

learn, laugh, live



Fetcham



About Us



Our Groups



Our Programme



Join Us



What a pleasure it is to write this with the prospect of a return to some form of normality! We hope you have survived this long period of lockdowns more or less unscathed and your Committee is looking forward to providing meetings in person, the return of groups as before and events and outings some of which you have been waiting for, for a long time.

Sadly it will not be practical to hold our first proper meeting on 27th July in the Hall as the effect of the restrictions severely limits numbers, but hopefully we will manage August 24th, and we have the trip to Kent for the Kent and East Sussex Railway lunch on 15th August. Brenda Keddie has the trip to Devon in September fully booked.

Groups will be getting back into action during July all being well. Talk to your group leaders for details.

We also have our Summer event which will be at the Tithe Barn on 1st August and will be a hog roast lunch with splendid entertainment. There will be the Autumn event in the Barn Hall which will be a reprise of the very popular shuffleboard evening, on 2nd October and the Christmas Party on 4th December.

It is also hoped to re-instate the BMW Mini Factory visit in late Autumn when BMW are willing to offer alternative dates.

We can all look forward to enjoying the rest of the Summer and the Autumn with lots of Fetcham U3A activity. Do regularly consult our great new Website for details.

John Edgcumbe



As John Wilson is unavailable to work his usual magic for the cover of this issue of our Newsletter, I have taken the liberty of splashing excerpts from our new website over the front cover. For those of you who have yet to explore the website, the front cover shows what you will see when you land on our 'Home' page. Visit www.fetchamu3a.org.uk

What is new (apart from the bright colours) I hear you ask? Well, the most significant change is the Calendar feature which allows us to enter all of our Monthly Meetings, Special Events and Outings/Holidays. Once they have occurred all the events remain in the list as "Past Events" and can be used by potential new members to get an idea about the events and activities we organise. You can click to select just Monthly Meetings or Special Events or Outings/Holidays if you are looking for something specific.

The other major change is that we can "Post" items on the "News" page and they will be sent to all Members with an email address. The originals then remain on the "News" page in case you have deleted your email! We will still send some items using Mailchimp directly to, for example, Group Leaders where the information isn't relevant to the whole Membership.

From the Committee perspective the BEST change is the ease with which the website can be updated and changed. We already have two Committee Members (other than me) who are capable of updating Group Pages and neither claim to be technical wizards! However, it is also easy to make mistakes so when you find them, please email any member of the Committee to let us know. PLEASE also try and keep your Group Pages up to date by giving us changes as they arise no matter how small they are.

Do visit the website and browse, it is for you - Mick Joy

Third Age Trust

Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust - Notification

The Company Secretary, Samantha Mauger, gives notification of the date of
Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust 2021
in order to allow for member U3As to prepare for the meeting

Notification is hereby given that the 38th Annual General Meeting of the Third Age Trust will be held as a hybrid meeting allowing delegates to attend in person (subject to government restrictions in place at the time) or online on: Thursday 26th August, commencing at 11.15am (time and venue for those wishing to attend in person to be confirmed).

South East Summer School 2022

The South East U3A Forum has made a booking with the University of Chichester for the 2022 summer school from Monday 20 June to Thursday 23 June.

Study Days at the Menuhin Hall in 2021

Friday 17 September - Landscapes of South East England - Dr Geoffrey Mead, Sussex University

Friday 15 October - The Most Famous Pharaoh of Them All: Tutankhamun - Clive Barham Carter

Friday 19 November - The Development of British Style - Paul Atterbury, Antiques Road Show

Ian Funnell

Monthly Speakers

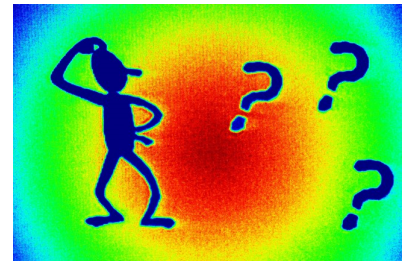
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| 27 July | Tanzania and the Kilimanjaro Region ABC Dreams -
John De Ronde |
| 24 August | Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies - Martin Lloyd |
| 28 September | The Changing World of Broadcast Media - Pat Michinson |
| 26 October | The National Arboretum, Staffordshire - by NA |
| 23 November | David Devant 'Englands Greatest Magician' - Ian Keable |



Our July meeting will be by our Zoom connection, and it is hoped that from August we will be meeting in St Mary's Hall.

Jenny's Quiz

1. Name the BBC children's programme with Humphrey Lestocq and Mr Turnip.
2. Which year did the British hand back Hong Kong to the Chinese?
3. What is the title of the children's book written by the Duchess of Sussex?
4. Which company sponsors the quiz game 'The Chase'?
5. What is an 'Arbroath Smokie'?
6. In Snooker how many points scored when the blue is potted?
7. Name the actor who played the part of Norman Bates in the film Psycho?
8. Which politician held all 4 top positions, Chancellor, Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary and PM?
9. Which animal is associated with 'Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil'?
10. Who did Sir Timothy Laurence marry?



