

Chairman's Remarks

It has been a busy time for your general committee and the sub-committee formed to arrange the extra activities to celebrate our 25th anniversary, and I have been well supported by a lively committee. I think the activities have been well received by the members. At least I hope so!

This brings me on to the topic that members might like to consider - helping in the general running of KU3A. Our plan is that interested observers should attend committee meetings with us so that members of the committee can, in due course, hand on their responsibilities. I am fortunate in that regard as the Chairman's term of office is restricted to three years. If I were appointed to continue after the AGM that would mean 2017! I would like to devote the remainder of my time as Chairman to widening the group of our membership taking part in the management of KU3A.

Richard Hawkins

Monthly Meetings

These are usually held on the first Monday of the month at the United Reform Church, Eden Street, Kingston at 2pm. If this falls on a Bank Holiday, the meeting will take place on the following Monday.

Date	Speaker	Subject
6th June	Leslie Pitcher	Drunks, Gamblers and Charlatans with many illustrations from period paintings
4th July	Siobhan Clarke	The Crown and the Cradle. The speaker is a Royal Palaces Guide Lecturer.
1st August	Norman Coward	Remote Ethiopia - Providing Health Posts and Clean Water
5th September	David Jones	How tropical forests work

Group News

SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY

This group, which started over 20 years ago, could do with some more members. (Don't be put off by the title). Each month the discussion is led by one of the members on a subject of his (or her) choice. Most of the group find books or information on the internet as a base for their talk, and it is an opportunity to widen your interests and engage with new ideas.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month near Kingston Hospital and if you think you may like to join this group, contact Jennifer Butterworth on 8942 7387 or jenn.butterworth@virginmedia.com

SHORT WALKS

Philip Hellen has started a second short walk group on the first and third Thursdays of the month, am. Please ring Philip on 8390 5718 or phellen@fsmail.net

POSSIBLE NEW GROUPS

MORE WALKS

Ireni Esler has also offered to lead weekly walks from August onwards, probably on Mondays or Fridays. Please contact Ireni Esler on 8390 0581 or ireni.esler@gmail.com

MIXED SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

A second Sunday Lunch Club is about to start for both men and women. It will meet on the second Sunday of the month. If interested please ring Gill O'Donnell on 8399 8125 or gill.odonnell@blueyonder.co.uk

PIANO

Wendy Mullen has offered to host a group for people who enjoy playing the piano and would like to meet others who play. The purpose of the group is to help and encourage each other, especially in overcoming nerves when playing to other people. The venue would be in central Kingston, meeting on Monday or Thursday am monthly. If interested please contact Wendy on 8547 1404 or wham.mukllen@gmail.com

PLAY READING

Anyone interested in joining this new group, please contact Frances Leifer on 8546 5061 or francesleifer@talktalk.net

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Richard Cragg would like to run a course next Autumn which would cover the main factors that drive the global economy; particularly the way population changes affect growth, interest rates and inflation. Also under discussion will be the prospects for China and its influence on the rest of the world; the role of gold; how to think about risk and returns and the choice between mutual funds and ETFs.

He will not make recommendations, but will hopefully put members in a better position to evaluate their investments. If interested please contact richardcragg389@gmail.com

WHILE WE ARE DELIGHTED WITH ALL THESE OFFERS, SOME FROM VERY NEW MEMBERS, WE WOULD STILL LIKE MORE GROUP LEADERS, ESPECIALLY FOR LANGUAGES. Any offers of help contact Shirley Miller on 8940 8573 or shirleymiller4@btinternet.com

This Country Called England

Monday 27 June 2016

This coach/boat trip from Kingston to Windsor/Runnymede and back to Kingston was originally advertised in our Spring Newsletter for two dates. Both these dates are now fully booked and there are more members who would like to enjoy it; hence this third date. As it is part of our 25th anniversary celebrations KU3A will contribute 50% towards the costs.

You will hear fascinating facts about our town, quoted as 'the happiest place in London', and 'where England began'. Our guide will join us right from the start in Kingston where we will go on a short walk after our morning refreshments, then drive round Kingston and then on to Thames Ditton where we will have a two-course lunch with tea/coffee included. Please make your choice of food on the application form.



