fetcham & U3A into Google you get 72 links?

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General Information - Restaurants, Pubs and Hotels

Our website info is growing and it has been suggested that we gather together your ideas for good restaurants, pubs and hotels in the area where you have eaten (or drunk) to create a comprehensive list. This list could also include those which you would NOT recommend - where you have had bad meals or poor drinks. It is a way of sharing info between members for the benefit of all. As much detail as possible would be helpful, please, i.e. lunch or dinner, Sunday lunch, etc. I will thin it out if necessary.

Please let me have your recommendations and I will make sure they are included - no names will be attached to the recommendation.

Winnie