

WHERE HAS THE TIME GONE?

How quickly time passes! It seems only yesterday that frenetic arrangements were being finalised for the Strawberry Tea, with impassioned prayers sent aloft for a fine day and, all too soon, it is over. Suffice to say that we had another hit on our hands and it seems to have been enjoyed by all. The photo shows our wine experts discussing the merits (or not) of the rosé wine and, as usual, our 'food team' – Beryl, June and Joan - came up trumps and Brenda laboured solidly throughout to ensure a successful afternoon. It is too easy to overlook the hard work which goes on behind the scenes – much like the proverbial swan, serenely moving along but paddling like fury underneath. The Grange made no charge for the use of their facilities and therefore we sent a donation to them with our very grateful thanks for providing us with everything needed to make the day such a success.

By the time you read this Newsletter our War-time Dance will be over. The wartime songs will have been sung – hopefully – with gusto and a good time enjoyed by all. After a slow start, the ticket sales took hold and the numbers grew rapidly with word spreading beyond Fetcham U3A. It is good that we have a full social calendar; it gives us all the opportunity to meet members of other organisations who appreciate joining in our fun. It constantly amazes me how people from quite far afield have heard about Fetcham U3A – long may it continue.

Next year's social activities are already in the pipeline, with the 'Bryan and Penny Quiz Night' back by popular demand early in the year. It is planned that the summer and autumn events will be a little different. However, we will not change the Christmas Party, which seems to have become a permanent fixture.



Our Speakers have been very varied. Who would have imagined a talk about turkey farming could have been so hilarious, or a laid-back, nimble-fingered magician with playing cards could so totally dismiss thoughts of the hot, sultry afternoon outside.

Brenda is keeping a keen eye on the Associate Membership and endeavouring to convert them to full members in as short a time as possible. Although Associate Members cannot, at present, attend monthly meetings we hope that they will want to join in our events whenever they can so that they will feel part of Fetcham U3A.

One last thing. Without you, we have nothing. The continued success of Fetcham U3A depends upon its members. Your comments are valuable to your Committee to ensure it continues to do what you, the members, most want.

I do hope you enjoy the rest of the year's programme.

Winnie
Publicity Officer

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Chairman's Column - September 2006

Now the real heatwave is over, we can think back to what a lovely summer it has been. Gardens looked their best in early summer and there was a splendid open gardens event in Fetcham and Bookham raising funds for the Old Barn Hall in its centenary year. Our social events in the last year have used the hall very successfully and now the Wartime Dance and Social will be upon us before you read this. The Strawberry Tea in June was held at The Grange and everyone enjoyed a lovely event laid on by our Social Events team. Next year will be our fifth anniversary; perhaps we should be looking for ideas to celebrate that.



As this will be my last Chairman's Column I thought I should start by saying how much I have enjoyed the opportunity of working with many others to make Fetcham U3A as special and successful as it clearly is. Those most involved have been the committee, but everyone else, including the group leaders, others with designated roles and all the individual members deserve my thanks; and the thought that if we all pull together, we go a long way fast and in the right direction. In just under four years the numbers have gone from zero to over 400 and the number of groups has reached fifty. Two of the groups need leaders if you feel so inclined... Because of the size of the hall the numbers attending monthly meetings reached the level where we felt it necessary to introduce Associate Membership which restricts attendance at monthly meetings and only allows attendance at the AGM. We intend to move Associate Members to full membership as soon as possible and some will have been notified recently. For the coming year Associate Members will pay £8 while the rest of us pay the unchanged subscription of £10.

The current committee has been remarkably supportive and active, but I must also thank Neville, our first Chairman, together with Patricia, Peter, Marilyn, Margaret and Garth, who have been on the committee for some part of our first four years. In the last newsletter I appealed for volunteers to join the committee and for volunteers for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. I am very pleased to say that we have since co-opted David to join the committee. In addition Tony has agreed to accept the nomination for the role of Chairman and Winnie has similarly agreed for the role of Vice-Chairman. We still look for more members to help with the successful running of Fetcham U3A, but it certainly looks as though we will have a strong committee taking us forward after the AGM. I have said that I will be available to help the committee in whatever ways are useful. Meanwhile, I still have two years to run as Area Representative for the South East of England, so I have plenty to keep me busy.

