

# Senior Moments



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

Issue 48

November 2015



*Songsters Group in their new meeting hall at the Church in Eastwick Road*



*Line dancing at the Village Day*



*The Gardening Group comparing produce*

# Bookham and District U3A

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This November issue has the report of the AGM held at the October meeting. Since the current Chairman is just half way through his term of office there are normally no significant changes, but this year with Pippa Carter stepping down as secretary there is in fact a very big and important change this year. Peter Hudson has written a full appreciation of Pippa's work over many years and she leaves, of course, with much appreciation and very best wishes from us all.

Our Vice-chair, Lynn Farrell has written a lengthy piece on the U3A groups that are really the life blood of our organisation. It contains much information and could be well worth keeping for future reference. Lynn makes the point that we are always looking for new groups and John Dicker's piece certainly supplies food for thought. One of the new groups—Gardening is also featured and a photograph of their produce has been used as the backdrop for this month's magazine.

It's always encouraging to know that articles in the magazine are read by members and it's especially encouraging when a member takes the trouble to write about an article. Such was the case when Graham Parsons wrote in about metal detecting and suggested that the small 'horse' shoe may have been for an ox which were used in agriculture before farming became fully mechanized.

This issue of Senior Moments is hopefully a landmark issue, not for anything readers can see in it but it is the first time we have received more articles than we can accommodate and so two articles have been held over to the next issue. It is always an editor's big worry that there will not be sufficient articles to fill the magazine. I can only hope this is the start of a new trend in our very active U3A.

Editor

## NOTES FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

It is nearing the end of my first year as your Chairman and as enjoyable as it has been, Your Committee and I have had our challenges.

An area which has given us more headaches than any other, is that of our growing Membership. As we have invariably had a "Waiting List" of people wanting to join Bookham U3A, this "Waiting List" has been growing during the year and as a result, we have now increased our overall Membership from 476 at the beginning of the year to currently 520.

This in turn places more pressure on our Groups, Group Leaders and our Groups Co-ordinator, Peter Clarke. We have therefore decided that from this October, we will have an additional person working with Peter to assist current Groups and help set up more Groups where needed. What we do not want to see is people joining our U3A but being unable to participate in those activities which are of interest to them.

I know that I have mentioned this matter before but I make no apology for raising it again. Within our Membership of 520, we have approximately 55 Group

Leaders, 10 people serving on the Committee and a further 6 people working in areas such as Registration, Teas, Distribution and Publicity. This leaves over 400 people from which we need to find helpers for the future. Last year we saw Peter Hudson step down from the Committee after 15 years and this year Pippa Carter, having served as your Secretary for 11 years, stepping down for a well-earned rest. We really do need to find more volunteers – so please give it some serious thought, especially those Members who have joined in the last few years. We must not allow our U3A to decline!!

Finally, "Thank you" to those Groups who so far have kindly invited me to join them and I look forward to receiving further invites in the future, as I would be delighted to see what you all get up to!!



## Pippa Carter, Secretary 2004 – 2015

It is often said, although no doubt politically incorrect now, that behind every successful man is a great woman. As it happens, all the Chairmen for the past 11 years have been men and Pippa has been the very successful Secretary who has helped make Bookham the great U3A that it is.

The role of the Secretary is largely unseen. It isn't even taking minutes at meetings although Pippa has certainly done that. It is all about planning ahead for the many facets of the U3A operation and ensuring things get done efficiently, competently and on time. Pippa has, for example, a check sheet of annual key dates to ensure nothing is overlooked. She has ensured that AGM's are correctly conducted and all papers are received in time. She receives and disseminates regular information from the Third Age Trust as well as attending regular Surrey U3A network meetings. I believe her handover notes ran to 6 pages



although I am not sure if Gillian Arnold knew this in case it put her off!!

Pippa has been totally committed to the success of our U3A and shown this through her very hard work in support of all our activities. She can be quite decisive which can lead to interesting discussions but always with

the purpose of what is best for the U3A. She is well regarded Regionally as well as Nationally within the Third Age Trust. The strength of our U3A is the contribution

made by many people but the work done by Pippa over the last 11 years has been very significant and greatly helped its growth and development. We wish her well in her 'retirement' and much enjoyment with her plans to participate in more activities.

