

AYLESBURY VALE U.3.A.



Issue No. 87

June 2018

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

This introduction to the Chairman's Letter is the same as the June 2017 issue i.e. 'Hope the wet weather hasn't spoiled springtime for you all'. Trusting this is not a foretaste of the future, although they say that the south of the country is forecast to be wetter than the north in future years.

The committee has been very busy during the past months dealing with the following issues:

Co-ordination of the various group displays for the 30th year celebration which I hope you all looked at during the May Meeting. About thirty five groups showcased their activities with a mixture of table, wall displays and/or presentations.

1. The Charities Commission has instructed the Third Age Trust (TAT) to change its Objectives Statement and those of all the individual U3As to better reflect the ethos of the organisation. The change will not affect the way we operate and the committee is planning an Emergency General Meeting for the members to agree the required amendment to the constitution.
2. The Commission has also recommended that we change some of the accountancy practices of our organisation. The changes will affect the running of a number of our groups and they will be communicated to the appropriate Group Leaders in due course.
3. Another major change to the way we operate is the implementation of the GDPR, which is Europe's framework for data protection laws. These changes will affect every member and they will be communicated to you all for implementation.
4. Due to the good work by the Succession Planning Team of Dot Simmonds, Jean Ashton and Lynne Dawson, we are well placed to fill the vacant committee posts, including a Chairman and Treasurer, by the AGM in October.

It's good to see that a number of members have been organising a variety of trips during the past few months. I personally attended the visit to the Hindu Temple in Neasden which was a very enjoyable and interesting experience.

Believe it or not, the planning for this year's Christmas Show has begun with Andy Carter, John Wilford and myself trying to follow the highly successful efforts of the last two years. We are looking for people who have a talent and could perform in front of the membership.

Greig Sneddon

URGENT

Please read the very important notice re new rules for membership on Page 8

A Happy Group of Walkers on a wet, cold, muddy, misty, drizzly morning on the Dunstable Downs. Ron Tomasina has called this 'The Spirit of the U3A' and we can see why. This photo was taken just before the ice and snow descended, but was too late for the last newsletter.



I was fortunate enough to win the huge Easter egg raffled at the last U3A monthly meeting which Aylesbury Lions Club donated to raise funds for charity. I hope everyone else who bought tickets but didn't win might be comforted by the thought that the egg went to a further good cause.



I volunteer with a local charity, Social Link, that provides help and support for adults with disabilities and the members were thrilled when I took the egg in on club night so that they could break it open and share out the chocolate.

Thank you to everyone involved.

Kathy Herridge

Editor's Note: The raffle raised £137. 50 for Bucks. Young Carers, and Florence Nightingale Hospice

I Have a Question

WHY NOT A U4A?

One of my sons recently asked me 'Dad, when are you going into an old person home?' He then offered me some advice 'Stay in your own house for as long as you can, Dad' This made me think; one of the reasons that delays my going into an old persons home (OPH) is that I am devoted to U3A. If I were to move it is likely to be that some part of my body has worn out. But what if my mind is still active? If my mind has given up then an OPH could well be the answer. Otherwise it means care at home. But even if my mind is still active, and I have to have care of some kind I may well be house bound or OPH bound. So my mind said 'Why not a U4A –U3A being the Third age, and the fourth the last.

This might involve the present U3A organising visits to members houses or OPH's This in turn would involve more volunteers, but U3A has always shown what is possible with volunteers. Different people would be needed; one to relay the main points made by the Speaker at the monthly meeting; others might have been fellow members of a particular study group. Group Leaders could be asked to find a volunteer for the visits at each meeting.

The benefits could be; ideas from the more elderly might be fed into U3A; the more elderly would be less likely to feel cut off; The more elderly might find new friends. Visits to the old are always welcome.

I would welcome feedback on this idea.