Enjoy the opportunities that membership of our U3A offers, whether within the interest groups and social events run by Fetcham, or the study day programme and events such as summer schools and the annual Royal Institution lectures, or the services of the National Travel Group which are all further afield. Next year the annual conference will be aboard a cruise ship, sailing between the UK, Ireland and France, while offering a stimulating and educational programme each day. It looks very exciting and affordable. Look out for the dates which will be in mid-September 2007.

Best wishes for the future. Ian

2006/7 Programme of Events For Your Diary

Tuesday 26th September	Mouth and Foot Painting	Tom Yendel
Tuesday 24th October	The Role of the Third Age Trust	Lin Jonas
Tuesday 28th November	AGM + The Story of Concorde	Peter Ling Menuhin Hall
Tuesday 12th December	Our Christmas Party (ticket only event) 2.30 - 5.00pm	 Fetcham Village Hall
Tuesday 23rd January	The Gurkha Soldier	William Shuttle- wood
Tuesday 27th February	Peter Ede	A Moving Talk
Friday 9th March	Quiz Night	 Old Barn Hall 7.30 - 11pm
Tuesday 27th March	 Roy Reece	Dentistry in Nepal
Tuesday 24th April	Peter Grove	 Lord Mayor's Bodyguard

Social events are printed in **bold**

Associate members should contact Brenda if they would like to attend any
of the monthly meetings

Associate Members should contact Winne for information concerning any event

Active and Proposed Groups and Their Leaders

Alpine Gardening	Alan	3 rd Monday at 14:30	V
Antiques & Collectables	Marilyn	3 rd Wednesday at 14:30	V
Art – Mixed Media (1)	Margaret	Alternate Thursdays at 10:30	F
Art – Mixed Media (2)	Janet	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays at 14:30	V
Art Appreciation	Jenny	4 th Wednesday at 14:00	V
Aviation & Technology	Lawrence	Contact Lawrence for details	F
Ballroom Dancing	Enid	Contact Enid for details	F
Book Club	Penny & Elaine	1 st Wednesday at 14:00	F
Bridge for Beginners	David	Contact David for details	V
Bridge (with Lhead/Bookham)	Pam	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays at 10:00	V
Card Craft	Jan	Contact Jan for details	V
Computing	Tony	As advertised	V
Cookery	Diana	2 nd Tuesday at 12:00	V
Creative Writing	Reg (with Bookham)	Contact Reg for details	V
Current & Social Affairs	Alfred	2 nd Tuesday at 14:30	V
European History	Roger & Gail	2 nd Tuesday at 16:00	V
Explore London Walking (1)	Linda	1 st Monday at 9:45	F
Explore London Walking (2)	Tony & Joan	4 th Monday at 9:45	V
Family History (1)	John	4 th Thursday at 14:30	F
Family History (2)	Neville	Contact Neville for details	V
French Conversation (1)	Anna	1 st & 3 rd Mondays at 14:15	F
French Conversation (2)	Lesley	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays at 14:30	F
Gardening	Beryl & Joan	1 st Tuesday at 14:30	V
Gentle Movement (1)	Enid	Fridays at 09:30	F
Gentle Movement (2)	Enid	Mondays at 9.30	F
Gentle Movement (3)	Enid	Fridays at 11:00	V
German Conversation	Tom	Contact Tom for details	V
Industrial Heritage	Ian	3 rd Monday at 10:00	V
Local History	Keith	1 st Tuesday at 10:00	V
Mah Jong	Margaret	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays at 14:30	V
Music Appreciation (1)	Bryan & Penny	2 nd Wednesday at 19:45	F
Music Appreciation (2)	Group Leader needed		P
Needlework (1)	Mary	2 nd & 4 th Fridays at 10:00	F
Needlework (2)	Group Leader needed		P
Outings & Theatre Visits	Sheila	Various times and dates	A
Parchment Craft	Genie	Alternate Thursdays at 10:00	V
Play Reading	Geoff	1 st Thursday at 14:30	V
Renaissance Art	Leslie - Bryan, admin	Contact Bryan for details	P
Scrabble For Fun	Janet	3 rd Wednesday at 19:30	V
Singles Dining	Genie	Contact Genie for details	V
Spanish Conversation	Anna (with Bookham)	Alternate Mondays at 14:15	F
Sunday Lunch Club (1)	Geoff	1 st Sunday at 12:00	F
Sunday Lunch Club (2)	Fred	3 rd Sunday at 12:00	V
Walking (1)	Jo & Ernie	4 th Thursday morning	V
Walking (2)	Margaret	3 rd Monday at 09:30	V
Wine Appreciation (1)	Jo & Ernie	3 rd Tuesday at 14:30	F
Wine Appreciation (2)	Geoff	3 rd Tuesday at 14:30	F
Wine Appreciation (3)	Chris & Rosemary	2 nd Tuesday at 19:45	F
Wine Appreciation (4)	Bob & David	2 nd Wednesday at 20:00	F