After lunch we continue to Windsor where we board the boat to take us on a two-hour cruise through three locks past the Queen's vast private parklands with marvellous views of the castle, through Datchet Mead and Edward the Confessor's Old Windsor to the famous meadows of Runnymede. Hot and cold drinks are available to purchase on the boat. We disembark at Runnymede and

visit the new artwork in the meadows that commemorates Magna Carta. At 5.45 pm we board our coach again and head home to Kingston. The total walking involved on this outing is approx. 800 metres.

Cost: £25.50 (includes guide, coach/boat, morning refreshments, lunch and gratuities)

Meeting time/point: 9.45 am, Kingston High Street, opposite The Rose Theatre

If you would like to join this outing please complete the enclosed application form and send it together with your cheque for £25.50, payable to **Kingston U3A (GAS)** and a **stamped self-addressed envelope if you do not give an e-mail address** to:

Gisela Zürcher-Feiß, 37, The Byeways, Surbiton KT5 8HT

Tel. No.: 020 8399 4990

Afternoon Tea or Lunch at Warren House

Wednesday, 13 July 2016 and
Thursday, 14 July 2016

This year we are celebrating KU3A's 25th Anniversary and we want to do it in style. Warren House, a magnificent Victorian building set within beautiful landscaped gardens, is the perfect setting. The House is nowadays a hotel/conference centre and known as the finest venue in Britain. Before then, since 1865, the House was home to six families who were considered to be some of the richest and most influential men and women of their day and regularly entertained royals, aristocrats, generals, diplomats, politicians and captains of industry.

Come and pretend you are one of them and join other KU3A members in this splendid environment for either a delicious Afternoon Tea on Wednesday, 13th July or Lunch on Thursday 14th July.

Tea at Warren House on July 13th will start at 3pm with a talk, just for us, about the history and illustrious past residents of this house and an exhibition of displays about the celebrated garden. Tea will then be served for us in the Dining Room at a (subsidised) price of £18 per person and will consist of sandwiches, scones, jam and cream, plus cakes, with a choice of teas. A wonderful chance to experience the good life!



Photos courtesy of Warren House

Lunch on Thursday, 14th July will be preceded with a talk by a retired Old Bailey Judge, His Honour Martin Stephens QC, who will speak on the topic of 'a life in crime'. The three-course lunch begins with an apéritif and tea/coffee afterwards. There will be a choice of starters, main courses and desserts which should suit people with special dietary requirements.

Address: Warren House, Warren Road, Kingston KT2 7HY Tel. No.: 020 8974 7115

Time and Price:

Tea: Wednesday, 13 July at 3.00 pm
£ 18.50

Lunch: Thursday, 14 July at 12.00 noon
£ 40.50

How to get there: Buses 85 and K3 stop at Warren Road. From there it is a very short walk to the House. There are also parking facilities in the grounds and in Warren Road.

To book your place at one of these events, please complete the attached application form and send it together with your cheque for either £18.50 or £40.50 - payable to Kingston U3A (GAS) – **together with a stamped addressed envelope if you do not give an e-mail address** - to Gisela Zürcher-Feiß, 37, The Byeways, Surbiton KT5 8HT.
Tel.: 020 8399 4990



Park Walks

Wednesday 14 September 2016

As part of our 25th Anniversary celebrations, there will be three walks in Richmond Park, each one a different length so you can choose the one most appropriate for you. All walks take place on the same day, Wednesday September 14th and start from Kingston gate.



The first one is 7.5 miles around the perimeter of the park, with stops along the way, and starts at 9am.

The second is 3-4 miles long and starts at 9.30am.

The third and shortest walk, to Pembroke Lodge and back, with a stopover for coffee, also starts at 9.30am.

See you there?

River Thames Rib Boat Blast

6, 7 or 8 September 2016

There are still a few places on this fast boat trip from the Tower to the Barrier and back – 20 miles in 40 minutes. The average speed is about 30 mph, and the journey will include some high-speed and high g-force turns. Please

be advised that this stretch of the River Thames is exposed, and the water can be choppy.



