

Fetcham in Focus



The Newsletter of Fetcham U3A



Group Leaders' Lunch

"Come and get it!"



"We did"



Quiz Night

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Chairman's Column

Most people who attend the annual U3A jamboree at East Grinstead, formally known as the South East U3A Forum are surprised by the large differences between U3As. Some model themselves on universities offering academic topics, one even providing two courses in Latin, something we haven't got round to yet in Fetcham. Other U3As hold their group meetings in halls, foregoing monthly meetings and few have wine appreciation groups – what would we do without them? One of our members remarked how lucky she was to join Fetcham which provided the range of learning opportunities she was looking for and in such a warm and friendly social atmosphere. We are of course fortunate in Mole Valley in having so many U3As to choose from, although patience may be necessary where there are long waiting lists.

We were reminded at East Grinstead that U3As must evolve over the years to meet the changing aspirations of our members. It is particularly important not to be complacent as we prepare for the new brood of baby boomers about to join the ranks of the retired. One speaker from the Aughton and Ormskirk U3A suggested we become more involved in providing services to the community. This U3A in association with the local mental health trust has introduced a mind gym to stimulate memory and cognitive powers, the members going under the microscope for the benefits of science. They have also established with the local authority an e-learning centre with an internet cafe open during the week. Should Fetcham follow suit and play a bigger part in services to the community?

Informal learning, a key element in our group philosophy, also came under scrutiny at the Forum; whether it was too casual and lacked rigour. Up to now the informality has been a strength of our groups and members seem content with the arrangements, but should we be thinking about more formal courses with paid lecturers.

Putting aside these thoughts on the future shape of Fetcham, I set off to Strasbourg under the guidance of Winnie and Bryan. During the trip no chance was missed to stimulate the little grey cells or hone our cognitive powers, whether it was in the magnificent cathedral in Reims or during a stamina test at the European Parliament. Our taste buds explored the full range of French cuisine with adequate wine tasting opportunities, all in a convivial social setting. After such a successful trip, our mix of learning opportunities and social activities still seems to be a winning formula, with little need for immediate changes – perhaps the baby boomers will like it too!

Tony

Quilt-for Butterfly Appeal



The Quilt is a joint effort by the members of **Fetcham U3A needlework Group.**

The butterflies use fabric which has been space dyed by the members.

The finished item is being given to the Butterfly Appeal to be raffled at their event at Ewell in June and will raise funds for **cancer research**

Another New Gadget



A Waist-Band Amplifier

A gadget that a tour guide might use. It's lightweight, rechargeable and lasts for about 6 hours. The coverage is about 15 people, depending on background noise. It will save the speaker having to continually raise his or her voice when talking to a group.

This item is now available for use by any group or member - ideal for Groups such as Explore London Walking or a small painting class. There is only one control; volume/on/off. Switch on, turn the volume up until it squeaks and then turn back a tad.

**For more information
contact Graham**

Lectures & Talks at the Monthly Meetings

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

23 June	History of English Furniture	David Embling
28 July	RAF Presentation	Royal Air Force
25 August	Guildford POW & SOE Connection	John Glanfield
22 September	Surrey Police Dog Training School	tbc
27 October	Galapagos Islands	Roberts Edmondson
24 November	AGM & Surrey Air Ambulance (note the AGM is to be held in Yehudi Menuhin Hall)	

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

Events & Outings

14 July	Associate Members' Meeting	2.30 pm	(St Mary's Hall)
3 October	Barn Dance (with Crooked Stovepipe Band)	7.30 pm	(Old Barn Hall)
5-6 December	Thursford Christmas Spectacular	2 days	(Thursford, Norfolk)
8 December	Christmas Party	2pm	(St Mary's Hall)

Contact Winnie for tickets



**In Spring 2010 Winnie is proposing a Towns & Waterways trip to Holland
including a visit to Keukenhof for the Spring Bulbs and the oldest
Planetarium in the World in Franeker.**

***In order to gauge how many members would be interested
please contact Winnie.***

Art Appreciation Course 2009/2010

***We have organized another series of lectures by Leslie
This series is on 17th Century European Paintings***

Artists covered will include Caravaggio, El Greco, Velazquez, Poussin, Rubens, Van Dyck, Vermeer & Rembrandt

Lectures are weekly from 7pm to 9.30pm at Bookham Baptist Church.

**The Autumn Term of 10 lectures will commence
on 30th September 2009
and the Spring Term of 10 lectures will commence
on 14th January 2010**

**For full details and an Application Form
contact Bryan**



Velazquez



Rembrandt

Central Surrey Network Study Days 2009

18 September	Classical Myths in Renaissance & Baroque Art	Leslie Pitcher
16th October	Shakespeare & Music	Keith Richards & Don Moore with Alexandra Kidgell, soprano
20th November	From Mechanical Music to Mechanical Television - 150 years of Entertainment in the home	Ken Tythacott & Jon Weller

Study days are held in the Menuhin Hall, Stoke D'Abernon
Commencing at 9.30am registration and finishing at 4.00pm.

Contact Sheila H for Booking Forms

Bookham & Fetcham U3As - Outings

16 July	Visit to Rousham House & Gardens, Oxfordshire (including Plus National Herb Centre, Banbury)
August/September	Potential visit to Hever Castle, the Boleyn family home in Kent (to mark 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's accession to the throne)
6-11 September	Visit Alsace by train staying in chateau near Strasbourg
12 November	Evening Concert in St. Paul's Cathedral - John Rutter conducts a programme of English Orchestral & Choral Music, including his Requiem
January 2010	<i>How about a weekend visit to Warner's at Bembridge, Isle of Wight? Come Dancing; go walking; or stimulate the brain with a range of other activities and entertainments.</i>

Contact Sheila to book or for more information

Solution to last Issue's Crossword



See this Issue's prize challenge on Page 13

Philip Winner of the
Sudoku competition
Presented with his prize



Have you changed your postal or email address
Please let our Membership Secretary know (Kathy)

Strasbourg

In all 42 of us set out on a Sunday morning in April to visit the European Parliament, to learn and understand all about the EEC! We travelled by coach and ferry arriving at Reims, with its beautiful cathedral and stained glass windows for our first night. Some of us also visited and sampled the champagne at the Mumms cellar there.

The next day we drove on to Obernai, near Strasbourg, getting there in the late afternoon. The next morning saw us let loose in Strasbourg, to roam, to visit the cathedral, the shops or to sit with coffee and just watch.



