

u3a Thameside Wallingford

January Newsletter

Website: www.thamesidewallingfordu3a.org/

January Notes from The Chair

Happy New Year to you all and very best wishes for a peaceful and healthy 2025.

As you can see, this newsletter is different to previous editions, however we hope we can improve it in the near future and produce the newsletter in a similar format to previous editions. The newsletter is not a word document but a web page so it will take time to learn how to use the software required to write each edition - please bear with us.

Having returned from travels just before Christmas, I missed the December speaker meeting but I heard it was well attended and it was an interesting and topical Christmas- themed talk. Included with this newsletter is the list of speakers for the coming year and I hope you will agree that the speaker committee have once again done an excellent job in arranging an exciting and varied programme. Please note that the speaker meeting for January is on the 15th January (and not cancelled) and that the Celebration lunch is on 24th January at Badgemore Golf Club. If you would like to attend please use the booking link in the December newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret Husband for all her hard work with the trips and outings committee. Margaret is moving out of the area and her expertise in organising various successful outings and the longer summer trip will be greatly missed. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please get in touch as we would love to hear from you. There is no outing next month . Trips start again in March.

I hope to see you at the coffee morning which is on the 10th January - please note the CHANGE of date - and at this month's speaker meeting on the 15th.

Keep well

Ian Shipton

Upcoming Events

Notice of an extraordinary general meeting

to be held on Wednesday, 19TH February 2025 at 2.00pm

St Mary le More church, Wallingford

AGENDA

Approval to appoint Doreen Pinnell as Inspector of Accounts for 2024-2025.

Next Coffee Morning will be 10th January 10:30 till midday.

Next Speaker Meeting – Wed 15th Jan 2:00 pm.

Following Speaker Meeting – Wed 19th February

Next Outing – March, The Coffin Works and the Back-to-Backs, Birmingham

There are no new members this month

Coffee morning

First Friday every month – Wallingford Methodist Church St Leonard's Square OX10 0AS

- This month will be 10th January 10:30am until midday (NOTE LATE CHANGE)
 - Penny Legg, Brenda Taylor, and Charmaine Anderson.
- Next month will be Fri 7th February 10:30am until midday
 - Maureen Hill and Jenny Potter.

If you want to join the serving rota then please contact Pam Johnstone via [Contact page](#)

Celebration lunch

24th January 2025 at Badgemore Golf Club

Jane Milne is organising the annual Celebration Lunch in January at Badgemore Golf Club. Bookings close on 6th January.

Groups' news

If you want to join or form a group, then please contact Groups Coordinator Yvonne Griffiths via [Contact Form](#)

39 groups with spaces

- Antiques
- Art & Painting,
- Birdwatching 1
- Board Games,
- Book 2
- Book 3
- Craft
- Cribbage 2
- Current Affairs 3
- Cycling
- Environment & Climate Change
- Film Appreciation 1
- Film Appreciation 2
- French 4
- Genealogy 1
- Genealogy 3
- Jazz Appreciation
- Latin
- Line Dancing
- Mahjong
- Music Performance
- Pétanque
- Photography
- Play Reading 2
- Ramblers Too
- Recorder Consort
- Science
- Seminar
- Spanish
- Sunday Lunch 3
- Sunday Lunch 4
- Ukulele
- Walk Longer 2
- Walk Moderate 2
- Walk Moderate 3
- Walk Shorter 2
- Walk Shorter 3
- Whist
- Writing Life History

GAMES - possible new Group

From Yvonne:

A few members have suggested a group whereby members can bring along their favourite games to join with others to play and learn new ones at a central venue.

Games such as Rummikub, Back gammon, draughts, chess etc and could include card games such as Bridge and Cribbage etc.

A suitable venue will be sourced if we have enough interested members.

Please contact me Yvonne Griffiths as soon as possible if you are interested.

Speaker Meetings

Third Wednesday 2:00 pm every month at St Mary's Church Wallingford

Wed 15th January 2:00pm - Julie Summers returns to tell us about the Vogue editor from the Blitz to the Swinging Sixties. Audrey Withers was described as the most powerful woman in wartime London. Sometimes working from a bomb cellar in New Bond Street, she kept Vogue magazine going in the toughest of circumstances.

Next few months:

19/02/25 Jim Holmes - Bowling to Tradition – the unexpected sides to Japanese society

19/03/25 Paul Barwick - Nancy Wake: A most remarkable spy

16/04/25 John McCormack - Are computers really that smart? Why AI needs good decision-making processes

21/05/25 Peter Walker - Military surveys past and present – from map-making to geospatial intelligence

18/06/25 Dr Kathryn Harkup - Death by Shakespeare

16/07/25 Barry Venning - Cartoons and contraptions – the wonderful world of W. Heath Robinson

20/08/25 Summer lunch

17/09/25 Brian Greenan - The Brinks-Mat Robbery

15/10/25 Alastair Lack - A BBC World Service – my life as a foreign correspondent

19/11/25 Peter Adamson - A town called Wallingford

10/12/25 Siobhan Clarke - A Royal Christmas

Jane Tuckett

Speaker Meeting Sub-Committee

Outings

Update from Outings Committee:

- No trip in January because of the Celebration Lunch
- We are having a month off in February
- March - The Coffin Works and the Back-to-Backs, Birmingham

Look forward to seeing you on March 2025 Outing!