

Volume 9, Issue 2 - June 2011

Fetcham In Focus

U3A



The Newsletter of Fetcham University of the Third Age

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Cover photographs by Christine (Digital Photography Group)

Cover design by John

Editor this Issue - Judy

Chairman's Column

Once a year at about this time, we invite all of our Group Leaders and main helpers to a buffet lunch



with wine (not too much if they are driving) at St Mary's Hall. This year 64 members were able to attend. At this meeting I give a brief report on what is happening in our U3A, Ian reports on what is happening in the International, SE Area and Surrey Networks. Our Groups' management team of Enid, Mary C and Mary H keep us up to date on what is developing with the groups, as well as telling us what is available from the National Resource Office for use by members individually, or as part of a group.

We have 87 groups and with 21 groups of Bookham U3A open to Fetcham members we now have just over 100 groups open to our members. This is a wonderful situation to be in for a U3A with only 520 or so members. Jo reports on the coffee mornings she organises for our new Associate members and on her role as Welfare Officer. (Many a poorly member has been pleased to see Jo bearing gifts.) Winnie and Sheila update us on what is forthcoming with regard to outings

and social events. This year, for the first time, Graham gave a demonstration of the equipment Fetcham U3A has bought over the years that is available to the members for use within their groups. Graham and Tony R have been working very hard during this past year on the website, and I would ask all members to log in, have a look at the website and familiarise themselves with what is available. For Associate members and Full members who do not attend the monthly meetings, this is most important if you wish to keep in the know about future events.

At our lunch Group Leaders are given an opportunity to tell us how their group is going, what highlights they have had this past year and if they have any concerns with which we can help them. All of the Group Leaders will tell you that they do not find their task an onerous one and that they enjoy doing it. (I am sure some do it just to get the free lunch but don't tell them that!!!!) If you fancy a free lunch once a year and would like to become a Group Leader, there are still some groups looking for a leader so see Enid or either of the two Marys. At a recent SE Forum at East Grinstead there was a comment that some U3As found that their members did not like the term 'Leader'. As I pointed

out, although we use the term 'Leader' we are only looking for someone to act as the liaison with the committee. Quite a few groups rotate the role of leadership during the year, depending on what they are doing, a walking group for example will have one or two different members 'leading' the walk at different times. Other groups will have different members making presentations at different monthly meetings. Obviously there are some groups where this is not possible such as 'Bridge', 'Fitness

for Fun', or where lectures are made, but there are not that many.

All Fetcham Chairmen, past and present, and our committee members will agree that our group leaders do a wonderful job for our members and this lunch is our way of thanking them for all of their efforts.

At the close of the meeting we had a photograph taken (Unfortunately some leaders had to leave before this, due to other commitments.)

Bryan



This photograph is even better in colour - see our website!

Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day could significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers.

Japanese Earthquake

Some two years ago we welcomed a visit from some Japanese U3A members. Following the devastating earthquake and tsunami here are some emails received from our visitors:

13 March



I never have such a terrible earthquake in my life. I was in Tokyo at that time and I couldn't back home, all the train stopped. There were many peoples walking to their home. Only taxies and busses were working, but long, long lines. Portable phone didn't work, we could only contact by Public phone, it was long line, as well.

Fortunately, our area is OK and Yusaku, our family area OK. Our house didn't any damages at all. Thank you for your warm sympathy and kindness.

Keiko



I was enjoying tea time at friend's house when happened Earthquake. Her house was reclaimed land, so that place has liquefaction around there. The land was broken, and road was covered muddy water soon. My car was in muddy water, too. The entrance door of her house couldn't open after then. Some furniture was fallen, microwave fell down too. We couldn't standing there.

It was my most terrible experience. I wonder my life will be finish when I drove a car for went back my home. A lot of car were full on the road. I was filled with tears when I got my home. But I'm glad to my husband and my all family are fine.

Some town was gone by TUNAMI in Hukusima Prefecture and Miyagi prefecture part of north east in Japan. I'm so sad.

Kiku

I'm deeply grateful for your kind inquiry on the big earthquake and tunami. On Friday 11th, we ware in the middle of a meeting in a public hall. The room shackd softly at the beginning, this size of shack were occurred so often these

shack struck us and couldn't stand on the floor.. Cars outside of parking place were jumping up and down. We had not experienced such a strong earthquake before in my life. We noticed this must be something different. We all went out at the center of the garden and check the numbers. Still an aftershock continued. On the way back home, traffic was so clouded and took a long time. Soon I get back to home, watched a TV which showed scene of tsunami advancing on the shore.



