



Website:
www.dorkingu3a.org.uk

Dorking & District University of the Third Age

Registered Charity No. 1005743

June 2015

Inside this issue:

♦ **The Chair's Annual Report**

- ♦ Detailed descriptions of all groups
- ♦ New Groups on Computing and Quilting
- ♦ Proposed Groups on Archaeology and Music Theory
- ♦ Monthly Talks about a sailing voyage across the Pacific, crop circles, balloons and Ralph Vaughan Williams
- ♦ Day Outings: Upton Grey, Magna Carta Commemoration, Pashley Manor Gardens and Finchcocks Museum, Women of the Great War Exhibition
- ♦ Regional Study Days on Philosophy, Music at the Menuhin School, Oxford architecture and Cosmology
- ♦ September Holiday in Northumberland
- ♦ Theatre Trips to New Victoria Theatre, Woking, and the National Theatre

What's On?

Introduction

Welcome to this year's special edition of *What's On?*, which gives detailed descriptions of all our interest and activity groups. Over the past 12 months, no less than 10 new groups have been started and are now up and running, viz:

- Bridge (p21)
- Calligraphy (p22)
- Computing (p28)
- Creative Writing (p26)
- Dorking U3A Bells (p13)
- History (p17)
- Line Dancing (p15)
- Local History (p17)
- Upwords (p25)
- Quilting (p25)

Four groups are no longer running: Ancient Greece, Playreading, Opera Appreciation and Robert Browning.

Two more groups are proposed: Archeology (p16) and Music Theory (p8).

Further suggestions for new groups – or parallel groups to existing ones – would, as always, be most welcome. Please communicate your ideas to one of the Groups Secretaries – Lionel Cartlidge (01306 898491) or Pam Toler (01306 882970).

Doreen Raine's annual report, presented at the May AGM, is printed on pp5-6, and you will find the usual notices concerning monthly meetings, regional study days, days out, theatre outings (organised by Bookham U3A), and summer schools.

Jim Docking, Editor

The Chair's Annual Report for 2014-15

given at the AGM on 20 May 2015

It has sometimes seemed in the past four years that my final AGM would never come, but now it seems only yesterday that I approached the platform to appeal for men to join the Keep Dancing group and walked away as Chairman!

Reflecting on this just a couple of days ago brought another thought to my mind: that the U3A is not only an environment in which we can learn about subjects or activities that interest us; it is also an environment in which we can learn about ourselves. We can discover things we did not know we could do, abilities we did not know we had.

However, this does require us to be prepared to accept that such things are possible – and reaching this acceptance is the only barrier we have. Any one of us can achieve anything we set out to achieve, even in our Third Age. In my case, it was not even a case of believing that I could do the job of Chairman. I didn't. But it had been made clear that our U3A would not survive if someone didn't step up to the Chair. I just accepted that it had to be done.

Very importantly, I did not manage alone – I have been supported by some wonderful, willing people. This U3A is full of goodwill, and full of people who are prepared to give an enormous amount to their U3A.

The list of people I must thank for this is long – and I am always afraid that I shall forget someone.

First and foremost, I must thank the group leaders. A U3A cannot survive without its group leaders. They are the real backbone of everything we do.

Then there are those who take responsibility for certain specific activities, such as the team that organises the Days Out, those who act as liaison for the holidays, and the Editor and his team who ensure that we have a very interesting *Newsletter*.

And then there are the less visible but really essential people who distribute the newsletters, those who make the tea at Monthly Meetings, those who put out the chairs – and put them away, those who check you all in. All these members deserve the gratitude of the whole membership.

Turning now to the Committee, I want to thank each of them for the marvellously cheerful and effective way they have all worked: Jenny for her organisation of speakers and the general management of Monthly Meetings, and for looking after new members; Bob for his mastery of the membership information and manipulation of all things technical; Pam and Lionel for magnificent work in creating more new groups, sometimes apparently against

all the odds, but always striving to meet the wishes of members; Lionel again for patiently producing minutes of our committee meetings, and for putting up with my red pen changing things; and Jim, for his wisdom and experience.

Finally, there are the two committee members who are standing down: Julie, who has been a very efficient Secretary for the past few years and who has listened patiently and calmly to my panics about not being able to cope; and Colin, our Treasurer for the past nine years. He has tolerated me teasing him frequently and has remained smiling. He has kept our finances under firm control – and leaves us in a very healthy situation – and he has carried chairs back and forth with hardly a word of complaint.

So, here we are now: our membership is just over 600, we have more interest groups than ever before, highly successful days out and holidays, and a newsletter that I consider to be better than any others I have seen.

We express our thanks to our Group Leaders at an annual lunch, where the noise level is a testament to the pleasure they have in meeting together. The regular coffee mornings to welcome new members are also noisy and very successful – and they have finally produced the group of new volunteers for the committee, a situation I welcome most heartily and with great relief. We should now be able to continue to thrive and to improve our already highly successful U3A. My best wishes and gratitude go to Phyllis and her new committee.

I wish also to thank you – all our members. We would not exist without you. We need to remind ourselves constantly that we are a self-help organisation. We learn because we wish to, and we do not have any learning ‘standards’ – the only standards we have are those of respect for each other and for this highly successful organisation

I never did find enough men willing to join the Keep Dancing group, but I keep dancing.

My best wishes to you all.

Doreen

Thank you, Doreen

Doreen has thanked those leaving the Committee for the valuable work they have done. But I know we all want to thank Doreen herself for the enormous contribution she has made to our U3A over the past four years.

By any standard, Doreen has been an outstanding Chairman. It was with some reluctance that she volunteered to take on the office, but she did so because she did not want to see our U3A die, which would have been the consequence of having no chairman. In the circumstances, she could have been forgiven had she just kept things ticking over to ensure the U3A lived on. But not a bit of it. Once in office, she met the challenges head-on, and has since reinvigorated our U3A, introducing new ideas and procedures. The regular meetings for new members have been not only well attended and enjoyable social occasions but have revealed an amazing amount of talent and willingness that has led to new groups being formed and new ideas to consider. The annual lunch for group leaders and other officers has also been popular and has enabled group leaders to become familiar with recent developments and to suggest new ideas for consideration. A renewed focus on publicity is helping to make our existence known to more people in a number of ways, such as the production of attractive publicity materials and ensuring regular reports of our activities appear in local publications. Under Doreen's leadership, the number and variety of groups has increased. And the Committee has been prompted to revise our constitution to bring it more into line with the Third Age Trust's principles and objectives.

Not content with working for our own U3A, Doreen has also played an active part in the regional and national organisations, questioning some practices and proposing reforms to the way things are done. In her regular contacts with the Third Age Trust, she has thoroughly familiarised herself with the principles and objectives of the U3A movement and has discussed with Committee members various ways in which we might improve our U3A, not least trying to encourage more members to play an active part in our activities. It is now less the case than it used to be that 'all our members are willing: some willing to help and the others willing to let them do it'!

Doreen has had her fair share of problems, but she has always risen to the occasion to ensure that the outcome is in the best interests of our membership. And in the course of doing all this, she has managed to continue her part-time work and successfully complete an MA degree at Surrey University.

