



Buckingham & District U3A  
Newsletter Number 47 September 2013  
Registered Charity No.1071631  
Web Address: [www.buckinghamu3a.org.uk](http://www.buckinghamu3a.org.uk)

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 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. We do not meet in August. **Please note the January meeting will be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

Date	Topic & Speaker	Monthly Stall	Tea Rota
25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Janet Cropley Interesting and Unusual Plants to Grow	Jams, Cakes, Pickles	Poetry Groups
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	AGM	Group Displays	Recorders
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Bernard Pumfrey The Shakespeare Country	Jewellery & Bling	Russian & Scrabble
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Members' Christmas Social	Raffle	Committee
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014</b>	Dermot Wynne – A Cycling Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella	Unwanted Christmas Gifts	Singing for Fun & Square Dancing
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2014	Tracey Arthur Fitness Solutions without Lycra	Books & Magazines	Spanish Groups
26 <sup>th</sup> March 2014	Jean Yates Bedford Secret Way	Jigsaws	Strollers
23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014	Tim Porter What Makes a Melody	CDs and DVDs	Wild Life & Yoga

### MONTHLY CHARITY STALL

So far this year (to end of July) we have raised £745 for Children with Cancer, so are well on our way to our target of £1,000 for the year. We will not have a stall at the AGM although we will bring our collection boxes along in case anyone wants to make a donation. The lovely ladies from the Craft and Card Making Group are donating part of their takings for the charity so please support them. The November stall will be devoted mainly to jewellery and 'bling' so bring something to dazzle us, we will be selling the usual Christmas Quiz sheets. The theme this year is Sweets and Chocolates and the answers will be given at the Christmas social. We welcome books at any time. We will also have a raffle at the Christmas social. Do you have a favourite charity? If so let me know and we can raise funds for that in 2014. If there are a number of suggestions we will take a vote for one at the AGM.

**Dusty Roades** [dusty.roades@yahoo.com](mailto:dusty.roades@yahoo.com) 01327 351670

**Kathy Stevens** [kathystevens09@btinternet.com](mailto:kathystevens09@btinternet.com) 01280 821781

**Pam Staple** [pam.staple@btinternet.com](mailto: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.

### NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

I have been your Editor for five years now and feel it is time for a change, so this is my last newsletter. I wish every success to the next Editor. I would like to thank those members who have helped me with distribution and collating of the newsletters over this period: Val Shaw, Gina Crouch, Rodney Blackall, Beryl Hing, Jenny Smith, Carolyn Andrews, Carole Hoare, Pam Tonge and finally my proof reader Richard Gallimore. **Sheila Dalzell**

**Next Newsletter** Please note the deadline for articles for the next Newsletter issue No. 47 is **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013**. Please Email or post to: Sheila Dalzell 18 Partridge Close Buckingham MK18 7HH or [sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk). I will then forward on to the new Editor.

## BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER



### Chairman's notes No 47

Hello everyone,

A number of members have queried why we don't have meetings during August. It is basically to give our hard-working Group Co-ordinators and Committee Members a break from U3A responsibilities. Also many of our members like to spend more time with their grandchildren during the long summer school holiday, so that, hopefully, all will have returned to regular group meetings feeling refreshed and raring to go again!

In the June Newsletter, we reminded you that subscriptions are due on October 1<sup>st</sup> and we announced that five of our current Committee Members will be stepping down at the Annual General Meeting. We will be losing Pat Costello, our Treasurer of many years standing; George Walker, Webmaster and former Membership Secretary; Sheila Dalzell, Newsletter Editor and organiser of New Members coffee mornings; Colin Armstrong, Publicity who has kept absentee members informed through his monthly report in *The Advertiser* and who meets and greets new members at our Open Meetings and Christine Dodds, who has given us such a great selection of interesting speakers over the past twelve months. To all of them, I say thank you so much for all your support and hard work.

At the time of writing, I am pleased to report that we have received nominations for all five Committee roles and I would urge you to come along to our AGM on Wednesday 23rd October to vote in and meet the new Committee members. There is still an opportunity for those of you who wish to become more involved in the running of our U3A, as we will also be seeking shadows for four of our new Committee Members and, of course, we are always on the look-out for more Group Co-ordinators, in order that we can continue to set up new interest Groups to meet demand. The AGM will also offer groups the chance to showcase their creative activities.

