

FETCHAM U3A QUIZ NIGHT



Well, he's done it again! Bryan provided us with a wealth of questions which, he said, would be easy. I worry about him sometimes – of course they are easy when you know the answers! However, they caused a great deal of merriment throughout the evening, particularly those about the collective names for groups of animals and birds, some of which were completely unknown to even the most educated of us. The 'hairless wonders' photographs also provided much laughter – amazing how hair can disguise what is a familiar *bald* head.



The fish and chip supper from Golden Plaice was hot and tasty and the fresh fruit salad was a refreshing dessert. As usual my thanks to the ladies of the food committee who always work their socks off to make sure everything goes well. Thanks are also due to those who came early to prepare the hall for the onslaught – without these 'behind the scenes' stalwarts it would indeed be difficult to get everything ready in time.

We had more people this year than ever before, a testament to how much people enjoy the evening. Bookham U3A members are already talking about booking for next year. I think we filled the Barn Hall almost to bursting – 120+ is about our limit for comfort so start getting your table members together now, as I think (and hope) we will have a rush for tickets come next January!



Thank you Bryan – and Penny – for all the hard work in putting together such a comprehensive (and long) list of rounds. We had little chance to notice the time – it certainly was a surprise when we realised it was very late – but I hope it was enjoyed by all. I wonder how many answers people have remembered – you never know when such titbits of information might come in useful!



Bryan is already well into next year's Quiz Night and says the questions will be easier. If you believe that !

Winnie

Chairman's Column

Informal adult learning must have come of age as the government has got wind of it and published "Shaping the Way Ahead", that heralds a consultation period and a White Paper on its policies for the 21st century. The document briefly reviews informal learning and the factors affecting it and bangs on about the government's contribution which, I must confess, I haven't noticed in Fetcham. However I am pleased that the U3A's 640 active groups are recognised as a successful model for informal learning, so be prepared to go under the microscope. As it's a consultation paper, innumerable topics are raised for discussion from the use of IT, the problems of social exclusion and the role of government – enough to keep an army of consultants busy for a decade. I am not optimistic that the result of these deliberations will add much to human knowledge, but I am slightly concerned we may end up with more bureaucracy, the vetting of committee members and politically correct targets from government.



From the very beginning, the U3A founders distanced themselves from government, with the result that U3As evolved to meet the requirements of their members. This arrangement has worked well with interest groups built around the philosophy of self help with learners becoming teachers and vice versa. Interestingly enough, the consultation document mentions this dual role of members. Everyone who has been a member of a group knows the benefits of being both a learner and a teacher. Personally, I learned about Ferguson tractors and mechanical music from a seat in the audience at the Industrial Heritage meetings and about Japan's industrial revolution and Cornwall's china clay industry when preparing presentations. Needless to say, my understanding of computing increased when preparing classes for beginners.

The dual role that members play in groups is both stimulating and enjoyable. Fetcham has been fortunate that people with organisational skills and expertise have come forward as group leaders. The consultation paper will need to give high priority to finding such leaders. So far we have been successful but we cannot be complacent and I would encourage our talented Associate members to offer themselves for leadership roles in new groups, and help maintain Fetcham's reputation as a lively and innovative club.

*Tony
Chairman*

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Associate Members' Meeting

Tuesday 2nd September 2008
St Mary's Church Hall from 2:30pm

Should any Member, Associate or Full, change postal or email address can they please advise our Membership Secretary Brenda.

2008 Programme of Meetings

Lectures and Talks at the Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on Tuesdays at 2.30 pm
in St Mary's Church Hall, off The Ridgeway

22 July	Médecin sans Frontières	"Field Worker"
26 August	History of Fetcham	Goff Powell
23 September	National Maritime Museum	James Taylor
28 October	Birds and the Countryside at Risk	Roger Suckling
25 November	AGM* and Talk by the Headmaster (*note the AGM is to be held in Yehudi Menuhin Hall)	Nicolas Chisholm

Other Local Events

4 October	Barn Dance - `	7.30 for 8pm	Old Barn Hall, Bookham
9 December	Pre Christmas Event	2pm - 5pm	St Mary's Hall
2009 28 February	Quiz Night	7.30 - 11pm	Old Barn Hall, Bookham
3 October	Autumn Event	7.30 - 11pm	Old Barn Hall, Bookham

Outings and Visits

14 to 21 September	RHINE IN FLAMES Cruise by coach and boat
12 November	Trip to MAGIC CIRCLE by coach
4/5 December	Return visit to Thursford

Report on the Associate Members' Meeting

The Committee gave a warm welcome to Associate members in the first meeting held for them at St Mary's church hall in March. More than forty attended to hear about our various interest groups and the visits and social events on offer and to listen to Dr Roger Partridge talking about his visit and pilgrimage in Kashmir. Starting from Srinagar in the Vale of Kashmir, Roger with the aid of an impressive video recounted how he experienced the life of the Raj in one of the luxurious houseboats on the lake, before embarking on a strenuous four day pilgrimage on foot to the Amarnath Holy Cave. In company with thousands of Hindu pilgrims and holy men variously travelling on foot, donkey, litters and helicopter, he described the trek through the rugged Himalayan passes, some up to 14000 ft, going over ice bridges and glaciers to reach the holy cave. Unfortunately, global warming had taken its toll on the giant icicle, an important Hindu symbol, so there was little left for Roger to see, but the priest's blessing in faultless English was the culmination of an unforgettable experience. The audience showed its interest and appreciation by asking numerous questions, and departed looking forward to the next meeting for Associates in September.

