

Newsletter

NOTICE BOARD

Newsletter deadline : 5 p.m.

Friday 22nd October 2019

Next issue date :

Monday 4th November 2019

Please try to restrict your articles to fewer than 350 words

!!! IMPORTANT FOR GROUP LEADERS !!!

The Newsletter is now distributed directly, to all with an email address, using the Beacon System. If possible, take a printed copy to your meetings for those without emails. Tell your members that it can be found on our website (www.fleetu3a.org.uk).

GROUP LEADERS' MEETINGS

25th March 2020: Programme Checking at URCH

3rd July 2020: Group Leaders Lunch at VHHW

EVENTS 2019

18th October : Quiz Challenge at VHHW 14.00 to 17.00

20th November : Annual General Meeting
at The Harlington 10.45

6th December : Christmas Lunch at VHHW

VISITS 2019

December : Bournemouth Christmas Tree Festival &
Russell Cotes Museum

VISITS 2020

26th January : 'Singin' in the Rain at Sonning Mill

February : Greenwich Chapel

March : Hatfield House

April: Bowood House & Garden

August : Edinburgh Tattoo

Chat From The Chair



Hello again,

What has happened to the weather? I've gone from sandals to boots in one step! However, the weather did not prevent 45 of our hard-working Group Leaders (GL) from attending the annual GLs' meeting on September 25th. As always it was a lively meeting with lots of updates and news from the committee, mutual problem solving and many ideas from the GLs for future discussion. Thank you to all who attended.

One of the updates from me was to do with our constitution. The Third Age Trust (TAT), our umbrella organisation, on instruction from the Charity Commission (CC) have advised us that all U3As should have the same 'Charitable Purpose' or 'Object' clause. In Fleet, we have been happy that our 2016 constitution covers all that we do. However, this is not the case in some U3As who have innocently developed irregular accounting methods. The CC is being very realistic and accepts that this was a genuine misunderstanding. They are prepared to overlook past mistakes if all U3As adopt a new object clause that has been agreed between them and TAT. A problem arose when we, and several other U3As, pointed out that we have a clause in our constitution forbidding us from altering our 'Charitable Purpose'! A further statement was made by the CC giving U3As like ours a once only permission to change our 'Charitable Purpose' clause. The upshot of this is that I will be asking you, at the AGM on November 20th, to agree to change our 'Charitable Purpose' clause to bring us in line with CC requirements. The new clause would read as follows;

'The charity's object is the advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full-time work by all means, including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development, in Fleet and district.'

I have no problem with making the change as all of our activities are covered by this statement. There is a FAQ page on the TAT website further allaying any concerns we might have. I will arrange to put it on our website. Please contact me if you have any questions about this change. The final agenda for the AGM will be emailed to you shortly and a paper copy will be available at the meeting on November 20th.

Happy Autumn,

Paddy

Events

Christmas Lunch - Friday 6th December

Tickets for the Christmas Lunch went on sale at the September Monthly Meeting. They will be on sale again at the October and November Monthly Meetings. If you are unable to attend the Monthly Meeting and would like to attend the Lunch please contact the Events Secretary (or his successor) via e-mail (events@fleetu3a.org.uk)

The Christmas Lunch will be held at the Victoria Hall in Hartley Wintney on Friday 6th December. Numbers are limited to about 80 so it is likely all tickets will be sold.

Quiz Challenge - Friday 18th October

Entries for the quiz are being received - 6 so far. The size of the hall limits the number of entries to 12. Details of the quiz and an entry form are attached to this newsletter. **All entries must be received by me before Friday 11th Oct.**

This will probably be the last missive you receive from me as I am retiring from the post of Events Sec at the AGM in November. Fortunately I have a keen volunteer to take over from me.

Mike Brown

New Groups, Wanted, and Bits and Bobs

Ballroom Dancing

Beginners

A new Ballroom Dancing Beginners' group will start on Tuesday 5 November 2019 @14:45-15:45 at The Crookham Memorial Hall, Sandy Lane GU52 8LD.

There are few spaces still available, please contact the group leader, Lucinda Cranham on 01252 202 333 or email : lcranham@hotmail.com



Collage Art Group

Collage: 'An artistic composition made of various materials, such as paper, cloth or wood, glued on a surface'

Is anyone out there interested in joining a Collage Art Group? Collage is a broad subject and I hope to introduce you to some of the many different aspects to it so that you can experiment. You do not need to be able to draw or paint, just have a desire to be creative.

