

Chairman's Thoughts

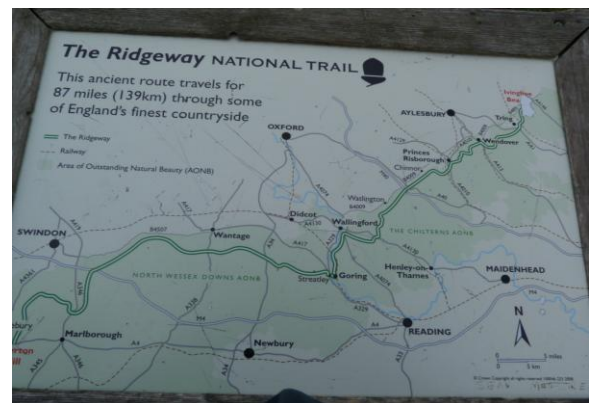
Carol Mason (292236)

The clocks have gone back and the evenings are drawing in so there are fewer opportunities for outdoor pursuits. But that hasn't deterred some of our members from walking the first two 10 mile legs of the Ridgeway Path, 24 of us on the first leg (Ivinghoe to Wendover Woods) and 28 on the second leg (to Princes Risborough). The third leg is on December 6th (to Watlington) at the end of which we'll have completed a third of the path. We start again in March and hope to complete the walk by September.



We got off on a very windy start as can be seen from the photo and it was daunting to look at the map and see how far we had ahead of us.

Our walk on November 1st could not have been more perfect. Lovely autumn weather and colours on what is probably the most beautiful stretch of the whole path and there was time for plenty of laughter as well as several hard climbs and descents.



As I mentioned in my last newsletter we planned to arrange a coffee morning for people who have recently joined us. It was held at Haddenham Garden Centre and we were pleased to welcome ten new members to the event. Some of the committee came along and it was good to see how interested our new members were in the wide range of activities available to them. It was a useful way to welcome people new to U3A and it will hopefully become a regular event in the future.

We had 123 members attend our last monthly meeting for an amusing and informative talk by Dr Tony Maisey on 'How and why we age'. This is a record number and the Community Centre held us quite comfortably which was re-assuring, as, with our increased membership, we were concerned about fitting us all in. We have started a new waiting list and the committee will regularly review our membership numbers in the light of attendance at the monthly meeting in the hope we won't keep anyone waiting too long.

At our meeting on November 7th we will present the work of the Thame Valley Project which is being jointly organised by CHATT. The project presents a great opportunity to find out more about our local river and we will be asking for people who are interested to get involved in different areas such as photography and history so we can present our findings to the Thames Valley Network. Alan Rose is our contact with the organisers.

I do hope many of you are able to come to our Christmas entertainment on December 6th. Martin Sirot-Smith will talk about Christmas in Tudor times and we will have the usual mulled wine and refreshments to get us off to an early start for Christmas. Let us hope the winter weather is more benign this year and we can continue to take part in the enjoyable and informative activities that can be found in our U3A without donning the snow shoes.

Season's Greetings (sorry it's so early but this is the last newsletter before Christmas)



HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter Nov - Dec 2011

General Meetings

further details from Carole Fryer (01296 748538)

The 7th November general meeting will feature Christine Bloxham speaking about "The Bayeux Tapestry". We also hope to show a DVD of the Thame Valley Project.

On 5th December, our meeting will have Martin Sirot-Smith talking about "A Tudor Christmas". The Christmas meetings are always popular, so please make sure you arrive in good time.

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)

There will be a visit to the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition at the National Gallery on 30 November, organised by Lorraine Gooch. This will be followed by a trip to Warwick Castle including Christmas lunch on December 7th.

In the new year, we start with a theatre trip to London on 26th January to see "Crazy for You". Then on February 22 a treat for would-be and retired spies alike, a guided walk around locations which featured in some of the most notorious espionage episodes of the 20th century, and led by an expert in the field MrX.

If you are unable to attend the November General Meeting, but would like to be included on one or more of these events, please make sure you reserve your place by contacting Ann Rickard as soon as possible.

U3A Spring Holiday – Northern Spain

Chris Patterson (290342)

Following the great success of our first short holiday in Northumberland, we are planning to go further afield in April. Our destination is Northern Spain and the Picos Mountains, departing 23rd and returning 28th April.