Tony



Active and Proposed Groups and Their Leaders

Alpine Gardening	Alan	3rd Monday at 14.30	V
Antiques & Collectables	Marilyn	3 rd Wednesday at 14.30	F
Armchair Travel	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Art – Mixed Media (1)	Margaret	Alternate Thursdays at 10.30	F
Art – Mixed Media (2)	Janet	1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 14.00	V
Art Appreciation	Jenny	4 th Wednesday at 14.00	F
Aviation & Technology	Lawrence	2nd Wednesday at 14.00	F
Ballroom Dancing	Enid	2 nd Thursday at 14.00	V
Book Club (1)	Penny	1 st Wednesday at 14.00	F
Book Club (2)	Liz	3rd Tuesday at 14.00	V
Birds in Surrey	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Bridge for & Improvers	David	1st & 3rd Thursdays at 14.00	V
Bridge	Pam & John (with Lhd/Bkm)	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 10.00	V
Canasta	Genie	Monday evenings	V
Carbon Rationing Action	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Card Craft (1)	Jan	Contact Jan for details	F
Card Craft (2)	Jenny	Contact Jenny for details	V
Computing	Tony	As advertised	V
Cookery	Diana	2 nd Tuesday at 12.00	F
Creative Writing	Reg (with Bookham)	Contact Reg for details	V
Current & Social Affairs	Alfred	2nd Tuesday at 14.30	V
Digital Photography	Ian	2nd Monday at	V
English Literature	Barbara	4th Monday at 14.30	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	F
Explore London Walking (3)	Rosemary	1st Tuesday at 9.45	F
Explore London Walking (4)	Vivienne	1st Thursday at 9.45	F
Explore London Walking (5)	Geoff	Contact Geoff for details	V
Family History (1)	John	4 th Thursday at 14.30	F
Family History (2)	Maureen	3rd Tuesday at 14.30	V
French Conversation (1)	Anna	1st & 3rd Mondays at 14.15	V
French Conversation (2)	Lesley	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays at 14.30	F
Gentle Movement (1)	Enid	Fridays at 9.30	V
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	3rd Monday at 10.00	V
Italian for Beginners	Marilyn	Contact Marilyn for details	V
Line Dancing for Beginners	Sandy	Alternate Mondays at 14.30	V
Line Dancing Absolute Beginners	Sandy	Alternate Mondays at 15.30	V
Local History	Lynsaye	1st Tuesday at 10.00	F
Mah Jong	Margaret	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 14.30	V
Military History	Heather (with Bookham)	31st October at 10.00	V
Music Appreciation (1)	Bryan & Penny	2 nd Wednesday at 19.45	F
Music Appreciation (2)	Hugh	Contact Hugh for details	V
Needlework (1)	Eileen	2 nd & 4 th Fridays at 10.00	F
Needlework (2)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Pilates	Enid	Every Monday at 11.00	V
Outings & Theatre Visits	Sheila	Various times and dates	A
Parchment Craft	Genie	Alternate Thursdays at 10.00	V
	Barbara		
Play Reading	Ann	2nd Wednesdays at 14.00	V
	Leslie -		
Renaissance Art	Bryan , Admin	Contact Bryan for details	P
Scrabble For Fun (1)	Janet	3 rd Wednesday at 19.30	F
Scrabble For Fun (2)	Jane	Contact Jane for details	F

Active and Proposed Groups and Their Leaders - *continued*

Singers (Classically trained)	Poppy	Contact Poppy for details	V
Singles Dining	Genie	Contact Genie for details	F
Spanish Conversation	Anna	Alternate Mondays at 14.30	V
Sunday Lunch Club (1)	Geoff	1 st Sunday at 12.00	F
Sunday Lunch Club (2)	Geoff	3rd Sunday at 12.00	V
Walking (1)	Jo & Ernie	4th Thursday morning	F
Walking (2)	Margaret	3rd Monday morning at 9.30	V
Walking (3)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Whist	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
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
Wine Appreciation (5)	Ian and Madeline	Contact Ian or Madeline	F
Wine Appreciation (6)	Kathy	Contact Kathy for details	F
World Civilisations	Roger & Gail	2nd Tuesday at 16.00	V

There are vacancies in the following groups at Bookham U3A. Contact Christine for information. English Literature, Flower Arranging, History - Classical Period, History of Music, Listening to Music, Opera (2), Session for Songsters, Woodwork, Calligraphy, Cycling, Mah Jong, Phoenix Concert Party, Qigong, Scrabble (learners), Sunday Lunch, Table Tennis & Badminton, Easy Rambling, Wine Appreciation (2).

Abbreviations: **F = Full, P = Proposed, V = Vacancies** - (situation as at May 2008)

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

To join a group or proposed group please contact the group leader or speak to Enid, Groups Co-ordinator
and to suggest new ideas for groups speak to Enid, Groups Co-ordinator.

Full and Associate Members have equal rights to join the groups, the only difference is Associate Members cannot as a rule attend the monthly meetings. If any Associate Member wishes to attend a particular monthly meeting please contact Brenda.

"Gentlemen Who Lunch"



Some interest has been shown in forming a new group which would cater primarily (but perhaps not exclusively) for gentlemen who live alone and who might like to meet once a month to lunch together and exchange news and views and generally put the world to rights. Each member would take a turn in arranging the meetings either in a pub or restaurant or in his own home where he could try out his culinary skills on his fellow members.

