



AUGUST NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Finally, most restrictions have now ended...but with caution.

Groups can now meet up fully and inside. August will also see our first "live" Coffee Morning since I don't know when. (Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend)

The big news is that the Garden Party **WILL** be going ahead in August. Invites have gone out and there has been a tremendous response. So many good reasons to celebrate.

Outings have restarted and there was a good response to the Isle of Wight trip. It was that well attended, a second coach had to be ordered, and a good time was had by all. There has also been a good response to the next trip to Butser Park.

So, let us all enjoy our new found freedom, but as I said at the beginning, with a little caution.

I for one am looking forward to meeting as many people as possible in the coming months.

Take care
Ken Johnstone

AUGUST EVENTS

Fri 6th Aug 10:30am Coffee Morning at Centre 70

Wed 18th Aug 12:30pm Annual Garden Party

Fri 20th Aug Outing to Butser Ancient Farm



COFFEE MORNINGS ARE LIVE AGAIN!!!

as usual at Centre 70
The Kincroft, Wallingford OX10 0DT

A PLEA from Audrey Maple

Is anyone willing to join the Refreshments Team?

There's a rota so you won't have to turn out too often.

To offer your services either message Audrey via our [website Contact page](#)

Or have a word with her at the August Coffee Morning.

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ANNUAL AUGUST GARDEN PARTY 2021

Invitations were sent out mid-July to reply to for catering purposes. Because it's also a celebration of getting back together again, buffet food and drink is being provided.

12:30 pm Wed 18th August

Crowmarsh Village Hall (on Benson Lane)

All spaces taken up.

Clicking on **bright blue text** will take you somewhere, & clicking on the blue arrows or top/bottom of each page will bring you back to the Contents list

SPEAKER MEETINGS



It looks like we can return to live Speaker Meetings in September, depending on venue availability. Await the next Newsletter for confirmation.

See this and next page for full descriptions of speakers booked over the next several months.


TALKS TO COME:

18 th Aug	Thameside u3a	Annual Garden Party
15 th Sept	Timothy Walker	The Land of Giants & Volcanoes
20 th Oct	Julie Summers	Remembered - the Commonwealth War Graves
17 th Nov	Muriel Pilkington	The Mitford sisters in the Cotswolds
18 th Dec	Green Matthews	600 Years of Christmas
2022:		
19 th Jan	Jim Holmes	Humanitarian Vision
16 th Feb	Dr Paul Roberts	Last Supper at Pompeii
16 th Mar	Dr David Jones	How Tropical Rainforests Work
20 th April	James Taylor	Charles Darwin and The Beagle

Wednesday 18th August 12:30 pm
Annual Garden Party
 This is in place of the usual Speaker Meeting and is going ahead.

Wednesday 15th Sept 2:00 pm
Timothy Walker
The Land of Giants and Volcanoes

We welcome a return visit from Timothy Walker (lecturer in botany at the University of Oxford and erstwhile Horti Praefectus of the Botanical Garden) who last spoke to us about the importance of plants in so many aspects of our everyday activities. This time he will talk about the Pacific States of America, the home of giant redwoods and volcanoes. In addition there are spectacular alpine meadows and some of the most dramatic coastline in the world. This talk will look at the botany of the region and the influence of the volcanoes on its geology, geography and flora.



This talk will be live.
Confirmation in next Newsletter

Zoom talks already given:

2020 Sept	Tom Way	Wildlife on your Doorstep
Oct	John Ericson	Art Inspired by Wine
Nov	Sophie Matthews	Music in Art
Dec	Tim Barron	London in time of Shakespear
2021 Jan	Mary Smith	A Schoolgirl's War
Feb	Siobhan Clark	House of the Romanovs
Mar	Don Brown	Treasures of British Museum
Apr	Andy Smith	Sing a Century
May	Philip Caine	From Barrow to Baghdad
June	Graham Harrison	Chloroform
July	Steve Jellyman	Memories of a TV Cameraman



SPEAKER MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 2021 - APRIL 2022

15th Sept – Timothy Walker

The Land of Giants and Volcanoes

We welcome a return visit from Timothy Walker (lecturer in botany at the University of Oxford and erstwhile Horti Praefectus of the Botanical Garden) who last spoke to us about the importance of plants in so many aspects of our everyday activities. This time he will talk about the Pacific States of America, the home of giant redwoods and volcanoes. In addition there are spectacular alpine meadows and some of the most dramatic coastline in the world. This talk will look at the botany of the region and the influence of the volcanoes on its geology, geography and flora.