You should not go on this trip if you suffer from any of the following conditions:

- a bad back
- heart problems
- epilepsy
- any condition that might be affected by jolts or adrenalin rushes

After the trip, you are free to make your own way back to Waterloo, or you may prefer to wander around St Katharine's Dock and buy lunch in one of the many eateries there.

Date: Tue 6th Sep, or Wed 7th Sep or Thurs 8th Sep 2016

Meeting point: Opposite Platform 1, Waterloo Station, 10.30am: we go by bus to St Katharine's pier where the boats go from.

Cost: £20 per person

To reserve a place on one of these trips, please contact Stewart Keating (email keating2610@gmail.com or telephone 8397 5561) for more information and a booking form.

St Pancras and Kings Cross Walk

Wednesday 21 September 2016

Thursday 29 September 2016

Tuesday 4 October 2016

Join U3A member John King for a circular walk around St Pancras and King's Cross. We will be taking the Thameslink service from Wimbledon to St Pancras.

The walk will take in parts of the renovated stations as well as the newly opened up quarter to the north of the stations. The latter will include new public squares, the German gymnasium, one of the oldest churches in England, a canal side walk, the new home of the University of the Arts and a concert venue. The walk will end back at King's Cross.



Time: about 2 hours

Dates: as above

Meeting time: 10.15am

Meeting Point: On the overbridge at Wimbledon at the top of the stairs leading down to Platform 9 for the Thameslink services.

Cost: 50p collected on the day

Please complete the enclosed booking form and send it to: John King, 64, Alric Avenue, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4JW. Tel. No.: 020 8949 7427

If you do not give an email address please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.



The Castles, Historic Houses and Gardens of North Wales

19th-23rd October 2015

Twenty one intrepid U3A members set off for a holiday in North Wales in fine style – a brand new 71-seater coach with the number of seats reduced to 49. We had lots of leg room. En route to our hotel in Caernarfon we stopped at the National Memorial Arboretum near Lichfield. This 150 acre site is a woodland landscape with more than 300 memorials to the forces, organisations and countries which lost personnel during both World Wars. It was too large for us to be able to visit many of the memorials in the time available to us, so we all went round the Arboretum on the land train which had an on-board commentary describing each memorial we came to. The designs were very

individual and many had impressive sculptures.

We arrived at our hotel in the early evening. The Royal Celtic Hotel is a late 18th Century mansion which has been extensively extended and now comprises 110 rooms. Our stay would be very pleasant and comfortable.

Amanda, our local guide for the next 3 days, arrived on Tuesday morning and we set off for a tour of the 13th Century Caernarfon Castle, one of Edward I's fortresses in Wales. This medieval site was the place where the investiture of Prince Charles as Prince of Wales took place in 1969. A tour of the harbour and the old walls of the town gave us a sense of Caernarfon's defensive position on the Menai Strait. Our lunch stop was in the town with the longest name in the Welsh language, Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrob wyll-llantysiliogogoch. Our afternoon visit was to Plas Newydd, an 18th Century country house with spectacular views over the Menai Strait to Snowdonia and the location of Rex Whistler's largest painting. The guide in the room took great pleasure in pointing out the changes in perspective within the painting depending on where in the room it was viewed from.

On Wednesday we embarked on the Festiniog narrow gauge railway from Porthmadog up to Blaenau Ffestiniog. This railway line originally carried wagons with the finest slate in the world from the slate mines in Snowdonia to the coast for onward transport abroad. The wagons moved downhill under gravity and were pulled back up to the mines by ponies. Unfortunately it was raining and the train carriages were steamed up, somewhat blocking our view of the landscape we were travelling through.

After this a visit to the Victorian Llechwedd Slate Caverns was the obvious next step. About half the group chose to go 500 feet down into the mine where they learned of the dark, difficult and dangerous job of extracting slate.

In the afternoon we went to the unique village of Portmeirion for lunch and leisure time to explore this unusual place, the creation of Welsh architect Clough Williams-Ellis at the beginning of the 20th Century. The buildings are a very colourful mixture of different architectural styles.

