



Newsletter November 2019

Registered Charity number 297529

AGM - brief report

Mike Cockett in his Chair's report at the AGM on Friday 4 October, thanked all the volunteers who contribute to the smooth running of Reigate and Redhill U3A.

He mentioned in particular **Elizabeth Gurteen**, Secretary, and **John Hopkins**, Data manager, who are both standing down from the Committee and thanked them for all their contributions.

As Mike described the wide range of activities that had happened over the past year, a picture of a lively and innovative organisation was painted.

In his Treasurer's Report, **Martin Livesey** stated that, as our reserves are healthy, he had no hesitation in proposing that the Membership fees for 2020 would remain at £14 for an individual and £25 for two people sharing the same address.

Please read a summary of key issues and actions from the report on page 8.

“Please return your renewal form before the end of December”



At the AGM, **Mike Cockett** welcomed two new members elected to the committee, **Ann Weaver and Deb Chapman**.

Jan Brown, Dennis Oakley and Heather Phipps were re-elected as committee members.



Lloyd Chapman and John Cousins have been co-opted as members of the committee.

Membership Renewals for 2020

The renewal process has started in the hope that all subscriptions are received before the end of December. **Please read the guidance carefully as there are changes to the process this year.**

Membership Renewal Form for 2020 are available from a range of sources:

- included on page 9 of this Newsletter;
- online through this link [Renewal Form](#) in the digital version of the Newsletter;
- from a link in the November and December email Bulletins;
- from the [About Us](#) page of the website rru3a.org.uk

Newsletter editor: pat.cockett@rru3a.org.uk

Committee 2019-2020

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Hon. Secretary

Vacancy

Hon. Treasurer

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Welcome to new members



We would like to welcome the following new members who have joined recently:

Michael Barker, Jennifer Barson, Hannah Bewsey, Christopher Burgess, Jean Daly, Ann Davies, Janet Feaver, Verity Friend, Andrew and Jo Hamilton, Yvonne Hay, Christine Holmes, Joan Hughes, Anthea and Michael Jewell, Jackie Johnson, Neil Parsons, Edward and Susan Pater, David and Rosemary Sayers, Angie Segre, Julia Thomas, Michael Tucker, Robyn Weber, Sue Winterton, Doreen and William Witchard, Randal and Carolyn MacDonell.

We hope you enjoy the learning opportunities and friendship that U3A offers.

If you have any questions please ask any of the Committee, who can be identified by their badges, at the Friday meetings or contact them directly.

Welcome and information meetings for new members

Welcome meetings are held regularly for new members to meet the committee, to hear in more detail about what U3A has to offer and to get to know other new members. All members joining since July will receive a personal invitation to the next meeting at 10.00am on **Thursday 14 November** in the meeting room at Reigate Park Church.

We would love to hear from you if you joined Reigate and Redhill U3A recently, have not yet attended a meeting and would like to attend the meeting in November. Please send a message to Heather Phipps on support@rru3a.org.uk or 01737 474015 and you will be put on the list.

Friday meetings

At Reigate Park Church, Park Lane East, Reigate RH2 8BD at 2 pm

Friday 6 December: Christmas Tea Party

The Christmas Tea Party replaces the monthly Friday meeting in December. It takes place at Reigate Manor Hotel, Reigate Hill, RH2 9PF at 2pm.

We will be entertained by **Mitchell and Williams** with songs from the shows followed by a quiz, tea/coffee, sandwiches and cake, and a free raffle.

Entrance is by ticket only, purchased in advance for £12 from Dennis Oakley - see contact details on page 2.



Friday 3 January 2020: River Kwai Railway – The True Story Paul Whittle



Constructed in huge haste and appalling conditions, the 250-mile Burma-Thai Railway cost over 100,000 lives. Not for nothing did it become known as 'The Death Railway'. Starting with the fall of Singapore in February 1942, **Paul Whittle's** talk covers the reason for the project, its construction, operation and subsequent demise before being partially re-opened.

Paul then contrasts the reality with the fiction of the iconic 1957 film which garnered a host of awards, but which was also severely criticised by prisoners of war who had been forced into constructing the railway.

Paul Whittle is a military historian and railway expert, seen recently on the TV series 'How Trains Changed the World'. Paul's military service was in the Royal Corps of Signals TA and he has published the history of the regiment in which he served.

