



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Fairford & District  
Newsletter

Issue 252  
July/August  
2018

## Dog Psychology



**Alison Parker**

[www.fairfordu3a.org.uk](http://www.fairfordu3a.org.uk)

Registered Charity No 1072658

❖ Read the Newsletter online at [www.fairfordu3a.org.uk](http://www.fairfordu3a.org.uk) ❖

## Main Meeting

### 3 July: Dog Psychology

Alison Parker from Barking Mad gives us an insight into the world of dog training and pet care.

## Forthcoming Meetings

### 7 August: Outdoor meeting/Summer Social

This will be held at Lechlade Memorial Hall, 12.00-4.00pm. As usual, bring your own picnic. See notice below.

### 4 September: Quaint and Quirky in Gloucestershire

Angela Panrucker is back again; this time talking about strange things found in Gloucestershire and touching upon the fascinating history of nursery rhymes.

### 2 October: Up in the Clouds with some Fluffy Bits.

To describe Alan Brewer as 'well-travelled' would be something of an understatement. During a 38 year career with BA, this former steward and BBC chef has looked after Royalty, Prime Ministers, Pop Stars and Celebrities. In this light-hearted presentation, Alan shares with us some of his interesting encounters and anecdotes.

## Saddle-sore in Montana

or

Chance by name and chance by nature.

Our hilarious speaker Ann Chance, who learned to pilot a plane when she was 56, described how she went on to learn to ride a horse at the age of 64 in order to satisfy a hankering she had nurtured since she was eight years old. She wanted to experience a cattle drive in the Badlands of Montana. Once her family was fledged she realised she now had the chance to seize the opportunity. Dressed in a characteristic cowboy outfit including a Stetson, she swept her audience through the learning processes, out onto the prairies and into the thick of riding for seven hours at a stretch, herding cattle with enormous horns in unbearably high temperatures.

There were compensating moments such as sleeping under the stars, scary ones when confronted by bulls and embarrassing ones, such as no 'conveniences' - but they allowed her to indulge her delight in being a touch raunchy in her presentation. Altogether she made five trips; two to Montana, two to Wyoming and one to Oklahoma. We were left in no doubt what hard work they all were but her dramatic skills, hearty laugh and panache of a 'stand-up' comedian must have been a great help.

Proceeds from her book 'Chance of a Lifetime' go to charitable causes.

Sylvia Jones

## August 2018 Outdoor meeting - Summer Social

Tuesday 7th August 2018 at 12.30 - 4.00 pm at the new Lechlade Memorial Hall

The meeting will take the form of a bring-your-own-picnic in the Hall. Tables and chairs are there, as are kitchen facilities for tea/coffee etc. Should the weather be fine, there are grassy areas around the Hall, but if you wish to sit outside later, you should bring something to sit on!

Entertainment is planned in the form of quizzes and Boccia, but mainly come and enjoy good company and a jolly afternoon, hopefully meeting new people.

Directions: Lechlade Memorial Hall (GL7 3AY) is about 5 miles from Fairford. So from Fairford take the A417 to Lechlade, and after the traffic lights follow the road round to your left which is the Burford road. Pass the Medical centre on your right and the Memorial Hall is signposted on your left. There is plenty of parking next to the hall.

Marilyn Yates



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The school summer holidays will shortly start and so will the grandparenting duties for many of us! I do hope that you will have time to join us for the August event at the Lechlade Memorial Hall which is open to all members – including the grandchildren! The notice about this event is in the forthcoming meetings section of this Newsletter. The new Memorial Hall is quite something and a great asset for Lechlade and the surrounding area.

Our New Members' meeting which was held on 4 June saw a few interested people who walked in 'off the street' – one of whom joined on the spot – and some of our new members who have recently joined. The meeting spawned the idea for two new groups – Table Tennis for those who are absolute beginners and also a debating group which could prove interesting. Carole McDerment, our Group Co-Ordinator, gives more details in this Newsletter.

The Group Leaders who attended discovered that they did not really know in detail what the other groups did, so it was a lively meeting where ideas and events were discussed while we tucked into the refreshments provided. Some of the Group Leaders made a great effort to bring examples of what they did with them – thank you to all particularly those who struggled with large model boats and other bulky items!

Enjoy the holidays, one and all.

Marilyn Gibbon - Chairman  
01285 713928  
chairman@u3afairford.org.uk



### SS Great Britain

*20 July 2018*

Reminder from the Trip Co-ordinator  
Please remember, the coach will leave  
Fairford Church at  
**9.00 a.m.**  
on 20 July.

Sue Martin  
01285 851300  
sue.martin@waitrose.com

### Message from the Trip Co-ordinator

#### Trip to Bletchley Park

A trip is being arranged to Bletchley Park on 2 November 2018, approximate cost £25 per person. There will be more information in the September newsletter.

