



Dorking & District
University of the Third Age

Handbook

June 2016 to March 2017



**Your guide to monthly meetings, study and interest
groups, study days, days out, theatre trips and holidays**

www.dorkingu3a.org.uk

Introduction

All change!

As you will have noticed, this is not the special groups edition of *What's On?* that has previously been issued in June. Instead, the committee has decided to issue an annual handbook, which this year is distributed in June but in future will be in March. New members will receive a handbook when they join. You should retain this handbook for reference until a new one is issued.

The handbook contains all that hitherto went in the special groups edition of *What's On?* Where possible, information is extended to include all dates so far available. For example, you will find details of all the monthly meetings up to March next year, except for February.

In future there will be no *What's On?* insertions with the newsletter. Instead, the newsletter, website, emailed monthly updates and screen notices at monthly meetings will contain any changes or additions to handbook entries.

The newsletter will continue to include reports of monthly meetings, outings, etc, and articles/poems, etc, by members, becoming more a magazine-type of publication.

My thanks, as always, to Mike Docker and Joy Parry for assistance in the production of this publication.

Jim Docking, Editor



The Chair's Annual Report 2015-2016 given at the AGM on 11 May 2015

My pledges at the start of my term as chairman were to improve our website, to introduce social events to the Dorking U3A calendar and to publicise the organisation more widely.

We have successfully relaunched the website, thanks to the skill and effort of our webmaster, Mike Docker. The site is now interactive so that members can leave comments on articles and there is up to date information on everything from local monthly meetings to regional study days.

Our first new social event was a quiz evening, which was a huge success. We plan to repeat it in November and hopefully to make it an annual event.

Finally we have worked hard to publicise Dorking U3A. Apart from improving the website we have distributed 1,000 leaflets and posters to a variety of organisations and individuals, and I have set up links with Age Concern in Dorking who are helping to promote us to people retiring or moving to the area.

The *Dorking Advertiser* has regularly printed reports of our monthly meetings and our anniversary events.

Membership has grown to 649. We have 50 interest groups with wine tasting, military history and archaeology among the latest. Our growing support means more income and this helps us to maintain healthy finances.

For my second year I would like to address the following issues. Some of our groups are nearing capacity and U3A policy is that we should be open to all. I will be working with the committee and group leaders to ensure that anyone who wants to join us can do so. And I want to continue the work on the website so that it becomes our major way of communicating.

None of this would be possible without the hard work and commitment of the committee. My thanks to its members, and I look forward to my second year working with them for a better U3A.



Phyllis Hughes

Membership

Welcome!

A warm welcome to the 29 new members who have joined since the March issue and who are listed below. We now have 649 paid-up members.

Mr David Ancomb
Mrs Betty Ancomb
Mr Tony Butler
Mr Edward Clipperton
Mr Philip Dawson
Mr Philip Dibsdall
Mrs Gerry Dibsdall
Miss Jean Gray
Mrs Margaret Grieve
Mrs Sonja Harbison
Mrs Pat Harding
Mrs Ann Hodgson
Mr Alan Hodgson
Mrs Pamela Jubert
Ms Mary King

Mrs Selena Lethbridge-Carr
Mrs Jennifer Mann
Mr Alan May
Mrs Sylvina Mellor
Mrs Jaqueline Morey
Ms Linda Newbold
Mrs Linda Parsons
Mr Clive Richardson
Mr Wojciech (George) Romanowski
Mrs Pat Sanchez
Mrs Diana Summer
Mrs Penny Tompkins
Mrs Yvonne Vallins
Mrs Annick Wilcox

Bob Crooks, Membership Secretary

Renewal of Membership

Membership was due for renewal on 1 April this year. Thank you to the majority of members who have now renewed.

You will have noticed that the new membership card is laminated with plastic and has no renewal date. The intention is that the card will not be replaced each year; instead, you will be given a renewal code as a receipt for your subscription. This can then be written on the back of the card. This new arrangement will save money on printing and postage and help to keep membership fees low. It will also be a step towards fully electronic membership renewal via GoCardless and email.

If you have not yet renewed, please do so as soon as possible, preferably using GoCardless (via our website www.dorkingu3a.org.uk) or if not, by cheque payable to Dorking & District U3A and sent with SAE to Bob Crooks, Deepdene, Longfield Road, Dorking RH4 3DE.

Monthly Meetings

Meetings take place in the Christian Centre on the second Wednesday of each month (except August), starting at 2.30pm. If you are finding it difficult to get to monthly meetings but would like to come if someone were to collect you, please ring Elizabeth Holmes (01306 884831), who will try to find a volunteer to drive you. If you drive, come to monthly meetings regularly and would like to be added to a list of drivers willing to collect members, would you kindly let Elizabeth know.

If you have suggestions regarding topics and/or speakers for monthly meetings, please get in touch with Jenny Ford (01306 882534).

8 June 2016

SATIRIST TO INSANITY: Celebrating the Life and Work of James Gillray, 1756-1815

Ian Keable, an
authority on
18th-century graphic
satirical art



13 July 2016

WOMEN INVENTORS: An Exploration in Technology and Social History

Stephen van Dulken

author and former inventions and patents
specialist at the British Library



14 September 2016 THE POLAR REGION

David Fletcher

polar explorer and
historian with
over 40 years'
working in the
Antarctic and
Arctic, trying to
promote the
ecology and conservation of the polar
regions



12 October 2016 HOW TROPICAL RAINFORESTS WORK David Jones

Researcher at the Natural
History Museum



9 November 2016
JAZZ MEETS THE BLUES

Mike Head

From the early jazz-blues of Bessie Smith to the city blues of Muddy Waters, with 12-bars from BB King and Ray Charles among others... and with a big thank you to Chris Barber and ale



14 December 2016
VICEROY SPECIAL:
IMAGES OF SRI LANKA

Paul Whittle

Paul describes a leisurely progress through this astonishingly beautiful island on a vintage steam train, encountering temples, tea gardens, turtles and some sad reminders of the tsunami.