Friday 7 February: Funny Ladies Tricia Thompson



Funny Ladies looks at the lives and work of **Julie Walters** and **Victoria Wood**. An unlikely pairing, one was a film star, the other a shy writer, they were linked through their love of comedy and character acting. With Julie's superb character acting and Victoria's wonderful writing and performance, they produced some of the funniest moments on TV. They had perfect understanding and perfect timing, but to us, the viewers, they were just perfectly funny



With a background in teaching and performance, **Tricia Thompson** is an experienced public speaker presenting lively, interesting and fun talks to groups of all sizes around the country.

Bring a friend

Just a reminder – if you think friends might be interested in the topics of the Friday meetings they are welcome to attend. They will be offered a visitor badge and asked to sign in so that we have a record of attendance.

Groups

It is so heartening when members see a niche and offer to set up and lead new groups, as the groups are pretty much the backbone of our U3A. As group members, if something crops up on the day when we would normally be attending a group session, it generally doesn't matter if we have to send our apologies. However, for group leaders this is more difficult, and we all do appreciate so much your commitment, time and effort made for the enjoyment of others.

Spanish Conversation 2 is a newly proposed group, the first session to be held in January. At the moment, the day of the week, the frequency and time have all to be decided. If you think that you may be interested in joining this group, please let me know and I will add you to the waiting list. The group leader will contact you within the next few weeks.

Two groups which really could do with more members are **Art Appreciation 2** and **Opera 1**.

Boules in Priory Park...this group will be having a break as from now but will start up again towards the end of March, when we return to BST.

Please note that the **Making Music group** is now full, so anyone keen on joining will be added to the waiting list.

If you would like further details regarding the groups above, or any of our other groups, please ring me and leave a message on 01737 474034 or, preferably, email me : groups@rru3a.org.uk **Hilary Loney** Groups Coordinator

Visit the [Groups page](#) of the website to find details of all the groups and those out looking for new members.

Coffee Mornings and Computing Help

St Joseph's Community Centre, Ladbroke Road, Redhill, RH1 1LF

Everyone is welcome to attend the coffee mornings held once a month from **10.15am to 11.30am** on different days of the week to avoid clashes with group meetings.

There is usually a theme for each meeting and there are **Help with Computing** tables at each meeting. So, bring your mobile computing device with you if you need some advice.

Wednesday 20 November

Book swap and Computer help

Dates and themes for next year to be confirmed

U3A Christmas Evening Show

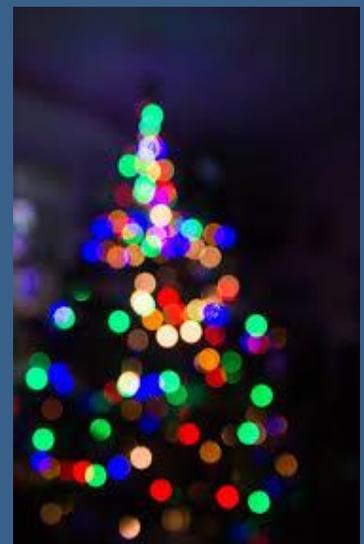
Tuesday 10 December

A Christmas Fantasy

An evening of seasonal entertainment and general nonsense

Reigate Manor Hotel, Reigate Hill, Reigate RH2 9PF
7.30pm to 9.30 pm Doors open at 7.00 pm.

Tickets, costing £7, available from sally.baker@rru3a.org.uk or 01737 221766



Outings

**Friday 27 and Tuesday 31
March 2020**

**Tutankhamun Exhibition -
£54.00 per member less
£21.00 – balance to pay
£33.00 per member**

Waiting list only for the
above outings.

Wednesday 27 May 2020

**A Day in the Kent
Countryside – cost to be
advised**

Morning visiting Godinton House & Gardens near Ashford with included morning coffee and biscuits. This ancient estate is surrounded by magnificent parklands with beautifully restored house and gardens. Coach to Tenterden where lunch may be purchased. Afternoon travel on the Kent & East Sussex Railway with included cream tea, from Tenterden to Bodiam, where our coach will be waiting for our return home at 5.00pm.

July/August 2020

**Chichester Festival Theatre
and West Dean Gardens
Date and the name of the
musical and cost to be
advised in February**

Morning coffee and biscuits at West Dean Gardens, free time in Chichester for lunch, followed by the matinee performance of the musical at Chichester Theatre. Departing for home at 5.00pm.