Peter Hudson

## Metal Detection

In the last issue of Senior Moments (Issue 47 July 2015 p16) I reported on the work of the Metal Detecting Group's work in my garden where one of the objects found was something like a horse shoe but it was too small for a normal horse. A member, Graham Parsons, emailed to say "In relation to the above if you look at the foot of page 16 you will see that Maurice Baker had metal detected in his garden that was 'something' like a horse shoe but too small" This area is and was of course highly agriculturalised and in pre tractor days it was not unknown for farmers not only to have their carts etc drawn by horses but also to a lesser extent by oxen, and the oxen would have been shod like horses (but only smaller) so the find may, and I only say may, be the oxen equivalent of the horse-shoe. I seem to recall some years ago a similar find to this being made over at Shere (I think it was) so an enquiry to their (or Leatherhead) Museum may elicit a definitive answer if he wishes to follow it up. So there we have it, but the Group have said they would to come back for further digging. The problem is that the ground was like concrete and now it is like reinforced concrete!



*Horse or Ox shoe?*

## Bookham U3a Finances 2015

Our year ends on 31 July and we run two accounts. Our Charity activities are financed by subscriptions and Gift Aid. These are not sufficient to cover the running of the U3a, group activities and monthly meetings. However this year, the loss was smaller due to increased membership. We were able to cover this loss by a transfer of £250 from our other account, Social & Outings. We therefore reported a small surplus of £28.33. We remain in a comfortable position as our reserves at the end of the year were £5250.

The Social & Outings covers all non-charitable activities. These comprise the outings to the theatre and other places and the social events in the Barn Hall. Due to a very high level of continued support, these often produce surpluses. For the last year, the overall surplus was £690 and the accumulated reserves were £6700.

We are thus in a good financial position and intend to hold the subscription at its current level until the Charity losses become more significant or the Gift Aid rules change.

Copies of the Accounts are on the web-site. Our thanks to Mike Farrell for examining the Accounts. As he has now joined the Committee, we are looking for a new examiner and if anyone has some financial experience and would like to offer to undertake this small task, could they contact the Chairman or the Treasurer.

The last sentence should be omitted if an Examiner is appointed at the AGM

Chris Pullan  
5 September 2015

## In Decline?!!

*Did you, like me, hold the view  
That "slowing down" was not for you?  
Mother, daughter, friend and wife  
Multi-tasking was a way of life,  
Mind and body geared to speed,  
There was no time or even need  
To stop, and think, to take a breather,  
Relax, slow down, make life easier.  
But gradually you had to admit,  
You'd put on weight and were far from fit!!*

*You no longer ran for that train or bus  
You simply hadn't got the puff.  
And that grocery item in the shop  
Was too far back, too high on top!  
And crouching down, say, for frozen peas  
Played havoc with your dodgy knees.  
Do friends and family have a moan  
Because you didn't hear the door or phone?  
And is reading labels rather a strain  
As the size of the print's been reduced again?*

*But help is at hand, for through the door  
Comes lots of advice and pamphlets galore.  
A walking "work-out", weights at the gym,  
A fab. new diet! Get Fit! Stay Slim!  
The spirit's kind of willing, the ideas are fine,  
It's just a question of "finding the time".  
But on further reading, you're relieved to find  
It's the **younger** age group they have in mind!*

*But even when adopting a pace more sedate  
Time still flies by at an alarming rate.  
But all those plans you have in mind  
Must **not** be cancelled, just redefined,  
As you sally forth, decisions made,  
Brandishing stick and specs and hearing aid!!!*

Marion Kemp.



Some of the produce from the gardening group that is also featured on the front cover

## Bookham U3A Vegetable Gardening Group

Our group have been very active over the past few months visiting kitchen gardens and allotments.

In April Wendy showed us round her allotment at the Little Bookham Allotment Site and enjoyed refreshments in the Site's newly built cabin.



Kitchen gardens in Woodlands Road were our venues for the May meeting. We first visited Gordon & Penny's lovely garden where Gordon excels in growing all types of fruit and vegetables raised from seed and cuttings in his greenhouses and outhouses. We then visited Jan's beautifully laid out garden. The kitchen garden is designed with a raised bed and slate paths and she enjoys growing flowers and vegetables from seed in her greenhouse. We then did some seed swapping while enjoying coffee and home made cake.