Ed Schoon

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS:



Members who were able to attend the March monthly meeting or who regularly access the website will have noted that there have been some comings and goings recently. **The family history group** has been suspended due to a decline in attendances. However all members are advised that the Bucks. Family History Society has representatives at the Centre for Bucks Studies from 10.00 am. until 3.00 p.m. every Tuesday and they will be happy to offer advice. So don't hesitate to contact them.

A new group '**Music of the 50's and 70's** has been formed and has already had its first meetings. (We already have a lively and well established group looking at the 60's) It meets on Tuesdays at the Tennis Club on Wendover Road.

Discovering Dishes

After four and a half years of lively meetings, delicious food and inventive recipes we have decided to call time on our small group. Our numbers have dwindled over the last year and we had been unable to attract new members. It is therefore with some reluctance we made the sad decision to disband. During our time together we have tasted some fabulous meals, watched some excellent demonstrations, invited interesting speakers and enjoyed meals out.



Most importantly we have amassed a catalogue of hundreds of recipes which we all agree have proved useful for entertaining and cooking for our families. We have learned a lot and had a great deal of fun. I will miss adding new recipes to my repertoire but most of all I will miss meeting up regularly with such a talented group of people. For a final bash we will going to Rumseys in Thame to learn how to make chocolate and enjoy a farewell meal together

Thanks to all members past and present who made this group such a success.

Bobby Cadwallader

New Group leaders required: You may have noticed that a number of groups have been suspended owing to changes in organisation. We have been grateful to all those members who have given up their time often over many years, to establish and encourage them. The best tribute we could pay them is to take over where they left off and find new volunteers. You don't have to follow the same formula or even meet on the same days. We need helpers for Art Appreciation, Computer Enthusiasts, the Theatre Group and as you will have read above—for Family History.

A quick look at other U3A's news shows a whole variety of other activities—just looking at them alphabetically they list Astronomy; 20th Century Architecture; Archaeology; Bird Watching; Boules and so on through the whole alphabet. Why not share your interests with the rest of us.



AYLESBURY VALE U3A - A LASTING LEGACY:

How informative and up-to date our AVU3A website is. It is well worth a look to get advance information about trips, speakers, new groups and notes from the meetings you miss. Imagine my surprise when looking one day to find a black and white picture of our U3A, during its early years, on the home page. There, on the front row, is my mother, Eileen Davis, who joined in 1989. It is not the first time she has appeared in the local press but this time she is not holding a banner to protest about Poll Tax but she has a study book. I believe this is a picture of the Play Reading Group. I think I also spotted her friend Pearl, a veteran of Bletchley Park, who died a few years ago.

The AVU3A sustained my mother during her enforced retirement when she reached 60 (this could not happen now). When she died last Spring, aged 91, I found boxes of evidence from her time as an active member. There were notes and leaflets (and receipts!) from all the residential Study Tours she went on. As well as Play Reading she belonged to groups for Poetry, Geology, Archaeology, Theatre Trips, London Walks and History. She also went on lots of outings and all the information leaflets were saved for posterity as well. Her diaries were full of action-packed weeks with many meetings. She was responsible for ordering and selling U3A lapel badges and wore hers with pride. It is a testament to our membership that some of these groups are still active now. Indeed, one or two of her peers still attend - certainly Barbara Whittaker who organised some of those study tours and theatre trips.

Unfortunately failing health, visiting my hospitalised father for four years, and the challenge of driving to, and parking at, Meadowcroft, after previously attending all the meetings at the Grange School, meant her attendance dwindled and then ceased. She did however relive activities vicariously by talking to me about my groups, her Age UK Companion (Jenny, another of our loyal members) and one or two of her compatriots. How fitting that a lot of the new knitting wool she left - a wardrobe full - was gratefully received by our Craft Group and some of the things at the Christmas Sale were made from this wool.

Would I have known about AVU3A if it had not been for my mother? Probably not. For its 20th Anniversary she compiled a Scrap Book which she was advised had been put in our U3A archives. How lovely it would be if this could be displayed for others to see when we celebrate 30 years next year.

This is quite a legacy I think. Long may we all reap the benefit!



