



# HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter May / Jun 2011

## **Chairman's Thoughts AGM Report**

*John Brandis (292484)*

The May AGM is an opportunity to thank the very many members who have contributed to a very successful U3A year, packed with activity. It is timely to review what has happened as a springboard to new opportunities. Our U3A aim is to keep us all learning so that we can live life to the full. Every activity – cultural or physical or social - has a learning element and all learning contributes to wellbeing. Did we achieve that aim?

Our speaker programme at the General Meetings aimed to increase our awareness of our locality and our world. Briefly, we have been off the tourist track in Hong Kong and followed the tracks in Tasmania and seen how Christian Aid reaches the most vulnerable in emergencies. We have viewed English landscapes with Capability Brown and John Evelyn's gardeners' diary and seen the rise of the Manor House and had a more local look at the churches of Buckinghamshire and heard about the life of a County Coroner. We have looked at highlights of the National Gallery. We have admired the first women to fight for an education as the so-called Bluestockings. We have let our hair down with sherry and mince pies and Christmas entertainment. We give our thanks therefore to all the speakers several of whom are local people or members and thanks to our organisers and back-up team.

We thank Carol and Lorraine for the selection of these speakers and for next year's programme and we thank John, Roger and Ed for handling the technical side together with Ray for the room layout, and Ingrid and Jean and all the helpers with the tea. Ingrid also puts up posters which Malcolm prepares, Roger's website and newsletters are invaluable for letting us know what is happening and Hilary has handled the finances. We thank Angela and Peter for handling the colossal task of looking after membership and for the friendly welcome at the door, backed up by Kevin, Chris and Mike.

Outings have always been a special feature and thanks to Ann for providing a full programme, backed up by Hilary and by Richard, Peter and Pam, Rosalie, Zoe, Peter and Angela and Roger. Briefly, the year started and ended with Richard's special racing trips to Cheltenham. We went to the theatre for Daisy Pulls It Off, Birdsong and the Romeo and Juliet ballet. There were visits to Highgrove, Cambridge, St. Pancras and the Foundling Hospital, the Bodleian Library and Chenies Manor. We went to the BBC Proms and a Classical Spectacular, to the opera Ariadne auf Naxos and in December came another carol concert and supper at Christ Church College, Oxford. There was a walking break in the Derbyshire Peak District. So hopefully the outings programme has also achieved our aims.

The groups are our life-blood for learning and they are thriving and increasing. So thanks to Lucy who has combined her role as Vice Chairman with arranging the speakers and visits on Antiques and Collectibles, to Brenda for a very full gardening programme, to Ingrid, Mary, Carol and Lorraine and many walk leaders, to Ann Warris on Books, to Ed and music programme presenters, to Rosalie for her opera trips and guidance, to Katie on Painting and Art, and to Heather and Sarah on Play Reading and Poetry. The Cycling is energetic with Marie and Malcolm; John Davis and Eileen have coordinated for us on Digital Photography and Computers. The newer groups have matured with Angela and others for a Luncheon Club and Chris for a Games Activity Group and Discussion Group and Spencer and Betty for Ten Pin bowling and Ingrid for Pub Quizzes and Tony and Paul for Wine tasting. The Local History group has flourished with Alan and his Handbells group has got off to a resounding start. Dancing has been energetic with Pat and Theresa, and Ray's Sunday Luncheon Club fulfils a great need. We can always test out new ideas, so let us know what you want and how you can help.

Many others of you deserve our thanks and many rise to the occasion as need arises. Richard Hirst has backed up Steve with our village project to put pressure on Bucks CC to spread more fairly the proposed shrinkage in funding across all libraries, enabling us to maintain a professionally-trained service. The discussions on this are promising, and we are likely to be amongst the last to be affected.

Looking ahead, I hope you enjoy the very full programme of speakers, outings and groups. Peter Jarvis, the first speaker has a wide experience of adult education as a University Professor and also a Methodist Minister and a committee member on the Thames Valley Network of U3A.

John Brandis

for updates and further information, go to [www.bucksinfo.net/u3ahaddenham](http://www.bucksinfo.net/u3ahaddenham)



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## **New Members**

***Membership Secretary Angela Wenham (291932)***

Following the end of the membership renewal period, we have been able to invite a number of new members to join Haddenham U3A. You are all very welcome.