That afternoon we had a boat trip around the old part of the city, which is completely surrounded by the river L'ill with the many European Parliament buildings at one end. They are extremely impressive. At around 5pm we presented ourselves at the Parliament building for our visit at the same time as the Tamil Tigers were demonstrating outside. After passing through the usual security we were allowed into the public gallery for a 'session' of members being allowed to speak for 1 minute on any subject, then a further session where members could speak for 4 minutes on energy. We did hear a couple of MEPs from Great Britain speaking about particular issues of importance to them, the chamber itself is very impressive, it is large, but unfortunately there were only a few MEPs present.

We were then given an explanation of the make up of the EEC and how it is run with commissioners and committees. We learnt there are 785 members representing the 27 countries of the EEC, Great Britain having 78 members. Our sponsor Nigel Farage a UKIP MEP for the South East joined us. He explained that he was very much for Europe as a trading arrangement, but felt that 'one size did not fit all' as seems to be the idea at present within the EEC. We finally left the building around 8.30 a little more informed about the role of the European Parliament and its members.

The following day we had a drive around the Alsace region and its lovely old villages. We stopped at Colmar which is the principle town in the area and also managed a visit to Riquewihr together with a wine tasting in a nearby village.

Our journey home took us through Belgium, staying at a hotel with a casino in Namur. Our meal was in the casino restaurant, unusual but very interesting! On our way to Calais the next day we stopped at Ypres, driving through the Menin Gate. We were able to visit the In Flanders Fields Museum and St Georges Church, where we saw brass memorials from St Johns School, Leatherhead and Epsom College in memory of their staff and students lost in the Great War.

Our capable driver Nick knew the area well, and was able to name the various villages we passed and enlightened us with some of the history of this part of France and Belgium. We even enjoyed sun all week with no rain. In fact all the arrangements by Winnie were, as usual, superb!

Judy

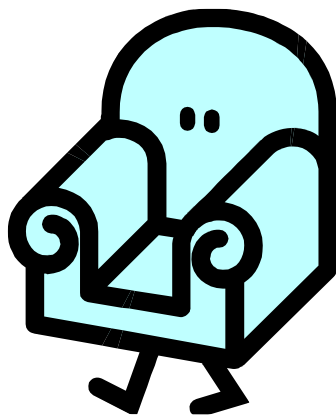


Armchair travel

This new group commenced in February when a discussion took place to decide what our expectations were and the way the group should proceed. It was decided that this definitely was not a forum for showing holiday "snaps" etc. but would be more far reaching and cover topics that could ultimately be shared with those outside the group.

We have had 2 interesting meetings so far. One member recounted his 3.1/2 years spent in New Zealand (six weeks by boat for this £10 'Pom') from 1962, working on a dairy farm and at a cattle station with 12,000 sheep (a lot of shearing). The 2nd meeting was a Powerpoint presentation entitled "Package or design your own? The pros and cons with an example – Eastern Canada". Here we were taken through the elements of choosing a holiday destination with some wonderful photos of the area chosen. Future expected talks will be Eco friendly holidays/holidays for the disabled/outside speakers talking of an unusual holiday.

Jackie



Armchair London History

This new activity has got off to a good start! The objective is to learn something of the history of our great capital city from the comfort of our own homes, as opposed to doing so by walking the streets of London in the way that the "Explore London" groups do. The following are just a few of the topics which we have in mind to research together:

Fit for a king - 1,000 years of Royal Residences

Runners, Peelers and Rozzers - law and order on the streets.

From horse-bus to bendy-bus - public transport over-ground.

London's poor - parish relief, workhouses and debtors' prisons.

Plagues and Fires - years of disaster.

Crossing the Thames - London's tunnels and bridges.

The great church-builder - Sir Christopher Wren.

Normally we will discuss one topic at each meeting, the topics being decided at the previous meeting. One or more members of the group will undertake research on each topic and will introduce the subject to be studied. Other members wishing to do so will also carry out research and contribute to the discussion, thus pooling our joint knowledge of the topic in the best spirit of the U3A! Members will be equally welcome to come and learn at our meetings whether or not they are able also to host the meetings and/or contribute to the discussions.

To date there are two groups taking part in this activity. The meetings last about two hours and those who are able so to do take a turn at hosting meetings in their houses.

Geoff

Antiques & Collectables

At our meeting in February the group, now consisting of 18 members, discussed Blue and White Printed Pottery. We discovered that under-glaze blue decoration using a transfer print was a technique developed in Britain during the last two decades of the 18th century, when patterns deriving from contemporary Chinese porcelain designs began to appear. Many of these early designs were very similar to what we know today as Willow Pattern. As time went on and as techniques improved and tastes changed, every kind of design imaginable was used, from stately homes to bowls of flowers, from historical scenes to ships at sea. Today these products of British potters are far better appreciated than ever before and are sought after by collectors, particularly in North America.

Burleigh is the only Staffordshire pottery left today producing these wonderful historic designs. Hand applied transfers are used to decorate artisan crafted English dishes, pitchers and tableware. This company uses ball clay from Devon and china clay from Cornwall.

Collecting by decoration:

- 1) The "Crown, Acorn and Oak Leaf" border series.
- 2) " "Bluebell" and "Foilage" " "
- 3) " "Tulip" and "Pineapple" " "
- 4) " "Grapevine" " "
- 5) Cities and Towns: London
- 6 Other cities and towns
- 7) Historical subjects
- 8) The Orient
- 9) Animals and Birds
- 10) Sporting subjects
- 11) Armorial designs
- 12) Floral designs

Collecting by Factory:

- 1) Spode
- 2) Minton
- 3) Wedgewood
- 4) Ridgway
- 5) Davenport
- 6) Riley & Rogers
- 7) Enoch Wood & Adams family
- 8) Masons and other ironstone china

Although our group is not able to accept any additional members, we do invite other members to join us in our outside activities.

One such event is on Wednesday 21 October at 2 pm (set-up time, the meeting will start at 2.30 pm) at a hall in Effingham. We have arranged a Valuation Day with Andrew Hawkins (from the Antiques Roadshow and who works at Bonhams). As accommodation in the hall is limited this event will be TICKET ONLY.

Bring up to five items (No dolls, stamps, books or coins please). A charge of £1 per item brought will be made.

Please contact me if you would like to come along (first come first served!).



Marilyn

Art 2

This photo was taken on our painting afternoon in April. The early summer weather lured us into the garden to paint tulips and hellebore. We even needed sun hats!