There will be a coach transfer to Stansted Airport from where we fly to Santander and travel to our 4* hotel at Playa de Isla for a five night stay on half board. During our stay we will visit: Santillana del Mar, Bilbao, The Guggenheim Museum, The Altamira Cave, Castro Urdiales, The Picos Mountains and Potes. There will also be an opportunity of a half day guided walk with transport through some of the more picturesque countryside in the area and/or a day at leisure or an optional excursion to the El Soplao Cave.

Throughout our holiday we will enjoy the services of a professional Tour Manager. There are a few places still available, so if you are interested please contact Chris Patterson as soon as possible

Other local events

There is an Emergency First Aid (all ages) course arranged for Thursday December 8th, 9.30 - 12.30. Walter Rose Room, Haddenham. The course is run by St John Ambulance and covers the following areas:

- communication and casualty care
- primary survey
- looking after yourself and the casualty
- adult, child and infant resuscitation
- treatment of severe bleeding, chest pain and an unconscious casualty
- treatment of choking in adults, children and infants
- treatment of the unconscious casualty

Maximum number 12 per course. The cost is £18 (a saving of £12 on their normal charge).

If there is sufficient demand we can organise further dates. If you would like to come on the 8th or put your name down for a future date please contact Carol Mason on 292236.

New Interest Groups

Hilary Skipsey 290464

Carol Mason has been making progress towards setting up a French Conversation Group. She is currently in discussions with a view to coming up with a format for an intermediate group and an advanced group. Look out for an announcement in January. But in the meantime, if this is of interest to you, please let Carol or Hilary know.

for updates and further information, go to www.bucksinfo.net/u3ahaddenham



HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter Nov - Dec 2011

New Interest Groups

Hilary Skipsey 290464

Among the current set of ideas under consideration are:

- Textile group
- Theatre group
- Geology group
- Archaeology group
- Theology group

If you may be interested in joining one or more of these groups, please let Hilary Skipsey know.

Notes from the Interest Groups

(telephone nos. 01844 unless stated)

Antiques and Collectables Group

Leader: Lucy Hamblett (291386)

On 10th November, the group will have a talk on "Private Passions, Glorious Gluttony" by Marilyn Morgan at Stoney Lacey in Aston Stanford. The subject of the December meeting will be announced soon.

Books Group

Leader: Ann Warris (292273)

The November 22nd discussion will be about "Home – the story of everyone who lived in our house" by Julie Myerson. Please note there is no meeting in December.

Card & Board Games Group

Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)

The Card and Games group will be meeting on 24th November at the usual venue of 5a Dollicott, Haddenham. New members are most welcome. Please note that on 22nd December the Rickards will be leading the Christmas fun & games at 12 Wykeham Gate.

Computers Group

Leader: Eileen Monks (216033)

The group will meet in Chinnor Village Centre on 4th October for a "Computer Clinic" at which you queries can be answered. In the 2nd December meeting we will be finding out how to get a computer to switch things on and off.

Cycling Group

Leader: Marie Woodrow (292012)

Malcolm White (291677)

On 22nd November we will be cycling through the Waddesdon Estate and Quainton, starting from Eythrop Road, Stone. Our December ride will be a short local ride on 27th December to help overcome the effects of any over-indulgence during the holiday period, starting at the Haddenham Post Office.

Dance

Leader: Theresa Smith (01296 747893)

The weekly sessions of Scottish Country Dancing with Jim Fulton will take us up to Christmas. Looking ahead, from 11th January to 7th March we will have English Country Dancing. New members are always welcome. Please come along and join in the fun! If you've never tried these dances, why not give it a go.

Digital Photography Group

Leader: John Davis (291664)

The group meeting on 18th November will be on "Choosing a Camera" and on 16th December on the use of the free Picasa software to edit, organise and share your pictures.

Discussion Group

Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)

Our popular Open Forum meetings will continue on 14th November and 12 December, with all subjects suggested by the members. The meetings are very informal, everyone has an opportunity to speak and give their views.

Gardening Group

Leader: Brenda Spencer (291235)

Our next meeting on 21st November will be a social at which we will arrange our programme for 2012. There is no meeting in December.

Handbell Group

Leader: Alan Rose (291004)

The next regular meetings of the handbell group to take us up to Christmas are on 14th and 28th November and 12th December.

Local History Group

Leader: Alan Rose (291004)

On 23rd November we will be having a discussion meeting at the Methodist Church with video clips and photos. For those who wish to get out after the Christmas festivities, Michael Whitney will walk us around some more of Haddenham on 28th December. Assemble at the Methodist Church.



HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter Nov - Dec 2011

Friday Luncheon Club

Leader: Angela Wenham (291932)

The next Friday Luncheon will be at Missenden Abbey on 11th November. Contact Maureen and Robert Bates on 291394 for details

Music Appreciation Group

Leader: Ed Bullimore (291011)

On 14th November, David Wallace and Hugh Stradling will lead our meeting on "Pipe Organs" at 11 Station Road, Haddenham. In the next month on 12th December, Richard and Tricia Hirst will present a programme of Seasonal Music at Emmanuel Cottage, 16 Townsend Green, Haddenham.

Opera Group

Leader: Rosie Sadler (290210)

November will be "opera month" with the Thames Valley Network's Study Day on November 15th at Rewley House Oxford on the subject "Four Opera Masterpieces - What they can tell us about opera and its development". Further details on our website. Rosie Sadler will be leading a party to the Welsh National Opera's production of "The Barber of Seville" in Oxford on 24th November.

Painting & Art Group

With the numbers of members within this group diminishing to 2-3, Katie Loveday feels that the group has run its course and it is time to pack up. Our heartfelt thanks go to Katie for the 11 years she has run the group, including using her home for the regular monthly painting sessions.

We know there is quite an interest in painting and art within our area, as evidenced by the local success of Bucks Art week each year. Katie is happy for a new group to be formed, but without her personal involvement. If anyone is interested in starting up a new Painting and Art Group, please speak with Hilary Skipsey (290464)

Play Reading & Poetry Group

Leader: Heather Forbes Russell (291482)

On 28th November we will be reading the one act play "The Monkey's Paw" dramatised by Louis N. Parker. Please bring along your favourite Christmas poem to share with the group.

Pub Quiz Group

Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)

The final two quizzes of 2011 at the Rose and Thistle pub will be on Wednesdays 2nd November and 7th December. Fresh talent for the U3A teams is always welcome.

Sunday Lunch Club

Leader: Ray Price (299320)

The Clifden Arms public house in Worminghall will be the venue for Sunday lunch this month on 20th November. In December we will be at The Peacock, Henton on December 18th. 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 14th November and 12th December. New members welcome, no experience necessary.

Walking Group 1

Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)

Mary White (291677)

Group 1's circular walk on November 15th will start and end at the Rose and Crown pub in Stone. The group's Christmas walk will be through the Chilterns starting from The Crown at Pishill on 20th December.

Walking Group 2

Leader: Carol Mason (292236)

On 25th November, Group 2 will walk from Dinton to Eythrop and back starting and ending at the Seven Stars pub in Dinton. There will be no Friday walk in December.

Ridgeway Walkers

Leader: Carol Mason (292236)

The Chairman has written about the second Ridgeway stage in her opening thoughts. The third stage will be walked from Princes Risborough to Watlington on December 6th. See the website or contact Carol for details of the coach and lunch arrangements

Wine Group

Leader: David Tomlin (291877)

Edgar Skipsey (290464)

The final two wine tasting sessions of 2011 will be on 9th November and 14th December at the Lion's Den, Haddenham. New members for this group are welcome.



HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter Nov - Dec 2011

CALENDAR

November 2011

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
Walking	Ridgeway - stage 2 - Aston Clinton to Princes Risborough	1 Nov 2011	Coach at 08.00hrs	Coach from Village Hall, Haddenham
Pub Quiz	Pub Quiz	2 Nov 2011	19.45hrs for 20.00 start	Rose and Thistle, Haddenham
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	3 Nov 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Computers	Clinic (1) plus Email	4 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	Chinnor Village Centre
GENERAL MEETING	"The Bayeux Tapestry" - Christine Bloxham	7 Nov 2011	14.15 for 14.30hrs	Youth & Community Centre, Woodways, Haddenham
Wine	Wine Tasting	9 Nov 2011	19.30hrs	Lion's Den, Red Lion, Haddenham
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	10 Nov 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Antiques and Collectables	"Private Passions, Glorious Gluttony" - talk by Marilyn Morgan	10 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	"Stone Lacey", Aston Stanford
<u>Luncheon Club (Friday)</u>	Missenden Abbey	11 Nov 2011	12.00 for 12.30hrs sitting	Car parking in the Abbey grounds
Ten Pin Bowling	Bowling Session	14 Nov 2011	10.00hrs	Jardines, Aylesbury
Discussion	Open Forum	14 Nov 2011	10.00hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
Handbells	Handbell Session	14 Nov 2011	14.00hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
Music Appreciation	"Pipe Organs" - led by David Wallace and High Stradling	14 Nov 2011	14.00hrs	11 Station Road, Haddenham
Walking Group 1	Group 1 - circular walk from Stone	15 Nov 2011	10.00 for 10.15hrs start	Meet at The Rose and Crown, Stone

