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### Message from the Chair

Dear Friends,

I spotted a most interesting word: ‘agglomeration’ in an article recently. Typically, my mind turns to Canterbury u3a activities, even though the article was not related to u3a. In my view, the larger the u3a membership, the more vibrant and resilient that u3a can become, thanks to the effect of agglomeration—as long as we continue to develop our leadership groups of course. Essentially, the more members join together, the more conversations, ideas and useful exchanges they have which can then benefit the running and direction of u3a, and shared learning experiences in general. I definitely witnessed this effect in September where I enjoyed a busy joining day; an entertaining Wednesday speaker meeting; a celebratory volunteers’ afternoon tea; and led a lively and friendly group of members on the five-day autumn coach holiday to Cheshire and North Wales. By the time you read this, I will also have hosted our relaunched Welcome get-together for new members (more get-togethers are likely to be planned if you were unable to get to this one). There are lots of openings for you to realise the ideas that many of you have expressed, so please take the opportunity to progress them with me and my committee colleagues. The smooth functioning and continuous development of Canterbury u3a depends on the many volunteers who selflessly give their time, for which I thank you sincerely. There’s plenty of room for more.

*Robin Terry*



### Important Dates and Notices

**Friday 4 October: Joining Session** at St. Peter's Methodist Church, 10.30 to 12 noon

**Wednesday 9 October Monthly Meeting** at St Mary Bredin Church, Nunnery Fields, 2 p.m.

Talk: ‘Beginning, a Muddle and an End: where do novelists get their ideas from?’ Speaker Bobbie Derbyshire.

**Wednesday 13 November Annual Quiz** at St Mary Bredin Church, Nunnery Fields. 2 p.m. If you would like to book a table for 6, please get in touch with Ursula Steiger on [usteiger@canterbury.org.uk](mailto:usteiger@canterbury.org.uk), otherwise just turn up on the day and join a table with space.

**Saturday 19 October: Film: ‘Lee’**, 3 p.m. at the Gulbenkian Cinema, University Campus.

SYNOPSIS: Kate Winslet delivers a peerless performance, capturing the fierce determination and inspirational bravery of trailblazing Vogue war correspondent, model and photographer Elizabeth ‘Lee’ Miller, in director Ellen Kuras’s stirring, intensely moving wartime biopic.

TRAILER: LEE | Official Theatrical Trailer | In Theaters September 27 ([youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com))

BOOKING LINK: [thegulbenkian.co.uk](http://thegulbenkian.co.uk) (£5 ticket with U3A£5 voucher code).

How to use the voucher code (these are the instructions provided by the Box Office.)

1. When landing on the website, go to ‘film tickets’ at the top of the page.
2. Choose the relevant film/date to book.
3. Before selecting your seats, enter the voucher code in the code box at the top left of the screen, press enter to activate.
4. Select the seats of your choice (ignoring the pricing indicated).
5. Go to your basket to process to payment and your tickets will automatically be reduced to £5.

Please don't worry if you have problems with this, as you can just turn up on the day; but remember to bring your u3a membership card to obtain the discount. There also may be a queue to book, so it is advisable to turn up in good time!

As always, parking is free at the weekend and there is a bus service to the university every 15 minutes, from the bus station. Happy viewing, Doreen Kalideen



## September's Monthly Meeting—some good news!

Chris O'Donoghue's excellent talk 'Behind the scenes at the Chelsea Flower Show' has been successfully recorded and is now available to be heard again on [https://youtu.be/pltt\\_UPbduQ](https://youtu.be/pltt_UPbduQ). We are indebted to the tech savvy members who have made this possible.



## Autumn Walks

### Walk from Canterbury to Barton Mill on Friday 11 October at 10.30 a.m.

3–4 mile easy circular walk starting at Canterbury West Station. We walk along the Stour to Barton Mill before walking back via some public footpaths behind the Canterbury Courts. There are optional refreshments at the end from the Goods Shed. Please have a coffee or buy something if you park there. To book a place, text or email Ruth Adams.

Please note that future walks may be temporarily unavailable on the website (under Events) due to website changes. They will however continue to be published in the Monthly Bulletin.



### Five mile walk on Thursday 17 October.

MEET at 10:30 a.m. at Wingham's free car park/public toilets, St. Mary's meadow, CT3 1DF. There is also street parking along St Mary's Meadow. The #43 bus will take you from Canterbury bus station to the Anchor bus stop in Wingham.