Janet



Oil Painting Day in Effingham

This is the fifth year that our professional tutors from Worthing have kindly agreed to help us with painting an oil with the wet-on-wet technique. There are a couple of spaces available on Thursday, 20 August or Thursday, 27 August.

This day is for complete beginners and of course others who enjoy a day painting. The tutors bring a painting for us to copy and they show us, stage by stage, how it is done. Just bring a packed lunch as all the materials you will need to create your masterpiece will be provided.

You will need to arrive for a 10 am start and we shall finish at approximately 4.30 pm. Cost will not be more than £41 (this depends on the number of people to share the cost of the hall).

Please telephone me if you would like to join in on either of the above dates.



Marilyn

Aviation & Technology

In January some members attended a RAeS Powerpoint lecture at Brooklands Museum on the BAC 311 project which was a proposed wide body development of the successful BAC 111 jet airliner, built at Weybridge in the 1960's. A mock up of the fuselage was constructed and the design proved interesting to a number of major airlines including BEA, American and Laker to register advance orders of about 25 aircraft. Since the new design was a private venture by BAC, the Government was approached to obtain launch aid of £144m. for development of the airframe and Rolls Royce engines. Unfortunately at this time the Government was in talks with the EU about possible collaboration with the Airbus A300B project and eventually decided to back this instead. This effectively caused the demise of Britain's last major airliner manufacturer, since BAC could have kept this country in the forefront of airliner production/technology on which it had undisputed design experience and facilities.

Also in January we held a very successful 3rd annual Pilots' Forum open to Bookham, Fetcham, Leatherhead, Ashted and East Horsley U3A's highlighting two members who have had extensive flying experience. **John** (Leatherhead U3A) related how at the start of WW2, he was drafted to working at the Air Ministry in Whitehall in the same department as Deputy Chief Air Marshall Harris, who eventually became known as "Bomber" Harris. Later he was accepted for flying training in the RAF where he learnt to fly on Tiger Moths before going to the USA for further flight training at Lancaster in the Mojave Dessert on more advanced types. Returning to the U.K. he became an instructor on Tiger Moths at Perth for some time. Later he flew Oxfords and Wellingtons, leading up to Lancaster aircraft. Towards the end of the war, he just missed taking part on a bombing operation with a Lancaster crew, however, due to a recurring problem with a cyst on one eye, the aircraft had to leave without him. The crew was later reported as missing, as were so many during the course of the war, so he counted himself very lucky on this occasion. Shortly after the war ended, he was posted to Transport Command, where he flew Liberators on various trooping missions often to the Far East.

Chris (Fetcham U3A) gave us an insight into his exemplary flying career in the RAF and civil life by using an excellent Powerpoint presentation. After going solo on an ab-initio flight on a Jet Provost, he later joined a Hawker Hunter squadron, progressing onto the Hawk where he became an instructor on the type at Valley, Anglesey before joining the Red Arrows team for some years. Following this he became a weapons instructor for the Hawker Harrier Training School and was also based at the renowned Test Pilots' School at Boscombe Down for a period. After leaving the RAF, he was accepted as Chief Test Pilot for Hawker Aircraft at Dunsfold, Surrey where he flew production models including the Harrier and Hawk. In 1982 he delivered a Hawk aircraft from the U.K. to the newly recognised state of Zimbabwe, governed by Robert Mugabe. Shortly after an uneventful flight and delivery to the Zimbabwean Air Force, there was a loud explosion and the Hawk had been blown up by saboteurs. Chris was immediately arrested under suspicion of being involved and nearly had to spend some time in the local jail until being rescued by the British embassy who exonerated him. Other less worrying export deliveries were made by him to Indonesia and S. Korea using a well tried routing via Europe, the Middle East and India/Malaysia.

We look forward to hearing sometime about Chris's experiences in civil life with the airline. My Travel - another episode!

Lawrence



Card Craft 1

We are going stronger than ever - we not only make cards for all occasions but also we have become great friends, thanks to U3A. We celebrate Birthdays, Easter, Christmas, and any other occasion that deserves an excuse for a party.

We now have a lovely conservatory which we call our craft room, and we like to think our leader had it specially built just for us. The photograph shows one of our group enjoying her Birthday. We had promised not to print this but now she knows we cannot be trusted! (sorry Eileen).

Now the summer is approaching fast we have lots of afternoons to look forward to enjoying our wonderful craft room and, of course, making cards.

Yvonne



Card Craft 2

My introduction to card making was by becoming a member of our Card Craft 1 group, enjoying the experience and the expert guidance from Jan, who gave all who were fortunate enough to be in her group the inspiration to produce some splendid cards each time. As Jan's group has been full for some time and is likely to be so in the future, it seemed to be a logical step to start a second card craft group.



The members have turned out some wonderful cards over the past weeks and seem to be prepared to tackle even the most difficult designs of cards with a gusto which astounds me. From time to time the occasional mistake in construction can be 'adapted' to cover up what went wrong, in order to produce a card to be proud of when it is time to go home. It is surprising how many things one can do in order to cover up a 'mishap'. I think we have all, including myself, made a 'LEFT HANDED' card. This tricky technique involves the card opening the opposite way to a normal card, because the insert has been stuck inside the card upside down and cannot be removed. That usually



causes much amusement from everyone including the person who has achieved a beautifully constructed 'left handed card'.

There is much laughter throughout the classes, and I am delighted to have such a lovely group of ladies who join me on those Mondays. We have a cross section of members, from those who had never made a card before, to members who are old hands at making cards and know the techniques involved.

You will be most welcome if you would like to come along one of the Monday mornings or afternoons, so please contact me if you would like to join us.

Jenny



Cookery



As a change from our usual format for meetings where we take a theme and bring suitable food, we had a fascinating talk by one of our U3A members – **Keith**. He talked to us about his working life in the catering world - some people lead such interesting lives. Having spent most of his career in large organisations responsible for the catering facilities producing hundreds of meals at a time - not per day but just for lunch or dinner - and travelling widely, He then joined the Egon Ronay team as a restaurant and hotel inspector. It would have been interesting to have been a fly on the wall and seen the reactions of restaurateurs when he unveiled his identity at the end of a meal and had left. It is the restaurant's performance on the day of the visit, there are no second chances, nor can you say the chef had a bad day! After enjoying hearing about fine dining, we came down to earth with a delicious ploughman's lunch!