11 January 2017
THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME

Barrie Friend
leader of the Military History Group

What role did Dorking soldiers play on 1 July 1916 'the blackest day in the history of the British army' and the following 148 days? How did everyday football help win an important victory?



8 February 2017
TO BE ARRANGED

8 March 2017
EXPERIENCING EGYPT:
THREE YEARS
IN CAIRO

Janet Diamond
 member of the Egyptian Society Taunton



Theatre Trips
 organised by Bookham U3A

Thursday 6 October at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking
 Romeo and Juliet
 Northern Ballet

£31 (circle seats) including coach from Bookham

Romeo gate-crashes a ball given by his family's enemies, the Capulets, only to fall in love with their daughter Juliet. Their passion is mutual, but the hatred between their families forces their relationship to a catastrophic conclusion.



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.

Study and Interest Groups

- ◆ Members may join as many groups as they wish. Just ring the contact number or send an email for further particulars. In the listings, email addresses are given where the group leader has requested it.
- ◆ If you have difficulty in joining a group, please get in touch with Penny Tompkins, the new Groups Liaison Officer (01306 203288; penny@cliffhanger.org.uk).
- ◆ Group leaders who feel they cannot accept more members should alert Penny Tompkins to the situation.
- ◆ Please let Lionel Cartlidge, Groups Coordinator (01306 898491; lcartlidge@ntlworld.com) know if you are proposing to start a new group or have suggestions for new groups or wish to make a general enquiry.

Archaeology

3rd Tuesday from 2.30 to 4.30 in the Lincoln Arms
Val Arundel: 01306 885730; val@valarundel.plus.com



We started early this year with a group of enthusiastic lovers of archaeology. A few of us have experience, but most in the past, so we are starting from scratch.

For the moment we are restricting our study to the UK, although there may be occasional connections with northern Europe. Having looked at the history and basics of excavations, we are finding our way into this enormous subject.

Starting with Roman villas and then going on to hill forts, we are gradually extending our basic knowledge, a little at a time. We have visited Bignor Roman Villa and later in the year hope to visit a local hill fort.

Art Appreciation

4th Wednesday from 2.00 to 4.00
in the United Reformed Church (small chapel)
Pat Lucas: 01306 711653; patalucas1976@yahoo.co.uk



We started in April 2013 and are now a lively, enthusiastic group. We have 10 meetings (including two visits and two speakers) per year.

We make good use of the DVDs from the U3A Resource Centre. Topics for our programme are taken from members' suggestions and forthcoming exhibitions ranging from early Renaissance to Grayson Perry.

We have studied William Morris and visited his home, the Red House, for our follow-up meeting. After watching an excellent DVD of Matisse in his workshop, we went to Tate Modern to see an exhibition of his work.

Future meetings include a visit to the Dulwich Picture Gallery and a talk on landscape photography and art.

Bowls

Bowls is a friendly and sociable activity, ideal for U3A members. It offers a great way to get gentle exercise with non-strenuous activity. Although the basics of the sport are easy to learn, you will find that the more you play, the better you get. Be warned, though, it can become seriously addictive! Our U3A runs two bowls groups, both of which welcome new members.



Summer

Every Friday Afternoon, from late April to mid September

Starts at 2.30, but please arrive by, say, 2.15.

Pippbrook Bowling Club (behind Mole Valley District Council Offices in Dorking; parking permits can be available for when you are playing)

David Pettman: 01306 883043; david@pettman.co.uk

Equipment: Bowls and other equipment are available, but please wear comfortable clothing and flat-soled shoes. Initial coaching and further guidance is available.

Charges: £3 per session (charges waived if you do become addicted and decide to join the bowling club)

Winter

1st and 3rd Fridays from late September, running through until April.

Meet at 1.45 for bowling from 2.00 to 4.00 at Horsham Indoor Bowling Club at Broadbridge Heath, near Horsham, behind Tesco.

Ann Watney: 01306 889115; ann.watney@btinternet.com

Equipment: Flat-soled shoes, preferably bowling shoes, are necessary; but other equipment and guidance can be provided.

Constraints: Because of limitations at Horsham, initial coaching needs to be obtained – either with the Summer Group, or with a bowls club before joining this group.

Charges: £6 per session.

Brunch Club

1st Sunday at 10.30 at Côte, St Martin's Walk

Jill Burberry: 01306 880653; jburberry@talktalk.net



Our new breakfast club has been renamed Brunch Club, making a lie-in easier; and skipping lunch can be useful for purse and diet. Available breakfasts range from light through French and vegetarian to full English. Sunday parking is free in neighbouring car parks, making the café very accessible; and as shops are open from 9.45am

it is easy to combine the Brunch Club with a weekly shop.

Bridge

Every Monday afternoon at 2.00-4.00 in the Christian Centre
Elizabeth Holmes: 01306 884831; emh2010@hotmail.co.uk

Bridge 1

The U3A Bridge group, held in the Small Hall, is for people who have a **basic to intermediate grasp of the game**. This is social, friendly bridge with occasional chatter and mixing between tables. As with the ethos of the U3A, more experienced players help the less competent. It's nothing too serious and enjoyed by all.

