

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

With the onset of a new academic year we will all have the opportunity to sample the many group activities on offer at our Open Day which is being held on Wednesday 28th September at 2 pm at the Bat & Ball Community Centre. If you are unable to attend the Open Day please refer to your Handbook which contains details of all our group activities.

Beryl Mansell, our Vice Chair, has decided to step down from the Executive Committee and I am pleased to announce that Nick White has kindly agreed to take over as Vice Chair in addition to his existing role of managing our monthly meetings and organising speakers.

On behalf of the Executive Committee I would like to thank Beryl for work she has done in supporting our U3A.

We now have 2 vacancies on the Executive Committee, one to take over Beryl's role dealing with external affairs and the other to act as Chair to the Communications Group. Details of both these interesting and important roles are included within this Newsletter.

It is important that we fill both these committee posts.

Jim Purves [chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## MONTHLY MEETING

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 26 October at the Bat and Ball Community Centre.

Tom Hart-Dyke of Lullingstone Castle will talk about his world garden and other horticultural topics and will, no doubt, make reference to his adventures in Colombia when he was kidnapped while looking for rare orchids.

## FLYERS

Current flyers on the website

Hamalot or Dastardly doings in Denmark!

Sheffield Park coach trip

Watts Gallery and Wisley Garden visit

## EXTERNAL EVENTS

Forthcoming events organised by the Third age Trust

**1 Study day - 'Much ado about Shakespeare'**

3rd November Thursday 10.45 - 16.15

Piccadilly Theatre, London

*Tickets £35 including sandwich lunch*

**2 Study day - 'The Secret Language of Art'**

24th November Thursday 11.00 - 15.30

Sainsbury wing Theatre, National Gallery, London

*Tickets £18*

**3 U3A Christmas Concert 'The Brandenburg Singers & Organ'**

7th December Wednesday 14.00 & 17.30 (2 performances)  
& 12th December Monday at 14.00

Queens Chapel of the Savoy, Savoy Hill, WC2R

*Tickets £19 including programme, mulled wine & mince pies*

For further details, costs and booking procedure please visit the national website [www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)  
Tel. 020 84666139

## DIARY

### October

Mon 10 Science Group

Wed 12 Bridge for Pleasure

Mon 17 Computer Group

Wed 19 Sheffield Park coach trip

Wed 19 Ambling

Mon 24 Apple Group

Mon 24 Half day walking

Wed 26 Bridge for Pleasure

**Wed 26 Monthly Meeting**

### November

Wed 9 Watts Gallery &

Wisley Garden visit

**Wed 23 Monthly Meeting**

## INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS

As you are all aware we have been giving notice over the past 6 months of the increase in subscriptions for joint members from **£18** to **£26** from 20th September this year.

Despite this over 100 joint members have failed to change their standing orders and are still paying the old rate of **£18** - This equates to nearly a **£1,000** shortfall in our income!

PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU HAVE CHANGED YOUR STANDING ORDER AND IF YOU HAVE UNDERPAID

SEND A CHEQUE FOR **£8** TO THE TREASURER:

Brian Cairnie Riverside High Street Otford

TN14 5PH

[treasurer@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## MEMBERS' CORNER

### Live Screenings at the STAG



Those interested in Shakespeare and other plays should note that there are live screenings of the RSC *King Lear* by Shakespeare on Wednesday October 12, the NT production of Brecht and Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* on Thursday October 20 and the Kenneth Branagh's Theatre Company's production of John Osborne's *The Entertainer* on Thursday October 27, all at the Stag, Sevenoaks  
Vicky Joyce



### Kent Painters Group

#### Exhibition and Sale 28 – 30 October

The 26th KPG exhibition of 60 selected artists is on show at Sevenoaks School over the weekend of 28 – 30 October. Open Friday 6.30-9pm and 10 – 4 Saturday and Sunday. Free entrance; refreshments and lunches; supporting Kent mental health charities Mencap, Macintyre, Rethink and Fynvola