Diana

Explore London 1

The weather has affected our plans this year with several walks being cancelled. We did manage to explore Lambeth with a visit to the Tate and the Imperial War Museum (where several of the group re-experienced sitting in an air raid shelter while bombs dropped). We had lunch at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society canteen and saw their museum.

Early May saw us walking from Richmond to Marble Hill House and Twickenham before visiting the Orleans Art Gallery and crossing the Thames to Ham House and back home by bus.

Linda



Explore London 6

Yes, there really is a "Platform Nine-and-three-quarters" at Kings Cross station. On one of our recent walks we nearly lost Bob Kirkpatrick, who was set on visiting Hogwarts School until we pointed out that it was their half-term. On that day our exploration started at St. Pancras New church, an unusual building in the Greek style. We then walked on to the magnificent (and vastly expensive) new British Library where we had coffee and time to examine Magna Carta and many priceless books and manuscripts in the Ritblatt Gallery.

Having saved Bob from being "magicked away" as we walked through Kings Cross, we had a leisurely lunch in a pub-restaurant in York Road before discovering the major piazza redevelopment about to take place between Kings Cross and St. Pancras stations. Finally we explored the revitalised St. Pancras station before returning home via the direct "Thameslink" service to Wimbledon - a useful route for those travelling on the "Eurostar" service.

Geoff



Family History 1

This year has followed the usual pattern of house meetings to compare notes and visits to the Public Records Office at Kew where we are becoming experts in using the 1911 Census records.

Genealogy is a slow and painstaking process with flurries of activity and success to keep up the enthusiasm.

John



Family History 2

The highlight for this year has been the long awaited release of the 1911 census online which has provided even more answers to those like us who are interested in tracing their family history. It has also generated a few more mysteries as new facts came to light and, as it is the first census actually handwritten by the householder, it is fascinating to see something written by an ancestor, proving whether they were literate or not. It also tells us how long they were married, and how many children were born, also how many had since died, so a lot of clues there. Not all of our group use computers but they don't lose out by not doing so, because they are helped along with their research by others who do have access to computers.

Apart from that, we have continued to find answers in other ways, either from parish records, military, birth, marriage, and death records, just to name a few, and members have made individual trips to other parts of the country in their quest for answers and have reported back on any new information they have uncovered. There is a whole wealth of information out there to help us to delve into our ancestors' lives, which helps with our understanding of what life was like for them, and our members make full use of all that is available.

We meet with the Bookham Family History members as one combined group in the Barn Hall. We not only share our research with each other, but we have also had presentations on wills, dating old photographs, name variations, newspaper archives, and other family history subjects, given by members who were beginners to the subject fairly recently but who have become very knowledgeable in a short period of time. It all adds to make very interesting meetings. If anyone wishes to join us in this most fascinating pastime they will be made most welcome.

Maureen

French Conversation 2

After a recent lunch we sang French songs and read French poems. This is one of the amusing ones:

Un Héros sans le savoir

Un garçon de dix ans, au bord de la rivière,
Jouait aux ricochets, avec des cailloux ronds,
Il oubliait l'école à regarder leurs bonds
Et les ressauts de l'eau sous les coups de la pierre.

Un plus petit s'approche et veut en faire autant.
Le pied lui glisse, il tombe et le courant l'entraîne.
La rivière est profonde, et la mort est certaine.
Il va périr, hélas!

Mais l'autre, au même instant,
Se jette en plein courant, au péril de sa vie;
Trois fois il plonge; enfin, après beaucoup d'effort,
Il atteint le bambin et l'arrache à la mort.

Sur le quai, cependant, une foule ravie
Acclame le sauveur et veut savoir son nom.
'Mon nom? pourquoi mon nom? pour le dire à mon père,
Pour qu'il sache que j'ai flâné près de la rivière,
Qu'il me batte, fit-il en s'esquivant, oh non!'

Louis Ratisbonne

Lesley

MURDER MOST FOUL!



Taking a break from our usual record research, the Local History Group's April Meeting, in beautiful sunshine and with the daffodils in full bloom, met at Mark Oak, the old parish boundary, and walked around Fetcham/Bookham Common to locate cottages mentioned in the old censuses. Nowadays there are essentially three properties left, Highwayman, Apple Tree and Rose Cottages. Rose Cottage (although only the chimney and some interior remain of the original) interested us as it was the site of the Akehurst Murders in 1826 and later the home of one of our member's Sunday School Teacher. We researched on line and found about 30 newspaper articles written over a period of 4-5 years. Anyone as curious as we were, can log onto Surrey Library On line reference, 19th Century newspapers, give their library card bar code number and type in "Fetcham Murders" and read the articles.

The first article in The Morning Chronicle is dated Saturday October 14th 1826 and reads:

"On Friday morning the whole of the immediate country in the neighbourhood of Leatherhead was thrown into a state of considerable excitation and horror in consequence of the barbarous murder of two aged individuals who resided on the borders of Fetcham common. The names of the unhappy persons are John Arkhurst "sic", helpless old man aged 96 and his housekeeper Elizabeth Haines aged 74. They inhabited a cottage in the midst of a small orchard, in a very solitary and lonely situation"

....."It was generally rumoured in the neighbourhood that the old man was possessed of some property.....and it is supposed that the miscreants were prompted to the commission of murder in the expectation of finding money...." The murder was discovered by a lad named Brown who had left his home at 6 o'clock on Sunday morning to commence his daily work (gathering the apple crop) on the old man's premises. On finding the door open and no-one answering his call and suspecting something dreadful had happened, he hurried off to inform his parents of the circumstances. His mother accompanied him back to the cottage and proceeded upstairs and at the head of the staircase she was shocked "on beholding the lifeless corpse of Elizabeth Haines. Mrs. Brown was so much terrified that she ran down stairs and immediately sent off to Mr. Gibbs, a gentleman in whose employment her husband worked. Mr. Gibbs lost no time in visiting the scene"....."and was horror-struck on witnessing the bodies of the two old people, which were mutilated in a shocking manner. That Gentleman at once dispatched messengers to the County Magistrates resident in the immediate neighbourhood and in less than an hour the following Gentleman in the Commission of the Peace were on the spot, The Rev. Mr. Bolland, Rector of Fetcham, Mr. Hankey Esq and Rev. Mr. Heberden. Information was dispatched to Union-hall Police Office by Rev. Bolland requesting two Officers be immediately sent down. Mr. Caldwell, after perusing the letter, instantly complied with the request, when Mr. Hall the Chief Constable and Richard Pople, a zealous and indefatigable Officer, proceeded in a post chaise and four and soon arrived at the cottage"

(How is that for Police Response Time!)

