

## TEAS FOR YOU!



Photo: Elizabeth Purves

Jackie Bradforth, Susan Henson and Jim Purves serving tea

Members of the Executive Committee stepped into the breach to ensure that members could enjoy a friendly cup of tea (and cake) at the January Monthly Meeting. More volunteers are needed from the Membership to help with teas at our Monthly Meetings and ensure this much loved social event continues.

Prospective volunteers please contact **Richard Baxter** at [halls@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:halls@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

**2.00 p.m. Wednesday 27 March  
at the Bat and Ball Community Centre**

**Donald Stevens** will talk about *The Campbells and Bluebird*. Donald Stevens, an engineer who worked with the legendary Donald Campbell on the Bluebird project will talk about the story of Campbell and record-breaking British engineering.

Stevens worked with Campbell who became the only man to smash land and water speed records in the same year. Both car and boat were called Bluebird.

### Monthly Meetings – Change of Venue

Our March meeting (27th March) will be the last to be held in the Community Centre, which is closing for refurbishment later in the year.

**With effect from April (24th April meeting) the monthly meetings will be held in St Nicholas' Church, in the Upper High Street.**

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

By the time you read this, hopefully, weather permitting, we will once again have enjoyed the Festive Winter Lunch and will be looking forward to spring weather and longer days. I am encouraged by the snowdrops, crocuses and winter aconites currently flowering in my garden.

It is also the time of year when your Exec Committee starts to prepare for the AGM in June. We have two members leaving the committee and are looking for volunteers to replace them.

The first is Secretary, whose main role is sending out the agenda and taking the minutes at our meetings six times a year. Our meetings last up to two hours and the role would suit any of our members who could fit the time into their schedule. It is also an opportunity to contribute to the direction of your U3A.

The second role is Group Organiser, who helps to set up new groups and coordinate the Open Day. Groups are at the heart of what we do as a U3A and this is an opportunity to contribute, to change and to influence how we work. There are also vacancies in the group development committee supporting the Group Organiser.

Without new blood, committees atrophy so please consider how you can support our self-help organisation. You can contact any of the Exec Committee if you would like more information or to discuss any of the roles.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes

**Sue Christy**

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

## DIARY 2019

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| March 11        | Science Group          |
| March 13        | Bridge for Pleasure    |
| March 18        | Computer Group         |
| March 20        | Ambling                |
| March 25        | Apple Group            |
| March 25        | Half Day Walking       |
| <b>March 27</b> | <b>Monthly Meeting</b> |
| March 27        | Bridge for Pleasure    |
| March 28        | Hatton Garden tour     |



The Cycling Group Christmas bash

Please continue to send us photographs of your groups. Here are a few from our activities in the last year



## Cambridge

FOR LOVERS OF ART AND GARDENS  
TUESDAY, 7 MAY 2019

On Tuesday May 7 there will be a coach trip to Cambridge to visit Kettle's Yard where a private tour of the house in small groups has been organised. You will also have the opportunity to visit the new art gallery attached to the house. In the early afternoon you will be taken by coach to the Cambridge University Botanic Garden which has a huge collection of plant species from all over the world and is a lovely place for a leisurely stroll.

Between 1958 and 1973 Kettle's Yard was the home of Jim and Helen Ede. In the 1920s and 30s Jim had

been a curator at the Tate Gallery in London. Thanks to his friendships with artists and other like-minded people, over the years he gathered a remarkable collection of 20th-century art, both paintings and sculpture.

At Kettle's Yard Jim carefully positioned these artworks alongside furniture, glass, ceramics and natural objects, with the aim of creating a harmonic whole - not "an art gallery or museum". In 1966, the Edes gave the house and its contents to the University of Cambridge. In 1970 the house was extended and last year a new gallery for changing exhibitions was added.

Cambridge University Botanic Gardens has a collection of over 8,000 plant species from all over the world and it is a beautiful place for all to enjoy.



### THE VISIT

8.15am (prompt) Departure from Baker's Yard. Arrive 15 minutes before departure to pay £3 for carpark

10.15am arrive Kettle's Yard: Private visit to the House - groups of 10 at 10-minute intervals. While waiting and after touring the house you can visit the cafe, the shop and/or the new gallery.

1.30pm (prompt) Coach pick-up for Botanic Gardens. Cafe on site. Entry £5.50 paid individually.

4pm (prompt) Depart from Botanic Gardens for homeward journey

Cost £27 to include Private visit to Kettle's Yard, coach and driver's tip.

Organiser: Freda Parker If you have a mobility problem please discuss your needs with the organiser ahead of the event.



EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF SEVENOAKS U3A. CLOSING DATE 11 APRIL 2019  
Further information and application form will be found on the flyer attached/included.

## THIRD AGE MATTERS

This is the colour magazine you receive direct from the Third Age Trust five times a year.

We have been advised that the cost will increase by 16% in 2019/20 and which we will have to include in next year's budget.

If you would prefer NOT to receive a copy of Third Age Matters please advise the Membership Secretary at [membership@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@sevenoaksu3a.org.uk)

**FLYERS INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER:  
Trip to Cambridge**

## MEMBERS' CORNER

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

Mention Sevenoaks U3A when booking a holiday with Riviera Travel and help Sevenoaks U3A receive a donation from Riviera of 10% of the basic holiday cost.

So that we can equally share in this benefit, 50% of the donation received will be returned by Sevenoaks U3A to the Member booking the holiday.

Contact the Treasurer at [treasurer@sevenoaks.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sevenoaks.org.uk) for further details.

**Jim Purves**

**Bridge for Pleasure** Weds 13 & 27 March

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 noon.

The January winners were Peter Quick and John Winram.

Our thanks to everyone who came on 23 January despite the cold weather and the warning of less than perfect heating – even colder when the power tripped! Luckily we at least managed to have hot drinks!

New members are always welcome. We are an “open” group, so new players can just come along on the day. We play ACOL in a ‘Chicago’ format so you do not need a partner.

For more information, please ring **John and Sue Christy**

**Science Group** Monday 11 March**UAVs (Drones) - Peter Stastny**

‘The use of Drones or Unmanned Air Vehicles has been brought sharply into focus lately with recent problems at Gatwick airport and there are considerations of the safety aspects arising from the rapid growth in the use of UAVs. Peter, a former senior member of the UK CAA and now an independent consultant will talk about the safety issues arising from the rapid growth in the use of UAVs

Venue: Otford Village Memorial Hall 2pm

Entrance Fee: £1: 00 at the door

All Sevenoaks U3A members welcome

Forward Events: More details of future talks can be found on our website under the Open-Groups tab: <https://www.sevenoaksu3a.org.uk/Study-Groups/Open-Groups/open-groups.html>

**Bob Ruffles**

**Sevenoaks U3A Science Seminar**

**Reserve the date of 5<sup>th</sup> June:** Your Science Committee has organised a Seminar on **Forensic Science** at the Orchards Conference Centre, East Malling.

The major areas of criminal activity that are of public concern are Drug misuse and abuse, Gun Crime and DNA analysis. To support the justice system forensic evidence is essential and we have invited four speakers, all experts in their respective fields, who undertake the role of expert witnesses in major criminal trials. Collectively, our speakers will present the real facts and show how scientific evidence is collected and presented at trials and can withstand detailed legal scrutiny.

We will issue a flyer & application form for this event in next month’s Newsletter and on our Website.

**Half Day Walking** Monday 25 March

Meet in the car park of the Poacher & Partridge, Hartlake Road, Tudeley, TN11 0PH, grid reference 622461 in time for a 10am start. From Tonbridge take the B2017, turn left at the T-junction at Tudeley, and the pub is half a mile along on the right. It is an easy 5.5 mile walk to Tonbridge and along the Medway. Lunch afterwards will be at the Poacher & Partridge. The Chagall windows in Tudeley Church are well worth a visit. All members are welcome.

Leader: **Nick White**

**Ambling** Wednesday 20 March

Meet in the car park of the Spotted Dog pub at Smart’s Hill (Post Code TN11 8EP) in time for a 10am start. Drive south through Penshurst on the B2188 towards Fordcombe. Take the second right-hand turning after leaving Penshurst (actually a shallow fork) into Smart’s Hill. There are brown signs to Spotted Dog and Bottle House pubs. At junction at the top of the hill turn left into Saint’s Hill and the pub is on the left with ample parking space opposite.

The walk is followed by an optional lunch.

Leaders: **Judith and Mark Hammer**

**Computer Group** Monday 18 March

Talk by 2 members of the committee on e mail and looking at some of the more popular systems.

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

**Mike Davies**

**Apple Group** Monday 25 March**iPad, iMac, iPhone & Apple Watch**

- What’s new forum - discussion
- Planning a day out - Elaine
- Garage Band - Gwyn
- Apple TV update - Dave

Otford Memorial Village Hall from 2 -4 pm

No meeting in April as the 4th Monday is Easter.

20th May, joint Computer Group meeting with a presentation from NatWest on Digital Safety when shopping and banking (4th Monday is Spring Bank Holiday), and 24th June

**Dave Simmons**