On Thursday morning we drove through Snowdonia National Park to Betws-Y-Coed. It was dry and the scenery and the autumn colours were stunning. After a brief stop in Betws-Y-Coed we went to Bodnant Garden set on a hillside overlooking Snowdonia. This superb garden has many interesting trees and italianate terraces dropping down the hillside into the river valley below. In the afternoon our last visit in North Wales was to Conwy and Conwy Castle, another of Edward I's fortresses. A considerable part of the town walls, built at the same time as the castle, still survive and, viewed from the castle, give a good impression of a medieval walled town. On our return to our hotel we said goodbye to Amanda who had been a very competent and well informed guide during our stay.

On the last day we left our hotel early for the journey back to Kingston. We stopped near Kington in Warwickshire to visit the Compton Verney Art Gallery, housed in a John Vanbrugh/Robert Adam Grade I listed mansion. The gallery displays Neopolitan, North European and British art works and a collection of Chinese bronzes. After an

introduction to the gallery (which the staff insisted we have) we had a quick lunch and a rushed tour of the exhibits before departing.

Our excellent driver all week was Jeff who managed to find a route back to Kingston avoiding a major holdup on the M25. We arrived back at about 7.30pm, tired but with very good memories of our holiday.

Moira Shearer

JUBILEE CRYPTIC CROSSWORD CLUES

Across

1. Under the surface route for Trident? (6)
4. Do for a quiet crafty set. (5)
7. Algarve town, very loud and a long way away. (3, 3)
8. Metal mined from a sliver. (6)
9. See 20
10. Two-way conversation if you dial a rogue and lose a king. (8)
12. Celebration time for adversary who drops the promotion after Annie falls short. (11)
17. Local town has royals' heavyweight. (8)
19. Visage after seeing a crumbling cafe? (4)
20. 9 Years of Kingston U3A service produce weightless pony. (6, 4)

21. Warning notice: vinyl tardily displayed on car. (1-5)
22. Artist over there makes this material. (5)
23. Kingston U3A has gone forward like this, but Kingston wardens are hiding it. (6)