All new members are invited to stay on after the General Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May, when you can meet the members of the U3A Committee and ask any questions you may have about the U3A movement, how the Haddenham U3A operates, our interest groups and other activities, or any other question.

## **General Meetings**

***further details from Lorraine Gooch (01296 747655)***

The 9<sup>th</sup> May general meeting will feature as guest speaker Prof Peter Jarvis, speaking on "Christian Thinkers and the spread of Adult Education". Our Annual General Meeting will also take place at this meeting.

At the June meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have a talk on "The Ridgeway – prehistory and wildlife" by John Tyler. On 4<sup>th</sup> July we will have "Eric Gill – sculptor, artist and calligrapher" by Dr Wheeler-Robinson.

The full programme of General Meetings and the speakers for 2011-2012 is available on the U3A website

## **Events and Outings**

***bookings and further details from Ann Rickard (291613)***

Early in May on the afternoon/evening of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, Richard Birchley will be once again leading our annual visit to the Hunter Chase evening meeting at Cheltenham Races. It is always a great evening, even if not always profitable for all our members!

John Hawkins is leading a party on 9<sup>th</sup> June to Hall Barn in Beaconsfield for an open-air production of The Winter's Tale by the Chiltern Shakespeare Company. Let's hope the fine weather continues for that evening at least.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June sees a guided tour of the BBC Television Centre at White City where there is always a chance for some "celebrity spotting". The event also includes lunch at Jamie Oliver's Italian restaurant in the relatively new Westfield Centre, with a little time for shopping, browsing or a relaxing coffee.

At the May General Meeting, there will be details of forthcoming events with lists for signing up for July (Lord MacAlpine's private railway and museum at Fawley) and August (BBC Proms and visit to Frogmore and Savill Gardens). If you are unable to attend the General Meeting, please make sure you reserve your place by contacting Ann Rickard as soon as possible.

## **Coach Holiday – History and Houses of Northumbria**

***Chris Patterson (290342)***

We have confirmed bookings for 34 people for the 5 day coach holiday in Northumbria (+ two on the waiting list). The participants come from five U3As – as well as 20 from Haddenham we have fellow travellers from Greater Thame, Thame & District, Princes Risborough and Stafford U3As! This brings a very welcome added dimension to the holiday. I will be sending the participants all the relevant details in the near future. The departure date is Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Wider U3A News**

***further details from John Brandis (292484)***

Thames Valley Network events:

13<sup>th</sup> May – Training Day for new and prospective U3A Committee members in Witney

4<sup>th</sup> June - TVN Conference for 2011 "The Time of Our Lives" in Swindon

8<sup>th</sup> June – "Discovering Historic Wallingford" in Wallingford!

13<sup>th</sup> June – Traditional Boating Day on the Thames at Pangbourne

For further details of these and other TVN events, go to the Local U3A Networks page on our website.

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## Notes from the Interest Groups

(telephone nos. 01844 unless stated)

### **Antiques and Collectables Group**

**Leader: Lucy Hamblett (291386)**

On 12<sup>th</sup> May we will be visiting the Hilsdon Church near Buckingham. The subject for our 9<sup>th</sup> June meeting will be announced shortly.

### **Books Group**

**Leader: Ann Warris (292273)**

We will be discussing "Empress Orchid" by Anchee Min on 24<sup>th</sup> May and "One Day" by David Nicholls on 28<sup>th</sup> June

### **Card & Board Games Group**

**Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)**

Please note that this group does not operate during the summer months (May to August inclusive)

### **Computers Group**

**Leader: Eileen Monks (216033)**

Colin will give a review of typical uses of spreadsheets and how to get the most from them on May 6<sup>th</sup>. On 3<sup>rd</sup> June we will discuss good housekeeping tips for our files, folders and other data storage.

### **Cycling Group**

**Leader: Marie Woodrow (292012)**

**Malcolm White (291677)**

The next cycle ride on 24<sup>th</sup> May will be a repeat of last year's ride around Windsor Great Park (about 20 miles) starting from Dorney. The following ride will be on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Dance**

**Leader: Theresa Smith (01296 747893)**

The sessions of Zumba in March/April were very well received and we will look to have some more sessions later in the year. For now, we have five weekly sessions of English folk/country dancing from 4<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June inclusive. Please note that these sessions are on Wednesdays starting at 1300hrs. Details of the sessions for the rest of June will be made available soon.

