



The opinions and statements made in this Newsletter are those of individual members. They are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee of Buckingham and District U3A.

MONTHLY OPEN MEETINGS

Monthly Open Meetings are held in the Large Hall, Buckingham Community Centre, Cornwall’s Meadow, Buckingham at 2.30 p.m., usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month. We do not meet in August.

Date	Topic & Speaker	Monthly Stall	Tea Rota
23 rd Jan	Zachary Taylor The Guitar revealed – the history, plus demonstrations of the period from 16 th century until today	Unwanted Gifts	Jazz Appreciation Groups
27 th Feb	Bernard Lockett The Music of Gilbert and Sullivan	Jigsaw puzzles	Latin
27 th March	Jane Sheeham The Art of Foot Reading	Books & Magazines	Local History 1 & 2
24 th April	James Carter Queen Victoria	CDs and DVDs	Local History 3 and Mah Jong
22 nd May	Roger Powell History of the Kings and their Royal Mistresses	Plants & Cuttings	Music for Pleasure 1 & 2
26 th June	Mark Davis A Literary Tour of Oxford’s Waterways	White Elephant	Outdoor
24 th July	Summer Social	Raffle	Painting & Philosophy

MONTHLY CHARITY STALL

At the AGM it was decided to restart the Charity Stall at our monthly meetings. So as from January the stall will be there as usual. At the suggestion of the meeting it was agreed that the Charity for 2013 will be Children with Cancer UK. At a recent talk at the University the speaker said that cancer was a disease of the old and indeed several of us here at the U3A have suffered or have family that have suffered. What is truly sad is that it can affect young people too. We really must try to support this fine cause.

- Dusty Roades** dusty.roades@yahoo.com 01327 351670
- Kathy Stevens** kathystevens09@btinternet.com 01280 821781
- Pam Staple** pam.staple@btinternet.com 01280 816300

TEA ROTA

Would Group Leaders please note that when their group is responsible for teas they should contact Carolina Kenealy on 01280 815636 for instruction. Where there is more than one Group listed please could the Group Leaders liaise with each other.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

For those that have not already renewed their subscriptions please could you do so as soon as possible. Please send your cheque for the sum of £13 made out to Buckingham and District U3A. Send to Lesley Suggate 26 Highlands Road Buckingham MK18 1PL.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

You will find your new type of membership card enclosed with this newsletter. However if you receive your newsletter by email your membership card will be posted to you separately.

Next Newsletter

Please note the deadline for articles for the next Newsletter issue No. 46 is **Tuesday 26th March 2013**. Please Email or post to: Sheila Dalzell 18 Partridge Close Buckingham MK18 7HH or sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk



Chairman's notes No 45

What a privilege and an honour it is to be asked to be your Chairman and to be only the second woman in this position since our U3A was set up in 1998. I am aware that I am stepping into some very large shoes but I am also confident, that with the support of our Committee Members and all of you, our U3A will continue to grow and flourish.

Welcome to three new Committee Members – Clive Cowdy, who has kindly agreed to be my Vice-Chair, Christine Dodds who has taken over from Jane Brown as Speaker Secretary and Lesley Suggate, who is taking over from George Walker as Membership Secretary. George is staying on the Committee as Webmaster and will greatly appreciate your input to keep the website as up-to-date as possible. On your behalf, to all our Committee Members I say thank you for agreeing to continue as Trustees with the ultimate responsibility of directing our affairs and ensuring that we remain solvent, well-run and deliver our charitable outcomes.

Margaret Elliott, who resigned from the Committee at our AGM, has run our Charity Stall and organised our tea rota for a number of years and we are grateful to her. Thanks go to Dusty Roades, Kathy Stevens and Pam Staple for volunteering to run our Charity Stall next year. Our nominated charity will be Children with Cancer UK. Thanks also to Carolina Kenealy who heads up our excellent Catering Committee and who has kindly agreed to take over the responsibility for the tea rota.

At the end of our Financial Year 30th September we had 671 members and 59 groups and the fact that we continue to grow is in very large part due to the enthusiasm, dedication and commitment shown by all our Group Co-ordinators. They are much-valued members of our U3A and in the same way as we have shadow Committee Members I share Val Bradley's hope that we can encourage more shadow GCs to help take the strain. So don't be a shrinking violet, why not volunteer and have a go!