The article describes the scene and injuries to Elizabeth who had -

"... a fractured skull and black marks on her neck as if an attempt had been made to strangle her. It was thought she had entered the old man's room upon hearing noises and had received a blow to the head. To the right of the door was the body of the old man on his bed, to which he had been confined for the last few years. The officers searched the room for clues but nothing was found to throw the slightest possible light on the discovery of the perpetrators. The chests in the upper rooms where found to have been rummaged but none of the property they contained, together with the will of the old man, bequeathing his little cottage and spot of ground to his daughter were touched....." This article ends with the notation that "The Rev. Mr. Bolland had bills immediately printed and distributed, offering a reward for the apprehension of the perpetrators of this most diabolical murder".

The newspaper followed the investigation and reported on the suspects who came to light. The last available article dated November 5th 1831 read -

"Magistrates of Union Hall anxiously investigating suspicious circumstances lately come to light respecting the Fetcham murders in 1826"fresh suspicion excited against a man and his wife, residing on the spot, who in late illness used expressions implying guilty knowledge - their nephew, suspected to have been implicated, absconded immediately after the inhuman butchery and has never been traced, notwithstanding constant vigilance of the police - improper to say more now, particularly from strong feeling existing to prejudice of suspected parties in the minds of the inhabitants of Leatherhead, Fetcham and vicinity".

Who done it! WELL.....?

Lyn

Jazz Appreciation

In our March Meeting we concentrated mainly on British Jazz musicians, including Norman George, Ronnie Scott and Victor Feldman - with each of whom I had played at some time or other and could relate a few personal experiences.

Apart from these we also covered Dudley Moore who, in my opinion, was a far greater pianist as opposed to comedian and was equally at home with the classics.

Tracks by Stephane Grappelly were also included and mention was made of his penchant for inviting classical musicians such as Julian Bream to join him and then managing to somehow wrong-foot them in the jazz idiom.

In the April session I illustrated the blues and the many possible variations including 12 bar and 8 bar, major & minor, 3/4 & 4/4 time and touched on the introduction of Bebop.

Although we have a good number of members, not everyone can make it on the first Wednesday of the month, and this will probably be even more difficult in the summer months. Therefore anyone interested should contact me and should the opportunity arise we will try to accommodate you.

Roy

LLOYDS of LONDON

At a recent Armchair History of London session, Penny & Bryan, who had both worked at Lloyds, gave a fascinating talk on its origins and development. This is an abbreviated account of the talk. Ed.

As other parts of the city exist for furs or fish, Leadenhall Street exists for ships. It may be anything from Cunard to the Greek Hull pool, or from P&O to Hispania Marine. In the small streets around St. Mary's Axe there are so many offices of ship brokers, insurers and owners that you would almost expect the streets themselves to have water in them like Amsterdam or Venice.

Lloyd's began in Edward Lloyd's Thames-side coffee house at Tower Street in the City of London. Although the exact date of its establishment is unknown, evidence exists that Lloyd's coffee house was well-known in London business circles by 1688. Lloyd himself was not involved in insurance but provided premises, reliable shipping news and a variety of services to enable his clientele of ships' captains, merchants and rich men to carry on their business of insuring ships and their cargoes.

The wealthy individuals in the coffee house would each take a share of a risk, signing their names one beneath the other on the policy together, with the amount they agreed to cover. For this reason they were known as 'underwriters'.

The first printed reference to his coffee house is dated February 1688 and occurs in an advertisement which appears in the London Gazette. A Mr. Edward Bransby of Derby had been robbed of 5 watches and he publicly offered a reward for the recovery of his goods and he offered a handsome reward of one guinea. The notice was to be sent to Mr. Bransby's address in Derby, or C/o Mr. Edward Lloyd's coffee house in Tower Street. That was the first appearance in English history of the name of Lloyds. In 1691 Edward Lloyd moved to a place in Lombard Street in which he and his successors plied their trade for the next 80 years. It is most probable that this insurance connection was the mainstay of his business which enabled his move to larger premises.

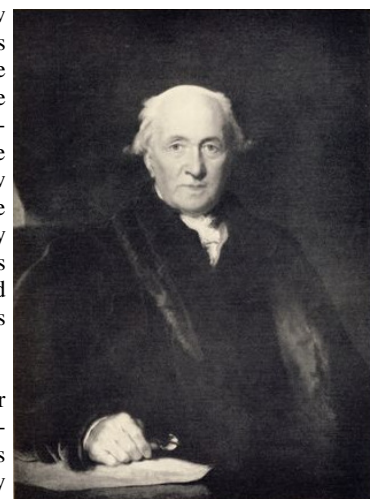


Originally, of course, there weren't insurance companies. rather, individual merchants and speculators would meet informally at Lloyd's Coffee House in London. Suppose that there was a merchant with a ship about to make a voyage to America that he wished to insure against loss due to the perils of the sea. He would arrive at Lloyd's with a written contract promising to pay him so much in the event that his ship went down. He would also arrive with money -- or at least the willingness to pay it. He would then circulate through the coffee house, looking for those who were willing to sign the contract. Suppose that the contract promised to pay out £5,000 in the event that the ship went down. Some people would sign for £1 of liability, some for £100, some for £1,000. Each underwriter would, of course, be paid by the merchant for their signature in proportion to the amount of liability that the underwriter took on. In the end, the merchant would have an insurance contract on his ship signed by a pool of investors who in aggregate were paid less than the insured value of the ship. Before too long there were people who made their living (or at least tried to) entirely within Lloyd's Coffee House.

By the 18th century it was possible for a broker to take an order for insurance of say £40,000 at lunchtime and have it all arranged, documented, sign sealed and delivered back to the client by 3pm. No computers in those days so things got completed more quickly.

Edward Lloyd died in 1713 but the coffee house continued to prosper as a centre for marine insurance. He left a substantial estate to his family and dependants. His daughter carried on the business through two marriages - one to her father's head waiter, William Newton. He died within a couple of years and she then remarried, this time to a man called Samuel Sheppard, who remained master of the coffee house until 1727. Sheppard was succeeded by Thomas Jemson who deserves his place in Lloyd's history if only because it was during his time that Lloyd's list made its first appearance.

