



Senior



Moments

The Newsletter of the Bookham & District
University of the Third Age

Issue 60

November 2018



Bird ringing in August



Bookham and District U3A

Registered Charity No 103686 U3A Membership No 4/239/93

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This is the time again for a major change in the running of our U3A—we have both a new chairman and a new vice-chairman. One of the very good things about this U3A that we as members can enjoy is that no chairman may stay in office for longer than 2 years and this gives the club a perpetual renewal that keeps it fresh and interesting and at the same time is never too onerous on individuals that should make us all consider what more we can do to keep our U3A relevant and vital for the members. Not everybody is cut out to be chairman, but every member is potentially a committee member and should consider serving even for a limited time. There are always plenty of people around to help new committee members with any tasks they have to do.

This time, there are articles on modern art and street art as well as a visit to the fascinating Linnean Society that every gardener and plant lover should see. We have some history with Mary Wolstancraft and a visit to John Dicker's bird ringing he organizes every year. Marion Kemp has one of her poems and the usual gardening piece by Anita Laycock. Our new chairman has written a piece about street art that formed his talk he gave to us in July.



Photo by David Middleton on the Thames



Original photo-no sky

Cover picture, photo by Chris Edwards in Sheffield Park
The sky was added at a Digital Photography group meeting

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Chairman's Report

It is my great pleasure to be taking over the Chairmanship of Bookham and District U3A as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary.

I must start by paying tribute to Lynn Farrell for her leadership of over the past two years. As those of you who were at the AGM heard, her time as Chairman has been dominated by significant changes in the overall U3A which have had a great impact on us at a local level. Following guidance from the Charity Commission and Inland Revenue we have had to revise many of our financial procedures and then there was the Data Protection Act 2018 and the implementation of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation. This latter Act has had major implications for how we handle information at every level of the U3A and you will have seen the results in the revised membership renewal process.

These are just two of the many changes Lynn has had to manage during her tenure and it is very much because of her clear leadership that we now have a U3A that is regulation compliant and this has been achieved with the minimum of disruption to our Group Leaders and Members. I can only hope my time as Chairman is less hectic!

On behalf of all our members I thanked her at the AGM and genuinely hope she can now relax a little and continue to enjoy our company and activities.

From my own perspective I am delighted to be taking over a thriving U3A. We have over 600 members and more than 80 interest groups. My objective is to maintain the momentum of our activities, both centrally and in the interest groups, and also ensure we have some fun. I will be producing the Chairman's Log, a monthly report of my U3A activities and, as I said at the AGM, my plan is to visit one of the interest groups every month. I start with London Walks on 17th October and already have bids for the following months. I am really keen to visit some of our lesser known groups to broaden my knowledge of what we do. So, over to you Group Leaders, please get in touch with me and we can discuss potential dates for me to join you.

The first major event of my time as Chairman will be our Silver Anniversary on Wednesday 24th October. As you all know we have a Celebration Event in the Barn Hall from 1pm through to 4pm followed by the Silver Anniversary Party at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Lots of work has been done by the various groups to prepare for the Celebration and I sincerely hope you will all come along and see what we do. I know it is half term and some of you will have family commitments, but please come along with your partners, relatives and any friends who you think might like to join us.

The Party is oversubscribed and looks like it will be a great way to celebrate this milestone for our U3A.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Celebration, the Party and at our future meetings and events.

Roger Mendham



The 25th AGM of Bookham and District U3A was held on Tuesday 2nd October in front of a packed Old Barn Hall.

