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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In the Spring Newsletter I mentioned that things had been quieter of late but this didn't mean little was going on. Planning for the future has continued at a steady pace as we grow nearer to the start of another academic year for your U3A. At its Meeting on 15th June, the Executive Committee discussed among other things the arrangements for Enrolment Day 2009 and the Annual General Meeting.

The 2009/10 Prospectus is being mailed along with this Newsletter. It gives formal notice of these two important events in our calendar. Enrolment Day will be Thursday September 3rd and, under the direction of Ann Watson, will follow the successful formula of previous years with representatives of our many attractive Group activities in attendance.

The Annual General Meeting has been set for Monday November 30th. Due to the retirement of several members, myself included, quite a number of changes to the Committee are due to take place. You will be getting formal notice of the AGM in due course but it is perhaps not too early to be thinking about who would be a suitable Committee candidate that you could nominate. We normally meet only 5 times a year, so it needn't be too onerous and the Secretary would be pleased to hear from you (see below). As Margot has said in the past, "Don't just join up, join in."

Lastly, as regards the Newsletter itself, it is disappointing, given that we have over 100 Groups, that so few think it worthwhile to write in to the Editor with news of their Group activities. I am sure there are many members who would be interested to know about the activities of Groups other than the ones they belong to, and you never know, they might decide to join you.

David Quick.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Annual General Meeting 2009

Your officers and Committee for the year 2009/10 will be elected at the AGM of the Guildford Area U3A to be held on Monday 30 November, 2009. If there is any member of Guildford U3A who would care to nominate a fellow member (with their permission of course) for one of the posts of officer or as a member of the Committee, will they please inform

me by the end of August 2009.

Equally, if there is a member who would like to serve on the Committee, would they please contact me as soon as possible. Your Committee generally meets five times each year on a Monday morning for approximately two hours.

U3A Diaries 2010

The U3A diary for 2010 will be available from me from July onwards. Diaries are of a superior quality, the same size as previous years and fit nicely in a handbag or pocket.

The price has been held at £1.95 for the second year. Although 2010 seems a long way off, it is necessary for me to place an order to ensure supplies. Members wishing to purchase a diary should contact me on 01483-568936 or by e-mail on mervyn@tremeer.com.

Mervyn Tremeer.

FROM THE EDITOR

EBU Club Focus

The English Bridge Union includes a newsletter on its website called "Club Focus". Volume II Issue IV has just appeared and is well worth a visit. Its 5 pages cover EBU news, contributions from members and a 'Bidding Tools' tutorial article. There is even a limerick competition and I can't help quoting this issue's winner:

"My former bridge partner from Devon
Considered that absolute heaven
Was bidding to six
And making twelve tricks.
(There's no way he'd bid or make seven.)"

"Club Focus" can be read, and printed out if you like, at www.ebu.co.uk/cf/documents/currentedition.pdf. Of course, the main website itself (www.ebu.co.uk) is well worth regular visiting.

Another way to enjoy bridge moments on the internet is to visit Bridge Club Live (www.bridgeclublive.com). Here you will find lots of bridge boards played and a running debate page called Comments Board.

New Editor required

On a personal note, following a move out of the Guildford area, I must reluctantly give up the

editorship of this Newsletter. It has been an enjoyable job and I hope that any Member who thinks he or she could take it over will get in touch with me. I promise to help in every way as long as I am needed. My contact details are at the top of this Newsletter.

John Borwick.

GROUP NEWS

A message from the Director of Studies

Just a brief note to say Happy Holidays to everyone and a big 'Thank You' to our wonderful Group Leaders. You have, as always, done a fabulous job. The U3A year has been rich and satisfying and I hope you will all now relax and enjoy the summer.

Joan Butler has performed her usual miracle and the new Prospectus is being mailed along with this Newsletter. Many, many thanks to Joan and to Colin Callegari for all their hard work. My thanks also to Mike Markwick for so efficiently booking our many halls. I know it has been a difficult and frustrating job at times, but he has always sorted out any problems and ensured that the system has worked smoothly – well done Mike.

If you have enjoyed a power-point presentation, projected DVD or sound recording at any of the Groups or Meetings this year, that is all down to Mike Smith's dedicated juggling act. He makes sure that the lap-tops, projectors, DVD and CD players and amplifiers are available when needed and in good order. So many thanks Mike; we are very grateful to you for placing us firmly in the 21st century and keeping us up to date with the latest and best equipment.