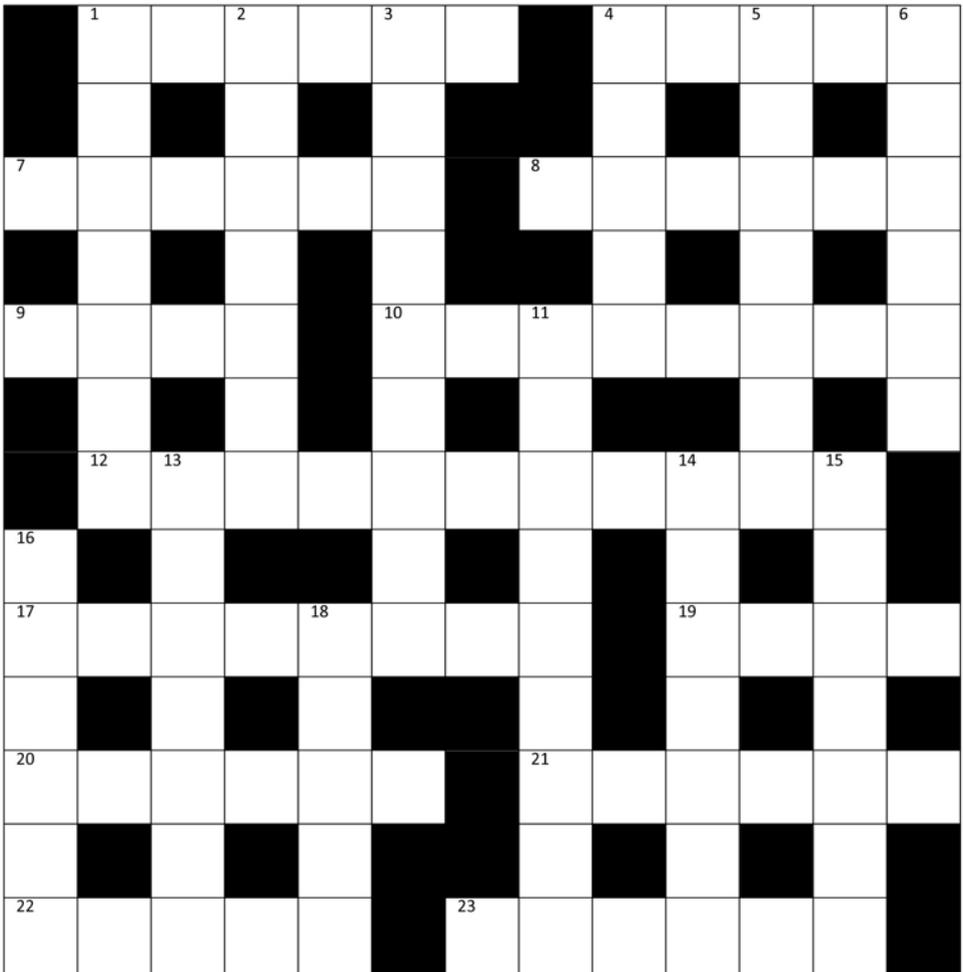
Down

1. Kingston U3A has shown this over the past twenty-five years: pointed volunteers force over a matched game. (7)
2. Raided because hard up and at home? (5, 2)
3. Sworn statement at Kingston Crown Court perhaps: I am in a very strong crane for the lifeboat (9)
4. Small bottle – article swallowed by man. (5)
5. Plunderer attacks garage. (7)
6. Ball hosted by red rose wearer? (6)
11. Hormone excited by mixed up Eastern ad for a liner. (9)
13. Queen in New York follows this spiritual lady to her lodgings. (7)
14. Alfred the Great no longer embarrassed by burnt cakes repeats himself before helping himself to a grass. (7)
15. Sailed on the Thames and reversed decay around the high tension. (7)
16. Mover on a frozen Thames – unlike this flat fish, right? (6)
18. Mark comes from tearing up this material. (5)

JUBILEE CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

from the Cryptic Crossword Group

Several of the clues relate to Kingston U3A, Kingston, and our Jubilee



Walking Group Birthday

The Walking Group recently celebrated its 5th Birthday. The members in the photograph are four of the original eight on the first walk, who, along with one other, continue to walk with this now large group. The cake was decorated by walk organiser, Shirley Bolton.

Shared Learning Project

We are delighted to announce 2 joint activities with our local University:

- A Shared Learning Project, and
- The Kingston University Big Read.

We hope these will lead to other fruitful collaborations and invite you to participate.

1 The Shared Learning Project:

Uncovering the History of the Kingston Hill Campus. This project will be run in conjunction with Kingston University Archives and Special Collections.

As part of the centenary of Gipsy Hill, we would like to learn more about the Kingston Hill campus and the history of the buildings there as the University's Archive holds very little information on the site before the point at which Gipsy Hill took over. We have some information - including that one of the buildings was owned by Florence Nightingale's aunt and uncle, and that the Crown Prince of Egypt spent a few years there in the early 1900s! The site has a fascinating story to discover - and this is the aim of this project. There are archival records relating to the site in several archives - including Kingston Local History Centre and Surrey History Centre. This project will aim to pull together these resources to create a report on the history of the site and its buildings.

We ask members to:

- Be available during the months of June, July and August 2016.
- Come to a preliminary meeting on 25th May to meet the group
- Attend an introductory meeting on 8th June and then fortnightly meetings. The meetings will be on Wednesdays from 11.00am -1.00pm at Kingston University, Penrhyn Road. There will be

a total of 6 meetings including the final presentation on 17th August.

- Be prepared to work on the project on your own or in pairs between meetings. You need to be computer literate: Microsoft Office, use the internet and e-mail.
- You need to come to all the meetings.
- Be prepared to contribute your research towards the final report at the end of the project.

There are places remaining and we welcome both 'old hands' and people who have never done this sort of project before. See the home page of our website for more details:

<http://www.kingstonu3a.org.uk>

For an application form and further information, contact Jennifer Anning: ja_ku3a@btinternet.com

2 The Kingston University Big Read

The University is building on the success of last year's pioneering Big Read project, which gave every new student a copy of 'About a Boy' by Nick Hornby.

This made the students feel welcome and fostered discussions and a sense of community above their wildest expectations. They will repeat the scheme with another book this year, and wish to involve us among a select few Kingston organisations.

This year's choice is 'The Humans' by Matt Haig, and we will be supplied with copies at a discounted price in August; will be invited to related events and to hear the author.