The magnitude of the devastating quake was meanwhile revised upward the same day from 8.8 to 9.0. making it one of the largest in history, the Meteorological Agency said. Some critics said this is a real "the sinking of Japanese Archipelago" like title of fictitious novel. Fortunately, Narashino had not received any heavy damage except in a reclaimed areas where the liquid muddy water was billowed out under the road. Takeda-san and Shoji-san are fine and not suffered

anything.

New bulletins on damage of earthquake were aired on every TV channel for 4 consecutive days without any commercial showed how seriously suffered by tsunami like all town were swept away in a few minutes. Further shocking news is were explosion of 3 nuclear power plants in Fukushima. People are worried about it becomes an accident of second Three Mile Island in the US. It seems that it will take more than 10 years to recover from this heavy damage.

Sincerely Daijiro

End March

Well, it is getting well in Japan, but another problems has happened, as you know. Nuclear power station were devastating. 50 repair workers were selected, they are all over 55 years of ages. Reason is over 55 years workers are already children were growth up. It seems very dreadful task, however, many workers offered this task. It is a kind of death squad. It is still bad condition. Fortunately, our area are not intact at all, we couldn't buy some of petrol or milk, but now it was former .

This time I deeply respect your country, because, you are always keep tradition and environment. Japan has too many unclear power station in small country.

Anyway, we are well and we, Japanese, are buckle to this traumatic time I am hoping to revive quickly.

Thank you for always look at our country. With brave,
Keiko

Family History 2

We meet with the Bookham Family History Group 1 as a large combined group, at the Barn Hall in the afternoon of the 3rd Tuesday of each month. All our members beaver away each week, generally working through their own family history research but also solving challenges thrown in to test them from outsiders. They always rise to the challenge, which is quite amazing.

We had a talk on wills and their significance in March, given by one of



our own knowledge-able members, and we learnt how much information we can gather from wills, not just the amount of money or property left but also family names, addresses, and how they are related to the deceased. A fascinating subject and one which gave us clues to other avenues to explore while doing our research.

Our April meeting was a bit quieter due to the beautiful hot weather we've been enjoying this month. I think a few people decided to take advantage of this wonderful spring by going away, but the meeting was still a resounding success with a round the table update on how our members were doing in their research and also trying to solve a few more brick walls in the process.

We don't go out and about as a group because we have no need to, although some individuals like to visit graves or parishes where their ancestors lived and died, but one thing we all agree on is that family history is a fascinating subject.

Maureen

Lack of water is the No 1 trigger of daytime fatigue.

Ballroom Dancing



Once again the intrepid Ballroom Dance Group - ten of us this time - crossed the sea to the Isle of Wight for a weekend of dancing and tuition at the Warners Bembridge Coast Hotel. We were instructed and we practised for two hours each morning and afternoon and then if we still had sufficient strength, danced in the evening too!

On Saturday night we dressed up in our best for a grand ball and danced the night away doing Ballroom, Latin American, Sequence, and some party dances and great fun was had by all. We were enthralled by two young junior champions who at 13 and 14 years old put our efforts to shame.

Never mind. We have returned home with renewed determination to master our fish tails, our sway locks and our contra checks. All we need now are lots of sequins and a tin of spray tan!!!

Alan

Chairman's Quiz

(answers on page 14)

- 1 What is a male honey bee known as?
- 2 By what name is the holiday resort of 'Kerkira' better known?
- 3 In what sport might you use 'Ashi-waza'?
- 4 Which role did Dooley Wilson play in 'Casablanca'?
- 5 During the American War of Independence, where did the British troops finally surrender?
- 6 Which countries border Paraguay?
- 7 Who were Andy Pandy's two best friends?
- 8 In politics to whom does the expression 'Father of the house' refer?
- 9 What acid give nettles their sting?
- 10 Which singer joined Mel Gibson in the film 'Mad Max - beyond Thunder dome'?