We will walk across the street to access St Mary's Meadow. The walk will take us towards Ickham, then past the Gravel Pits and the Little Stour, up to Heart's Delight and back down to Wingham. There are two stiles, and a couple of pedestrian bridges. As we leave and return to Wingham, we will need to walk on the pavement next to the busy A257, but then we'll veer off to fields and quiet country lanes. Some gentle elevation changes going up to Heart's Delight, but mostly flat.

To book a place please email or telephone Ponda Thomas.



## Interest Sharing Groups: Current Activities

### Knit and Natter

October 10 and 24 at 2 p.m. at The Dolphin, Canterbury  
CONTACT: Liliias Adamson



### English Heritage visit

October 18: Down House, home of Charles Darwin  
CONTACT: Steve Casey



### Social Bridge Groups:

The Coastal Group meet at Dunkirk Village Hall, weekly on Thursday afternoons.  
CONTACT: Anni Bignold

The Canterbury Group meet at Littlebourne Village Hall, weekly on Friday afternoons.  
CONTACT: Jane Dennett



## Green Fingers

October 21: 2 p.m.–4 p.m. Meeting with talk

Kent MS Therapy Centre, Merton Lane, (off Nackington Road) Canterbury CT4 7DZ

CONTACT: Chris Cayley



## Photography

This group will meet on Friday 18 October at 2 p.m. by Fenwick's on the corner of St George's Street and St George's Lane, taking on the challenge of street photography. For those who are not too keen on this subject there will be plenty of opportunities for architectural photography.



## Folk Song.

This group could not meet in September due to issues at the venue. A date for the next meeting will be published as soon as possible.



## More exciting learning opportunities for our members!

### Online Learning

All members of Canterbury u3a are entitled to log on to National u3a Online Learning Events. Jenny Harrop attended the Staying Safe on Line Zoom event and found it excellent. It is repeated and updated from time to time and is run by Barry Linton from Thorpe Bay u3a. There is a wide variety of subjects on offer, so take a look and enjoy!



### The Devil's Doorbell, Gulbenkian Arts Centre, University of Kent: 7.30, Thursday 7 November.

Drawing on the roles and personas ascribed to women through the ages, the show explores the absurdities and injustices conferred upon women's bodies, serving up a surprising and provocative experience laced with laughter and the moving messiness of life. This powerful dance-theatre is made and performed by our core company of older dancers. You can watch the trailer by clicking [here](#) or on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxLeVxee6SM>.



## Grooving Well.

Grooving well workshops are led for and by people aged 50+. Sessions build from simple getting-to-know-you activities through to making a short choreography from participants' own stories and movements. The sessions are FREE—they're about having fun, loosening up and letting go, celebrating the good stuff of life. They are held at the Beaney House of Art and Knowledge Canterbury; Wordsworth Library Chatham; Biggin Hall, Dover; and ARK, Cliftonville's cultural space.



## ... and a unique offer from the Canterbury Festival.

A few tickets have been kept aside for u3a members for the UpStart Silver Surfers Workshop on Wednesday 30 October 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jarman Studio, University of Kent, with a follow-up showcase event from 7 to 9.30 p.m. at the Gulbenkian Arts Centre Café. Both events are FREE.

This is a one-day comedy workshop for people over 60, incorporating comedy writing and improvisation, culminating in an evening of sketches developed during the day. The day includes a visit to the unique archive of stand-up comedy at the Templeman Library and the chance to be mentored by celebrated comedians Laura Lexx and Robin Hatcher.

For a full programme of the day and application form please visit the festival website: [canterburyfestival.co.uk](http://canterburyfestival.co.uk) or contact Amanda on [amandaseftonhogg@canterburyfestival.co.uk](mailto:amandaseftonhogg@canterburyfestival.co.uk)



## Holidays

Here is a brief report from one of our holiday makers and an important message from Robin Terry, our chair. There is also another report with wonderful photographs by Janet Livermore on our website.

**U3a Holiday 1st — Cheshire and North Wales.** The five days were full of interest and very well planned; the coach was comfortable and the hotel was in a beautiful location overlooking the Mersey estuary.

Our first experience was the National Space Centre near Leicester. I found it totally immersive if occasionally disorientating. Outside the actual planetarium there was so much to see and learn about space travel, from the first attempts to present times.