Sue Martin  
01285 851300  
sue.martin@waitrose.com

### Tea Rota

August : Outdoor  
September : Strollers  
October : Table Tennis  
November : Walk with a pub lunch

### Welcome to New Members

Sue and Frank Middleton

### Jeanne Watkins

It was with much sadness that we heard of the death of Jeanne Watkins recently. Jeanne had been a member of the French Group since its inception about 20 years ago and hosted a French group at her home for many years. She will be greatly missed by all of us.

Sandra Hoaksey

## New Groups

**CURRENT AFFAIRS** A new member has suggested setting up a group on Current Affairs. Details of venues and topics for discussion to be decided. If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact me in the first instance.

**BEGINNER'S TABLE TENNIS** It has been proposed to set up a new Table Tennis group for either complete beginners or those who haven't played in a long time. It will be in the community Centre and the Start time 11.30 finish time 12.30. Beginning Friday 7th September and then on a weekly basis. Cost £1 per session. If you are interested in joining us to get fitter or just have a bit of fun, please get in touch by email or phone.



Carole McDerment  
01285 711354  
groupco-ordinator@fairfordu3a.org.uk

## Turkey & Tinsel 2018

Sorry about the typing error in last month's News Letter; the price should have been **£259.00**

Solos are hopefully organising a Turkey and Tinsel Weekend from Friday November 30th until Monday 3rd December. It will be at Folkstone, Kent staying at the Burlington Hotel. On the journey down we will stop at Rochester, then on to Folkstone. On Saturday we hope to go to Canterbury and on Sunday a trip on the Hythe / Dymchurch railway across the Marshes, then to Rye. On the way home we hope that there will be a stop off at Windsor. The cost being £259.00, provided we get a minimum of 10 people. (Unfortunately there is a single room supplement of £45.00)

If anyone is interested enough to join our crazy group, please contact Michael Johnson by e-mail [sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01285712637 or see me at the general meeting.

Mike Johnson  
01285 712637 [sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk)

## Solos Holiday - Isle of Wight 2019

The Solos group is organizing a 6-day, 5-night holiday with Barnes Coaches starting on Sunday 9 June until Friday 14 June 2019 to the Isle of Wight at a cost of £415 each. We have reserved 24 front of coach seats, although they could be added to if necessary.

This offer is open to everyone. If anybody is interested in joining us, please contact me by e-mail at:

[sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01285 712637.

(Leave a message on the answer phone if necessary and I will get back to you.)

Michael Johnson

## Dorothy Banham

Old members of the U3A will be sorry to hear of the death of Dorothy Banham, a long-term active member of the U3A and leader of the first Book Group. She died in Exeter Hospital on June 11th, at the age of 91. The funeral service will be held at St Peter's church, Filkins on July 6th at 3pm.

Joyce Deane

## GROUP REPORTS

### Anglo Saxon Poetry

For our May meeting, we convened at the Cricklade Museum, where we were welcomed by Pam Debenham. Pam led us on a walk round Cricklade, pointing out its many features of historical interest. Although there is evidence of a Roman settlement, Cricklade is generally thought of as being founded in Anglo-Saxon times. At a couple of points on our walk, we encountered a slight rise in the landscape which marked the defensive walls of the Saxon town. St Sampson's church, located at the highest point in the town, has its origin in pre-conquest times and there are fragments of the original Saxon church embedded in the current wall.

As a poetry group, it was interesting to encounter a couple of unfamiliar words, which have their origins in Old English: meer stone (boundary stone) and haga (an enclosed plot of land).

After the walk we returned to the museum to look at the exhibits. By lucky chance there was a temporary exhibition of Saxon coins minted in Wiltshire, including a King Canute coin, which was minted in Cricklade's own mint.

We are grateful to Pam for providing us with an insight into Cricklade and its historical past.

Iris Anne Lewis

### Book Circle 1

This month, June, we read 'All the Light We Cannot See' by the American author Anthony Doerr, which won a Pulitzer prize. He was inspired to write the story after hearing a man complaining about cell phone coverage on a train, which made him realise how miraculous radio was. He built on this with a subsequent visit to St Malo in France, discovering the deep cellars that many houses had, where people could survive for days.

The book follows the lives of two children, whose fates are intertwined by World War Two. One is a French girl, Marie-Laure, who tragically goes blind, but whose loving father does his best to teach her how to survive in her dark world. The other child is a German boy, Werner, who is brought up in an orphanage with his sister but has a real gift for making radios. The story then takes us through their teenage years, which encompass the war. Although their paths are very different, Marie-Laure as a refugee from Paris and then living in St Malo, Werner learning new skills at school in Germany and then in the Army in Eastern Europe, their paths cross when he is posted to St Malo towards the end of the war.