We now welcome and look forward to working with Phyllis Hughes, our new Chairman. The new Committee (see back page) has a useful mixture of old and new blood, ensuring that we build on experience whilst benefiting from new ideas brought forward by younger members. Long live the Dorking & District U3A!

JD

Membership

Subscription Reminder

We currently have a record number of 605 members. Most have renewed their subscription for 2015-16, which was due on 1 April 2015. It would be most helpful if the remaining unpaid subscriptions could be paid as soon as possible. The easiest way is to do this by a one-off direct debit via GoCardless. Just go to our website, www.dorkingu3a.org.uk, and click on Membership & Links on the home page.

Many members have used GoCardless and found it very easy to use. It avoids the need for cheques and saves the cost of postage. Why not give it a try?

If you prefer to use a cheque, the cost is unchanged at £16 for a single member or £28 for two members at the same address. Cheques should be made payable to 'Dorking and District U3A' and sent to Deepdene, Longfield Road, Dorking RH4 3DE. Please include a stamped addressed envelope.

Bob Crooks, Membership Secretary

Welcome!

A warm welcome to our new members, listed below, who have joined since the March *Newsletter* went to press.

Mr David Baker
Mr John Burkinshaw
Mr William Cumper
Mrs Ray Emerson
Mrs Jo Gibbons
Mr Andrew Gibbons
Mrs Jane Harper
Mr Ian Hudson

Mr Martin Le Ray
Dr Angela Lewis
Mrs Wendy Martin
Mrs Julie Mcculloch
Mr Timothy Reynoldson
Mrs Jill Spence
Dr Clive Wilkinson

September Holiday in Northumbria



Name of tour: Glorious Northumberland

Tour company: Northern Secrets

Dates: Six nights from 14 September 2015

Hotel: Ramada Encore, Gateshead Quays, Newcastle (dinner, bed and breakfast)



Professional Blue Badge tourist guide

Travel by coach to and from Dorking, stopping at an NT property on the way (free for NT members)



Visits to Newcastle, Laing Art Gallery, Cragside House and gardens (free for NT members), Alnwick Castle and gardens, Northumberland coast and Holy Island of Lindisfarne, Durham, including the cathedral, Beamish Museum

Cost person: £555, single supplement £98 – assuming 25 join the group

Deposit: We will let you know later. If party consists of 25, deposit would be about £123.

If you are interested, please get in touch right away (and certainly by the end of June) with Angela Cooke (01306 886211) or Jim Docking (01737 843260).

From the Group Coordinators

There have been some successes in the last year in setting up new groups, including Computing, Line Dancing, History, Local History, Bridge and Quilting. Details of these and all the other groups can be found in this edition of *What's On?*

We do not rest on our laurels and we are always looking for other interest groups to develop. First and foremost there have to be sufficient members to make a new group viable, and then we have to find a willing member (or members) to be group leader(s). Analysis of available accommodation and dates and times of meetings will follow. The process is actively supported by the Groups Coordinators and the committee.

We are always happy to receive suggestions. Examples that have been put forward include: archaeology, cycling, playing the ukulele, debating, geography, drama/pantomime, world religions, outdoor painting, and music theory.

The committee cannot pursue any of these until a viable group of members emerges. We can only make progress if you let us know what subjects interest you that might lead to the establishment of a new group.

As an example, we have already noted some interest in archaeology and we would be glad to hear from any member who would like to join a new Archaeology Group. So please get in touch with either of us about this possibility and any other suggestions for new groups.

Lionel Cartlidge (01306 89849; ljcartlidge@lineone.net)

Pam Toler (01306 882970; pamtoler1929@hotmail.co.uk)

Group Coordinators

Proposed Group: Music Theory

You are invited to join a group in which the mysteries of written music will all be solved. We'll start with the very basic methods of music notation, continuing gradually through all the elements of 'grammar', including rhythm, pitch, form and style. Sounds rather dull? It won't be!



It will start at my house in Dorking – 13 Norfolk Road – unless two flights of stairs cause a problem to anyone, in which case we'll have to go somewhere else (with a piano).

It will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, from 10am to 12 noon. Please reply to 01306 740732; jillsorrell@talktalk.net.

Jill Sorrell

Calendar of Events from June to October

A list in chronological order of monthly meetings, regional study days, days out, theatre trips, and holidays

June	9	<i>Day Out</i>	Upton Grey
	10	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	All I ask is a tall ship
	19	<i>Study Day</i>	Galloping through philosophy
	22-27	<i>Summer School</i>	U3A South-East Surrey Summer School, University of Chichester (details in March <i>What's On?</i>)
July	8	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	The Crop Circle Mystery
	24	<i>Day Out</i>	Magna Carta Commemoration
	29	<i>Theatre Trip</i>	<i>The Judy Garland Story</i>
Sep	9	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Fascinating Tales from Balloons, Barnstorms and the Royal Flying Corps
	14	<i>Holiday</i>	Northumberland (6 nights)
	18	<i>Day Out</i>	Pashley Manor Gardens and Finchcocks Museum
	18	<i>Study Day</i>	Music at the Menuhin School
Oct	1, 8 & 13	<i>Theatre Trip</i>	<i>Three Days in the Country</i> (National Theatre)
	14	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Ralph Vaughan Williams and Surrey
	13	<i>Day Out</i>	Women of the Great War and the Suffragettes and Soldiers Exhibition
	16	<i>Study Day</i>	The architecture of Oxford through the ages
Nov	5	<i>Theatre Trip</i>	<i>The Nutcracker</i> (ballet)

Monthly Meetings

All meetings take place in the Christian Centre. They are usually on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 2.30pm. However, there is no meeting in August. Members' guests and other visitors are welcome for up to two meetings, after which they are invited to become members. Admission for members and guests is free. If you have suggestions regarding topics and/or speakers for monthly meetings, please get in touch with Jenny Ford (01306 882534).

10 June 2015 ALL I ASK IS A TALL SHIP...

Geoff Saunders

Geoff's childhood desire was to escape to sea, and when the chance came to join a sailing ship for a voyage across the Pacific he jumped at it. The voyage made an indelible impression, living up to the dream.



8 July 2015 THE CROP CIRCLE MYSTERY

Andy Thomas,

author and researcher into unexplained mysteries, who has made numerous TV appearances and radio broadcasts



No meeting in August

9 September 2015 FASCINATING TALES FROM BALLOONS, BARNSTORMS AND THE ROYAL FLYING CORPS

Jim Barnes, aviation historian



14 October 2015 RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS AND SURREY

Robin Wells, who was Director of Music at Charterhouse School and conducts the Godalming Operatic Society and the Farnham & Bourne Choral Society



Study and Interest Groups

Members may join as many groups as they wish as long as there are vacancies, as indicated by an asterisk (*). Groups with a waiting list are marked with a hash sign (#). From time to time, there may be room in other groups. Just ring the contact number for further particulars. For group leaders who have requested it, an email address as well as a phone number is given.

For general enquiries about groups and suggestions for new groups, please get in touch with one of the Groups Secretaries – Pam Toler (01306 882970; pamtoler1929@hotmail.co.uk) or Lionel Cartlidge (01306 898491; ljcartlidge@lineone.net).