Hazel Burgess

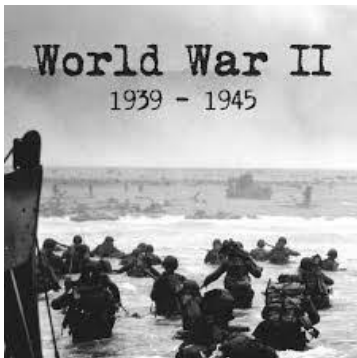
Hazel's Mum Eileen is on the front row third from the right. Many of our long standing members will remember her well

NOT TOO OLD AFTER ALL...

Sometime in 2015, I suddenly became aware that I was fast approaching my 80th Birthday and wondered for how much longer I would be able to be a useful member of society and able to continue doing things for the benefit of others in the community. Luckily, I am currently in very good health and so was anxious that I could do something to keep me actively occupied, rather than just withering away at home staring at four walls and the television. Out of the blue came a request through my daughter-in-law to say that the school that our (at that time) eight year old grandson attended was looking for someone to talk to his class of around 30 children about World War 2, which was the subject that they were studying at that time. Apparently they were experiencing difficulty finding someone suitable as most of the children in the class had grandfathers, either not living in the area or were too young to know much about World War 2 and had certainly not experienced it at first hand.

I was encouraged to volunteer to help out as my family knew I had first-hand knowledge of the trauma of the war and what it was like growing up as a child, living about ten miles south of London, and experiencing the Blitz. As well as being bombed out and other things, I have a clear and concise memory of all that happened during those years, as if it were yesterday and numerous items related to the war - like a gas mask. The school felt I was an ideal candidate to do such a talk and arranged a date for me to speak to the class. I was not in the least bit apprehensive, even though I had never given such a talk like this previously, as most of my intended audience knew me well anyway for as the granddad of Charlie I was known to many of his classmates and their parents as 'Granddad' too.

I spoke for well over an hour to a most attentive young audience, who sat enthralled as I told them what it was like for me, growing up during those early childhood years, I was 3 years old when war broke out, and the war years I experienced in that way were, in effect those same early years and birthdays that my audience had experienced in a war-free atmosphere.



The teacher and her assistants said they couldn't remember a time when the class had listened so intently and quietly for such a prolonged period of time in any other subject. At the end of my talk some of the children asked questions and most of these were very sensible, although one child caught me a little unawares when he asked if the "Titanic" was sunk during World War 2 and I had to put him right on the historical calendar in this respect. Since this talk I have given two similar talks, one of them to the same school, but the same age group class, a couple of years after my initial one and the other to a local cub scout group and these later talks were just as enthusiastically received as the earlier one. Both for the school and for the Cubs, I have been asked back to give a similar talk at a later date towards the end of this year. I was quite satisfied with doing these talks until I recently saw on the U3A newsletter, an article

stating that some local schools were looking for senior citizens to help out as volunteers to listen to their young pupils reading aloud to them.

Because the teachers are so busy with other work in their class they rarely have time to listen to children reading.. In addition, busy parents, often with other young children to care for at home have little chance, especially if they work too, to give their child one-to-one attention whilst they read aloud to them. Some parents too, whose first language is not English, whilst they can usually master enough English to converse in most respects, often experience greater difficulties with reading the written words in a book whilst listening to their child, so are unable to closely monitor if the child is reading correctly.

After seeing the U3A article I contacted a local school to offer my help in this respect. After going through all the necessary checks like CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) and Teacher Disbarment Enquiry Checks, I was accepted to help at the school as a Volunteer Teachers Assistant, listening to children reading out loud to me. Each child was given one-to one attention by me and each had around 15 minutes to read aloud from the book they had chosen. This was my first experience of doing this and after listening to about seven children around the age of eight years found it a very rewarding thing to do

As well as improving their reading ability this exercise gives them increased self-confidence in other respects too.