Although quite a long book, we all enjoyed it. We found it believable as it transported us to what it was like in a town like St Malo as the war drew to a close. We also found that the book showed that humanity exists, even in the most difficult of circumstances. We also thought that the story was balanced as it showed the reality of war from both sides. Apparently, the author wrote the beginning, middle and ending simultaneously, which to some extent explained why some of us found the 'time jumps' a little confusing sometimes. There were many themes which gave the book substance, and his style of writing, which included mainly short chapters, made this book a very good read.

Marilyn Yates

## Book Circle 2

'Hag-Seed' by Margaret Atwood. This is Margaret Atwood's retelling of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. It is a remarkable contrast to her other fiction such as 'The Handmaid's Tale' because it is playful, set in the present day and hopeful about the future. It describes a production of 'The Tempest' in a prison. The prisoners are a great collection of characters, persuaded by the producer to help him exact revenge on a former academic colleague who lost him his job. It led to some interesting discussion. One member pointed out how the setting in a prison replicated the closed world of an island, and also suggested that Ariel and Caliban represent the good and evil in Prospero. The whole group found it a really enjoyable read.

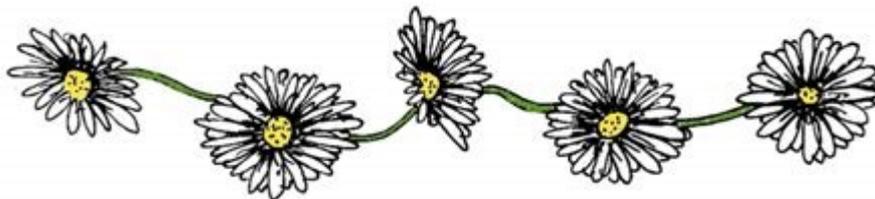


Miriam Scott

## Cycling with a Pub Lunch

On Thursday 31 May the day was quite warm and we had already cruised up into Farringdon and Coleshill, which of course were followed by some exhilarating downhills. Then after the gentle pull up into 'The Saracens Head' at Highworth we were ready for our lunch and an alcoholic beverage. The food was very good. Five of us had set out from Southrop (welcome back Ian), on a ride led by Dave. After lunch we set out for Hannington, then Kempsford, and then we went our various ways home. Pete had the routine puncture, but fortunately it was the front wheel, so just a quick tube change. Quite a long ride in glorious weather. As ever, thanks for coming.

Paul O'Shaughnessy.



## Pétanque

A couple of people have asked us if the game of Boules is the same as Pétanque and hopefully this will attempt to clarify the reason for the different name. A Boule is the name given to the steel ball which is used, and Boules is the name given to any game which uses them, and there are several different ones played all over France.

Pétanque originated in Provence and literally means 'fixed feet' (to the ground) which is the starting position for any throw. (It does mean both feet) The coche (or jack) is short for the cochonnet, which literally translates to 'little pig' - sometimes the literal meaning is lost in translation!

Heather and Dave Baber



## Philosophy

We had a changed format this month. Members of the group were asked to give a short talk on a philosopher of their choice. I have listed the choices below. (Notes came from Bertrand Russell's "History of Western Philosophy".)

Leibniz: Was one of the supreme intellects of all time. He was industrious, frugal, temperate and financially honest. It was Leibniz who invented the doctrine that "everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds".

Hobbes: He was an empiricist and an admirer of mathematical method, both pure and applied. He claimed that reason is not innate, but it is developed by industry.

Persig: Quality, or value, as described by Persig cannot be defined because it empirically precedes any intellectual construction, namely that quality exists always as a perceptual experience before it was ever thought of descriptively or accurately.

Epicureus: Founded a great new school of the Hellenistic period. His philosophy was primarily to secure tranquillity. He considered pleasure to be good and adhered to all the consequences of this view.

Machiavelli: Supreme eminence in political philosophy, which was scientific and empirical and based on his own experience.

Dan Deane

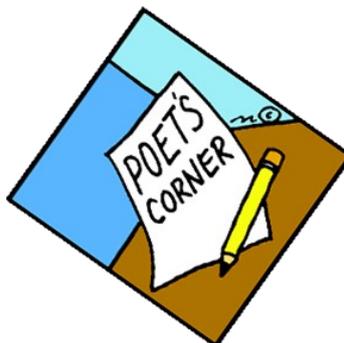
## Poetry Group One

Our June subject, 'The Gods,' was interpreted by most of us as referring to the gods of Ancient Greece and Rome. We heard poems about Pan, Psyche, Venus, Aphrodite, Apollo and Eros. It was a section from Oscar Wilde's poem 'The Garden of Eros' which surprised and delighted us most. The poet's loving and detailed descriptions of many of our English garden flowers was so different and gentler than our expectations of the great satirist.

Others of our readers had been more adventurous in their interpretation of the subject. We chuckled over 'Toast,' by an anonymous poet who toasted the charms of a gorgeous, athletic golfing goddess, the first female to stride the links of a hitherto all male golf club and we laughed again at Carol Ann Duffy's account of the man with the golden touch, as told by his cynical wife in 'Mrs Midas'.