The Chairman, Lynn Farrell, opened the proceedings. After welcoming everyone and signing last year's minutes, she asked the Treasurer Chris Pullan, to present the Accounts. These had been previously examined by Irene Gawne and were adopted from the floor; and the examiner was re-appointed for the coming year. Lynn gave her final Chairman's report as she is stepping down having served her two years in office. This year had been particularly busy due to discussions that the Third Age Trust had held with the Charity Commission. These resulted in the amendment of our constitution at an EGM, the way we are to present our accounts, and the adoption of some new financial procedures. The new GDPR regulations came into force necessitating the amendment of our application and renewal forms, and a new data protection policy. Guidelines have also been produced for members living in care homes and for anyone wishing to organise an outing. The membership at present stands at 570, and with no waiting list it continues to increase monthly. We currently have 82 groups and could have 84 if anyone were willing to step forward to be group administrator for each of the two newly formed "Out and About" groups. Lynn congratulated the U3A quiz team on winning the Bookham Village Week quiz -although their prize is to organise next year's quiz! Lynn went on to thank the committee members for their hard work, and she thanked those who held positions not on the committee, but who made such a difference to the smooth running of the monthly meetings. She also thanked all the Group Leaders for their contribution to our U3A. Lynn said how much she had enjoyed her two years as Chairman and that she was leaving with many happy memories.

This was followed by the Election of Officers and Committee.

Chairman	Roger Mendham
Vice-Chairman	Chris Middleton
Secretary	Gillian Arnold
Treasurer	Chris Pullan
Minutes Sec.	Peter Clarke
Membership Sec.	Pam Hyde
Groups Co-ord	Mike Farrell
Speakers Sec.	Frank Cross
Assist. Groups Co-ord.	David Hyde
Website Co-ord	Harold Reglar
Co-opted	
Social Sec.	Jan Dicker
Newsletter	Maurice Baker

Roger thanked Lynn for all her hard work as Chairman

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.53pm



Visit to the Linnean Society

On 4 April eight members from the Science and Technology groups visited the Linnean Society, the oldest active biological society that takes its name from Carl Linnaeus. The society is based in Burlington House, Piccadilly a very grand building. Equally impressive is the library where we were served coffee and biscuits while we waited for our guide Dr Isabelle Charmantier,



the Deputy Collections Manager, a very enthusiastic plant historian. She explained how Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) a Swedish naturalist built up unique botanical, zoological and library collections that are still used today as a primary reference source. Carl Linnaeus travelled extensively throughout Sweden and Lapland to record and collect information on the country's natural resources. He spent time in Holland where he took his medical degree and also travelled to Germany, France and England. It was during this time that he published many of his scientific papers and books. It was his work that influenced the Royal Navy to send naturalists including Charles Darwin on their voyages of discovery. Carl Linnaeus is famous for his work in taxonomy, the science of identifying, naming and classifying organisms. He tried many different systems to classify his collection including a classification of plants based on their sexual components. He eventually produced the binominal system of nomenclature that is in use today. He is considered to be the "Father of Taxonomy" naming over 12000 species of plants and animals. He was also a pioneer in the study of

ecology.

When Carl Linnaeus died in 1778 his wife put his collection up for sale as she needed money. Sir James Edward Smith a botanist who used the Linnean method eventually managed to raise one thousand guineas to purchase the Linnean collection and library and it was brought to London in 1784. In 1788 he founded the Linnean Society and became its first president. The whole collection of Carl Linnaeus has been with the Linnean Society since 1829 and housed in Burlington House, which was purchased by the government, in 1857.

The highlight and most exciting part of the visit for all of us was being taken to the bomb proof vault where we were shown the priceless collection. The note books and log books of Carl Linnaeus were hand written in ancient Swedish, which is difficult to decipher, along with basic diagrams and drawings of his observations. Drawers and folders were filled with plants and animals that he had collected or been sent by other scientists from around the world. There was a bookcase containing all the books and papers that he had published. We were all fascinated and reluctant to leave the vault when our time came to an end.

The visit finished with a delicious light lunch served in the library. We were reminded that in 1858 papers from Charles Darwin and



Alfred Russell Wallace outlining the theory of evolution by natural selection were first presented at the Linnean Society which continues to provide a forum for the discussion and advancement of the life sciences.

We would like to thank Brian Chapman for organising this stimulating visit.

Linda Heath



Mary Wollstonecraft (1768-1806)

Mary Wollstonecraft wrote many books, best remembered for 'Thoughts on Education of Daughters', 'A Vindication of the Rights of Man', 1790 and 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman' 1792.