1. To join a group please contact the group leader to check on vacancies and programme.
2. To join a proposed group speak to Enid, Groups Co-ordinator at the Monthly Meeting or contact the group leader.
3. To suggest new ideas for groups speak to Enid at the Monthly Meeting.
4. Would group leaders please keep Enid informed of any changes to the information given above.
5. Abbreviations: A = Places generally available, F = Full, P = Proposed, V = Vacancies.

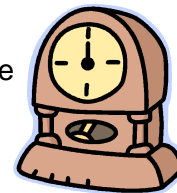
Associate Members should contact Enid for information concerning groups

Group News

Antiques & Collectables - Marilyn

Our enthusiastic group have enjoyed visits and meetings in members' homes since our inaugural meeting in April.

An informative talk on clocks was given to us in May by Gillian Davis, to which members were invited to bring a clock for discussion and valuation. It was interesting to learn that some of our oldest clocks are in Salisbury Cathedral.



Our June meeting was equally interesting when Ann Wickham, the keeper of the Guildford Cathedral Treasury, gave a talk on silverware. Ann gave us guidance on how to clean and store our silver. She suggested we clean silver in diluted Fairy Liquid and polish it with a soft cloth, or use Goddard's Silver Foam. Do not use Silver Dip, except on cutlery. Never clean silver on a flat surface as silver bends; use a cushion or pad to take the pressure. To store silverware use acid-free tissue paper, cloth, cotton-bags or silver storage bags (we have found a source of these). Do not store in newspaper, plastic bags or ordinary tissue paper.

Our visit to the Talbot Antique Centre in Ripley in July happened to be on the hottest day of the year. It was unfortunate that only three members turned up, as the Centre had laid on refreshments to cool us down.

In August the group met at Ewbanks Auctioneers where we were guided through the method of buying and selling at auctions. As it was a preview day, it was interesting to look at and discuss the items sent in for the sale.

Diary dates:-

- 18 October - Postcards/Cards
- 15 November - Jewellery
- December - no meeting
- 18 January - Stamps

Members outside our group will be welcome to join us on our visits/outings (visitors will be charged £1) and are asked to contact the group leader before the event, in case the date and meeting times have been changed.

Art - Mixed media (1) - Margaret

One of our Group is skilled in the art of pastels so she led us into a new adventure, away from oils and water colours. We enjoyed exploring the effects obtainable with this very different medium where finger tips can be used to shade the colours on the paper or canvas. An important piece of advice was 'Remember not to rub your nose.' Face-painting is not on our programme!

We are indulging however in another oil painting tutorial soon, focusing on bluebell woods.

Art - Mixed Media (2) - Janet



Our small group has continued to meet in each others houses and gardens over the summer. Sometimes we have been forced indoors because of the excessive heat outside!

We have experimented with wax resist and aqua pastels as well as our usual pencil and water colours, helping each other in a supportive, non threatening environment.

New members are always welcome. Don't be put off if you feel your house is too small - it is not obligatory to host a session!.

Aviation & Technology - Lawrence

A highlight of this summer was a visit to the Farnborough Air Show which alternates with the Paris Air Show each year. We chose a day which just happened to be one of the hottest July days, about 35°C and sweltered in a queue of people, waiting at 10.00am to get past the very slow security procedures now inevitable to gain entrance.



My own personal experiences of Farnborough relate to the 1950s and '60s recalling seeing the graceful Saunders Roe Princess Flying Boat flying past plus the amazing sight of the delta-wing Avro Vulcan jet bomber being rolled in flight in front of astonished crowds, sonic booms by jet fighter aircraft and in later years the Hawker Harrier vertical take off/landing aircraft and the Concorde.

