

Senior

U3A

Moments

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

Issue 58

May 2018





London walking group 4 Glassblowing photos by David Middleton



Bookham and District U3A

Registered Charity No 103686 U3A Membership No 4/239/93

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This issue of Senior Moments contains, I think, many interesting pieces and lots of photos of Bookham U3A activities. The star photo is I believe on the cover from a photo taken in her garden by Myra Usher. Myra is a good photographer and also a very accomplished artist in oils, watercolors, acrylics and charcoal. There are other talents too in our U3A—David Middleton has been running the London Walks 4 group for some time and he certainly finds very interesting places to visit and record on his camera. One particular walk recorded in this issue was the Bermondsey glass blowing workshop where his group saw some very skilled workmen producing beautiful works of art in glass. He also took them on a river trip on the (London) Thames between Putney Bridge and Blackfriars to see the work being done on waste water disposal—a vital part of the work (in London) to keep the river clean and healthy. Kathy Gothard took her London walk group to Shoreditch (in February) on one of those very snowy days in February. Colin Jackson's London walk group went to Brixton and saw many colorful wall paintings and would you believe a windmill!

Maurice Baker

Cover photo: Peacock butterfly on a choisya plant in her garden by Myra Usher'

Chairman's report

Easter and our April meeting are now over and hopefully some warmer weather will be on its way soon and I just might get a chance to get out in the garden.

The Committee have had a really busy time so far this year. Our first hurdle was the outcome of the discussions between the Charity Commission and the Third Age Trust (TAT) which meant that we had to amend our constitution to meet the new requirements and from our new financial year we will have to present our accounts in a new format. Alongside that the TAT have reviewed their financial guidelines and have stressed that we need to know about each group's finances. We know that most groups do not handle any cash apart from some contributions to refreshments or petrol. However, it has meant that a number of group leaders have been contacted over recent weeks so that we (the Committee and Trustees) are aware of all the U3A finances. The new data protection regulations come into force soon and so we have been reviewing our policy and membership/renewal forms ready for the changes. The TAT and local networks have held some meetings to discuss all of this; data protection issues will be discussed later in April and we are still waiting for a date for the finance workshops. We will keep you up to date with any developments that may impact on our running of the organisation.

While all of this has been happening we have been evaluating IT systems and have decided to proceed with Simple Membership that will allow us to combine our database and website (our first priorities) with a financial package to follow. Implementation will be incremental and we need to pick the appropriate times to bring in each part. If anyone is interested in helping with the implementation and would like to be in at the start please let me or Harold Reglar know. Work is also going on for the Silver Anniversary Celebration in October and Roger Mendham is receiving suggestions and comments which are being discussed.

Apart from the groups of which I am a member I also managed to visit Pam North's

Art Appreciation Group for a fun afternoon and I also squelched my way from home to the Lower Road Recreation Ground to join Frances Pullen's Easy Rambling Group. The rain didn't abate and so the decision was made to move swiftly on to coffee and a lively group managed to while away the morning at the local nursery (and it carried on raining!)

Our speakers have been diverse – a pictorial trip to the Royal Parks, a timely reminder about frauds and scams, and a celebration of cheese making and English cheeses with some very tasty samples.

The Committee always has business to attend to on your behalf but this last quarter has felt a bit like the weather - it never rains but it pours, but at least we never have a chance to be bored. Best wishes,



Lynn

TURVILLE KILLE (1898-1997) "Everyone's candidate"

Just over 20 years ago one of Bookham's most colourful characters died shortly before his 100th birthday. His life had spanned the 20th century, almost entirely living in the village. He wasn't rich or highly educated but was chairman of the local Allotments and Recreation Committee 1941-57 and 1959-63; chaired Leatherhead District Council 1964-66, and served on Surrey County Council 1965-70. Yet he lived a simple life in what changed from a rural setting to a growing suburb.