Music Appreciation 1



We started the New Year with a celebration of my birthday. It was one of the decade busters and happened to fall on

our music evening. One of our members had got together a selection of my favourite music which I have played over the past 8 years. Needless to say there was Mozart followed by Queen, followed by some bits of Country music; Johnny Cash and Frankie Lane. The evening continued with pieces by Chris Rea, Paul McCartney, Louis Armstrong and Bing Crosby ending the evening with Beethoven, Coates, Elgar's Nimrod, Pomp & Circumstance and finally Rule Britannia. A great evening all just for me (not really, we all enjoyed it)

Just to show how easy it is to run a music group, our next evening was a Hotch Potch of the music which meant something to the member presenting it. No theme other than 'Those I have loved'. Varied and most pleasant.

Our next session was a comparison between Baroque music, old and new. The old was music by Vivaldi, Albinoni, Galuppi, Marcello and others compared with a selection of music written by the Beatles and

played in a baroque style by a baroque chamber orchestra.

For our final evening for this quarter two members shared the presentation and we had the favourite choral pieces from one member and just the favourites of another member. Such a varied program. The choral pieces included an excerpt from Hiawatha's Wedding Feast, composed by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor from the poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow performed by the Orchestra and Chorus of the Welsh National Opera. An interesting fact about this piece was that Samuel Coleridge-Taylor died of pneumonia at the age of only 39 leaving a wife, daughter and son (who he had named Hiawatha after his most famous work). He was the composer most influential in starting music composers receiving royalties for their works. One of the pieces from our final presenter was Mussorgsky's 'The Great Gate of Kiev'. If you listen to this piece you will agree that Mussorgsky was very much influenced by Tchaikovsky's 1912 in this.



Here's to the next music evenings.

Bryan

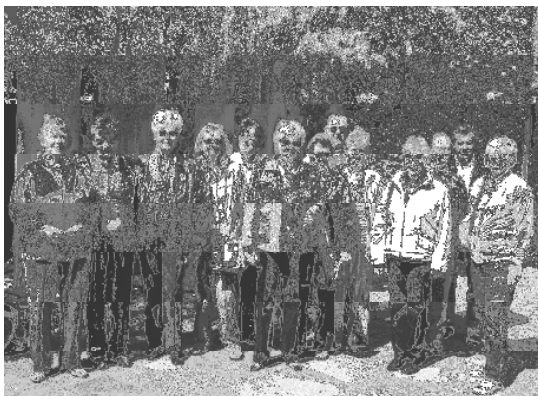
How big is London?

Thinking about how crowded London would be two days before a certain wedding, Explore London Group 5 decided that the capital could extend as far as Richmond and that is where they went for their May walk. After all, it is a Royal Borough! The Plantagenet kings had a palace in Richmond - Edward III died there in 1377 - although then it was called Shene. Henry VII changed the name to Richmond because he held the earldom of the other Richmond in Yorkshire. He thus brought about the confusion in "Richmonds" which has been suffered by the Post Office for centuries and by sat-nav users more recently. Queen Elizabeth I was the last monarch to use the palace regularly. She followed Edward III's example by dying there in 1603. Most of the palace was demolished after the execution of Charles I in 1649 and little remains today but many Royal folk have had other homes in Richmond over the years..

Our explorations started, as usual, with morning coffee, this time in the historic Pembroke Lodge. Originally a dwelling house for a mole-catcher it was extended into a minor stately home in 1780. It now provides banqueting and conference facilities as well as refreshment for the masses. There are wonderful views over the Thames and beyond from

the terrace. After coffee we started to explore a very small part of the 2,500 acres of the Park. In Tudor times it was an open hunting area but Charles I caused it to be enclosed by an eight mile brick wall to stop his deer from straying. There are still over 600 Red and Fallow deer grazing in the Park alongside over 140 species of birds, 540 types of butterflies and moths and some 1,350 varieties of beetles. (Arachnophobes should be warned that there are 139 species of spiders!) No wonder that it is designated a National Nature Reserve, a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a European Special Area of Conservation.

Alongside all this nature there are facilities for golf, fishing, horse-riding, kite-flying, cycling and various sporting activities. One place of interest to gardeners is the Isabella Plantation which was laid out after World War II with ponds, woodland glades and exotic plants, the most noteworthy being the collection of azaleas. We did not have time to visit this area but we did climb up King Henry's Mount. Originally a bronze-age burial site it now provides stunning views over the countryside from Twickenham Rugby Ground to Windsor Castle. Turning one's back on this view one is confronted with a bank of trees and hedges but an opening is kept through this to provide a distant view of a dome-topped building - St Paul's Cathedral. Quite dramatic!



