

# Senior

# Moments

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

Issue 45

February 2015



*Phoenix Players photo by Douglas Lester*



photos by David Middleton



# Bookham and District U3A

Registered Charity No 103686 U3A Membership No 41239193

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## The Committee



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With the worst of the winter, hopefully, behind us we can now look forward to all we hope to be able to do in 2015 and so far as our U3A is concerned that could be an interesting challenge. There are of course a wide range of different groups to consider and there are usually places to be taken up or even a new group on the same subject to be formed. I think the wine tasting groups now have 4 separate groups within this U3A. There is also the challenge of becoming more involved in the running of the U3A. One of reasons this group is so lively is because new people have been willing to take on new roles, but we always need new people to step forward and it doesn't have to be too great a commitment, just talk to any committee member and we will try to find a place for you.

This issue of Senior Moments has some features I trust you will find interesting. A piece by Judith Witter tells the story of an unusual tax—the pavement tax in the 1700's and why it was necessary. There is an amusing story about this U3A's arrangement with the bank and Mike Withers gives an update on the cycling group and the hope that more members will get involved. There are reports on the very successful ShuffleBoard evening and Ina Hawes' Phoenix production that would also like to recruit new members. The Songsters with Audrey Ward were filmed and recorded by a South Korean Broadcasting unit and Jan Hudson has written up the story, but no photographs were taken. A new contributor, Rosemary Coleman has written two short pieces

We are constantly trying to improve the monthly Tuesday speakers and find new ones. Some of you will have received a questionnaire at the meeting and not always known just what to do with it. Our speakers' secretary has written an explanation to remind you how important it is to have these back filled in so that we can make sure we get good speakers.

If you belong to a group that has something to report, either write it up with accompanying photographs or contact the editor who will do the work for you.

*Maurice Baker*

## Notes from your Chairman

Since my election as your Chairman on the 6th October, I am delighted to report that for the next 3 months my time has been filled with so many interesting and amusing U3A functions. On the 14th October I went to listen to "Penny Readings" at the Thorndike Theatre where our U3A took a very prominent role in the performance and although this is not my first attendance at these Readings, it did reinforce my original view as to the enormous talent we have within our organisation. Humour was in abundance and it was interspersed with thought provoking readings and light musical interludes.

Nine days later, Pippa and I went to our Network Forum at Dorking representing Bookham & District U3A and although we didn't come away with any sparkling ideas or information, it did confirm to us that as a U3A we are not doing much wrong and a great deal right. This is all as a result of the diligence of our previous Committees.

The next day I attended a concert at the Leatherhead Institute provided by our own Phoenix Concert Party. This, not only was a very professional performance but offered a great deal of humour, particularly as two of the cast were suffering from leg injuries whilst performing. They did extremely well and covered up their disabilities with some professionalism.

The next month saw the start of Jan Dicker's social events with the Shuffle Board evening on the 12th November. This was, of course, something new to most of our members – but what a success. The evening was a sell out with 90 tickets sold and was very well orchestrated by the organisers. The food was supplied by "Home Cooking" of Bookham which was fully appreciated by us, such that we are likely to be using them again in our future events. I have heard nothing but praise for the evening from so many members – so congratulations to Jan

and her team for organising such a fun evening.

December 2nd was our Christmas Social with over 150 tickets sold and we were offered an excellent buffet prepared and presented by Jan and her team. This year we deviated slightly from our normal Christmas entertainment but we were fortunate to hear Adrienne Dines talking on the subject "Where the writing begins". A lady born and educated in Dublin but now living in Weybridge gave us a wonderful insight into Convents and Irish humour. This, I believe, was very much appreciated particularly by those Catholics amongst our audience.

Finally, on the 4th December a full coach of U3A members visited, in the evening, the Christmas illuminations at Kew Gardens, which had received great reviews from the Daily Telegraph and the Times. We were able to walk around the gardens, where there was entertainment, stalls serving all types of foods and, of course, traditional Christmas drinks. This, coupled with some spectacularly lighting of trees and buildings, made us feel that Christmas had really arrived.

Although by the time that you read these notes, Christmas and the New Year will have passed us by but my thoughts are with you all now hoping you have enjoyed all the festivities and I wish you a peaceful and healthy New Year.

*Neil Carter*



## Songsters on screen

Imagine the surprise of Aud Ward's songster group when 3 men from the Korean Broadcasting Service walked in to their Thursday session wanting to film them !!