Our final poem finished the session perfectly. We listened to the famous 'The Green Eye of the Little Yellow God', by J. Milton Hayes, a sad tale read as the poet had intended without parody.

Joyce Deane



### **Walking with a Pub Lunch**

The weather as forecast, a beautiful sunny morning. A small but nonetheless select group gathered at The Daneway Inn at Sapperton. Very dry terrain throughout, no heavy boots required and stunningly beautiful scenery. We managed the steepish first stage with no difficulty and skirted round the edge of Far Oakridge then navigated around a very large fallen tree before we got to Oakridge where we stopped for a Group Photograph by the War Memorial; then on through the village and the descent into Strawberry Banks Nature reserve.

We then picked up the path that led us back to the Daneway, probably a mile and a half through Siccavage Wood Nature Reserve, past a stretch of the old Thames & Severn canal and to a splendid lunch in the pub garden. A very convivial morning, I very much enjoyed your company.

Michael Yorke

### **Solos**

#### **Saturday 19 May The 30th Barnsley Village Garden Festival.**

It was gorgeous weather and we were all dressed to get a sun tan. Lunch consisted of sausage in a bun or beef burgers, both very tasty, followed by the most delicious cakes, all hand made. Later we went to the church to be entertained by 'Splash of Red' and two very good piano players. The gardens were visited but unfortunately, we did not win any prizes in the Cricket Club raffle.

We spent a very enjoyable day in Barnsley which was attended by a lot of people despite a Royal Wedding.

Elaine Tucker

#### **24 May Westonbirt**

Seven of us visited Westonbirt and the weather was kind. Of course, the first visit was to the cafe for coffee or hot chocolate, two of our members hired Buggies (so the walkers had to keep well out of the way). We then walked round to see the rhododendrons and azaleas which were beautiful. Then it was back to the café for lunch before going over the tree top walk and into the silk walk then back to the café for tea and home. We all enjoyed a very nice day out.

Mike Johnson

#### **29 May The Falcon**

Fourteen of us enjoyed a very pleasant fun evening at one of our favourite eating places.

Mike Johnson



## GROUP MEETINGS

Please contact the group leaders if you are interested in joining any of the groups, or visit [www.fairfordu3a.org.uk](http://www.fairfordu3a.org.uk) for further information.

### Anglo-Saxon Poetry

*Thursday 26 July*

We shall meet at my house at 10.30am. Please let me know if you are unable to come.

Miriam Scott  
01285 713441

### Bridge Improvers Summer 2018

*Mondays*

The group will continue to meet every Monday afternoon throughout July from 2 to 4 pm in the Heritage room, Fairford Community Centre, for a lesson and friendly practice play. We shall take a summer break during August and re-start, all being well, on the first Monday in September. We have been working on some fairly advanced aspects of defence but will be going back to basics in September.

If you play bridge and would like to improve, come and join us; we are a friendly and informal group, making mistakes and learning together.

Partners and refreshments provided.

Please contact me for full holiday details.

Margaret Bishop  
01285 238834  
mbishop1@timetalk.co.uk

### Book Circle 1

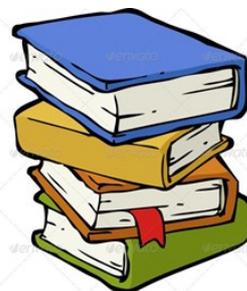
*Tuesday 10 July*

We shall meet at Eileen Ryan's house, at 2pm, to discuss 'An Unsung Hero' by Michael Smith.

*Tuesday 14 August*

We shall meet at my house, at 2pm, to discuss 'The Child in Time' by Ian McEwan. Please let me know if you cannot come to either meeting

Sheila Morgan  
01285 810471



### Book Circle 2

*Tuesday July 10*

The group meet at 2.30pm at the home of Rosemary and Ian Westlake to discuss 'Birdcage Walk' by Helen Dunbar. If you cannot come to the meeting, please will you let Ian and Rosemary know.  
01285 712329 idrwestlake@gmail.com

*Tuesday 14 August*

The group meet at 2.30pm at Ann's home, to discuss 'Sarah's Key' by Tatiana de Rosnay. Please contact Ann or me if you cannot come.  
Jane Pugh  
01285 712184 pughtajm@gmail.com

### Birdwatching

*Tuesday 17 July*

The visit this month is to the WWT reserve at Slimbridge, where there has been a number of additions to the bird population, including three crane families. Lunch will be taken on site in the cafe, and afterwards we shall visit the further hides, at least those who wish to make a full day of the visit. Meet at the Fairford Car Park at 9.00am to arrange lifts. Suggested passenger donation £3.00. The August visit will be circulated at a later date.