After a pub lunch at Ham Common we went to see Ham House. For four hundred years it was the home of the Earls of Dysart until it was gifted to the National Trust in 1948. The family was meticulous in maintaining the property and in recording all the furniture and furnishings in it. Unlike many such houses it remained a family home

throughout World War II and it was spared damage from enemy action and the depredations from being used as a government office, a military base or, perhaps worst of all, a school! It must be one of the best of the National Trust properties and it is well worth a visit. There's a good tea-room, too!

Geoff

International Association of Universities of the Third Age (IAUTA)

On 23rd September IAUTA is hosting a seminar on Volunteering through the good offices of the Lignano Sabbiadoro U3A and town council. Lignano is on the coast between Venice and Trieste and members from many countries will be attending.

Further details can be found on the IAUTA website - www.iauta.org.

Drinking 5 glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%, plus it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%, and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer.

Thursday Morning Walking

We have had a 'watery' theme for the last few walks.

In February we walked along the towpath of the Wey Navigation to Guildford, passing Stoke Lock, the earliest pound lock in Surrey. On the way, we walked through the Riverside Park Nature Reserve and also saw Bowers Lock, with a long-boat coming through.



On another sunny morning in March we explored Holmwood Common near Dorking, which is owned by the National Trust. We walked up to the viewpoint, which was worth the effort! We ended up at Four Wents Pond, in the south east corner of the Common.



Our April walk took us from Garsons Farm at West End to Esher Common, along by the River Mole and past The Homewood, a twentieth century house owned by the National Trust. We walked round the Black Pond, which was used as a water supply for the nearby Claremont

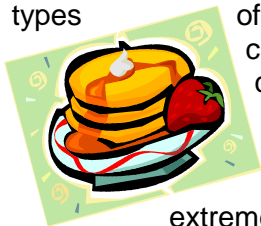
Ornamental Gardens. The bluebells were in full bloom and were a stunning sight in the woodland along the way.

Jo & Ernie

One glass of water shuts down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a University investigation.

Cookery 1

We have continued to have enjoyable lunch time meetings and so far have not repeated a topic. Our March date fell on Shrove Tuesday and guess what, the theme was pancakes. Small buckwheat blinis with smoked salmon and cream cheese were served as a starter and two types of stuffed pancakes as a main course with salad: herb crepes with smoked salmon, crème fraiche and cucumber and spinach stuffed pancakes with cheese sauce. For dessert it could only be crepe suzettes and a delicious raspberry and lemon dessert. We always share the recipes and our folders are getting extremely fat after some six years.



Once a year we go out to lunch (just to check the competition) and this year took advantage of The Times offer for two courses for £5 and enjoyed an excellent meal.

Diana

Industrial Heritage



The group welcomes outside visitors and members of half a dozen U3As attend. In October we look forward to a talk by Captain Chris Orlebar who flew Concorde. He is talking about "The Concorde Story" and it should be a really interesting talk about the iconic supersonic plane. Chris is the semi-official biographer of Concorde as his book of the same name is now in its recently issued seventh edition.

We meet on the third Monday of the month in Fetcham Village Hall at 10am. Chris is talking about Concorde on 17th October and on 21st November John B is talking about another icon of sixties Britain - The Post Office Tower. The Tower was opened by Harold Wilson on 8 October 1965. On 30th October 1965 the miniskirt was born when Jean Shrimpton caused a sensation at the Derby Day of the Melbourne Cup Carnival. And then on 2nd March 1969 Concorde had its maiden flight. Those were the days...

Ian

Wine Appreciation 1



Tim Adams Shiraz 2006 14.5%

"I simply can't think of another wine that matches beauty and power in the same way, that offers up immensely rich fruit, yet doesn't smash it with too much oak or scar it with too much tannin. The texture of this wine is like velvet.

The flavours wash over your tongue, they caress your palate and linger long after you've swallowed. And those flavours? Sweet mint leaves, lush blackberry, finely focused blackcurrants rubbed with eucalyptus oil, all this in a cocoon of coconut and chocolate cream."



This is a typical "flowery" review by Oz Clarke, but having tasted this wine at a recent meeting, we all agreed it was rather special. It is made by Tim Adams wines in the Clare Valley region of South Australia. In fact it was number 1 in Oz Clarke's book "250 Best Wines - Wine Buying Guide - 2011". Interestingly, Oz Clarke also recommends three other Tim Adams wines in this book.

