

Message from the Chairman

This has been an eventful term! You filled the Mill Lane theatre to overflowing for Simon Baron-Cohen's brilliant lecture and would have done the same for Martin Rees but for our successful efforts to remain within the limits dictated by 'elf 'n' safety.

There are of course ever more of you to be accommodated - 2761 at the last count but new members keep on joining. We have to leave Mill Lane in June after many years to permit its re-development but we have now signed up to use the Debating Chamber of the Student Union on Wednesday afternoons from October 2015: no desks for note-taking, but leather benches and a café for which we hope to negotiate a discount.

You will have noticed that Bridge Street has been re-decorated. For that we have to thank the unstinting efforts of Chris Clare (Gemma's mum). Delia Suffling has done a great job co-ordinating events at Scotsdales but she and we think it would better to separate out that responsibility from the Administrator's remit and we thank Pauline Grounds for taking on the task. 8th January is the date for our New Year's drinks party and I hope to see many of you there.

You gave great support to the C.C.S.O. concert in November with which we were the associated charity and tickets for the Christmas Lunch were all sold.

We now have a support group for members who have problems with their computers or, indeed, wish to make greater use of them. The U3A to U4A group is building on the idea raised earlier this year and at the AGM, though in truth it was first mooted by Peter Laslett many years ago!

Read your bulletins carefully and you will learn much! Where to lunch with fellow members, for example; follow the fortunes of the Debating Society which is establishing a firm foothold; where and when to play Welsh Scrabble; and much more.

On the rather neglected scientific side, we have had contact with the Babraham Institute which would like to include us in its outreach programme; so watch this space (or, rather, the bulletin) for developments.

I had a great time as part of the U3AC party to Heidelberg where we were splendidly entertained by our friends at the Akademie für Ältere. This is not our only exchange arrangement: there is also one with Rodez in France and plans are in hand for a link with Santander in Spain.

This is my last 'message from the chairman' before I hand over to Sally Livesey at the AGM on 18 March. Please help to give her a flying start by providing her with a strong team. Details of standing for Council are included in this newsletter.

So from my authorial side, thanks for reading me and cheerio!

With every good wish for Christmas and the New Year

Charles Bonney

The U3AC Office will close at 2 pm on Friday 19 December and re-open at 10 am on Friday 2 January

U3AC Term Dates 2015

Monday 12 January – Friday 20 March 2015

Monday 13 April – Friday 19 June 2015

Start dates for each course are shown on the website

Director of Studies (Courses)

Feedback from members on gaps in U3AC's current provision

The recent exercise to investigate areas where members would like to see increased course provision elicited a good response. I have communicated directly with most respondents, but if I missed you, please take this as an expression of my and the Courses Committee's gratitude.

Responses covered a wide variety of topics. There was strong interest in increased coverage of Science topics; demand for broader coverage of languages, including some of the less common ones (e.g Nordic languages, Bulgarian); and for an expansion of Art Appreciation courses; as well as a wide variety of "one-off" responses.

U3AC's ability to respond to demand depends, of course, on its members coming forward with offers. The Courses Committee would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels they might be able to offer a course in the future. We can provide a more detailed list of the responses to our survey to any potential tutor who wishes to see it, and will be very happy to offer any advice and support we can.

The courses committee has arranged **Language teaching** sessions for current and prospective tutors. Jean Glasberg will be offering sessions on language teaching methodology on Monday 5 and Thursday 8 January 2015 between 10.30 and 1.30. Language learning is one of the most popular U3AC activities. Courses are often oversubscribed and without more tutors this means that people are disappointed. Do you speak a language that other members would like to learn? What are the best teaching methods? These 2 sessions are aimed at those with little or no experience of teaching as well as existing tutors who would like the opportunity to share their ideas with others. We will explore techniques for presenting and practising grammar and vocabulary as well as helping students to develop reading and listening skills. The sessions will be practical, focussing on ways to make lessons interactive and engaging to motivate learners and encourage confidence and enjoyment. The tutor has many years' experience of English Language Teaching (ELT) and teacher-training, and the methodology used is based on accepted and up-to-date principles which apply to any language.

If you would like to take part in these sessions please contact the Office to book a place.

