

## Arts Exhibition at Knole Academy

To: ALL MEMBERS, Families & Friends

# Sevenoaks U3A Arts Exhibition 2017

at

## Knole Academy

Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks

**WEDNESDAY April 26th**

**THURSDAY April 27th**

10am – 5pm

**FRIDAY April 28th**

10am – 1pm

Paintings, photographs, sculpture, pottery  
and other crafts.

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

It's just like waiting for a London bus - nothing happens for a long time then they come along in twos. And so it is with your Executive Committee!

I am very pleased to announce that John Fry has agreed to be our Treasurer and David Taylor has agreed to join the EC as Communications Chair.

A big thank you to both of them for stepping up and making a contribution to the running of our U3A.

Both will be seconded to the EC and then stand for formal election at the AGM in June.

I am encouraged to hear that there is enthusiasm for several new groups starting in September. Basic French, Folk Dancing, Aviation, Board Games and Bird Watching having all received a positive response from Members. New groups have also been suggested in Basic Spanish and Basic Guitar - so if you are interested please get in touch.

Jim Purves

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

## DIARY

May	10	Bridge for Pleasure
May	15	Science Group
May	16	Jazz Group Workshop
May	17	Ambling
May	22	Apple Group
May	22	Half day walking
May	24	Bridge for Pleasure
May	24	Monthly Meeting
May	26	Computer Group

## JUNE

June	14	Science Study Day
June	27	Runnymede visit
June	28	Annual General Meeting

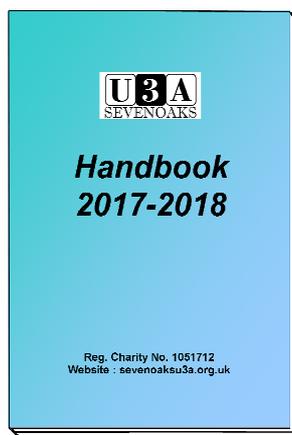
## HANDBOOK FOR 2017-2018

### ATTENTION GROUP & COMMITTEE LEADERS

#### *Deadline 1st June*

The new Handbook will be collated and printed shortly. Please let Susan Henson know if you wish to make any changes to your group or committee's entry.

If she does not hear from you by 1st June the entry for the 2017-2018 Handbook will appear exactly the same as the entry for this year.



Susan Henson

## Newsletter Team:

Victoria Baxter, Elizabeth Purves, Celia Smith

Copy for June Newsletter (which will be distributed 24 May ) by Tuesday 9 May to:

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

## Folk Dance Group

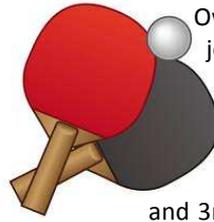
We have had a tremendous response to the idea of setting up a Folk Dance Group and have now reached our maximum number of thirty. A waiting list has been started and any further folk wishing to participate will be placed on that list in case there are members who find they can no longer attend.

The group will begin its sessions on Friday October 13<sup>th</sup>, and continue on the second Friday of each month at the Otford Village Memorial Hall Club Room from 10.00 – 12.00. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of hiring the hall, and tea and coffee will be available during a break in the dancing. No special clothing or shoes are needed.

If you would like further information, please contact Peter and Lyn. We look forward to seeing you in October.

Peter and Lyn Nixon

## Proposed New Group: Table Tennis 2



Owing to the tremendous success of the joint Sevenoaks and Knole Table Tennis Group, we have several people on our waiting list. Sevenoaks Leisure Centre is prepared to offer the U3A hire of part of their hall and equipment for the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings of each month, when the existing group does not play. Our members all agree that this is one of the most enjoyable activities that they do with U3A, whilst providing good exercise and brain stimulation. Tennis is also supposed to be one of the most beneficial activities for older people, but best of all its GREAT FUN!

Please contact Susan Henson, Group Coordinator, if you would be interested in our starting up a second Table Tennis Group as above.