I am sure that by now you will all have renewed your membership so as not to miss out on any of our future events. You will notice that we have a new style membership card, which is easy to slip into your purse or wallet and which you will need to produce when you go to your group meetings early in the New Year. Looking ahead, our President, Bryan Weston-Thomas, has been busy organising our Festive Lunch to be held on Sunday 13th January. Sheila Dalzell, our Newsletter Editor is also responsible for setting up New Members Coffee Mornings and the date for our next one is 29th January at 10.15 a.m. at Buckingham Garden Centre. We will also be holding a Group Co-ordinators' meeting on Wednesday 6th February at the Community Centre and we will shortly be organising two teams to take part in next April's Beds Plus Network Quiz. This is **your** U3A, enjoy!

Coffee Morning for New Members

The next coffee morning will be held on **Tuesday 29th January 2013 at 10.15 a.m. at the Buckingham Garden Centre restaurant.**



We welcome any new members who have not been able to attend a previous coffee morning to come along and enjoy an informal chat and coffee.

If you would like to attend please telephone Sheila on 01280 817747 or email at sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk

Christmas Quiz

Money raised from the Christmas Quiz will be for a local charity, the Puzzle Centre. This is a pre-school organisation set up in Middle Claydon to give specialised early intervention to children with autism and other communication disorders. They have specialist teachers and therapists and not only look after the children but also offer support for their families.



Dusty Roades

BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE

Chairman	Pam Tonge 5 Victoria Row Buckingham MK18 1ER	01280 823370 pamelatonge519@btinternet.com
Vice-Chair	Clive Cowdy 4 Lark Close Buckingham MK18 7EZ	01280 824274 kanata@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Pat Costello 17 Campbell Close Buckingham MK18 7HP	01280 815143 pat.costello.uk@talktalk.net
Minutes Secretary	Diane Procter 8 Rectory Close Marsh Gibbon Bicester OX27 OHT	01869 278149 dianaprocter@hotmail.com
Business Sec/ Group Liaison Officer	Val Bradley Cosy Nook Mount Pleasant Close Buckingham MK18 1DN	01280 817746 valmbradley@btinternet.com
Speaker Secretary	Christine Dodds 12 Fair Meadow Winslow Bucks MK18 3JD	01296 714336 christine.dodds@hotmail.co.uk
Membership Secretary	Lesley Suggate 26 Highlands Road Buckingham MK18 1PL	01280 812195 u3amembership@btinternet.com
Technical Resources	David Angrave 10 Moreton Road Buckingham MK18 1LA	01280 816453 angrave@madasafish.com
New Member Support/Publicity	Colin Armstrong 1 Moorhen Way Buckingham MK18 1GN	01280 817285 lagana@talktalk.net
Theatre & Outings	Beryl Carr 16 Robin Close Buckingham MK18 7HD	01280 823808 beryl.alan@talktalk.net
Newsletter Editor	Sheila Dalzell 18 Partridge Close Buckingham MK18 7HH	01280 817747 sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk
Webmaster	George Walker 2 Burleigh Piece Buckingham MK18 7BB	01280 813735 George.walker7@talktalk.net

EQUIPMENT REGISTER, to borrow contact keeper

June Lewis	01280 815849	Keyboard
David Angrave	01280 816453	Radio Microphone (lapel); Radio Microphone (hand held); Microphone with lead; 35mm Slide Projector; Screen (floor standing); Overhead Projector; Flip Chart Stand Portable Mains Amplifier/Speaker with three radio microphones
Merle Harrison	01280 821693	Miniature Tape Recorder
Clive Cowdy	01280 824274	Digital Camera; Video Camera
Geoff Kirk	01280 812772	Digital Projector; DVD player (multi region); Projector Stand
Carolina Kenealy	01280 815626	CD Player

The Flip Chart is now stored at the Community Centre for use by anyone (including our visiting speaker) during our monthly meetings. Should anyone wish to borrow it outside these times, please contact the listed keeper.

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GROUP DIRECTORY: Buckingham Centre (Library), Maids Moreton (MM) Village Hall