Our June meeting took us to

the Grace & Flavour Walled Garden in West Horsley. What a revelation! The seeds were sown for this project in the spring of 2008 when the congregation of St Mary's Church in West Horsley were set a challenge that would benefit the whole community. Su Johnston thought of the idea of a community kitchen garden and a three-acre derelict walled garden in the grounds of a nursing home (Dene Place) belonging to the National Trust was found. After a grant of £8,000 was secured from Defra the project was up and running. The planting of the first crops took place in March 2010 and there is now a 200 strong group of volunteers.

Su showed us around the site full of flowers, fruit and vegetables along with a garden pond, bird boxes, a tawny owl and a mandarin duck. They are renovating the potting shed and completed building a compostable toilet!

The public are welcome to visit on a Saturday morning and can buy a share of the morning's harvest at a very reasonable cost.

In July we visited Graham's kitchen gardens located at Manor House Farm. We were lucky to have a guided tour of the newly restored barn and extensive gardens including a newly planted orchard and one of his kitchen garden plots which is situated underneath a dove cote! Once again we were treated to tea and coffee along with a variety of home made cakes and biscuits baked by his wife Alma.

Our August meeting took us to David's garden at the top of Box Hill on

the day before the Prudential Ride London Surrey event. Brian our driver managed to avoid the cyclists practising before Sunday. David is new to vegetable gardening and has achieved success with his autumn planted onions. A lovely idea is that he has recently planted several fruit trees which will ensure a good supply of apples and pears over many years. Once again we enjoyed refreshments

Maurice kindly came to take a group photo showing the results of our hard labour over the past few months. We all enjoyed coffee, biscuits and a delicious home made lemon drizzle cake.

Learning about crop rotation and drawing up plans for our own plots for next year will be



sitting in his conservatory while we talked about our plans for future meetings.

Back to Bookham for our September meeting hosted by Brian. His raised beds are made from railway sleepers purchased at a knock down price and bespoke fruit cages have been made from an old Agriframe. His composting skills are well demonstrated by his three compost heaps and the end product is fantastic! He also showed us the Anderson Shelter still in good order along with the brick walls in his garden.

the main topic for discussion at our October meeting.

Anita Laycock



## Focus on Bookham U3A Groups

We are very fortunate to have a wide variety of groups, and hopefully, in the future even more. The aim of this feature is to give you some insight into how the groups work and what they do.

If you cannot find a group you would like to join and are interested in anything that you think others might too, let us know and we'll see what we can do. Some ideas include current affairs, are there players of instruments who would like to play with others. Do you have some equipment lurking in the garage, loft or under the bed that you would like to be used – lathe, knitting machine, sewing machine, would a group help to get you started or back into using it? Perhaps there is a group you would like to join but the day or time is inconvenient for you, so an additional group at a different time might be a good idea. We welcome your ideas and will help you to get something up and running. Recent new groups include: Tai Chi, Vegetable Growing, Bridge for Beginners.

*“If you cannot find a group you would like to join and are interested in anything that you think others might too, let us know”*

All groups are run by their members with an administrator who coordinates the meetings. Although some groups need to limit their numbers some can be fairly flexible so even if a group is full (and you do not fancy helping to

set up another one) see if there is a waiting list or if you could be invited occasionally when gaps occur through holidays etc – you may not get a regular place for a while but you might get to a number of meetings over the year.

In this edition we will be looking at the Literature, Wine Appreciation and Science & Technology groups. Next time will be History, Games and Walks.

Literature–Book Groups and the like

We have three book reading groups which meet in the afternoons. The groups meet in their members' homes so the groups are small but this means that the discussions are lively and everyone can join in. The books are usually borrowed from our very helpful library, so you don't have to buy a book that you wouldn't want to read again. They usually try to rate the books for content, style and enjoyment (although sometimes, depending on the book, enjoyment is substituted by interest). Most of the groups find that modern fiction dominates their choices but do have a wide range of other books including biographies, classics, historical novels, science fiction and even the occasional poetry meeting.

Last year among the books that Group 2 read were: The Reluctant Fundamentalist, The Rational Optimist, The Buddha in the Attic and Moon Tiger. This year Group 3 have on their programme: Marcus Zusak - The Book Thief, Anya Seaton – Katherine and Kate Atkinson – A god in Ruins.

Group 3 currently have some vacancies so please contact Viv Bignell if you would like to join.

If you fancy a book group focusing on science fiction, thrillers & crime or would like a morning or evening group let us know and we will see if there are any like-minded members.