One of our U3A members, a personal friend, sent me a quote which I'd like to share with you. It's by Dr. Edgar Mitchell. "The universe is a self-organising, intelligent, creative, trial-and-error learning, participatory, inter-active ... interconnected and evolving system." He is talking about the Universe but I think it is an equally apt description of the University of the Third Age.

### **Coffee Morning for New Members**

The next coffee morning will be held on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November at the Buckingham Golf Club.** (Please note **change of venue**) 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](mailto:sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk)

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Please would all members note that subscriptions are due at the beginning of October. You can pay either by Standing Order or by cheque/cash. Payment can be made at the Monthly Open Meeting or by sending a cheque to our Membership Secretary, Lesley Suggate, 26 Highlands Road, Buckingham, MK18 1PL. If you opt to pay by Standing Order this is of great help to our Treasurer. Standing Order forms were sent out in June but if you have not got one this can be obtained from our Membership Secretary. If you have not already filled in a Gift Aid Declaration please think about filling in that section.

### **NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

I should like to thank everyone who has set up a **Standing Order** and completed a **Gift Aid Form** since the last Newsletter. I have been kept very busy imputing these details. If you have not yet set up a Standing Order and would like to do this, please ensure that it starts in the month of October as stated on the form. The Committee has also agreed that you could pay by **Direct Bank Transfer** if you wish. Please use your Membership number and name as a reference. Your Membership number may be a three, four or six figure number – e.g. 123, 1234, 123123. Any queries regarding this, please contact the Treasurer.

**Lesley Suggate**

## BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

### COMMITTEE

Chairman	Pam Tonge 5 Victoria Row Buckingham MK18 1ER	01280 823370 <a href="mailto:pamelatonge519@btinternet.com">pamelatonge519@btinternet.com</a>
Vice-Chair	Clive Cowdy 4 Lark Close Buckingham MK18 7EZ	01280 824274 <a href="mailto:kanata@btinternet.com">kanata@btinternet.com</a>
Treasurer	Pat Costello 56 Meadway Buckingham MK18 1BN	01280 815143 <a href="mailto:pat.costello.uk@talktalk.net">pat.costello.uk@talktalk.net</a>
Minutes Secretary	Diane Procter 8 Rectory Close Marsh Gibbon Bicester OX27 OHT	01869 278149 <a href="mailto:dianaprocter@hotmail.com">dianaprocter@hotmail.com</a>
Business Sec/ Group Liaison Officer	Val Bradley Cosy Nook Mount Pleasant Close Buckingham MK18 1DN	01280 817746 <a href="mailto:valmbradley@btinternet.com">valmbradley@btinternet.com</a>
Speaker Secretary	Christine Dodds 12 Fair Meadow Winslow Bucks MK18 3JD	01296 714336 <a href="mailto:christine.dodds@hotmail.co.uk">christine.dodds@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Membership Secretary	Lesley Suggate 26 Highlands Road Buckingham MK18 1PL	01280 812195 <a href="mailto:u3amembership@btinternet.com">u3amembership@btinternet.com</a>
Technical Resources	David Angrave 10 Moreton Road Buckingham MK18 1LA	01280 816453 <a href="mailto:angrave@madasafish.com">angrave@madasafish.com</a>
New Member Support/Publicity	Colin Armstrong 1 Moorhen Way Buckingham MK18 1GN	01280 817285 <a href="mailto:lagana@talktalk.net">lagana@talktalk.net</a>
Newsletter Editor	Sheila Dalzell 18 Partridge Close Buckingham MK18 7HH	01280 817747 <a href="mailto:sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk">sheilaeditor@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Webmaster	George Walker 2 Burleigh Piece Buckingham MK18 7BB	01280 813735 <a href="mailto:George.walker7@talktalk.net">George.walker7@talktalk.net</a>