Born 29 April 1898 at a cottage in Eastwick Road, his father, Frederick, worked as a handyman for William Keswick, Lord of the Manor. Beside the cottage were a barn, cowsheds, pigsties and a trough. When Frederick was sacked the family had to move into the former schoolhouse nearby.



Turville's mother Laura established a laundry business to feed the family.

Turville left school at 14 and worked as a door-to-door hardware salesman in the surrounding villages, at the Swan Brewery in Leatherhead, and as a gardener at Polesden Lacey. In World War I he

enlisted and played the bugle, fife and drums for the East Kent regiment, signing on for an extra three years when the war ended. It was his only time living outside Bookham.

In 1922 he returned to Polesden Lacey, married a local parlour-maid and then became a postman for the next 22 years. He also moonlighted as a jobbing gardener. The couple bought their home, Downs View on Leatherhead Road, in 1925 and he lived there for 68 years. They kept livestock in the garden and Turville became a champion grower.

As a postman Turville got to know everyone in the village and in 1936 was elected to Leatherhead Council as 'Everyone's



Downs View



Aerial view of Bookham before WWI

'Candidate'. He never looked back, serving in some official role or other for the next 40 years. Joining ever more committees, he influenced decision making on everything from housing and roads to sewerage, street lighting and car parks, helped introduce a waste disposal system creating compost for gardens and allotments, and was section leader in Bookham's auxiliary fire service during World War 2.



Above all else he championed Bookham's allotments and from 1923 onwards campaigned to protect them from development. In 1952 he became chairman of the Bookham Garden Society and chaired the Eastwick Allotments and Gardens Association for 15 years as well as holding responsibility for allotments on Leatherhead Council.

Turville Kille died in October 1997 at Southey Court care home, Eastwick Park Avenue, and was buried at St Nicolas Church. He had strongly supported land purchases for public housing including the Bookham Grove estate and the bungalows of Proctor Gardens and Candy Croft on the former Eastwick Park nursery, named after two of Bookham's historic local GPs. Turville Court nearby recalls the man himself.

Tony Matthews



How to get conned out of your life savings – a follow up

The Background

In May last year scammers successfully conned me into revealing enough security details to enable them to break into three of my bank accounts, one of Margaret's, my partner, and my Barclaycard account. If you read February's Senior Moments, you will have seen the whole process in great detail.

This is a follow-up to the scam, where, I presume the same people tried again, but this time I did not fall for their tricks, with amusing consequences!!

The Setup

After recovering all our monies from the banks (and I am still irritated that the police were not involved) I naturally kept a very careful check on our accounts for weeks afterwards. While checking accounts towards the end of last year, I noticed in our BT account that an engineer was booked to visit one afternoon. When I phoned BT to ask why, I was told a woman had phoned in to report a fault on our landline and had insisted that an engineer visit the house to fix it. BT still had the recording of the conversation and was able to point out that the operator had said that the "fault" could be fixed without entry to the house. The woman, however, insisted on a visit. Very odd, if only because I was using said phone to make the enquiry of BT!!

What transpired

The planned visit was a few days after my conversation with BT, so I was able to cancel the engineer's visit and talk to the local police about it. They told me they would put a squad car in the area and that I should dial 999 if anyone appeared.

On the day of the proposed visit I invited a friend and his wife round for lunch to provide some backup. The visit was scheduled between 2.00pm and 5.00pm, so I anticipated an earlier visit to avoid clashing with the real engineer – any time after 1 o'clock I thought. So there we were enjoying our soup and, at almost precisely 1.00 o'clock the door bell rang and four ageing adults nearly jumped out

of their chairs!!

I immediately dialled 999 as instructed and took my time heading to the door to open it while still talking to the police on my phone. Luckily we have a small glass panel down the side of the door and through it I could see someone in a small black and white check. When I opened the door I found a very pleasant community support officer standing there looking slightly bemused. She had been sent to get more details from me and coincidentally arrived the exact time I was expecting the scammers!! I was so pleased to be able to tell the police that there wasn't actually a problem after all and we never did get the expected bogus visitor.