In either case costs would be shared. If this idea interests you, or you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Geoff.

Play-reading Group



There are still a number of members interested in play-reading but the group is at present in limbo for lack of a leader. If you would be willing to take this task on, or know of someone who would do so, please speak to the Groups Co-ordinator. Information about what is involved can be obtained from Geoff.

Line Dancing Groups



Thank you to Group Co-ordinator Enid for getting these two new groups underway. Line dancing is an enjoyable form of low impact exercise that is good for the brain and the body. We meet fortnightly under the guidance of an expert teacher - both improvers and absolute beginners are welcome.

Call me on to find out more.

Sandy

How to Join an Interest Group

Identify the groups in which you are interested from the latest monthly list of "Active & Proposed Groups and Their leaders". This list is published in the Newsletter, on our website and a copy is with the waiting lists in the side room at monthly meetings.

Members and Associate members wishing to join a group that still has vacancies should apply to the Group Leader.

Members wishing to join a group that is full should put their names down on the waiting list at the monthly meeting.

Associate members wishing to join a group that is full should contact the Group Coordinator and ask to be added to the waiting list.

Group Leaders regularly advise the Group Coordinator of changes in membership of their groups and also of any vacancies for new members. When a group is full the Group Coordinator creates a waiting list for the group. Group Leaders refer to the waiting lists when filling vacancies in their groups.

Waiting lists for full and newly proposed groups are on display in the side room at the monthly meeting and at the Associate members' coffee mornings.

Once a newly proposed group has enough interested members, the Group Coordinator convenes a meeting to agree on a leader and programme for the group.

Throughout the year the Group Coordinator liaises with the Group Leaders and regularly updates the status of the groups on the "Active and Proposed Groups and Their Leaders" list.

Explore London Group

Our group is still enjoying unexpected new experiences.

On one walk which incorporated 'pop-ins' to the Globe Theatre, Southwark Cathedral and a Thameside Gallery (basically for 'warm-ups') we were interviewed by a TV team on their opinions of catsuits which are tipped as the next exciting fashion. Ladies pointed out that they had 'been there and done that' many years ago. An invitation was extended (and refused) to try some on (remember it was a very cold day and the catsuits didn't look to be made for warmth!) However the next morning a 10 second clip was shown on TV with U3Aers seen to support catsuits even if they wouldn't wear them.



A 'Ripper walk' was led by Geoff, he did this so well that he could turn professional. It doesn't seem appropriate to say that we enjoyed it (but we did) and had all the gory details. Monday isn't a good day for places like Petticoat Lane, so we weren't able to include 'retail therapy' in the day (but did have a very good pub lunch).

Our latest outing took us from Barnes to Fulham. Barnes was a pretty place with interesting looking small shops - we weren't allowed to 'browse'. We then went along the Thames to the hidden treasure of Fulham Palace, where we looked at the Palace and its small museum. After leaving we had an interesting time in Fulham Parish Church (which has some beautiful stained glass).

Linda



Group Leaders' Lunch in April



Renaissance Art Lectures

The final lecture of the Renaissance Art series of lectures by Leslie (BA Cambs) took place on March 19th 2008, much to the dismay of around 50 U3A members from all of the local U3A's. What are we going to do on a Wednesday evening now? We have no idea.

The second part in this series of lectures covered artists such as Vasari, Bronzino, Titian, Tintoretto, Bellini, Veronese, Bosch, Breughel, Durer, Grunewald and Holbein. AND I have omitted over half of those discussed.

When you consider that the first half included the likes of Leonardo Da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo to name just three, you can see what we have been privileged to watch and have explained to us. One of the early artists we learned about in part 2 was Titian and we are fortunate that many of his paintings can be seen at the National Gallery. Also we saw quite a few of these when we visited the Prado in Madrid on one of Sheila's visits, along with many of the Hieronymus Bosch, Breughel and some of the Durer paintings which we had been shown.

Leslie is always wanting us to ask questions but whenever someone thinks they have something to query he comes up with the answer before we can ask. However, the session on Durer proved to be the one exception. He was the one artist who propagated more questions than any other artist in the whole 2 series of lectures which Leslie has run. I thoroughly recommend his etching of 'Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse' to everybody to see just once. Copies can be found in various places, possibly in Edinburgh. Prior to our session with Durer we had a session on Hieronymus Bosch. It would appear that Bosch was one of the earliest to start using a style we would now refer to as Surrealism. This was way before any stylised modern artist.



Quite a few of the Holbein paintings are in the Louvre in Paris and many are also available to be seen in the National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum as well as Hever Castle and the Royal Collection in Windsor. The next Art lectures to be given by Leslie Pitcher will take place in the autumn of 2009 on the subject of 17th century paintings. Day of the week and dates to be advised in due course.

At the end of the evening Leslie was thanked and presented with a large 'Thank You' card signed by all who have attended and given a small gift. Leslie's father Roy who has been our projectionist for the entire 20 weeks was presented with a bottle of wine in appreciation.

Having finished his Renaissance Art lectures, the members of the U3A were fortunate enough to have Leslie give us a lecture on Vincent Van Gogh at the March monthly meeting which was received with much enthusiasm.