### **Digital Photography Group**

**Leader: John Davis (291664)**

The session on 20<sup>th</sup> May will focus on making movies from your camera. On 17<sup>th</sup> June we will be making a field trip to Dorchester – travel arrangements etc at the May meeting or contact John.

### **Discussion Group**

**Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)**

The Open Forum sessions continue on 16<sup>th</sup> May and 13<sup>th</sup> June with topics suggested by the participants. Come along if you want to get something off your chest and find out what others think!

### **Gardening Group**

**Leader: Brenda Spencer (291235)**

On both the May 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June the group will be visiting local gardens in Upper Chalford and Long Crendon respectively

### **Handbell Group**

**Alan Rose (291004)**

You may not have come across the latest group to be formed within our U3A for people who wish to develop their skills in handbell ringing. We are beginners and inexperienced ringers who meet fortnightly to learn this musical art. New members are most welcome; you do not require any experience. The bells and music are provided. We are meeting fortnightly on Mondays at 1400hrs. If you would like to join in, or find out more, please contact Alan Rose.

### **Local History Group**

**Leader: Alan Rose (291004)**

Carole Fryer will be leading a tour of Hartwell on 25<sup>th</sup> May. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June we will be visiting the Chiltern Open Air Museum, principally to see the reconstructed Haddenham Croft Cottage.

### **Luncheon Club**

**Leader: Angela Wenham (291932)**

The May meeting of the Luncheon Club takes place at the Nut Tree in Murcott on 13<sup>th</sup> May. The Nut Tree has been awarded a Michelin star for each of the last three years, so we are looking forward to a good meal in a traditional village pub.

### **Music Appreciation Group**

**Leader: Ed Bullimore (291011)**

16<sup>th</sup> May sees a programme of organ music chosen and hosted by Richard and Patricia Hirst. On 13<sup>th</sup> June Angela Tremayne introduces a programme of "Glorias".

### **Painting & Art Group**

**Leader: Katie Loveday (291669)**

Monthly meetings will continue as usual on 17<sup>th</sup> May and 21<sup>st</sup> June.

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## **Play Reading & Poetry Group**

**Leader: Heather Forbes Russell (291482)**

The Group will be reading the play "The Heiress" by Ruth and Augustus Goetz and poem by a past Poet Laureate Robert Bridges on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The play and poet for June will be announced at the May meeting.

## **Pub Quiz Group**

**Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)**

The quizzes at the Rose and Thistle pub on the first Wednesday of each month (4<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June). Fresh talent for the U3A teams is always welcome.

## **Sunday Lunch Club**

**Leader: Ray Price (299320)**

The Sunday roasts at the Red Lion at Whiteleaf and the Lions at Bledlow will be sampled on Sundays 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June respectively. Do let Ray know if you intend to join us.

## **Ten Pin Bowling Group**

**Leader: Spencer & Betty Taylor (291498)**

The next ten pin bowling sessions at Jardines in Aylesbury will be on 9<sup>th</sup> May and 13<sup>th</sup> June. New members welcome, no experience necessary.

## **Walking Group 1**

**Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)**

**Mary White (291677)**

At the time of printing, the routes for the two walks on 17<sup>th</sup> May and 24<sup>th</sup> June had not been announced.

## **Walking Group 2**

**Leader: Carol Mason (291677)**

The Friday group's walk on 23<sup>rd</sup> May will be take a circular route beginning and ending at The Bell in Chearsley. The walk for this group on 24<sup>th</sup> June will be announced in due course..

## **Wine Group**

**Leader: Paul Roberts (299036)**

The regular wine-tasting sessions at the Lion's Den will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> May and 8<sup>th</sup> June. New members are welcome.

## **Other Items**

### **Bucks 50 Plus Forum**

The latest newsletter of the Bucks 50 Plus Forum is available on our website.

### **Comments and Contributions welcome**

Further details of the events mentioned in this newsletter can be found on the U3A website. May I ask all Group Leaders to let me have as much detail as possible of their forthcoming meetings and events as soon as they can. The more information I have, the easier it is to produce the newsletter and keep the website up to date. For those groups which cannot plan more than one month ahead, please include me in your communications with group members.