Arrangement of Listings

Entries have been arranged under theme headings so you can see the range of subjects in an area. The eight themes are as follows:

1. Arts and Performing Arts (pp12-14)
2. Health and Wellness (pp15-16)
3. History and Current Affairs (pp16-18)
4. Humanities (pp18-19)
5. Languages (pp19-20)
6. Leisure Activities and Pastimes (pp21-26)
7. Literature, Drama, Poetry and Writing (pp26-27)
8. Science and Technology (p28)

For those who prefer to find groups in an alphabetical list, an index is provided below.

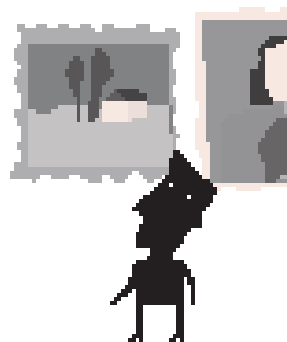
Index of Groups (*new and proposed groups in bold*)

Archaeology, 16	Genealogy	Photography, 24
Art Appreciation, 12	Workshops 1 & 2, 17	Pilates 1, 2 & 3, 15
Bowls, 21	German for	Poetry Unlimited, 26
Bridge, 21	Non-Beginners, 19	Portfolio Management, 18
Calligraphy, 22	History, 17	Quilting, 25
Classical Music	Italian Conversation, 20	Reading for Pleasure, 27
Appreciation, 13	Jane Austen, 27	Science & Technology
Computing, 28	Jazz Appreciation, 13	in Everyday Life, 28
Creative Writing, 26	Latin for Today, 20	Shakespeare and his
Current Issues, 16	Line Dancing, 15	Contemporaries, 27
DIY Dressmaking, 22	Local History, 17	Singing for Pleasure, 14
Dorking U3A Bells, 13	Luncheon Club, 22	Singles Club, 26
Enjoying Architecture, 12	Mahjong, 23	Spanish Conversation
Exercise for Health, 15	Music Theory, 14	(Intermediate), 20
Financial Matters, 16	Myths, 18	Upwords, 25
French Conversation, 19	Painting for Pleasure, 14	Walking, 16
Gardening, 23	Philosophy, 19	

1. ARTS & PERFORMING ARTS

*ART APPRECIATION

This thriving and lively group looks at all aspects of art. We discuss varying subjects, enhanced by visits to exhibitions and galleries. Recently, subjects have been: Matisse and Picasso (followed by a visit to the Matisse Exhibition at Tate Modern), the Bloomsbury Group, a visit to Charleston and Monks House (homes of Bloomsbury Group members), sculptures of Rodin and Degas, Egyptian art, early Renaissance art, Van Gogh and Gauguin, William Morris, visit to the Red House in Bexleyheath. Future subjects will include a talk on Dali, the art of Russia, ceramics, and Charles Rennie Mackintosh. We have vacancies. New members welcome.



4th Wednesday 2.00 - 4.00

Pat Lucas (01306 711653); patalucas1976@yahoo.co.uk

#ENJOYING ARCHITECTURE

We have had a particularly interesting year. We were privileged to enjoy a private tour of Slyfield House, with refreshments in the garden. An excellent guide took us around Stoke d'Abernon Church and really brought history to life. In August we had a guided tour of Wiston House on the Sussex Downs, followed by afternoon tea. Of the visits that followed, we retain some wonderful photographic memories, especially of the restored St Pancras Hotel and station and the newly-restored Strawberry Hill House. Another memorable visit was to 18 Stafford Terrace and Leighton House Museum.



We have a waiting list, but it is worth phoning me in case gaps occur.

Last Monday of the month: mornings for visits, 2.00-3.00 for illustrated talks.
Mary Cowan (01306 885341)

*CLASSICAL MUSIC APPRECIATION

We create a rolling programme of composers and their works by inviting suggestions from the group. The group leader then asks for volunteers to introduce each month's selected composer and their works.

Please note that 'introducing' does not necessarily mean making a detailed presentation (though this is always welcome). Rather, all we ask is that the introducer says something about how they came to know and like that composer's music, and especially the work(s) in question. No musicological knowledge is presumed or expected! The group leader then normally expands that introduction by providing historical and musical analysis of the composer/work concerned.

We then play a recording of the works selected. This is followed by discussion and refreshments.

The aim is to enjoy ourselves whilst broadening our knowledge and understanding of great music written largely between 1750 and 1900 (but we are always happy to stray outside these nominal boundaries).

1st Friday 2.00-4.30, Punchbowl Lane, RH5 4BN

We still have space for a few new members.

Mike Stewart (01306 884153); mikestewart999@btinternet.com



#DORKING U3A BELLS

Since our group started to learn handbell ringing seven months ago we have progressed from beginners' level to playing carols, folk songs and now *Annie's Song* (John Denver) and *Dances With Wolves* (John Barry).

The combination of reading music, using bell techniques and co-ordinating as a team all require much concentration and practice.

We currently have a set of 12 bells. If we can acquire more, we shall have availability for more members. Meanwhile, please join our waiting list.

Every Friday 10.30-12.30
Florence Reid (01306 879835)



#JAZZ APPRECIATION

We are covering the period from the late 1930s to the present time, from the swing era of Basie, Ellington and Goodman to Brubeck, Peterson, Getz and Shearing, via Ella, O'Day, Sinatra and Tormé. Along with CDs, LPs, videos and DVDs, plus a few anecdotes, our two-hour sessions pass very quickly.

Most of the material comes from the leader's collection, but this is often supplemented by members.

2nd Thursday 2.00-4.00
John Brown (01306 886819)



PROPOSED NEW GROUP

***MUSIC THEORY**

Please see notice on p8

2nd and 4th Wednesdays 10.00-12.00

Jill Sorrell (01306 740732); jillsorrell@talktalk.net



***SINGING FOR PLEASURE**

We sing a variety of music, and have a lot of fun as well. At the moment we are singing some folk songs, songs from the shows, and songs that we all know and love.

The choir is very friendly and open to new members and their ideas. Do come along – just drop in and see how you like us! We have a few vacancies. No auditions.



1st and 3rd Mondays 10.00-12.00

Meets in the Reading Room, Buckland. £18 per quarter.

Sheila Honeyman (01306 886110)

Conductor: Gina Easen

***PAINTING FOR PLEASURE**

This group gives members the opportunity to be creative in a way of their own choosing, eg, through drawing, painting, collage or mixed media. Plants and still life objects are provided for those who wish to use them, but members are free to pursue their own ideas.

We have room for three more members, who will be most welcome.



Every Thursday 1.30-3.30

£12 for each block of six weeks, in the Christian Centre.

Elaine Major (01306 887273)

E.major64@btinternet.com

2. HEALTH & WELLNESS

*EXERCISE FOR HEALTH



This group was started in 1996 as part of the 'Ageing Well' project of Age Concern Surrey.

We have a highly trained teacher who ensures that every part of the body is exercised, including the heart – all this to youthful pop-style music from the sixties to the present day. For cool-down, there is always a chair routine. The camaraderie enjoyed over a coffee cup after class has become an integral part of the group experience.