The cost is £26 per quarter payable in advance or, if you can come only occasionally, £2.50 per afternoon.



Bridge 2

At the same time, but in a different room in the Christian Centre, we have a small **beginners' group** led by a very experienced teacher. £2.50 per two-hour session.

Please get in touch with Elizabeth to discuss either group.

Calligraphy

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2.00-4.00 in the Lincoln Arms

Tony Costello: 01306 885305

We continue to copy different types of scripts. Some of us made Easter cards and some were involved in wedding stationery. We are putting together samples of our work for the anniversary exhibition in October.

*The efficient fish floats
effectively in effluent.*

We are currently a very small group and would welcome more members to join us.

Computing

4th Monday, 10.00-12.00 in the Lincoln Arms

Bob Crooks: 01306 740062; robertcrooks@rocketmail.com



We meet to discuss and explore technical aspects of computing. We have covered a range of topics, including digital photography, digital mapping, backup systems, cloud computing, advanced features of Word, database design using Microsoft Access, and Raspberry Pi. We have recently been exploring programming using Visual Basic for Applications. Members of the group present topics in which they have an interest and sessions usually involve practical demonstrations and exercises. We are happy to welcome new members with interest, but not necessarily expertise, in the 'inner workings' of computers.

If you are more interested in 'driving' your computer than looking 'under the bonnet', you may wish to investigate the Age Concern computer drop-in sessions at the Mayflower Centre in Dorking (01306 899104).

Classical Music Appreciation

1st Friday (except August) at 2.00 for about 2 to 2½ hours at the group leader's house in Punchbowl Lane, Dorking
Mike Stewart
01306 884153



The group exists to discuss and listen to classical music on CD or DVD. By 'classical music' we generally mean music composed

between 1750 and 1900 (ie, Classical and Romantic music), but are happy to extend these boundaries.

Each year bids are invited by the group leader for members' choices of composers or specific musical works, which results in a programme for the forthcoming year.

Members are encouraged to introduce their chosen composer or work, but this does not have to be a technical presentation. We just like to hear how and why people come to know and enjoy the music.

The group leader advises on musical technical matters and usually supplements the members' presentations with musicological comments.

Creative Writing

1st Friday in a member's house from 11.30 to 1.00

Judy Perry: 01306 640388
(but contact preferably by email)
judyperry9@btinternet.com

We are very relaxed group. Some bring 'homework' from the last meeting to read out, others skive!



We write on a series of given topics, then read our work out, or not, as the mood takes us. Writers range from the experienced to the beginner, but we all share an enthusiasm for the written word, be it poetry or prose (mostly prose, actually). We frequently manage to surprise ourselves and each other with the wild and varied products of our imagination.

The group is now bulging (not literally!) but there are plans afoot to start a second one, so don't be deterred; you may be pleasantly surprised to discover your hidden talent. All you need is pen, paper and a sense of humour. You will be made very welcome.

Current Issues

3rd Wednesday from 10.30 to 12.00

Jim Docking: 01737 843260; annejim@docking.eclipse.co.uk

We discuss issues of local, national and international interest, usually led by a member of the group but sometimes an outside speaker. Recent topics have included the ethics of consumerism, obesity, immigration, Tanzania, Ukraine, ISIS, narcotic drugs, Sierra Leone, Laos, the European Space Agency, TTOP, academies, the EU referendum, and poverty in the UK.



DIY Dressmaking

1st and 3rd Friday from 2.15 to 5.00

Anne Blanchard

01306 884359

bablanch@ntlworld.com



This group is for those who would like to improve their basic dressmaking skills and achieve advanced status. Sessions take the

form of a demonstration of an advanced technique and continue with working an example, working on a garment in progress or drafting a pattern.

Meeting in the leader's home allows ready access to practical examples, equipment and books; and, if necessary, a change of date can be arranged easily. Visits to exhibitions and museums are undertaken as and when they arise.

Of necessity the group is limited in size, but a second group could be arranged if required.

Dorking U3A Bells

Every Friday from 10.30 to 12.30 in the

Lincoln Arms, Dorking

Florence Reid

01306 879835

Handbell ringing

involves a combination of skills, requiring pleasurable concentration and co-ordination, the ability to read music (almost essential), the physical handling of the bells to give 'light and shade' to the music and keeping exact time as indicated by the leader.



Our group is led by Jill Sorrell. We are now preparing for a concert to be held in the autumn, as part of the U3A 25th anniversary celebrations. The programme will include lullabies, folk songs and some other familiar pieces.

We now have a set of chime bells which adds variety to the sound.

Enjoying Architecture

Last Monday from 2.00 to 3.00 for talks, mornings for visits

Mary Cowan: 01306 885341

Between March and November we have outings to interesting buildings, villages or parts of London. We always have a trained guide to take us around. Occasionally we visit a National Trust property but most buildings are privately owned.

This year we are booked to visit a Tin Tabernacle that houses a battleship in Kilburn, Sutton House in Hackney, and Docklands. More locally, we are due to visit Hammerwood House in Sussex.

From November to February we have meetings in the Small Chapel of the URC in West Street with DVDs and sometimes a speaker.



Exercise for Health

Every Tuesday from 10.15 to 11.15
in the Reading Room, Westcott
Pauline Huxtable
01737 842449

This is a very friendly and enjoyable class, led by an excellent instructor. It starts with a warm-up and stretches and then moves on to a low-impact aerobic phase (there is no floor work involved). The final phase includes chair exercises and cool down. A cup of tea or coffee is available at the end of the class.