Bryan

Local History Group

The Group is compiling a large computerised database of as much information as possible from the Fetcham area. Previously we have entered all the 1841 – 1901 Fetcham Census Records – transcribing them from digital copies of the old handwritten ledgers. Last Summer Paul Boughton, Rector of St. Mary's retrieved the Parish Records (Baptism, Marriage and Deaths) from the Surrey History Centre at Woking, so that we could photograph them and enter them into the database.

In January we had a very interesting visit to the Surrey History Centre at Woking for a "Behind the Scenes" tour and saw the painstaking work that went into repairing and archiving old documents, maps and books.

February, very wet - and March, extremely cold – saw us walking around the village with cameras and maps attempting to follow the Enumerators Perambulations for the 1881 Census and trying to identify sites of old properties now long since demolished and studying some of the lovely old houses around Fetcham.



Another topic that is of current interest is the Fetcham War Memorial and we are researching those individuals whose names are inscribed. We would like to identify where they served and sadly fell, which regiment, who they were and where they had lived. Since starting this research we have wondered how the names came to be put forward for the Memorial as the Royal British Legion has indicated they do not promote this. If anyone has any background information on this – or indeed any memories of the times, we would love to hear from them.

Continued over

Local History Group - continued

We are also given to understand that the Women's Institute transcribed the monumental inscriptions in St Mary's Churchyard many years ago and would be interested to hear from anyone who can recall this or has a copy of the information, as the gravestones are becoming more and more difficult to read as time goes by.

Future events include a visit to Fetcham Lodge and attending a talk arranged by LDLHS at The Institute on Monks Green Farm.

Lynsaye

Computing Group

At the March meeting Roger gave a lesson on how to improve PowerPoint presentations with more interesting slides and sound and video clips. He recommended the use of templates and showed how to incorporate pictures and use pie charts to keep the audience's attention, highlighting the importance of choosing colours that everyone can see. He also emphasised the benefit of linking material to files rather than embedding them in the presentation to keep the overall file size down. With the aid of a video showing the principal of the Ferguson plough, he demonstrated the capture of a video clip from a DVD and insertion into a presentation. All this achieved relying on downloaded freebies and of course endless patience and persistence in the absence of any handbooks!



At the end of the evening we all departed homewards wondering who would be the first to try out these new ideas.

Tony

Cookery Group

Here we are at our last meeting enjoying a Chinese meal. With the Olympic Games being held in China this summer, why not try this Chinese recipe:

Stuffed Green Peppers

1 tablespoon oil,
1 piece root ginger, finely chopped
250 g minced pork
grated rind of 1 lemon

1 clove garlic, crushed
4 green peppers
1 spring onion, chopped
1 celery stick, finely chopped

Heat oil in wok, add garlic and fry until lightly browned. Lower the heat, add the ginger and pork and cook for 2 minutes. Stir in the spring onion, celery and lemon rind, mix well and cook for 30 seconds. Cool slightly. Cut the peppers into quarters and remove the core and seeds. Divide the mixture between the pepper quarters, pressing it well into the cavity. Arrange the pepper quarters in an oiled ovenproof dish. Cook in a preheated moderately hot oven, 200C for 20 – 25 minutes.

Diana



Walking Group 1



Newlands Corner

Bookham Grange Hotel was the venue for our very enjoyable post-Christmas lunch. The new owners of the hotel were keen to welcome us and the food was delicious. We had a short quiz about places we had seen on our walks during 2007, which provided some food for thought! This year so far we have walked from Newlands Corner across Albury Downs – with a challenging climb at the end! Then along the Wey Navigation and round Desborough Island, and in March from Beare Green across farmland and woods to the Henfold Estate. "Mud, glorious mud" could have been the

theme for this walk – but luckily the sun shone as we squelched our way round! Future walks planned include Sheepleas, Banstead Heath, Box Hill and Great Ridings Wood to Effingham Ponds.



D'Oyly Carte Island,

The number of members coming on the Thursday walks has increased to the point where the group is now full.

Jo & Ernie



Central Surrey Region Study Days in 2008

Friday 19th September

Italian Palace Art

Leslie Pitcher

Friday 17th October

An Updated View of the Middle East

Dr Brian Beeley, Open University Worldwide

Friday 21st November

Bletchley Park & the Role of Intelligence in WWII

Hugh Davies, Bletchley Park Guide

The study days are held in the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon. Study days start at 9.30am with registration and finish at 4pm. The cost including coffee/tea and biscuits will be £10, with attendees bringing a packed lunch. Booking is necessary and forms should be available at the Monthly Meetings. Booking forms should be sent to Jennifer.

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved.

'I want to repay you,' said the nobleman. 'You saved my son's life.'

'No, I can't accept payment for what I did,' the Scottish farmer replied waving off the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel.

'Is that your son?' the nobleman asked.

'Yes,' the farmer replied proudly.

'I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my own son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of.'



And that he did. Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, graduated from St Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterward, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia.

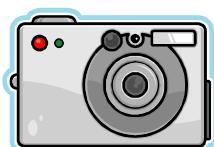
What saved his life this time? Penicillin.



Churchill

The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.


The Digital Photographic Group




After a very successful exploratory meeting, the first meeting will take place on 14th July at 7.30pm at the Pastoral Centre, St Nicholas church.