### 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 Village Hall (MM), Maids Moreton Nursing Home (MMH)

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Weekday</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Architectural	Peter Bowtell	01280 815946	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thur	10.00-12.00	Buck Centre
Art Appreciation	Pam Tonge	01280 823370	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	9.45	Buck Centre
Book	Janet Cobham	01280 813373	4 <sup>th</sup> 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	9.30-12.30	M.M. Village Hall
Bridge Tuition	Peter Holman	01280 822611	Wed	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Bridge	Annastasia Kavanagh	01280 817828	Mon	10.00-12.00	Chandos Court
Bridge Club	Bryan Weston-Thomas	01280 813664	Tues	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Canasta	Gina Crouch	01280 820924	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	2.00-4.00 10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall Buck Centre
Crafts & Card Making	Anne Liddle	01280 823565	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Creative Writing	Susie Kelly	01280 816940	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	10.30-12.30	House
Cribbage	Mike Baker	01280 816460	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	2.00	Buck Centre
Croquet	Roger Edwards	01280 815588	Fri	2.00	Cricket Pitch
Digital Photography	Peter Cammas	01280 815279	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	2.00-4.00	Buck Centre
Exploring the Past	Linda Shiner	01296 711068	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	10.00-12.00	Ask Coordinator
Flower Arranging	Anne Liddle	01280 823565	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	1.45-4.00	M.M. Village Hall
Film Study	Clive Cowdy	01280 824274	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	10.00-12.00	M.M.H.
Family History	Jenni Burke	01280 816546	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	09.45	Buck Centre
French Advanced 1	Steven Thompson	01280 814051	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10.00-12.00	House
French Advanced 2	Sally Parsons	07941 504606	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10.00-12.00	House
French Intermediate 1	Judy Austin	01280 814864	Alternate Wed	10.30	House
French Improvers	Maureen Turner	01280 812898	Fridays	2.00	House
French Lunch 1	Valerie Shaw	01280 812547	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	12.30	House
Friendship	June Lewis	01280 815849			Ring Co-ordinator
Gardening	Vee Sampson	01327 855626	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue	2.00-4.00	M.M. Village Hall
German 1	Ursula Archdeacon	01280 823640	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10.00-12.00	House
German Diskussionsgruppe	Roy Walker	01280 812836	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
History of Literature and Theatre	Liz Loutfi	01280 817853	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	10.00-12.00	Council Chamber, Community Centre
Italian	Linda Shiner	01296 711068	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tue	2.00-4.00	House
Jazz Appreciation 1	Bryan Weston-Thomas	01280 813664	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	10.00-12.00	House
Jazz Appreciation 2	Russell Tobin	01280 817918	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri	2.30-4.30	House
Latin	Carolina Kenealy	01280 815636	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed	2.00-3.30	Council Chamber, Community Centre
Local History 1	Peter Bowtell	01280 815946	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	10.00-12.00	M.M. Village Hall
Local History 2	Jean Churchill-Coleman	01280 848971	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	10.00	Buck Centre
Local History 3	Ruth Roy Jane Albetino	01280 848532 01869 388860	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	10.00	Buck Centre
Mah Jong	Marilyn Day	01280 823633	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	10.00	Buck Centre
Music for Pleasure	David Angrave	01280 816453	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	2.00-4.00	House
Outdoor	Rosemary Palastanga	01280 812308	Ask Co-ord		

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Painting	Pam Gower	01280 823279	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	2.00-4.00	Cote Barn at Woolpack
Philosophy	Don Horne	01280 813587	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	10.00-11.30	Buck Centre
Play Reading	Jane Walker Judith Bell	01280 813382 01280 813721	4 <sup>th</sup> Tue	2.00-4.00	Buckingham Parish Church
Poetry Reading	Betty Stubbs	01280 850630	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs	2.30	House
Poetry Writing	Dusty Roades	01327 351670	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	1.30-3.30	MMH
Recorders	Derek Smith	01280 813946	Wednesdays	10.00-11.30	Gawcott Chapel
Russian	Roy Walker	01280 812836	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fri	10.00-12.00	House
Scrabble	Marilyn Crawford	01280 814856	Tue	2.00-4.00	Buck Centre
Singing for Fun	Jane Walker	01280 813382	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	2.00-4.00	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 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	10.00	Stratford Road Lay-by
Yoga	Gwyneth Jebson	01296 715674	Tue	10.00-11.30	University Studio

- Lesley is standing down as Group Co-ordinator but new Group Co-ordinator not yet appointed



### GROUP LIAISON MATTERS



There are several new groups in the pipeline and we hope to see them started within the next few weeks. There is still time to sign up for any or all of these groups if you are interested. The groups are: French for Beginners, Bridge for Beginners, Allotments and Gardening. Meetings will be held soon for those who have told me of their interest, so a day and a time for each group can be decided.