Cost: £26 per quarter payable in advance.



French Conversation

1st and 3rd Thursdays from 2.30 to 4.00
Maggie Greeves: 01306 252460
Helen Kendrick: 01306 889284

We meet in each other's houses, each member taking a turn at leading the session, finding a topic

of interest, sometimes an item of news, a quiz, an exercise to improve our command of the language, a play, or a game, or we just chat in French.

We enjoyed a Christmas lunch at a pub in Westcott (*coq au vin*) prepared by a chef who spoke to us in French about the French economy, comparing working in France and England.

The group is large enough at present but we are willing to start a second group if there is demand.



Financial Matters

Last Friday of each month
from 11.00 to 12.30

Leader: Gordon Williams
01306 640654

Secretary: Pam Farbrother
01306 886523

pam.farbrother@talktalk.net

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.



Gardening

2nd Friday from 10.00 to 12.00
Joan Searle: 01737 843676



The group has continued to thrive. We plan to visit the extensive walled gardens at Loseley Park this summer. Mole Valley Council has

approved our plan for a flower bed to be added to Meadowbank recreation ground in Dorking to celebrate our 25th anniversary. (Congratulations! - Ed)

Genealogy Workshops

Group 1: Beginners

2nd Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00

Group 2: Non-beginners

1st Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00

Paddy Neville: 01306 882657



We have two groups, as above. 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.

German for Non-Beginners

1st and 3rd Thursdays from 2.00 to 4.00

Inga Avery: 01403 210307

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.

History

2nd Thursday at 2.30 in the Lincoln Arms

Sarah Wakeford: 01306 883641; sarahwakeford@gmail.com



The topics we aim to cover between May and December are: 'The Fall of the Roman Empire in the West and the Origin of European States', 'Life in Victorian Times', 'The History of Time', 'The English Civil War', '1066 and all That', and 'A Taste of What Life was Like in Denmark during WWII'.

We don't meet in August, and in December we are planning to get together for a Christmas lunch.

Italian Conversation

2nd and 4th Mondays from 2.15 to 4.00
Phillipa Holloway: 01306 882791

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.

Jazz Appreciation

2nd Thursday from 2.00 to 4.00
John Brown: 01306 886819

Our group first met in the very last months of the last century and is now fast approaching its 200th meeting. We are limited in space as all meetings take place at the leader's house but there is a very loyal following.



The music played comes largely from the leader's own collection, usually supplemented by discs from members who often do their own presentations. The period covered is very wide, ranging from Louis Armstrong to the present day via 30s swing, 40s bebop, big bands and small groups. Vocalists are not overlooked. There is only one rule: we always start a session with Count Basie.

Jane Austen

2nd Tuesday from 2.15 to 4.00
Florence Reid: 01306 879835

The first book studied, *Pride and Prejudice*, was published over 200 years ago in 1813. Today this is by far the most popular and widely read of Jane Austen's



novels. Its enduring appeal owes much to the charm of the heroine, Elizabeth Bennet, whose independent spirit and sparkling wit are so attractive to 21st century readers.

The second book we tackled was *Sense and Sensibility*, begun in the 1790s but not published until 1811. We also studied *Northanger Abbey*, which Austen began writing in her youth but was not published until after her death in 1817. This light-hearted work draws heavily on the author's first-hand knowledge of Bath and, with its amusing dialogue and parodies of the Gothic novels so fashionable at the time, lends itself to being read out loud.

This year we have chosen *Emma*, arguably Austen's finest achievement.



Latin for Today

3rd Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.00
in the Lincoln Arms, Dorking
Rosemary Harbridge: 01306 881520

Salve et carpe diem!

Dorking's enthusiastic Latin for Today group has been active for three years. Our informal, open-minded group follows the Cambridge Latin Course for language and grammar consideration, and we link study to everyday life in Roman times through to the present day.

Personal research is encouraged, and we share this in each session. We enjoy how Latin is relevant to other disciplines/themes, such as medicine, the law, science, horticulture and art. For inspiration we look at Latin poetry/prose texts and Roman mythology.

Summer visits have been to the British Museum's Pompeii exhibition, the Museum of London, Bignor Roman villa and Fishbourne Palace. These visits inform and extend our understanding and enjoyment of the Roman world.

Latin lives on! There is a definite revival and resurgence of interest in the UK press, books, radio and TV – and we are pleased to be part of this.



Line Dancing

1st and 3rd Fridays from 11.00 to 12.00
in Follett Hall at the back of the United
Reformed Church, West Street
Gill Crooks: 01306 740062
gillcrooks1@gmail.com
Tutor: Kate Deadman

Line dancing is a great way to exercise both body and mind.

At the end of the hour of upbeat country music we leave the hall invigorated and uplifted!

We learn new dances and revisit old favourites, gradually building up our pace.

We have learnt *Waltz Across Texas*; *Live, Laugh, Love*; *Boot Scootin'* *Boogie* and *Brushstrokes*, to name a few.

New members are welcome – don't worry about catching up, as our patient tutor Kate understands we need lots of recapping.

She has also provided us with a CD and instructions for the steps and we can see examples of many of the dances online.



Local History

3rd Monday at 10.00
Hilda Burden: 01737 842516; info@hildaburden.co.uk

We are a small, friendly group who meet in members' homes. We cover all aspects of local history from shops and residences to the 'big houses' and organisations such as the Fire Service. We all take part in researching our monthly topics.