Maggie Balshaw will offer sessions in April in which tutors can inter-actively explore a variety of teaching/learning styles. These will be based around the approaches Maggie developed over many years as a teacher and, later, as a trainer of teachers. More information will be available nearer the time.

New courses – please enrol with the Office

CUR 08: Current Affairs Discussion Group

Leaders: Angela Donnelly & Alison Littlefair

Day & time: Thursday 12.30 - 1.30

Venue: U3AC, Room 2

Number of places: 18

Length of course: 3 terms

Start date: 9 October, 15 January

Each week we discuss the news - national and international. We also from time to time discuss major current affairs issues, sometimes asking a member of the group to introduce a discussion. We encourage all members to contribute to the group's discussion, drawing on their own experience.

FIT 36: Third Age Dance (spring term)

Tutor: Maddy Tongue

Day and time: Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30

Venue: St Andrew's Street Baptist Church

Length of course: 1 term (8 weeks)

Number of places: 20

Start date: 21 January

Maddy Tongue will resume teaching dance in the spring term. This class welcomes all who want to discover the joy of movement and dance. A Laban approach to dance is geared to the abilities of our ageing bodies. Friendly and fun!

HIS 37: The Genesis of Newfoundland, Bermuda and New England 1583-1642 (spring term)

Tutor: Tom Mor

Day & time: Alternate Mondays 11.15 - 12.15

Venue: U3AC, Room 5

Number of places: 25

Length of course: 1 term

Start date: 12 January

Five slide lectures by Tom Mor, meeting twice a month on the following dates:

12 Jan: The History of the New World Tapestry

26 Jan: Raleigh's Roanoake Adventures 1584 - 1588

9 Feb: Jamestown and Pocahontas 1607 - 1616

23 Feb: Winthrop, Cambridge and Harvard 1630 - 1636

9 March: London Livery Co's Adventurers for Virginia

LIT 38: Dickens, the Law and Legal London (summer term)

Speaker: Mike Lynch

Date and time: Monday 11.15 - 12.15

Venue: U3AC, Room 5

Number of places: 25

Start date: 13 April

In Bleak House, Dickens described the High Court of Chancery as "...most pestilent of hoary old sinners ... which has its decaying houses and blighted lands in every shire, its worn-out lunatic in every madhouse." Yet Dickens not only joined an Inn of Court himself but encouraged his son Harry in a career which led to his becoming a High Court Judge. Dickens had complex and contradictory views on the law and a continuing fascination with legal London as a setting for his novels.

In this course we will work through Pickwick Papers, Bleak House, A Tale of Two Cities and other novels together, exploring these contradictions and sharing our views on them in order better to understand Dickens' achievement as a writer.

Mike Lynch is a barrister of the Middle Temple, of which Dickens became a member in December 1839.

LEI 28: The Armchair Cyclist (!) (spring term)

Co-ordinator: John Hall

Day and time: Monday 10.00 - 11.00

Venue: U3AC, Room 2

Length of course: 1 term

Number of places: 10

Start date: 12 January

This course is for you, if you are a slow or slow to medium cyclist who may have a fondness for their steed, and/or who just enjoys a bit of cycle commuting or leisure.

The course, which is more of a discussion group, takes a themed approach. Usually, there will be a short general introduction, or a bit of cycling science, and thereafter the session moves forward with members sharing their experiences. The range will be quite wide from improving comfort, reducing effort, improving visibility, to discussing for example, whether bike suspensions, folders or electric bikes are any good, discussing the best and worst Cambridge cycle spots as well as interesting local journeys, and anything else members are interested in.

In the first couple of meetings, members should be prepared to discuss what they like about their current bike. The sessions are intended to be enjoyable 'armchair' sessions – NOT sessions that involve rides, dressing up in Lycra, racing or being very technical!

MUS 20: World Routes (summer term)

Tutor: Colin Whitworth

Day and time: Tuesday 1.30 - 2.30

Venue: U3AC Room 1

Length of course: 1 term

Number of places: 40

Start date: 14 April

Each week, a musical guide will take us to a different part of the globe, play recordings and tell us about the music of the region, past and present.

It's an informative and entertaining tour of World Music rather than a course - for the novice or the knowledgeable. Do join us for a musical holiday. (Passports not needed).