At that time the rights of the hierarchy were being questioned. This led to the French Revolution in 1789 and 'The beginnings of democracy.'

Lively debates were also happening regularly 'The Rights of Man' by Thomas Paine in 1791. in which he criticised the British

System of Government.

Mary was determined that women's rights should also be heard.

She was the eldest daughter and second child of a family of seven.

She became a lady's companion when she was 19. It was a job she hated.

Due to family problems she had to return home. After her mother died she encouraged her sister Eliza, who was suffering from depression to leave her unhappy marriage and young baby. She was severely criticized for this but knew she would be.

Aged 25 with two sisters and a friend she opened a school for girls. It was a financial struggle and ended in disaster.

She had become friends with the Rev Richard Price, a Presbyterian Minister who was committed to political reform. He knew Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson through the Radical Thinkers Society.

Mary became a governess to Lady Kingsborough's children. She hated her employer, who stood for that was wrong with women and "their exaggerated weakness, their dependence on men, their manipulation of men and

situations'.

She left for France to join other radical thinkers e.g. Thomas Paine to help with the revolution.

Mary met Gilbert Imlay, an American liberal author. Due to constant moves their relationship broke down.

Mary met William Godwin, whom she had previously known. They became friends and lovers and had a daughter. They did marry as Mary did not want it known that she had 2 illegitimate children.

Mary wrote her final and best known book, 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman' and the need for women to express their sexuality and need for companionship as well as their independence and thoughts.

Mary died 10 days after giving birth to their second daughter who they called Mary.

Godwin published a memoir of her life which did much harm as it revealed that she and Imlay lived together, did not marry but had a child.

Her demand for national female education, which most women favoured was almost forgotten in the light of her implied sexual freedom.

Her daughter, Mary grew up and married the poet Percy Bysshe Shelly and she is remembered for her novel Frankenstein.

On Thursday 8th March 2018, International Women's Day there appeared in the Independent newspaper a paragraph written by their political editor stating that Jeremy Corbyn, Tom Watson, Sir Vince Cable and others were calling for a statue of Mary to be erected in Newington Green London, where she lived.

In a letter to the Guardian "Wollstonecraft was the first to call for gender equality 250 years ago when she challenged the philosophers of that time. She called for women not to have power over men but over themselves".

"Her ideas on justice and education have become core values in Britain and beyond".

Kate Martin

based on part of a talk to the Social History Group.

HELP!?

Are you, like me, surprised to find
How little you know of the human mind?
Do you, like me, find it hard
To penetrate the bright facade?
Do you really know what friends are feeling?
That deep down inside they're lost and screaming
For help – a moment's peace. –
Or moving towards a final release
From relentless pressures on every side,
Something snaps – and down they slide.
Perhaps in some future computer age
Faces will be read like the printed page,
With "despair" writ large for all to see,
It's growth denied in privacy.
What would we do? What could we say?
Now able to read, would we turn away?

Marion Kemp



Bird ringing

John Dicker invited me to his annual bird ringing morning session at a reservoir near Heathrow where the dedicated 'Ringers' set up flimsey nets each morning and then shortly to collect their captured birds which they placed in cotton bags to carry back to the recording station. They weigh



nets where birds are caught



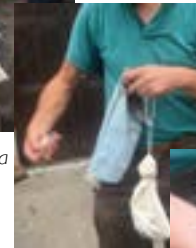
net inspection

them, take them out carefully holding the head between the index and middle finger; (which is the safest and most secure way to hold a small bird) so they can inspect the captive, record its species,



searching for a captured bird

measure the wings, try to assess the age and gender and ring one leg using specially adapted pliers to fit the ring, before releasing them to fly away again. Some captured birds are already