Jo & Ernie

Limericks

At the Group Leaders lunch in March I threw out a challenge for members to produce a limerick giving a flavour of their group. Here are a few of the limericks I have received so far. Several more have been sent to me too late to be included in this publication so will announce the winner in the October Newsletter to allow more time for members who wish to take part. So come on all who haven't had a go, there is still time!

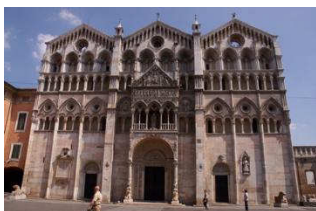
Jenny



We're the winos from Fetcham group 7,
Who meet up on Thursdays at seven,
Be it white, rose or red,
With cheese or just bread,
To us it tastes just like heaven. Adrian - Wine Group 7

Antiques and Collectables

In the previous newsletter I invited you to join our group for an evening with John Schroeder, one of the great A & R (artists and repertoire) men of the British pop music industry of the 1960s. As this evening clashed with one of the popular lectures given by Leslie Pitcher I have changed the date of our music evening to Wednesday, 19 October commencing at 19.30 hours in Effingham. Please contact me if you would like to attend as numbers will be limited. There will be a small charge for this event to cover costs.



It was our fifth anniversary in April and we celebrated with a visit to Dunsborough Park in Ripley. The owner, Baron Sweerts, gave a talk on his vast collection of antique garden statuary which included a tour of the wonderful gardens. To complete the perfect afternoon in the very warm April sunshine the Baroness had made us tea and homemade cakes.

Marilyn



There was a keen walker from Surrey,
Who set off on a walk in a hurry,
She forgot the directions,
Took all the wrong options,
And wished she'd just gone for a curry.

Pat - Walking Group 3



U3A keeps us alive,
The music continues to thrive,
We're all getting bolder,
Although we are older,
The members continue to jive

Bryan - Music Group

See pages 18 and 20 for more limerick entries.

Art - Mixed media 1

Oil Painting Day



This year our tuition dates are Thursday, 18 August and Thursday, 25 August.

Our professional tutors from Worthing will help us paint in oil with the Wet-on-wet technique. You can be a complete beginner as they bring a painting for us to copy and they show us, stage by stage, how it is done.

It is a fun day and all you have to bring with you is a packed lunch as all the materials you will need will be provided.

The class will start at 10.00 hours and finish at approximately 16.30 hours. The cost will be approximately £43 (this depends on the number of people to share the cost of the hall). Please contact me if you would like to join in on either of the above dates.

Marilyn

Answers to Chairman's Quiz

(on page 6)



- 1 What is a male honey bee known as? - **Drones**
- 2 By what name is the holiday resort of 'Kerkira' better known? - **Corfu**
- 3 In what sport might you use 'Ashi-waza'? - **Judo**
- 4 Which role did Dooley Wilson play in 'Casablanca'? - **Sam**
- 5 During the American War of Independence, where did the British troops finally surrender? - **In Yorktown**
- 6 Which countries border Paraguay? - **Brazil, Bolivia & Argentina**
- 7 Who were Andy Pandy's two best friends? - **Teddy and Looby Lou**
- 8 In politics to whom does the expression 'Father of the house' refer? - **The longest-serving MP**
- 9 What acid give nettles their sting? - **Formic acid**
- 10 Which singer joined Mel Gibson in the film 'Mad Max - beyond Thunder dome'? - **Tina Turner**

Jazz Appreciation

Continuing to feature one instrument for part of the evening we next dealt with the tenor saxophone with contributions from Stan Getz, Ken Peplowski, Scott Hamilton, Stanlet Turrentine, and Spike Robinson. This was followed in February by a feature on the guitar with Jim Hall, Emily Remner, Martin Taylor, Lee Ritenour, Kenny Burrell, and Bruce Forman, with whom I was invited to sit in when in San Francisco on the last day of a round the world holiday back in 1995. Something that would never happen in this country and he did not know me from Adam!!

Following the death at the age of 91 of George Shearing I presented a tribute to this great man whom I first came across nearly every Saturday and Sunday at the Feldman Club in Oxford Street in 1942/3. At the time I used to specialise in boogie woogie and took over from him in the interval but I believe, because I saw so much of him at that time, I eventually developed his locked hands style of playing. During his career he played with classical orchestras having learned the parts from braille and only gave up when he once lost his way and had to busk himself out of trouble. Apart from this when he moved to America he established himself with the greats in the Jazz world and accompanied many singers including of course Mel Torme with



whom he had a tremendous rapport. We heard many examples of his amazing versatility.