Answers: page 10



Sew and Sew

Sew and sew have not actually met as a sewing group but when we could, we met up for outside coffee and a good old chat at the King George field in Effingham, taking our own chairs. In between we have knitted what must be now over a hundred baby hats for a neonatal unit and more are still needed, babies are always being born! We are also saving stamps for the hospital too.

Eileen Joy

Pilates Group

During the complete lockdowns we have been carrying on with the weekly Pilates in which our instructor sends us a video each week, with a new set of movements. This is done by something called Vimeo and works quite successfully, although many decided not to continue until we are back in the studio. We were back in the studio when allowed during the latter part of last year, although with slightly restricted places which were marked out and sanitised and we had to use our own mats etc and masks. This reverted to Vimeo in December. We have had a break for two months but we resumed in May in the studio, with the same restrictions.

So - not ideal - but workable.

John

London Walking Group 7

At our last London walk back in March 2020 we set up a WhatsApp for our group. So we have been in touch throughout the lockdowns.

Firstly we set up zoom meetings weekly for those in the group who were interested.

As soon as we could meet back in July 2020 six met for a cream tea in a member's garden which was a treat. In August we walked round Ashted Common finishing with a pub lunch (2 tables keeping to the rules). September the walk was the history of Ewell which was interesting finishing with a pub lunch.

Since then we have zoomed monthly until April 2021, when we walked round the Centenary Woods in Langley Vale and then as usual had a pub lunch at The Bear Oxshott which worked out very well.

We are now back to normal but not sure how soon we will walk in London. This depends on how everyone in the group feels.



Gill Apted

Explore Not London Group 6

Having spent weeks organising and fine tuning the Group's planned itinerary of Walks for 2020, Boris Johnson's announcement of the first Lockdown in March 2020 was a hammer blow to the year's planned activities. Thankfully both Zoom and WhatsApp have allowed the group to remain in contact.

Virtual Walks

During the Lockdown we have virtually "visited" in the UK, Edinburgh, Cambridge, Kings Cross, the deserted City of London with photographs taken by one of our member's son who worked in his City office during the height of the first lockdown when there were no pedestrians or traffic in the Square Mile.

Our first "Virtual Walk" started at Edinburgh Waverley station. The Walk required an early start from Leatherhead catching the 06.22 to London. Our train departed from London Euston at 08.00 arriving in Edinburgh at 12.22. We planned to catch the 17.02 London train home arriving in Leatherhead just before midnight. The fare with a railcard was £64.00.



To add a variety to our virtual "Walks" we explored overseas with "Virtual visits" to Rome, Paris, Madrid, Ronda, Saville, Saigon and Bangkok - all these "Walks" were taken from YouTube

Until the Group is happy to return to London, we will hold our monthly Not London visits with locals Walks. When allowed by the breaks in the Lockdown, the group has meet up for a local walk followed by a pub lunch in groups of six.

Quiz's Nights

To keep the Group members in contact together, we have run weekly/monthly Quiz Pub Nights on Zoom with each member hosting an evening. To assist the group communications we created a WhatsApp Group for mutual support.

Pat & Malcolm Hill

Book Group 1

We have recently had our second monthly meeting outdoors at Denbies.

We agreed to meet there monthly while restrictions are in place. All being well, we will revert to meeting in each other's homes thereafter.

Kathy Grigson



Community Allotment

We have been able to keep as normal as going to allotments is allowed as our 'exercise' during lockdown.

And we could talk to each other at a conveniently spaced social distance.

I would say that generally we, in common with most gardeners, have given our crops more TLC than usual, with the reward of better crops.

We have just welcomed a fourth enthusiastic member to our U3A plot at our Keswick Road allotment, so are full up at the moment.



Hugh Baker

Vegetable Gardening



Unfortunately due to lockdown we had to postpone the visits and meetings we had planned for 2021.

During lockdown it was lovely to have the allotment plots to go to and where often we would see and chat to people at a distance. However the weather was often very cold.

We only had a zoom meeting once when only 4 people were able to attend. This was organised by Elaine, one of our members. During the zoom meeting it was agreed to meet up at the allotments on June 2nd and visit each other's plots and have a discussion on what each of us was planning to grow this year. It was agreed that no visits would be planned for this year other than a couple of visits to nearby allotments where some members have other plots.

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed a new member, Liz Looney, She is taking over from one of our members who has decided to give up his share of the U3A plot.

Judy White

Transport Discussion Group

Whilst it has been a quiet year for the group, members have been joining Zoom meetings of other similar groups, as well as getting together for garden coffee when Boris and the weather has allowed.

We are looking forward hopefully to resuming meeting face to face in September, and are planning our activities accordingly. In the meantime, our summertime programme of visits include - Brooklands Museum and London Transport Bus Museum, Steam Day at Didcot Railway Centre, 60+1 Anniversary Gala Weekend at the Bluebell Railway, Island Steam Show at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway.

If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Martin on 01372 451463.