Activity	Co-ordinator	Telephone	Weekday	Time	Venue
Architectural	Peter Bowtell	01280 815946	2 nd Thur	10.00-12.00	Buck Centre
Art Appreciation	Pam Tonge	01280 823370	1 st & 3 rd Fri	9.45	Buck Centre
Book	Gillian Macdonald	01280 822688	4 th Thur	2.30	Buck Centre
Bridge Improvers 1	Russell Tobin	01280 817918	Mon	2.00-4.00	M.M. Village Hall
Bridge Improvers 2	Nick Steadman	01280 847980	Mon	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Bridge Beginners	Peter Holman	01280 822611	Wed	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Bridge (Rubber)	Annastasia Kavanagh	01280 817828	Mon	10.00-12.00	Chandos Court
Bridge Tuition	Peter Holman	01280 822611	Tues	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Canasta	Gina Crouch	01280 820924	3 rd Wed 2 nd Wed	2.00-4.00 10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall Bucks Centre
Computing (Intro)	Geoff Suggate	01280 812195	Ask Co-ord		
Crafts & Card Making	Anne Liddle	01280 823565	2 nd & 4 th Thurs	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Creative Writing	Susie Kelly	01280 816940	1 st & 3 rd Mon	10.30-12.30	House
Cribbage	Mike Baker	01280 816460	2 nd & 4 th Fri	2.00	Bucks Centre
Croquet	Anne Liddle	01280 823565	Fri	2.00	Cricket Pitch
Dance and Get Fit	Vera Moyle-Maton	01280 813719	3 rd Wed	10.30-12.00	Cote Barn at Woolpack
Digital Photography	Peter Cammas	01280 815279	3 rd Thurs	2.00-4.00	Bucks Centre
Exploring the Past	Linda Shiner	01296 711068	1 st Mon	10.00-12.00	Ask Coordinator
Flower Arranging	Anne Liddle	01280 823565	3 rd Tue	1.45-4.00	M.M. Village Hall
Film Study	Clive Cowdy	01280 824274	2 nd Friday	10.00-12.00	T.B.A.
Family History	Jenni Burke	01280 816546	1 st & 3 rd Tue	09.45	Buck Centre
French Advanced 1	Steven Thompson	01290 814051	2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00-12.00	House
French Advanced 2	T.B.A.		2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00-12.00	House
French Intermediate 1	Judy Austin	01280 814864	Alternate Wed	10.30	House
French Improvers	Ginny Booth	01280 813802	Fridays	2.00	House
French Lunch 1	John Murray	01280 813792	1 st Wed	12.30	House
Friendship	Jane Walker	01280 813382	3 rd Thur	2.30-4.30	House
Gardening	Vee Sampson	01327 855626	1 st Tue	2.00-4.00	M.M. Village Hall
German 1	Ursula Archdeacon	01280 823640	2 nd & 4 th Wed	10.00-12.00	House
German Diskussionsgruppe	Roy Walker	01280 812836	1 st & 3 rd Fri	10.00-12.00	House
Handbells 1	Derek Smith	01280 813946	Fri	9.30-10.45	Gawcott Chapel
Handbells 2	Derek Smith	01280 813946	Fri	11.00-12.30	Gawcott Chapel
Italian Group 1	Linda Shiner	01296 711068	2 nd & 4 th Tue	2.00-4.00	House
Jazz Appreciation 1	Bryan Weston-Thomas	01280 813664	3 rd Fri	10.00-12.00	House
Jazz Appreciation 2	Russell Tobin	01280 817918	2 nd Fri	2.30-4.30	House
Latin	Carolina Kenealy	01280 815636	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 5 th Wed	2.00-3.30	Council Chamber, Community Centre
Local History 1	Peter Bowtell	01280 815946	1 st & 3 rd Thurs	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Local History 2	Jean Churchill-Coleman	01280 848971	1 st & 3 rd Thurs	10.00	Buck Centre
Local History 3	Glenys Warlow	01296 711775	2 nd & 4 th Fri	10.00	Buck Centre
Mah Jong	Marilyn Day	01280 823633	1 st & 3 rd Wed	10.00	Buck Centre
Music for Pleasure 1	Rodney Blackall	01280 823269	1 st Tues	10.30-12.00	House
Music Pleasure 2	David Angrave	01280 816453	1 st Wed	2.00-4.00	House
Outdoor	Judy Cooper Rosemary Palastanga	01604 832727 01280 812308	Ask Co-ord		
Painting	Pam Gower	01280 823279	1 st & 3 rd Mon	2.00-4.00	Cote Barn at Woolpack

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Philosophy	Don Horne	01280 813587	2 nd & 4 th Tues	10.00-11.30	Buck Centre
Play Reading	Jane Walker Judith Bell	01280 813382 01280 813721	4 th Tue	2.00-4.00	Buckingham Parish Church
Poetry Reading	Betty Stubbs	01280 850630	3 rd Thurs	2.30	House
Poetry Writing	Carolina Kenealy	01280 815636	2 nd & 4 th Mon	1.30-3.30	House
Russian	Roy Walker	01280 812836	2 nd & 4 th Fri	10.00-12.00	House
Scrabble	Rosalie Stein	01280 814373	Tue	2.30-4.30	Buck Centre
Singing for Fun	Jane Walker	01280 813382	2 nd & 4 th Thur	2.30	Parish Church
Spanish Improvers	Pat Walton	01280 814668	Tue	2.30	House
Spanish Revision	Noel Stacey	01280 821825	Tue	2.00	House
Square Dancing	Susie Kelly	01280 816940	2 nd & 4 th Mon	1.30-3.30	Football Club
Strollers	Lesley Suggate	01280 812195	Ask Co-ord	10.00	Swan Statue by Car Park
Wild Life	Margaret Hazel Peter Swift	01280 704035 01280 700210	4 th Tuesday	10.00	Stratford Road Lay-by
Yoga	Gwyneth Jebson	01296 715674	Tue	10.00-11.30	University Studio



GROUP LIAISON MATTERS



There are several new groups in the pipeline, hoping to start in the New Year.