20th Oct – Julie Summers

Remembered, the Commonwealth War Graves

Julie Summers, our most regular and popular speaker, returns to give a talk based on her own highly acclaimed book 'Remembered' which tells the human story behind the extraordinary efforts of those who felt that the fallen should be remembered in perpetuity, and with dignity.

17th Nov – Muriel Pilkington

The Mitford Sisters in the Cotswolds

Most of us have heard of the five Mitford sisters who first began to make headlines in the late 1920's and have rarely been out of the news since. Between them they were close to many key figures of the last century. They knew Churchill, John F Kennedy and Hitler and entertained the Queen and Duchess of Windsor. Fewer of us probably realise that their childhood was spent at Asthall Manor near Burford from where they went on to dazzle in many different political and social spheres.

8th Dec – Green Matthews

600 years of Christmas

Sophie Matthews was one of our earliest Zoom speakers and many of you will remember her fascinating talk about musical instruments in Baroque art, which she illustrated lavishly with music from her various bagpipes. For this talk she will be joined by her collaborator, Chris Green, as they explore Christmas music over six centuries and entertain us in song and on a variety of instruments.

A real Christmas treat!

19th Jan 2022 – Jim Holmes

Humanitarian Vision

Jim Holmes is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and a professional documentary photographer. His career has taken him around the world to more than 50 countries and into some amazing landscapes. He has been particularly involved in photographing the work of humanitarian organisations such as Oxfam, Save the Children and the United Nations. He promises us an uplifting and insightful talk visiting some of their projects in Afghanistan, Laos, Mongolia, India, Myanmar and many other countries.

16th Feb 2022 – Paul Roberts

Last Supper at Pompeii

Paul Roberts is a classical archaeologist who holds the title of Sackler Keeper of the Department of Antiquities at the Ashmolean Museum. He was the Curator of the recent exhibition 'Last Supper at Pompeii' at the Ashmolean and he will talk to us about the catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius in 79AD. This is the third time that his name has featured on our programme with previous appearances having to be cancelled due to the pandemic. We very much hope that his talk will be able to go ahead this time!

16th March 2022 – Dr David Jones

How Tropical Rainforests Work

David Jones is a research biologist at the Natural History Museum in London. He specialises in rainforest insects and ecology and spoke to us in 2019 about the most dangerous animals on earth. He returns to speak to us about the main ecological processes that keep rainforests functioning and the threats that currently surround their long-term future. All very relevant to our current times. This is another talk which has been rescheduled more than once and again we sincerely hope that it will go ahead without any further delays.

20th April 2022 – James Taylor

Charles Darwin and the Beagle

James Taylor is the author of 'The Voyage of the Beagle' which follows Charles Darwin's extraordinary and momentous journey aboard Fitzroy's famous survey ship. James Taylor is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and has a particular interest in marine paintings. We look forward to hearing some of the inside story of this perilous and momentous voyage which proved to be the watershed in our understanding of the development of biological species.



OUTINGS

From the Outings Team:

We are looking at a holiday for 2022 and would welcome our members' views. Depending upon current travel restrictions we are considering: **New York, Southern Ireland** (Ring of Kerry etc), **Krakow**.

Let us know what you think please by email to **outings@wallingfordu3a.org** or **castlegarden31@gmail.com**



LOST PROPERTY:

From Mike Sedman:

Somebody left a broolly on one of the coaches on our trip to the Isle of Wight on 13th July and they can claim it back through me on

01491 825198 or

ptimtara@googlemail.com

Needless to say it was not used as the sun blessed us with his appearance.



Planning for the next series of Outings and Visits is underway and our future programme (subject to some fine tuning) is as follows:

PLANNED TRIPS:

20th August - **Buster Ancient Farm**

24th September - **Salisbury City & Cathedral**

October - **Gloucester Docks & Cathedral**

November - **Concorde Museum Bristol**

December - **A concert or theatre visit**

January 2022 - **Celebration Lunch**

February - **To be advised**

March - **Tyntesfield Bristol**

April - **Brighton**

May - **Watercress Line**

June - **Regents Canal**

BOOKINGS:

When booking for an outing, can you be reminded to make sure you send a **completed Booking Form** to the organiser.