They were making a documentary about the type of things retired folk in the UK get up to in their spare time .

They had contacted U3A as we are obviously famous for providing many activities and on the previous day had by chance come into an art class



Audrey Ward

Although this was not a U3A group they filmed us but then got very excited when I mentioned that the next day was the Songster session and so it was all arranged that they would come—I did for warn Audrey.

They filmed us as we entered and when we began singing we were filmed from every

possible angle . Bill our pianist was also filmed and will probably have the most famous hands on Korean television.

I imagine there is a limit to the number of



interesting shots that can be made of a group of people sitting in rows and singing so after ½ hour we stopped for tea which was also filmed .

Aud was then interviewed and also Audrey Charles our oldest member at 91.

They then asked if I would do an interview.

Connected up to sound and with a TV camera in your face its very difficult when asked ' what do you do with your time?' and ' what advice would you give to our retired folk in Korea? ' to give coherent answers and there was only one chance . I hope they can edit well

The documentary should be completed at the end of the year and we were told that a DVD would be sent to us -- it may even be on U- tube.

Fame at Last !!

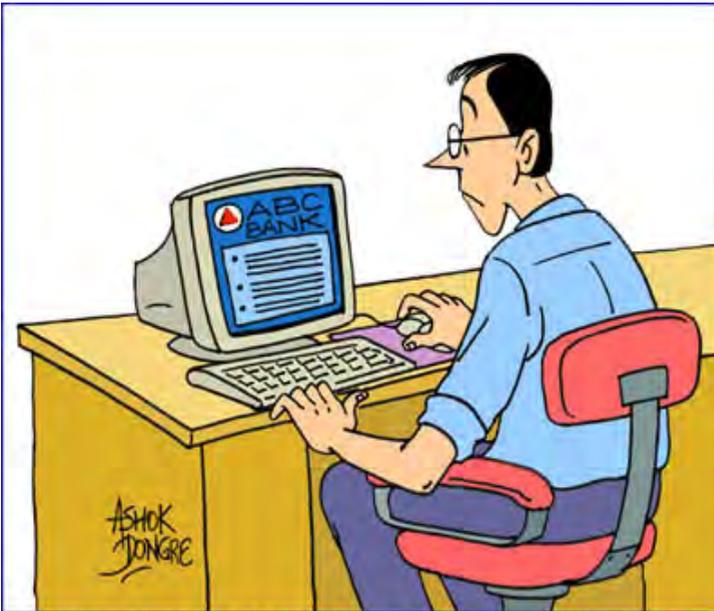


Jan Hudson

## The joys of modern Banking

It is often stated that changing a bank account is one of the most difficult and stressful tasks that we undertake in modern life and consequently statistics show that loyalty to a bank is far higher than many other allegiances. We are told that banks have now sorted out the difficulty in changing and we can all change banks and all the standing orders and other payments without any of the earlier problems. Bookham U3A has recently been through this process and it was very testing of our treasurer's time, patience and humour! We needed to change banks

the treasurer proceeded to complete the necessary paper work to achieve the required transfer, but unfortunately various obstacles were presented. First of all, the full names of every member of the committee was required and this could not be completed straight off. Then the title of our organization varied more than the bank could cope with. Apparently, sometimes we are Bookham and District U3A but the name registered is The Bookham and District U3A. This was eventually confirmed with the Charities Commission and to be fair the bank do need to have the correct name. At



long last all appeared to be well, it had taken many months to arrive at this stage. Imagine our surprise when the cheque books finally arrived, the title on the cheques read The Bookham and District University of the Third with the final 'Age' missing! There was no room for the final 'Age' and it never occurred to anyone from the bank, who had been so meticulous, up to that point, to question the importance of the 'Age' in the name of the organization. It begs the question whether the bank would accept a

**THE INTERNET BANKING SERVICE IS TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE. PLEASE TRY OUR PHONE BANKING SERVICE. IF ALL THE PHONE LINES ARE BUSY, PLEASE VISIT THE BRANCH NEAREST TO YOU.**

cheque for payment with the final 'Age' left off, but please don't try this if you pay by cheque to renew your membership!

because the one used for many years decided that there would in future be a charge for every cheque passing through their system. This prompted us to look for a bank where no charges would be made, because a very considerable amount of our business does involve cheques. With the new bank selected,

*Maurice Baker*

## Kew Outing



Our December programme usually includes a coach outing to celebrate the Christmas season, but would members be attracted to the idea of following a mile-long walking trail in Kew Gardens after dark through whatever conditions the weather might throw at us?