I have also heard of interest from individuals to start a Spanish for Beginners Group and a group for Dominoes. This latter group could perhaps combine with other board games groups, such as the present Cribbage Group. Please let me know if either of these ideas interests you.

There are changes afoot within the Outdoor Group. As you may know, several years ago a very successful breakaway group was formed for those who wished for shorter walks, and the Strollers Group was born. Now the idea of a new group for those who would like to tackle longer walks has been expressed and we would like to know how much interest there is in joining such a group. There is no reason why one person cannot belong to two or even all three of these groups, choosing whichever walk attracts them at any one time. Let either me or Rosemary Palastanga know if you would like to find out more.

One word of advice for Group Co-ordinators please, to make things absolutely clear to members. If an item is purchased by group members for use by their group, the money paid by each member cannot be repaid if any member then decides to leave the group. Please make sure your members realise and accept this before any money changes hands.

Finally, a message for leaders of all Language Groups. A newsletter has been received from The Third Age Trust giving details of four new national advisers. The newsletter will be displayed on the notice board at the September and October meetings, but if you need this information and cannot attend the meetings, please contact me and I will pass on the details to you.

**Val Bradley** 01280 817746 [valmbradley@btinternet.com](mailto:valmbradley@btinternet.com)

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

## BUCKINGHAM AND DISTRICT U3A NEWSLETTER

### **Theatre and Travel**

Time flies when you are having fun, so they say, and I cannot believe that by the time you read this we will be three quarters way through the year and thinking about Christmas.

Reflecting on our activities I think there were certain highlights. The visit to Highclere was interesting. The Egyptian exhibition was the highlight for some of us. The Pompeii Exhibition was also excellent. Although many people had visited the real Pompeii to see exhibits close up was well worth the visit. I am sorry that our cable car trip had to be aborted – perhaps I will make another attempt next year. Another apology coming up! On investigation I realized that the visit to the Birmingham Silver Works was going to be statistically impossible. I hope that our visit to the Hidden London will make up for it. I was surprised at how much there was to see at Eltham Palace, such a contrast between the old and the new.

Our holiday in Montenegro proved to be a very pleasant surprise having read the Trip Advisor comments. My fears were quickly allayed. The hotel was lovely, beautiful gardens, food good and varied and we were well looked after. It was Iris Mobbs' birthday whilst we were there and every effort was made to help us celebrate it.

Our latest venture was cruising up the Volga from Moscow to St. Petersburg and it was absolutely super. We even learned Russian – so Russian group watch out! I bet they don't dance 'like what we do'. We are off to Kent before the September meeting. I hope that we will have enough people to go to Sheringham for our visit to the Thursford Christmas spectacular. Whilst there we will be going to Ickworth to see the house decorated for Christmas.

We have seen some excellent shows at Milton Keynes Theatre. The Great Gatsby ballet was different but entertaining. Sleeping Beauty on Ice, Cats and Evita were all excellent. Priscilla Queen of the Desert is coming also West Side Story. Snow White is the Panto for this year and I will be there – oh yes I will. Unfortunately a number of the shows had to be paid for before we meet in September so I have had to cancel my reservations. Outings still to come this year are the visit to the Black Country Living Museum decorated for Christmas and the Christmas carol Sing Along at the Royal Albert Hall. Unfortunately the Albert Hall gives me a very limited time to pay but I hope to delay payment for a short while.

Plans are now under way for 2014 – frightening isn't it! Our Danube cruise in June is now booked. I have been getting quotes for the holiday to the Austrian Lakes, including a trip to Salzburg, which would be in August and the holiday to West Yorkshire, staying in Harrogate, in September. That's just the holidays: the rest of the events programme is beginning to take shape – so watch this space.