This year the display had the highlights of the first viewing of the Airbus A380 - the potential 550 seat Super Jumbo, both on the ground and also in the air. A spectacular flying display by the Russian MIG29 which appeared at times to defy gravity with its vectored thrust technology and incredible manoeuvres at height. Also noteworthy was the sight of the Bell Tiltrotor which can fly both as a conventional aeroplane and then tilt its large propellers by 90 degrees to transfer to helicopter type mode.

We had less time to look at the exhibition hall, unfortunately, but a flight simulator on the Boeing Pavilion allowed visitors to try and land a Boeing 737 via the controls, whilst seeing the virtual landscape on an impressive 8' x 6' screen. One novice managed with some help to take off but after one short circuit of the airfield unfortunately landed in error on a school playing field!



In September we hope to visit the unique Shuttleworth Collection at Biggleswade, when the historic aircraft will be displayed flying at the Shuttleworth Pageant. What a pity that this weekend coincides with the 75th Schneider Trophy Anniversary Air Races at Bembridge and the Hovercraft Museum Open Days at Lee on Solent. You just can't do it all.

Incidentally a Fokker Triplane replica has just flown over - amazing, you can see everything here at Fetcham!

Ballroom Dancing - Enid

Ballroom Dancing is a great success!! All couples are benefiting from being taught by a professional.

Between much laughter we are actually learning to dance and who knows we may one day have our own Dance Team.

So watch out Surrey???

All enquires if you wish to join Enid .



Bridge for Beginners - David

Under the able guidance of Mr. David we have started this group. Early stages yet, but if you need to give your brain a reminder to work this is the group for you. No pressure but with like minded members who knows what can be achieved. Even members that have played in the past are finding that there is always something to learn.

All enquires Enid.

Cookery - Diana

Over the summer months we have continued to explore our menu and have had themed meetings on casseroles and cold desserts. We also attended an interesting evening demonstration on ice cream makers (the vodka-laced tomato sorbet was particularly good), Magimix food processors and espresso coffee makers, with delicious samples to taste.

We had, what we hope will become, our annual picnic at Polesden Lacey. As you can see from the picture, we all had a good time and again it was a lovely hot summer's day. We have also enjoyed a splendid barbeque hosted by Connie and Tony. Husbands were honorary members for this and Tony was head chef. Next month we will return to our menu and 'hot puddings' is the theme.



Explore London Walking (1) - Linda

During the past months we have 'explored' Kew and Kew Gardens and more of the City. We spent a day in Dulwich visiting Horniman Museum and the Dulwich Art Gallery.

Rivers have been on our 'visiting list' with two recent outings taking us to both the Fleet and Jubilee rivers.



In August we had an 'away day' in Chichester. Thankfully the extreme weather had moderated and an enjoyable trip took in most of Chichester's places of interest. The Cathedral was magnificent and the Refectory did a good lunch! An unexpected pleasure was a private tour, by the Mayor's Mace Bearer, of the City's Council Chamber – very splendid with many original features.

Tempting though this all sounds our membership is, unfortunately, still at full capacity.

Explore London Walking (2) - Tony & Joan

So far this year we have had some very interesting walks to Kensington, Westminster, Covent Garden and Soho. Apologies to Carole and Hans but we also made Islington - it was not intended at the outset but there was a break in the weather.

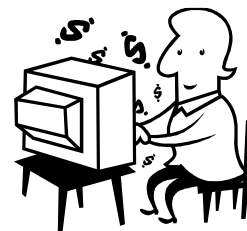


The British Museum can wait for another rainy day. We will include the west side (Blair country) of Islington at a later date. For many reasons numbers have been down but we are a happy, jolly bunch and always have a good time.

On Monday, 25th of September we hope to cover Regents Park and Primrose Hill.

Family History (1) - John

We continue to meet each month and in June spent the day at the Family History Centre in Islington where we all experienced the benefits of searching on-line as well as the effort of using the heavy BMD registers! In July we watched a DVD on Genealogy supplied by the U3A Library and as a result are going to visit the Society of Genealogists in the City on the 28th September.



Several of our members have been making great strides using the web-sites devoted to Family History and have been contacting distant relatives for the first time.

Santé! Vive la France!



The two French groups celebrate Bastille Day, 14th July, in Lesley's garden with their traditional Kir républicain.

Gardening - Beryl and Joan



We hope to go to Leonardslee Gardens on Tuesday 5th September.