Please register your interest by emailing me at carol.howlett56@gmail.com

Carol Howlett

Computing

The PC and Tablet Workshop November / December 2019 Group is full but there are still spaces on the January / February 2020 repeat Group. The six Monday afternoon hour and a half sessions are designed to help to provide answers to the most common questions and fears. Topics covered include :

Windows, Apple & Android Operating Systems

Memory media such as USB memory and SD cards

Settings and installing Applications from trusted sources

File Management - use of free tools available

Backing up data to external hard disks, USB portable drives plus the 'Cloud'

Download, manage and do simple processing of photographs from cameras etc.

Computer and Tablet Security, Firewalls, Anti-Virus and Malware

The first session starts on the 6th January 2020 and will be held at the Guide Hall in Basingbourne Road from 2.00 to 3.30pm. For more information contact (RHJFielding@aol.com).

Richard Fielding

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE CATERING TEAM (no cooking skills required)

I have been asked to look for new volunteers for our Catering Team. I had the pleasure of meeting many of them, and eating their lovely food, at the recent Group Leaders' lunch. There are only a few occasions when you would be called on to help and the task does not involve 'chef type' culinary skills. The Team are a friendly group of people so if you can help or would like more information, please contact me at the events email address, they will be pleased to welcome you.

Carol Howlett



UKULELE GROUPS

Following a very busy enrolment day where we expected to gather the normal half dozen or so new Beginners, you can imagine our mild panic when 22 signed up. Fortunately we were able to book another room at the Church on the Heath to allowing the Beginners section to run concurrently with the Improvers. Leading two Groups at the same time meant co-opting extra helpers from our more advanced Players Group to cover for those inevitable periods when our Leaders can't all be available. This means we now have a total of 84 members signed up for the new year, comprising 41 Players, 20 Improvers and 23 Beginners, plus there is a spin off Group from the Players dedicated to developing vocal harmonies.

Charity concerts in Care Homes and Support Groups have become regular events for us now, and although one a month is our preferred rate, this calendar year has seen a few months where this has doubled. We do love to put smiles on the audience's faces, so we are never short of volunteers to play, especially as our only 'rider' (as the pro musicians call it) is tea and cake!

One of our biggest concerts will be on 4th October at St John's Church in Hook with over 100 in the audience. The Performing Arts Evening was of course one of our highlights this year and we look forward to supporting the next one. We have been booked to play at the Aldershot Christmas Community Festival on 30th November, where we and other local Ukulele Groups will perform throughout the day, and when as many Ukulele players as possible will attempt to set a record for the most ukulele players playing Christmas songs whilst wearing Santa hats - all in support of Phyllis Tuckwell so well worthwhile.

We are all sure that 2020 will be just as manic, so it's comforting to know that we have a great enthusiastic team of Leaders all working together to keep the ball rolling.

There is still some capacity for new Beginners and Improvers to join although the Players Group is now full. For more information contact (RHJFielding@aol.com). **Richard Fielding**

CREATIVE WRITING

Not Quite a Teddy Bears' Picnic by Jill Low

"Well, I think this calls for a celebration", said Mr Bear, pushing back his chair and dabbing his mouth with a napkin. "We've seen off that wretched Goldilocks girl at last – we need to mark the occasion."

"A spa break," said Mrs Bear.

"Legoland," said Baby Bear.

"How about Dubai?" said Mrs Bear.

"West Wittering!" shrieked Baby Bear.

Mr Bear smiled at his family. "I was thinking of a picnic," he said, and smiled more at their reaction.

"Not a normal tuna sandwiches and wasps in the honey picnic," he added quickly. "A proper Teddy Bears' Picnic, as in the song. 'If you go down to the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise,'" he sang. "We have the woods, many sunlit glades for games, and I'm sure Ocado will deliver."

So it was agreed, the date set and Mrs Bear began sending out invitations.

"The song says "every bear that ever there was"," she said one morning over breakfast. "Does that mean I've got to invite ancestors?"

"No dear, it's poetic licence to rhyme with 'because'," her husband replied. "And," he continued, watching Baby Bear reconstructing the Himalayas in porridge on the table "it says 'every teddy bear who's been good'."

"Will there be games, Daddy?" asked Baby Bear, hastily returning the porridge to his bowl.

"Yes, races and games – hide and seek would be a good one."

"And knicker flinging?"

"What?" said both his parents together.

Baby Bear looked anxiously at them. "In the song. It says, 'see them catch their underwear' and I'm not very good at catching." Mrs Bear stifled her laughter. "It's 'see them, catch them unawares.' They're playing Tag, darling. You can do that."