Mick and Jo Jones  
Geoff Dennis 01285 712195 bethandgeoff@yahoo.com

## Creative Writing

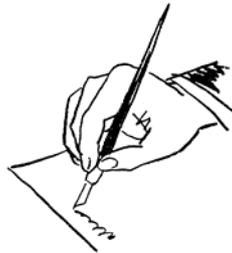
*Fridays*

We have an excellent small group who are enjoying the activities but we would welcome any new members.

We meet every Friday morning from 10.00am to 11.30am.

Please contact me for more details.

Jo Stichbury  
01285 239152



## Chess

Do you know how to play chess? If not, have you ever thought about learning? Why not join us and give it a try?

We play for fun and do not take it too seriously whether we win or lose, and it is a good way to keep the grey matter ticking over.

We meet once a month, usually on a Wednesday afternoon, start with a chat over tea and biscuits, and play for a maximum of about an hour-and-a-half.

Please contact me if you are interested or would like more information.

Mike Bennett  
01367 252379  
mish252379@btinternet.com

## Cycling with a Pub Lunch

*Thursday 26 July*

We shall be tootling through the delightful village of Sherborne on this ride, alongside the river on quiet lanes. There is a gentle ascent up to the A40 but that is followed by a delightful downhill cruise past Lodge Park. A left turn will give us a further freewheel, and after a right turn we shall be at 'The Sherborne Arms', one of our regular and consistently good hostelryes. We shall get there via Gt Barrington, and home will be on several routes but all through Coln St Aldwyns.

We shall meet at Coln coffee shop at 10:30 am, I suggest you bring some sun tan cream. I would appreciate knowing if you are cycling.

*Thursday 23 August*



We are going on a bike ride. Hooray!  
Not sure how far it is Boo!  
Far enough to work up a thirst. Hooray!  
But lunch might be at a cafe. Boo!  
There's a nice cafe at Aston Pottery. Hooray!  
It's a fair ride and you might get tired. Boo!  
On a warm day we can take our time. Hooray!  
Long way back after a nice lunch. Boo!  
We can do it though. Hurray!

Meet at the new Lechlade Memorial Hall at 10:30 am. I would appreciate knowing if you are joining us.

Paul O'Shaughnessy  
01367 850262.  
paulatsscissor@btinternet.com

## Computer Group

*Tuesdays*

We meet every week on Tuesday mornings at my home where I aim to help members in the use of computers, the internet and more. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact me and you will be welcome.

If you have your own laptop, please bring it along as it is better to learn on your own computer.

For those just starting, I have a modern Windows laptop computer that is available for members to use.

Nick Humphris  
01285 711740



## Garden Group

*Thursday 26 July*

Ampney Brook House is the venue for this month's visit. On a previous visit the owner produced a large cake and a bottle of wine, but I do not expect this to happen this time. The garden is the invention of the owner, although the gardener does most of the work. The special use of trees provides a backdrop for the more formal parts of the garden. Meet Fairford Car Park at 2.00pm or at the house to this side of Ampney Crucis at 2.15pm.

*Thursday 23 August*

Garden Party. To be held at Joyce Deanes house in Poulton from 2.30pm. Details to be circulated later.

Beth and Geoff Dennis  
01285 712195  
bethandgeoff@yahoo.com

## Dance to Five Rhythms

*Wednesday 18 July 15 August*

We dance regularly at the Palmer Hall on the third Wednesday of the month at 10.00am.

New members welcome. Come and move to the music!

Joyce Deane  
01285 851408

## French Groups 2 & 3

There are now three French Groups.

Groups 2 and 3 are for those who feel reasonably confident about holding a conversation albeit with some vocab help from other members! We make use of 'La Vie Outre-Manche', an excellent magazine written almost entirely in French for groups like ours. We read aloud an assigned few pages every week and then discuss the articles (and any other subject!)

French Group 2 is hosted either by Carole McDerment or Jean Crowley.

French Group 3 usually meets at the home of Jane Pugh or Alison Wilson.

Please contact the following people for information about when and where the Groups are meeting each week:

Carole McDerment French 2 - 01285 711354

Jean Crowley - French 2 - 01285 711775

Alison Wilson – French - 3 01285 711574

For details of **French Group I** please see page 12.

## Geology

*4 July, No August meeting*

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5 September at Fairford United Church, Milton Street at 2:30 pm.

New members will be most welcome.

Clive Watson. 01285 713003.

## **French 1**

*Mondays 2, 16 July, 6, 20 August*

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month in the Barker Room of the Community Centre from 11.00am until noon.

This longstanding and friendly group aims to help members brush up on 'O' Level French, hopefully improving fluency, when speaking the language.

Our meetings are great fun. We enjoy sharing a friendly conversation at a fairly simple level and learn from the book 'Voici' and the accompanying CD recordings.

The group is currently full.

Sandra Hoaksey  
01367 253243  
shoaksey@aol.com

## **Keep Fit**

*Tuesdays*

We meet in the Palmer Hall on Tuesday each week at 9.15am.