Every Tuesday 10.15-11.15 in the Reading Room, Institute Road, Westcott

Pauline Huxtable (01737 842449)

*LINE DANCING

The Line Dancing group is now well into its stride as we become more confident and (slightly) faster. We have room for a few more members, so do join us for a fun way to exercise the body and train the memory and see how much better you feel when the hour is up!



1st and 3rd Fridays at 11.00 in the Follett Hall, back of the United Reformed Church on West Street.
Gill Crooks (01306 740062)
gillcrooks1@gmail.com

PILATES



Pilates is a low-impact workout designed to strengthen the centre of the body, tone muscles, improve

posture and increase flexibility. Exercises are done sitting or lying on an aerobics mat. Each exercise is done slowly with precision and targets specific muscle groups.

Pilates concentrates on core strength: it is not a 'quick fix' but a slow and steady training. Each class starts with a warm-up to mobilise the joints and muscles. Each exercise has specific movements and specific breathing, with few repetitions.

Pilates differs from other forms of exercise in that it concentrates on the deep muscles essential for stability. It will improve your body awareness and,

through specific breathing techniques, teach you how to maximise your abdominal control and strength.

#Pilates - 1

Dorking in the Christian Centre
Tuesdays 2.30-3.30

#Pilates - 2

Dorking in the Christian Centre
Tuesdays 3.45-4.45

*Pilates - 3

Westcott in the Reading Room
Thursdays 10.45-11.45

£4.50 per session, paid by cheque at the start of each block of 4-6 weeks (the number depending on holiday periods); no refunds.

Overall group leader: Mary Rowlatt
(01306 883372)

If you wish to go on the Dorking waiting list, please ring Mary.
Westcott has vacancies.

***WALKING**

We are a very friendly group of members who enjoy walking in the beautiful countryside within a 10-mile radius of Dorking. The walks are between four and five miles in length and take 2-2½ hours. There is usually an optional pub lunch near by afterwards.



2nd and 4th Fridays at 10.00

Jane White (01306 888886) and Daphne Dixon (01737 842106)

3. HISTORY & CURRENT AFFAIRS

Proposed Group

***ARCHAEOLOGY**

Some interest in a group on this subject has been expressed., and we would like to gauge the level of further interest there might be from members to see if we can form a viable group.

If you would like to express an interest please email Lionel Cartlidge (ljcartlidge@lineone.net) or telephone him on 01306 898491.



***CURRENT ISSUES**



We discuss issues of local, national and international interest, usually led by a member of the group but sometimes an outside speaker.

Topics over

the last year have included whether narcotic drugs should be legalised, the manufacture of petro-chemical materials, Tanzania, the Islamic State, whether Scottish MPs should vote on English matters, and the Ukraine problem, immigration and the Mediterranean migrate crisis.

3rd Wednesday 10.30-12.00

Jim Docking (01737 843260);

annejim@docking.eclipse.co.uk

***FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The main subjects we have been studying are:

- *Tax* (inheritance tax, capital gains tax and income tax)
- *Investments* (stock exchange investments, pensions, ISAs, bonds, unit trusts/OEICs)
- *Insurance*.



Occasionally, after the meetings, we have an optional pub lunch.

Please note that no prior knowledge of finance is required. We deal with issues that members want us to discuss.

We have space for some new members.

Normally on the last Friday of each month 11.00-12.30

Leader: Gordon Williams (01306 640654)

Secretary: Pam Farbrother (01306 886523);

pam.farbrother@talktalk.net

#GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS 1 & 2

We have two groups – one for beginners and another for non-beginners .

Every month, members are individually given the opportunity to tell the group of their progress, inviting suggestions on how to further their research. This way, each member explains how particular problems have been resolved, which helps others.

Members give each other the incentive to find the next piece of the jigsaw and add to their confidence to work on the internet. Some have found living relatives abroad they never knew existed, which adds to the broader picture of the extended family.

Group 1: Beginners 2nd Wednesday
10.00-12.00

Group 2: Non-Beginners 1st
Wednesday 10.00-12.00
Paddy Neville (01306 882657)



#HISTORY

Our first meeting took place on 9 April and was a great success. Mike Stewart, a member of the group, gave an interesting and inspiring talk entitled An

Introduction to the History of the Formation of the British Isles. This topic was in two parts, the first part from the end of the Roman occupation to the coming of the Normans (c410-1066AD). Mike also provided us with notes and maps so we could follow the events or have a read at home.

Unfortunately, at present we have no vacancies but we have started a waiting list.

2nd Thursday 2.00-4.00 in the Lincoln Arms

If you wish to be added to the waiting list, please email U3AHistoryDorking@gmail.com (please note the capital letters) or call Sarah Wakeford on 01306 883641



*LOCAL HISTORY

Newly formed, this group meets in members' homes, hence the maximum membership is 12. Each session will cover a specific agreed subject and will be led by one member with input from the others.

With a wealth of local knowledge and memories, our group meetings are proving to be inspiring and educational. We were amazed at the history of our local fire stations and we are currently exploring the history of the Deepdene and Chart Park estates. Suggestions for forthcoming meetings include the evolution of Dorking High Street since Victorian times.

3rd Monday at 10.00.

Spaces are available. Phone Hilda Burden (01737 842516) for details or email info@hildaburden.co.uk



*PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

We are a small group who share the enjoyable and generally profitable hobby of investing in the stock market, whether in individual shares and bonds or in collective funds such as investment companies, unit trusts, OEICs or Exchange Traded Funds.



We discuss current affairs in so far as they impact markets, exchange investment ideas and construct dummy portfolios which we follow throughout the year.

Recent study topics have included tax-efficient investments, ethical investing, structured products, winners and losers from lower oil prices, the implications of leaving the EU, and the consequences of exchange rate changes, the Budget and the Scottish Referendum.

We are keen to recruit five or six new members. In recent years it has become extremely cheap and easy to manage one's own investments online and view their value at any time at the click of a button. Why not come and see if our sociable group could help you to boost the returns available on high-street savings accounts or save on intermediary fees?

John Holder (01306 711206); johnholder@waitrose.com

Every three or four weeks on a Friday from 1.30-4.00 at the Hamilton Room, Betchworth. Most members enjoy a pub lunch beforehand at the nearby Dolphin.

4. HUMANITIES

#MYTHS

The term myth derives from a Greek word meaning a traditional story, but can also mean a story dealing with something significant. Many myths have ritual or religious significance, or relate stories of gods and heroes. Some tell how the world or universe was created, or how the world will end. Others help the reader to understand and handle life situations. There are many theories about why we have myths.



While visiting Winchester with U3A to see the Christmas market, I picked up John Matthew's *Taliesin* at a second-hand book stall for £1. This was fortunate, as we were about to read British myths! Only one member of our group had previously encountered Taliesin, who is described as 'The Primary Chief Bard of the Island of Britain'. It includes information about shamanism and the bardic mysteries in Britain and Ireland, so we hope to make use of it. However, we naturally started with King Arthur, Merlin and Camelot. This led to Stonehenge and other ancient monuments. During St George's Day celebrations legends from the Middle East, where St George originated, as well as from Britain and Europe were our fare; and now, back home, we are into ghost stories and more locally sourced myths.