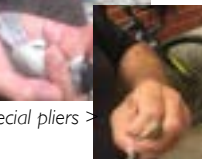
correct way to hold a bird >

ringed. Sometimes the ringed birds are ones this station has ringed before, but the more interesting ones



fixing the ring with special pliers >

are those ringed in other places because the code number on the ring is entered into a file that is



recording bird details



published to other 'Ringers' worldwide and in this way a far better understanding of bird migration is accomplished. The flights



of some birds are quite amazing. I read of a tern ringed in the Farne Islands Northumberland in the spring which was

ringed again in October in Australia! Some birds are now being geotagged to get more accurate detail of their surprising journeys. No terns were caught during our visit, but we saw blackcaps and various warblers, a dunnock, two robins and a blue tit. We were shown birds with fat buildup ready for the migration flights. Some birds that weigh 14 grams normally will increase their weight to 17 grams in preparation for their journey.



bird rings

Maurice Baker

Aspects of Modern Art

Henri Matisse, a French artist from the north east of France, was born in 1869 and died in November 1954 at 84 years of age. His great contemporary was Pablo Picasso possibly so well known that everybody has heard of him but, maybe not Henri Matisse. He was 11 years older than Picasso and like almost every artist of the time was heavily influenced by the famous Spaniard who lived most of his life not in Spain (where he had an abhorrence of Franco) but in France. While Picasso's art influenced Matisse did Matisse influence Picasso? They first met in Paris in 1906.

It has been said that Matisse's drawing was often naive but his colouring was always divine and while there may be some truth in the first part of this statement, many of his drawings were of a very high standard indeed. Just look



at these two drawings: Matisse on the left, but who influenced who? What is marvellous to me is how it is possible to get so much expression into a face with a single line and no shading. Both artists could do this with apparent ease and so today does David Hockney in his lovely pen drawings of people.

Matisse lived in France in troubled times when it was at war with Germany three times during his life time. The two world wars of course but also the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 when we benefitted from so many Impressionist painters who came to England to avoid the siege of Paris during that time. Matisse escaped serious trouble from the invading armies on all three occasions but his daughter Marguerite was involved with the resistance in the second world war and was captured and tortured by the Gestapo before being sent to a concentration camp in 1944. Fortunately, she escaped from the train and lived on to 1982.

He involved his wife and three children in his artistic work, sometimes as models but also as

administrators and critics of his work. His second son Pierre (1900-1989) became an art dealer in New York and promoted his father's work. Matisse himself went to the USA many times and in 1929 alone he went there five times and of course this was all by ship taking 5-7 days each way. But of course no danger of jet lag!

He acquired several important and wealthy patrons throughout his life. In the early part of the 20th century Sergei Shchukin, a Russian, bought and indeed commissioned many works to decorate his house in Moscow. After the revolution, in 1917, Shchukin became the curator of the paintings in the house he had owned but



eventually he left Russia and settled in Paris where he died in 1936. To this day many famous Matisse paintings can be seen in the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg. Gertrude Stein from the USA bought his work as did Claribel and Etta Cone from Baltimore where there is now a gallery with many of his works. Albert Barnes from Philadelphia commissioned works and towards the end of his life John Rockefeller commissioned a painting.

Every time we go to San Francisco we always try to get to the Museum of Modern Art to see 'the lady with the hat' which is a portrait of his wife and its very



the lady with the hat

bright colours always make it stand out from any other paintings in the room.

In 1941, when he was living in Nice, he became so ill with a duodenal cancer that he had an operation that nearly killed him and ever after he could not stand at an easel and was bed ridden for a long time. Fortunately for us this did not curb his artistic output. He resorted to cutting out paper shapes from coloured paper as he lay in bed. Many were large works and he would instruct his assistants to pin up the pieces



cutting out

on the wall then get them to move them around and even shave a bit off here and a bit there. They could not see what he was trying to achieve but he obviously had a clear picture in his mind of just

what he wanted.

Perhaps one of his most famous works 'the snail' formed not so much from cutouts as just cut and torn pieces of paper. For me it shows the best of abstract art because it would not only be acceptable without a name, but when you first know the name you try to construct the snail in your mind as you look at it.



blue nude

One nurse, (Monique Bourgeois) he employed at this time eventually left to become



<the chapel at Vence

a nun and Matisse designed a chapel for her community in Vence where he used his cut out designs to great effect, particularly in the design of the stained glass windows. He also designed everything else in the chapel including the priest's vestments.