Keep watching our U3A website for more details. Linda Foreman is particularly keen to hear from Book Groups which might be interested in including a work of modern fiction in their schedule.

We hope you enjoy these opportunities and show the University we are keen to collaborate for mutual benefit.

Kingston U3A Singers

The next concert will be at 7.30 pm on Saturday 11th June at New Malden Methodist Church, New Malden High Street. Tickets @ £7.00 will be available from Pat Young (8337 8326) or any choir member; or you may pay on the night.

We are looking to expand our numbers in all voice ranges, but especially in the Tenor and Bass sections. The group meets on Thursday mornings from 10.30am to 12.30pm in the Shiraz Mirza Community Hall in Malden Manor Park. There is no formal audition and you don't have to be able to read music. The work is varied from Classical through to Folk music and is mostly sung in 4 parts. The cost is £35.00 per quarter.

If you would like to come along and see what it's all about please contact any member of the Singers or: Helga Randall – 0208 397 8712.

Central Study Days at Menuhin Hall

Surrey Network study days are open to members of all U3As in Surrey and the surrounding area. They are held in the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon and normally start at 9.30am with registration and finish at 4pm. The fee, including coffee tea and biscuits, is £10, though a visitor who is not a member of a U3A will be charged £12. Attendees should bring a packed lunch. Prior booking is essential and forms are available at the monthly meetings or from the Surrey Network internet site

www.u3asites.org.uk/surreyu3anetwork

Friday 17th June Majesty & Menace

Henry VIII & the Tudor Age - Presented by Siobhan Elizabeth Clarke, Guide Lecturer at Hampton Court Palace.

No English king is as well-known as Henry VIII. Famous for six marriages, for breaking with the Pope, dissolving the monasteries and creating the Church of England and for his ruthless elimination of those who stood in his way. But he was also an enthusiastic patron of the arts who established the most magnificent court ever seen in England. Topics comprise Tudor dress, art, great palaces and Henry's long-awaited son, Edward VI.

There will be no Study Days for the holiday months of July and August.

Friday 17th September English Cathedral Architecture Explained

Presented by Keith Hasted, WEA Lecturer

SOUTH EAST U3A FORUM

Summer School at Chichester University

Monday 27 June -

Thursday 30 June

The Summer School consists of about fifteen courses running in parallel; please note that it is not possible to combine parts of several courses. The School runs from Monday afternoon to lunch on Thursday with the first seminar taking place on Monday afternoon and the rest on the following three mornings and two afternoons.

There is entertainment in the three evenings: a table quiz, the choice of a visit to the theatre (extra charge) or a film in the campus theatre, and a musical evening.

The choice of courses, which are all run by U3A members, is wide.

Costs range from £320 for en-suite accommodation with full board to £150 for attendance at the Summer School only. Some courses will incur extra payments.

Full details can be obtained from u3asites.org.uk/southeastu3aforum

Ian Parkin 20 Year Award

Ian Parkins receives his certificate for 20 years service as a Group Co-ordinator from Chairman, Richard Hawkins.



The combined U3A art groups 1, 2 and 3 are holding an art show to coincide with the main 25-year celebration exhibition. It is being held at Cass Art Kingston in the Art Space above the shop floor which plays host to exhibitions and events to support the local artist community.

Cass Art is very committed to supporting communities and encouraging everyone to realise their creative talents by providing top quality materials at guaranteed best prices.

JUBILEE CRYPTIC CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

1. SUBWAY, 2. PARTY, 7. FAR
OFF, 8. SILVER, 9. FIVE, 10.
DIALOGUE, 12. ANNIVERSARY,
17. KINGSTON, 19. FACE, 20.
TWENTY, 21. L-PLATE, 22.
RAYON, 23. ONWARD.
Down
1. STAMINA, 2. BROKE IN, 3.
AFFIDAVIT, 4. PHIAL, 5.
RAVAGER, 6. YORKER,
11. ADRENALIN, 13. NUNNERY,
14. ALFALFA, 15. YAACHTED, 16.
SKATER, 18. SATIN.

KU3A combined Art groups
Art Show



At Cass Art Shop Clarence Street Kingston
in the studio above

Saturday October 22nd to Wednesday 26th
open daily 10 - 5pm