The End Game

We never established why anyone would want to gain access to the house



– a straightforward theft is one option. Another possibility is, because they were masquerading as BT engineers, they may have simply wanted to get the password for our broadband modem, so that they could sit outside and monitor our broadband traffic. We also don't know why the bad guys never appeared. Maybe they were outside when the PCSO came and were scared off. Anyway, she enjoyed a nice cup of tea and a piece of cake and we have been unmolested ever since – so far!!

Alan Emsley

3E London Walkers

Remember that very cold week in February. The weather forecast was very cold but no snow forecast so some 3E London



members decided to wrap up warmly to do our monthly walk in London. As it was winter a short walk of less than 2 miles was planned. However the weather forecasters got it wrong again and we had a heavy snowstorm lasting about an hour. We still decided to continue with the walk! The

walk followed the path of the underground River Walbrook from Shoreditch to the Thames near Cannon St. The walk started opposite St Leonards Church in Shoreditch (famous for the Oranges & Lemons rhyme and more recently where 'Rev' was filmed – photo 1) and we walked in the snow along Curtain Rd (where there were 2 theatres where Shakespeare acted) and into the Broadgate Centre, formally Broad St station where the snow made it magical. Photo 2 shows Broadgate Circle (an area of shops and cafes, please note that the background is not the sky but a backdrop! Photo 3 shows the group minus the photographer Ruth Hirst). On we went to the City when the snowstorm stopped and the sun came out! We were then able to stop and see things including several Wren churches, The Bank of England, the offices of several livery companies and the site where the Walbrook joins the Thames. We were all glad we had decided to do the walk.

Kathy Gothard



Our London Walks Group, led by Colin and Diana Jackson, recently visited Brixton.

Originally open fields until the Railway arrived on 1860, it then evolved into a Victorian Suburb and, in the 1920's,

adorned parts of the hall, and strolled around the local shops.

We then moved on to Windmill Gardens which includes the only working mill in Greater London. Formerly known as Ashby's Mill, it was built in 1816 as a wind-powered



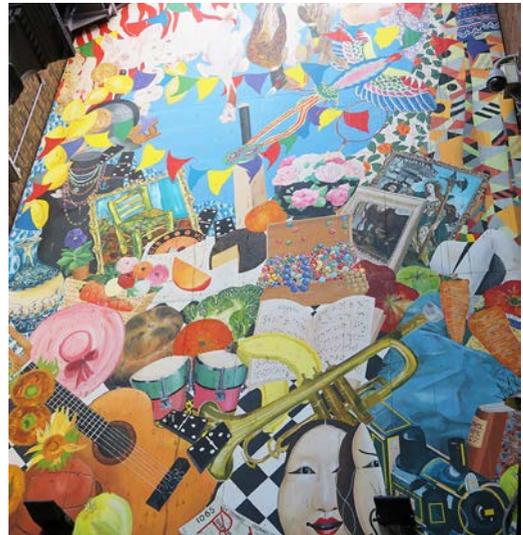
became a very trendy and up-market shopping area.

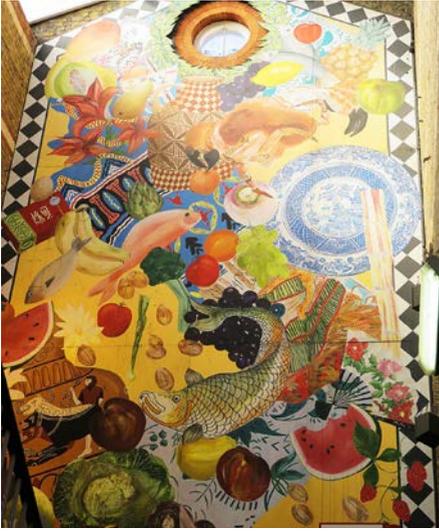
Earlier, in the 1880s, it had the first London shopping streets to be lit by electricity.