**Wednesday 23 September
2020**

**Legal London – cost to be
advised**

Meet our Blue Badge Guide at 10.30am for included morning coffee. Visit to Lincoln's Inn, Staple Inn and Carey Street. Free time for lunch on Fleet Street.

Afternoon visit to the Royal Courts of Justice and explore Inner & Middle Temple and the church of the Knights Templar. The entry fee for the church is included. Depart for home at 4.30pm.

Tuesday 1 December 2020

**Christmas at Kew Gardens –
cost to be advised**

Arrive at Kew at 5pm for an after-dark sparkling winter trail, including festive coloured lights, flickering Fire Garden, silvery shards at the Treetop Walkway, Palm House Pond with jumping jets of light, as well as many more sights and sounds. Spiced cider, mulled wine and hot chocolate may be purchased. Depart for home by 8.00pm.

**If you are interested in any of these
outings, contact Jane Rayner on
outings@rru3a.org.uk or 01737 240973**

Holiday in Lake Bled

**6 days and 5 nights flying
from Gatwick to Ljubljana
on 17 April 2020**

Cost £859 plus £139 single supplement. We will be staying in a 4* hotel in Bled and the holiday includes guided tours of Lake Bled, Ljubljana and the National



Gallery. We will be able to cruise on the lake, see the famous Savica waterfall and have a cable car excursion at Mount Vogel.

Contact Sally Baker for more details on
sally.baker@rru3a.org.uk or
01737 221766

Study Days

Organised by the Surrey Network of the U3A

Friday 15 November

UK in a Changing Europe

Dr. Simon Usherwood, Surrey University

The Brexit process is one that is both tiresome and important: its outcome will have major long-term impacts on both the UK and the EU.

This study day aims to unpack those impacts, while also understanding how this situation has come about.

By thinking and talking about this in a more systematic manner, this is an opportunity to make more sense of one of the major challenges facing the UK and to develop the knowledge and tools to engage more fully with a political debate that often seems to be running in circles.

Study Days are usually held at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon from 9.30am to 4.00pm. To reserve a place, complete the slip on a Study Day form by downloading one from the [Surrey Network website](#). Send the slip with a cheque for £10 (£12 for non-members) to the address shown on the form enclosing a SAE or email address for confirmation.

Planned Study Days for 2020

Friday 21 February: Astronomy; including Moons of Solar System & Debunking Moon Landing Hoaxers - *David Fishwick & Graham Bryant*
Booking opens 1 November

Friday 20 March: Results of Research on Food & Nutrition - *Professor Susan Lanham-New*
Booking opens 1 November

Friday 17 April: The most famous Pharaoh of them all: Tutankhamun, the Boy King
Clive Barham Carter
Booking opens 1 November

Friday 15 May: The Role of Women in Society

Friday 19 June: To be arranged

Friday 18 September: Mughal Art - *Ursula Weekes*

Friday 16 October: Industrial Archaeology - *Professor David Perrett*

Friday 20 November: Art History - *Collin Wiggins*

Help with a new initiative Shared transport to Study Days

Over 100 members indicated, through the recent survey, that lack of public transport prevented them from attending U3A Study Days at Stoke D'Abernan and that they would be interested in using shared transport.

We are still looking for someone to conduct a feasibility study on this proposal. This would involve:

- researching the options and cost of minibus transport,
- identifying one or two pick-up points with free parking and
- producing a short report on how such a system could be managed for the committee to consider.

So, if any member or small group would be happy to take on this task please contact Mike Cockett on mike.cockett@ru3a.org.uk

National U3A offers for members



Beneath Your Feet - Hidden Depths of Roman London

20 and 21 November 2019

Guildhall Art Gallery £23.50

The Archaeologist of London's Guildhall Art Gallery will lead this study day in the remains of London's Roman Amphitheatre to discover more about the City's ancient history. U3A members will also take part in a Roman lamp-making workshop to create their own authentic clay oil lamps. The *day* ends with a guided visit to the nearby Temple of Mithras, a unique experience in the heart of the City of London.

The day will include a 10-minute walk. Guildhall Art Gallery and London's Roman Amphitheatre are fully accessible. Welcome refreshments are provided at 10.30 am and the study day starts at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Lunch is not provided.