## Anyone for Spanish?

It has been suggested that a Spanish Group would be useful. If you would be interested in practising your Spanish (or better still if you were able to help teach it!) please contact Susan Henson, Group Coordinator, email: [groupdev@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:groupdev@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty Third Annual General Meeting of Sevenoaks U3A will be held at 2.00 pm on **Wednesday 28th June** 2017 at the Sevenoaks Community Centre, Bat and Ball, Sevenoaks

Nominations from Members for Executive Committee vacancies for Treasurer, Communications Chair and External Affairs must be lodged with the Secretary by 31st May 2017.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Group Development Coordinator and Social Committee Chair will have completed their 2 year term of engagement and are standing for re-election under the terms of the Constitution. Further nominations for these posts may be submitted by Members to the Secretary by 31st May 2017.

Any motion that a Member may wish to be debated at the Annual General Meeting must be lodged with the Secretary by 31st May 2017 and be duly proposed and seconded.

AGM papers will be included with the June Newsletter.

Jackie Bradforth  
Secretary  
[secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## MEMBERS' CORNER

Please submit items of interest to members to the Newsletter Team. [news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:news@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

One of our Members would like to draw your attention to the following lectures and study days.

If you haven't come across these [free lectures](#) before, you might be interested in the on-going series sponsored by the Gresham Foundation on subjects as diverse as poetry, medicine, religion, mathematics and the rise and fall of sour-dough bread. Each lasts an hour, including Q&A. If you're in London anyway, this might add to your day out. Go to this link to see more:

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/attend/>

On the same note, National U3A puts on Study Days in and around London. The most recent was at the National Gallery. You need to go to the website <http://www.u3a.org.uk/> and log In to find out more.

## FLYER INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Runnymede/Savill Gardens

**Runnymede and The Savill Garden**

A visit by coach is being organised on **Tuesday June 27** to see the historically important site of **Runnymede** with its various significant Memorials and Art works, followed by the **Savill Gardens**, where the roses should be in full splendour.

Please apply as soon as possible on the enclosed flyer where more information is available.



**Report on the visit to Crossness Pumping Station by Tony Martin**



I have been interested in beam engines ever since my first visit to Cornwall many years ago and have wanted to visit Crossness Pumping Station for some time.

I thought the whole experience most enjoyable. We had a big and friendly group.

The volunteer team of engineers were all most welcoming, informative and helpful. I thought it was great

that they involved the ladies in start-up.

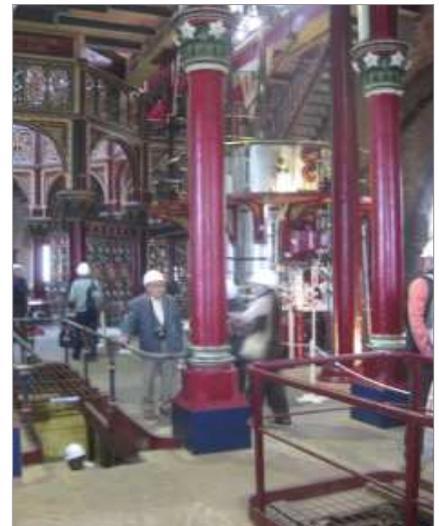
The beam engine's design and operation was a revelation in that it incorporated just about every feature of what was then cutting edge technology, but to my delight still maintained the old terminology.

The building and its sister building over the river at Abbey Mills were constructed in 1865 and 1868 respectively for the newly formed Metropolitan Board works of London.

Both buildings were designed by the MBW architects, the one at Abbey Mills apparently being more imposing.

There are four engines which were originally built in the James Watt Soho

factory in Birmingham, subsequently being replaced on two occasions by the existing, unique versions.



Photos: Tony Martin

**MONTHLY MEETINGS (April and May)**

**2.00 p.m. at the Bat and Ball Community Centre**

**Wednesday 26 April**

Alastair Jessel, the managing director of the company, will talk about Taywell Ice Cream. The company was created in 2006 using surplus fruit from Kent. It has since won 16 gold stars and has featured with Lord Sugar in The Apprentice and on a BBC show with Mary Berry. There will be free ice cream after the talk.