Chris Pooley  
01367 250346



## **Industrial Heritage**

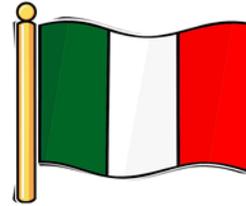
For details of this month's activities please contact:

Pete Evans  
01285 713069  
pete.whooper@hotmail.co.uk

## **Italian**

I would be pleased to hear from anybody who would be willing to start an Italian Group.

Carole McDerment  
Group Co-ordinator  
01285 711354  
groupco-ordinator@fairfordu3a.org.uk



## **Latin**

*Thursdays 5 July*

The group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm at my house.

Please contact me if you are unable to come.

Susan Greig  
01285 810274

## **Model Group**

*Thursdays*

The Model Group meets weekly on Thursday mornings.

Please contact me for details.

Jim Sullivan  
01367 252539

## **Music Listening**

*Friday 20 July*

We meet at 2.30pm and our subject for the afternoon will be 'a non-classical piece of music', so bring along a piece of relevant music for the occasion.

Please let me know if you are unable to come.

Gillian Bilbrough  
01285 712579

## MahJong

*Thursdays 5, 19 July, 2 September*

The MahJong Group meets in the Barker Room at Fairford Community Centre for two hours from 10.00am on the first and third Thursdays of the month. July will be a 'free' month as our finances are healthy. Our session on the 19 July will be the last for our Third Season so special rules for the day !

Our Fourth Season will start on the 2 September when we are planning to add some more special hands. Although our group is now full we are always pleased to accommodate guest players for anybody who wishes to experience the game and join our waiting list.

Alan & Linda Eagle

01285 712515

alane2004@btinternet.com

## Needlework

*Wednesdays 4, 25 July and 8, 22 August*

We meet at the Fairford Community Centre from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. This group brings together many different skills under the heading of 'Needlework'; we are a friendly group and enjoy our sessions.

Contact:

Pauline Jones  
01285 851212

## Philosophy

*Wednesday July 18. There will be no August meeting*

Our July meeting will be at David's house. As we thought we might continue with the previous format I would appreciate some suggestions as to subject.

Dan Deane  
01285 851408

## Poetry Circle 1

*Friday 6 July*

The group usually meets on the first Friday of the month at 2.30pm when we read and enjoy poetry and verse of all kinds.

Anyone interested in joining us would be most welcome.

Barbara Cottam  
01285 711054

## Postcards

*Tuesday 17 July*

This month's meeting will be at the usual venue at 2.30pm and will include our six-card story session and we will also decide then whether or not to meet in August.

John Higgs  
01285 712488



## Poetry Circle 2

*Friday 6 July, 7 September*

In July we meet at Gillian's house at 2.30pm to read poetry about 'The Seaside'. There will be no meeting in August. In September we will meet at Doreen's to read poetry by Pam Ayres. If you are unable to come, please contact:

Helen Evans 01285 713431

## Quilting

Wednesday 4 July

Please contact group leader for details of August meeting.

Freda Lang 01285 713331

### **Pétanque**

We play every Tuesday and Wednesday morning on the piste at Farmor's school.

At present the groups are full but we have a waiting list.

Our Pétanque groups have been invited to a friendly match at Wootton Bassett in July on their new piste, so a good experience for everyone, especially those going to the Isle of Wight in October. Always good to play on a different terrain. Hopefully the sun will shine because it is on a Wednesday which continually seems to be one of the worse days of the week as far as weather is concerned.

Emails regarding the visit will be sent out shortly to all members.

Heather and Dave Baber  
01285 711343

### **Scottish Reels**

Our 2018/19 will start on Wednesday 19 September.

Contact me for more details.

Richard Thompson 01285 712123  
richard@richardandcarol.net

### **Scrabble**

There will be no Scrabble until Thursday 4 October.

Kathleen Price  
01285 712417

### **Spanish**

*Wednesdays*

This group is no longer suitable for beginners so any newcomers will need to know some Spanish already.

We meet at my home on Wednesday afternoons. Please contact me if you would like to join.

Linda Aston 01285 810900  
ltaston@gmail.com

### **Recorders**

*Fridays 13, 27 July*

We start with anyone who would like to play the treble (from 2.00pm to 2.30pm) followed by the main group to finish at 4.30pm with a break for tea.

We will be in the Heritage Room on the ground floor of the Fairford Community Centre and will let you know if we have to use another room. As usual, we will be playing a varied selection of music arranged for Descant, Treble, Tenor and Bass with the addition of Great and Contrabasses in the occasional piece.

If there are any more recorder players (no matter how rusty) who would like to join a friendly, non-judgemental group you would be very welcome. please contact:

Hilary Bradshaw 01367 860030  
hilary@burytown15.co.uk

Jay Mathews 01367 860869  
jaymathews124@mac.com

(We have some spare instruments and stands; please ask if you would like to borrow one.)