First, a few people have expressed an interest in forming a second Latin group and there is some-one who is willing, and experienced enough, to take on the role of “teacher”. This may also interest those who joined the original Latin group last year but, for various reasons, were not able to continue at that time. It is planned that the first meeting for interested people will be on Wednesday 9th January 2013 at 2 p.m. in the Council Chamber in the community Centre. The entrance to the council chamber is opposite Waitrose, not through the main doors. Please come along if you would like to find out more, or contact me via email or telephone. Secondly, a new Italian for Beginners, requested by four very keen members. Are there any more out there who would be interested in learning Italian, perhaps from the now closed Italian group that was run by Peter Cammass? I intend to hold a short meeting early in January for anyone who would like to learn more about this group, so please let me have your name and contact details, **if I have not already got them**, and I will let you know where and when.

The third proposed group should appeal to a wide range of members I think. Do you find Literature and Theatre interesting? Would you like to find out more about the history of these? A member has offered to run a History of Literature and Theatre Group in the New Year. Such a group could cover such topics as Greek sagas, Anglo-Saxon and Viking riddles, church theatre, and Shakespeare, including looking at films and visiting theatres. The list is endless but the group would begin by discussing what **they** would like to cover.

If you would like to know more about any of these groups, please contact me a.s.a.p. or by 6th Jan 2013 at the latest, so I can arrange for meetings for each subject. This will allow interested people to find out what each group will involve and decide on a day for regular meetings.

The new Recorder group has now begun but they really need a conductor. Is there an ex-music teacher out there who would be willing to take on this role? There is also room for a few more players, especially for the larger recorder. (Is that Tenor or Bass?)

Some more good news, Music for Pleasure 1 is to reform on Tuesday 5th February 2013 at 10.30 a.m. at 47 Moreton Road. Make a note in your calendar or diary and, if you like the idea of listening to your favourite music in the company of others, please come along.

Finally, could I ask that GCs let me know if their group has either a waiting list or vacancies that need to be filled? I would also like to know if a group loses its co-ordinator and has difficulty in finding a replacement. It is important that all groups have some-one who will receive and pass on information from the Committee, and visa-versa.

Communication within the U3A is vital if we are to be a working community.

Val Bradley 01280 817746 valmbradley@btinternet.com

BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

DAYS	FIRST WEEK		SECOND WEEK	
	AM	PM	AM	PM
MON	Bridge Rubber Bridge Improvers 2 Creative Writing Exploring the Past	Bridge Improvers 1 Painting	Bridge Rubber Bridge Improvers 2	Bridge Improvers 1 Poetry Writing Square Dancing
TUE	Bridge – Tuition Family History Music for Pleasure 1 Yoga	Gardening Scrabble Spanish Beginners 1 Spanish Revision	Bridge Tuition Philosophy Yoga	Italian Scrabble Spanish Beginners 1 Spanish Revision
WED	Bridge Beginners French Lunch 1 French Lunch 2 Mah Jong	Latin Music for Pleasure 2	Bridge Beginners Canasta French Advanced 1 French Advanced 2 French Intermediate 1 German	Latin
THUR	Local History 1 Local History 2		Architectural Crafts & Card Making	Singing for Fun
FRI	Handbells Art Appreciation German – Diskussionsgruppe	Croquet French Improvers	Film Study Handbells Local History 3 Russian	Cribbage Croquet French Improvers Jazz Appreciation 2
DAYS	THIRD WEEK		FOURTH WEEK	
MON	Bridge Rubber Bridge Improvers 2 Creative Writing	Bridge Improvers 1 Painting	Bridge Rubber Bridge Improvers 2	Bridge Improvers 1 Poetry Writing Square Dancing
TUE	Bridge Tuition Family History Yoga	Flower Arranging Scrabble Spanish Beginners 1 Spanish Revision	Bridge Tuition Philosophy Wild Life Yoga	Italian Play Reading Scrabble Spanish Beginners 1 Spanish Revision
WED	Bridge Beginners Folk Dancing Mah Jong	Canasta Latin	Bridge Beginners French Advanced 1 French Advanced 2 French Intermediate 1 German	OPEN MEETING
THUR	Local History 1 Local History 2	Digital Photography Friendship Group Poetry Reading	Crafts & Card Making	Book Singing for Fun
FRI	Art Appreciation German Diskussionsgruppe Handbells Jazz Appreciation 1	Croquet French Improvers	Handbells Local History 3 Russian	Cribbage Croquet French Improvers

BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

Travel, Theatre & Outings

Looking back over the year I realize that it has been quite a busy one and I hope that everyone agrees an enjoyable one. The shows at Milton Keynes have been well worth seeing. My heartfelt wish is that they will reduce the sound volume to a comfortable level on the musicals! Our latest outing was to the Back to Backs in Birmingham and it made us grateful that things have improved considerably since those days! Coughton Court was a pleasant surprise. I had not realised that it was such an interesting place and there was so much to see. Anne Excelby took a lovely photograph of the front of the house which was as good as any postcard. Up to now we have been very fortunate with the weather and I am keeping my fingers crossed for our visits to Portsmouth and the Guards Chapel. I hope that everyone who came on any of the outings enjoyed them and will continue to enjoy the trips I have planned for next year. I am most grateful to Irene Parsons who has volunteered to shadow me for the outings. Together we went over my proposed programme for next year and she will probably run one of the outings. I have prepared next year's programme, see below, but, as we all know, the best laid plans can often go wrong. We had a lovely holiday at Lake Como in May and a few of us enjoyed the trip down the Danube from Budapest to Bucharest. We are now looking forward to our holiday in Devon in December. Next year we are going to Montenegro in May and a river cruise on the Volga from Moscow to St. Petersburg, in July. I have now almost finalised the plans for a holiday in Kent in September. As usual Alan and I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.

Beryl Carr

Event	Date / Time	Cost	Pay By
Ladykillers M.K.T.	24 th Jan 2013	£15.00	Booked
Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty	31 st Jan	£17.50	Booked
Chiswick House Camelias E.H. Musical Mus.	End Feb	£24.00	January
Goodnight Mr Tom M.K.T.	13 th / 14 th Feb	£15.00	December
Nine to Five the Musical M.K.T.	6 th March	£15.00	November
Fences M.K.T. with Lenny Henry	20 th March	£15.00	January
Cable Car Ride, Cutty Sark and Coach	22 nd March	T.B.A.	
Tchaikovsky Gala at the Royal Albert Hall	7 th April	£30.00	December
Highclere	8 th April	£24.00	February
The Great Gatsby – Northern Ballet M.K.T.	18 th April	£15.00	
Starlight Express M.K.T.	24 th /25 th or 1 st May	£19.50	January
Spalding Flower Parade	4 th May (Saturday)	T.B.A.	
Montenegro Holiday (8 days)	8 th May	Twin £620.00, Single £627.00	A.S.A.P.
Relatively Speaking	8 th May	£15.00	March
Abigail's Party M.K.T.	15 th May	£15.00	March
Evita M.K.T.	22 nd /29 th May	£19.50	February
British Museum – Pompeii Exhibition	10 th June	£23.00	A.S.A.P.
Sleeping Beauty on Ice	19 th /20 th June	£15.00	April
Cats M.K.T	26 th June or 3 rd July	£29.50	April
Eltham Palace (E.H.)	July	£15.00	April
Moscow to St. Petersburg River Cruise (Saga) (11 days)	10 th July	Approx: Twin £1,699.00 Single £2,349.00	T.B.A
Birdsong M.K.T.	24 th July	£12.00	May
Kent Holiday (6 days)	8 th Sept	£407.00	January
Birmingham Silver Works E.H. pos canal cruise	September	T.B.A.	
Buscot Park N.T.	October	£15.00	July
Festive time at Blist Hill	November	Approx £30.00	September
Royal Albert Hall Christmas carol sing-along(?)	21 st Dec	T.B.A.	T.B.A.

Payment for any event is by cheque only. Please make cheques out to Buckingham and District U3A. Please book either at the monthly meeting or by telephone to Beryl Carr on 01280 823808.

N.B. Dates and outings might vary from those shown.

N.T. = National Trust free to N.T. members: E.H. English free: M.K.T. = Milton Keynes Theatre

Art Appreciation Groups

On Sunday, September 16th a group of 16 members travelled to Brighton on the Winslow Bus. We had lunch in a wonderful art deco style restaurant at the end of the pier before making our way to the splendid Royal Pavilion, built for the Prince Regent, later George IV, between 1787 and 1823 by the architects, Henry Holland and John Nash. Armed with our audios we wandered leisurely around the magnificent state rooms where assistants were on hand to answer our questions. Afterwards we explored the famous Lanes and visited the nearby art gallery, where there was a special exhibition of paintings by the Camden Town Group of artists including Walter Sickert, Robert Polhill Bevan, Charles Ginner and Spencer Gore amongst others, which neatly coincided with Group 1's then current studies.