Lloyd's slowly evolved into a more formal society and in 1774 the 'Subscribers to Lloyd's' moved to new premises at the Royal Exchange and in 1779 due to the hundreds of people who were using the facilities there and who were not paying subscriptions as bone fide Lloyd's Underwriters, the committee put a notice over the door declaring the rooms the property of 'Lloyd's Subscribers' only and no others were to be admitted. In 1800 they further tightened regulations to restrict subscribers to Merchants, Underwriters, Brokers and Bankers only and they were for the first time referred to as MEMBERS. 43 years later they alone had the right of accepting liability on a Lloyd's policy. The 1774 move to Royal Exchange and the new regulations were organised by John Julius Angerstein who became known in later generations as 'The Father of Lloyd's' and his power became such that Lloyd's was recognised by the Admiralty as an administrative power in regard to shipping. Naval captains would contact Lloyd's rather than the Admiralty over lack of protection and Angerstein would then contact the Admiralty to arrange the placement of ships to protect valuable merchantmen.



John Julius Angerstein

Nowadays there are Brokers, Underwriters, Syndicates and Agents. A Broker places insurance on behalf of a client. An Underwriter is one who accepts liability for insurance. For practical reasons, members of Lloyd's group themselves into syndicates. Some syndicates consist of hundreds of members, some of only a handful. Some specialize in one type of risk, others write a broad spread of business.

In the 1890's half a dozen underwriters was thought to be a dangerously high number and even by the 1950's the number of Lloyd's Underwriters only numbered 4,000, however the current number had now risen to over 34,000. They are now housed in the inside-out building designed by Richard Rogers, opened by the Queen in 1986. It has no sign over it and it needs none, for it is less of an office more an institution - the home of the most historic Insurance Market in the world.

Penny & Bryan



MUSIC APPRECIATION 1

We started 2009 on a bit of a highbrow note with the 1984 version of the opera Carmen with a young and handsome Plácido Domingo singing his heart out with Julia Migenes Johnson in the lead roles, ably supported by Ruggero Raimondi and Faith Esham in the two supporting roles. Although I personally am now not a great fan of Domingo, I must admit that, 25 years ago, when this was recorded, he did have a marvellous voice and if any of you are fans of his this is one of his best performances.

In February we compared several of the works of Beethoven. We started with his 6th Symphony, the Pastoral compared to his 5th Symphony. The delicate compared to the fierce. A wonderful comparison. We then discussed the Moonlight sonata. Most people only hear the first movement, mainly because that's the only bit played, but if you listen to the 2nd and 3rd movements the whole picture changes.

Our March meeting took us back into our youth. We played the 60's music. Tommy Steele, Roy Orbison, Cliff Richard, The Three Degrees, The Shirelles, Engelbert Humperdink (he used to be known as Gerry Dorsey but changed his name and fortune), Dusty Springfield and many, many, more. Oh how the years rolled off. They were even jiving in the lounge of our host.



In April, we came back down to earth with an evening of Woodwind music. We started with Heitor Villa-Lobos, a Brazilian composer who died in 1959. If you haven't heard of him don't be surprised, but in Brazil he was a very prolific writer of over 2,000 works. He founded and was the President of The Academy of Music in Rio de Janeiro. His music is very modern and not to everyone's taste.

We then played Mozart's Oboe concerto, Schubert's Octet in F. and various Elgar works. After our break we

heard music by Kenneth Smith, a brilliant flautist, one I can recommend to everyone. We finished the evening with various pieces on the recorders, Celtic pipes and whistles.

We have had a great start to 2009. Long may it continue. We thank our members for all of their hard work in preparing these sessions.

Bryan & Penny

Jewellery & Accessories

We meet once a month - in the morning, and share what knowledge and talents we have between us! Much fun and laughter echoes through these mornings but we do get a lot of work done too!

We have made bracelets, necklaces - both twisted and knotted, and tiny beaded amulet purses - using delicate beads, which produce a beautiful finish. Everyone has chosen different colour ways - some plain, some patterned - and the finished results are wonderful. Future plans include beaded evening bags and other accessories, and more beaded jewellery.

The group is full at the moment, but anyone interested in joining should put their names on a waiting list and perhaps a second group could be started.

Brenda

Line Dancing Groups

We're still short of a line dancing teacher so the groups remain closed. Thank you to the people who gave me a couple of leads to possible teachers, although unfortunately they did not work out. Further ideas welcome - Call me.

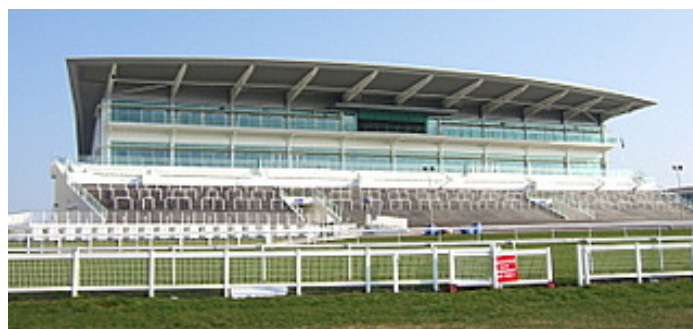
Sandy

Thursday Morning Walking

After a very enjoyable post Christmas lunch at Bookham Grange Hotel, our January walk took us along the Thames path to Whittets Ait and on to Weybridge. The lock-keeper's cottage at Thames Lock and the nearby developments are fascinating and we walked on to **Coxes Mill**, on the Wey Navigation, which is now converted into luxury flats.



On a bright morning in February a very large group walked round Bookham Common, then on a rather dismal morning in March we explored Epsom Downs where we could admire the new Grandstand. This was opened officially on 22nd April by the Duchess of Cornwall at the Spring meeting and it is now called the **Duchess Grandstand**.



Then the highlight of the year so far - Banstead Woods on a beautiful sunny morning in April. There were bluebells everywhere - just carpets of them as far as the eye could see - quite amazing, and we were lucky that they were out early this year for us to admire in all their glory!

Jo & Ernie

Wine Appreciation 1

What does the word **Palomino** mean to you? We all thought of a golden coloured horse with a pale mane and tail! However, at our February meeting we learnt that Palomino is the main grape variety used in the making of sherry from the Jerez region of southern Spain. We thoroughly enjoyed our session with Erica Dent, our knowledgeable and enthusiastic speaker. We tasted seven very different sherries, starting with a dry Fino and finishing with a wonderfully sweet Pedro Ximénez. Erica had brought varied samples of food to accompany each sherry and we learnt about this fortified wine, which was a new focus for the group.



Jo & Ernie

Computer Hints - IMPORTANT INTERNET SAFETY JARGON.