And finally... Because St. Joseph's Hall is being used for examinations, Guildford U3A enrolment day will be on **Thursday 3rd September** so put it in your diaries now! **Ann Watson, Director of Studies.**

Belleplate Ringing

If, like me, you're fairly new to the U3A you may have noticed Belleplate Ringing in the Prospectus, and been wondering what Belleplates are. Similar to handbells, but easier to handle, they are a great way of making music in a group. Some ability to read music is helpful but you will be ably supported by our leader, Shirley, and given a very warm welcome by the Group.

You only need to come with enthusiasm and a sense of fun to enjoy a great afternoon's music-making, with plenty of laughter along the way! What a feeling of achievement when we all reach the final bar at the same time! So give it a try - we'd love to see you. We meet twice a month on Thursdays from 2 - 4pm at Shalford Methodist Hall. Details from Shirley on 01483 538373. **Den Netley.**

Contributions for the AUTUMN ISSUE
should be sent to:

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Cranleigh, GU6 8TJ

eMail: john@johnborwick.plus.com

Deadline: 3rd October, 2009

Social Anthropology

An outing has been arranged to **Hampstead Village and Camden Market** on Thursday 13th August, 2009, departing Sutherland Park at 9.30 and returning by 6 p.m. Cost £12.00.

Coffee on arrival - your choice. Then I will lead a walk of about an hour for those who wish to join me. After lunch - your choice again, we will go on to the vibrant Camden Market for a couple of hours. (Or if markets do not appeal, you could wander round Regent's Park or Primrose Hill.)

Please contact Sheila Darzi 01483 575697 sheila.darzi@yahoo.com or send cheque and sae to 160 Dorking Road, Chilworth, Guildford, GU4 8RL.

Outings and Theatre Visits

Monthly outings have been arranged as follows:-

14 September: London. Conducted tour of the Library and Museum of Freemasonry, followed by lunch at the Royal Opera House, then a backstage tour (£28.50).

28 October: Hampton Court. To celebrate Henry VIII's 500th anniversary, a conducted tour of Hampton Court Palace and Gardens (£20.00).

26 November: Kent. Visit to Charles Darwin's Home and Garden, including lunch followed by a Tour of Lullingstone Roman Villa (£28.00).

7 December: Albert Hall. Behind the scenes tour of the Royal Albert Hall, followed by a sandwich lunch and coffee. Afternoon visit to the V&A Museum (£22.00).

For more details and an Application Form, send a 9x4 sae to **Katie Butcher**, 8 Newlands, Buckingham Close, Guildford, GU1 1TR (01483 573439).

Calligraphy: a correction

Unfortunately there was an error in our piece in the Spring issue. It is Jane Olds from the Starting Points Art Group at St Joseph's who will be guiding us, not Sheila who retired from the Caligraphy Group a couple of years ago. **Janet and Ann.**

Travel Group

We are now booking for 'Midlands Houses and Gardens' (July 22nd) and 'Sorrento' (Oct 16th). A new programme of Home and Abroad visits for 2009/10 is being assembled, including a Rhone Valley Cruise. A full list can be picked up at the Enrolment Meeting, by phoning me at 01483 424945, or on the Guildford U3A website www.guildfordU3A.org.uk. **Mike Bakall.**

Concert visits

A total of six concerts have been booked and notified to regular Concert Visits participants. For

other U3A Guildford Members, the brief details are as follows:-

28 August. Royal Albert Hall PROM, mainly Tchaikowsky.

22 September. Royal Festival Hall, Philharmonia: Rachmaninov and Shostakovich.

8 October. Barbican, LSO: Beethoven and Sibelius.

5 November. RFH, Philharmonia: Rachmaninov.

3 December. RFH, Philharmonia: Kodaly, Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky.

20 January. RFH: Rimsky-Korsakov, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky.

For full details, please send a SAE, at least 9" x 4", to **Mrs I Hawkins**, 1 Merrow Copse, Guildford, Surrey GU1 2LG.