The viaducts still dominate central Brixton with shops and arcades hidden under the arches, but it is the West Indian community who arrived here in the 1950s and 1960s who define the character:

Now it is a vibrant, busy area with lots of interesting shops and stalls with ethnic foods and fashions. Local houses have been smartened up and show off the original interesting architectural flourishes that several decades ago would have gone unnoticed. Community spirit is strong – it even has its own currency, the Brixton Pound!

We visited the Market Hall which was very colourful, admired some of the murals which





mill and, for 45 years, produced stoneground, wholemeal flour. In 1902, a second mill, steam-powered, and later gas-powered, was built to produce white flour which was more to the public's taste.

After an enjoyable lunch at a local hostelry, we then strolled around the local streets, admiring still more murals on the sides of houses, before returning home.



Don Edwards

Bookham Open Gardens 2018 Sunday 17th June - 10am to 5pm

This year's event will feature about 10 varied and attractive private gardens (one new to Open Gardens, at least two belonging to U3A members) where garden owners will give you a warm welcome and provide you with the opportunity to pick up ideas for your own garden or simply enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

In addition, Gracewell Care Home will open their gardens for the first time, and we welcome

12.30pm), the Vineries (event sponsors) and other local outlets, £5 in advance £6.00 on the day. You can also buy them at the first garden you visit. Assistance dogs only.

We would love to hear from anyone who could provide a cake, or spare an hour two to help on the day, serving refreshments, selling tickets, marshalling the car park or stewarding at the gardens. Without our kind garden openers and our band of willing volunteers, the day would



One of the lovely (U3A member) gardens that will be open this year

back Manor House School, the Grange Centre (with its Victorian walled garden) and Little Bookham Allotments.

The proceeds from the day go towards the upkeep of our Old Barn Hall. Delicious refreshments will be served there throughout the day and there will also be the opportunity to visit our plant stall and buy a selection of goods from the Bookham Country Market stall. Once again there will be a raffle with lots of great prizes. There will be a regular free minibus service to take you between the gardens.

Tickets will be on sale from May 19th at the Old Barn Hall KT23 3PQ (Mon, Weds, Fri 9.30am-

never happen!

For more information visit www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk (downloadable programme there from mid May), look for 'Bookham Open Gardens' on Facebook, or contact Tina Hutton on 01372 457598 / Email: tina.hutton@btinternet.com
BOOKHAM COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION – Registered Charity No.
1148881
Diane Poole

Bookham U3A
invites you to join us for a...

Clues

investigate



Murder

Mystery Evening

An evening of intrigue and deduction as you try to work out who committed the deadly deed

where? The Old Barn Hall

when? Thursday 10th May at 7pm

tickets? £ 25 a head, including supper
(Bring your own drink and glasses)

Available at the monthly meetings in Mar and April

question



deduce

Brought to you by
The Killing Game Company

*Are you hooked on Morse?
Can't take your eyes off Montalbano?
Confused by Sherlock?
Intrigued by Cormorant Strike?*

Never manage to spot the villain?

Why not play the detective yourself?

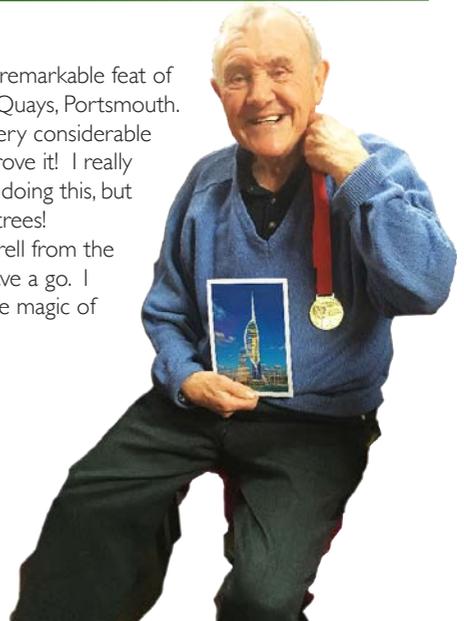
Bookham U3A's Murder Mystery Evening is on Thursday, May 10th at 7pm in the Barn Hall.