The Architecture of London The Royal Institute of British Architects 25 November 2019 - 10.30am to 15.30pm £25.00

The Royal Institute of British Architects cares for one of the largest and most diverse architectural collections in the world. Travel through four centuries of London's architectural development on this study day, hosted within the Institute's iconic art deco headquarters.

Introducing rare examples from a collection of over four million items including models, drawings, photographs, books and personal archives, you'll explore the changing face of London's built environment – from the perfect symmetry and proportion of the Georgian era to today's breathtaking towers of glass. You'll learn the key elements of major architectural styles such as Gothic Revival and Modernism and become familiar with the work of some of Britain's greatest architects.

To find out more and book your place on any U3A National event, visit the **Events** section of the website <http://www.u3a.org.uk/>



U3A Christmas Concert 2019 Wednesday 4 December St Lawrence Jewry next to the Guildhall London

14.00 to 16.00 - £18.50

This year for the first time the U3A Christmas Concert will be staged in St Lawrence Jewry next to the Guildhall, London. This is the official church of the Lord Mayor of London and the City of London Corporation. Singers from two London based choirs - Queldryk Choral Ensemble and City Chorus - will perform under the direction of Paul Ayres

Accompanied by mulled wine and a mince pie, the concert will get audience members fully into the Christmas spirit with a range of inspiring seasonal music, old and new. There will be the opportunity to sing traditional carols as well as enjoying a short talk about the history of the Church.

Finance Matters

In the Treasurer's Report to the 2019 AGM, **Martin Livesey** went through the details of the Financial report for the year ending 31 July 2019 (which was emailed to all members in September). He explained significant changes to income and expenditure. Key points and future actions are listed below.

Overall income has increased year on year, mainly due to an increase in subscriptions from members. This reflects an underlying trend of steady growth in membership numbers (although total numbers do fluctuate, with a steady stream of people both joining and leaving) such that we currently have around 950 members. Despite the fact that subscription income is rising year on year, the tax that we are able to claim back on subscriptions (through Gift Aid) is falling year on year, and this has now been the case for the last 3 years.

The reason behind this is that, each year, fewer members have a **Gift Aid declaration** in place. The Committee would therefore urge you (if you pay income tax and haven't previously made a declaration) to tick the Gift Aid box on your 2020 renewal form. It costs you nothing and provides valuable additional income for the U3A.

Although expenditure has increased, we still have the equivalent of a full year's income in our reserve. Whilst we do need to hold a reserve, in order to protect our organisation from unforeseen events and costs, we have been building it up for a number of years now and shouldn't continue to do so ad infinitum.

With this in mind, the Committee has agreed steps to spend more of our income for the general benefit of all members. These steps will:

- Further improve the quality of Friday meeting speakers
- Raise the ceiling on the group subsidy for venue hire, to redress the inequality between groups meeting weekly and groups meeting less frequently as outlined in the [Money Handling Policy for Groups](#) (click to view)
- Fund the cost of entertainment at the Christmas Tea

Given the healthy financial position, the Treasurer had no hesitation in recommending that the membership subscription remains unchanged.

Additional Activities organised for members

The Finance Policy document [Money Handling Policy for Groups](#) also refers to the way that additional activities are managed financially. The Third Age Trust has produced this guidance:

A key principle of the U3A movement is that U3A members offer their services free to the movement and must not get any pecuniary reward for their contribution.

Events such as theatre trips, visits, educational days out, residential or other events must be charged at cost and all participants pay appropriately. The costs paid by members must cover the out-of-pocket expenses of the organiser.

The organiser of an event must not benefit from any discount, such as a free place, offered by the organisation providing the event. The value of free places must be shared out among all participants to the event e.g. by covering the payment of tips. Out-of-pocket expenses will be paid to an organiser out of the money collected for the event.

All Reigate and Redhill U3A's activities are organised according to the above principle. The organisers, in consultation with the Treasurer, will establish the cost in relation to each context.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2020

PLEASE READ THESE NOTES BEFORE COMPLETING THE RENEWAL FORM OVERLEAF

Membership Renewal Forms are available at the monthly Friday meetings, included in the November Newsletter and monthly bulletins or from the **About Us** page of our website rru3a.org.uk.

