

Newsletter

Members of the Make Music Group at the November Monthly meeting

- Alan Goldup - key board
- Charles Hope - harp
- Chris Mitchell - alto sax
- Marion Hartland - clarinet
- Davis Nash - guitar
- Celia Chapman - violin



Happy New Year to ALL Horsley U3A Members!

Peter Tallon (Chairman) ☎ 01483 283163

Since Horsley U3A was launched in 2008, our numbers have steadily grown. We now have over 460 paid up members and 43 activity groups. Many members attended our November meeting which included music played by our Make Music group (see photo). At our recent Group Leaders Reception I was delighted to hear how well so many of our groups were doing. I think it is fair to say that we are established and thriving, all due to **your** active participation. Thank you to those who bring forward new ideas and a special thank you to those who help make them happen.



*Table Tennis Tournament Winners 2011
Carry Kurk and Gill Ross-Cornes*

You have probably spotted our Welcome Team at our Monthly Meetings, this is a new initiative that has been well received by new Members who we try to greet on first arrival and introduce to: a cup of coffee, the Groups News desk as a source of information, Group contacts that might be present and other Members with whom to 'break the ice' if not already amongst known friends. We want to further develop this gentle introduction concept and are trialling a coffee morning for new and newish Members, and anybody else for that matter, who might like to join this informal gathering?

Do transport problems make it difficult for you to attend U3A monthly meetings, group meetings or outings? Have you considered the Horsley Community Bus, Wheel of Care or East Horsley Care which offer door-to-door transport at small or no charge as well as more generally facilities to shop, use the Library or visit local amenities? If you would like assistance to contact these volunteer groups or if you think they do not currently meet your needs please phone Clive Smee (01483 283542) or contact me or any member of the Welcome Team to see what else might be possible.

ACTIVITY GROUPS' NEWS

Natural History Groups

Harry Eve

☎ 01483 283092 harryeve@btinternet.com

Brian Austin

☎ 01483 284925 brianaustin@tiscali.co.uk

There are two Natural History Groups that take an interest in all aspects of our varied wildlife. The Bird Watching Group tends to focus on birds and choose its walks accordingly, while the Wildflower Group focuses on plants. Both groups take a wider interest in the wildlife around them. Birdwatchers are welcome on wildflower walks and vice versa - so that we can all learn from each other.

The Wildflowers & Natural History Group walks are led by Harry Eve, and it is likely that Ray Tantram (wildflower enthusiast and expert in fungi) will assist Harry when she can. The Birdwatching and Natural History Group walks are led by Brian Austin.

The suggested equipment for birdwatching is a pair of binoculars (if you have them), while those on wildflower walks could consider carrying: a wildflower guide book, a hand lens, a digital camera, a notebook, and a pair of close focusing binoculars. All walkers are advised to check the weather and prepare accordingly e.g. stout footwear, sunhat, sun cream, drink as appropriate. On wildflower walks the distance walked takes account of the wishes of those who attend and here is no need to indicate if you will be coming, just turn up at the appointed time (see local notices and web pages).

Bridge

Sue Burge ☎ 01483 283803 burgejs@googlemail.com

The Regular Bridge Players are going from strength to strength. Not only have we closed our membership list and started a waiting list, but we have had a lesson. It proved very popular as never before have we had eight tables! Our teacher, Drina, was very charismatic and sold herself (and her books) extremely well. The topic was the Losing Trick Count, which most of us had a vague knowledge of but Drina taught us a new method.

We may well have another lesson on a different topic, as we all know we can always learn something more! Two hours play twice a month with very little chatter is an excellent way to improve one's bridge.

When not leading her bridge Group Sue Burge is also a member of the Explore London Group. While researching a walk she came across an unusual view of Marylebone Road!



German Conversation

Anneliese Collett

☎ 01483 283661 petercollett@usa.net

We are a small but happy little group (sadly we lost one very good member who has moved away), and we meet once a month, usually on a Monday. We tend to consult our diaries and book the next meeting according to people's availability. It is a pity that German is not as widespread a language spoken as French is, but there you are! I only have 4 members at the moment but they are very good, and the aim is to get people to talk as much as possible. New members are of course welcome, and there need not be any fear that "they are not good enough"! We meet at 3 pm until 5 pm with a tea break in the middle. So please, all those who did perhaps A-levels in German many years ago, come and refresh your skills. Perhaps one day you will visit Germany or go on a twinning visit. It is a very beautiful country with lots of tree-covered mountains; pretty half-timbered villages nestled in between; delightful rivers with safe cycling paths; white sands and beech tree forests which provide great walks and of course swimming and boating. A cafe or a Weinstube is never very far away.

PLEASE LOOK CAREFULLY AT ALL ITEMS IN THIS MAILING. ESPECIALLY YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM AND STOP PRESS!

ACTIVITY GROUPS' NEWS

New Venue for Mah Jong Group

Helen Taylorson

☎ 01483 283577 helen.taylorson@btinternet.com

One of our new members, Stephanie Henderson, has kindly offered the use of her wonderful warm and cosy detached barn in Woodland Drive. As the group now needs three or four tables, the time has come to acquire a couple of bridge tables if anyone prepared to donate or lend us a card table please let me know.