Publicity advertised "seasonal illuminations, a Garden of Fire, Tunnel of Light, sparkling giant snowflakes, Santa's Grotto, Mistletoe Moments and the iconic Palm House and pond bathed in Christmas colour; plus vintage rides and festive foodie treats".

Fortunately plenty of members booked and, despite my misgivings, we didn't experience a gale, downpour or freezing cold, and with a few more festive treats to enjoy on the return journey, the expedition was voted a success.

On our walk-about we discovered giant luminous lilies-of-the-valley, lit-up thistles and various curiously designed 'plants' along with amazingly clever use of current

technology creating fast-changing effects on buildings and across spaces giving an impression of 'fireworks frozen in time'. Besides the artificial designs, the lighting of some of Kew's beautiful trees allowed us to appreciate close-up details in their bark as well as the tree's natural shape. Particular highlights for me were the ever-changing effects reflected across the lake onto the historic house in the background, and brilliant flashing colours of 'pop-up' lights accompanied by The Nutcracker music on reaching the grand Palm House.

As you can see in the photos taken



by our members, some of us enjoyed a ride on the Carousel, and (I know) tucked in to hot doughnuts, mulled wine and various hot snacks as we chatted and followed the route at a leisurely pace.

*Sheila Pomfret*

## Art Appreciation 3

At a recent U3A Art Appreciation meeting the artist under discussion was Berthe Morisot, a woman



Perhaps her most famous painting—one of our group recalled she received this on a card when her baby was born

impressionist artist.

Throughout history there aren't too many woman artists of high standing and accomplishment

but this woman, born in 1841, was quite exceptional and in many ways still not always fully appreciated for the great



Painted of her by brother in law Edouard Manet



Her famous painting now in the National Gallery in London their models got up to! Berthe Morisot came from a relatively affluent family; her father was a well paid government official and Berthe and one of her sisters, Edma, very early in their lives became extremely good artists and



Just look at the firm decisive brush strokes on the blouse—a very self assured artist indeed



A very fine pastel work

impressionist painter she really was. She became an artist in the new impressionist era when it was not fully understood by the art establishment in France at the time. The main impressionist painters are well known—Manet, Monet, Degas, Renoir, Pissarro and Cezanne. Many art history books consider Morisot almost as just a token woman and of minor consideration, sometimes only a model and we all know what bohemian artists and

registered at the Louvre to paint and where they met other established artists, Edouard Manet amongst them soon appreciated the talent as well as the beauty of Berthe. Her sister married a Naval man, Adolphe Pontillon and went to live in Brittany and raise a family, but Berthe continued her dedication to her art and even had some pictures accepted by the Paris Salon, the pinnacle of success for all French artists. (Cezanne never had a painting accepted by the Salon). She could not of course go to the clubs, cafes and bordillos frequented by many of her established male artist friends and missed the discussions on artistic matters until she persuaded her parents to hold weekly dinner parties to which her



*Painted in the Isle of Wight with her husband Eugene Manet in the foreground*

artist friends were invited. Manet, Degas, Monet and Renoir were regular visitors. She could also not attend life classes since painting nude figures was deemed very improper for young ladies at the time, but even here she managed to turn this to her advantage so much so that her male impressionist friends had to unlearn academic lessons in classical modelling in order to alter their approach to painting in the new style. All her paintings throughout her life showed a very definite impressionistic skill and her subject matter was always her friends, her daughter and the ordinary day to day subjects she encountered. She combined her high artistic skill with her position and status in the society in which she lived. She married Manet's younger brother Eugene, who supported her artistic efforts throughout his life; arranging for her pictures to be framed and organised many of the exhibitions of her work. The other principal

impressionist painters all had a very high regard for her work that has not always been fully appreciated by art critics then and since. I have been unable to find a comprehensive



*Julie Manet painted by her mother*

book of her paintings anywhere and searches on the Internet have revealed most of her pictures are in private collections. She painted in oils and watercolours, line drawing and pastels. She even turned to sculpture and being