### **Short Tennis**

*Mondays*

This group meets in the Palmer Hall every Monday between 3.00pm and 5.00pm. As we only have one court we often cannot accommodate new players, so if interested please speak to me first.

Margaret Trickett  
01285 712421



### Rummikub



We meet on the second Thursday of the month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm for some friendly games of Rummikub.

The venue is the Heritage Room in the Fairford Community Centre.

Jean Freeth  
01285 713570

Lilian Pooley  
01367 250346

### Table Tennis

*Wednesdays and Fridays*

Sessions are held in the Keble Room in the Fairford Community Centre on Wednesdays from 2.30pm and Fridays from 10.00am.

Players of all abilities are welcome.

Wednesday Group Leader Nick Stroude  
01295 521067

Friday Group Leader Barry Aylett-Warner  
01367 253788

### Solos

*Mondays 2 July, 6 August, 3 September*

To be held at Val's house at 2.30pm.

Gentleman especially welcome

Michael Johnson  
01285 712637  
sanaelma@yahoo.co.uk

### Yoga

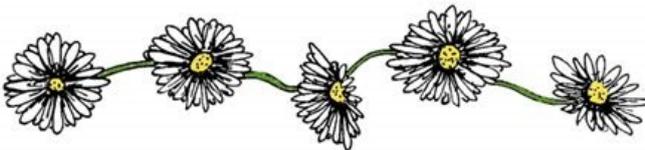
*Mondays and Thursdays*

Classes meet weekly in the Community Centre:

Yoga 1 on Mondays at 10.00am in the Farmor room.

Yoga 2 on Thursdays at 10.30am in the Keble room.

Sylvia Jones  
01285 712657



### Photo Album

If you have any interesting photographs of U3A activities please pass them to Ann Wightman for inclusion in the album.

01285 712723

### Members

Should you change your email address or any other detail will you please let me know so that our records can be kept up to date.

Sue Jonson: Membership Secretary  
MembershipSec@fairfordu3a.org.uk  
0774 392 3089



## Walking Groups

Walk leaders- please specify the length of the walk in your description.  
Members and Guests taking part in these walks do so at their own risk.



### Strollers

*Friday 27 July*

This month's walk will start from the exquisite location of the Stanton House Hotel. Leaving the picturesque garden of the hotel leads us to our circular route around the nature reserve of Stanton Country Park of approx. 3.5 miles, with excellent hardstanding footpaths and trails around woodlands and lake. Apart from crossing a grazing field with sheep, this is a very easy underfoot going walk with no stiles and no inclines.

Meet at Fairford car park at 9.30am, or the Stanton House Hotel (SN6 7SD) car park at 10am, to pre-book our lunches. Recommended passenger donation £1.

Ann Wightman 01285 712723  
Jackie Ephgrave 01285 713277  
Bert Sampson 01285 712789

*Friday 24 August*

Our walk this month will be a 4-mile circular walk around the lovely village of Bibury. We will follow a stretch of the River Coln, take paths and tracks through the Bibury Court estate and walk through arable fields and sheep pastures. Some hills but nothing too strenuous. Walking boots advised depending on the weather.

Meet at Fairford Car park at 09:30 or at the 'Catherine Wheel', Bibury postcode GL7 5ND at 09:50 to commence walking at 10am. Suggested passenger fee £1.00.

Reg Thoburn 01285 712397

### Striders

*Tuesday 24 July*

The July Striders walk starts from the Rose and Crown in Ashbury (<http://www.roseandcrownashbury.com>), about 3 miles south of Shrivenham and 15 miles from Fairford, on Tuesday 24 July. We meet as normal at the Fairford car park at 9.15 and get to the pub in good time to order lunch, use the facilities, and start the walk around 10am.

The 6.3-mile walk goes north west along a minor road before joining a footpath leading to Idstone and Bishopstone. From the 13thC church in Bishopstone we go past the picturesque village pond, until we reach a minor road and onto a track which leads up to the Ridgeway. We follow the Ridgeway path for just over 2 miles before taking a footpath NW, which goes downhill through another picturesque valley to the B4057 and back to the pub. An offer of £1.50 will help your driver's fuel costs if you don't drive. Please let me know if you plan to walk by Sunday 22 July, or if you plan to go direct to the pub.

John Burrows  
Tel: 01367 253056  
[john@burrows44.plus.com](mailto:john@burrows44.plus.com)

## Straddlers

*Thursday 19 July*

This walk takes us to the Stanton/Snowhill area where the views are magnificent. The walk takes 3.5 hrs and is 6.5 miles long starting from the car park in Stanton village. The walk starts with a steady climb partly on the Cotswold way before descending into Snowhill village. We then head north to rejoin the Cotswold way with another gentle climb then slowly descending back into Stanton village. The walk is a figure of eight configuration, little road walking, two or three good quality stiles and quite a few kissing gates. There are no old barns or church porches on the route so packed lunches can be taken to meet groups wishes.

