



HADDENHAM U3A

Newsletter Oct 2011

Chairman's Thoughts

Carol Mason (292236)

I have just reviewed all the news about our U3A in preparation for the newsletter and the monthly meeting next Monday and am pleased and surprised at just how much is happening at the moment. We have 25 new members who we hope can make a coffee morning at Haddenham Garden Centre on October 11th at 10.30. We realised that our monthly meetings tend to be somewhat hectic and that new members may not get the welcome we feel they deserve so your committee agreed to invite you to meet us in a more relaxed atmosphere.

After our summer break we started our autumn programme with an excellent speaker on the history of hospitals in Aylesbury and our next speaker, the ever popular Dr Tony Maisey, may help us understand why gravity has such unfortunate effects with the passage of time when he talks about aging! With the increasing importance of 'grey power' I see many organisations reaching out to encourage us to exercise (AVDC's Re-activate programme, Age UK's cycle ride to Brighton), to pursue intellectual interests, to holiday in exotic places and to volunteer in local communities.

Chinnor U3A are organising a computer training course for those of us who lack the confidence to make best use of our computers. We have arranged a CHATT meeting at Thame Football club with our European MP James Elles to talk about his role within the European Parliament. We are arranging with St John's Ambulance to offer emergency first aid training to our members. I will be putting out a call at our next meeting for good French speakers to support a French conversation group, an English teacher to run a theatre group, a geologist to help us understand our local terrain.

These are all examples of successful groups run by other U3As. As we increase in size it is important to offer a wider range of opportunities to our members and anyone with expertise in special areas of learning will be supported to set up an interest group for our U3A.

As can be seen from our newsletter we offer a broad range of experiences for our members and my hope is, as with the growth in our membership, we continue to educate and entertain in an increasingly wide variety of ways.

Carol Mason

General Meetings

further details from Carole Fryer (01296 748538)

The 3rd October general meeting will feature a new talk by the ever popular Dr Tony Maisey on "How and why we age".

In November, we will have Christine Bloxham speaking about "The Bayeux Tapestry".

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

There has been such interest in a visit to Pigotts (previously the home of Eric Gill which was the subject of our speaker in July) that there will be two visits on October 20 and October 25. Please sign-up at the October meeting or notify Carol Mason if you wish to go.

Events and Outings

bookings and further details from Ann Rickard (291613)

On 9 October, we will be returning to the Royal Albert Hall to see "The Four Seasons by Candlelight". The Mozart Festival Orchestra will perform a programme of 18th century classics in full period costume.

Looking ahead, there will be a visit to the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition at the National Gallery on 30 November, a trip to Warwick Castle including Christmas lunch on December 7th and a theatre trip to London on 26th January to see "Crazy for You"

If you are unable to attend the October 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.



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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 Stanstead 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. Please let me know if you wish to be included.

Wider U3A News

further details from John Brandis (292484)

Meeting with James Ellis, our MEP

CHATT (the four U3As of Chinnor, Haddenham and Thame) have invited James Elles, the Member of the European Parliament for this area, to a meeting on October 21st at Thame Football Club at 2.30pm. This meeting is likely to be well attended given the current interest in the Euro zone and the economic status of European countries. If you wish to attend this meeting, you should let Carol Mason know (292236) to ensure that places are available.

Forthcoming **Thames Valley Network** events:

1st October – “Wildlife Activities Day” in Hurst, near Reading

26 – 28th October – “Riverside Revealed” a three day residential event which is the climax of the TVN Riverside Project

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

Other local events

Hughenden’s 1940s Weekend 15th – 16th October:

Hughenden Manor is celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Air Ministry taking over the manor during WWII. Discover the story of “Operation Hillside” – the amazing WWII secret history of Hughenden. Plenty of music, song, cookery, vehicles and children’s activities from the 1940s. Great to take family members and grandchildren. Hughenden is a National Trust property so take your membership card.

New Interest Groups

As the Chairman said in her opening thoughts, there are a number of ideas for new Interest Groups which are floating around. Such ideas invariably come from the U3A membership, and the Committee tries to judge which have sufficient interest to enable a new group to be formed. Some ideas are close to fruition, some are at the early stages of consideration. Some require a leader with some expertise in the subject.