Remaining tickets available at the April monthly meeting. Why not make sure of yours by contacting Jan Dicker on 01372 452251 or by email at nantcol@btinternet.com

Jim Simpson

A member of our U3A, Jim Simpson, took on the remarkable feat of abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower; Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth. Quite a feat for anyone, but for a pensioner a very considerable achievement and he has the certificate and medal to prove it! I really don't know how you get the courage to even consider doing this, but then I was never one for derring-dos or even climbing trees! He was congratulated at the April meeting by Lynn Farrell from the chair and said it was open to anyone who wished to have a go. I think I shall give that a swerve and stay working with the magic of Photoshop on images for Senior Moments!

Maurice Baker



Sketching

Sketching for me conjures up many happy hours, over many happy years, with a light-weight chair and bag on shoulder containing lunch (most important!), sketchbook, pens and pencils etc. If the weather is good then life is perfect, if the weather is less than good then life becomes more challenging, but is always with a sense of anticipation when I find myself in front of a view that just has to be sketched.

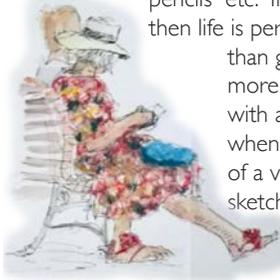
I'd like to suggest the following excerpts from various sources

along with my own thoughts as to the benefits of sketching, either for its own worth or as preparation for a more considered studio work.

A sketchbook is an artist's most valuable piece of 'equipment', it is the perfect place in which to improve your drawing skills and powers of observation, and to develop new ideas. It is also a place to note and record any thing, or view, and as such becomes a valuable storehouse of visual references. It also helps to build up your

the scene before you in a more inspired manner. Pen and ink can be a satisfying alternative to pencil, and a wash over your work helps to remind you of the colours that were there. Colour notes alongside the sketch are particularly useful if you intend creating a painting from this work at a later date.

There is a fascination in looking back in your sketchbook, particularly at unfinished



sketches where you can use your imagination to fill in the gaps. Aside from that, if you note the time and place on the sketch, it is an



confidence; rapid and frequent sketching aids you to express more intuitively what you feel and see. With a sketchbook and pencil, you can catch life on the wing.

Unlike the studio painting which can sometimes have a confined feeling, quite often the work produced in your sketchbook is freer; thus capturing immediate impressions which conveys

invaluable record of your travels which, on a winter evening, can be a wonderful reminder of happy times (and which are certainly much more satisfying than a photograph!).

Patricia Stevens

Vegetable Gardening

In February we joined with Bookham, Fetcham & District Garden Society for their evening meeting to hear Peter Almond talk about 'The



Two Hour a Week Allotment'. Peter has now changed from having an allotment at Eastwick to growing vegetables in raised beds in his garden.



He advised weeding a bed first, then leaving for two weeks and then hoe to free the ground of weeds before planting any seeds or plants. Pickle and make chutneys to use up excess courgettes and onions. After harvesting broad beans follow with planting leeks. Eco fleece to cover leeks, radish and brassicas to avoid aphids is now a necessity. Buy a Wolf Garten multi-change

lightweight handle and you can use different attachments such as a soil rake and garden soil cultivator to save storage space.

Annie kindly hosted our March meeting



when we visited her garden in Fetcham. Her vegetable garden is a work in progress and she has already cleared away rubbish and is awaiting the building of some raised beds.



We talked about various gardening questions including replacing strawberry beds every three years, don't plant raspberries deep and how to get a blueberry bush to fruit after five years.

We enjoyed refreshments including the lightest Victoria Sponge we had ever tasted.

Future meetings including tours of Eastwick and Little Bookham Allotments, the Grace & Flavour and Painshill Park Walled Vegetable Gardens and a summer barbecue are currently planned.