*Look at the self assured brushwork for the grass in the foreground*

the person she was, sort the advice of the leading sculptor of the day, no less than August Rodin. She died at a relatively young age in 1895 when she was only 54. I think an exhibition exclusively of her work is long overdue. Maurice Baker

## Cycling Group

Between March and October we have had seven rides, visiting various parts of the county, (we always miss out August to allow for family holidays.) Throughout the Summer months the Met Office kept to our rule that rain is not allowed on the third Friday of any month. Feeling that our luck could not hold for our last run of the year at the end of November, we arranged to meet for elevenses at Bookham's new cycle caf\_ the Domestique. It was a damp sort of morning so we were pleased not to be waiting around in a wet draughty car park, and the Domestique made us very welcome. Most of the Group turned up, (a few for various reasons without their bikes). In the event six of us set off in slight drizzle making our way across Bookham, stopping at the bird

Restaurant at the Medicine Garden Cobham, something different to end the 2014 season programme of rides. Afterwards we made our way quickly home across the common, a fairly short 12 mile round trip, just right for



this time of the year.

The number of actual takers for each ride throughout the year has been a little disappointing, the effects of grandparent duties, anno domini and other conflicting



hide, not much wildlife to see, too wet even for the ducks although by now it had stopped drizzling.

Our lunch stop was The Hothouse

events. We have welcomed a number of new members this year and could do with more. The rides are not too arduous, there is never any hurry, we stick to country lanes

and bridle paths as far as possible, and the distances never too great, so why not give us a try?  
Mike Withers



Photos by Mike Withers

# Phoenix Entertainment Group

The Group put on an 'Entertainment' at the Leatherhead Institute in the main hall in October with the intriguing title 'Claudine—Miliner de Paris'. The author, Ina Hawes, is the leader of the group and has put on many pieces in the past. She comes up with an idea and constructs a simple plot, then with her friends they choose suitable songs to sing with the entertainment. The songs are well known favourites from shows and popular song. In this show there were songs from many shows and they included Ascot Gavotte: Easter Bonnet: The

Sun Will  
Come  
Out



Photo by Douglas Lester

tomorrow: Mad About the Boy: Putting on the Ritz: Mairie's Wedding: Russian Rose: What a Wonderful World

Apparently, the first meetings of the group take place in the Spring and by Autumn with rehearsals and further input from everybody involved they are ready to give a live performance.



The plot for this entertainment was based on an upmarket miliner's shop on the outskirts of London in early summer. Claudine, played by Ina Hawes spoke with a French accent to



6 Photos by Maurice Baker

customers, but was in fact a cockney with an accent to match when she talked to her assistants

Susie (Sue Adlington) and Lizzie (Elizabeth Cross). All the potential customers Mrs Emily Salinger (Valerie Shelton), Countess Olga Petroska (Annette Lester) and Mrs Felicity Francome (Fernia Andrews)



received her very best French accent and the action revolved around the many hats in the shop with much trying on and comments that kept the audience both enthralled and amused.

The show was much appreciated by those who attended the Friday afternoon



performance with many afterwards wondering what would be the next 'entertainment' from this very talented group. The group is always looking for new talent so if you feel you would like to have a go, then get in touch with Ina who will be sure to make you welcome.



Maurice Baker

## Memory Courses in Bookham U3A

It seems a fitting tribute to Freddie Jenkins that Bookham U3A completed the second Memory Course shortly before her death



Freddie Jenkins

Freddie read about this Memory Course, (which originated with the Aughton and Ormskirk branch of U3A), towards the end of 2013. She sent for the course materials and then asked the Bookham

U3A committee to see if they could find some members to run a course here in Bookham.

She did not let it rest there, and got a group of her U4A to form the nucleus of the first group. For 4 Wednesday afternoons in August we met together to learn how our memories work, age and how to make best use of what we have got. It was an enjoyable experience – rather to my surprise! So, we ran another 4 session course on Tuesday afternoons in November and that, too, was quite a lot of fun.

It was largely thanks to Trevor Denton-Roberts who did all the arranging and administrating with great efficiency, and a good group of U3A members each time. I might even be persuaded to run another course this year if there is the demand.

Rosemary Coleman



## Bridge Group

Monday morning Bookham U3A Bridge group has recently welcomed two new members, Sandra and

Trevor: We get lots of help from Alan who belongs to our group and from Ian Pearson who is our mentor: We did not take off any time for Christmas having a long and hilarious lunch after our session



on December 22nd, and playing as usual on December 29th. We have lots of fun keeping our brains active!