With my World War Two talks and the work at the school in connection with children's reading I now feel reassured that I can play a useful part in the community. This very interesting and rewarding work has given me the chance to give something back to the area in which I have lived now for over 50 years.

Aylesbury has been very good to me and my wife and family in that time and I am so pleased that even in my advanced years I can give something back and the fact that it involves young children who hopefully benefit makes it all the more enjoyable.



As I left the school after my reading session to go to my car, one young boy greeted me with "Hallo! Mr. Ball" to which I responded "Where do I know you from?" He then informed me that I had recently given a talk to his class. "So, how do you remember my name," I enquired. "Because you taught us so many interesting things about when you were a child in World War Two"

As I walked away from him I thought to myself – that is what makes it all worthwhile !!

Stan Ball

MEMBERS ENJOY CHINESE MEAL:

Over 50 members of Aylesbury Vale U3A enjoyed a Chinese lunch at the China Brasserie in Fairford Leys on Wednesday 25 April 2018. I don't think many of them would have been doing much in the afternoon after such a feast!

The starter included a spring roll, chicken skewer with a peanut sauce, spare rib, prawn toast and seaweed. Even my mother who is not keen on Chinese food kept saying, "mmmm this is nice"! Then followed thin pancakes with shredded duck and the usual accompaniments. We were all pretty full by this stage but we hadn't had our main course yet; we all chose from a selection of dishes which were served with rice and delicious freshly cooked Chinese vegetables.

Comments made at the end of the meal, and subsequently a number of emails received, indicated that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the meal and also the company.



Mary Singleton

Social Activities Co-ordinator

Sent in by a reader with a sense of humour!

The girl said she recognised me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore
I've just taken part in a theatrical performance all about puns. It was a play on words
They told me I had Type A blood, but it was a typo.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

"Laugh
alot. A
good sense
of humor
cures almost
allof life's
ills"

Grammar
Fun for all

THIRTY YEARS ON:



The vibrancy and diversity of the groups on show at May's meeting celebrating our 30th Birthday was truly wonderful and turned my thoughts to when our group was first started.

We began with an inaugural meeting in the Civic Centre to see if there was any support for the U3A in Aylesbury and nearly had to move into the main hall, so many had turned up eager to find out about such an organization. Needless to say we were quickly up and running, Eric Dorrance our founder, gained the full support of the Education Dept. in County Hall who were most helpful in every way. We had many groups meeting in the Grange school (free of charge I believe) and Sir Roy Harding the previous Chief Education Officer became our President.

Eric himself was full of enthusiasm and was adept at persuading anyone who had the slightest interest in any subject that they could start such a group. He involved himself in every aspect of our U3A and the groups were sure of his support at all times. As our numbers grew so we quickly outgrew our original venue for the monthly meetings, first in Quarrendon, next we moved to Hazell's Hall, then to the Sports Hall opposite Stoke Mandeville Hospital, followed by the Football club in Buckingham Road before finally arriving at our present venue in Meadowcroft. You can see we have lasted longer than some of these venues themselves.

The U3A has enriched our lives in many ways giving us a chance to learn new skills, make new friends and remain active and mentally alert. There is something for everyone and if not then you can always start a new group. No longer does one have to sit at home after retirement wondering how to fill the days, we are out and about to such an extent that our families ask if we are ever going to be in to receive their calls! Life is wonderful with so much to do, places to visit, new things to learn and above all friends to do it all with.

It was a great sorrow that we lost Eric so suddenly while he was on a U3A bowling holiday. He had so many plans for the future and went out on a high but how we all missed him and what a terrible loss for our U3A. He was a very hard act to follow but neither could we let all he had achieved go and Ed Schoon valiantly took up the challenge and so we have survived with Ed and all who have followed him making our U3A what it is today. Eric would be so proud to see how we have grown and that what he started has made so much difference to so many people including many of the neighbouring U3A's that have spawned from his first steps 30 years ago. Let us pause as we celebrate and remember with gratitude his foresight and work that has brought us to where we stand today.