Anita Laycock



Theatre outing 42nd Street photos by David Middleton



Thames Tideway river trip photos by David Middleton



London Glassblowing photos by David Middleton





Glassblowing in London

David Middleton's London walk group went to see glassblowing in Bermondsey. It must have been a great visit watching these very skilled craftsmen making beautiful glass objects. It seems quite difficult to me to even blow the molten glass but then to add all the colours and many shapes shows a considerable amount of skill. Ed

We spent half an hour watching one man producing a large beautiful glass piece from what appeared to be a small piece of molten glass. There were two other people assisting from time to time, adding glass for a base to produce a stand for the main piece and additional small pieces of different coloured glass that spread/ran to produce wonderful patterns. The glass was rotated, expanded and inserted into the fiery furnaces from time to time. Various tools were used to shape the glass until it was cut from the rod and carefully placed into an oven (at very high temperature) which was gradually cooled down over a 24 hour period and then the finished pieces were removed for display.



I was so fascinated by the glassblowing that I have since visited London Glassblowing four times and there are no charges to visit the showroom or watch the craftsmen at work.

David Middleton



Winetasting group photos by David Middleton



19th Century Anaesthesia

The 'good old days' of horrendously painful surgical operations, sepsis and death were about to come to an end. But the first half of the century saw death rates as high as 80% following surgery. To reduce the pain of the procedure, operations were as short as possible with the best surgeons amputating a leg within two and half minutes; albeit with no anaesthetic! The most famous, Mr Robert Liston, known as the 'fastest knife in the West End' held his blooded blade between his teeth having cut through the skin of the thigh while he got to work on the poor patient's leg bone with the saw! No wonder it only took 150 seconds!

With the second half of the century came pain relief in the guise of anaesthesia, meaning without sensation; the word first coined by Dr Oliver Wendel Holmes Sr. from Boston in a letter to a fellow American in 1846. He was referring to the use of nitrous oxide, made popular in the 1830s as laughing gas, which also dulled the senses and stopped the 'happy' person feeling pain. This phenomenon was recognized by the American dentist Horace Wells who was so convinced of its affects he had one of his own teeth extracted while under the influence



A 'Laughing Gas Party' 1820

of the gas – with no pain! On 20th January 1845 he demonstrated the technique of nitrous oxide inhalation anaesthesia to a group of eminent doctors and surgeons at the Massachusetts

General Hospital. Unfortunately the patient woke during the procedure and cried out. Wells was accused of being a charlatan and left the hospital with his reputation in ruins. He never recovered from the humiliation and committed suicide in January 1848 aged just 33.

Ether, a colourless liquid, whose hypnotic qualities had been known since the 16th century proved to be an effective anaesthetic when slowly dripped onto a muslin cloth held over the patient's face. Another American dentist, Williams Morton started to use ether very successfully and he, like Horace Wells, was given the opportunity to demonstrate the technique at Massachusetts General Hospital. The operation on 16th October 1846, to remove a cancerous growth, proved a great success with the patient feeling no pain and asleep throughout. Morton's name was made but he blotted his reputation by trying to patent ether as a new compound with the name 'Letheon', thereby making his



Firstst public demonstration of ether anaesthesia

fortune. His deceit was soon uncovered and with that his patent application failed. However, he did go on to redeem himself by administering ether to soldiers during the American Civil War in 1862 thereby reducing the fear and pain of surgery for many.

News travelled fast and on 19th December 1846 just two months after Morton's demonstration in Massachusetts, James Robinson administered the first ether general anaesthesia in England at 52

Gower Street, London in the study of Dr Francis Boott to Miss Lonsdale prior to removing a tooth. Robert Liston was present and was so impressed he amputated a patient's leg at University College Hospital under ether just two days later! And within six months James Robinson published the world's first anaesthetic textbook 'A Treatise on the Inhalation of Vapour of Ether' before returning to dentistry, becoming Surgeon Dentist to HRH Prince Albert in 1849.