Luncheon Club

4th Monday at 12.30

Tony Parker: 01306 884050; tp@abilityback.com

The second get-together of the re-formed U3A Luncheon Club was held to be another success, with eight people attending and a similar assembly to that of the first meeting. We got together at the Watermill, where we were treated to good service and food. In fact, this get-together was better served than previously as before we had not informed the restaurant of our pending arrival.



If you would like to attend one of our lunch parties you would be most welcome. Please contact Tony to find out when and where the next meeting is to be held.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Mahjong

Every Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00 in the Lincoln Arms, Dorking

Phyllis Hughes: 01737 479839; oakdene4@aol.com



The ancient Chinese game of mahjong is played with 144 tiles and involves lots of conventions that make the game unique. It was originally a gambling game and is strictly controlled in the Far East. However, Dorking U3A plays for plastic counting sticks. As with most games, mahjong has its own special terms, such as pungs, kongs, chows and goulash.

There are three suits of characters, circles and bamboo as well as tiles for north, east, south and west wind.

Everyone is welcome as full tuition is given to beginners. Ideally, newcomers need to commit to four weeks so that they can learn the basics before putting everything into practice. We organise special hands and scoring days on a regular basis with modest prizes for the top hands. A charge of £2 per session is made to cover costs.

Military History

1st Tuesday from 10.30 to 12.30 in the Lincoln Arms, Dorking

Barrie Friend: 01737 668977

Our aim is to share knowledge through talks, discussions, demonstrations and visits. The group is not restricted to just one era or war but covers all aspects from pre-history up to today. Your enthusiasm and enquiring mind are all that is required. If you have specific knowledge of a battle or military topic to share, that is welcomed. There is no obligation to make a formal presentation.



We have enjoyed discussing the Falklands War, Waterloo, war gaming and the Middle East conflicts. We are planning: Protection of Britain Against Invasion by Napoleon and Hitler, followed by a visit to local defensive sites and, later, the Spanish Civil War.

Music Theory

Every Wednesday from 10.30 to 12.30
Jill Sorrell: 01306 740732; jillsorrell@talktalk.net

This is a small group that meets in the leader's home. It is an occasional course, and the second one is currently ongoing. If there is the demand for another course (maximum six people) it will be repeated in the autumn.



We study the basic elements of the grammar of music, written and aural, as well as lots of general musical knowledge. The course is specially suitable for those people who have learnt to play a musical instrument in their youth but have failed to be taught how it all works!

Absolutely no previous knowledge is needed, though having a good ear and access to a keyboard makes it easier to understand and enjoy.

Myths

3rd Wednesday from 10.00 to 12.00
Jill Burberry: 01306 880653; jburberry@talktalk.net



Creation myths seem to be found in all cultures and are often linked with religious beliefs, but other subjects of myths are endless, passing down tribal history and education among the amazing stories.

Celtic myths are our current fare. Japanese and Chinese are next on the agenda. There is such a wealth of material, and final choice is left to members.

Philosophy

3rd Tuesday from 2.30 to 4.00
Marjorie Hudson: 01306 888281; mvh738@gmail.com

Having completed our studies based on *Philosophy Bites Back* by Nigel Warburton and David Edmonds, we are now working from *An Anthology of Western Philosophy*, edited by John Cottingham. This contains a comprehensive selection of readings from many philosophers across the centuries, together with commentaries by Cottingham. We are beginning with the section on knowledge, which covers thinkers from Plato to Hume, Kant and Hegel. The presentations are followed by a lively discussion.



Painting for Pleasure

Every Thursday from 1.30 to 3.30 in the Christian Centre
Elaine Major: 01306 887273; e.major64@btinternet.com

Do you enjoy drawing and painting? Would you like to revive an old hobby, or begin a new one?

We provide our own materials and produce paintings in pencil, watercolour, pastel, acrylics, etc. The choice is yours.

Some basic instruction can be offered to complete beginners, using pictures and photographs as a starting point. Some of our work is displayed in the café at the Christian Centre.

The cost, covering the use of the downstairs room, is shared by members and is £15 per head for a block of six sessions based on eight people. More members would be welcome.

Come and see us at work, or phone or email Elaine Major for further details.



Photography

1st Tuesday from 2.00 to 4.30

Mike Thurner: 01306 884831; miketauto@aol.com
Graham Speed: 01306 889448; grahamspeed@tesco.net



Our members have a mix of experience and cameras (SLR, bridge and compact). Several have computers with image manipulating software. We engage in practical digital photography and are striving to extend the boundaries of our individual photographic comfort zones and to improve our creative picture-making skills by sharing our individual

knowledge and expertise as well as having fun.

We agree a broad monthly theme for each member to interpret and produce a set of images which are projected on to a screen and shared with the whole group for critical evaluation at the end of the month. The best images are contributed to the U3A website and some have been exhibited at Denbies, at monthly meetings and the AGM.

A coffee break in the middle of the meeting is a chance to socialise and exchange views and we sometimes have a presentation on a photographic subject followed by a discussion.

Pilates 1

Every Tuesday from
2.30 to 3.30 in the
Christian Centre, Dorking

Pilates 2

Every Tuesday from
3.45 to 4.45 in the
Christian Centre, Dorking

Pilates 3

Every Thursday from
10.45 to 11.45 in the
Reading Room, Westcott

Overall leader Mary Rowlatt: 01306 883372; Tutor Tina Westwood



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. Cost: £4.50 per session paid by cheque at the start of each block of 6-8 weeks; no refunds.