Mary Rogers

Mary sent this article just as I was about to add a note about how many members at the end of the May meeting had come up to say what a lovely and cheerful event it was. Not only were the individual group displays full of imagination, but the great thing was that people were talking to each other all over the hall. We don't usually have the opportunity to socialise at the monthly meeting, and this aspect was much enjoyed.

Editor



Our Chairman welcomes the Deputy Mayor of Aylesbury, Councillor Mark Willis. We hope that he was impressed by the variety of activities we offer.

Both photos from Moira Bishop

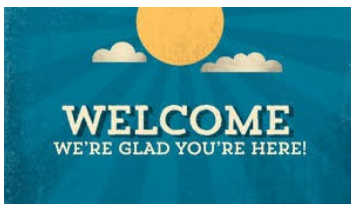


MONDAY 13TH AUGUST: Visit two stunning Historic Houses in Kent—Hever Castle and Penshurst Place. Cost £39 p.p. including entrance fees but no meals. (Neither of these are N.T. properties), Leaving Jansel Square at 8. 00 a.m. returning approx. 6. 30 p.m.

TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER:

The Military History and the Transport Groups are combining to offer a visit to the de Havilland Aircraft Museum in London Colney home of the Mosquito travelling by shared car. Cost £9

SATURDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER: Come with us to the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show. The cost is £38 and there are still a few places available. There will be a signing up list on the Board at this June Meeting, and the money will be collected in July. More details from Dot Toler. Outings@avu3a.org.uk



OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

Daphne Brewster; John Higgs; Pam Twidell; Steve Twidell; Marion Lloyd; Sue Roberts; Robert Parker; Judy Orchard; Maureen Pye; Ann Johnston; Carol Davis; Roger Davis; Leslie Smith; Val Smith; Del Davis; Patricia Hayers; Mina Lathia and Margaret Birch

IMPORTANT NOTICE

AS A RESULT OF THE DATA PROTECTION LEGISLATION (GDPR), ENFORCEABLE FROM MAY 25TH 2018, RENEWAL FORMS AND GIFT AID FORMS WILL BE POSTED TO ALL MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE JUNE MEETING FOR RETURN AT THE JULY 11TH MEETING. THE RENEWAL FORM HAS A TICK BOX FOR MEMBERS TO CONFIRM THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO HAVE THEIR DATA HELD BY OUR U3A, BUT ONLY FOR THEIR PURPOSES. THIS MEANS WE CAN HAVE THIS APPROVAL AND REJOINING CARRIED OUT IN ONE OPERATION.

THE FORMS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO US WITH A CHEQUE FOR £15, MADE PAYABLE TO AYLESBURY VALE U3A AND DATED 1ST AUGUST.

HOWEVER IF NOT AT THIS MEETING THEN BY POST DURING AUGUST.

TONY AND JILL DAVIS MEMBERSHIP @AVU3A.ORG.UK



It's not only Aylesbury that has a statue of a pop star—some members admiring the Amy Winehouse statue in Camden Market - on the Chalk Farm to Kings Cross London walk.



And two men on a bench having a rest in Russell square next to the green cabman's cafe. Does it remind you of a 'Two Ronnies' sketch (except that they are rather better dressed ?) Taken on the Bloomsbury London walk.

Photos. courtesy of Peter Wright.

VISIT TO THE HINDU TEMPLE AND OSTERLEY PARK:

In March fifty of our members set off in the pouring rain to visit this wonderful temple in Neasden. We were greeted warmly by the custodians of the temple who were eager to share their knowledge about the building and their faith with us. We enjoyed an interesting presentation and a very informative exhibition about Hinduism and the origins of this fascinating building. We were privileged to attend the Arti ceremony, a prayer session which was colourful and moving.



After leaving the temple it was only a few steps across the road to the delightful Indian Restaurant where we enjoyed a delicious vegetarian buffet. The food was plentiful and tasty, if sometimes a little bit hot! There was such a variety to choose from and we could eat as much as we wanted. It was particularly heart - warming to note that several people eating had never tried Indian food before. Feedback was very favourable!