For further information please contact Ian

Music Appreciation Group 1

 Having got over the festivities of Christmas and the New Year, there is not usually enough time for someone to set a program so we just had a look at the film 'An American in Paris'. Whilst, in my opinion, the singing of Gene Kelly and Georges Guetary were OK, the dancing of Leslie Caron was outstanding. Apparently, 20% of the total production costs went on the final ballet scene. Originally Maurice Chevalier was offered the Guetary role but he turned it down because he lost the girl!

Our February meeting was the day before Valentine's Day so it was 'Romance from beginning to end'. Classical beginning for the romantic meeting, followed by Bruce Forsyth's Come Dancing (for the evenings out), then Celine Dion and Il Divo for the romantic evenings in, (my, we all love that group) and finally we came to the weddings. Wagner, Bridal Chorus, through the Trumpet Voluntary, Jesu Joy, etc. and finally the Wedding March. Another great evening.

 March saw us back in the old routine, Mozart piano concerto in D minor with Vladimir Ashkenazy conducting the English Chamber Orchestra in Wels, Austria. I have always advocated that a good orchestra does not need a conductor. There was Ashkenazy standing and conducting the introduction, then he sits down and plays the piano while the orchestra continues playing without a conductor. When the piano is silent there is Ashkenazy waving his hands about while the orchestra just ignores him and carries on as if he wasn't there. And, they all finished at the same time. Point proven!

In 1717, Handel wrote his Water Music for George I and in 2007 the English Concert orchestra under violinist Andrew Manze, attempted a reconstruction of this event on the Thames and we saw a program where a boat was found to represent the boat from 1717, which was repainted and decorated and the players, using period instruments, played the music whilst the boat was towed along the river.

We look forward to a joint event with Music group 2 shortly and continued success for the rest of the year.

Bryan

Aviation & Technology Group

A summary of our winter events. In November, Roger Trout gave an interesting talk about his reminiscences of early days as an apprentice engineer with the then Vickers Armstrong (later to become British Aerospace), firstly on the shop floor, then later advancing to the design department where he worked on aerodynamics and control systems. This led to involvement in design detail for the successful Vickers Viscount turboprop airliner which sold some 436 models worldwide, the autopilot for the TSR2 highly advanced jet fighter/bomber, which was later cancelled by the Government, anti-stall operation for the BAC 111 jet airliner and auto-landing systems for the VC10 long range jet airliner, ordered by BOAC. To think that at that time there were only analogue computers to rely on, what a difference 40-50 years would have made!



A noteworthy lecture was made by Nik, a Brooklands Museum volunteer and expert on the BAC 111, who gave an informative and excellent Powerpoint presentation on the history of British Aerospace's Test and Development 1-11, G-ASYD. This was well attended by about 20 persons from Fetcham, Bookham and Leatherhead U3A's. Nik showed a film of the aircraft being flight tested and a sales tour of S America, where it operated sometimes from rough unpaved airstrips in remote areas at high altitudes. G-ASYD started life as the 400 series prototype (1965) that was ordered by American Airlines. BEA needed a larger version, so a 62in section was installed behind the wing and a 100in section in front of the wing. With a wingtip extension of 2ft 6in and uprated engines, SYD became the 500 series prototype. (1967). In 1969, BAC were looking at a version that could land on

gravel, grass, etc so SYD entered its third life. Evaluation trials were made on Wisley's runway with patches of gravel. Later after certification, SYD was "shortened" back to the original length by removing the sections that had been fitted for the 500 series. In 1994 British Aerospace kindly donated SYD to Brooklands Museum, where it flew in on the 14 July 1994. In all a total of 244 BAC111's were sold worldwide, which made it a moderate success.

In March we were treated to a DVD Powerpoint presentation on "The Golden Years of Farnborough 1949-1959", taken from Movietone newsreels of that time which showed iconic British aircraft technology at its very best and gave us some thoughtful reminiscences about how great and innovative this industry has been, leading sometimes with ideas and aircraft that were world beaters. (Michael, Fetcham U3A, kindly loaned us this DVD for which, many thanks.) Further events were afforded by the excellent RAeS evening lectures given once a month at the Brooklands Museum by distinguished persons from the aviation world.

Lawrence

God Bless King George

Inspired by a U3A study day at the Menuhin School on the subject of life in Georgian Britain the Singles Dining Group devoted one of their recent meetings to having a candle-lit dinner in the Georgian style. The fictional date was set at 29th February, 1780, and the dinner was "to celebrate the return to health of our beloved Monarch King George".



The guests partook of fine Madeira wine in the ante-room before entering the dining room. The local emporium was fresh out of turtles (or even mock turtles - which are actually calves heads) so the second-favourite soup of the period, namely peas with ham, was served as the first course. For the main course the guests had the choice of roast English beef, Guinea fowl, quails, duck leg joints and turkey breasts. These were served with scallop potatoes in cheese sauce and a selection of green and root vegetables with appropriate sauces. Hot apple pie was also served.



In accordance with the practice of the period the guests then retired to the withdrawing room whilst the servants cleared the table and removed the table-cloth. The table was then re-laid with doilies on bare boards in preparation for the set piece for the evening, the dessert course. The main centre-piece was a pyramid of fresh fruits topped by a pineapple. Another feature was a statuette surrounded by meringue nests filled with cream and topped with apricots. Also on the table were a layered trifle, custards, jellies, almond biscuits and a selection of English cheeses.

The white wine served was a French Cotes-du-Rhone, whilst the red wine was a Tempranillo from Spain, both popular in the period. The meal concluded with tea, although most diners opted for the un-fashionable coffee. Lively conversation and debate continued after the meal was concluded until carriages came to collect the guests at 11.00 pm.

