

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I hope all our Members will make a special effort to attend the AGM on June 22nd. Further details are enclosed within this Newsletter.

Your Executive Committee has reviewed a number of options with regard to the printing and delivery of the paper version of this Newsletter. As from the autumn we are conducting a 3 month trial whereby the Newsletter will be issued by a direct mailing service. (This is the same system that is used to deliver 'Third Age Matters' from National Office). This new system of delivery will give us considerable financial savings and a reduction in the number of steps and people involved in delivering the Newsletter to you. If the trial is a success we will continue on a permanent basis.

Mary & Colin Butson and their team have done a fantastic job in distributing the Newsletter over the years and on behalf of the Executive Committee I would like to say a big thank you to them all.

I would also like to acknowledge the support given by Sally Jolly at Welcome Printing where our Newsletter has been printed. We will continue to give them the opportunity to quote for the Handbook and other miscellaneous printing.

Please note that a Data Protection Policy has been issued and this is available to view on our website.

We recently organised a Coffee Morning for Members who have been with us for between one and three years with a view to exchanging ideas with the Executive Committee on how our U3A is run. Unfortunately the attendance was disappointing. We are planning a repeat event in the future and hope we will get a better response. Please take the opportunity to have a say in how your U3A is run.

Jim Purves. chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

2016 AGM

This year's AGM will be held at the Community Centre at 2pm on Wednesday 22nd June.

The following papers are included with this Newsletter:

- ◆ The Agenda
- ◆ The Trustees' Annual Report
- ◆ The Accounts to March 2016

The following vacancies have arisen on the Executive Committee. The following nominations have been received, for ratification at the AGM:

- ◆ Committee Secretary - Jackie Bradforth
- ◆ Membership Secretary - Jill Davies
- ◆ Chair to the Communications Committee – nominations invited

If members wish to be nominated for any of the above positions they should contact Judy Hebert.

Those taking the eNewsletter will find their AGM papers, including the draft Minutes for the 2015 AGM, as attachments.

Paper versions of the draft 2015 Minutes will be placed on chairs at the AGM; please bring your own copies of the other AGM papers. If anyone has any difficulty printing AGM papers from the eNewsletter attachments, please contact me.

Following the AGM, there will be a talk by two Kent magistrates. At the end of the afternoon, our hospitality team will be serving tea and cakes as usual.

Judy Hebert

Secretary

secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2016-2017

Please remember that a new subscription structure comes into play on SEPTEMBER 20th 2016 whereby each member pays a common subscription of £13.

There will be no change for SINGLE MEMBERS - YOU NEED NOT TAKE ANY ACTION

JOINT MEMBERSHIP increases from £18 to £26 - PLEASE CHANGE YOUR STANDING ORDER

You can do this through

1	Online banking
2	Letter to your bank
3	By visiting your bank

Newsletter Team: Victoria Baxter, Elizabeth Purves, Celia Smith

Copy for July Newsletter (which will be distributed on Wednesday 22 June at the AGM) by Tuesday 7 June to news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

Susan has been busy collating information for the Handbook and would like to thank all the Group Organisers who have responded with details of their groups for 2016-2017, and remind those who have not responded that she would like to hear from them before the end of May.

01732 490383 groupdev@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

THE DRAMA GROUP



HAMALOT or DASTARDLY DOINGS IN DENMARK!

You will all know that this is a special year for Shakespearian works, but there will be nothing quite like this!

Diana Edwardes has written a wonderful send-up of the well-known tragic tale of Hamlet. The Drama Group and a few friends will bring it to you on:

Friday December 9th at Otford Village Hall. (An evening with supper)

We invite any members who would like to tread the boards on this special occasion to contact Pamela Murphy. 01732 365484 pamela1732@gmail.com

WIRE & BEADED JEWELLERY GROUP WORKSHOP

Generally the Group meet monthly in each others' homes with the occasional visits to relevant exhibitions. Recently we attended an all day workshop in the studio of Linda Jones local jewellery maker, tutor and author of books on her subject.

All tools and materials were supplied at our places of work around the large central table in her light and airy studio. Linda started by showing examples of the sort of pieces we would achieve by the end of the day and with great patience took us through each stage. Gradually our confidence increased as our reluctant fingers mastered using the tools and wires in a more disciplined way. For the morning project we each wire wrapped our chosen stone, culminating in a decorative loop through which our chosen thong or ribbon would be threaded. Various clasps were demonstrated and constructed onto the thongs.

We had a convivial lunch outside in the garden soaking up the sun. The afternoon session was more "free flow" using different sizes of beads with the wire wrapping ending up as pendants or earrings in an abstract style.

We plan another workshop for the autumn to produce simple jewellery and decorations for Christmas.

Linda will be taking part in the South East Open Studios in June and she'll be based at Dibgate Farm, Sundridge.

Cherry Moss.



MEMBERS' CORNER

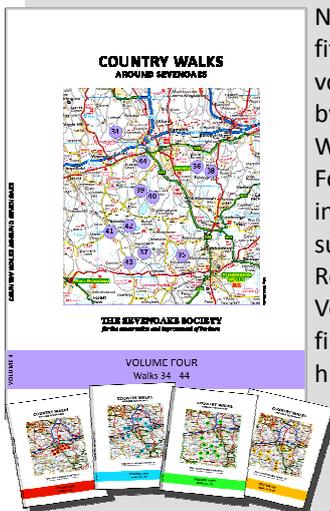
Please submit items of interest to members to news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS COURSE

Do you know what makes you happy? Would you like to explore what makes for a happy life? Two of our members Lys and Chris Hix are putting on an Action for Happiness course at St Julians on eight Monday evenings during July and August. This is a unique and inspiring course to explore what matters for a happy and meaningful life. The course is based on the latest scientific evidence and is intended for people of all backgrounds, particularly those who would like to see a more positive and caring society. The charity behind the course asks for a donation of £90 (£10 per week plus £10 for the course book).