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Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
Thames Valley Network	TVN Study Day - "Four Opera Masterpieces, and what they can tell us about opera and its development"	15 Nov 2011		Rewley House, 1 Wellington Street Oxford
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	17 Nov 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Digital Photography	"Choosing a camera"	18 Nov 2011	10.00hrs	Guide Headquarters, Southern Road, Thame
Sunday Lunch	Clifden Arms, Worminghall	20 Nov 2011	12.30 for 13.00hrs sitting	Meet at Clifden Arms, Worminghall
Gardening	Social and to arrange 2012 programme	21 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	33 Churchway, Haddenham, hosted by Margaret Law
Cycling	Waddesdon Estate and Quainton	22 Nov 2011	to be announced	Meet at Eythrop Road, Stone
Books	"Home - the story of everyone who lived in our house" by Julie Myerson, presented by Maureen Bates	22 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	2 Portway Road, Stone
Local History	Discussion with video clips and photos	23 Nov 2011	14.00hrs	Methodist Church, Haddenham
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	24 Nov 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Card and Board Games	Group meeting	24 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
Opera	"The Barber of Seville" at New Theatre, Oxford	24 Nov 2011	leave Haddenham 18.00hrs performance 19.15hrs	Meet at the Medical Centre, Haddenham
Walking Group 2	Group 2 - Dinton to Eythrop and return	25 Nov 2011	tba	Meet at the Seven Stars pub at Dinton
Handbells	Handbell Session	28 Nov 2011	14.00hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
Play and Poetry Reading	"The Monkey's Paw" by Louis N. Parker and favourite Christmas poems	28 Nov 2011	14.30hrs	68 Willis Road, Haddenham
EVENTS & OUTINGS	Leonardo da Vinci Exhibition, National Gallery	30 Nov 2011	08.15hrs departure, return approx 17.30 hrs	coach from Village Hall, Haddenham

December 2011

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	1 Dec 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Computers	Get your PC to switch things on and off	2 Dec 2011	14.30hrs	Chinnor Village Centre
GENERAL MEETING	"A Tudor Christmas" - Martin Sirot-Smith	5 Dec 2011	14.15 for 14.30hrs	Youth & Community Centre, Woodways, Haddenham
Walking	Ridgeway - stage 3 - Princes Risborough to Watlington	6 Dec 2011	Coach at 08.30hrs	Coach from Village Hall, Haddenham
EVENTS & OUTINGS	Warwick Castle with Christmas Lunch	7 Dec 2011	08.30hrs departure, return approx 16.15 hrs	coach from Village Hall, Haddenham
Pub Quiz	Pub Quiz	7 Dec 2011	19.45hrs for 20.00 start	Rose and Thistle, Haddenham
Antiques and Collectables	Subject to be announced	8 Dec 2011	10.15 for 10.30hrs	Lion's Den, The Red Lion, Haddenham
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	8 Dec 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
Ten Pin Bowling	Bowling Session	12 Dec 2011	10.00hrs	Jardines, Aylesbury
Discussion	Open Forum	12 Dec 2011	10.00hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
Handbells	Handbell Session	12 Dec 2011	14.00hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
Music Appreciation	"Seasonal Music" - programme chosen by Richard and Tricia Hirst	12 Dec 2011	14.00hrs	Emanuel Cottage, 16 Townsend Green, Haddenham
Wine	Wine Tasting	14 Dec 2011	19.30hrs	Lion's Den, Red Lion, Haddenham
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	15 Dec 2011	12.30 - 13.30 hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Digital Photography	"Picasa"	16 Dec 2011	10.00hrs	Guide Headquarters, Southern Road, Thame
Sunday Lunch	The Peacock, Henton	18 Dec 2011	12.30 for 13.00hrs	The Peacock, Henton
Walking Group 1	Group 1 - Christmas walk through the Chilterns	20 Dec 2011	09.45 for 10.00hrs start	Meet at The Crown, Pishill RG9 6HH
Card and Board Games	Xmas Group meeting	22 Dec 2011	14.30hrs	12 Wykeham Gate, Haddenham
Cycling	Local post-Xmas ride	27 Dec 2011	10.00hrs	Start from Haddenham Post Office
Local History	Walk round Haddenham with Michael Witney	28 Dec 2011	14.00hrs	Meet at the Methodist Church, Haddenham