The days passed in a flurry of preparation. Rupert's mother unearthed a vast quantity of bunting. Paddington offered the services of Jonathan Brown as a DJ. Rabbit organised Pooh's friends into mammoth baking sessions. The day dawned, bright and clear. The bears stood at the door of their cottage.

"We've done it, dear," said Mrs Bear. "We've organised a proper Teddy Bears' Picnic."

"Not quite," said Mr Bear. "Knowing the reputation of bears in woods, I've hired some portaloos."

©Jill Low



Visits Report including Future Visits

The last visit of our U3A year was to the New Forest Show which didn't disappoint. There is so much to see and do you are spoilt for choice. In its 99 th year there were all the traditional events like cattle, sheep, show jumping and many traditional stalls. The new exhibits were the Steam Engines, which have promoted an idea for a visit to the Dorset Steam Fair, so watch out for it.

Many of our members who join us on a trip have never been on a visit before and are thrilled that not only was the trip interesting but it was FUN. If I take a trip I always ensure there is lots of laughter on the coach and friendships are made on many of the visits, so why not give us a try?

With no around the houses pickups with departures from Cody Sports & Social Club, which is the main departure point by coach, and Fleet Road for members who don't want to drive to Cody what are you waiting for?

Our overnight stays are proving very, very, popular not only for the above mentioned points but because of the interesting locations and relaxed friendly atmosphere. You may be on your own, but you are never alone as a 'Fleet U3A member'

We currently have a few single rooms left for our Edinburgh Tattoo trip next August and very few Twin/Double rooms.

Our Torquay visit, in April, has only Twin/doubles left.

The December visit to Bournemouth, to see The Russell-Cotes House and Gallery and for the second year the Christmas Tree Wonderland, is not to be missed. Plenty of free time to explore the Christmas chalets or browse the Bournemouth shops for Christmas treats. This visit was on sale at the last monthly meeting and there are still lots of places left.

If an overnight stay or visit is sold out please put your name on our waiting list and pen the date into your diary. There are sometimes very last minute cancellations.

Don't forget ALL up to date information is on the visits Web page and in the newsletter.

Spread the word to your friends who do not have access to a computer. The visits team look forward to seeing you on the coach.

Will catch up with you all after our SOLD OUT Derby visit at the end of September. **Carole Matthews**

Rollers

Visit to Winchester Christmas Market.

Thursday December 5th

Depart 9am Cody Sports & Social Club

Leave Winchester 5pm



Places remain for signing up at the October meeting or by email/phone. The cost is **£23** for the coach including the driver's tip. Parking at Cody is free. Payment needs to be made, in full, at the time of booking, cheques made payable to **fleet U3A.**

Jenny Teagle

Strollers keep strolling.

Welcome to Strollers.

We are growing in numbers which is just lovely.

Our strolls are full of chatter and fun.

Short and sweet as we all like them.

Coffee tastes good afterwards as chatting continues.

New members very welcome.



Strolling takes place every other Monday from 10a.m. We meet in Morrisons car park. The next stroll is on October 14th.

Jenny Teagle

Lost & Found

The necklace shown below was found in St Philip & St James, Kings Road, Fleet. If it belongs to you



Singing for Pleasure

“Happy Days are here again,
The sky above is clear again,
Let us sing a song of cheer again
Happy Days are here again.”

Yes it is true. Happy Days are here because we can meet our friends at Singing for Pleasure again.

It was great meeting up, having a quick chat about our summer holidays and then singing, mainly some new melodies but we do not neglect our old favourites either.

We have several new members, who we were delighted to see. As usual we all left the session with a smile on our faces after Richard had put us through our paces and Liril kept us in tune. Our few gentlemen are absolutely wonderful and join in especially when they have a 'solo' but if there is a shy gentleman out there, come and join in the fun.

June Grace

Calligraphy

Last June we joined the Photography and Do Your Own Thing groups in an exhibition in the Hart Centre. Below is an example of what was exhibited.



At the beginning of this new academic year we have been pleased to welcome some new members and are planning projects which include decorating a Christmas tree for the Festival at St Peter and St James Church to be held at the beginning of December. The new members are learning the Uncial script and it is hoped that all members will be able to contribute decorations for the tree. *Lynda Gibbons*

Monthly Meeting: Larry Bohana

'The Gallipoli Campaign'

At the suggestion of his daughter, and perhaps to the relief of his wife, Larry Bohana spent three years after his retirement from the army in completing a Master's degree in military history. He must have been an attentive and enthusiastic student.