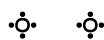
Dinner provided a chance to speak to more members, as I only knew a few. Tuesday's visits were to Port Sunlight, including the Lady Lever Art Gallery. Not having visited here before, I was impressed by the variety of architecture designed by its founder, William Hesketh Lever. I discovered what an analemmatic sundial is! The Art Gallery was an absolute joy and full of fascinating items including a picture of the scapegoat. On to Chester to visit the Cathedral, city walls, the Rows of thirteenth century shops on two levels and as many other places as our legs would take us.

Wednesday, with the sun in the sky again, we were off to Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre, Once more my mind was completely boggled by the information on hand, including the planetarium experience of blasting off into space. We even saw the Lovell Telescope, the third largest steerable radio telescope in the world, slowly moving around. Then off to Tatton Park to see the house and gardens. Another new fact: the Wirral is named after an Old English word for myrtle.

Thursday took us to a different garden at Bodnant in north Wales and there could not have been a greater contrast: soaring trees towering over steep slopes, rushing water, completely different planting, —a great sense of peace despite the very many visitors. Friday was our last day and the long journey home was broken by a stop at the Pottery Museum and Art Gallery at Stoke-on-Trent. A further new fact for me: what is a fuddling cup? There were several examples on view. The Gallery also contains the Staffordshire Hoard discovered in 2009, with examples of seventh century workmanship.

The success of the holiday was firmly based on the pre-planning and organisation of Helen Nattrass and the pro-active resilience, persistence, good humour and care of Robin Terry together with his team. Thank you all.

*Pauline Hodding*



**The recent holiday to Cheshire and North Wales** was planned by Helen Nattrass, and hosted by me as caretaker leader during the actual week away. My task was made simple and enjoyable, thanks to the responsibilities for organising and managing the holiday being shared amongst six of us. My sincere thanks to all involved.

Our u3a has built a strong reputation over many years for coach holidays. Indeed so good was the recent holiday that many of the participants expressed a strong hope for these holidays to continue.

However, as I wrote in March this year, a new Holiday Organiser needs to step forward who will lead both the advanced planning and the care of the group during the actual holiday period.

We particularly seek a volunteer leader who is willing to develop the holiday team, sharing the tasks of organising and managing two coach holidays per year.

Please consider and contact me to enable plans to go ahead for 2025.

The future of our u3a holidays is in your hands as members.

*Robin Terry, Chair*



## U3A Outings: London Lights and Evensong, Sunday 1st December

### Booking

You can apply by email (preferred) or by post to arrive by 7 October.

**By post:** Please send applications, on the tear-off section below to the U3A office, 8 Orange Street, Canterbury CT1 2JA. You can pay by BACS or enclosed cheque as below. Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want confirmation of your place by post rather than email.

**By email (preferred):** Please email [outings@u3acanterbury.org.uk](mailto:outings@u3acanterbury.org.uk) by 7 October, with 'LL' as the subject, and give your name, membership number, daytime phone number and mobile phone to be used on the outing as well as the name and contact details for who to contact in an emergency. Plus let us know if you would like an alternative to Fish and Chip lunch. We will notify you of your place and you can then pay by BACS as below.

If this outing is oversubscribed, places will be allocated by ballot at the end of the application period. Applications from two people on the same form will be kept together in any ballot. Refunds can only be made in accordance with our refunds policy, a copy of which is on our website.

### Payment:

**By cheque:** Please include cheques with your application made out to U3A Canterbury-Social Events with the reference LL and your membership number written on the back.

**By BACS transfer (preferred).** We will advise on the account details as soon as we confirm your place.



### Application for London Lights Outing

Name:		Membership No:
Name:		Membership No:
Daytime Telephone:	Email:	
Mobile Phone to be used on the outing:		
Name and contact number (of someone not on this outing) to be used in emergency:		
Please state any dietary requirements for the Fish and Chip lunch (e.g. gluten free, vegan):		
Payment Method: Please tick box	<input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose a cheque for £____ payable to U3A Canterbury—Social Events with <b>LL</b> and membership number written on the back.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	I will pay £____ by BACS transfer once my place(s) have been confirmed.



Thank you for all your contributions, from a couple of sentences up to 250 words.  
 Keep them coming, as this is your News Bulletin.  
 Send them to Ursula Steiger: [ursulae@btinternet.com](mailto:ursulae@btinternet.com).