If you would rather write than read we have a creative writing group or perhaps you really would like to read aloud and would consider play reading. The creative writing group often uses a single word as their given subject. Their writing may take the form of fact or fiction, dialogue, poetry or prose. They relish the humour in other people's writing, marvel at an unusual use of words, are moved by descriptions that touch the heart, and wonder at the ability of someone to enter another's world. The play reading group meets in member's homes. The host also acquires and returns the set of play copies required from Surrey Performing Arts located at Denbies Vineyard, Dorking. All members pay an annual nominal fee (£8) to cover the subscription and hire of these books. The number in the group will be limited in order to accommodate people comfortably. A wide variation of plays is encouraged. To be friendly and sociable as well as expanding the mind is our aim!

#### Wine Appreciation

*"There are no wine specialists – everyone is there to try a wide variety of wine"*

We appear to have a number of members who want to know more about wine and currently have flourishing groups (some with specific waiting lists) and a small group

of people waiting to get sufficient numbers to start another.

There are no wine specialists – everyone is there to try a wide variety of wine and to get to know types/regions better. Three groups meet in members' homes (don't be put off if you don't have enough room to host a group - there is always someone you can team up with). Another group meet at the pastoral centre of St Nicolas church. The largest group has 22 members and the smaller groups are 12. Usually 6 to 8 bottles are sampled along with simple bread and cheese or more elaborate nibbles to complement the wines and perhaps coffee to finish. The expenses for the evening are added together and then divided among the number of members attending. Often 10 meetings during the year are devoted to exploring the world of wines with one or two people choosing and presenting wines each month and often a different summer meeting – a BBQ or croquet evening and usually a Christmas party are held. Occasionally guest speakers or local wine merchants are invited to do a presentation or a visit to a vineyard, even trips abroad are arranged to ring the changes. Don't worry about the presentations or lack of knowledge about wines everyone at the group wants to learn and will help and support you.

Recent meetings have included wines from Europe (some

of the more obscure being Hungary, Czech Republic, Cyprus and Crete), North and South America, South Africa and the New World. Other themes have been rose wine, wines from M&S, pinot grigio and pinot noir from three different continents.

If you would like to join in a convivial evening and learn more about wines, finding those that you would like to try again and those that are not for you, contact us and we will try to get the next wine group up and running soon or contact any of the wine appreciation group leaders who will be happy to give you a more detailed over view of what their groups do.

There's also a rumour that a beer tasting group may be in the offing - look out for details at the September meeting.

#### Science and Technology

We have a group (and one waiting to get off the ground) with the title Science & Technology but there are also groups for Astronomy, IT & Digital Forum, Ipad and a Computing Workshop. There are also two Ornithology & Botany groups and a Metal detecting group which should/could be added into a science grouping.

The Science & Technology group is a lively discussion group which meets monthly in members houses. There is a programme of the main subjects but meetings start with a quick round up of issues that have come up during the previous month. Some subjects can be "heavyweight" but the meetings are never dull and there are a lot of laughs. Some of the subjects covered include computer science, robotics, space research, climate change, the human brain, the paranormal,

materials science, evolution & medical research. There are also some visits such as Brooklands, Leatherhead Recycling Depot, Mullard Space Laboratory and Surrey Space Centre. In 2014 the group attended the U3A annual science talks at the Royal Institution in their historic lecture theatre in Albemarle Street and the National Physical Laboratory's World Metrology Open Day in Teddington (just so that you know metrology is the science of measurement).

*"the meetings are never dull and there are a lot of laughs"*

The Astronomy group meets, as you would expect, in the evening. If you have a telescope, or even if you don't (yet!) this could be the group for you if you would like to explore the heavens, discuss space laboratories, the benefits that have come from space missions and current ideas on how our earth and the other planets were formed. There is also a Study Day on 20 November on modern developments in cosmology.

The computing groups cover different areas: the Computing Workshop's aim is to help people to improve their computing skills and understanding and to share their existing skills and experience with other members. Members are likely to be people that use a personal computer on most days and who have a working knowledge of the internet, email and word processing (this group does not cover Apple hardware or software). There is a programme to focus on

selected areas as raised by the members of the group. You do not need to have a laptop to take to the meeting but if you have one take it along.

The iPad User Group is open to Apple iPad users and those thinking about it. The iPad is not just for Apple computer users—it is compatible with PC computers as well. Every meeting provides time for questions and members are encouraged to show what they can do with their iPads and of course there are demonstrations of Apps (the programs that enable users to work on it—whatever your interest there may be an App for it).