3rd Wednesday 10.00-12.00

Jill Burberry (01306 880653); jburberry@talktalk.net

*PHILOSOPHY

The group continues to work from *Philosophy Bites Back* by David Edmonds and Nigel Warburton. The authors explore all aspects of philosophy by means of interviews with experts on particular topics, examples being Plato on Erotic Love, John Locke on Toleration and Adam Smith on What Human Beings Are Like. Members take it in turn to lead, using the interviews as a springboard to wider thinking around the topic in question, and undertake to find quotes from the work of the philosopher concerned.

New members will be welcome.



4th Tuesday 2.30-4.00

Marjorie Hudson (01306 888281); marjoriehud@aol.com

5. LANGUAGES

#FRENCH CONVERSATION

The French group meet in each others' houses, all taking it in turns, and the host choosing which material we work with. There is always conversation, but also newspaper or magazine articles to read and translate, French TV programmes to watch and discuss, and whatever innovative ideas the host has. The group is full, but if you wish to put your name on a waiting list, do telephone one of us.



1st and 3rd Thursdays 2.30-4.00

Audrey Mark (01306 742093)

Helen Kendrick (01306 889284)

*GERMAN FOR NON-BEGINNERS

As the title suggests, we're a group who speak German, some better than others.

In fact, there is a wide range of knowledge. The group has been in existence since the start of the Dorking U3A, so we have become friends over the years.

Meetings are devoted solely to conversation in German. Members prepare short talks on such subjects as travel, holidays, theatre visits, books, concerts, daily happenings, our families, and so on, as well as controversial political subjects and current affairs. These talks always spark off lively discussions.

1st and 3rd Thursdays 2.00-4.00

Inga Avery (01403 210307)



*ITALIAN CONVERSATION



Between meetings, we write in Italian about something of interest, such as a holiday, a U3A outing, some local or national news

item; or we perhaps choose an interesting passage from some Italian publication.

These writings are read out and discussed. We may then read and discuss an Italian short story or, perhaps, deal with some point of grammar, or listen to an Italian language tape.

2nd and 4th Mondays 2.15-4.00
Phillipa Holloway (01306 882791)

*LATIN FOR TODAY

Salve et carpe diem!

Dorking's enthusiastic Latin for Today group has been active for over two years. Our informal, all-encompassing group meets monthly on the third Tuesday morning at the Lincoln Arms. We follow the Cambridge Latin Course for language and grammar consideration, then link our study to everyday life, both present and in Roman times.

We research and enjoy Latin relevance to other disciplines and themes, such as medicine, legal and science; our summer visit in July will be to the Museum of London. For inspiration, we look at Latin texts and Roman mythology.

3rd Tuesday 10.30-12.00
Rosemary Harbridge (01306 881520)



#SPANISH CONVERSATION (INTERMEDIATE)

The class is most suited to those whose standard is post-GCSE.

We aim to speak Spanish throughout, except when specific grammar points are emphasised. All members are expected to participate orally, and the conversation flows freely. As well as members' own input, wide use is made of up-to-date Spanish newspaper material to provide topics of interest.



In June 2014 the group had a most enjoyable stay in the Cantabria and Rioja regions of Northern Spain. We met our U3A Spanish counterparts, UNATE, in Santander and Comillas. This visit was reported in the autumn editions of the Dorking and national U3A Newsletters.

This year we were able to welcome a return visit of UNATE on 24 and 25 February. A full report will appear in the next Newsletter. It was a great pleasure to entertain our Spanish friends and cement a good relationship between our two groups. Such events also stimulate the enthusiasm of members to improve their fluency.

Seven members of the group will go to Spain for a week on 1 June for a Spanish language immersion course in Cantabria and Rioja under the auspices of Eurolink Cantabria led by José Antonio Herrera. As well as language practice with university lecturers there will be one-to-one communication with people of our age and an opportunity to take part in local activities and visit places of natural and historical interest. On our return we hope to produce a full account of our visit for our newsletter and also the national magazine.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays 2.00-3.30
Sylvia Herbert (01372 372009)

6. LEISURE ACTIVITIES & PASTIMES

***BOWLS**

1 – Summer Group

Our sessions started in 2010 with the objective of enabling people to try out the sport and develop their skills as members of a friendly and supportive group, and that has certainly been the case.

Bowling is a friendly and sociable activity which provides useful non-strenuous activity. It is an activity which you can learn to play sufficiently well to enjoy yourself quite quickly – but then spend a lifetime trying to improve!

We meet at Pippbrook Bowling Club, behind Mole Valley District Council offices in Dorking. You are very welcome to join us whether or not you have played bowls before – no special equipment is needed; just wear comfortable clothing and flat-soled shoes.



Every Friday afternoon until late September at Pippbrook Bowling Club at 2.30. There is a charge of £3 for each session, but you are welcome to join us for a couple of free taster sessions to see whether the game is for you. David Pettman (01306 883043); david@pettman.co.uk

2 – Winter Group

Bowls is a great way to get gentle exercise, play a competitive game, and learn a new skill. Although easy to learn, it takes practice to become competent, and a group of us play once a fortnight at the indoor bowls club at Horsham from October to mid-April.



1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 2.00 at Horsham Indoor Bowling Club at Broadbridge Heath, located behind Tesco. Guidance and equipment can be provided, and please wear flat-soled shoes. £6 a session. Ann Watney (01306 889115); ann.watney@btinternet.com

New Group

***BRIDGE**

The new Bridge Group is up and running. Sessions are limited to 28 people because of the number of tables available.

3rd Monday and 4th Wednesday in each month in the sitting room of Canterbury Court, starting promptly at 10.00am and ending at noon.

Elizabeth Holmes (01306 884831); emh2010@hotmail.co.uk



New Group

***CALLIGRAPHY**

We had our first meeting on 7 April, with four

The efficient fish floats effectively in effluent.

members present at my flat. We discussed the history of calligraphy and Edward Johnston's revival of it with a 10th-century Roman round hand script that he called the Fundamental Script.

We have progressed with the lower and upper cases and italic. We follow Johnston's method of copying scripts I have written and photocopied for practice, and then writing poems of our own.

We look forward to displaying some of our work in due course. Calligraphy is an enjoyable and skilful art – beautiful, not fancy, writing.

We have room for one or two more members.

Every Tuesday 2.30-4.00
Tony Costello (01306 885305)

***DIY DRESSMAKING**

We have a relaxed and friendly atmosphere where you can continue to practise a pastime you enjoy, complete an unfinished item, share ideas and expertise, or learn a new technique – even how to make patterns!



Visits to craft fairs, exhibitions, museums and anything else to do with textiles are also on the cards.

We have a slight emphasis on pattern and dressmaking, with visits to costume exhibitions when appropriate.

Beginners and non-beginners are equally welcome.

1st and 3rd Fridays 2.15-4.30
Anne Blanchard (01306 884359)
bablanch@ntlworld.com

***LUNCHEON CLUB**

We are a completely informal gathering – no agenda, no topic for discussion, no set menu, no membership list. Just turn up and enjoy the company!