If you visit a website or webpage, and look at the address in the web browser (usually the second line down), it will likely begin with the following: <http://www>. As you move from page to page, this address changes.

HTTP stands for Hyper Text Transport Protocol (forget it now), which is a fancy way of saying it's the language grammar for the passing of information back and forth between web servers and you.

This means that the website is talking to your browser using the normal 'unsecured' language. In other words, it is possible for someone to "eavesdrop" on your computer's conversation with the website. If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site.

So the clever nerds that worked out the internet devised a more secure way of sending data: <https://>. The main difference between <http://> and <https://> is all about keeping you secure, the important thing is that the letter **S** stands for "Secure".

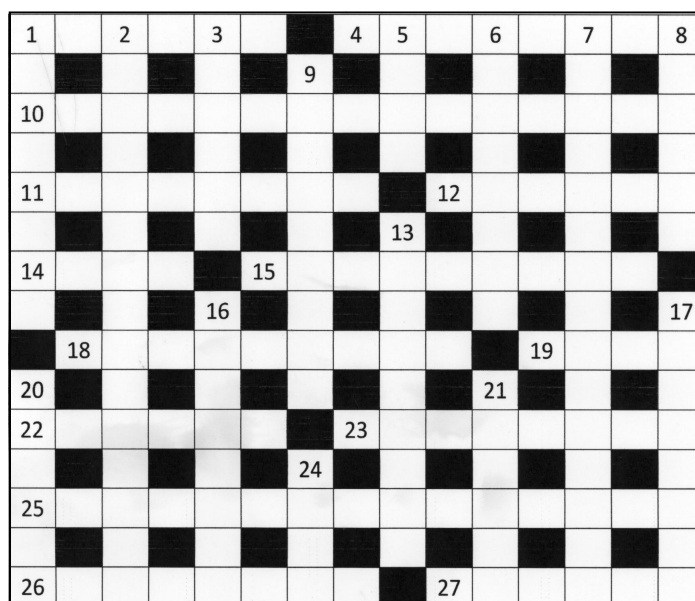
This is why you should **never ever** enter your credit card number in an [http](http://) website! But if the web address begins with <https://>, that basically means your computer is talking to the website in a secure code that no one can eavesdrop on.

If a website ever asks you to enter your credit card information, you should automatically look to see if the web address begins with <https://>. You may have heard "Look for the padlock" but looking for <https://> is safest.

No [https](https://), no sale! Most genuine sites are secure, **you** need to check.

You might also wonder why some sites have little pull-down menus for some credit card data, this is a further security measure. You are not sending numbers but position, not so easy to decode.

Graham



PRIZE COMPETITION

Cryptic Crossword

Send entries by 21st July 09 to:
The Editor,
U3A Fetcham in Focus,



There will be a prize of a bottle of good wine chosen by our Vice Chairman for the first correct answer to be drawn at the general Meeting on 28th July.

Clues Across

- 1 Very good selection (6)
- 4 Counter sack he'd replace ((4,4))
- 10 Having used broom, won everything (4,1,5,5)
- 11 Whimsical fifth-rate lines in comedy (8)
- 12 Despite being holey it holds water (6)
- 14 Float through the air during thaw afterwards (4)
- 15 Slightly mad place for a flag (2,3,4)
- 18 Buy too much soup (9)
- 19 Taking another route leaving nothing – that's right (4)
- 22 Do not start to worry about money (6)
- 23 A doctor, posh pupil and worker moving about from place to place (8)
- 25 Rescuing from obscurity (8,2,5)
- 26 Always in the clear but not first of all being more ingenious (8)
- 27 Inspire affection despite having neared disaster (6)

Clues Down

- 1 What to do in the world to lose status (4,4)
- 2 You can bet it is most likely to win (4-2,9)
- 3 Early rock' n' roller (6)
- 5 A route when none at home (6)
- 6 It is sometimes played on the lawn in summer (8)
- 7 Three's a crowd (7,8)
- 8 Captain decapitated fish (6)
- 9 Very light course, it certainly is (5,4)
- 13 Rebuke pal in defeat (9)
- 16 Go up possibly with new role for introduction (8)
- 17 He left willingly (8)
- 20 Language coming from near a bicycle-shed (6)
- 21 Capital increasin' by 100%, it is reported (6)
- 24 No time is lost at this (4)