The Singles Dining Group meets roughly every four weeks in the homes of members, each of whom takes a turn in preparing the meal and entertaining the others in the group. For this reason the group has to be limited in size and new members cannot be accepted at the moment.

Geoff

Wine Appreciation Group 1

2008 started with our usual post-Christmas lunch at La Meridiana in East Horsley. As always, it was a great start to the new year and appropriate "charity shop gifts" for all the group members created many laughs at the end of the meal! Since then we have enjoyed a tasting of some Italian wines – where our favourite wine was a Soave Superiore. The following month we had a French theme and the most popular of that session was a Riesling from the Alsace region. We have been provided with maps and information on key grapes in the different regions etc – so we are learning, as well as having fun! Future plans include the annual 'Taste Wine and Dine' event at the Barn Hall, organised by St Nicolas Church Social Committee, where the Fetcham U3A wine groups will fill several tables!



"The group at our December meeting at Ian's home, where we were pleased to see Peter and Patricia Atkins, who joined us for the tasting. They were original group members and moved to Kent in August 2006."

Jo & Ernie

Cardcraft



On Monday, 28 April ten ladies of the card making group went for a day out!

We all met at our illustrious leader's house, divided ourselves into two cars and made our way, via the M25 to Ashford outlet shopping area. After coffee we went in two's and three's to the shops and arrived back at the cars with many bags full of goodies, one with a suitcase full! We then went a few miles down the road to a Harvester for lunch, staff looking after us very well, arranging a table for ten up on the mezzanine floor well away from the other diners. Fed and watered we went back for another long ride of at least 100 yards to a beautiful garden/craft shop. After a little more shopping, a good cuppa was needed before our journey home. We had a great day and would all like to thank our drivers for such a good time.

Yvonne

Antiques & Collectables Group

At our April meeting Brian Hartles, from Goldsworth Books, gave our group a fascinating insight into buying and selling second-hand and antiquarian books. Brian is pictured alongside the books he brought to show us. The meeting started with a quiz where we had to guess the value of the books on the shelf. You will not be surprised to know that none of us came anywhere near the right answer, which just proves that we need help in appreciating the value of such items. The condition of a book is vital when providing an estimate.

Would you have guessed the right value? You may be surprised ...



1. Mrs Beeton's Household Management (First Edition 1861)
2. A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess (First Edition 1862)
3. Three Hundred & One Things A Bright Girl Can Do (1914)
4. Wisden's Cricketers Almanack (1916)
5. The Reform Club's Wine List (1910)
6. Rupert Annual (1936) - in it's original book cover
7. Siegfried & Twilight of the Gods (illustrated by Arthur Rackham Limited Edition 1911)
8. Caius Suetonius (1645)
9. Pollination of Flowers New Naturalist (1975)
10. Odyssey signed by Arthur C Clark (1992)
11. Casting At The Sun by Chris Yates (1986)
12. History of Surrey (3 volumes) (1807)

(Answers at the end of text).

It was also interesting to see a book entitled "De Cavis Lingvæ Latinæ" (a Latin Grammar book by Ivliivs Cæsar Scaliger) which was printed in 1540. It had its original velum cover and although it had a few worm holes (well who wouldn't at that age!) it was valued at £700.

We were told that if we ever had a book rebound it was important to include the end papers and the best collectables are good quality first editions.

1. £1,650: 2. £1,750: 3. £30: 4. £2,500: 5. £75: 6. £5,000 (without cover £450): 7. £1,000: 8. £100: 9. £55: 10. £95: 11. £200: 12. £1,500.

Marilyn

Family History Group 2

Our March meeting took place on the third Tuesday as normal, that's the Fetcham History group and the Bookham group combined. We meet in the Waterfield Room at the Barn Hall in Bookham from 2pm to 4.30pm and we all seem to learn something new each time and any problems are quickly sorted out, as there is always someone who has the answers to the remotest of questions.

We are a very happy and sociable group and our meetings are always a lot of fun and there is space for anyone who would like to join us to trace their family history. People tend to believe they are the only ones in the world with no relatives but they soon find there are a lot of relatives out there just waiting to be found and ancestors to discover as well. It is such a rewarding feeling to discover lost cousins, aunts and uncles etc. and it is so easy to get absorbed in the world of family history. Most of us are now completely hooked on this most rewarding hobby.



Maureen

The Mature Times, a news outlet with a website, FREE eNewsletter and newspaper specifically for the over 50s ran a generic U3A 25th Anniversary article in their March edition. Tony Watts, the editor, has also agreed to create an on-going dedicated area for U3A snippets - your events, news, activities in the Mature Times.

ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS

Email your snippet to editorial@maturetimes.co.uk. You can even email a photo, graphic, poster etc

THINGS YOU PROBABLY NEVER KNEW YOUR MOBILE PHONE COULD DO



There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival.

Check out the things that you can do with it:

Emergency

The Emergency Number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile; network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be dialled even if the keypad is locked. Try it out.

Have you locked your keys in the car?

Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone:

If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their mobile phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other 'remote' for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk).

Editor's Note: *It works fine! We tried it out and unlocked our car over a mobile phone!*

The Extraordinary General Meeting of the Third Age Trust

Following several consultations with U3As over past years, most recently in 2006, the Third Age Trust has produced a new set of constitutional documents that will be considered for approval at an Extraordinary General Meeting [EGM] at the Birmingham and Midland Institute on Thursday 22nd May. Every U3A has a right to voting representation at the EGM and Tony and Joan will be representing Fetcham U3A and carrying our two votes; depending on their size, U3As have one, two, three or four votes.