**Wednesday 24 May**

Dr.Dave Sloggett will give a talk about Iraq and Syria. Dr.Sloggett is one of the leading international authorities on counter-terrorism, counter-insurgency and counter-piracy. He is recognised worldwide for his expertise and understanding of Middle East related terrorism. During service alongside troops in Iraq and Afghanistan his military colleagues gave him the nickname *The Muddy Boots Academic*.

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

See diary page 1 for complete list of events

### Computer Group \*Friday 26 May

#### The Cloud

**\*PLEASE NOTE THE DATE WHICH IS NOT THE USUAL 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY DUE TO SPEAKER COMMITMENTS**

Presentation by Tony Fishpool mostly on The Cloud but Tony is flexible and members of the audience will be able to raise topics of interest for Tony to comment on. This is usually a very interesting session as Tony is responsible for the computers in a large school and is very knowledgeable.

Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. All Sevenoaks and Knole U3A members welcome.

£2 entry includes refreshments.

Mike Davies

### Apple Group Monday 22 May

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

This month we have a presentation from one of the few companies in our area that specialises in all the Mac devices. MacMan are coming with the team that came last year and were so successful. They will be covering their experiences including passwords, security, iCloud and linking devices

Round Tables: This is your chance to ask the MacMan team advice on anything relating to Apple equipment.

Otford Village Memorial Hall from 2 -4 pm

**Next Meeting** 25th September (4th Mondays ) after the summer break.

Dave Simmons

### Science Group Monday 15 May

**World Health Organisation: promises, promises, promises. Talk by Dr Win Gutteridge**

The WHO was formed at the end of World War II to address global health issues, especially as they related to infectious diseases. In the mid-1970s, it promised 'Health for all by the year 2000'. In the year 2000, it signed up to the health components of the United Nations' 'Millennium Development Goals'. In 2016, the WHO moved on from these to embrace the UNs' 'Sustainable Development Goals' for 2016-2030. In this talk, Win will assess how well the Organization has delivered on the first two of these sets of promises and, with the imminent arrival of a new Director General, how well might it do over the next 15 years.

Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm. Entry £2.00. All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome

Bob Ruffles

### Bridge for Pleasure Weds 26 April, 10 & 24 May

The Group plays at Otford 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.

New members welcome. We are an "open" group, so new players are welcome to come along.

For more information, contact John and Sue Christy

### Half Day Walking Monday 22 May

Meet by the Rock Inn at Hoath Corner, TN8 7BS in time for a 10am start. Map reference 497431.

The walk is 5 miles with some hills and goes to Hobbs Hill and Bassets Mill. All U3A members are welcome to join the walk at the start.

Lunch for those who wish to stay will be at the Rock Inn.

Leader: Nick White

### Ambling Wednesday 17 May

Meet in Smiths Lane, Crockham Hill (Grid Reference 442506) for a 4 mile walk, starting at 10 am.

On entering Crockham Hill from the Westerham direction on the B2026, turn left into Main Road and after 300 yards turn tight right into Smiths Lane.

Park along Smiths Lane.

The walk will be followed by an optional lunch.

Leader: Velma Keys

### Science Study Day 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – Book Now!

Preparations are well in hand for our Science Study Day which addresses **Climate Change: Facts, Causes and Consequences**. As part of the preparation your organising committee have held a four way Video Conference with our speakers, who are all experts in their respective fields, to ensure we have an informative and useful day. The topics will include the measurement of climate change, by Professor Sir Brian Hoskins, Global evidence by John Halladay, and the socioeconomic impact over the next decade by Dr Swenja Surminski. Reference to insurance and UK flood risk will be addressed.

A summary will be presented on the recent Paris Agreement and the likely UK legislation which will follow.

**So please do not miss this opportunity and book early.**

A Flyer and booking form was posted in the March Newsletter but a copy can be obtained from our website Home page/News:

<http://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Flyer-Science-Study-Day-2017--14Jun17.pdf>