**Beryl Carr –Travel and Outings Organiser 01280 823808**

**16 Robin Close, Buckingham, MK18 7HD**

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<b>Event</b>	<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Pay By</b>
People M.K.T.	31 <sup>st</sup> October	£27.50	Sept
Kindertransport M.K.T.	6 <sup>th</sup> November	£15.00	Oct
Thursford Weekend Christmas Show	29 <sup>th</sup> November	£342.00	A.S.A.P
Black Country Living Museum	6 <sup>th</sup> December	£28.00	A.S.A.P
Royal Albert Hall Christmas Carol Sing-along	21 <sup>st</sup> December	£28.00 per ticket	A.S.A.P
<b>2014</b>			
Viennese New Year concert in Birmingham	4 <sup>th</sup> January	£26.00 + coach extra	A.S.A.P
Snow White Panto M.K.T.	9 <sup>th</sup> January	£15.00	Sept
Priscilla Queen of the Desert M.K.T.	24 <sup>th</sup> January	£23.50	Sept
Swan Lake M.K.T.	30 <sup>th</sup> January	£19.50	Nov
Tower Bridge Exhibition & Cable Car?	March		
Classical Spectacular at Royal Albert Hall?	March		
Midsummer Night's Dream Ballet M.K.T.	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	£17.00	Oct/Nov
West Side Story M.K.T.	5th June	£35.00	Sept
Danube Cruise from Vienna to Budapest including 2 day extension in Budapest	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	From £2,168.00 p.p	A.S.A.P
Austrian Lakes Holiday	Details later		
West Yorkshire Holiday	Details later		

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. Due to unforeseen circumstances dates and outings might be different from those shown.

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



### **Square Dancing**

Valerie Shaw and Susie and Simon Kelly in June were involved in the Buckingham Town Twinning Day of Dance with 30 visitors from Mouvaux near Lille. Each person had to be found a bed for two nights with kind hosts and not forgetting the Coach Driver, Phillip, who stayed with the Kellys. Very tired hungry guests arrived very late having been held up on the M15.

The origin of this weekend dates back to May 2011 when 11 Square Dancers (from the Buckingham U3A) accepted an invitation to join a Gala de Dance celebrating 50 years of the Jean of Arc Association of Sport and Culture. Following this hugely successful visit it was decided to give the French dancers a return invitation so we had to invent our own Buckingham Gala de Dance. As the dancers in France are mostly school students we found two Buckingham schools who were willing to participate and to choreograph, in the form of contemporary Dance, sections of a whole piece called The Four Seasons. The Teachers of Dance from Buckingham Secondary School and Buckingham Primary School, with the help of Janey Betts of Cairns Dance School, planned two sections, Winter and Spring, and coordinated with the French group who did a third one representing Autumn. Summer was a colourful lively Carnival Finale which they all learned and danced together during Saturday under the tuition of Janey.

The Saturday started at 10am with the practice and rehearsals at the Primary School. Whilst this was happening 2 sides of Morris dancers performed around the town during the day. There was a choir singing by the Old Gaol too but that was nothing to do with us! Rehearsals at the school continued until 2pm with a break for lunch at midday. Then the young people were sent home to rest and at 6pm arrived at the Community Centre to give a delightful performance before a good audience of parents, hosts and friends from the town. Saturday finished with a Ceilidh or Barn Dance led by John Weaver, the Master of the Brackley Morris. The tiny band, Jamie's Wig, just two on this occasion, produced an astonishing sound with a fiddle and guitar. We all found it very amusing to watch the French girls making their own interpretations of the Caller's instructions.

Lots of fabulous muddles, lots of noise and laughter; we all marvelled at the patience and good humour shown by John Weaver, a fabulous caller. Ladies from the Town Twinning Association had provided ample refreshments for the visitors all day and then a Ploughman's supper for the dancers in the evening. Terry Bloomfield ran the bar for us and there was a raffle, both raising money to help pay for the Hall. Everyone worked so hard to make our visitors feel welcome.

A group of us assembled at the car park at 9am on the Sunday to give them a good send off on a teenage shopping spree in Oxford – and then we all came home and flopped. Two years of planning, over now with just the letters of thanks to all concerned for arranging a very worthwhile exchange visit with our friends across the channel.