Rosemary Coleman

It's good to know this bridge group is not all numbers, serious concentration and silence all the time! Ed

## How the U3A came into being

IN 1981 Peter Laslett, a Cambridge University academic, hosted a conference in Cambridge to discuss bringing the U3A to Britain. In the same year Eric Midwinter, director of the Centre for Policy on Ageing, was interviewed about it on the radio programme You and Yours. That interview brought 400 letters. It was clear that the U3A was an idea whose time had come. Laslett wrote the objects and principles. Social entrepreneur Michael Young became the first national chairman and Midwinter general secretary. The Nuffield Foundation provided a start-up grant of £10,000.

Since then expansion has been non-stop. Every year there are more U3As and more members than before.

The first national U3A magazine appeared in September 1983, and 15 U3As turned up to the first national U3A conference, at Keele University.

1996 saw the appointment of the first full-time company secretary and national administrator; the first week-long Summer University; and the formation of a Standing Committee for Education.

During the years of austerity since 2008, both membership and activities have grown steadily and there are now more activities, summer schools and online courses than ever.

The most recent figures are 320,521 members in 915 local U3As.

## *How Much of all this did you know?*

### PRINCIPLES OF THE U3A MOVEMENT

**T**he U3A Movement is non-religious and non-political and has three main principles:

#### THE THIRD AGE PRINCIPLE

- a) Membership of a U3A is open to all in their third age, which is defined not by a particular age but by a period in life in which full-time employment has ceased.
- b) Members promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a U3A.
- c) Members should do all they can to ensure that people wanting to join a U3A can do so.

#### THE SELF-HELP LEARNING PRINCIPLE

- a) Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire; by the members, for the members.
- b) No qualifications are sought or offered. Learning is for its own sake, with enjoyment being the prime motive, not qualifications or awards.
- c) There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers; they are all U3A members.

#### THE MUTUAL AID PRINCIPLE

- a) Each U3A is a mutual aid organisation, operationally independent but a member of The Third Age Trust, which requires adherence to the guiding principles of the U3A Movement.
- b) No payments are made to members for services rendered to any U3A.
- c) Each U3A is self-funded with membership subscriptions and costs kept as low as possible.
- d) Outside financial assistance should only be sought if it does not imperil the integrity of the U3A movement.

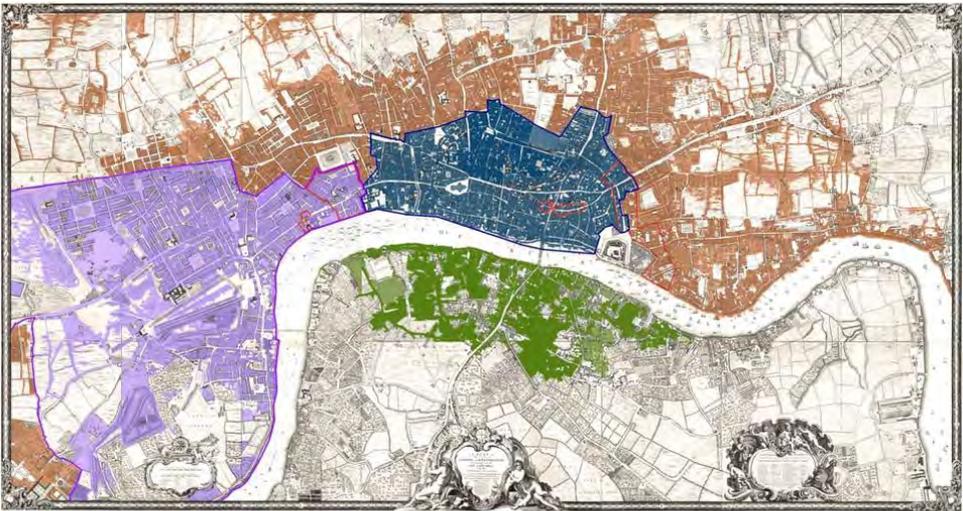
## Paving Tax in 18th Century London

I recently researched Mary Christy's ancestors, who were living in London from the late seventeenth century. This was for a talk I gave to a London History Group. I was mapping how one of the maternal lines of her family tree fitted together. This is interesting in itself but it provides a limited view of the family. I wanted to find out more than where and when her family lived and so I searched for records to see if they had jobs. I looked for information about their incomes, what local taxes they paid and what was their religion. I was curious to find out what life might really have been like for them. This involved looking at social, religious, economic and political history and illustrates the fact that family history research should give you an insight into what was going on in the world whilst the ancestor was alive.