His long marriage to Amelie ended when she sought a legal separation because she did not approve of his latest assistant, Lydia Delectorskya (1910-1998) a Russian, who had model for him but also came to run all his artistic, domestic and business requirements.

Picasso appears to have treated many of his women rather badly and had little respect for their views. Matisse, on the other hand, always chose strong women



the snail

who had their own opinions on art as well as everything else. He encouraged them to criticise his paintings of them and supported their artistic abilities.

There are very many books published on Matisse but the one I have resorted to most of all has been Hilary Spurling's two volume work which I can highly recommend because she is a very skilled biographer and the volumes make most interesting reading, not only for the main subject but also for an insight into life almost in our time.

Maurice Baker

(from a talk given to Art Appreciation 3 Group)

Blackheath walk

9 members started from Bookham station on this Colin Jackson walk. The walk had been planned some time ago but Colin was injured in the summer, so it was rearranged for September and Diana did an excellent job leading and as always it was very well researched. Blackheath is not an area of London that I



know particularly well with no famous buildings or very famous people associated with it. I knew that Blackheath rugby football club was one of the oldest in the country and we did see the pub where the original meetings took place. Blackheath was a rallying point for Wat Tyler's

the internet. It is very much to the credit of the 'Jackson team' and particularly Diana that so interesting a walk was put together. We started in Blackheath at a coffee shop, cum bookshop. From there, we walked down a private road to see an odd mixture of fine Victorian houses with the occasional very modern building almost shoehorned into the row of houses. Diana said that when she did the research in June the many flowers in the park we walked through were delightful. By the time of this walk the hot summer had curtailed their survival. We saw conkers on the pathway and an urban fox. As usual a fine pub was found for our lunch on the edge of the heath. There was then another



short walk before we went back to the station to get the train home.



Maurice Baker

Peasants' Revolt of 1381. Carl Linnaeus, the world famous Swedish botanist who first gave Latin names to plants visited Blackheath. The gorse he was so thrilled to find on Blackheath in the late 1700s was, unsurprisingly, nowhere to be found and the only information on this is on

Visit to the D-Day Museum, Southsea

Margaret Adam organised a very interesting outing on 12th July to the D-Day Museum. 25 U3A members, mainly from the Military History Group, set off by coach from a sunny Bookham for the journey to Southsea.



On arrival we went straight into the lecture hall for a talk on D-Day followed by a guided tour of the Legacy gallery to see the magnificent Overlord Embroidery depicting D-Day and the

method called 'Applique' using small pieces of fabric stitched to a larger background.

From the gallery we set off, for lunch, across the road for our coffee, bangers and mash for lunch. Margaret impressed us here as she did her 'Lollipop Lady' routine standing in the middle of the road arms up in the air holding up the traffic to shepherd a slow crocodile of members to cross safely.

After lunch we returned to the Museum. It is certainly moving to see the stories, displays, images and audio visuals covering 'Operation Overlord' and the 'D-Day Landings Operation Neptune'. This was the largest invasion ever assembled with 156,000 Allied troops landing by sea and air on five beachheads, 6939 vessels and 11,590 aircraft were involved.

Whilst awaiting our return, in the lovely afternoon sun, some members walked along the sea front and the adjoining fort and inside the museum a few others sat with a real Veteran soldier wearing his many medals.

We returned from Southsea to Bookham and thanked Margaret for arranging an excellent thought-provoking day out. *David Middleton*



Battle of Normandy. The 34 sections are in total 83 metres long, took five years to complete by the Royal School of Needlework and used a



Vegetable Gardening

In June we enjoyed a visit to the Walled Kitchen Garden at Painshill Park. The beds were full of well cared for plants and they were already picking salad crops for the café. We were lucky to



be able to walk into the adjoining walled garden. These borders of herbaceous flowers and trees have matured since our last visit and we enjoyed sitting in front of the permanent marquee in the early summer sunshine.