The IT and Digital Forum - this is a self-help group for PC users but with a widened remit to try to keep abreast of the ever changing digital world around us. Recent sessions have covered electronic books, tablets, iphones, ipads, ipods, even DVD recorders as well as the usual discussions about broadband speeds, anti-virus packages, computer glitches and the like.

Have you ever wondered what that pretty little white flower you noticed on your walk across the downs is or which bird is making such a racket? John Dicker has two groups which meet during the summer months and the beginners' group stays locally with an undemanding walk with a view to identifying the birds, bird songs and flowers encountered. John also does two special meetings that have an early start: a birdsong walk on Bookham Common to hear hopefully 5 or 6 different warblers and perhaps a cuckoo, but the highlight is hearing the beautiful nightingale song (fingers crossed). The second is a visit to Queen Mary Reservoir, Laleham, where

they watch bird ringing in process. John's second group is primarily for more experienced members and often takes a day rather than an afternoon.

*“Details of all our groups, their current status, meeting days/times, contact phone numbers and e-mail addresses can be found on our web site.”*

Finally, one of our newest groups is metal detecting—is it science, history or a hobby? Recently the group has been on an organised dig which was a lovely day out in the Oxfordshire countryside. There were a few small finds, but the group was amazed to see just how much was discovered in two ploughed fields; maybe 100 old coins including a silver Roman denarii, fragments of lead vessels, buckles, spoons etc. One detectorist found 70 good items during the one day. If you fancy trying metal detecting the person to contact is Frances Fancourt.

Details of all our groups, their current status, meeting days/times, contact phone numbers and e-mail addresses can be found on our web site.

<http://bookhamdistrictu3a.org.uk/Groups/Groups.aspx> (you will need this year's password to log in)

*Lynn Farrell*

## The Croquet Group 2015

Croquet is not a game for the faint hearted but in the Bookham U3A Croquet group it's about having fun. The main group was formed in 2000 and presently consists of approximately 60 members who are divided into seven groups and we play timed sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays from April until October. We are lucky to be able to play on Polesden Lacey's challenging lawns, which surely must have the best views of almost any in the country.



*Trudi & Martin*

members of Surbiton Croquet club came to Polesden for a day of intensive coaching, a treat for players of all levels as there is always something new to learn or recall. Beginners are taught by our own enthusiastic group members Angie and Pam during weekly lessons and can soon progress to participate in the Golf Croquet Tournaments organized in May and July when Martin (group coordinator) carefully



*Iden Coleman & Angie*

matches players to suit their ability.

We enjoyed glorious sunshine during

In April,

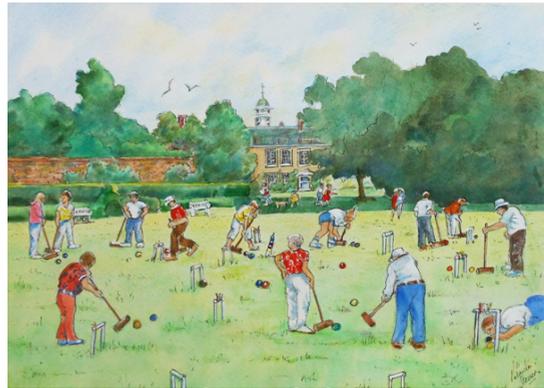
The Group Picnic in July, held in Martin and Trudi's beautiful garden where tables and chairs were placed near a six hoop croquet lawn. A happy afternoon was spent in good company, food and wine were plentiful and games of croquet not obligatory but most joined in and a great time was had by all.

August brought "taster



*Pam & Angie*

sessions" of croquet at Polesden on Saturday afternoons, given by members of the group to anyone who wishes to "have a go" and it proves popular every year. The white lines on the lawns are set out at the beginning of the season and painted weekly by a small rota of group members.



*Painting by Pat Stevens*

Martin organized a full day's Doubles Tournament in September and we enjoyed another picnic in the sun, at Polesden. A Tournament shield was there for winning, so although it is a relaxed day, each partnership had

their eyes on the prize (oh yes you did!) Experienced players are happy to coach their less knowledgeable playing partners - true sportsmanship! Angie and Nigel won the tournament in a tense shoot out and to much applause.