The website and the newsletter rely upon information provided by Group Leaders and members. I am very happy to expand the scope of both if you can come up with good ideas. Are there other things you would like to see? Ideas, comments and especially contributions are most gratefully received.

Roger Rickard (291613 or RARickard@aol.com)

### CALENDAR

### MAY 2011

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
<a href="#">Handbells</a>	Handbell session	2 May 2011	1400hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
<a href="#">Dance</a>	English Folk / Country	4 May 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
<a href="#">EVENTS &amp; OUTINGS</a>	Cheltenham Races - Hunter Chase Evening meeting	4 May 2011	14.00hrs departure, return approx 22.00 hrs	coach from Wendover Manor Waste (1400hrs), pick-ups at Rose Farm, Longwick and Haddenham Village Hall at 14.25hrs
<a href="#">Pub Quiz</a>	Pub Quiz	4 May 2011	1945 for 2000hrs start	Rose and Thistle pub, Haddenham
<a href="#">Computers</a>	Review of Spreadsheets	6 May 2011	1430hrs	Chinnor Village Centre
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	Annual General Meeting	6 May 2011	tbc	Chinnor Village Hall, Church Road, Chinnor OX39 4PQ
<a href="#">Ten Pin Bowling</a>	Bowling Session	9 May 2011	1000hrs	Jardines, Aylesbury
<a href="#">GENERAL MEETING</a>	"Christian Thinkers and the spread of Adult Education" - Prof Peter Jarvis + AGM	9 May 2011	1415 for 1430hrs start	Youth & Community Centre, Woodways, Haddenham
<a href="#">Dance</a>	English Folk / Country	11 May 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
<a href="#">Wine</a>	Wine tasting	11 May 2011	1930hrs	The Lion's Den, The Red Lion, Churchend, Haddenham
<a href="#">Antiques and Collectables</a>	Visit to Hilsdon Church, near Buckingham	12 May 2011	tbc	tbc
<a href="#">Luncheon Club</a>	The Nut Tree, Murcott	13 May 2011	1200 for 1230hrs sitting	Meet at The Nut Tree, Murcott, OX5 2RE
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Network Training Day - Committee Matters. A day about running a U3A for committee members	13 May 2011	tba	Upper Hall, High Street Methodist Church, Witney OX28 6LW
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Riverside Project - Small Group Visits to Eton College	13 May 2011	tbc	tbc
<a href="#">Discussion</a>	Open Forum	16 May 2011	1000hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
<a href="#">Music Appreciation</a>	An Organ Music programme - chosen and hosted by Richard and Patricia Hirst	16 May 2011	1400hrs	Emmanuel Cottage, 16 Townsend Green, Haddenham
<a href="#">Gardening</a>	Visit to Upper Chalford	16 May 2011	1400hrs	Meet at Village Hall, Haddenham

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Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
<a href="#">Painting &amp; Art</a>	Group Meeting	17 May 2011	1000hrs	20 Rosemary Lane, Haddenham
<a href="#">Walking Group 1</a>	route to be advised	17 May 2011	tba	tba
<a href="#">Dance</a>	English Folk / Country	18 May 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
<a href="#">Digital Photography</a>	“Movies from your Camera”	20 May 2011	1000hrs	Guide HQ, Southern Road, Thame
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Riverside Project – Small Group Visits to Eton College	20 May 2011	tbc	tbc
<a href="#">Sunday Lunch Club</a>	Red Lion, Whiteleaf	22 May 2011	1230 for 1300hrs sitting	Red Lion, Whiteleaf
<a href="#">Walking Group 2</a>	Chearsley	23 May 2011	tbc	The Bell, Chearsley
<a href="#">Handbells</a>	Handbell session	23 May 2011	1400hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
<a href="#">Plays &amp; Poetry Reading</a>	"The Heiress" by Ruth and Augustus Goetz. Poet is Robert Bridges	23 May 2011	1430hrs (note changed time)	68 Willis Road, Haddenham
<a href="#">Cycling</a>	Windsor Great Park	24 May 2011	1000hrs start	Meet at The Palmers Arms, Dorney SL4 6QW
<a href="#">Books</a>	"Empress Orchid" by Anchee Min	24 May 2011	1430hrs	Old Stables, Dadbrook, Cuddington. Introduction by Christine
<a href="#">Dance</a>	English Folk / Country	25 May 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
<a href="#">Local History</a>	Guided tour of Hartwell - with Carole Fryer	25 May 2011	1400hrs	Meet at Hartwell. Suggest use 280 bus from Haddenham leaving Fort End at 13.32 arriving at Bugle Horn stop about 13.45 (Upper Hartwell Lane where the hotel signs are).