Spring term courses

The following courses starting in the spring term still have vacancies, full details of each course can be found on the website. Please enrol with the Office.

- EDU 01 Curriculum design, teaching and assessment (spring term)
- FIT 36 Third Age Dance (spring term)
- HIS 21 South American History 1800-1900 (spring & summer terms)
- HIS 22 Spain and the Americas (spring term)
- HIS 29 Voluntary Associations and societies in France 1815-1914 (spring term)
- HIS 37 The Genesis of Newfoundland, Bermuda and New England 1583-1642 (spring term)
- LEI 28 The Armchair Cyclist! (spring term)
- LIT 29 Tales from the Thousand and One Nights (spring term)
- MUS 02 Desert Island Discs (spring term)
- MUS 05 Handel's Early Operas: from Almira (1705) to Radamisto (1720) (spring term)
- MUS 14 Opera (spring term)
- MUS 16 Opera on DVD 2 (spring term)
- SFM 03 Coping with Hearing Loss (spring term)

Vacancy list

If you would like to apply for any additional courses (up to a maximum of 6) a vacancy list is available on the website <http://www.u3ac.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/vacancy-list.pdf> and is regularly updated.

A one-day conference for U3AC members

Whither the UK Constitution - evolution, devolution or revolution?

In the immediate aftermath of the Scottish Referendum there was much talk of the need to reconsider the UK's constitutional arrangements, possibly through a Constitutional Convention.

But more recently, constitutional issues have had less prominence. Few politicians seem prepared to give them high priority.

We feel that these issues are too important to be ignored; and too important to be left to politicians, who all too often seem to consider constitutional change only in terms of whether it would benefit or disadvantage their own party.

We feel that when constitutional changes are proposed they need to be considered in depth, rather than rushed through piecemeal. And they need to consider the interests of citizens, rather than those of political parties.

We are therefore organising a one-day conference for U3AC members and guests (on the same terms as for the Wednesday lectures). It will take place on Saturday 10 January, 10 am - 4 pm, at the Castle Street Methodist Church.

Speakers will include:

Professor Andrew Gamble, Emeritus Professor of Politics, University of Cambridge
Stephen Marshall, U3AC

A full programme will be published when speaker arrangements have been finalised. There will be no fee for the conference. Members interested in attending are invited to contact the U3AC office as soon as possible.

General

Computer Support Group

This recently formed Group are willing to answer questions about computing which U3AC members may wish to raise and help with any problems they may be having with their computing devices. None of us claim to be at all geekish or to be able to solve every problem, but we will try to help. Any help or suggestions we offer are on a 'best efforts' basis, without liability.

If you have run into difficulties with your PC, please email the U3AC office (office@u3ac.org.uk) giving as much information about the problem as you can. It would be helpful if you could include:

Type of Computer (e.g. desktop, laptop, tablet, iPad),

Operating System and version (e.g. Windows 8, Ubuntu Linux 10.04, ios 8),

Your computer skill level (basic, some familiarity, expert),

The problem: what it is, when does it happen, did it start after you changed something else,

Anything else you feel relevant and helpful.

Camtad hints for tutors re hearing Impaired

Members might be interested to see a document produced by Camtad for U3AC tutors on our website

<http://www.u3ac.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Camtad-hints-for-tutors-re-Hearing-Impaired.pdf>

Book swap

There is a free Book Swap in the coffee area at our Bridge Street premises for all members to use. It has a mix of novels, biography and factual books in paperback and hardback. Simply bring along a book and swap it for something else on the shelves. You can then keep the new book, or bring it back and swap it again. Nothing larger than A4, and in reasonably good condition, please. The stock turns over regularly - the more it is used, the more choice there is. Please no magazines.

Exhibitions

If any U3AC groups or individuals would like to hold an exhibition of their work at the U3AC, please contact the Office to reserve a 3-week slot. If you are looking to sell your work through the exhibition the U3AC would appreciate a donation from your profits.

Administrative Information

Non-attendance

If for any reason you are unable to attend the first week of your class please inform the tutor or the Office **before** term starts. Due to many classes having a long waiting list and in fairness to other members, if we do not hear from you we will replace you with someone from the waiting list immediately after the first session.