Art for All

Jill Richardson-Jones

☎ 01483 503662 r_jones3528@btinternet.com

We had a wonderful reception at the West Horsley Fete in September, where we displayed



*The group's exhibition of artwork
West Horsley Fete-September*

39 pieces of superb artwork. On the strength of the display, the group (and the U3A) gained some new members. In

the coming year there are plans to try out different media whilst ensuring that new members get to grips with the techniques we already enjoy; watercolour, coloured & graphite pencil drawing, perspective and so on. It is so rewarding to see the enthusiasm of members, their growing confidence and their flowering artistic talent. There is a warm and friendly atmosphere which all goes to help support new members.

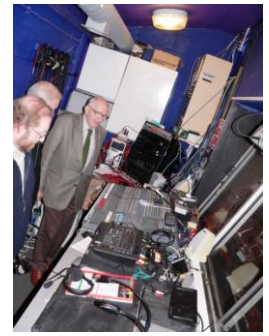
Science & Technology

Ian Eversden

☎ 01372 456854 ian.eversden@ntlworld.com

The Science and Technology group held its first meeting at the Nomad Theatre in East Horsley. Courtesy of two members, David Martin and Tom Stevenson, the group was treated to a very informative tour behind the scenes. The Theatre is extremely well equipped, due in part to a Lottery grant, with a revolving stage and impressive electronics to manage the lighting and sound.

It is hoped that we can work with Bookham U3A Science and Technology group to provide an exciting programme of events and activities for both groups. There are plans to visit the Science Museum in Kensington, the Mullard Space Science Laboratory at Holmwood, and some of us will be *'Exploring Science at the Royal Institution' on 29th March.*



Larger Screen for the Film Group

Margaret Faulkner

☎ 01483 282267

A new screen has arrived which will allow our films to be shown more effectively than ever. For those not having access to the internet the next two films being shown are listed below:

Thursday 1st March"-Titfield Thunderbolt"

A traditional Ealing comedy starring Stanley Holloway, and Sid James.

Clergy and gentry band together to save their local branch line from British Rail cuts by taking it over themselves and acquiring an engine from the local museum.

Thursday 5th April "Wild Strawberries"

directed by Ingmar Bergman-starring Victor Sjöström.

One of Bergman's warmest films, and concerns an elderly Professor making a journey to collect a University award and reliving his past by means of dreams, imaginings and encounters with others.



Ann and her faithful team of helpers ready to serve you. Volunteers to help at Monthly Meetings always needed

PLEASE LOOK CAREFULLY AT ALL ITEMS IN THIS MAILING. ESPECIALLY YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM AND STOP PRESS!

ACTIVITY GROUPS' NEWS

Commodore leads new Boating & Sailing Group

David Davis-Commodore ☎ 01483 283728 davidmdavis@btinternet.com

Rod Newman-Vice Commodore ☎ 01483 281139 rod.newman@virgin.net

David Davis (third from right seated below) and Rod Newman are now firmly at the helm of the Boating & Sailing group. Following a well attended inaugural meeting held at The Anchor, Pyrford Lock, in September last year, the membership has grown to 35. During the winter months meetings are being held in the Lovelace Room at EHVH. At our first meeting Rod Newman showed a DVD of a sailing cruise in the British Virgin Islands, and led a session refreshing “knot and hitch” skills – bowlines are always difficult! At our second meeting, Graham Milton – a local lad – told us about kayaking in Greenland, illustrated with hair raising pictures and a film.



Future meetings include hearing about a cruise in the Baltic, the restoration of a sailing dinghy, and learning about the work of the Hampshire and Wight Maritime Trust. In April, we plan a sailing day in the Solent. This will be followed by other sailing opportunities. The aim is to provide interesting subjects and activities for those who want to improve their knowledge and skills – or those who just like boats and boating. For more information, please contact, David Davis or Rod Newman.



Some just cannot wait to show how it is done!
Bob and Eric take a break from cycling

learning about the work of the Hampshire and Wight Maritime Trust. In April, we plan a sailing day in the Solent. This will be followed by other sailing opportunities. The aim is to provide interesting subjects and activities for those who want to improve their knowledge and skills – or those who just like boats and boating. For more information, please contact, David Davis or Rod Newman.

FROM YOUR GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR IAN EVERSDEN

Ian Eversden ☎ 01372 456854

ian.eversden@ntlworld.com

We continue to encourage those keen on Photography, Singing, Boules and Short Mat bowling to pool their enthusiasm and expertise and form new groups. If leadership puts you off do not be discouraged from getting together to share your knowledge and skill. The formation of a new Astronomy group led by local resident Peter Tribe is well under way, and a substantial number of members have expressed an interest in acquiring Handyman skills. This is the next group we hope will be up and running soon.

All U3A Members with computers are encouraged to make more use of the Horsley U3A website to see what is going on. If it can be devised the intention is to provide a website

calendar showing any forthcoming events, which groups are meeting and when, and maybe links to contact details. For those without computers the information will still be displayed on our notice boards and at monthly meetings.

Horsley U3A Information Sources

The Horsley U3A notices can be found on:

- The Kingston Avenue Notice-board on the side wall of Budgens supermarket.
- The 5 West Horsley Parish Council Notice-boards
- The board inside the East Horsley Village Hall.

Our website www.horsleyu3a.org.uk, giving details of monthly meetings, activity groups, planned outings, theatre trips and links to other useful information sources; is regularly updated.

For those who come to the monthly meetings there are folders containing details of

- Events and Activities in London and the SE other than those organised by Horsley U3A and Surrey Network Study Days.
- Residential courses and other events countrywide.
- Information about Shared Learning Projects