One Thursday in September sixteen of us accepted Martin's invitation to play croquet at Surbiton Croquet Club, where he and Trudi are members. Britain's premier Association Croquet event, the Open Championship, had been held there in July, with many of the best players from the UK and around the world competing; for us, it was friendly games on world class full size lawns, which seemed as flat as billiard table tops and huge compared to our regular ones. Balls were soon whizzing everywhere - mostly in straight lines with no rabbit poo to divert them! A big thank you to Surbiton Croquet

Club for allowing us to have the experience of their facilities and to Martin for organizing our group.

By the time you read this another croquet season will have ended and mallets put away until April (unless playing at Surbiton which is open all year). A club member echoed my thoughts, saying she wished she'd started playing ten years earlier - but it's never too late, if you wish to meet friendly people, enjoy an outdoor sport suitable for all ages, while having lots of fun (in fact as you'll have gathered, fun is obligatory) then croquet may be the game for you. Please see the U3A website/ croquet group or phone 01372 453565 for further information - enjoy!



Val Cross

## Perhaps we can do more of this? -----read on!

A good few years ago, our Alma Nicholls met Pauline Hawker; primarily because their husbands worked together. Their friendship has remained to this day, even though Pauline lives in Kent whilst as we know, Alma is here in Bookham, Surrey.

Coincidentally, both these friends have become deeply involved in the U3A, with Alma being one of our founder members, whilst Pauline has set up more than one U3A in Kent, including Pembury. Both these ladies have enjoyed walking in the countryside over the years, and although golf takes up a lot of Alma's time, nonetheless this is another interest that has kept their friendship going.

Leading on from all this, last Spring, Pauline had a brainwave. Pembury had already arranged a walking get-together

with another U3A from Chinnor near Oxford, following a chance meeting in Kent, so why not fix up another similar arrangement with Alma in Surrey, as quite a few of her Walking Group would love to spend, say, a long weekend enjoying the beauties of the Surrey countryside, which would make a lovely change?

This is where Jan & I started to come into the story, as Alma, knowing of our involvement with the Bookham Walking Groups,



## Bookham U3A AGM October 6th 2015

The 22nd AGM of Bookham and District U3A was held on Tuesday 6th October in front of a packed Old Barn Hall. The Chairman, Neil Carter, opened the proceedings. After welcoming everyone and signing last year's minutes, he asked the Treasurer, Chris Pullen, to present the Accounts. These had been previously audited by Mike Farrell and were adopted from the floor. Chris thanked Mike Farrell and explained that a new auditor would be required for next year as Mike is joining the committee.

Neil re-iterated the request for a new auditor and then gave the Chairman's report in which he thanked the various committee members individually for all their hard work in the last year, which had helped to make the U3A so successful. He also thanked those who held positions not on the committee, but who made such a difference to the smooth running of the monthly meetings. Neil then went on to give special thanks to the secretary, Pippa Carter, who is standing down after eleven years in the post.

This was followed by the Election of Officers and Committee.

Chairman	Neil Carter	Vice-Chairman	Lynn Farrell
Secretary	Gillian Arnold	Treasurer	Chris Pullen
Minutes Sec.	David Hyde	Membership Sec.	Pam Hyde
Groups Co-ord.	Peter Clarke	Outings	Sheila Pomfret
Webmaster	Harold Reglar	Speakers Sec.	Lyn Farrell
Newsletter	Maurice Baker	Social Sec.	Jan Dicker
Groups Co-ord. Assistant	Mike Farrell		

There being no other business, Peter Hudson thanked the Committee on behalf of the members for their continued hard work throughout the year and the meeting closed at 3.00pm.

*continued from page 15*

thought that we might be able to arrange a couple of walks on the day of Friday 25th September. One condition however was the Pembury Group wished to treat Alma, Graham, Jan & I to an evening meal at their hotel, namely The Thatchers at East Horsley.

Basically that is the end of the story, except to say that all went according to plan, blessed with beautiful weather. Jan led an 8 mile walk in the Box Hill area, whilst I led a 5 mile one on Ranmore in the morning, and Sheepleas in the afternoon, at the same time showing them

some of the local flora.

Not wishing to boast about our day, it definitely was a great success, and we were even entertained in the evening by their Ukelele Group! (Perhaps we should have one of those?!).

So as I said in the heading of this article, perhaps we could do more of this sort of thing in the future. There must be loads of things that could be considered.

*John Dicker*



## Bookham U3A Line Dancers at Village Day

The pictures show eleven dancers from Bookham U3A's two Line Dancing Groups, plus their teacher Kate, thoroughly enjoying performing on the grass arena of the Old Barn Hall field, on Village Day this year.