The course will run from 19.45 to 21.45 from 4 July to 22 August and should be a lively and uplifting experience for everyone. Please let Lys or Chris know on 01732 453991 if you would like to talk about it. More details can be found on the Action for Happiness website at www.actionforhappiness.org and details of this course are at <http://afh-sevenoaks-4-jul.eventbrite.co.uk>

COUNTRY WALKS ROUND SEVENOAKS



Nick White has completed the fifth and final local walking volume, many of these tested by members of the Half Day Walking Group.

Four of these volumes, including this latest, are substantial revisions to the late Roland Oakley's walking books. Volume 5, which was published first, are walks devised by Nick himself. The volumes are folders containing loose-leaf walks which can be carried around separately.

All five books are available at the Sevenoaks Bookshop, at Up and Running, the Ide Hill community shop and from the Sevenoaks Society which sponsored the publication.

THE GREAT COMP MUSIC FESTIVAL 3rd July - 2nd October



Nigel Britten says "Imagine: an evening of chamber music performed by artists of international reputation in an intimate, comfortable converted stable; outside a seven-acre garden in its summer splendour surrounding a 17th century manor house. This is the uniquely appealing setting for the Great Comp Festival."

See the pale yellow flyer for more details, or visit www.greatcompmusic.org

SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk

REPORT ON THE KINGS CROSS REGENERATION TRIP



Thankfully the weather was dry for our guided visit around the King's Cross area. This visit was the first trip that your Social Committee has arranged using public transport. 50 members met by the iconic statue of The Meeting by Paul Day, with our blue badge guides, Christine and Sean, who explained the significance of this piece of sculpture. On a lower level there is a life size statue of the poet John Betjeman who campaigned so vigorously to save our Victorian Heritage

The newest square in London is situated here and named Granary Square, the large warehouses now home to St. Martin's School of Art. Just two of the many gasometers which were between St. Pancras and Kings Cross Station have now been re-sited and the old St. Pancras Coal and Goods Yard has now been turned into the Camley Street Nature Reserve. Another building currently being refurbished will become a Jamie Oliver cookery school. Google too are planning to build their new European Headquarters by King's Cross Station.

The afternoon was left free, some members taking advantage of visiting The House of Illustration a new Art Gallery, The British Library to do some research, and the newly opened Frances Crick Institute as the Visitor Centre has just recently opened on Thursday afternoons only. A few of us walked along the canal towpath enjoying the sunshine.

Due to the success of this outing the Social Committee is planning a visit to Historical Spitalfields in September.

Joyce Allen

MOTOWN MUSICAL

Tickets for Motown, the musical about the story behind the Motown phenomenon, featuring singers such as Diana Ross and the Supremes, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson and Marvin Gaye have been offered to us at the reduced rate of £45 person. I have already sent e-mails to all those on the 'theatre list' to see if there are at least 10 people interested in seeing this musical on a Thursday matinee in January 2017 at the Shaftesbury Theatre. If there is anyone else who would like to be contacted about this (or indeed any other theatre offers we receive) please let me know at v_joyce@hotmail.co.uk
Vicki Joyce.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

Ambling

Wednesday 15 June

Meet at the Lullingstone Park Visitors Centre, Castle Road, Eynsford DA6 0JF for a 10am start (there is a charge for the parking). The walk will take in the glorious flower meadows in the park which are at their best in June. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leader: Janet Wilson

Bridge for Pleasure

Weds 8 & 22 June

The Group plays at Otford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50 a.m. until 12.15 p.m. The winner on 13th April was George Thompson and on 27th April was Bill Taylor.

We are an "open" group, so any new players can just come along.

Colin and Mary Butson

The Strollers

Tuesday 21 June

Details of the walks will no longer be published in the Newsletter. To walk with us, send me an email and information will be sent by email.

Anne Gutteridge

Half Day Walking

Monday 27 June

Meet outside Bough Beech Visitor Centre, TN14 6LD grid reference 496494, in time for a 10am start. Turn left as marked off the B2042 Edenbridge road and park on the road by the reservoir. It is an easy 5½ mile walk around the reservoir. The optional lunch after the walk will be at The Cock at Ide Hill. These walks are open to all U3A members and new walkers are always welcome.

Leader: Nick White

MONTHLY MEETING and AGM

2.00pm Wednesday 22 June at the Bat & Ball Community Centre

Following the AGM there will be a talk on The Workings of the Court System, by Nigel Cox and a fellow Kent magistrate. They will explain how the courts work and include at least one case study for the audience to consider as to verdict and sentence.

E-NEWSLETTER WATCH

SIGN UP NOW to receive an electronic copy of the Newsletter in full colour direct into your mailbox. email cstreets@aol.com

Diary

JUNE

Wed	8	Bridge for Pleasure
Thurs	9	Science Study Day
Wed	15	Ambling
Tues	21	Strollers
Wed	22	Bridge for Pleasure
Wed	22	AGM
Mon	27	Half day walking
Wed	29	Outing to Wimpole Estate (Flyer issued with May newsletter)

JULY

Wed	28	Coach trip to Highclere (Flyer issued with May newsletter)
-----	----	---



Photo from the King's Cross Regeneration trip in April (see p3 for report)

FLYERS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER ARE

- ◆ The Comedy of Errors at the White Rock Underriver
- ◆ The Great Comp Music Festival 2016