Poetry Unlimited

2nd and 4th Mondays from 2.00 to 4.00

Pam Toler: 01306 882970; pamtoler1929@hotmail.co.uk



Our subjects range from romantic to modern – Shakespeare to Keats, John Betjeman and Clive James – while subjects also range widely: colours, gardens, dreams. When the muse comes upon us we even write our own poems. We also read the biographies of poets and enjoy remembering poems we learnt long ago.

Portfolio Management

Every three or four weeks on Fridays from 1.30 to 4.00

(dates agreed at each meeting) in the Hamilton Room, Betchworth

John Holder 01737 845907; johnholder@waitrose.com

Our group shares the enjoyable and generally profitable hobby of investing in the stock market, either in collective funds or in individual stocks. We discuss the impact of current affairs on markets, exchange investment ideas and construct dummy portfolios, which we follow throughout the year. Recent study topics have included investment risk and reward, finding one's comfort zone, managing bond portfolios and SIPP's.



As we have recently recruited a few less experienced members, we have left some meetings open for questions on any aspect of investment. Most people should be capable of managing their investments online and saving money.

Quilting

2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 11.00 to 1.00 at the Friends Meeting House
Juliet Eberle: 01306 884569; juliet.eberle@ntlworld.com



Our group meets at an agreed group member's home. We set ourselves both group and individual challenges to explore and develop unlearned techniques.

This is an enthusiastic, friendly and lively little group with everyone contributing something different, such as technical knowhow, fabric and equipment, a conducive working environment, administrative skills, inspiration, project ideas or plain encouragement.

We look to share outings, articles and quilting experiences with each other and to see where the future takes us.

Reading for Pleasure

2nd Monday from 10.15 to 11.45

Joyce Kingsley-Jones: 01306 885789; joycekingsleyjones@hotmail.co.uk

Between the poetry reading in January and the Christmas party in December we take it in turns 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!



Science and Technology in Everyday Life

2nd Monday from 2.30 to 4.30 at the Lincoln Arms, Dorking

Keith Dakin-White: 01372 459307; kfra1992@gmail.com



Our members have a range of backgrounds – some have worked professionally in a field of science or technology, whereas others are simply interested in the exciting and amazing world of science and technology.

Members volunteer to give a talk on a particular area that interests them and this is followed by discussion and questions.

Recent talks have included 'Maths and the Universe', 'Recent advances in the science of the brain' and 'The history and science of batteries'.

Future talks are planned to include 'The Weather', 'Volcanoes' and 'Watson and Crick – the story of DNA'.

The group also arranges visits from time to time to places of scientific interest such as the synchrotron science facility at Harwell.

We welcome anyone who has an interest in science and technology and wishes to share it with others.

Shakespeare and his Contemporaries

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10.00 to 12.30
Charmian Corner: 01306 883374
charmian.corner@care4free.net

We are a small but enthusiastic group. We make a close reading of the play and watch each scene on video between readings.



For the past year we have been studying Shakespeare's late plays and we are now working on *Troilus and Cressida*, one of his least known and rarely produced plays.

Singles Club

Days agreed at each meeting
Rosemary Smith: 01306 252792
smithrosemary@sky.com

At present we meet for Sunday lunch approximately every three weeks. It is hoped that in the future we could arrange walks, etc. So if you have something you would like to do, maybe suggest it at one of our lunches.



Singing for Pleasure

1st and 3rd Mondays from 10.00 to 12.00 in the Reading Room, Buckland
Meike Laurenson: 01737 248909
mlaurenson@talktalk.net

As the title of this group makes clear, we 'sing for pleasure'. We also sing at local residential homes twice a year and really enjoy presenting a concert for those in care.

Gina Eason, our director and pianist, is of some renown, offering accompaniment for not only the Mole Valley but also the Reigate & Redhill music festivals. She is also an organist, runs three choirs, plays at weddings and funerals and is quite comfortable with a wide range of musical styles.

Members enjoy a variety of songs including spirituals, folk, musicals, choral and sea shanties.

All are welcome. Feel free to join in for the fun of it, if you can. There is a free taster session to start with.

Cost: £3 per session, payable six weeks in advance, to cover costs.



Spanish Conversation (Intermediate)

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2.00 to 3.30

Sylvia Herbert: 01372 372009



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.

We are a friendly group, and everyone takes an enthusiastic part. Tapes or DVDs are used for listening practice. We have an annual lunch party in January at a Spanish restaurant, to which members can bring a partner or friend.

Seven members of the group went to Spain for a week in June 2015 for a Spanish language immersion course in Cantabria and Rioja under the auspices of Eurolink Cantabria, led by Jose Antonio Herrera.

Walking

2nd and 4th Fridays at 10.00

Jane White: 01306 888886

Daphne Dixon: 01737 842106

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.



Upwords

2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 2.00 to 4.00

in the Christian Centre café

Elizabeth Holmes: 01306 884831

emh2010@hotmail.co.uk

Upwords, if you haven't met it before, is a sort of 3D Scrabble but more fun!

Come and try it if you've never played - it's very easy to learn. Tiles are



placed on a board similar to Scrabble, but then other letters can be stacked on top of those already on the board to create a new word. The higher the stack, the more points are scored. The group is very friendly – we chat as we play and help each other find alternative words. Cost: 50p for tea and biscuits.

Wine Appreciation

Geoff Saunders: tallship@eircom.net

We are a new group, set up with the intention of discovering more about wine together. So far we have had just two meetings, but are planning for the future



Since none of us has the necessary qualifications to run the group alone, we will progress very much in the U3A way, learning together. To add in an element of professional skill, we hope to work with local wine merchants and producers and, in fact, this has been a successful approach so far.