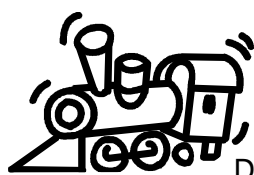
The last meeting before the winter break is on Tuesday 3rd October, to Wisley RHS Gardens, ending with tea in the café.

Gentle Movement Groups. 1.2.3. - Enid

Under the guidance of our very able instructress the members of our 3 groups are getting fitter and have now progressed so the classes are not so gentle. In between laughter and exercises we have very happy members. Members can always enquire if we have any available spaces.



Industrial Heritage - Ian

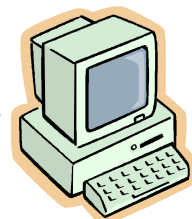


The next meeting of the IHG is at Ian's house on Monday 16 October at 10am. Geoff Roles will be giving a talk on either Brunel or the Bluebell Railway. On 20th November we have an outside speaker, Dick from Hounslow U3A, who will be talking on ancient wood working techniques, including demonstrations; same venue at 10am. On 18 December a Christmas outing and meal is planned. Beyond that in January we have Ken talking on early broadcasting technology with his usual magnificent demonstrations.

So an excellent programme is in store and visitors and new members are welcome. In addition Jack is organising an outing to the Crossness steam pumping engines on Sunday 29 November, starting from the Leisure Centre car park at around 10am.

Local History - Keith

Although we are holding no formal meetings this summer, work has continued on inputting 1901 census data to the large database for Leatherhead, Bookham, and Fetcham covering the period 1851 to 1901. Now that we have access to all this data, it opens up many avenues for social historians to examine areas such as population movements; life expectancies, social classes; role of servants; family sizes; etc, etc.



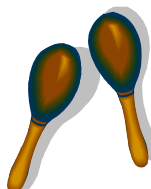
We will be restarting in the Autumn and determining our new programme.

Music Appreciation (1) - Bryan & Penny

This year started in January with our expected host being taken ill so we had to put a replacement program together at short notice, however we were able to get a couple of videos of some great old favourites Holst and Elgar. The first video was a visual interpretation of Gustav Holst's 'The Planet Suite'. The performance was by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and conducted by David Atherton. When Gustav Holst wrote this piece, the planet Pluto had not been discovered so Holst's version did not have a piece of music written for this planet, however the video was finished with a piece called 'Pluto – the Renewer' written by Colin Matthews in a style as he believes Holst may have written it had Pluto been discovered at that time. The visualisation for the entire performance was brilliant.



We followed this with the world premier of Robert Walker's realisation of Edward Elgar's unfinished piano concerto. Although Elgar was famous for his Cello and Violin Concertos, it is not widely known that Elgar wrote many 'sketches' for a piano concerto which he never got to finish and this was Walker's attempt to show how the work might have sounded had Elgar actually got round to writing it. This was a most fascinating evening and everyone was fascinated by the performance of the soloist David Owen Norris.



In February we had an evening like no other. 'African music with a difference'. The difference was that our host had collected quite a lot of African Instruments (don't ask me where she got them) and we were expected to accompany the music on the CD's, we had bongo drums and other drums, along with shells, harps, etc., some to rattle, some to bang, some to blow, some to pluck and some to strum. I had never realised what a talented bunch we were until that time, it's a shame no one recorded our efforts on tape.



It is unusual for us to see many videos but our March program included one also, this time 'Evita'; the version with Madonna as Eva Peron, it was very sad but brilliantly performed and we all went home singing. I feel sorry for the neighbours.

In April and in June two of our members played us many pieces of music which had meant a lot to them during their lifetimes and although both had predominately classical music there were no pieces the same. Elgar, Liszt, Beethoven, Chopin, Bizet and others against Bach, Mozart, Faure, Schumann etc. there were overlaps with composers but not the same music.

Music Appreciation (1) - continued

May saw us with a wonderful Country & Western evening, King of the Road, Stand by your man, Blanket on the ground, Harper Valley PTA and many, many more - all of my favourites.

In July we had a video of the National Parks of America accompanied by lovely music which we were asked to name, but with several American composers we were struggling, but it was delightful to see winter scenes during this current heat wave, it helped us to feel cooler even though the temperature was still high. We finished the evening with some beautiful bird songs. No I didn't recognise any of them, but they are music after all.

Later, this year being the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth, we couldn't let the year go without one evening devoted to this great man.