**Susie Kelly – Group Co-ordinator**

### **Jazz Appreciation 1**



The group meets once a month. Every other month we meet at the Maids Moreton Hall to watch one of the ten episodes of The History of Jazz from 1917 to 2001. The next episode will be shown on the 18<sup>th</sup> October “Swing Pure Pleasure”, Jan 1935 – 1937 featuring Louis Armstrong, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Teddy Wilson and others. In between the showing of The History of Jazz we have themed meetings for example; our future programmes include the origins of “UK Traditional Jazz” and “The Front Line”.

We listen to a cross section of genres, New Orleans, Big Band Swing and Modern Jazz and would welcome new members. The group meets on the fourth Friday of the month from 10.00 to 12.00 either at the Maids Moreton Hall or at a member's home. You do not have to be an expert or very knowledgeable on Jazz to join the group we listen to a cross section of genres, New Orleans, Big Band Swing and Modern Jazz.

**Bryan W Thomas – Group Co-ordinator**

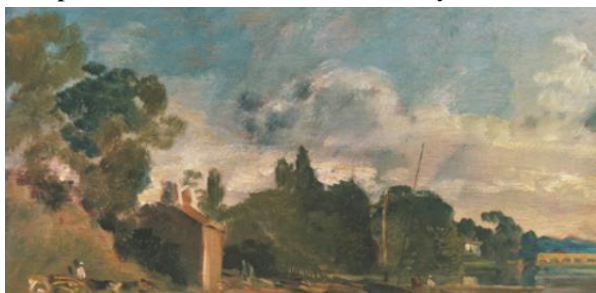
### **Canasta**

The Canasta group has now been going for about 18 months and currently has 20 regular players. We usually have 4 or 5 tables at a session. Canasta can be played individually or with a partner so all numbers of players can be catered for. We welcome new players, both beginners and those who have played before (no matter how long ago!). Come along and give it a try – you will find it fun! If you would like more details contact me.

**Gina Crouch – Group Co-ordinator**

### Art Appreciation

In April, we discussed the Man Ray exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery following a visit by some



members. On 17<sup>th</sup> May we visited Compton Verney to study their wonderful collection of paintings by Venetian artists such as Bellini and Botticelli. Regretfully, the meetings during June and July had to be cancelled due to the untimely indisposition of the Group Co-ordinator! However, some members availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting the Pompeii exhibition at the British Museum with Beryl Carr. Others made their way to Houghton Hall in Norfolk to see at first hand the

collection of the former British Prime Minister, Sir Horace Walpole, currently on loan from the Hermitage State Museum and seen, for the first time, in their original settings. In the study of art thus far, the group have reached the period of French painting just prior to the Impressionists with the work of Millet, Daumier and Courbet. After the August break there was a revision session in early September prior to embarking on a study of the Impressionists. The group continues to grow and more visits are planned for the Autumn so new members are very welcome to join us at 9.45am on the first and third Fridays of the month at the Buckingham Centre, Verney Close when the format is an illustrated talk accompanied by an informal group discussion of the paintings.

**Pam Tonge – Group Co-ordinator**

### Poetry Writing

We have now settled down into our new ‘home’ at Maids Moreton Hall and the staff really look after us very well there. We are putting together another anthology and we expect that to be ready by the Christmas social. Carolina is working on it and has already produced a splendid cover. Why not come along to one of our meetings and see what we do. We do not take ourselves too seriously so even if your poetry never rises above ‘There was a young man from York’ standard you will be more than welcome.

**Dusty Roads – Group Co-ordinator**

### Architecture

Since its formation in May last year the group has grown considerably and has greatly benefited from the contribution of its members on a wide variety of topics, including (this year) the role of women in architecture, Egyptian temples, the palaces of St. Petersburg and the development of castles. Between these monthly meetings there have been well-supported excursions to buildings of historic interest, including Chedworth Roman villa, Cirencester, Kenilworth Castle, Stowe House and a tour of seven medieval churches in North Bucks. Our interest in modern architecture has also been enhanced with a tour of Milton Keynes housing developments spanning 40 years and a memorable guided tour of the new Network Rail HQ building near MK station. Later in the year we plan to visit London and Letchworth Garden City and in forthcoming meetings there will be talks about contemporary London architecture and the evolution of Victorian housing.