Among the current set of ideas under consideration are:

- French Conversation
- Theatre group
- Geology group
- Archaeology group
- Theology group
- Textile group

If you may be interested in joining one or more of these groups, please let the Groups Co-ordinator Hilary Skipsey know, by telephone (290464) or dropping her a note (5 Willow Rise, Haddenham)



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Notes from the Interest Groups

(telephone nos. 01844 unless stated)

Antiques and Collectables Group

Leader: Lucy Hamblett (291386)

On 13th October, the group will be visiting the Quainton Railway Centre, followed by lunch in Quainton

Books Group

Leader: Ann Warris (292273)

We will be discussing "The Inheritance of Loss" by Kiran Desai on 25th October. The November book will be "Home – the story of everyone who lived in our house" by Julie Myerson

Card & Board Games Group

Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)

After our extended mid-year break, and despite the unseasonal warm weather, the Card and Games group will resume its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. New members are most welcome

Computers Group

Leader: Eileen Monks (216033)

The group will meet in Chinnor Village Centre on 7th October. We will discuss "Living with Google" and consider the ever widening range of applications and services available from the computer giant.

Please note that computer training courses are to be provided in Chinnor. Contact Eileen for details.

Cycling Group

Leader: Marie Woodrow (292012)

Malcolm White (291677)

At the time of publication, the cycling group's route for 25th October had not been revealed. Please contact Marie or Malcolm for further details

Dance

Leader: Theresa Smith (01296 747893)

After the extended summer break, the Dancing Group will resume its weekly session on October 27th. Eight weeks of Scottish Country Dancing with Jim Fulton will take us up to Christmas. Then from 11th January to 7th March we will have English Country Dancing. The rest of March and April will see us return to Zumba (arrangements to be finalised). 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 new programme for the Digital Photography has not yet been published, but the next meeting will be on 21st October

Discussion Group

Leader: Chris Patterson (290342)

Our popular Open Forum meetings will continue from 10th October, 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)

We will meet at the Lion's Den on 17th October when Mrs Carolyn Hollick will give a talk about Christmas Flowers.

Handbell Group

Leader: Alan Rose (291004)

The next regular meetings of the handbell group are on 10th and 24th October.

Local History Group

Leader: Alan Rose (291004)

Mrs Ann Hooton will lead a walk around Chearsley on 26th October. Group members should make their own way to The Bell at Chearsley, although car sharing can be arranged

Friday Luncheon Club

Leader: Angela Wenham (291932)

No meeting in October. The next lunch will be at Missenden Abbey on 11th November. Contact Maureen and Robert Bates on 291394 for details

Music Appreciation Group

Leader: Ed Bullimore (291011)

John Brandis will be getting us to move into ABBAland as a means of broadening our horizons, with a programme of Mamma Mia on 10th October.

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.



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Painting & Art Group

Next monthly meeting will be on 18th October.

Leader: Katie Loveday (291669)

Play Reading & Poetry Group

Terence Rattigan's "Separate Tables" is actually two one-act plays. Having read the first in September, the group will turn to "Table Number Seven" on 24th October. The poet will be announced in due course

Leader: Heather Forbes Russell (291482)

Pub Quiz Group

The October quiz at the Rose and Thistle pub will be on 5th October. Fresh talent for the U3A teams is always welcome.

Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)

Sunday Lunch Club

The Crown public house in Chinnor will be the venue for Sunday lunch this month on 16th October. Do let Ray know if you intend to join us.

Leader: Ray Price (299320)

Ten Pin Bowling Group

The next ten pin bowling session at Jardines in Aylesbury will be on 10th October. New members welcome, no experience necessary.

Leader: Spencer & Betty Taylor (291498)

Walking Group 1

Group 1's circular walk on October 18th will start and end at the Spade Oak pub in Bourne End.

Leader: Ingrid Holmes (291331)

Mary White (291677)

Walking Group 2

The first Ridgeway Walk stage being organised by our Chairman Carol Mason will take place on 4th October from Ivinghoe Beacon to Aston Clinton. Because this is a linear walk, with the ultimate aim of completing the whole Ridgeway in a number of months, the organisation of the session is greater than for the regular circular shorts walks. Nevertheless, everything is ready to kick off this new undertaking. The next two stages (each 10 miles) will be on November 1st and December 6th.