We saw more of the fruits of these labours on Wednesday 18th as Larry outlined – in his words – the failure of command that led to the disaster of Gallipoli.

An enthralled and attentive audience heard how the campaign failed in every detail, on sea and on land. The impossibility of safe passage through the Dardanelles was matched by the folly of landing troops on narrow beaches below cliffs. At sea the British fleet faced impossible odds, and on land the troops did no better.

It came as something of a relief to the audience when Larry outlined how the guile and wit of the troops was deployed to cover the fact of the inevitable evacuation. To the end, Turkish forces were bluffed into thinking a presence was being maintained. Miniature wooden battleships appeared to be the real thing, and elaborate ploys to ensure random rifle fire caused confusion on the Turkish side.

Politics being what it is, General Munro who achieved this evacuation with only minimal and minor casualties was soundly criticised: 'He came, he saw, he capitulated' was Churchill's view.

But perhaps the most moving part of Larry's talk was his quoting of Kemel Ataturk's words on the war memorial at Gallipoli:

'... you the mothers who sent their sons from faraway countries,
wipe away your tears.
Your sons are now lying in our bosom and are
at peace,
after losing their lives on this land
they have become our sons as well...'

Larry has promised to return to Fleet U3A at least once next year: there are many more First World War tales to tell. He will be assured of an attentive and enthusiastic audience.

John Gawthorpe

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Future Monthly Meetings

The excellent range of speakers we have enjoyed are the product of a small team of planners, informed by comments and recommendations from the wider membership. If you would like to be a member of that team, please contact John Gawthorpe, Monthly Meetings Secretary. And if, in your membership of other local groups, you hear a speaker who you could recommend to Fleet U3A, please let us know.

!!! FIND US ON FACEBOOK NOW !!!

We have now created our own Fleet & District U3A Facebook page, which will be developed over time with your help and use.

So please 'LIKE' and 'FOLLOW' our page. Our page in Facebook can be found by putting 'Fleet U3A' in the search box at the top of a Facebook page.

MONTHLY MEETINGS PROGRAMME

2019

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|-----------|---|
| Oct. 16th | The Fleet BID
<i>Speaker: Tracey Shrimpton</i> |
| Nov. 20th | AGM plus Fascinating Fungi, Friend or Foe?
<i>Speaker: Dr Peter Herring</i> |

2020

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| January 15th | The Story of Berlin 1931 to 1989
<i>Speaker: Alan Grace</i> |
| February 19th | Fleet Pond
<i>Speaker: Colin Gray MBE</i> |
| March 18th | In search of Elgar
<i>Speaker: Richard Wigram</i> |
| April 15th | Fleet U3A Open Morning
<i>Groups provide exhibits / Displays and information regarding their Group</i> |
| May 20th | Al Bowlly, Britain's first pop star
<i>Speaker : Jerry Ward</i> |
| June 17th | The Flying Girls
<i>Speaker: Anita Mays</i> |

John Gawthorpe



Don't forget to come along from 9:45 am for a coffee and a chat in the function room next to the main hall of the Harlington.

COMMITTEE

EMAILS



Chair	Paddy Powell	chairman@fleetu3a.org.uk
Secretary	Alan Jones	secretary@fleetu3a.org.uk
Treasurer	Neil Morley	treasurer@fleetu3a.org.uk
Membership Sec	Fiona Godfrey	memsec@fleetu3a.org.uk
Group Leaders' Liaison Sec	Leigh Palmer	groups@fleetu3a.org.uk
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Venues Sec		venues@fleetu3a.org.uk
Outreach Sec	Jenny Teagle	outreach@fleetu3a.org.uk

PLEASE AVOID TELEPHONING MEMBERS BEFORE 9a.m OR AFTER 5p.m.

FLEET AND DISTRICT

University of the Third Age

ANNUAL QUIZ CHALLENGE

Friday 18th October 2019
Victoria Hall, Hartley Wintney
2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

ENTRY FORM

The team is to consist of six members of Fleet & District U3A.
Cost per team, including a cream tea: £18.00
Cheques to be made payable to Fleet U3A

TEAM NAME	
TEAM LEADER	
E-MAIL ADDRESS (if Available)	

Team Member	Mem. No.	Telephone No:

**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT
BEFORE FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2019**

To: Mike Brown, Events Secretary,
20 Wood Lane, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 3DX

Telephone: 01252 629609

Office Use: Date Entry Form & Payment Received:

£ _____