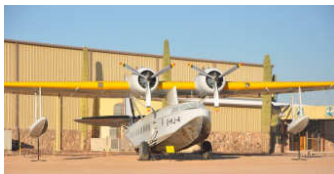
I had to cancel April owing to a persistent cough but in May we reverted to a completely varied program including pianists Dave Newton, Makoto Ozone from Japan, and someone called Eldar who played the fastest version of Sweet Georgia Brown I have heard for a long time. His full name is Eldar Djangirov but this is purely a promotion copy I have somehow acquired and I have no other information about him.

Some years back Allan Ganley drummer and bandleader wrote a "Suite for four friends" which was never produced as a CD and was dedicated to KEITH (Christy) VICTOR (Feldman) TUBBY (Hayes) and one other (whose name escapes me). I discovered "KEITH" on a Jack Sharpe Big Band record I had forgotten and played this, which was the track I preferred originally but was on a reel to reel recorder and no longer playable.

That just about sums up the last few months and as always we would welcome new members - we meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30 at my house. Please get in touch if interested you will be most welcome. Roy

Aviation and Technology

December 2010 - An aircraft identification photo quiz based on Keith Bell's visit to the Pima



Aviation Museum, near Tucson, Arizona was held

when some 50 individual aircraft pictures were displayed. This proved to be quite difficult for many, but some small prizes were given to the persons with the best answers.

January - Our 4th annual "Pilot's Forum" was a Power Point presentation by Chris, former Hawker Chief Test Pilot at Dunsfold and Red Arrows pilot on "The



Future of Aviation" whereby Chris suggested that blended wing aircraft most likely will be the type to develop for civil aviation, together with improved efficiency of alternative types of fuels, leading to a substantial reduction in air pollution. This however would be offset by the increase of air traffic worldwide in the coming years which still offers a major problem.

February - "The Perils of the Few" was another Power Point presentation by Malcolm, featuring problems of "black out" or "red out" experienced by Battle of Britain

pilots on both sides when operating fast fighter aircraft engaged in difficult manoeuvres during combat. This was visually realistic since Malcolm had used computerised Flight Simulation to great effect by looking at instrumentation in the different cockpits and the view to the ground or landscape below. An interesting and technical approach to this subject, well presented.

March - A DVD on Oshkosh - the world's largest annual gathering of both civil and military aircraft at one airshow, gave a multi-varied display of many different types appearing here, from ultra light home-built aircraft to vintage types, commercial, including Concorde and the latest military jets. The flying here is spectacular!

April - My own Power Point presentation on "The importance of Heston Airport to British Aviation History" was attended by some 30 people. Having lived near to the original Airport when I was quite young, I initially became interested in aviation at the age of 11 when I was still at school. More recently, I decided that I knew very little of the history of the airfield and started to investigate. Based on my own research, books and memorabilia collected over some years plus some useful information from a dedicated web site on Heston Airport, this was displayed by text, pictures/photos, documents and videos. Next month, I have

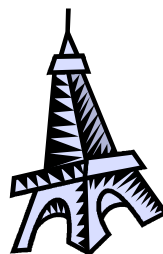
arranged to show this presentation to the residents of Heston at their Community Association building for those who still remember the Air port as it was and also those who

perhaps are unaware of its past. A potted resume of the history can be viewed on en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heston_Aerodrome

Lawrence

Cruise the River Seine from Paris to Honfleur, Normandy in May 2012

From the romantic city of Paris to the attractive harbour town of Honfleur on the Normandy coast, the River Seine gently flows across the north of France. During the trip we will discover magnificent Chateaux and quaint riverside towns, along with everything else that makes river cruising so appealing. Changing scenery and locations whilst retaining a settled base aboard your floating hotel, sitting on the sun deck watching the scenery floating past - what could be better!



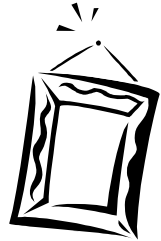
I am organising this cruise in May 2012, loading the luggage aboard our dedicated coach in Bookham and travelling via Eurotunnel directly to the ms Botticelli on the River Seine in Paris. Included is full board, accommodation for 4 nights, nightly entertainment, welcome drink on arrival, gala evening, port taxes, drinks with meals. We see the magnificent spotlighted architecture of Paris by night and visit Les Andelys, Chateau de Vascoeul in the heart of the Andelle Valley, Rouen, Honfleur, Deauville, Trouville and take a tour of a Calvados distillery. We pass the Pont de Normandie and, on the return journey, the boatman's capital of Conflans ste Honorine.