Printed Booking Forms will be available at the live Coffee Mornings and Speaker Meetings.

Next month's Outing is:

Salisbury City & Cathedral Friday 24th September

Escape the everyday by exploring a city that is both original and traditional. Discover a world where medieval magnificence meets contemporary charm. Where innovative ideas exist amongst 800 years of history.

Bookings being taken now!

Download the Flyer+Booking form [here](#) and the editable Booking Form [here](#)





INTEREST GROUPS

Here is the August Calendar

New Group Proposal: **Climate Change**

The greatest challenge we face as a society is the Climate Emergency and our ability to adapt our lives and behaviours to ensure a safe and resilient future. While statements and targets are frequent, during the next few years the challenge for us is to take action. Aspects of our lives will need to change, with a duty to make this transition comfortable and practical, as well as fair for all parts of society.



Created by Aneque Ahmed from Noun Project

To find out more and inform ourselves better, we would like to start a Climate Change group, and explore aspects which we find interesting. We propose to tackle 2 topics at each monthly meeting. One person will lead on each topic, present their findings in a brief talk or presentation, followed by a discussion. We will also make visits sometimes, and invite the occasional guest.

The neighbouring Goring U3A has had a similar group for a couple of years and found it informative & fun, & offers help to get started.

If this appeals to you, please contact Yvonne Griffiths
by email groups@wallingfordu3a.org

There is a description of what the groups do on our website.
Go and have a look

www.thamesidewallingfordu3a.org

If you are interested in joining a group then look at the Calendar to check the dates and availability then apply to

Yvonne Griffiths

via the website **Contact Form**
or email groups@wallingfordu3a.org
If the group is marked as Full then you can ask to be placed on a waiting list with a view to forming a new group.

AUGUST CALENDAR

* = Available spaces = email Yvonne Griffiths
groups@wallingfordu3a.org

Antiques	Wed 11 th	second Wed		Full	Carole Johnson
* Art/Painting	~	first Thur 10:00 am	Will start when possible, probably in Oct	*	Angie Thorrington
* Badminton	Each Mon	2 till 4 pm	Berinsfield Sports Centre £3.50 fee	*	Hilly Bailey
Birdwatching 1	Thur 5 th	first Thur	Planning meeting	Full	Rosemary Garner
* Birdwatching 2	~	third Thur	Will meet again 15th Sept	*	Pam Johnstone
Book Group 1	Tue 10 th	second Tue		Full	Sue Taylor
Book Group 2	Thur 26 th	fourth Thursday	Garden meeting this month then reconsider arrangements for Sept	Full	Di Young
Book Group 3	Wed 11 th	second Wed		Full	Sheila Findlay
* Book Group 4	Thur 12 th	second Thur		*	Dee Clarke
Book Group 5	Thur 26 th	fourth Thur	We are reading <i>The Nightingale</i> by Kristin Hannah & <i>Bitter Fruits</i> by Alice Clarke-Platts Meeting at Sue Brown's	Full	Sue English
Craft 1	~	first Mon at 2:00 till 4:00 pm	Will start when possible, probably in Oct	Full	Angie Thorrington
* Craft 2	Fri 20 th	third Fri	This is a new group	*	Margaret Davies
* Cribbage	Mon 2 nd & Mon 16 th	first & third Mondays	10:30 am More members very welcome	*	Joyce Kent
Current Affairs 1	Thur 5 th	first Thur	Starting up again at Trudy's.	Full	Trudy Davies (until Sept)
Current Affairs 2	Mon 2 nd	first Mon		Full	Val Mowlam
French Conversation 1	Thur 12 th	second Thur		Full	Janet Franklin
* French Conversation 2	Mon 2 nd & Tue 17 th	first Monday & third Tuesday		*	Susan Renn
Genealogy 1	Mon 16 th	third Mon		Full	Linda Matthews
Genealogy 2	Tue 10 th	second Tues		Full	Mary Cozens