[www.kentpaintersgroup.co.uk](http://www.kentpaintersgroup.co.uk)

Victoria Granville Baxter

## SOCIAL EVENTS NEWS

[social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:social@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

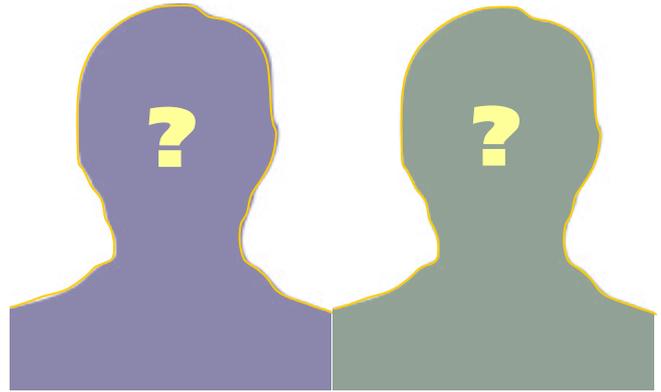


### Sheffield Park Coach Trip

If you were thinking of joining the group to see the wonderful autumn colours at Sheffield Park followed by a visit to Standen, the arts and crafts inspired family home, on Wednesday October 19th, you should apply as soon as possible.

See the website for details

## VACANCIES ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Vacancy

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Vacancy

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

We need volunteers to fill 2 vacancies on the Executive Committee.

In addition to the responsibilities outlined below, candidates who fill these posts will become Executive Committee members and would be expected to attend EC meetings and as active members of the Committee make a contribution to the running of our U3A.

### COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

To Chair the Communications Committee and act as liaison between the Web Team, the Newsletter Team and our members and third party suppliers responsible for internal and external distribution.

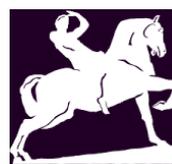
### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

To act as liaison between the Executive Committee and other U3A organizations such as National Office, U3A Kent Network, South East Forum and local U3As.

If you are interested in either of these committee posts please contact me for a chat.

Jim Purves Chairman

[chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)



### Watts Gallery and Wisley Garden

There are still spaces left for the coach visit to the GF Watts Gallery near Guildford, where you can enjoy the impressive collection of Victorian painting and sculpture, plus a stop, en route back to

Sevenoaks, at Wisley for a quick visit to the Garden if you wish, or early Christmas gift shopping, on Wednesday November 9.

See the website for details



Photo: Margaret Thorpe.

## Cycle Group

The Sevenoaks U3A Cycle group (also open to other U3As), meets twice a month and normally rides 25 to 30 miles in the local area. But for our annual “outing” we are a little more ambitious. This year we did a three day trip to Norfolk, where two of the days were about 50 miles – so some of us had to get in some training!

We did not get off to a good start in Norwich. In the space of the first 20 minutes we (a) got completely lost and (b) one of our members hit a post and sustained minor injuries. He did however quickly recover when given appropriate massage by two members of the group, one of whom is a nurse and the other an osteopath!

Things could only get better and they did. We soon got out of the urban area and onto Marriott’s Way, a cycle route which uses the old railway track. We had coffee at a former station near Reepham which has been extensively restored and now used as a Railway Museum. After lunch at Fakenham we passed the old Second World War RAF station at Docking, and then on to a seaside hotel in Hunstanton for the night and good meal in a local restaurant.

The following day we headed east, did a tour of the magnificent grounds of Holkham Hall (seat of the Earls of Leicester), and then on to the sea wall beside the river coming into Wells-next-the-Sea. We had lunch at Stiffkey and arrived in Cromer for the night, passing another stately home, Felbrigg Hall, on the way.

A magnificent sunrise drew some of us out for an early morning swim before the final half day ride back to Norwich



Throughout the trip we only used very minor country roads which were delightful, and the weather was very kind to us. A great trip.

If you are interested in joining the group please contact Patrick Pascall 01732 452602.