In my research I found a great deal of information about Mary's ancestors that is very

of the eighteenth century. From the early eighteenth century Westminster and the Parish of Marylebone prospered. Houses were built in Berkeley, Hanover and Grosvenor Squares. All the new houses had water laid on coming from reservoirs in Green Park. The smaller Green Park pond took the sewage. As a result wealthy citizens moved westward to prosperous Westminster from the City of London. Until these new houses were built aristocrats and the gentry from the country stayed in lodgings when they visited London. But increasingly the wealthy and fashionable had a London town house in these new areas, even if it was rented and not owned. A movement of trades followed the movement west from the City to serve the wealthy. The City became worried about the money stream moving westward, particularly as banks also looked in that direction to provide services to moneyed Westminster residents.

In eighteenth century London,



**■ The City**   **■ Westminster**   **■ Middlesex**   **■ Southwark**

interesting. Just one of the discoveries was that one of Mary's ancestors was living in Great Marlborough Street in 1773 and paying paving tax, among other taxes. I wondered what was paving tax?

In order to understand this I found myself studying the economic rivalry between the City of London and Westminster during much

a practical difficulty faced by its population was the problem of making relatively short journeys due to the increased number of people and traffic. This meant that people living in Westminster were less likely to travel to the City to bank or purchase their goods. This difficulty in communication and travelling

around became one of the greatest drivers for change.

The streets of Westminster had poor paving and it was difficult and dangerous for carriages to pass along the roads because of the deep channels and ruts in the road surface. It was hard to walk along the pavements because of the amount and depth of the mud and horse dung thrown on to the pavements from the passage of carriages along the roads. Added to this when it rained water poured down from high-level waterspouts on houses making it necessary to wade through this muck on the pavements. There were numerous paving acts from 1709-1724, but this did not produce much improvement.

In order to improve the transport and communication situation parliament decided upon the construction of a second bridge across the

Thames and a bill was proposed in 1721 to build the bridge close to the Houses of Parliament. However, the City Corporation and many others in the City opposed this fearing the loss of trade from the City. But in 1736 the Burgesses, Freeholders and Inhabitants of Westminster argued that a new bridge was essential and although this faced much

opposition from the City, the Westminster Bridge Act was passed. The bridge opened in 1750. In 1739 the Government's Commissioners were given powers to acquire land to widen existing streets and build new ones in Westminster and improve traffic movement.

In 1756 the City petitioned for a new bridge at Blackfriars and the widening of London Bridge to attract back prosperous people who had left the City. London Bridge was widened by 1762 and Blackfriars Bridge was built by 1769.

After a petition to improve the streets, Parliament passed the Westminster Paving Act in 1762, which allowed for street improvements. Stone was used to lay carriageways and pavements were raised above the carriageway, lights were placed at regular intervals, streets had nameplates and houses had numbers, and high level water spouts were removed.

Once these improvements had taken place Paving Tax was levied on householders who benefitted from them.

These improvements in Westminster sparked the City of London into action and by 1766 they had an Act of Parliament that allowed the City to improve its streets in a similar way to Westminster.

During the period 1750-1770, there was immense change in the streets of both Westminster and the City as each area saw the other as a competitor for trade and fashionability. Mary Chrystie's ancestors lived in the Westminster and Marylebone area from 1700 until 1813 so would have experienced all these changes



*Piccadilly in 18th century London*

and the political and economic battles that took place between the City and Westminster. Instead of just knowing where Mary's ancestors lived I had much more sense of what it was like to live there and the difficulties of moving from one place to another. Reading this history helped me understand why Mary Chrystie's ancestor was paying Paving Tax. I also learnt a lot about eighteenth century London that I had not known before.

This illustrates what is so interesting about family history research. You will always be learning about aspects of history you had not known before.

*Judith Witter 2014*

## The Shuffleboard Evening

A fun time was had by all at the 'Shuffleboard Evening' on Wednesday 12th November at the Barn Hall.

Jan Dicker organised the evening with Shuffleboards and the expertise from Brighton and the two course meal supplied and served up by our new local caterers 'Homecooking by Elizabeth'.