* Genealogy 3	Thur 12 th	second Thurs	10:00 am This is a new group	* Phil Grinham
* German Conversation	Fri 20 th	third Fri	This is a new group	* Alec Hayton
History 1	Wed 4 th	first Wed	Election of new Convener	Full Ted Nelson
History 2	Fri 20 th	third Fri		Full Patricia Shields
* History 3	Wed 11 th	second Wed		* Colin Clarke
* History 4	Mon 9 th	second Mon	More members very welcome	* Jen Potter
* History 5	Fri 27 th	Fourth Fri	11am at Ruth Pidgeon's house	* Ray Verrall
* Latin for Pleasure	Wed 18 th	third Wed		* Roger Morgan
* Lunch Club	Wed 4 th	first Wed		* Rosemary & Tony Hines
Lunch on Sunday	Sun 18 th	third Sunday		Full Ken Gough
* Music: Broader	Tue 3 rd	first Tues		* Val Wolsey
* Music: Classical 1	Tue 24 th	fourth Tues		* Mike Sedman
Music: Classical 2	Mon 9 th	second Mon	2:30 pm	Full John Cozens
* Pétanque	Each Tue	at 11:00 am Wallingford Sports Park, small fee applies Check website www.petwal.co.uk		* Loren Butt
* Photography	Wed 11 th	second Wed	Weather permitting a photography morning somewhere	* Malcolm Brooks
* Play Reading	~	first Wed	Hopefully start live meetings again in September at Corn Exchange	* Philippa Davies
Poetry Reading	Wed 11 th	second Wed		Full Jill Cooney
* Science	Tue 17 th	third Tues		* Philippa Cullen
* Scrabble 1	~	third Mon	Restarts 20th September At Joyce Kent's house	* Sarah Masters
* Scrabble 2	~	second Thurs	Restarts Thur 9th September 2:30 pm	* Vee Hadley
* Seminar	Mon 23 rd	fourth Mon	Will meet again indoors when permitted	* Gloria Hamilton-Peach
* Singing for Fun	~	Fridays every fortnight starting 10th September subject to permission from the Baptist Church		* Helen Fletcher
* Spanish Improvers	Wed 25 th	third Weds	mornings (week later this month)	* Val Mowlam
Ukulele	Mon 2 nd	First Monday	2pm at Helen's house. This is a new group.	Helen Fletcher
Writing For Pleasure	Mon 9 th	second Mon	Meeting in a garden	Full Carolyn Newbert
* Writing Life History	Fri 13 th	second Fri		* Margaret Pritchard

Walking in AUGUST All Walking Groups are up and walking!

* Shorter	3-5 miles	~	first Wed but not this month	* Paul Booker
Rambling 1	5-6 miles	Thur 19 th	third Thur	Full Phil Richardson
Moderate 1	6-7 miles	Wed 11 th	second Wed	Full Julia West
* Moderate 2	6-7 miles	Tue 3 rd	first Tue	* Julia West
Longer	8-10 miles	Wed 25 th	fourth Wed	Full Julia West

Next Newsletter

The **SEPTEMBER** issue will be released
on
or soon after
1st September 2021

It will be put up on our website
www.thamesidewallingfordu3a.org

A notification email is also sent to you.

NO DEADLINE FOR COPY

Send it in by midnight two days before
and it'll probably get in!
Sarah Boyt Robinson

newsletter@wallingfordu3a.org



Phone contact for offline members

Those members without computer access
have been given Yvonne Griffiths's phone
number.

COMMITTEE 2021-22

Ken Johnstone	Chairman
Neil Kelly	Deputy Chairman
Anna Harvey	Treasurer
Paul Booker	Secretary & Outings Co-ordinator
Yvonne Griffiths	Groups Co-ordinator
Anna Gordon	Membership Secretary
Jane Milne	Minutes Secretary
Neil Kelly	TVN Representative
Malcolm Brooks	Website & Database
Sarah Boyt Robinson	Newsletter, Website & Communications

Contact the Committee

via the secure Contact
page on the website

u3a Thames Valley Network

THE THIRD AGE TRUST is the national representative body for U3As in the UK
Information on its activities can be found at www.u3a.org.uk & on **FaceBook**

u3a Thames Valley Network

We are one of thirty-eight U3As within the Thames Valley Network.
The TVN website is <http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk>

STUDY DAYS

The TVN Events Team are having a break over whole of August.
They have decided to carry on with online virtual Study days for
the foreseeable future as this allows a wider range of speakers,
more people can be accommodated and they will not have to
travel so much.

They will return in September with more exciting and interesting
events. Keep a look out on the [TVN website](http://u3atvnetwork.org.uk).

If you would like to receive information directly from TVN with details of Study Days &
Workshops, please email

events_info@u3atvnetwork.org.uk