Leader: Carol Mason (292236)

The route of Group 2's circular walk on 28th October will be announced in due course.

Wine Group

David Tomlin and Edgar Skipsey have taken over leadership of the Wine group. Our thanks go to Paul Roberts for his period as group leader. We will be returning (in taxis!) to Majestic Wines in Aylesbury on 12th October for a "Winter Wine Walk". New members for this group are welcome.

Leader: David Tomlin (291877)

Edgar Skipsey (290464)

Other Items

Thame River Project

Following the example of the TVN Thames Riverside Project, our local CHATT group (Chinnor, Haddenham and the two Thame U3As) have instituted a "Thame River Project" which members may find more easy and amenable to participate in. Three groups have been formed covering Walks, History and Natural History. The project will run until September 2012 when there will be a presentation at each U3A and a talk in Thame Museum. The Haddenham contact point for the project is Alan Rose (01844 291004). Please try to get involved.

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. 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)

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

CALENDAR

October 2011

Interest Group	Event	Date	Time	Venue
GENERAL MEETING	"How and why we age" – Dr Tony Maisey	3 Oct 2011	1415 for 1430hrs start	Youth & Community Centre, Woodways, Haddenham
Walking	Walking the Ridgeway	4 Oct 2011	0900hrs	Minibus from Haddenham Village Hall
Pub Quiz	Pub Quiz	5 Oct 2011	1945 for 2000hrs start	Rose and Thistle pub, Haddenham
Computers	Living with Google	7 Oct 2011	1430hrs	Chinnor Village Centre
EVENTS & OUTINGS	"The Four Seasons by Candlelight" at Royal Albert Hall	9 Oct 2011	12.30hrs departure, return approx 19.3hrs	Coach from Village Hall, Haddenham
Ten Pin Bowling	Bowling Session	10 Oct 2011	1000hrs	Jardines, Aylesbury
Discussion	Open Forum	10 Oct 2011	1000hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
Handbells	Handbell session	10 Oct 2011	1400hrs	14 Stockwell, Haddenham
Music Appreciation	"Mamma Mia" - chosen and hosted by John Brandis	10 Oct 2011	1400hrs	Fort End House, Haddenham
Wine	Winter Wine Walk – at Majestic Wines, Aylesbury	12 Oct 2011	1840hrs	Taxis from Haddenham Village Hall
Antiques and Collectables	Visit to Quainton Railway Centre	13 Oct 2011	1100hrs	Meet at Haddenham Village Hall
Sunday Lunch	The Crown, Chinnor	16 Oct 2011	1230 for 1300hrs sitting	Meet at The Crown, Chinnor
Gardening	Christmas Flowers – Mrs Carolyn Hollick	17 Oct 2011	1430hrs	The Lion's Den, The Red Lion, Churchend, Haddenham
Painting & Art	Group Meeting	18 Oct 2011	1000hrs	20 Rosemary Lane, Haddenham
Walking Group 1	Circular route from Bourne End	18 Oct 2011	1015 for 1030hrs start	Meet at The Spade Oak pub, Coldmoorholme Lane, Bourne End SL8 5PS
Card and Board Games	Group Meeting	20 Oct 2011	1430hrs	5a Dollicott, Haddenham
Digital Photography	subject tba	21 Oct 2011	10.00hrs	Guide Headquarters, Southern Road, Thame
Play and Poetry Reading	"Table Number Seven" (second part of Separate Tables) by Terence Rattigan. Poet to be announced	24 Oct 2011	1400hrs	68 Willis Road, Haddenham
Cycling	route to be announced	25 Oct 2011	tba	tba
Books	"The Inheritance of Loss" by Kiron Desai	25 Oct 2011	1430hrs	The Old Stables, Dadbrook, Cuddington
Local History	Chearsley guided walk	26 Oct 2011	1400hrs	Meet at The Bell, Chearsley
Dance	Scottish Country Dancing	27 Oct 2011	1300 – 1400hrs	Haddenham Village Hall
Walking Group 2	route tba	28 Oct 2011	tba	tba