Scrabble For Fun - Janet

As the name implies, we don't take our scrabble too seriously! We play in twos or threes and allow 'looking up'. We usually lubricate our minds (and tongues) with a glass of wine. If you are a high flier intent on winning the next tournament this is not for you! If, however, you enjoy an occasional light hearted game do ring and find out in whose house we are meeting. We rarely have more than six turn up on the same night, but if you feel that would be too big a group for your house don't worry - we have enough willing hosts.



Sunday Lunch Club (1) - Geoff

The two Sunday Lunch Groups joined together for a special event in June. We travelled by shared cars to Kingston, where we boarded Turk's river cruiser 'The Yarmouth Belle', and set sail for Richmond. The sharp-eyed amongst us were soon vying to win the prizes on offer for the first to see a real heron and an artificial one! In fine weather and on calm waters we soon passed through Teddington Lock into the tidal waters of the Thames. We then passed Eel Pie Island, reminding us hungry 'lunchers' of the reliance which the poorer folk placed on the abundant supply of Thames eels in the past. We next got a view of Ham



House, built in 1610 and held in the same family for 338 years, followed by a sight of the imposing Royal Star and Garter Home which looks out along Petersham Reach. Passing under Richmond Bridge we arrived at the landing stage where we disembarked and repaired to the delightfully(?) named 'Slug and Lettuce' on the riverside. Having reserved our tables and pre-ordered our meals, we were quickly served in good time to enable us to re-embark for the return cruise back to Kingston. Some of our members elected to explore the Georgian town of Richmond, with its many royal connections, and to return on a later boat.

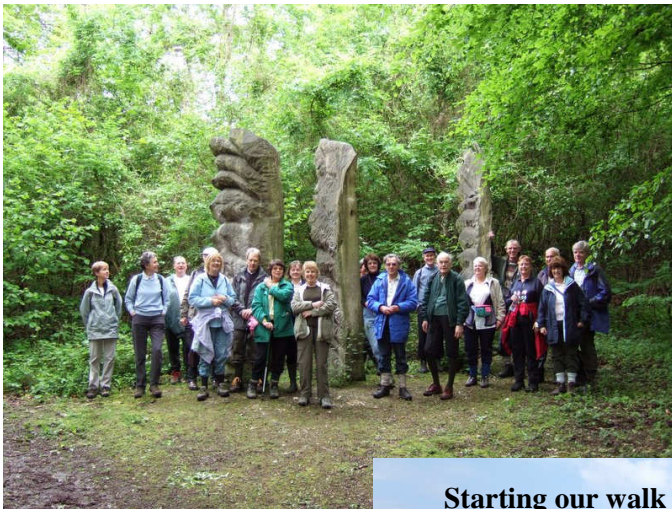
For other recent 'normal' lunches we have visited the lovely old 'White Horse' in Shere (an inn since the 17th century - no sign of the ghost!), the Thatchers Restaurant at the Ramada Hotel, Horsley and the 'Windsor Castle' in Bookham.

Walking (1) - Jo & Ernie

Since the last newsletter, we have explored countryside round Shere, Norbury Park, Milton Heath, Polesden Lacey and part of the Wey Navigation. We walk on the 4th Thursday morning each month and always end up at a local hostelry for those who wish. The exception was when we walked round Polesden Lacey in July, where we finished with a picnic in the grounds.

Future walks planned (with approximate distance) are:

September 28th 4.25 miles **Albury and Chilworth**. Meet at 10am in The Drummond Arms car park in Albury. The walk is gently undulating in places, with one climb up St Martha's hill and 4 stiles. *Refreshments afterwards in The Drummond Arms, if required.*



Admiring the carvings in
Norbury Park



By 'The Temple', the highest
point on The Nower



Starting our walk round Polesden Lacey

NB: Winter walks start at 10.30am.

October 26th 3.5 miles **East Clandon and Hatchlands Park**. Meet at 10.30am in The Queen's Head car park, East Clandon. The walk is almost flat. National Trust cards may be needed. *Refreshments afterwards in The Queen's Head, if required.*

November 23rd 3.75 miles **Oxshott Heath and Esher Common**. Meet at 10.30am in Oxshott Heath car park, to the right of the side road leading to Oxshott station. The walk is virtually flat, with one flight of steps towards the end. *Refreshments afterwards at The Bear, Oxshott, if required.*

No walk in December – the 4th Thursday is too near Christmas.

Additional details of all the walks are available at monthly meetings, on the U3A website or from Jo & Ernie.