The changes are aimed at improving the effectiveness of the Trust, increasing the democratic support for the Trustees, clarifying the constituencies of the Trustees and including various new provisions in charity and company law. The primary changes are for the constituencies to be known as Regions rather than Areas and to adopt the nine Government Regions for England plus the countries of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, for the Regional Trustees to be elected solely by the U3As in that Region and to reduce the number of Officers by one and the maximum number of co-optees by two; the net effect is to reduce the maximum size of the National Executive Committee [NEC] from twenty four to twenty.

In parallel the Trust is also seeking to recruit one or two more staff so that the National Office can support the development of new U3As and the support of existing U3As more effectively.

Our committee has agreed to vote for the proposals but to register our concern that the large number of U3As in the South East Region makes it by far the largest unit in the Trust. It is hoped that the role and the work in the Region could be shared by two trustees in the future but this will depend on further constitutional change, which may be difficult to achieve.

The timing of this newsletter is such that the result will be known in May and will be announced at the May meeting, while you will receive the newsletter in June. The EGM certainly promises to be an interesting meeting.

Tony, our Chairman, has asked me to write an article about the development of the U3A movement in the UK and I will be able to bring it right up to date for the September edition of the newsletter.

Ian – Area Trustee for South East

Computer Group Hints and Tips

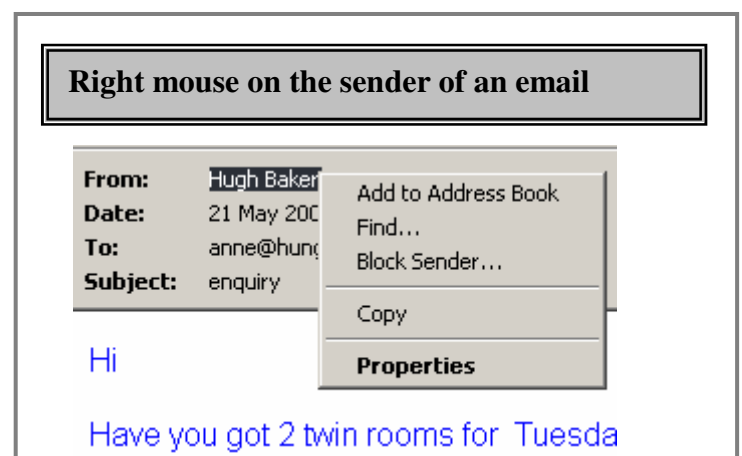
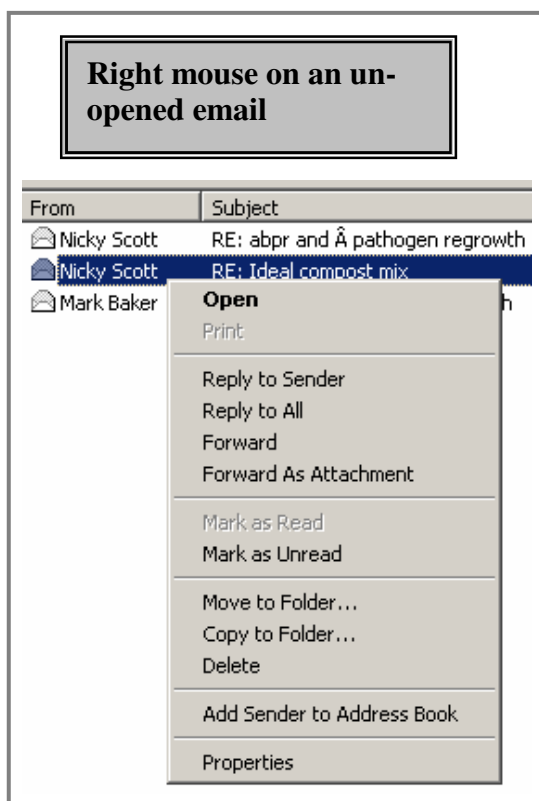
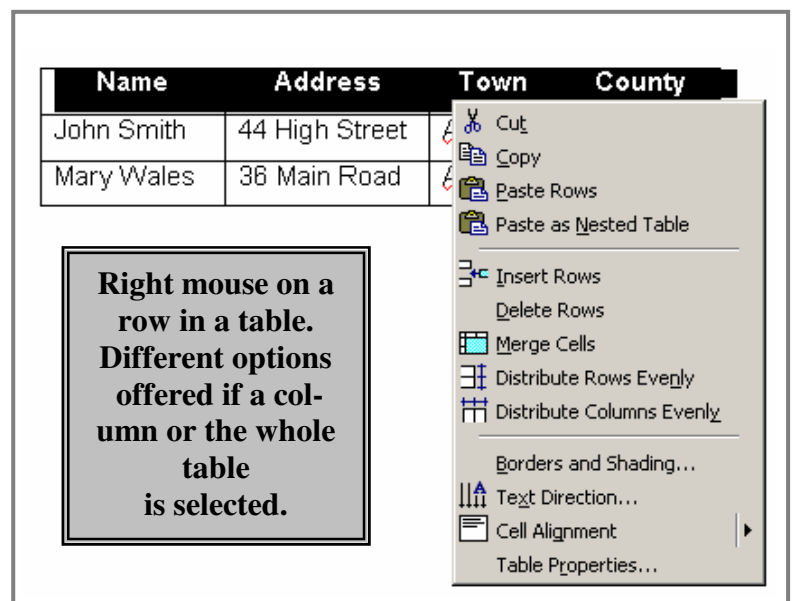
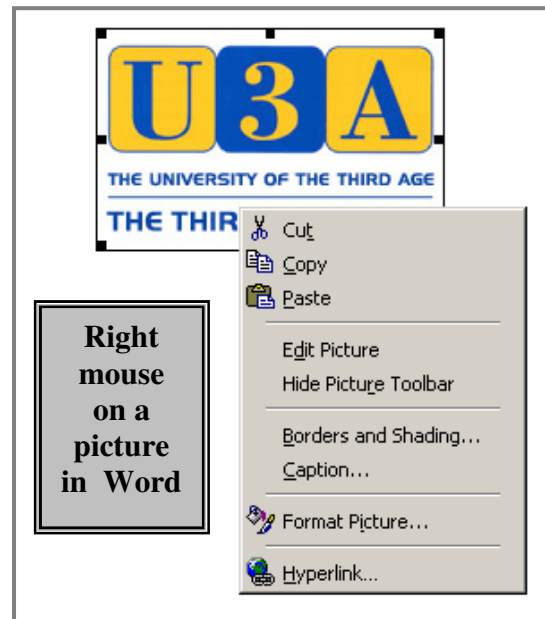
At our last meeting I gave a short talk - "The secret of Right Mouse". In a nutshell, the secret is that clicking on the Right Mouse button offers you a dropdown list of options that you are most likely to want, saving you hunting for the option via one of the top menus.