## Creative Writing Group

Join us for some fun as we try to impress each other with our amateur writing, be it poetry or prose. Short pieces or long, all part of the challenge.

We meet 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings in our homes with coffee and biscuits part of our mornings pleasure.

Phone Dorothy Seaman on 01732 453381

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary page 1 for complete list of events

### Computer Group Monday 17 October

#### How Computers Were First Developed – A History

Presentation by David Wells

- Calculations date back to the Stone Age
- Mathematical Concepts can be traced back to 500BC
- Programming a calculating machine inspired by Jacquard's development of the automatic loom
- Babbage's calculating machines and Lady Ada's "programs" in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century inspired later developments
- Turing and Von Neumann laid down the basic structure for Computers
- Military needs of Second World War and the Cold War accelerated successful development of first Computers
- British development was at the forefront – but it was American Companies like IBM who capitalised on the commercial exploitation of Computers

Oxford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome

£2 entry includes refreshments

### Ambling Wednesday October 19th

Meet in the lower car park of The Vineyard, The Down, Lamberhurst (TN3 8EU) for a 4-mile walk, starting at 10:00 am. Leave the A21 and enter Lamberhurst along School Hill and The Broadway. After The Chequers pub on the left veer right into High Street (B2100), this turns into King's Hill, at the top of the hill veer right and the pub is on the right after 100m. The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leader: Janet Wilson.

### Apple Group Monday 24 October

#### iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch

- ◆ Getting your finances under control with Numbers
- ◆ Using Tips for more information
- ◆ Organising your music with iTunes
- ◆ Round Tables: More iTunes information, Tips with Paul, Numbers discussion, Using your iPad –

Oxford Memorial Village Hall from 2 -4 pm

Next Meetings

26th November & 23rd January ( 4th Mondays )

Dave Simmons 01732 457646 email.

david.g.simmons22@gmail.com.

### Bridge for Pleasure Wednesdays 12 & 26 October

The Group plays at Oxford Village Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday mornings of each month from 9.50 a.m. until 12.15 p.m. The winner on 13<sup>th</sup> July was Nick White and on 27<sup>th</sup> July was Colin Butson.

Advanced notice. When you get next year's diary, please note that there will be no bridge on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 as the Club Room at OVMH is being refurbished.

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

Colin and Mary Butson

### Half Day Walking Monday 24 October

Meet in the National Trust car park in the woods 500 metres north of Toy's Hill in time for a 10am start. The grid reference is 470517. The walk is 5 miles and goes to Quornden, Great Norman Street and Emmetts.

Lunch for those who wish to stay will be at the Fox & Hounds.

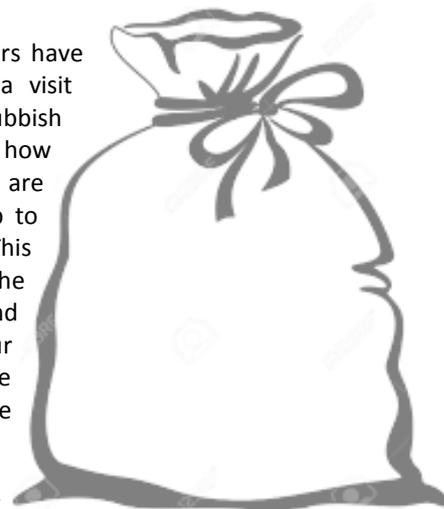
All members are welcome to join the walk.

Leader: Velma Keys

### Science Group Monday 10 October

Our new season of open Science talks will begin on October 10th. The talk "Whither our transparent sacks: rubbish recycling in Sevenoaks" will be given by Charles Nouham.

A number of members have already undertaken a visit to the Allington rubbish recycling site to see how our black sacks are disposed of and help to generate electricity. This talk complements the previous visit and addresses how our white sacks are managed in the recycling process.



Oxford Village Memorial Hall 2pm.

All Sevenoaks U3A Members welcome. £2 entry includes tea.

For details of our full season of talks visit our website and click on the "Study Groups/Open Groups" tab.

Bob Ruffles