Members will take turns in selecting a topic (region, grape variety, colour, style, etc) and perhaps research a little with the help of professionals. Sessions will take place as we can find the opportunities, and costs will be in the order of £5-£10 per session. Come and join us!

Regional Study Days

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 £10 (£12 for non-members). Please bring a packed lunch. Booking is necessary. Forms are available on the Surrey U3A Network website by clicking the study day you wish to attend.



Friday 17 June 2016

Majesty and Menace: Henry VIII and the Tudor Age
Siobhan Elizabeth Clarke, guide lecturer at Hampton Court Palace

Friday 16 September 2016

English Cathedral Architecture Explained
Keith Hasted, WEA lecturer

Friday 21 October 2016

The Knight in Shining Armour
Presented by Nigel Arch

Friday 18 November 2016

The Inka: Children of the Sun
Maria Chester, U3A member, Pre-Colombian Meso-American archaeologist

Friday 17 February 2017

To be announced

Friday 17 March 2017

To be announced
(This will be the 100th study day)

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	Bridge	Bridge Italian Conversation Poetry Unlimited Science, Technology & Society
Tuesday	am	Exercise for Health Military History Shakespeare & his Contemporaries	Exercise for Health
	pm	Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Photography	Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Calligraphy Upwords Jane Austen
Wednesday	am	Mahjong Music Theory Genealogy Workshop for Non-beginners	Mahjong Music Theory Quilting Genealogy Workshop for Beginners
	pm	Spanish Conversation	MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday	am	Pilates 3 (Westcott)	Pilates 3 (Westcott)
	pm	Painting for Pleasure French Conversation Group 1 German for Non-beginners	Painting for Pleasure History Jazz Appreciation
Friday	am	Dorking U3A Bells Line Dancing Creative Writing	Dorking U3A Bells Walking Gardening
	pm	Outdoor Bowls (Apr-Sep) DIY Dressmaking Indoor Bowls (Oct-Apr) Classical Music Appreciation	Outdoor Bowls (Apr-Sep)

groups meet?

3rd in month	4th/last in month	Also: Brunch Club on Sunday morning Singles Club — dates as arranged
Singing for Pleasure Local History	Computing Enjoying Architecture (if day outing) Luncheon Club (12.30pm)	
Bridge	Bridge Italian Conversation Poetry Unlimited Enjoying Architecture	
Exercise for Health Latin for Today Shakespeare & his Contemporaries	Exercise for Health	
Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Archaeology	Pilates 1 & 2 (Dorking) Calligraphy Upwords Philosophy	
Mahjong Music Theory Current Issues Myths	Mahjong Music Theory Quilting	
Spanish Conversation	Art Appreciation	
Pilates 3 (Westcott)	Pilates 3 (Westcott)	
Painting for Pleasure French Conversation Group 1 German for Non-beginners	Painting for Pleasure	
Dorking U3A Bells Line Dancing	Dorking U3A Bells Walking Financial Matters	
Outdoor Bowls (Apr-Sep) DIY Dressmaking Indoor Bowls (Oct-Apr) Portfolio Management	Outdoor Bowls (Apr-Sep)	

Days Out



We arrange monthly day trips (excluding August and December) to a wide variety of places of interest. Interspersed among the well known places such as Brighton Pavilion or Kew Gardens are unusual venues. Last year, for instance, we visited Butser's near Petersfield, an experimental reconstruction of an ancient farm for the study of primitive agricultural methods. More recently we went to Dennis Sever's House in Spitalfields for a taste of what

life was like for the Huguenot silk weavers.

It is fast becoming a tradition for us to arrange a boat trip in July, and this year we are planning to take a mini-cruise round Chichester Harbour (details opposite). Other plans include: a repeat visit to Bletchley Park, by popular demand, and the exhibition on the Sunken Cities of Ancient Egypt at the British Museum later in the year

It is not always possible to consolidate our plans more than a few weeks in advance as we are at the mercy of the booking offices. We want above all for you to enjoy the outings and we are always pleased to hear of any suggestions you may have for places to visit.

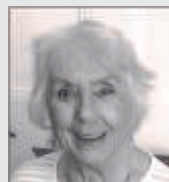


Free Legal Helpline

There is a U3A legal helpline run by Arc Legal Assistance in partnership with Irwin Mitchell solicitors. It's there 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just ring 0344 770 1040 and quote 'U3A legal helpline'.

Welfare Officer

We now have a Welfare Officer, Pam Toler, who will endeavour to make contact with those who are ill, the relatives of those bereaved and those with special birthdays. Please let Pam know if you have information about illness or special birthdays or bereavement (01306 882970).



**Thursday 21 July
CHICHESTER HARBOUR
AND CITY**



We will board a boat for a 1hr 40min tour of the harbour area. We are advised to wear warm clothes as it can be chilly on the water. Tea and coffee are available on board for a donation to 'Get Afloat' to support a disadvantaged children's society.

If you wish to take your own drink, then please take a plastic cup or tumbler.

After the boat trip, we will board the coach to go into Chichester, where you can have lunch (not provided) and look around until the journey home.

Cost: £22
Leaders: Jean Williams
(07770 874762) and
Judith Kingsley (07497 763577)

**Wednesday 21 September
BLETCHLEY PARK**

As you go round the Nissen huts at Bletchley Park, you may feel as if you are stepping back in time to the war years and might almost expect to hear sirens.



Each hut is dedicated to a particular aspect of communications or code-breaking, although the spartan office conditions didn't reflect the supremely important secret work done here.