It is important to realise that the options will be different even within Word, depending on whether you Right Mouse on a word spelt wrongly, a picture, within a table, or anywhere else.

The examples here are from Word and Outlook Express.

Every programme will offer different options; so any time you want to modify something you've just typed, try Right Mouse.

Remember, Right Mouse does not "do" anything - you won't lose anything, and it can save a lot of time and aggro.



Hugh

THEATRE, TRAVEL and EXHIBITION VISITS

Bookham & Fetcham U3As - Contact Sheila

Theatre Matinees

Wednesday, 3rd September - WEST SIDE STORY at Woking - we have a front Royal Circle reservation for the new production which was a 'sell-out' at Sadlers Wells. Ticket and coach £35

Following a very successful run at Bath, highly praised by critics and audiences, Peter Hall's 'scintillating revival' of Bernard Shaw's classic comedy PYGMALION has come to London, with Tim Piggott-Smith and Michelle Dockery in the star roles. If you missed our June booking and could like to see it, contact me and we'll try for a further reservation.

We continue to keep an eye open for interesting plays at the National Theatre on the South Bank. Travelling to London by train either independently or together in small groups helps to keep costs down and enables most of us to enjoy top class theatre productions (usually matinees) without relying on filling a coach. Do please let me know your interests if you'd like to take advantage in future.

Days Out

We've recently visited Battle Abbey and Audley End - two very different locations looked after by English Heritage. Further days out in July to September are being planned to see Rousham Park House and Garden (in the Cotswolds) and to Edward Heath's house (in Salisbury). Contact me for dates and details.

Travel

From 8-15 October we shall be spending a week sightseeing, relaxing and indulging in some Sicilian gourmet delights from our hotel base at Capo d'Orlando (on Sicily's north-east coast). We shall be 'guided' and looked after by Tulio (a Sicilian who acted as our Tour Manager last year during our week in the Sorrento/Naples area). One or two places may still be available. Cost £757 pp sharing (single supplement is £80/125 depending on availability).

Some Helpful Hints

A sealed envelope - put in the freezer for a few hours, then slide a knife under the flap. The envelope can then be resealed.



Use empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords. It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll what appliance it belongs to.

For icy door steps in freezing temperatures: get warm water and put washing liquid in it. Pour it all over the steps. They won't refreeze.

Crayon marks on walls? This worked wonderfully! A damp rag, dipped in baking soda. Comes off with little effort (elbow grease that is!).

After purchasing a box of Scouring Pads, immediately take a pair of scissors and cut each pad into half. It will save having to throw away rusted, unused and smelly pads. It also helps to sharpen the scissors.

Blood stains on clothes? Not to worry! Just pour a little hydrogen peroxide on a cloth and proceed to wipe off every drop of blood. Works every time! Now, where to put the body?

When boiling corn on the cob, add a pinch of sugar to help bring out the corn's natural sweetness



Wrap celery in aluminium foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks.

Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.



Committee Members

Chairman	Tony
Vice-Chairman	Winnie
Treasurer	Bryan
Secretary	Diana
Membership Secretary	Brenda
Groups Co-ordinator	Enid
Speaker Secretary	Tony
Publicity Officer	Winnie
Floor Manager	David
Member	Graham
Member	Ian
Member	Kathy
Member	Mary

Support Services

Welfare of Members	Jo
Tea Organiser	Kathy
Social Events	Winnie
Outings/Theatre Visits	Sheila

Newsletter Editors	Judy	email:
	John	email:

*The committee meets on the 2nd Monday of the month.
If you have any items you would like to be discussed by the Committee
please contact the Secretary, Diana, in time to have it included on the agenda.*

**May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.**