Active & Proposed Groups & Their Leaders

Alpine Gardening	Alan Wolsoncroft	3rd Monday at 14.30	V
Antiques & Collectables	Marilyn Jones	3 rd Wednesday at 14.30	F
Armchair London History (1)	Geoff Roles	2nd Thursday at 10.00	V
Armchair London History (2)	Geoff Roles	3rd Friday at 14.30	V
Armchair Travel	Jackie Atkin	2nd Monday at 14.30	V
Art Lectures	Leslie Pitcher - Bryan Dodds,	Contact Bryan for details	V
Art – Mixed Media (1)	Margaret Dean	Alternate Thursdays at 10.30	F
Art – Mixed Media (2)	Janet Baker	1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 14.00	F
Art - Mixed Media (3)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Art Appreciation	Jenny Carlier	4 th Wednesday at 14.00	F
Aviation & Technology	Lawrence Hole	2nd Wednesday at 14.00	F
Ballroom Dancing	Enid Bransgrove	2 nd Thursday at 14.00	V
Book Club (1)	Penny Dodds	1 st Wednesday at 14.00	F
Book Club (2)	Liz Roberts	3rd Tuesday at 14.00	F
Birds in Surrey	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Bridge for Improvers	David Sheldon	1st & 3rd Thursdays at 14.00	V
Bridge	Trevor Allery	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 10.00	V
Canasta	Genie Hancock	2nd Monday at 19.30	V
Carbon Rationing Action	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Card Craft	Jan Edgcumbe	Contact Jan for details	F
Card Craft (2)	Jenny Burrington	Contact Jenny for details	V
Cardboard Model Making	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Computing	Tony Cox	As advertised	V
Cookery	Diana Latham	2 nd Tuesday at 12.00	F
Cooking for Men (Beginners)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Creative Writing	Edwina Vardey		V
Current & Social Affairs	Alfred Lott	2nd Tuesday at 14.30	V
Digital Photography	Larry Roberts	2nd Monday at 19.30	V
English Literature	Barbara Baxter	4th Monday at 14.30	V
Explore London Walking (1)	Linda Tiffney	1 st Monday at 09.45	F
Explore London Walking (2)	Tony & Joan Roberts	4 th Monday at 09.45	F
Explore London Walking (3)	Rosemary Godwin	1st Tuesday at 09.45	F
Explore London Walking (4)	Vivienne Varley	1st Thursday at 09.30	F
Explore London Walking (5)	Geoff Roles	4th Wednesday at 09.45	V
Explore London Walking (6)	Geoff Roles	3rd Wednesday at 09.45	F
Family History (1)	John Tiffney	4 th Thursday at 14.30	F
Family History (2)	Maureen Thomas	3rd Tuesday at 14.30	V
French Conversation (1)	Anna Brereton	1st & 3rd Mondays at 14.30	V
French Conversation (2)	Lesley Hulme	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays at 14.30	F
Gentle Movement (1)	Enid Bransgrove	Fridays at 09.30	V
Gentle Movement (2)	Enid Bransgrove	Mondays at 09.30	F
Gentle Movement (3)	Enid Bransgrove	Fridays at 11.00	F
German Conversation	Tom Johnston	Contact Tom for details	V
Hand Knitting	Val Hook		V
Industrial Heritage	Ian Funnell	3rd Monday at 10.00	V
Italian for Beginners	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Jazz Appreciation	Roy Cooke	1st Wednesday at 19.30	F
Jewellery & Accessories	Brenda Dunbar	Contact Brenda for details	F
Line Dancing Beginners	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Line Dancing Improvers	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Local History	Lynsaye Rozier	1st Tuesday at 10.00	F
Mah Jong	Margaret Madge	2nd & 4th Thursdays at 14.30	V
Military History	Heather Maurice	31st October at 10.00	F
Music Appreciation (1)	Bryan & Penny Dodds	2 nd Wednesday at 19.45	F
Needlework (1)	Genie Hancock	2 nd & 4 th Fridays at 10.00	F
Needlework (2)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Outings & Theatre Visits	Sheila Pomfret	Various times and dates	A
Parchment Craft	Genie Hancock	Alternate Thursdays at 10.00	V
Play Reading	Barbara West	2nd Wednesday at 14.00	V
Scrabble For Fun	Janet Baker	3 rd Wednesday at 19.30	F
Scrabble For Fun (2)	Jane Lawrence	1st Wednesday at 14.30	F
Singles Dining	Genie Hancock	Contact Genie for details	F
Spanish Conversation	Anna Brereton	2nd & 4th Mondays at 14.30	V

Active & Proposed Groups & Their Leaders (cont.)

Sunday Lunch Club (1)	Geoff Roles	1 st Sunday at 12.00	F
Sunday Lunch Club (2)	Geoff Roles	3rd Sunday at 12.00	F
Stamping & Paper Craft	Kathy McAllister	Contact Kathy for details	V
Vegetarian/Vegan Cookery	Anita Smith	Contact Anita for details	V
Walking (1)	Jo & Ernie Harris	4th Thursday morning	F
Walking (2)	Keith & Frances Poulton	3rd Monday morning at 09.30	V
Walking (3)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Whist	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
Wine Appreciation (1)	Jo & Ernie Harris	3 rd Tuesday at 14.30	F
Wine Appreciation (2)	Geoff Havers	3 rd Tuesday at 14.30	F
Wine Appreciation (3)	Chris & Rosemary Roberts	2 nd Tuesday at 19.45	F
Wine Appreciation (4)	Bob Osborne David Crutchley	2 nd Wednesday at 20.00	F
Wine Appreciation (5)	Bob and Madeline Kirkpatrick	1st Thursday at 14.30	F
Wine Appreciation (6)	Kathy Bucknall	Contact Kathy	F
Wine Appreciation (7)	NEW LEADER REQUIRED		
World Civilisations	Roger & Gail Partridge	2nd Tuesday at 16.00	V

Abbreviations: F = Full, P = Proposed, V = Vacancies - (situation as at 14 August 2009)

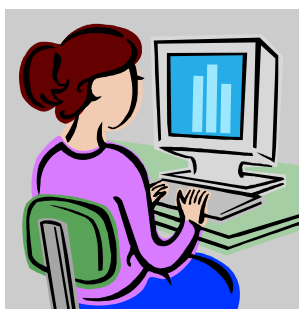
Would group leaders please keep Enid informed of any changes to the information given above.

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.

Note that **Bookham** U3A would welcome Fetcham U3A Members to the following Groups if they have vacancies

Art (4) - Painting Workshop; English Literature; Flower arranging; History - Classical Period;
History of Music; Listening to Music; Opera (2); Science; Session for Songsters; Woodwork.

Contact Christine E at Bookham U3A



To see this Newsletter in
full colour
go to our Website

www.fetchamu3a.org.uk



Worthy Quiz Winners!

Committee Members

Chairman	Tony C
Vice-Chairman	Bryan D
Treasurer	Bob K
Secretary	Diana L
Membership Secretary	Kathy G
Groups Co-ordinator	Enid B
Speaker Secretary (Part)	Tony R
Speaker Secretary (Part)	David C
Publicity Officer	Winnie B
Member	Graham D
Member	Ian F
Member	Mary C
Member	Mary H

Support Services

Welfare of Members	Jo H
Tea Organiser	Jean B
Social Events	Winnie B
Outings/Theatre Visits	Sheila P
Floor Manager	Bob B
Newsletter Editors	Judy O

email:

John W

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 put on the agenda.*

LOUD BACKGROUND MUSIC/NOISE ON TV PROGRAMMES

Thank you those of you who have come back to me on this increasingly irritating annoyance.

The BBC and ITV have replied to my letters of complaint saying that every programme has music to fit the mood and as confirmed by the RNID, the audio streams are not broadcast separately, and there appears to be no device currently available that can turn off the background music. RNID says the BBC has trialled a programme where the option of using the red button to strip out the background noise was used, and although the trial received a very positive response, it seems this is not something that will be repeated in the near future.

Can I suggest that those members who are continuing to be annoyed by loud music, should lobby the BBC and the RNID to find a solution to this on-going problem. Pam

Chris has suggested a partial solution for those who have digital televisions. Most of these televisions are defaulted to produce '**surround sound**', '**3D**' or '**Stereo**' sound (depending upon the particular TV) It will help if you switch these off - to do this go into '**Menu**' and scroll down to find '**Sound**'. Then find '**Sound Mode**'. Then toggle to switch '**Surround Sound**', '**3D sound**' or '**Stereo**' to '**off**'. This should reduce the background noise. Ed.