We left the temple to take the short drive to Osterley. The rain had abated and we did not get wet walking up the drive to the house. Our entry to the house was staggered so some of us enjoyed a welcome cup of tea whilst waiting. The interior proved to be very interesting and several members impressed me with their wealth of historical knowledge.

It was a most enjoyable and fascinating day. Thank you to all members who took part with such enthusiasm.

Left - a splendid variety of vegetarian delights
Top right - Dot's moderate portion
Bottom right - another member's larger portion (Gay says it's ok to mention her name!) Photo. thanks to Dot Toler

Bobby Cadwallader

21st COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2018—GOLD COAST AUSTRALIA:

A summary:- Journey time out in the air 20hrs; Return time in the air 22hrs; Uniform Different, a nice blue colour; Accommodation great hotel; Venue shared with another sport; Competition went well -1 senior and 1 junior world record broken; Shopping on the Gold Coast was like heaven and the shopping malls were air conditioned; Security very tight.

My name is Tony Simmons. I am a category one I. P. C. Referee for Para – Powerlifting. This was my fourth Commonwealth Games others being Manchester, India, and Glasgow. The build up for these games started early in 2017 to obtain visa, accreditation and other identity documents. Then comes uniform requirements, I know from experience that whatever size you return you will not get. You must remember each country has its own way with measurements. A large in the UK could be a medium in another country. Most uniforms were either changed, altered to fit or you take what you were given. Always a stressful time collecting your uniform. At these games no change to the system.

The last item is flights you wait and see what the IPC offer!!! (International Paralympic Committee). Direct no, cheapest way -yes. You arrive at the airport tired and feeling lost where you are met by a team of games volunteers who direct you to you transport sometimes a coach/mini bus, but this time it was a very comfortable taxi. One hour later we pull up at a 5 star Hotel in which I had a double room all to my self. Competition starts in two days time. Two technical meetings to go to, uniform to collect hope it returns after it has been altered. Uniform appears in room late on eve of competition.

We are ready to leave the hotel for the start of the Competition; mini bus turns up to take 20 referees to the venue. Cannot board the bus as it cannot take 2 wheelchairs; panic sets in, 20 minutes later a larger bus turns up and we are on our way. The public car parks are about six hundred metres away and we had to walk to the entrance where we still had to go through the searching process to gain entry to the venue. It was a lot faster for us than for the general public.

The competition ran to time as it always does when T.V. is involved. On reflection a very warm and pleasant games; the next Commonwealth games are in sunny or cold / wet Birmingham England. My next Competition, is the Asia / Oceania Championships and we will be in Kitakyushu Japan. September 8th to 11th 2018.

So it all starts again.



Tony resplendent in his blue uniform with the medal presented by the organisers to all officials



WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY : SOCIAL PHILATELY FROM THE 18TH & 19TH CENTURIES - MICHAEL PITT-PAYNE F.R.P.S.L

Michael Pitt-Payne, who is a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London, has been a keen collector of stamps and postal history since he was 6 years old and is the chairman of the Aylesbury & District Philatelic Society. During recent years he has been taking an interest in Social Philately which involves a study of the content of old letters and finding out about the people who wrote them, the people to whom they were addressed and the places where they lived. His illustrated talk will be concerned with letters which were written over a period of more than 150 years commencing in the 1730's. It will include information about a number of notable people who lived in Aylesbury and the surrounding area together with letters from the nobility and members of parliament.

WEDNESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER: 'BAGELS & BACON' - JEFF ROZELAR

An autobiographical account of growing up in the Post War East End. The book, upon which the talk is based, was described by Fern Britton as "A hugely entertaining book A great sudsy wallow in the 1950's". The delivery is a lively and entertaining mixture of Jewish and cockney humour.