We danced to lively Country & Western music, which quickly attracted the attention of the crowd. They gave us enthusiastic applause as we raised our cowboy hats to them at the end of our 20 minute dance routine.

The Line Dancing Group started up after Easter in 2012. After we had done our first ever display for our U3A's 20th Birthday Celebrations on stage in the Barn Hall in October 2013, more interest from members was generated and at the beginning of this year a second (Beginners) Group was formed. People have been attracted to our Line Dancing classes from both Fetcham and Leatherhead U3A's. Fortunately for us, one of those Fetcham members proved to be a very



capable teacher and when our original teacher Kate, indicated in the summer that she was ready to leave us, Jean was there to step into her "teacher-dancing shoes".

Please note that men are also very welcome to join the classes. We have one very loyal male member who has been with us from the very beginning.



it the cowboys us Line

groups between pm each during times, in refurbished of Eastwick Reformed

After all, wasn't American who gave Dancing? The two meet 4.30 and 6.30 Wednesday school term the newly premises Road United Church.

Jean Broome has now taken over the leadership of the 2 groups. Her contact details are: [jean.broome@live.co.uk](mailto:jean.broome@live.co.uk) Tel: 453578 Elizabeth Hudson



## Cycling Group

The rule that rain is not allowed to fall on the third Friday of any month, has held since our season began in March. This is tempting providence with October and November still to come but we are ever optimistic. Over the year we have enjoyed a number of runs to our favourite watering holes, Brockham Green, West Horsley, Stamford Green on the edge of Epsom Common, Send and Pyrford, all in dry and sunny weather. We are so lucky to have

access to so many good byways and bridle paths and quiet country lanes so that we are able avoid busy roads. A number of new members have joined us and we have room for more, do come and give it a try.  
*Mike Withers*



## Muddled thinking?

Many of us experience muddled thinking with advancing age, but this was heard at the July meeting  
Person doing Registration -

"Please remember to collect your Senior Moments".

U3A member -

"Oh no. My Senior Moments is POSTED to me".

Could the person in question not have been aware of the cost of even second class posting these days? Furthermore, the whole reason the quarterly Senior Moments is published in

July, when the usual sequence would suggest August, is to avoid having to post copies to all members because there is no August meeting. We also don't move the whole publication programme along a month because the AGM falling in October allows SM to report the changes in the November issue.

The important point to all of this is to try to get to the meetings when SM is published, that is February, May, July and November and collect your copy, or arrange for it to be collected, thus saving all of us the high cost of posting copies to members.

# Out & About with Bookham U3A

## OUTINGS & THEATRE VISITS

Telephone Sheila Pomfret – 01372 454706

### Theatre matinees at Woking by coach from Bookham

(discounted tickets may be available without transport if you wish to make your own way)

**Thurs 19 November** OUTING by coach to BLENHEIM PALACE including the Living Crafts for Christmas Fair in the covered courtyard, as well as the Palace where the rooms are specially dressed for Christmas. Inclusive cost £26

Theatre matinees by coach

**Thurs 5 November** Northern Ballet Theatre's production of THE NUTCRACKER with music played by their own Sinfonia. At Woking R/Circle seat + coach £32

**Wed 3 February** Matthew Bourne's spectacular SLEEPING BEAUTY his unusual version of the ballet described as a Gothic Romance. At Woking R/Circle seat + coach £34

**Wed 2 March** Alan Bennet's comedy masterpiece SINGLE SPIES - (about Guy Burgess and Anthony Blunt). At Richmond Theatre ticket + coach £32

**Wed 9 March** THE LAST TANGO Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace dance together (for the last time?). At Woking R/Circle seat + coach approx. £34

**Tues 15 December** travel by train to National Theatre - AS YOU LIKE IT matinee in Olivier. Ticket concession price £20

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## U3A SURREY NETWORK STUDY DAYS at the Menuhin Hall

**20 November 2015**

Cosmology: big bang to big RIP?

**19 February 2016**

Turning Points in 20th Century Painting - Breaking the Mould

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## U3A Tuesday Monthly Meetings

**01 December 2015**

The Amazing World of Magic—John Field

**05 January 2016**

Treasures and the Tower— Garry Wykes

**02 February 2016**

Who do you think you are?— Nick Barrett



Jennifer Blackburn line dancing at the Village Day



Pembury walk



Croquet picnic



Line dancing at Village Day