Each member will be sent their current details held on our database. Please check that yours are correct.

NEW FOR THIS YEAR

If you are paying by **Bank Transfer**, and all your details are the same as last year, **you do not have to complete a Renewal Form**. Email membership@rru3a.org.uk confirming that the details are correct and that you have made a Bank Transfer. We can verify your payment by checking our bank account and will acknowledge receipt.

Bank Transfer details

Lloyds Bank Account: RRU3A Account number: 33587768 Sort Code: 30 94 38
Reference: your forename and surname

If you are NOT paying by Bank Transfer or if there are any changes to the details we hold for you, please complete the renewal form overleaf **NOTING THE CHANGES** and either send a scanned image to membership@rru3a.org.uk or send the completed form to Membership Administrator, 39 Kingfisher Drive, Redhill RH1 2AD

Membership cards

Your payment receipt can act as your Membership Card. However, if you would prefer a printed card, please collect it at a Friday meeting or send a Stamped Addressed Envelope to: Membership Administrator, 39 Kingfisher Drive, Redhill RH1 2AD

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members must:

- Abide by the Principles of the U3A movement.
- Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
- Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
- Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
- Comply with and support the decisions of the elected committee.
- Advise the committee of any change in personal details.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Reigate and Redhill U3A requires members to provide their personal information so that you can be kept informed about events and activities that are offered as part of your membership. In collecting information Reigate and Redhill U3A will:

- Store it securely
- Use it to communicate with you as a U3A member.
- Share your information with group leaders/conveners for those groups that you are a member of.
- Send you general information about the Third Age Trust*

**The Third Age Trust is the national office to which all U3As are affiliated.*

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR RENEWAL FORM



Registered Charity No. 297529
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2020

Please complete in black ink.

If all your details are the same as last year and you have paid by Bank Transfer, please email membership@rru3a.org.uk confirming no changes.

Annual Membership Subscription: Single £14 Joint £25 (*please tick as appropriate*)

Associate Membership Subscription – **only if you are a FULL member of another U3A:**

Name of other U3A: Single £10 Joint £19 (*please tick as appropriate*)

	1 st Member		2 nd Member (<i>if joint membership</i>)	
Title				
Forename		Known as		Known as
Surname				
Email	Only complete if changed		Only complete if changed	
Home Tel		Mobile		Mobile
Address	Only complete if changed			Post Code
Emergency Contact: Name and phone plus relationship e.g. family, friend, neighbour Only complete if changed				

Please tick your payment method:

- Cheque:** Make your cheque payable to 'Reigate and Redhill U3A' **Cash**
 Bank transfer: Make payment to: Lloyds Bank **Account:** RRU3A **Account No:** 33587768
Sort Code: 30 94 38 **Reference:** Please use your forename and surname as reference

giftaid it

Did you know that you can Gift Aid Reigate and Redhill U3A membership without any cost to yourself? The Gift Aid scheme boosts your membership donation by 25p for every £1 of your subscription. If you are willing to Gift Aid your membership donation, please tick one of the boxes following the declaration below. For a joint membership, only one member, who must be a taxpayer, is required to tick a box.

As a UK taxpayer, I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future to Reigate and Redhill U3A.

1st Member or 2nd Member

Please read carefully, sign and date the application form below if you wish to renew your membership.

I/We apply for membership of Reigate and Redhill U3A and confirm that I/we will abide by the terms of membership as stated overleaf and confirm that I/we have read the Privacy Statement overleaf.

I/We consent to the holding of my/our membership records securely for the administration of Reigate and Redhill U3A; management of groups; communication with members; mailing of newsletters, Reigate and Redhill U3A magazine and *Third Age Trust magazines. *The Third Age Trust is the National Office to which all U3As are affiliated.

You can request for your data not to be used for the direct postal mailing of Third Age Trust magazines at any time by contacting the data manager data@rru3a.org.uk

Signature(s) Date

(For joint membership, both must sign)

Please send completed form, a sae for printed membership card if required, together with cheque payable to 'Reigate and Redhill U3A' to: Membership Administrator, 39 Kingfisher Drive, Redhill RH1 2AD or, if paying by Bank Transfer, scan form and email: membership@rru3a.org.uk

If you have any queries, please contact support@rru3a.org.uk or 01737 474015

Office Use Only

Mem No.

BACS / Chq / Cash