**Peter Bowtell – Group Co-ordinator**

### Strollers

Valerie Bradley started the Strollers Group four or five years ago when she realised that some members needed



shorter walks. Since then we have gone from strength to strength and have walked around many villages as well as getting to know Buckingham extremely well, as Buckingham is our main place of walking. The Autumn/Winter programme is taking shape and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October we shall be walking in Whitchurch and on the 9<sup>th</sup> October in Winslow. Please meet for these walks at the Swan Statue by the river behind Waitrose at 10.00 a.m.

This will be my final report as I am stepping down in the Autumn. The new leader will be published as soon as possible.

**Lesley Suggate – Group Co-ordinator**

### German Diskussionsgruppe

Our German Discussion Group has recently increased in number. We meet every two weeks to improve in particular our speaking skills, allowing only communication in German and referring to the dictionary as infrequently as possible. We normally begin with a short, easy, light-hearted quiz which attempts to test and improve our knowledge of German culture, sport, history, music, etc., although some questions apply to more general areas. Our fortnightly oral presentations cover a number of themes, such as a newspaper article, a favourite travel destination, or a famous musician or writer. Mira recently told us about how she learned at a course which she attended in Jena that the Goethe Institute are promoting Schiller's poetry in schools via rap music. You can hear an exciting and enlightening clip for yourself via the following weblink (best appreciated Full Screen): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aiwaF9wLKHE>



For reading practice we refer to our book 45 Stunden Deutschland and at the moment are looking at sections on the multicultural (Germans call it "intercultural") society and religious affiliations, comparing these with the situation in Britain. A brief examination of the overview of the most important facts emerging from the 2011 German census also proved to be interesting (<http://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/zensus-2011-die-wichtigsten-fakten-im-ueberblick-a-903167.html>). We do have our lighter moments and enjoyed a delightful evening when both German groups met for a superb barbecue hosted by Steve and Sue Watkins.

**Roy Walker – Group Co-ordinator**

### Russian Group

Since the beginning of the year the Russian Group has acquired two more new members. Now we are a compact group of seven, just the right size for everyone to participate and make an individual contribution of a varying nature. This can take the form of a short story, news item or topical theme from the internet, song, or everyday textbook topic with grammar exercises. We have recently begun to revise Ruslan Part 3, our splendid coursebook which not only gives us sufficient practice with our language skills, but also provides us with texts and topics which allude to recent cultural and political events. We also endeavour to enhance our studies with extramural excursions such as our recent visit to Xscape at Milton Keynes to view a live screening of operatic



arias from Red Square with Anna Netrebko and Dmitri Hvorostovsky. You can listen to a delightful 5-minute clip of what we saw by googling the following weblink:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FZwIsr7CFE>

During the Buckingham Music Festival we attended the performance of Mussorgsky's Pictures from an Exhibition given by Craig Greene. Finally, we marked the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Romanov dynasty with a slideshow of a number of the palaces they inhabited in and around St Petersburg.

Valerie put us in contact with her guiding friends in the city of Ufa, where Rudolf Nureyev spent his childhood, via Skype, when we were given the opportunity to ask each other questions both in Russian and English. Some of them are hoping to visit us later on in the year.

Angelina cooked us a delicious meal of Beef Stroganoff, which certainly elevated our taste for the language to a new level.

Finally, we are looking forward to a visit from the U3A subject adviser for Russian Language who would like to see how we tackle the language and evaluate our opinions.

**Roy Walker – Group Co-ordinator**

### Annual Pairs Duplicate Bridge Competition

The 8th annual Duplicate pairs competition will be held on Sunday 24th November 2013 at Maids Moreton Village Hall. Entry will be restricted to 22 pairs and is open to any bridge playing members of our U3A, not just the bridge groups.

Entry forms will be available early October and can be obtained from **Peter Holman on 01280 822611**



### Outdoor

The group now has almost seventy members. We compile a programme of varied walks, each one planned and led by a member of the group and usually ending with a pub lunch. Often a visit to a place of interest is



included en route or walks chosen for the beautiful countryside through which they pass. There are three programmes per year and we meet every Thursday at the Stratford Road Layby to organise car sharing to the starting point of the walk.

In May we enjoyed a pretty walk in the Chilterns with lovely views over the Vale of Aylesbury and Chequers. Nearer to home, in June we walked along the route of the old Buckingham canal and enjoyed a walk from Hillesden church. Although we had a two week break (very sensible considering the tremendous heat!) we have continued with our programme throughout the summer.