Martin

Wine Group 7



During the current Covid 19 restrictions we organised the occasional Zoom meetings, which started off including tasting wines but the logistics of organising this were difficult during lock-down. These were then replaced with just social Zoom meetings to maintain contact with everyone and to make sure we were all keeping safe and well. Thankfully to date everyone has managed to avoid the dreaded Covid-19 disease.

I am also pleased to report nearly all our members have now had their second jab and we are now looking ahead to resuming our meetings again in June, provided the lifting of restrictions go according to plan.

Mike Moffat

Motor Group Plus

Unfortunately, as most of the group's activities involve visiting both outdoor and indoor venues such as exhibitions, museums and displays covering many types and modes of transport, everything has been on hold. Communications have been maintained by emailing members with occasional motoring quizzes to keep the old grey matter going during lock-down.

We are now in the process of putting together a revised programme for the second half of this year and are looking forward to getting back to our monthly get-togethers and visiting various new events and venues.

Obviously, this is all subject to the relaxation in Covid 19 restrictions going ahead as planned. The new programme of events should be able for review on the U3A website.



Mike Moffat



Wine Group 1

Our Wine Group members met in our garden last month, and we had a lovely time meeting again. Before that our last meeting was in February 2020, so it had been a long time since we tasted wines together, though we had been practising on our own of course!

We are hoping this will be the first of a return to regular gatherings

Jo & Ernie Harris

Bowls

We are now Bowling on a Monday afternoon at 2pm at East Horsley Bowling Club, St Martins Close, Ockham South Road, East Horsley. Come and enjoy some exercise in the open air and lovely surroundings of the Bowls Club. Tea and biscuits at the end. Cost £5.00 all in.

Mary Coburn



Card Craft Group

The first opportunity we got to mix outside our own bubble I was able to invite half the group on the one day, and the other half the following day for tea/coffee, cake and a catch up. Considering we had all been in lock down there was still plenty of news to chat about.

My card craft ladies were in the starting block awaiting Boris to give us the go ahead to start once more.

As soon as we were 'legal' everyone went into overdrive on the first day back, as you can see by the amount of cards we made. This is just a sample as they had made too many to fit into the picture.



Jenny Burrington

IPad 1

Our group had a meeting in June in our garden, and at this time the group wishes to continue.

We will most probably meet in gardens until we can return to group meetings inside. I still have to confirm if the Anchor will continue to welcome us, as we use their Wi-Fi.

We are still full and have no vacancies at present .



Peter Main

Explore London Group 2



A few notes on how my group have been spending their time in lock-down (as far as I know?)

Initially we were keeping in touch via emails – in my case anyway. As I don't live in Bookham or Fetcham I feel a bit like an interloper!

We now use Zoom and very kindly Elaine Crutchley set us all up and became the 'host'. Of course initially everyone was trying to talk at the same time so Elaine took control and 'muted' all of us, allowing one person to speak at a time! She is a very good teacher and kind as well.

Last year one of our members – Diana – got the dreaded virus and ended up in hospital for 5 or 6 days I believe. Diana has said it was an awful experience and not one she would like to repeat. It left her feeling totally exhausted. Thankfully she has now fully recovered.

The nearest we have got to London is a Zoom quiz based on London Transport tube stations and famous buildings. It was not as easy as it sounds!

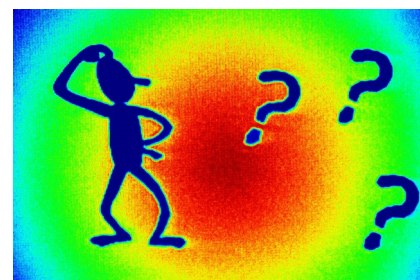
We have stayed close to home for this past year, visiting and exploring Dorking and Guildford histories. We are planning a picnic on Downside common, provided the weather keeps dry, to discuss our future plans.

I think we are all looking forward to a U3A monthly meeting at St Mary's Church Hall. .

Joan Roberts

Answers to Jenny's Quiz

1. Whirligig with Humphrey Lestocq and Mr Turnip.
2. 1st July 1997 when Britain handed back Hong Kong to the Chinese.
3. The Bench is the book written by the Duchess of Sussex
4. Gala Bingo sponsors 'The Chase'
5. An Arbroath Smokie is a smoked haddock
6. The Blue ball in Snooker is worth 5 points
7. Norman Bates was played by Anthony Perkins
8. James (Jim) Callaghan held all 4 top positions
9. The three wise monkeys
10. Princess Anne, the Princess Royal



Committee Members

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Treasurer	Chris Wimble	01372 879486
Speaker Secretary	Mary Coburn	01372 452970
Groups Co-ordinator	Ann Chance	01372 819721
Membership Secretary	Mick Joy	01372 453959
Events Co-ordinator	Brenda Keddie	01372 457076
Member	Liz Barnes	01372 375163

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The committee meets on the second Monday of the month.

If you have any items you would like to be discussed by the committee please contact the secretary, Linda Giles.