Please note that walkers take part entirely at their own risk.

Wine Appreciation (1) - Jo & Ernie



Cheers!

The highlight of the summer was our trip to Ridge View Wine Estate near Ditchling, East Sussex. We travelled by minibus on a very hot day and enjoyed an excellent tour round the vineyard and winery, followed by generous tastings of three of their sparkling wines! We had lunch in a nearby pub, washed down with jugs of Pimms and all agreed it had been a very enjoyable, informative day.

On another occasion, we happily sampled the six Richard and Judy summer wines. We are planning to attend the Harvest Supper in the cellars at Denbies in October, with a tasting of the first pressings from the 2006 harvest. In November, the four U3A wine appreciation groups are joining together for an evening tasting, with supper, in the Harrison Room at the Barn Hall

Wine Appreciation (4) - Bob & David

The 16 strong lively group, starting out in February this year, have enjoyed several tasting sessions at members' houses with two outdoors in July and August. We also visited Denbies in June with two interesting tours separated by lunch in the Conservatory.

In September we are going with Group 3 to Lurgashall Vineyard, West Sussex to sample non-grape wines with lunch locally.

We are enjoying ourselves!



Frank Sinatra once said :

I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day!

U3A Swiss Teams Bridge Tournament 2006

One Sunday morning in May four members set off for Bracknell to take part in the Fourth U3A Annual Swiss Teams Bridge Tournament. A chance sighting in the U3A Magazine of a report of the third of three annual competitions hosted by Old Basing U3A led to our application to join this year's tournament.



Fetcham
/ x Brie 3 x HAM

The event was attended by 37 teams of four members of 23 different U3As throughout the South, from Tewkesbury to Orpington, Buckingham to Waterlooville. In the tournament each team played 5 hands in each of 6 rounds, the opponents for each round being those who had achieved a similar cumulative score. This was the first time that we had taken part in this type of competition and were pleased to be placed 14th out of 37.

The day proved to be very enjoyable, not least from meeting members of other U3As in the region. Bracknell Forest U3A are to be congratulated for their efficient organisation of the event and for providing an excellent lunch and tea. We are now looking forward to next year's tournament when, perhaps, other members of Fetcham & District U3A will join us.

Peter & Gill, Margaret & Michael

Outings and Theatre Visits from September 2006

Prices includes coach transport from Bookham from Lower Shott and St Nicholas Church

Outings

Friday
13 November
(to be confirmed)

Visit to London Exhibitions (your choice)
V & A (At Home in Renaissance Italy - furniture, paintings, tapestries from Italian Palazzi)
Bejewelled by Tiffany at Somerset House (150 years of glamorous jewellery and accessories)

Theatre

Friday 20 October	Swansea City Opera and Orchestra's touring production of Bizet's opera THE PEARL FISHERS (set in ancient Ceylon) promises 'a dramatic spectacle with elegant, classical costumes and a torrent of passion and tension'. Evening at the Hawth Theatre, Crawley - coach from Bookham 5.45. Tickets available also if you prefer to make own way by car.	£27.50
Wednesday 15 November	GUYS & DOLLS ex West End production on tour Woking matinee	£28
Wednesday 24th January	Agatha Christie's THE UNEXPECTED GUEST Woking matinee	£17.50

Travel

Contact Sheila as soon as possible for details of next year's visit to **CRETE** in May (arranged for us by Travel Editions).

Contact **Sheila** for further details or to book events.

To confirm booking - send or hand cheque (payable to **BOOKHAM U3A**) with booking form below to Sheila.

Events

.....

No of places required Amount enclosed £.....

Please send separate cheque for each event made payable to BOOKHAM U3A

Please indicate coach pick up point - Lower Shott or St Nicholas Church

Name(s) and telephone number

.....

Emergency telephone contact during outing

Central Surrey Region Study Days in 2006/2007

Friday 20th October 2006

Surrey Local History Highlights

Tim Richardson

Friday 17th November 2006

The Middle East; an Update

Dr Brian Beeley, Open University & Consultant for Arab Open University, Kuwait

Friday 19th January 2007

The Truth Behind Some Health Myths

Professors Stanley Feldman, Vincent Marks & Rodney Cartwright & Dr Mike Smith

Friday 16th February 2007

Byron Study Day

Dr Chris Kenyon-Jones, Kings College London & Dr Peter Cochran, Liverpool University

Friday 16th March 2007

Picturing Women: Images of Women in European Art

Dr Katey Brown, Freelance Lecturer

Friday 20th April 2007

Energy & Climate Change

Professor John Midwinter, University College, London

Friday 18th May 2007

Music & Wellbeing

John Hursey, Open University

The study days are held in the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon. Study days start at with registration at 9.30am and finish at 4pm. The cost including coffee/tea and biscuits will be £9, with attendees bringing a packed lunch. Booking is necessary and forms should be available at Monthly Meetings. Jennifer is bookings secretary.