Even though the trip is not until next year I have already exceeded my original quota of cabins but am able to get more. Please contact me if you are interested in this unique cruise

Winnie

Art Appreciation

In March six of us attended the Jan Gossaert Exhibition at the National Gallery. This proved to be very interesting as Gossaert was very influenced by other artists, in particular Roger van der Weyden. Gossaert's works were displayed beside the works of these earlier artists so that one was able to see the influences in Gossaert's paintings. Not only displayed were his wonderful oil paintings such as the 'Adoration of the Kings' and 'St Luke painting the Madonna' but there were pen and ink sketches of nude figures of Adam and Eve and other mythological characters displayed next to studies of the same subject by other influential artists. All in all, it was a very good exhibition.



Then in April seven of us attended the Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace to see two wonderful exhibitions 'Dutch Landscapes' and 'Treasures from the Royal Collection'. Paintings included works by Jacob van Ruisdael, Aelbert Cuyp and Meyndert Hobbema. These Landscapes showed the ordinary Dutch countryside with farmers, cows, travellers and just normal people going about their ordinary lives. I was particularly interested in how well animals were portrayed.

The second Exhibition was a truly wonderful collection of paintings, furniture, ornaments, sculpture, fans, miniatures, and jewellery from the Royal Collection.

On 25 May the group went to the Tate Britain to see 'Watercolours'.

Jenny



The ladies from our card group 2,
Using coloured card, paper and glue,
Also scissors and string,
And that sort of thing,
Produce great cards, 'cause that's what they do!

Jenny - Card Group 2



The new vegetable group is flourishing,
Growing lots of crops that are nourishing,
We've planted out seeds,
And are pulling the weeds,
To a schedule that isn't too punishing.

Liz - Vegetable Group

Vegetable Gardening

This new group first met in February 2011 and we meet on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month. Two of us have allotments, the majority grow fruit and vegetables in the back garden and some grow in containers only.



We have exchanged information on seed compost, containers used for sowing seeds, pests and diseases and their control and have exchanged surplus vegetable seeds. Having learnt that we all generally sow more seed than we need, I expect we will be exchanging surplus plantlets over the next few months. We seem to have the rebel

about us as well as an adventurous side. Rebel, as none of us tend to thin out seedlings as much as we ought to, nor do we keep to recommended planting distances. Adventurous, as we are each planning this year either to grow a vegetable we have not grown before, or to grow a familiar vegetable by an additional method in order to compare yields, quality of produce, and pest damage.

A visit to West Dean Gardens, near Chichester, where there is a 2.5 acre kitchen garden and restored Victorian greenhouses is planned for later in the year.

Waiting in the wings are four people unable to join the Wednesday group, who would like to meet on the first Tuesday afternoon of each month. More members are needed to join this group so that it can meet regularly. If you would like to join the Tuesday group (there are one or two vacancies in the Wednesday group also) then I would be delighted to hear from you.

Liz

Ann C has written a book titled 'Odes of a Lifetime (orSome poems wot I 'ave writ')'. This retails at £4.99 and a portion of the money goes to the Air Ambulance charity. So far over £2,000 has been donated.

It is published by TUCANN, Lincoln - tel 01533 790009

Please see Ann C for more details



On Mondays we gather to speak,
Good French, with nobody weak,
But next time it's Spanish,
And all our words vanish,
We're so glad that we're not tackling Greek.

Anna - French/Spanish Conversation



On Wednesday our group play Mah Jong,
Where we try for a Pung or a Kong.
We 'Knit' and 'Build Walls'
And then one of us calls.
So if you are intrigued, come along!

Margaret - Mah Jong

I have also received some very original verses on group activities from Ann C and Ted D, but unfortunately there is not enough space to include these in this article. I hope to publish these in the next issue of the newsletter together with the rest of the limericks received, plus also the winner!!

Please send all entries to me

Jenny

A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic maths, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen.

**Are you drinking the amount of water you should
every day**

Articles and items for the October issue of the newsletter should be with either John or Judy by 21 August. Many thanks.

Committee Members

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

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 John W Caryl G

*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*

This newsletter with its many photographs may be viewed in glorious colour on
our website www.fetchamu3a.org.uk