In January 2013 the two groups are going to amalgamate and will meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in the month at 9.45 a.m. in the Mezzanine Suite at the Buckingham Centre in Verney Close.

Pam Tonge

Strollers

What a difference a few months make. I have just re-read my last newsletter report and it was mainly about bad weather. Well the late summer and autumn have been so much better and the walks have resumed with new vigour.



Again we have had some beautiful walks out of the area but also we are getting to know so much more about Buckingham and its hidden areas. Our favourite walk is Bourton Park as we know how far it is! Even on a very cold day, we know when we are half way and the coffee pot is calling! In October the group walked around the Claydons, by Kingsbridge and not too far from Claydon House. Seventeen people enjoyed the walk but had wished the beautiful sun had come out a little earlier. We

then went to Claydon House for coffee, which was very pleasant. Also, by the time, this newsletter comes out; there will have been another walk around Stowe but outside of the National Trust areas so no cards needed, except for the car park. We are enjoying more walks around Stowe and will continue to do so. Possibly in the Spring, we will try to do the snowdrop walk again – any offers? My thanks to the leaders of these walks. They are well researched and planned and it makes the walk on the day so much more enjoyable. If you would like to join in, we are a very social group and generally have between 4 and 24 people walking. We do not do hills, stiles or (normally) muddy paths, so the walking, or strolling, is easy and the company and conversation good. Contact Lesley on 01280 812195 or preferably email l.suggate@btopenworld.com

Outdoor

Since the last report we have enjoyed weekly and varied walks and welcomed several new members. We have walked close to home, including a tour of the Buckingham Circular Walk and a visit to Akeley and Maids Moreton. Further afield we have visited Sulgrave, Evenley, Roade, Cropredy and Sherington. Two events that were a little different were walks around Stewkley looking at the longest village High Street in the country and a stroll around Towcester Racecourse where we were allowed to walk around the course itself on its inner service road. Our present programme continues with just two weeks off over the Xmas period. This year our Xmas 'special' is a conducted



tour of Stowe Gardens followed by a meeting and Festive Lunch at Boycott Farm. This is not only a celebration but a chance for members to air their views, submit walks for the Spring and make suggestions regarding the future of the group. We are hoping that the weather is kind to us and we are able to enjoy our full programme through the winter months. At least we know that there is always a drink and a good pub lunch waiting for us at the end of each walk!

Judy Cooper and Rosemary Palastanga

Poetry Writers



The promised anthology has now been published. It contains a wide variety of poems ranging from serious, thought-provoking items to some humorous verses. There are a limited number for sale at £1.50 each, just speak to Dusty if you would like a copy. We welcome new members to our friendly meetings, just come along and join in the not too serious enjoyment.

Dusty Roades

Croquet



Just to let you all know that although this summer was rather wet we did enjoy quite a few afternoons (Fridays 2.00 – 4.00) at the cricket pitch playing croquet. We hope that some more of you will come join us next year when the clocks alter.

Anne Liddle and Roger Edwards

Exploring the Past Programme 2013

January 7th – Talk on the Women’s Timbercorps

February 7th – Talk on the History of the English garden

March 4th – Visit to Cheltenham

April 8th – Visit to Canon's Ashby – house and tour of the tudor garden

May 8th – Lichfield

June 3rd – Rousham garden

July 1st – Rockingham Castle

August 5th – Rodmartin garden

September 2nd – Meeting at St Laurence Room

If you are interested in joining contact Linda Shiner on 01296 711068

Linda Shiner



Architecture

Our new group, which first met in May, has now established itself on the second Thursday of each month



(10am to noon) in the Mezzanine Meeting Room above Buckingham Library. In forthcoming programmes we hope to explore and discuss all types of architecture, both historic and modern with the help of group members and some invited speakers. So far this year we have studied the process of building design, Gothic architecture, bridge design, local churches and late medieval and Tudor houses.

We have also explored on foot the historic buildings of Buckingham, Oxford and Brackley and we have paid a visit to Jacobean Ham House and the Gothic Revival

Strawberry Hill in South West London. We shall hopefully be planning our 2013 programme at our last meeting of the year on December 13th. If you are interested in joining our group do give me a call after this date on 01280 815946.

Peter Bowtell

Handbells

Since the last newsletter our two re-organised groups are working well, and we are rehearsing for our



Christmas engagements. We are performing to both ends of the generations – in Tingewick for The Diamond Club and the primary Roundwood Schools in Gawcott and Tingewick. We have also been invited to ring at Padbury WI. I would like to say a special thank you to all the Buckingham Handbell Ringers for support during my recent spell in hospital when they have kept the bells ringing ... New ringers are most

welcome, so if you would like to come and ‘have a go’ on Friday mornings in Gawcott, please get in touch.