We then visited Mr Hamilton's Tearoom to enjoy coffee and lunch and our normal friendly banter.

In July Wendy led the visit to Little Bookham Allotments. She showed us her plot and took us on a tour of the site. It was lovely that Piers showed us around his wonderful plot and answered lots of questions. Refreshments followed in the Cabin.

They were selling flowers at the Cabin and Jan bought Annie a bunch as it was her birthday.

Anita and Lee entered the Bookham Garden Society Show in July at the Tithe Barn in Little Bookham.

Anita won the Turville Kille Cup for the most points in the Vegetable Class and the RHS Banksian Medal for the most points in the Horticultural Class.

Congratulations to Lee who won First Prize for her painting of flowers and Second Prize for her painting of a landscape.



Our summer barbecue was hosted by Brian and Liz in their lovely garden. They have made a few changes since last year and the Mediterranean garden was thriving in the very hot heat of this summer:

Brian has had special success with tomatoes,



carrots and leeks as well as fruit. He has taken the advice of our previous visit to the Grace & Flavour Garden and made sure that these vegetables were covered with fleece.



The afternoon was a great success – good food, company and a huge thank you to our hosts Brian and Liz.

In September we made a return visit to the Walled Kitchen Garden at Painshill Park. This was an opportunity to see how the vegetables had fared over the last three months along with the extreme heat. We were not disappointed. There was plenty of interest including the layout, along with unusual fruit and vegetables.

The Walled Garden used for events this time was



closed due to a wedding later in the day. We took a peek in through the side entrance and saw a wonderful display of dahlias.

We enjoyed refreshments in Mr Hamilton's Tearoom and some of us then visited the main estate gardens.

Anita Laycock



Street Art

In 1949 an American called Edward Seymour was looking for a way to promote a new paint product his company had developed. It was an aluminium paint and the target market was the companies who manufactured radiators. If you have ever tried to paint an old radiator with a brush you will realise the challenge this presents and it was his wife who gave him the idea for an invention that is an essential element of the street art scene.



Roger's talk to the July meeting

She suggested the development of the aerosol paint spray can. The spray can had been around for some time but had mainly been used for fly and insect sprays, Edward Seymour's contribution was to create a paint composition



that could be delivered as an aerosol. His company still exists in Sycamore, Illinois, and today is run by his daughter.

The use of spray paint for graffiti started in Philadelphia in the later 1960s and soon spread to New York. Initially the graffiti was in the form of tagging, and using bubble writing to deface walls, derelict buildings and subway cars. But from these early beginnings artists started to use their skills to produce more distinctive works and the street art genre emerged.

An early participant was Jean-Michel Basquiat who started working under the pseudonym of SAMO before moving from the streets into art galleries. He became a friend and collaborator with Andy Warhol and became increasingly successful before his life was tragically cut short when he died of a drugs overdose in 1988 at the age of 27. His works have become extremely valuable and one of his paintings was sold in May 2017 for \$110.5 million – the record price achieved at auction for an American artist.

Graffiti and street art migrated across the Atlantic in the 1980s and early 1990s, brought here by artists who had been in New York during the vibrant Andy Warhol Pop-Art period.

You only have to take a train journey into London to see the 'visual vandalism' of graffiti on various walls beside the tracks. To see street art you need to go to places such as Shoreditch and the areas around Brick Lane.

Here you can see some very distinctive styles of art. Dreph paints portraits, but not in a traditional style. He is of Ghanaian heritage and his portraits are large scale, frequently 10 feet tall painted on the side of buildings or garage doors. He also likes to photograph his subjects with the final painting.

A contrasting style is Mr Cenz, who also produces portraits, but taken from images in fashion magazines. He has a much more abstract approach delivering vibrant, modernistic images that are the highlight of any street art tour.