The venue varies; the next few are as follows:

27 June The Royal Oak, Brockham
24 Aug Watermill Inn, Dorking
28 Sep The Black Horse, Reigate



Last Monday at 12.00 for 12.30, except for holidays when dates may vary
Zelma Mitchell (01306 882416)
macmitch3@btinternet.com

*GARDENING



At its meeting in March the Gardening group said farewell to one of its members, Julia Williams (right), who was leaving Dorking to live in the Peak District. She was one of the group's founding members

and her vast knowledge of botany will be much missed.



The group also discussed the new Patchworking Project in Pixham Lane, which has been set up to offer gardening therapy to vulnerable people, and plans were made for a further visit to the walled garden at the Grange in Bookham as well as private local gardens opening during the summer.

2nd Friday 10.00-12.00

Joan Searle (01737 843676)

*MAHJONG

The Dorking U3A mahjong group continues to go from strength to strength.

We have held scoring days so members could learn the skills of scoring their ordinary mahjong hands and a special hands day when we could try out new combinations of tiles.

The group also holds regular lunches so that we can get to know each other better.

New members are always welcome, and no previous experience is necessary as full tuition is given. Why not join our friendly group and unravel the oriental mysteries of the pung, the kong and the chow and discover the delights of collecting a mahjong bouquet?



Weekly on Wednesdays 10.00-12.00 at the Lincoln Arms near Dorking Station.

A contribution of £1.50 includes refreshments.

Phyllis Hughes (01737 479839); oakdene4@aol.com .

*PHOTOGRAPHY

The group focuses on practical digital photography. Our members have a mix of experience and cameras (SLR, bridge and compact) and some have computers with image manipulating software. We aim to share our individual knowledge and expertise and thus to learn from each other whilst at the same time having some fun.



We are striving to extend the boundaries of our individual photographic comfort zones and to improve our creative picture-making skills. We engage in an informal programme based on the consensus wishes of the members who participate in the running of the group. Meetings are divided into three parts:

- First a presentation on a topic agreed at the previous meeting. We have had presentations on basic optics, camera controls and settings, flash photography and computer-based image manipulation. Recently we have watched professional videos from the U3A Resources Centre on selected aspects of photography, including composition and use of light, followed by a discussion. We are now turning our attention to post-processing using computer image manipulation. This is followed by a coffee break, which is a chance to socialise.
- We then review the images we have taken during the previous month on the photographic theme agreed at the previous meeting. The digital images are projected in turn on to a screen so that everyone has a chance to evaluate each picture and make constructive comments. This is seen by most members as the most important function of the group. Themes have included camera setting experiments, landscapes, portraits, buildings, flowers, trees, animals, clouds, sports, festivities, seasons, movement, running water, reflections, light and shadow, texture, shape, colour, monochrome, abstract and close-up.
- The final part of the meeting aims to address specific issues with cameras or techniques and to decide the presentation topic and practical photographic theme for the next month.

Photographs and articles by members have appeared in the local U3A Newsletter and website. The group is fundamentally non-competitive but has responded to requests to mount exhibitions for a U3A regional forum, a regional day at Denbies and U3A monthly meetings and the AGM.

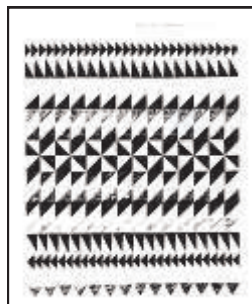
Usually 1st Tuesday 2.00-4.30, but this is flexible in case we decide to hold outdoor events.

Mike Thurner (01306 884831); MikeTAuto@aol.com

New Group

***QUILTING**

We have had only a couple of meetings so far but they have made me feel encouraged and inspired. There are more than a half-dozen enthusiastic ladies in our group so far, all with varied experience, keen to learn and enter into the fun of creative endeavours. By common consent in wishing to learn some useful applique techniques, we started by folding and cutting up paper into snowflake designs in readiness to prepare freezer paper as a template for Hawaiian applique using cotton buds and spray starch, a very adaptable simplifying technique of applique for all variety of exacting shapes and projects. The group wish to carry this Hawaiian design forward in readiness for layering up with wadding and backing fabric so that we can do some of the traditional echo quilting associated with this quilt form.



I was asked to lead the U3A group as I have done the four-year City & Guilds course in Patchwork and Quilting and Working Designs and have taken a basic certificate for teaching adults. More recently I have been, and remain, a member of two exhibiting quilting groups. I love colour and texture, so I enjoy using my own hand-dyed and printed fabric; and I like to encourage people to indulge and develop their own sense of design and colour. Too often people have a good idea of what goes together but just not the confidence to recognise it. I am hoping in time the group will come to enjoy doing both their own personal work as well as participating in the occasional group project.

2nd and 4th Friday of each month, 2.00-4.00 at the Friends' Meeting House,
Butterhill, Dorking
Juliet Eberle (01306 884569); juliet.eberle@ntlworld.com

***UPWORDS**

'The meetings are relaxed and fun, as well as exercising a few brain cells. We welcome anyone who would like to try the game – you need never have seen an UpWords board before but we'd love you to have a go and maybe become hooked!



Full tuition is given, but it's very easy to learn and a good way of making new friends as you chat over the board. We have a few vacancies.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays 2.00-4.00 in the Christian Centre café, Dorking
Elizabeth Holmes (01306 884831); emh2010@hotmail.co.uk

***SINGLES CLUB**

Are you on your own and keen to share activities at the weekend or in the evening?

We are a social group that meets every three or four weeks to arrange activities or outings. This is an essentially self-help group in which we agree what activities or outings we want to organise at weekends or in evenings.

If you are interested, please contact me, preferably by email.

Dates agreed at each meeting

Rosemary Smith (01306 713373); smithrosemary@sky.com



7. LITERATURE, DRAMA, POETRY & WRITING

***CREATIVE WRITING**

The group is now a year old and thriving. We take it in turn to host the meetings and write about everything and anything.



Previous experience is not necessary; the group ranges from experienced writers to those who have written nothing but a shopping list since leaving school. All that is needed is pen, paper and a willingness to 'have a go'. The group is nearly full, but there are a couple of spaces left.

1st Friday 11.00-1.00

Judy Perry (01306 640388;

judyperry9@btinternet.com)

***JANE AUSTEN**

Please see next page

***POETRY UNLIMITED**

Our meetings are informal and friendly, and the poems we read often lead us to wider discussions and exchanges of views and feelings. There are no



skill or knowledge requirements – though some of the group have plenty of both – just interest and enthusiasm. We impose no limits on what we read, discuss, or even write – new or old, formal or free, any style, any genre; sublime poems or verse and worse. We share our discoveries and rediscoveries of themes, topics, formats, poets, likes and dislikes.

We choose in advance for about six months, various poets and/or a subject such as trains, boats or gardens.

At the moment we are a group of six and have vacancies for new members.

2nd & 4th Mondays at 2.00

Pam Toler (01306 882970)

*JANE AUSTEN

By common agreement, we started with Jane Austen's masterpiece *Pride and Prejudice*. But then, what next?