Places visited include Whittlebury and HS2 land close to Brackley in Northants, William Cowper country near Olney, Amptill Park

including a visit to Houghton House, the Great Train Robbery area near Linslade, and Deddington and Sibford Gower in Oxfordshire. We are fortunate to be able to enjoy the great outdoors in so many places that are easily accessible from our meeting point.

The autumn and winter programme is now being planned. We have included our contact email addresses so that we can send you a programme if you wish to walk with us. Judy has moved further away from the area so is not continuing as joint co-ordinator but will remain a member and walk whenever possible. Rosemary is also giving up as co-ordinator at the end of the year so there are a few months in which to persuade one or two people to take over! The picture shows a happy group during the Brackley/Turweston walk in August

**Judy Cooper & Rosemary Palastanga**

### Flower Arranging/Craft

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August, the Flower Arranging and Craft Groups joined together to give Joyce Anlezark a



surprise Afternoon Tea, to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. A wonderful time was had by all, with great company and fabulous food, far too much, of course, so members went home with 'doggy-bags'. In pride of place was a magnificent Birthday Cake, made by Veronic and iced and decorated by Maureen. (They should go into the cake making business ... they would make a fortune.) By now, Joyce will have had her main celebrations with all her family at Villiers. We all look forward to the Centenary Birthday and a Card from the Queen!!

**Cath FitzHugh**

### Local History 1

This year our members have enjoyed talks on a variety of local interest topics, including the town's Prebend



End, the Addington family, the Verneys of Claydon, the Old Gaol Museum, Buckingham's pantomime and the history of Tingewick's pubs. Local guides have also entertained us on our visits to Deanshanger and Evenley villages and further afield at the delightful Tudor house and gardens at Chenies near Amersham. After our summer break we are looking forward to hearing about Buckingham's former railway, its hospital and its freemasonry, rounding off the year with our ever-popular Xmas buffet and quiz.

**Peter Bowtell – Group Co-ordinator**

### Local History 3

Our group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday at the Buckingham Centre. In the winter we usually have visiting speakers but during the summer months we alternate talks with visits to local places of interest. We have recently enjoyed a fascinating illustrated talk entitled –‘A Woman in a Man’s World’, from Rosemary Heywood of Paynes Coaches and had a guided tour of Rousham House followed by a stroll in the beautiful grounds. We learnt about Brackley’s interesting history on a guided walk and by the time you read this newsletter we will have heard about a Brackley resident the ‘Demon Grocer’ and visited Marsh Gibbon for another walk with a knowledgeable resident. We are a small group and would welcome new members who would like to know more about our local history.



**Ruth Roy – Group Co-ordinator**

### Handbells

We continue to update our repertoire, and have had engagements in the lovely summer weather (as we go to press!) including playing at the recent summer social with our musical friends, the Recorders. We are very pleased with the banners made for the music stands earlier in the year, for which we must thank Betty Bennett in our group, with a little help from my wife, whose efforts have produced an excellent result. We just need to maintain a good standard of ringing to match the banners! We look forward to entertaining other groups for the rest of the year who have kindly invited us. New members are most welcome – we have vacancies! Please get in touch with me, even if just a tentative enquiry and come and have a practise 'ring'. We rehearse Friday mornings in Gawcott



Chapel. 01280 813946 [dandjmsmith@talk21.com](mailto:dandjmsmith@talk21.com)

The Handbells Group recently performed at a fund- raising event for the Buckingham Canal Society and the picture above was taken by Richard Lewis.

**Derek Smith – Group Co-ordinator**

### Recorders

Our new group began earlier this year and I am pleased that the standard continues to be high, so I need to continue to look to my laurels! We played with our fellow musicians in the Handbells group at the summer social and perhaps we might be invited elsewhere? We have ten members at present and weekly rehearsals go well – Gawcott Chapel on a Wednesday morning. If you are interested, have a recorder, and would like to try please get in touch – 01280 813946 [dandjmsmith@talk21.com](mailto:dandjmsmith@talk21.com).

**Derek Smith – Group Co-ordinator**

The Handbells and Recorders played at the Summer Social which was thoroughly enjoyed by those present. The pictures below were taken at that social.



**Derek Smith Group Co-ordinator**