The idea being that non of the eighty eight participants had to make or bring sweets, serve



the food or wash up afterwards. Instead we had to bring our own crockery, cutlery, glasses and wine.



After our main course and a few happy glasses of wine the Brighton experts explained

how to play, score and the organising of participants into teams of three in readiness to be called in turn to 'Play the Boards'. Volunteers were called to be the scorers on the ten tables and sign your team card. Whoosh, bang, bang went the wooden



counters as we as a team tried to chase and coax them into slotted lanes to maximise our scores. This was great fun with



everyone joining in and quite noisy and jolly. Unfortunately we did not have time for a



Photos by David Middleton

fourth game before our carriages arrived. Well done Jan.

David Middleton

# HELP Please—Tuesday afternoon speakers

Speaker Questionnaire

Date

Speaker

Subject

Each month the committee would like to sample your reaction to the Tuesday afternoon talk.

Please would you fill in this slip at the end of the talk and then put it in the box by the front door

Please tick one box to indicate how you rated this afternoon's meeting

yes                      ok                      no

Did you enjoy this afternoon?

Comments

outstanding   good

satisfactory   mediocre   poor

The speaker - delivery  
The speaker - content  
The visual display

If you have any suggestions for topics you would like to hear please note them below:

Have you any suggestions for speakers (please state where you heard the speaker)

You may have been asked to complete a questionnaire when you arrived at the Tuesday afternoon meetings. The questionnaire is asking for your opinions of the speaker and also for suggestions for topics (and possibly the names of any good speakers you have heard). If you are given a questionnaire please take the time to fill them in. A box for their return (and some pens) is placed at the main entrance to the hall on the shelf to your left as you enter. We would be really grateful if you would complete the forms (we do not ask for names and they are totally anonymous) and we discuss your feedback and suggestions at each of our committee meetings.

As you will be aware we book our speakers almost two years in advance and so changes and suggestions may take time to filter through but we really do want to provide something for everyone throughout the year. We hope that all of our speakers are good (we do try to get recommendations for all of them) and hope that you will enjoy them even if they are not about your usual interests.

Lynn Farrell



ShuffleBoard evening in October  
photographed by David Middleton

# Out & About with Bookham U3A

OUTINGS & THEATRE VISITS  
telephone Sheila Pomfret – 01372 454706

## Theatre matinees at Woking by coach from Bookham

(discounted tickets may be available without transport if you wish to make your own way)

**Wed 25 February** ARCADIA a masterpiece by Tom Stoppard described as 'a play of ideas, humour and grief' Stalls/Circle seats and coach £24.50

**Wed 6 May** DEAD SIMPLE stage adaptation of Peter James' detective novel in the Roy Grace series. A stag night prank goes horribly wrong and a fellow finds himself buried alive. Grace attempts to solve the mysterious disappearance before it is too late! Stalls seat + coach £25

**Wed 20 May** THE PRODUCERS revival of an entertaining musical performed in London in 2004. Two theatrical producers scheme to get rich quick, but complications arise when an apparent flop becomes an unexpected success. Royal Circle seat + coach £25

**Tues 12-Sun 17 May** HOLIDAY by coach to explore areas of NORFOLK & SUFFOLK  
Half-board accommodation at 3\* George Hotel, Norwich.

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## U3A SURREY NETWORK STUDY DAYS at the Menuhin Hall

- Fri Feb 20th 2015** Long to Reign Over Us - How British Monarchy has Survived Social Change, Revolution & War  
Presented by Dr Nigel Arch, Retired Curator at Royal Palaces
- Fri Mar 20th 2015** Hogarth to Gainsborough – Painting in Eighteenth Century England  
Presented by Leslie Pitcher, Fetcham U3A
- Fri Apr 17th 2015** The Future Development of the NHS - Title to be confirmed - Booking from 15th  
Presented by Current & Retired NHS Staff

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## U3A Monthly Meetings

- 03 March Surrey Safari—Geof Lunn
- 07 April Rowhurst—Lucy Quinnell talk on Fire & Iron the place to see and buy the very best metalwork by leading international artist blacksmiths.
- 05 May Bugs, Plagues and Pestilence—John Reuther A scientific medical microbiologist with the NHS

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The next Social Evening will be on Wednesday 27th May. Details to follow, but an evening not to be missed by lovers of food and good wine!



Phoenix Players photos by Douglas Lester