Ideally, we should begin with her first novel and follow this by her others as they were written, so as to be aware of her plotting and character development. However, our tutor was also aware that this would be a good opportunity to introduce *Sense and Sensibility*, a long and rather heavy novel where much of the action is related rather than acted out. And the character who has all the attributes of being the hero (handsome, romantic, intelligent, athletic) turns out to be a rat! Like *Pride and Prejudice*, this novel has two female heroines – Elinor and Marianne Dashwood – but as the plot develops the younger heroine spends most of the story in bitter despair, even to the edge of death. And, though in the end her elder sister wins her heart's desire, Marianne has to be satisfied with the good, rather elderly Colonel Brandon as a husband.

We are now going on to read *Northanger Abbey* and meet 16-year-old Catherine Morland, the eldest child of a family of 14 siblings whose father is a clergyman.

2nd Tuesday 2.15-4.00
Florence Reid (01306 879835)
Tutor: Shirley Andrews
(Guildford U3A)

#READING FOR PLEASURE

Between the poetry reading in January and the Christmas party in December, we take it in turns at our monthly meetings to present a book of our own choice. This could be biography, travel, drama or a novel – old or new. We find that the more individual the choice, the better the ensuing discussion. Of course, we also put the world to rights, time permitting!



We have attracted many keen new members and now number 12, the maximum we can accommodate. But please join our waiting list.

2nd Monday 10.15-11.45
Joyce Kingsley-Jones
(01306 885789);
joycekingsleyjones@hotmail.co.uk

*SHAKESPEARE AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

Having read five of Marlowe's plays we are now studying Shakespeare's



A Winter's Tale in depth with the help of an RSC workshop video, and will probably follow this with one of the comedies. We meet twice a month and our choice of play is mutually agreed. We have room for one or two more members.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 10.00-12.30
Charmian Corner (01306 883374);
charmian.corner@care4free.net

8. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

New Group

***COMPUTING**

This group is intended to be of interest to experienced, but not necessarily expert, computer users who are interested in learning more about the technical aspects of computing. Sessions are expected to be mainly hands-on with members bringing along their own laptops or tablets. The venue we use, the Lincoln Arms, provides Wi-Fi connection for internet access.

This is not a computing course but rather an opportunity for members to share knowledge and experience, and it is hoped that members will take turns to introduce and lead sessions on their own pet subjects.

If you are a new computer user or just want to brush up your skills, you may be interested in drop-in sessions organised by Age Concern at the Mayflower Centre, Lyons Court, Dorking RH4 1AB. These are held on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10.30am to 1.30pm. For more details contact Tony Rushton (01306 880900).

4th Monday 10.00-12:00
Bob Crooks (01306 740062);
robertcrooks@rocketmail.com

***SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY**

Members of the group offer suggestions as to which topics in science, technology and society they would like to explore, and these are researched by one of the group.

Subjects have included: artificial insemination in our cattle herds; are humans good or bad?; quantum mechanics (with the help of video); how does



science affect our views on diet; the development of offshore wind farms down the east coast of the UK; and the sensitivity of animals to UV light. We also have spent time examining certain scientific laws.

The next months will include: what is intelligence and can it be measured?; the role and fascination of numbers; bugs and bacteria.

We visited the National Physical Laboratory in May and will be going to the Mullard Space Science Laboratory in June.

Join us to find out more.

2nd Monday 2.30-4.30
Sheila Green (01306 883038)

Surrey Regional Study Days June-November 2015

Study days are held in the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon. Note that as the hall is large, there is no need to enquire about vacancies – just send the application. Each day starts at 9.30am with registration and finishes at 4.00pm. The cost including coffee/tea and biscuits is £8 (£10 for non-members). Please bring a packed lunch.



Booking is necessary. Forms are available at monthly meetings or by phoning Lionel Cartlidge on 01306 898491. Alternatively, you can obtain a form on the Surrey U3A Network website (<http://u3asites.org.uk/surreyu3anetwork/>) by clicking the study day you wish to attend. A link to this site can be found on our own website (www.dorkingu3a.org.uk) under 'Membership & Links'.

The website may also list study days beyond those below.

Friday 19 June
GALLOPING THROUGH PHILOSOPHY
Dr Marianne Talbot, Oxford University

Friday 18 September
MUSIC AT THE MENUHIN SCHOOL
Dr Richard Hillier and Malcolm Singer, Yehudi Menuhin School

Friday 16 October
THE ARCHITECTURE OF OXFORD THROUGH THE AGES
Barrie Clark, Reigate & Banstead U3A

Friday 20 November
MODERN DEVELOPMENTS IN COSMOLOGY
Roger Luther, U3A member

When do

		1st in month	2nd in month	
Monday	am	Singing for Pleasure	Reading for Pleasure COMMITTEE MEETING on the Monday before a Monthly Meeting	
	pm		Italian Conversation Poetry Unlimited Science, Technology & Society	
Tuesday	am	Exercise for Health Shakespeare & his Contemporaries	Exercise for Health	
	pm	Calligraphy Photography Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking)	Calligraphy Jane Austen Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Upwords	
Wednesday	am	Genealogy Workshop for Non- Beginners	Genealogy Workshop for Beginners Music Theory (proposed)	
	pm	Spanish Conversation	MONTHLY MEETING	
Thursday	am	Pilates 3 (Westcott)	Pilates 3 (Westcott)	
	pm	French Conversation German for Non-beginners Opera Appreciation Painting for Pleasure	Jazz Appreciation Painting for Pleasure	
Friday	am	Dorking U3A Bells Creative Writing	Dorking U3A Bells Gardening Walking	
	pm	Bowls (outdoors) Classical Music Appreciation DIY Dressmaking Line Dancing	Bowls (outdoors) Quilting	

<i>we meet?</i>		
3rd in month	4th/last in month	<i>Also:</i>
Bridge Local History Singing for Pleasure	Computing Enjoying Architecture (if day outing) Luncheon Club (noon) (but dates vary to avoid holidays)	Bowls Indoors (fortnightly Oct-mid-April) Days Out — see pp32-34 Theatre Trips — see p35 Regional Study Days — see p29 Singles Club — dates as arranged
	Enjoying Architecture Italian Conversation Poetry Unlimited	
Exercise for Health Latin for Today Shakespeare & his Contemporaries	Exercise for Health	
Calligraphy Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking)	Calligraphy Philosophy Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Upwords	
Current Issues Myths	Bridge Mahjong Music Theory (proposed)	
Spanish Conversation	Art Appreciation	
Pilates 3 (Westcott)	Pilates 3 (Westcott)	
French Conversation German for Non-beginners Painting for Pleasure	Painting for Pleasure	
Dorking U3A Bells	Dorking U3A Bells Financial Matters Walking	
Bowls (outdoors) DIY Dressmaking Line Dancing Portfolio Management	Bowls (outdoors) Quilting	

Days Out

Day excursions and other social events are organised by the Days Out Committee (see back page)



- Enquiries and bookings may be made at monthly meetings or by phone. If phoning, please ring Jean Williams (01737 845907).
- Payment must be made by cheque (not cash) with the name of the outing written on the back and made out to DORKING AND DISTRICT U3A SOCIAL EVENTS. Payment may be made either at monthly meetings or by post to arrive no later than 14 days before the outing.
- In the interests of fairness and to avoid block bookings, the committee will be pleased to accept reservations for yourself and just one other person per outing.
- Please send your cheque to Jean Williams, 77A Middle Street, Brockham, Betchworth RH3 7HL.
- It should be pointed out that in the event of a member making a cancellation, only the entrance fee can be refunded, provided this is possible.
- Refreshments are not normally included in the cost, which is based on the assumption that a minimum of 40 people will be travelling.