New Music Group

A new Group devoted to "Chamber Music for Court and Salon" has been set up for the new Session. Come and listen to wonderful music written for small ensembles, piano and violin etc. Composers including Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin, Liszt, Mendelssohn and many others have written music for piano or quartet which can have all the emotional impact of a large orchestra.

Meetings are to take place on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Jeffries Hall, Merrow. **Iris Hawkins.**

Sociology

The Sociology Group, under the excellent, non-partisan and good-humoured leadership of June Loewenstein, concerns itself with the study of society and social problems. We focus on all these things that we suspect about present-day people and problems – but never voice in public for fear of ridicule or upsetting friends.

We have had visits from the President of the Gypsy Council, a prison governor and a probation officer, among others. We have tried to provide some kind of answer to modern juvenile crime; tackled the age-old question "does prison really work?" and enjoyed a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament. In short, we've come to grips – but not blows – with a fascinating range of problems, people and situations.

Join us; we'd love to hear what you think – for think we must, if this planet is to move into a positive future and not a shambles. We meet on the first Monday of the month, 1400-1600, at Shalford Village Hall. **Mary Hayes.**

An evacuee remembers

"A Commemorative Service is to be held at St. Paul's Cathedral, London on Tuesday 1st September 2009 to mark the 70th Anniversary of the start of the Great Evacuation of WWII in 1939. "

That early September, just 8 years old, I was evacuated to Worthing with my eldest brother John,

sister Kath and younger brother Ted by our local school Galleywall Road, South Bermondsey, London. Our stay there was heaven compared with the slum conditions we had left behind. My foster parents were in their sixties and looked after us well; my 9 months' stay there was very happy. Then we were moved from the coast to the greater safety of Hertfordshire villages. I stayed for about 2 years in the village of Brent Pelham; however, with regret, the foster parent could not cope due to arthritis so John and I were moved on.

After a few months of temporary accommodation we finally settled with the Scripps family in the village of Little Hornead. We stayed with them for over 3 years until the end of the war. There were 5 other evacuees in this village. We all got on well together and were accepted as equals by the local boys and girls. I attended the Senior School in the small town of Buntingford some 3 miles away. There were 50 evacuees out of the total of 300 children at this school. Here again the evacuees fitted in well with the rest of of the pupils. Occasionally we had sporting events where the evacuees would field a team against the locals and generally the locals came out on top.

Two events at this school I will always remember. Firstly, one term my brother John and I both achieved 100% marks in the Maths exam. The Headmaster Mr Wheeler congratulated us in front of the whole school. We were the first brothers to achieve such a feat. Secondly, I was elected by the members of Blue House to be their boys' captain, which was proof of our successful integration. My stay at Little Hornead was memorable.

I keep in regular contact with the people and the village by letter, visits and parties. Some of my old playmates, Rosa, Phyllis and Len still live in the village and on every visit you can guess there is plenty of talk about the old days. Evacuation was certainly advantageous to me, being one of 7 children with my father permanently on the dole. I shall be eternally grateful for all the families who looked after me so well and to all the local acquaintances who made my formative teenage years so interesting. **Reg Wholey.**

U3A JAZZ CONCERT

The Jazz Group are holding their Christmas Concert at Shalford Village Hall on Tuesday 15th December, 2009 2-4 pm. Once again by popular request, internationally renowned pianist-arranger Keith Nichols' all-star Hot Five will be playing for us.

The band features the fine cornet player Andy Woon and the dynamic young clarinettist James Evans. Please join us for an entertaining afternoon of first class jazz. Cost £7.50. For tickets, please send an SAE and cheque made out to Guildford U3A Area to Tim Downing, Hollywell, Ferndown Close, Guildford, GU1 2DN. (Telephone 01483 856856).

ON FIRST LOOKING INTO THE U3A
PROSPECTUS

(with apologies to John Keats)

Much have I travell'd in the realms of gold,
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen.
But, in retirement, I must cease to roam,
And seek my pleasures nearer home.
Oft of one wide expanse had I been told
That Guildford U3A Members could enjoy.

* * *

Yet did I never know its full extent
Till I the U3A Prospectus opened wide
And read of Art, Computers and much beside.
Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Now I need not go abroad for pleasure.
Education, companionship and leisure
Were all set out in equal measure.
My local U3A is indeed a treasure.

John Borwick.

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