### June 2011

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
<a href="#">Dance</a>	English Folk / Country	1 Jun 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
<a href="#">Pub Quiz</a>	Pub Quiz	1 Jun 2011	1945 for 2000hrs start	Rose and Thistle pub, Haddenham
<a href="#">Computers</a>	Good Housekeeping, folders, files, backups, secure storage	3 Jun 2011	1430hrs	Chinnor Village Centre
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Conference 2011 – “The Time of our Lives”	4 Jun 2011	tba	New College, New College Drive, Queen's Drive, Swindon SN3 1AH
<a href="#">Handbells</a>	Handbell session	6 Jun 2011	1400hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
<a href="#">GENERAL MEETING</a>	"The Ridgeway – prehistory and wildlife" - John Tyler	6 Jun 2011	1415 for 1430hrs start	Youth & Community Centre, Woodways, Haddenham
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Riverside Project – Study Day “Discovering Historic Wallingford”	8 Jun 2011	tbc	see details on club website
<a href="#">Wine</a>	Wine tasting	8 Jun 2011	1930hrs	The Lion's Den, The Red Lion, Churchend, Haddenham
<a href="#">Antiques and Collectables</a>	subject to be announced	9 Jun 2011	1015 for 1030hrs	The Lion's Den, The Red Lion, Churchend, Haddenham
<a href="#">EVENTS &amp; OUTINGS</a>	“The Winter's Tale” – Chiltern Shakespeare Company	9 Jun 2011	performance starts 2000hrs	Hall Barn, Beaconsfield HP9 2SG
<a href="#">Ten Pin Bowling</a>	Bowling Session	13 Jun 2011	1000hrs	Jardines, Aylesbury
<a href="#">Discussion</a>	Open Forum	13 Jun 2011	1000hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
<a href="#">Music Appreciation</a>	"Glorias" - a Programme chosen by Angela Tremayne	13 Jun 2011	1400hrs	The Music Room, 27B The Gables, Haddenham
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Riverside Project – Traditional Boating Day	13 Jun 2011	tbc	Beale Park, Lower Basildon, Near Pangbourne. See details on club website
<a href="#">EVENTS &amp; OUTINGS</a>	tour of BBC Television Centre	14 Jun 2011	08.00hrs departure, return approx 17.30 hrs	coach from Village Hall, Haddenham
<a href="#">Digital Photography</a>	Field Trip - details to be advised	17 Jun 2011	1000hrs	Guide HQ, Southern Road, Thame
<a href="#">Sunday Lunch Club</a>	Lions, Bledlow	19 Jun 2011	1230 for 1300hrs sitting	Lions, Bledlow
<a href="#">Handbells</a>	Handbell session	20 Jun 2011	1400hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
<a href="#">Gardening</a>	Visit to 48 Chilton Road, Long Crendon	20 Jun 2011	1430hrs	Meet at 48 Chilton Road, Long Crendon
<a href="#">Painting &amp; Art</a>	Group Meeting	21 Jun 2011	1000hrs	20 Rosemary Lane, Haddenham
<a href="#">Walking Group 1</a>	route to be advised	21 Jun 2011	tba	tba
<a href="#">Local History</a>	Chiltern Open Air Museum	22 Jun 2011	1400hrs	Meet at Chalfont St Peter



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Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
<a href="#">Walking Group 2</a>	route to be advised	24 Jun 2011	tba	tba
<a href="#">Plays &amp; Poetry Reading</a>	Play and poet to be announced	27 Jun 2011	1400hrs	68 Willis Road, Haddenham
<a href="#">Cycling</a>	route to be advised	28 Jun 2011	tba	tba
<a href="#">Books</a>	"One Day" by David Nicholls	28 Jun 2011	1430hrs	17 Sheerstock, Haddenham
<a href="#">THAMES VALLEY NETWORK</a>	TVN Riverside Project – Explore Reading's Museums	30 Jun 2011	tbc	see details on club website