Your suggestions for future excursions would be much appreciated.

There will be 'comfort stops' on longer trips. Normally the return journey begins at approximately 4.00pm.

Tuesday 9 June
UPTON GREY, HAMPSHIRE

You could be forgiven for not having heard of Upton Grey; this pretty little village is one of the best-kept secrets of the district.

The main attraction is the magnificent garden of the Manor House, which will be at its best in June. Thirty years ago, the present owners inherited the bare bones of a Gertrude Jekyll-designed garden, but it was completely overgrown and unrecognisable as such. They have done careful research and have lovingly completely restored the garden, so now it is the most authentic Gertrude Jekyll-designed garden – anywhere!

Of course, you will want to take your time to wander round this really stunning garden, where we are booked in during the afternoon, but do try to make time while you are there to pop into the medieval church, perhaps go for a walk and saunter through the village to admire the many listed buildings.

Lunch can be arranged at the local pub if required.

Cost: £20

Leaders: Jean Williams (07770 874762)

Judith Kingsley (07415 9396999)

These mobile numbers are for emergency use only on the day of the trip.

To book this trip, please see procedure on page 32.

Please note departure times

- 9.15 BROCKHAM: Middle Street near junction with Oakdene Road
- 9.25 DORKING: Outside Dorking Halls
- 9.30 DORKING: Opposite Waitrose
- 9.35 DORKING: Opposite The Bush
- 9.40 NORTH HOLMWOOD: The Cabin

Friday 24 July
MAGNA CARTA COMMEMORATION

Note: Long waiting list

Although we live so near the sites of this important historical event, how many of us have visited them or immersed ourselves in the drama of the events that took place there 800 years ago?

We start our day in Kingston, at the King's Stone, or coronation stone, upon which the earliest kings of a united England were crowned. During the tour the guide will describe the background of Magna Carta and its significance for the constitutional monarchy of today.

After a riverside lunch at a pub in Thames Ditton, we will continue by boat from Windsor, past Old Windsor and Runnymede to Staines, where the barons assembled to confront King John, with oaths sworn and the Great Charter signed.

This has the makings of a memorable, informative and thought-provoking day.

NB Please take a slip from the table at the June/July monthly meetings and fill in your choice of menus. Then hand it to Jean before 10 July.

Cost: £45 (including morning coffee and lunch.

Leaders: Jean Williams (07770 874762)

and Judy Peace (07889 522908)

These mobile numbers are for emergency use only on the day of the trip.

Please note this trip has an early start

- 8.45 BROCKHAM: Middle Street near junction with Oakdene Road
- 8.55 DORKING: Outside Dorking Halls
- 9.05 DORKING: Opposite Waitrose
- 9.10 DORKING: Opposite The Bush
- No stop at North Holmwood

NO OUTING IN AUGUST

Friday 18 September PASHLEY MANOR GARDENS AND FINCHCOCKS MUSEUM

The gardens at Pashley are another hidden gem and well worth a visit. The owners of this property pride themselves on their connection with the arts and there are frequent exhibitions of sculpture in the garden and paintings of floral and botanical art which are for sale in the shop.

We will spend the morning, and can buy our lunch here, or take sandwiches, and then proceed to Finchcocks museum with its collection of historical keyboard instruments, including organs, harpsichords, clavichords and pianos, all housed in a fine manor house which dates from George I. Many of the instruments are beautifully painted and gilded, and our guide will tell us all about their history and demonstrate their particular characteristics so we will learn, if we don't know already, how to differentiate between harpsichords and clavichords, fortepianos and pianofortes. If you are a pianist and would like to play one of the exhibits yourself, there may be an opportunity for you to do so.

Cost: £32

**Leaders: Jean Williams (07770 874762)
and Judith Kingsley (07415 936999)**

**These mobile numbers are for emergency
use only on the day of the trip.**

**To book this trip, please see procedure on
page 32.**

Please note departure times

- 9.15 BROCKHAM: Middle Street near
junction with Oakdene Road
- 9.25 DORKING: Outside Dorking Halls
- 9.30 DORKING: Opposite Waitrose
- 9.35 DORKING: Opposite The Bush
- 9.40 NORTH HOLMWOOD: The Cabin

Tuesday 13 October WOMEN OF THE GREAT WAR AND THE SUFFRAGETTES AND SOLDIERS EXHIBITION

During the First World War, while the men were fighting at the front, the women, who still could not vote, were called upon to 'do their bit' on the Home Front, and our grandmothers rose to the challenge. Our guide will describe the wide variety of work they had to undertake and the talents and skills they had to learn in order to take on work left by their men.

On this trip we shall hear their story and see the new exhibition at the Docklands Museum of the evocative work by Christina Broom, the UK's first woman press photographer.

**Cost: £34. Morning coffee and a one-
course roast chicken lunch are included .**

**Leaders: Jean Williams (07770 874762)
and Judy Peace (07889 522908)**
**These mobile numbers are for emergency
use only on the day of the trip.**

**To book this trip, please see procedure on
page 32.**

Please note this trip has an early start

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junction with Oakdene Road
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- 9.05 DORKING: Opposite Waitrose
- 9.10 DORKING: Opposite The Bush
- No stop at North Holmwood

Theatre Trips

*Matinées at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking, organised by
Bookham U3A*

Wednesday 29 July

THE JUDY GARLAND STORY

*A lavish production featuring her daughter, Lorna Luft.
£25, including coach from Bookham*

Thursday 5 November

THE NUTCRACKER

Northern Ballet

*Performed to Tchaikovsky's enduring score, played live by Northern Ballet
Sinfonia, David Nixon's production has everything you would expect from
this traditional favourite. A treasured classic reimaged.*

Matinées at the National Theatre, London

Thursdays 1, 8, and 13 October

THREE DAYS IN THE COUNTRY

Russia. A beautiful country estate. The mid-19th century.

*A handsome new tutor brings reckless, romantic desire to an eccentric
household. Over three days one summer the young and the old will learn
lessons in love: first love and forbidden love; maternal love and platonic
love; ridiculous love and last love; the love left unsaid and the love which
must out.*

*Ivan Turgenev's passionate, moving comedy, A Month in the Country, has
been a source of inspiration for films, a ballet and the plays of Chekhov. It's
presented here in a new version by Patrick Marber*

£20 for group-rate ticket.

Make your own way to the theatre.

To book or make enquiries, please ring Sheila Pomfret (01372 454706).
Sheila may also be able to tell you about other planned trips. If you would
like to be kept informed of future theatre trips, please ask Sheila to be put
on her list.

The New Committee

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