Alison, Banstead, Arthur, Horley, Bryan, Fetcham , Ian, Fetcham , Jennifer, Kingston & Sheila, Bookham - Study Day Committee. For latest information see also www.fetchamu3a.org.uk/studydays.htm.

Associate Members should contact Ian for the relevant forms

South East U3A Forum - 1 Day Conference

On Saturday 1st April 2006 (no this is not an April Fool) a small group of us from Fetcham U3A and an even smaller group from Bookham U3A attended the S.E. U3A forum 1 day conference at Meridian Hall, East Grinstead. These halls are set in beautiful surroundings where the meridian line crosses the property and is denominated by a plaque in the grounds.

We took several display boards which created much interest from the various members of the other U3A's attending. I must say that we had by far the largest number of display boards and they did look very professional and attractive. The "First Efforts" by the Painting group and the display by the "Card Craft" group seemed to attract the most interest but those by the Industrial History, Wine, Music appreciation, Alpine Gardening and the Thursday Walking groups helped in making our display THE BEST.

In the morning we had three speakers, Keith Richards, chairman of The Third Age Trust, John Cook NEC member for the East Midlands Area and our own chairman, Ian, NEC member for the South East Area. These talks covered a range of topics regarding both Regional and Area operations. We were also given information regarding the possibility of the setting up of a 40 strong National Council so that there can be more conformity with regard to how the Third Age Trust and we, the various U3A's country wide and world wide manage ourselves.

After lunch we were split into 8 discussion groups of about 20 members representing small, medium and large U3A's. We were given a variety of subjects to discuss. It was interesting to hear the diversity of views with regard to the age of members, the needs of the U3A's and individuals, and also ways of publicising ourselves. Several U3A's, especially those formed some years ago and with waiting lists were struggling with the fact that the ages of existing members were increasing and they found it difficult to attract younger members who would take over committee roles. They took on board our method of introducing new blood by having our version of Associate membership.

I believe several will be adopting a similar system in their U3A's. Many were also impressed with the publicity we get in the local 'Leatherhead Advertiser' and 'Bookham Bulletin' etc (with thanks to the great efforts of Winnie). There was also the possibility of arranging local companies who have retirement seminars for their staff about to retire to promote local U3A's .

All in all it was a most entertaining and enjoyable day, it was also good to meet several people who used to live locally but had moved away several years ago to Hastings, Arundel and Worthing areas etc, who showed a lot of interest in us and how the old place had developed.

Bryan

Morley Court/Fetcham United Charities

Morley Court provides accommodation in 10 self-contained flats for single people above retirement age capable of looking after themselves. Currently one flat is vacant. Applications are restricted to those who are or have been residents in Fetcham or have connections with the village, eg currently have children living here. (The trustees have some discretion in varying the conditions). If you want formally to apply contact the Hon Clerk, Mrs Pat Varney

When I reflect on all the wine I drink I feel shame. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the vineyards with their hopes and dreams. If I didn't drink the wine they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. Then I say to myself "It is better that I drink this wine and let their dreams come true than be selfish and worry about my liver".

Committee Members and Significant Others

Chairman	Ian
Vice-Chairman	Tony C
Treasurer	Bryan
Secretary	Diana
Membership Secretary	Brenda
Groups Co-ordinator	Enid
Speaker Secretary	Tony R
Publicity Officer	Winnie
Member	Yvonne
Member	Graham
Member	David
Welfare of Members	Jo
Tea Organiser	Mavis
Social Events	Winnie Yvonne
Outings/Theatre Visits	Sheila
Newsletter Editors	Judy & John

The committee meets on the 2nd Monday of the month before the Monthly Meeting. If you have any items you would like discussed please contact Diana in time to get it on the agenda.

The next edition is due out in January 2007. Please email your copy to John or Judy by Christmas.