Derek Smith 01280 813946

Russian

One of the groups existing since the founding of the Buckingham and District U3A, we continue to meet on the second and fourth Friday mornings of the month, circulating in each other's homes, ranging from Silverstone in



the north to Whitchurch in the south. Every member of the group takes turns in contributing ideas and texts, thus making it possible for each one to choose an item to suit his or her level of language. Contributions usually take the form of short stories, straightforward prose passages and grammar exercises, and topical news items taken from Russian internet sources. Our aim is to practise and consolidate our knowledge of everyday Russian. We enjoy the occasional social outing, to which our spouses and partners are invited. Recently we attended an excellent recital of religious and folk songs given by Lyra, a wonderful Russian quartet, at Silverstone parish church.

This month we plan to visit Stow Landscape Gardens shop to learn more about the connect between Stowe and Catherine the Great and view an illustrated book on the Green Frog service, manufactured by Josiah Wedgwood for one of her many palaces.



The service depicted 944 pieces, including 51 of Stowe Gardens. The Russian Empress was a great admirer of British landscape gardening and ordered her very own Palladian Bridge to be built, the only one in existence outside England (more information at: <http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/fcgi-bin/db2www/quickSearch.mac/gallery?sellLang=English&tmCond=Green+Frog+&go.x=13&go.y=7>)

We welcome all those interested in the Russian language and culture to join us.

Roy Walker

Book

Members of the Group have chosen the following books for 2013:

January 24th – New Finnish Grammar by Diego Marani

February 28th – A Pale View of Hills by Kazuo Ishiguro

March 28th – Earthly Joys by Philippa Gregory

April 25th – Sweet Tooth by Ian McEwan

May 23rd – Bad Blood by Lorna Sage

June 27th – Waiting for Sunrise by William Boyd

July 25th – The Fear Index by Robert Harris

August 22nd – All Passion Spent by Vita Sackville-West

September 26th – Bring Up The Bodies by Hilary Mantel

October 24th – The Secret Agent by Joseph Conrad

November 28th – The Shipping News by Annie Proulx

We welcome anyone who joins us for a discussion on one of these, many, or all of the books. You don't have to like the books, just have opinions. We meet in The Buckingham Centre at 2.30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month.



Gillian Macdonald

Music for Pleasure 1

Please note that this group will restart on the first Tuesday in February (5th) at 10.30 a.m. at 47 Moreton Road, Buckingham.

Rodney Blackall

Mah Jong

We are a small but friendly group who meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Mezzanni Room at Buckingham Library. New members will be made very welcome be you a seasoned player or a beginner.



Marilyn Day

Gardening

Garden Group numbers have continued to grow and we now have a membership of 67. Following our last



meeting at the beginning of November it was decided that in order to make garden visits and meetings more comfortable for everyone it would be better to restrict numbers to 50. Therefore, we are now starting a waiting list for the Garden Group and I would ask current members to please let me know if they are unable to continue with membership so their place can be given to someone else. The 2013 programme is almost complete and I am grateful to those members who have helped me with suggestions and ideas to complete what should be an interesting year. We have a lot to look forward to. We just need some sunny weather to go with it! Our last meeting of the year is the Christmas social. As usual members bring a plate of

food. There will be mulled wine, secret Santa and the odd surprise! We then take a break until February when we have a visiting speaker – Jenny from Bay Tree Cottage at Farthingstone. The group visited the garden and nursery earlier in the year and her talk will be expanding on that. I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. Good gardening!

Vee Sampson

Jazz Appreciation 1

At our September meeting we decided to have a theme for the monthly meetings and in October Don started off with “Artists I have seen”. The morning started off with Louis Armstrong. Don did admit that he had not seen Louis but he nearly had. Louis was followed by very impressive lists of Jazz Musicians from both sides of the Atlantic that Don had seen over the years. We now have a programme of themes that will take us up until May 2013. Members of the group went to Live Jazz Matters at the Stables where we witnessed Cleo Laine singing. It was her 85th birthday and the quality of her voice is still very obvious, although she did forget the words but was more than capable of improvising. On Saturday 15th December 15 of us are going to Cleo’s Christmas Party.