We should meet at 9.00 am at Fairford car park as it is an hour's drive and aim to leave soon after. Suggested donation is £2.50.

Bob Nicholls  
01285-810289  
robertmnicholls44@gmail.com

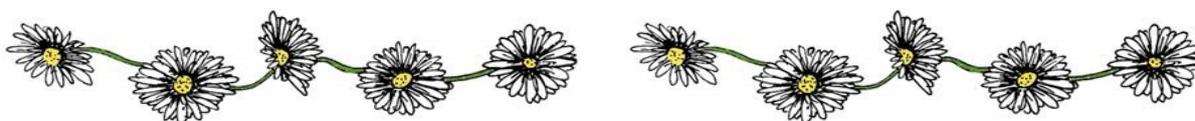
*Thursday 16 August*

The August walk is based at Castle Combe in Wiltshire. The walk is just over 7miles and starts from the car park above the village of Castle Combe. The car park is FREE, and seems to have ample space. The terrain is undulating but not challenging. Most of the paths are tracks including some sections of minor roads. The route passes close to the famous racing circuit, part of a golf course, and through the tiny village itself. It is a beautiful path with woodland tracks and open vistas.

Remember to bring a packed lunch and plenty to drink if needed. The best route there seems to be the A429, Chippenham road, then west along minor roads to Castle Combe to the car park; just over 30 miles. There is NO parking in the village itself.

Meet, either at the car park in Fairford at 9:15 am or at the car park above Castle Combe at 10:15am. I suggest a shared petrol cost of £3:00. Please let me know if you can make the walk.

Clive Watson 01285 713003  
clive.watson@hotmail.co.uk



## Walking with a Pub Lunch

*Wednesday 11 July*

Last time we planned this walk it rained all morning and it was called off, therefore we will attempt it again! It is an easy walk of about four miles up one side of the Leach valley and down the other side. No stiles unless the farmer has tied up the gates and it should be completed in two hours. We will see beautiful scenery and two lovely churches.

Meet at Fairford car park at 10.00am or the Victoria Arms at Eastleach (tel 01367 850277) at 10.15am to order lunch before we depart. Suggested passenger donation £0.50p. Let's hope the weather is fine this time! Fingers crossed.

Alan Topham  
01285 713928

Please send items for the  
**September Newsletter**  
 by 17 August to  
 Sarah Bottomley  
 editor@fairfordu3a.org.uk

**Dates for your Diary 2018**

Tuesday	20 July	Visit to SS Great Britain.
Tuesday	7 August	Outdoor meeting
Friday	2 November	Bletchley Park
Friday	30 November	Turkey & Tinsel.
Monday	10 December	Christmas Lunch.

Editor this month - Heather Holwell

<b>JULY</b>		
Monday	2	Bridge, French 1, Short Tennis, Solos, Yoga 1
Tuesday	3	GENERAL MEETING, Computers, Keep Fit, Pétanque 2
Wednesday	4	Geology, Needlework, Pétanque 1, Quilting, Spanish, Table Tennis 1
Thursday	5	Latin, MahJong, Models, Yoga 2
Friday	6	Creative Writing, Poetry 1&2, Table Tennis 2
Monday	9	Bridge, Short Tennis, Yoga 1
Tuesday	10	Book Circles, Computers, Keep Fit, Pétanque 2
Wednesday	11	Pétanque 1, Spanish, Table Tennis 1, Walk with Pub Lunch
Thursday	12	Models, Rummikub, Yoga 2
Friday	13	Creative Writing, Recorders, Table Tennis 2
Monday	16	Bridge, French 1, Short Tennis, Yoga 1
Tuesday	17	Birdwatching, Computers, Keep Fit, Pétanque 2, Postcards
Wednesday	18	Dance 5 Rhythms, Needlework, Pétanque 1, Spanish, Table Tennis 1
Thursday	19	MahJong, Models, Straddlers, Yoga 2
Friday	20	Creative Writing, Music Listening, Table Tennis 2
Monday	23	Bridge, Short Tennis, Yoga 1
Tuesday	24	Computers, Keep Fit, Pétanque 2, Striders
Wednesday	25	Needlework, Pétanque 1, Spanish, Table Tennis 1
Thursday	26	Anglo-Saxon Poetry, Cycling PL, Garden, Models, Yoga 2
Friday	27	Creative Writing, Recorders, Table Tennis 2, Strollers
Monday	30	Bridge, Short Tennis
Tuesday	31	Computers, Keep Fit, Pétanque 2
<b>AUGUST</b>		
Wednesday	1	Pétanque 1, Spanish, Table Tennis 1
Thursday	2	Models, Yoga 2
Friday	3	Creative Writing, Table Tennis 2
<b>NOTE:</b>		<b>Some groups do not meet in July/August. Please contact your group leader or see this Newsletter.</b>