There was something for everyone on the recent outing to Melton Mowbray. Richard Clark who took these photos commented: 'A town less than half the size of Aylesbury yet full of shops, markets, Churches, an art deco cinema and lots of interesting places. Why is it that Aylesbury has so few facilities compared with these smaller towns ?



**MELTON MOWBRAY—
A PERSONAL VIEW:**
From Rita Black

To start my day in Melton I had the pleasure of meeting a lady called Cynthia whom I had not met before and I like to think that we got on famously. (Making new friends is one of the joys of U3A membership). Our exploration started with a trip through a busy street market with lots of stalls selling a myriad of things. Architecture was varied and interesting, but we didn't linger as we were on a dash to see the Antiques and Cattle Market which closed at noon. They were both fascinating. I managed to buy for £1 a super antique English History Costume Colouring Book (Elizabeth and James 1 -1558-1620) used many years ago by boys from a now disappeared school, plus three Beatrix Potter Books for a fiver—trying to keep in with the grandchildren.

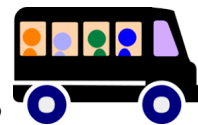
Next we stole into the sheep auction and sneaked up to the Auctioneer who wobbled precariously on the gantry above the holding pens. We agreed that we should not blink, nod our heads or raise our hands or Aylesbury Vale U3A would find itself with a 'flock of sheep'. Motts would not have been too pleased to have to fit them into our coach. (Average price for a sheep £85 or £115 for a lamb.) We managed to find a great café for lunch and couldn't resist their 'Melton Mowbray Platter'. The Pie Shop was interesting although we didn't have the hands on make and bake experience. The Cheese Shop introduced us to the most creamy selection of delicious cheeses.

Our final most interesting and exciting visit was to St. Mary's Church. Apparently at one time it was considered that it should become the Cathedral for Leicester. A generous donor gave a million pounds to the Church with a proviso that the last remaining plain window was changed into a stained glass window. That was done and it now depicts the Tree of Life. Its uneven floor was levelled and during the work it was discovered that a pillar near the altar had been undermined many years ago. It was in an extremely precarious state and a disaster was narrowly averted. Who was it who said 'The Lord works in a Mysterious Way?'



Housekeeping

Outside visits: In order to avoid clashes Philippa Coventry has taken on the role of coordinator for all visits which are open to the general membership. If you are planning a visit it is vital that you contact her as soon as you have some idea of the date and place you are hoping to visit. You can contact her on: outings@avu3a.org.uk



The website: The website editors are looking for somebody with the technical expertise to act as webmaster looking after WordPress, the current software, and the hosting arrangements for the website. This will **not** involve maintaining the content of the site. If there is anybody with the necessary technical background please get in touch with editor@avu3a.org.uk

Free Legal advice: The service negotiated by the Third Age Trust which offered advice via a legal firm has been suspended. It was useful if you simply wished to find out what steps you could take about any particular problem, but did not act for you. It had proved to be of benefit to a number of members.



THIRD AGE MATTERS'—AND AYLESBURY VALE:

In the last national magazine we were pleased to see that AVU3A featured twice; Once with a photo by Ron Adams, and again in the 'Coast to Coast' section with news of the group visit to Poland. Keep an eye out for the June edition which promises to have a longer article written by one of our U3A. It makes fascinating reading and shows that there is always something new and interesting to learn about our fellow members.



Last date for copy for the September Newsletter will be August 1st so please send any items you may like to share with us to Shirley Stokes (newsletter@avu3a.org.uk). I continue to grow grey hairs if I don't get enough material well before the closing date—and I have quite enough of those already! For this issue we have received a number of very interesting general articles—more please.

Thanks as always to all of you who contribute to the finished product, and who forgive me for my errors! Please continue to send in news of your activities within the U3A and for any other items which you feel might interest our readers. This issue demonstrates that there are many of our members doing interesting and exciting things outside U3A and it is good to share in them. Photographs are also very welcome.

Don't forget to look at our website avu3a.org.uk where you will find up to date news and details of all our events and activities .