Of course you won't want to miss Turing and his team's actual device (pictured) for decoding the enemy's Enigma machine. You will be pleased to find that there are excellent audio guides that will explain the intricacies.

A light lunch can be purchased at either of the two cafés, or you can take sandwiches.

Cost: £31
Leaders: Jean Williams
(07770 874762) and
Judy Peace (07889 522908)

Further details of the following planned outings will be circulated later:

Friday 14 October: EXHIBITION OF THE QUEEN'S CLOTHES, WINDSOR

The Queen's special ensembles, wedding and coronation clothes by her designers from Norman Hartnell and Hardy Amies to Angela Kelly. Leaders: Judy Peace (07889 522908) and Sue Grant (07881 911796).

Friday 25 November: SUNKEN CITIES: EGYPT'S LOST WORLD Exhibition at the British Museum. Leaders: Jean Williams (07770 874762) and Sue Grant (07881 911796).

NB No outing in December.

Dates for outings in the first part of 2017 are provisionally Thursday 19 January, Tuesday 14 February and Wednesday 15 March.

Days Out: How to Book

Day excursions are organised by the Days Out Committee.

- 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 & 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.
- Please note: Verbal bookings will be treated as provisional and must be followed up by payment within one week. Your cheque will secure your place.
- 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.



We give the names of the leaders and their mobile numbers. Please note that these numbers should only be used on the day of the outing.

Coach departure places and 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: Knoll Road bus stop, approximately 100 yards up from Harrow Road East
- NB The coach will no longer be stopping in North Holmwood



Calendar of Events

Jun	8	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Satirist to Insanity: Celebrating the Life of James Gillray
	18	<i>Anniversary event</i>	Dinner at Betchworth Golf Club, 7pm
	17	<i>Study Day</i>	Henry VIII and the Tudor Age
	17	<i>Day Out</i>	Mottisfont
	11	<i>New Members</i>	Meeting in the Lincoln Arms, 11.00
Jul	13	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Women Inventors
	21	<i>Day Out</i>	Chichester Harbour and City
Sep	14	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	The Polar Region
	16	<i>Study Day</i>	English Cathedral Architecture Explained
	21	<i>Day Out</i>	Bletchley Park
	26	<i>Holiday</i>	In Menorca until 2 Oct
Oct	6	<i>Theatre Trip</i>	
	12	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	How Tropical Rainforests Work
	14	<i>Day Out</i>	Exhibition of the Queen's Clothes
	21	<i>Study Day</i>	The Knight in Shining Armour
Nov	9	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Jazz Meets Blues
	18	<i>Study Day</i>	The Inka: Children of the Sun
	25	<i>Day Out</i>	Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost World
	22	<i>Quiz Night</i>	At the Rialto Restaurant, South Street. Details to be announced
Dec	14	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Viceroy Special: Images of Sri Lanka

Continued on next page >>

Jan	11	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	The Battle of the Somme
	18	<i>Group Leaders' Lunch</i>	In Follett Hall, URC, at 12.00
	19	<i>Day Out</i>	To be arranged
Feb	8	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	To be arranged
	14	<i>Day Out</i>	To be arranged
	17	<i>Study Day</i>	To be arranged
Mar	8	<i>Monthly Meeting</i>	Experiencing Egypt: Three Years in Cairo
	15	<i>Day Out</i>	To be arranged
	17	<i>Study Day</i>	To be arranged

The Committee

Chair: PHYLLIS HUGHES (01737 479839; chairman@dorkingu3a.org.uk) 4 Oakdene, Copleigh Drive, Kingswood KT20 6BN

Vice-Chair: vacancy

Correspondence Secretary: LIONEL CARTLIDGE (01306 898491; ljcartlidge@ntlworld.com) 5 Betchworth Place, Reigate Road, Dorking RH4 1BF

Treasurer and Webmaster: MICHAEL DOCKER (01306 501640; treasurer@dorkingu3a.org.uk) 35 Lake View, North Holmwood, Dorking RH5 4TH

Membership Secretary: BOB CROOKS (01306 740062; dorkingu3a@gmail.com) Deepdene, Longfield Road, Dorking RH4 3DE

Publicity and Assistant Membership Secretary: TONY PARKER (01306 884050; tp@abilityback.com)

Monthly Meetings Speakers: JENNY FORD (01306 882534; jennyaford@btinternet.com) Borrowdale, 15 Deepdene Drive, Dorking RH5 4AH

Groups Co-ordination: LIONEL CARTLIDGE (see above) and GEOFF SAUNDERS (see below)

Groups Liaison Officer: PENNY TOMPKINS (01483 203288; penny@cliffhanger.org.uk) 15 Queen Street, Gomshall GU5 9LY

Minutes Secretary: JUDY PERRY (01306 640388; judyyates@btinternet.com) 30 High Acre, Dorking RH4 3BF

Newsletter Editor: JIM DOCKING (see under Newsletter below)

Online courses: GEOFF SAUNDERS (01306 887493; tallship@eircom.net)

PAT SMITH (temporarily absent)

Days Out Committee

Chair: JEAN WILLIAMS (01737 845907) 77A Middle Street, Brockham, Betchworth RH3 7HL

Members: SUE GRANT (01306 883594), JUDITH KINGSLEY (01306 741227) and JUDY PEACE (01306 883002)

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Proof-reader: JOY PARRY

25th anniversary tea



Top: Members at the tea party in Denbies



Left: Phyllis Hughes, present chairman, with Jim Docking, first chairman