In areas like Shoreditch the major walls used for street art are managed, with the artists having permission to use them. There



is also regular turnover as the wind, rain and occasional addition of random graffiti affects the images. There is a wall in Hanbury Street that is particularly popular and the artwork changes every 6 months.



As street art has developed into a recognised genre the work of the major artists has been recognised by the traditional art galleries, and exhibitions of their work have been held. For example, Dreph has exhibited widely and now has works of art in the National Portrait Gallery.

An interesting development was the Dulwich Outdoor Gallery which started in 2013. This initiative started with a well-known street artist called Stik. He worked

in conjunction with the curators of the gallery and co-ordinated a series of street art installations by internationally acclaimed artists all based on works of art in the Dulwich Gallery. This outdoor gallery is regularly refreshed and added to, and is an excellent adjunct to the gallery.

For the future, street art is evolving, and the works are getting larger and more complex. A prime example is the Silo Art trail in Victoria, Australia. This 125 mile trail



through old farming country has 6 major installations, where street artists have used old disused grain silos to demonstrate their work. These massive installations have become a major tourist attraction, bringing visitors and money into otherwise remote places.

In summary, street art has its origins in graffiti but has evolved into a much more dynamic art genre. The major artists are internationally acclaimed, and their works can be seen in major cities around the world. For those who are interested in street art, London has some great locations and a tour of Shoreditch is an excellent starting point. Roger Mendham

Out & About with Bookham U3A

OUTINGS & THEATRE VISITS

Theatre Matinees (by coach)

The new arrangements for organising outings in Bookham U3A

Individual members are now expected to come forward to arrange "one off" trips and a number of members have arranged some very good outings.

U3A SURREY NETWORK STUDY DAYS

Friday 19 October Creative Therapies & Singing for health and pleasure
Bekah Duncalfe, Rebecca Hitch & Ursula Steiger

Friday 16 November Landscape, Society & Agriculture
Dr Richard Baines

Do you have a smoke alarm?

Anyone with faulty or indeed no smoke alarms can contact Surrey Fire Service and have them fitted at no cost. The firemen will advise where they should be fitted and there is no drilling involved.

Tel: 03456 009 009 or email: sfcontactqueries@surreycc.gov.uk

To avoid people listening to the usual stream of messages when getting through, on the telephone it's option 6.

U3A Tuesday Monthly Meetings

Tuesday 4 Dec The Job of a Laughtime
Brad Ashton

Tuesday 8 Jan Black teeth and dirty fingernails—the great unwashed of Victorian London
David Allen

Tuesday 5 Feb Exciting wildlife from around the world
Tom Way

CROQUET 2018

Not rain but heat was the element to be wary of this summer and croquet players could be seen seeking shade whenever possible. Some groups cancelled sessions as it was considered just too hot, but lots of sun cream and water helped.



Nonetheless, as usual the croquet season has been enjoyed by many. Friendships made, much chatter and banter and, oh yes, great games played.



We had a successful day in May and thank the coaches who came from Surbiton; there was much to learn from their expertise. Congratulations to Rosemary Coleman, the deserving winner of the

June singles Golf Tournament.

July saw an event with a new twist, Croquet Sunday and picnic at Polesden. No pressure to win anything, (although who ever wants to lose!?) just a day of fun and chat. The annual Doubles Tournament held in September was won by Rosemary Coleman and Peter Jackson. This is the second year running that a first year player has won the cup, so special congratulations to Peter, an inspiration to anyone starting.

This week our season sadly ended, with



the sun still shining. It seemed a shame to leave the lawns but we know cold and wet weather is ahead. We thank the garden staff at Polesden for the care taken last

winter; the lawns were so good at the start of the season, only the intense heat eventually produced patches. We truly appreciate the magnificent surroundings



and Polesden visitors enjoy sitting and watching croquet being played and often ask questions about the game. Thanks to the team of white liners of the lawns and to Martin for all his hard work in running such a large group so smoothly.

Val Cross

Photos by David Middleton



Charterhouse Walk David Middleton photo



Windsor & Eton Walk David Middleton photo