Despite its inauspicious start nitrous oxide had proved to be a very effective anaesthetic but only for short procedures, while ether was effective but tended to explode when its vapour came in contact with gas lights!

The hunt was on for something better. Chloroform, originally known as 'Sweet Whisky' was initially developed as a cheap pesticide in 1831 but Sir James Young Simpson, a Scottish obstetrician, having in 1847 tried it on himself and friends realised it was a very effective anaesthetic and went on to popularize its use. However, it did have a rather high mortality rate when compared with ether or nitrous oxide! But no less a person

than Queen Victoria had chloroform administered to her during the births of her two youngest children: Prince Leopold in 1853 and Princess Beatrice in 1857.

Because of their individual drawbacks nitrous oxide, ether and chloroform were often mixed together to give a 'better' anaesthetic. When King Edward VII had his appendix removed in 1901 the volatile cocktail he succumbed to consisted of one part chloroform and two parts ether; from then on it became known as the 'King's Mixture'.

With the dawning of the antiseptic age in the latter half of the century with Joseph Lister using carbolic in wound dressings and cleaning surgical instruments and Florence Nightingale reforming nursing, a mortality rate following surgery plummeted from 80% to single figures. But it was the development of effective anaesthesia which reduced the terror of the surgeon's knife!

This is synopsis of a recent talk given to the Social History Group.

Brian Williams

Beginners Bridge

Peter Clarke reported a good response to the offer of setting up a new group or groups for beginners bridge. However, it is proving difficult matching up dates when tutors and learners are free, and he has produced new sign up sheets for both learners and helpers. Peter can be contacted at bri0x@bookhamu3a.org.uk or on 01372 450908. I did go to a beginners' meeting organised by Peter and very good it was in getting me to understand the basics of this very popular card game. Ed

David Middleton is arranging a visit on behalf of the Science & Technology 2 group to the Mini production line at Cowley, near Oxford.

This will take place on Wednesday May 2nd, leaving Lower Shott at 9.00am.

There will be a comfort break at about 11.00 before arriving at 12.00. There will be two groups of 15 and the tour will take about 2½ hours. Arrival back in Bookham will be 5.00-5.15 pm and the cost is £40. This visit is open to all members - please contact Anne Glyn (outings@bookhamu3a.org.uk or 01372 802576) for a booking form or David if you require more details (01372 458407).



Out & About with Bookham U3A

OUTINGS & THEATRE VISITS
To book please contact Anne Glyn
Theatre Matinees (by coach)

The new arrangements for organising outings in Bookham U3A

Anne Glyn is now the coordinator for Bookham U3A outings. This means individual members are now expected to come forward to arrange "one off" trips. Anne can assist them with details of the most appropriate coach companies to consider etc. There is no need to think of only 52 seater coaches, but individual members will book the transport and venue. Once this is done they will inform Anne of the date of the outing and she will announce it at the monthly meeting, hand out booking forms, collect the money, issue receipts and make up the list for the outing. Any other assistance or advice needed will be provided.

U3A SURREY NETWORK STUDY DAYS

- May 18th HOAXES, MAGIC, CARTOONS & SATIRE Ian Keable
- June 15th PREHISTORIC BRITAIN NEW DISCOVERIES ABOUT OUR ANCIENT PAST
Mike Parker Pearson
-

Do you have a smoke alarm?

Anyone with faulty or indeed no smoke alarms can contact Surrey Fire Service and have them fitted at no cost. The firemen will advise where they should be fitted and there is no drilling involved.

Tel: 03456 009 009 or email: sfcontactqueries@surreycc.gov.uk

To avoid people listening to the usual stream of messages when getting through, on the telephone its option 6.

U3A Tuesday Monthly Meetings

- Tuesday 5th June Broadcast Media Pat Mitchinson
- Tuesday 3rd July From Graffiti to Street Art Roger Mendham
- Tuesday 7th August No meeting