Bryan Weston-Thomas

Behind the Scenes at Milton Keynes Theatre

Seven members; Lynn Garton, Avril Phillips, Susan Stanthorpe, Russell Tobin, Sheila Tobin, Bryan Weston



Thomas and Pat Weston Thomas took advantage of the Third Age Trust offer of a “Behind The Scenes” visit to Milton Keynes Theatre on Wednesday 14th November. The day started at 10.30 and finished at 17.00. We were given presentations by Rowena Bowers of the wardrobe department which highlighted the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes and a claim that an actor can have a complete change of clothes and be back on stage again in 45 seconds. This was followed by a session where

we were given the opportunity to work with a professional writer and discover the art of playwriting. After a sandwich lunch we enjoyed 45 minutes on the history of the theatre and specifically Milton Keynes Theatre. The day ended with a tour backstage. We discovered the origin of the “Break a Leg” greeting. If the Third Age Trust offers this opportunity again I recommend that you take up the offer.

Bryan Weston-Thomas

Culture Corner

From time to time you may have seen advertisements in the National U3A magazine or notices in our own Newsletter about Opera, Plays, and Ballet on the Big Screen. Unfortunately they usually involve a mighty trudge down to a West End Cinema. Good news! Cineworld MK are screening quite a few live or recorded live productions (all in High Definition) at Milton Keynes. Don't take my word for it, check it out for yourself. How? If you are on line it's easy. <http://www.cineworld.co.uk> Then choose a cinema ‘Milton Keynes’. Then choose a film, you have everything there including blockbuster stuff as well. Then make your selections. Along the way you can get 10% off your online booking if you sign up to “My Cineworld” which is what I did! As a bonus, many are projected in their luxury screens and you can choose your own seats in advance. Best of luck.

David Angrave

BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

BUCKINGHAM & DISTRICT U3A

INCOME & EXPENDITURE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2012

We are still a thriving growing organisation. This is reflected, not only in the income from subscriptions, but in the cost of our rented venues, which has risen by £1260 with income going up by only £470.

Our new groups, 6 of which use rented venues, are again a good sign that we are now catering to a wider spread of interests.

Theatre visits and holidays have again proved very enjoyable, with 16 outings and holidays and 23 theatre visits being organised during the year.

Miscellaneous income derives mostly from the door £547.

The printing and postage for the newsletter have increased and these with the cost of £792 for Third Age Matters being delivered to each household, is reflected in the overall increase of £1252.

The cost of our Socials this year has increased by £312, being roughly the amount of the Group Co-ordinators buffet. This was a small thank you to those who organise our groups. Without them, we would not have such a successful U3A.

Miscellaneous expenses cover a range of items: Insurance £135, Diaries £120, New Notice Boards £77, Membership Cards £76, Third Age Trust AGMs £111, and a new Laptop & Software £439 for a dedicated Membership database.

Other headings of income and expenditure vary very little.

The stall raised £581 which will be shared between Project Street Life and Citizens' Advice Bureau.

We end the year with a small deficit of £596 and overall funds of £13300. This is roughly 11 months' cover of expenses; slightly more than the standard. However, I fully expect this surplus to be further eroded next year by increases in the costs of rented venues.

The cost of this Community Centre for this year was £1060, and I believe is set to rise by 10%. We shall need to look at the levy on all venues in the coming months.

My thanks go to Angus Davidson for acting as our Examiner.

Pat Costello

BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

BUCKINGHAM & DISTRICT U3A

Income & Expenditure Account Year Ended 30th September 2012

	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2010/11</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Subscriptions	8310.50	8105.50
Theatre Visits, etc.	36876.70	17493.45
Interest	140.67	151.32
Miscellaneous	720.41	587.37
Inland Revenue - Giftaid	1111.50	1188.70
For Chosen Charity	581.50	726.26
Rented venues receipts	1917.24	1447.08
	-----	-----
	49658.52	29699.68
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Room Hire	5899.32	4637.57
Print, post, stat	2536.18	1284.22
Capitation fees	2100.00	1939.00
Theatre Visits, etc	35915.12	17051.59
Speakers	647.00	620.00
Christmas/Socials	1124.84	812.38
Miscellaneous	1389.72	1128.68
Teas/coffees	60.91	38.14
Chosen Charity	581.50	726.26
	-----	-----
	50254.59	28237.84
	-----	-----
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	(596.07)	1461.84
Add Accum funds b/fwd	13895.80	12433.96
	-----	-----
Funds c/fwd 1/10/12	13299.73	13895.80
	=====	=====
<u>Represented by</u>		
Bank	10402.40	10153.29
Petty Cash	67.00	125.84
Barclays Bonds	6211.64	6095.74
Income Rec'd in Advance	(2799.81)	(1752.81)
Accrued expenses	(581.50)	(726.26)
	-----	-----
	13299.73	13895.80
	=====	=====

Certified to be in accordance with
the invoices, vouchers and information
given to me.

E Davidson
PC 5/10/12

(E.Davidson- Hon. Examiner)