Withdrawing from a Course

If you are no longer able to attend a course in which you have been allocated a place, please inform the Office at the **earliest** possible opportunity. Please do not wait until the course is about to start or has started. Thank you.

Mailings

We make savings in postage by combining husband/wife mailings in one envelope. If, however, members would like future mailings sent separately please inform the Office.

Communicating with Members

In order to maintain low administrative costs and reduce paperwork, where possible the Office will communicate with members via email. This may include notification of a change to their course, a cancellation or course material. It is therefore important that the Office is informed should you change your email address or no longer have this facility.

Council Minutes

All members are entitled to request to read the minutes of the U3AC Council meetings which are held in the U3AC Office.

Council meeting

The next meeting is on Friday 6 February 2015.

Copy for next Newsletter

Articles/information that members would like to be published in the next newsletter should be received by the Office no later than **Monday 2 March**.

How do I find out what's happening in U3AC?

The weekly bulletin is produced each Wednesday and contains:

- Details of the following week's Wednesday lecture
- Details of the next Norah Boyce Science lecture
- New courses
- Course updates
- One-off lectures
- Events
- Trips

and much more! It is emailed to all members (unless you have requested not to receive it). If you do not currently receive it and wish to please contact the Office. The weekly bulletin is also available to collect from the U3AC Office and can also be viewed on the U3AC website.

Research

Presentations from the classes on Research Tools – surveys, internet and library – are now available on the Research pages of the website. You will also find suggestions for new projects, and descriptions of projects that have already been started.

Social

New Year Drinks party

The New Year Drinks party will be held in the David Rayner Building at Scotsdale's Garden Centre, Great Shelford on 8 January 2015. Application forms for tickets are now available.

Wine Tasting

The next Wine Tasting will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 4 February 2015 (2 weeks before the start of Lent). Theme: Portugal and Madeira.

We had been able to keep the ticket price very low for several years but, I am afraid, it will have to go up next year. In the last few tastings we have definitely developed a taste for the slightly better bottle. Therefore Matthew has suggested to price the tickets at £10 - (plus 50p on the evening for bread, napkins, etc.). I hope that won't put too many of you off.

Monika Thomas

Deaths

We were sorry to hear recently of the deaths of:

*Mary Nugent in June
Jane Jaffey in August
Noel Smith in August
Heather Cubitt in September
Margaret Warwick in September
Valery Woods in September
Joy Leggatt in October
Michael Strickland in October*

Cambridge-Heidelberg Exchange Visit

At the beginning of September, members of the Cambridge U3A made an exchange visit to Heidelberg, Germany, which is twinned with Cambridge. This annual event was this year hosted by the Akademie für Ältere, the Heidelberg equivalent of the U3A. The Akademie provided a full programme of events, including visits to scientific establishments (European Molecular Biology Laboratory and the Carl Bosch Museum) the Zoo (the tour guided by its Director!), tours of the city of Heidelberg and its museums and, of course, the Castle which towers over the city. An evening highlight was a trip down the River Neckar which included a firework display on the Old Bridge and the Castle illuminations giving a realistic impression of the Castle conflagration which occurred during the Thirty Years War. The hosts generously held a variety of dinners and lunches and a garden party, ensuring that their Cambridge guests were able to sample the regional cuisine, beers and wine. At a reception in the Grossen Rathssaal (Townhall Grand Chamber) given by the Mayor, Bürgermeister Wolfgang Erichson, the Cambridge visitors were impressed by the official recognition of the value of such exchanges and the opportunity they give to make friends with citizens of our two University Cities. Charles Bonney, U3AC chairman expressed our thanks for the excellent relationship with Heidelberg and Peter Burkinshaw, U3AC exchange organiser, thanked his opposite number, Hedi Weber, for the efficient organisation of the week's events.

A return visit to Cambridge by members of the Akademie will be made next July (see below).

Peter Burkinshaw



Heidelberg Return Visit

Members of the Akademie will be visiting Cambridge for a return trip from 17-24 July 2015, and will be staying at Robinson College. There will be a preliminary meeting to consider a possible programme for the visit on **Thursday 8 January in U3AC, Room 1 at 10.30 am**. You are all welcome to attend and contribute ideas for entertaining our guests and any help with developing the programme will be appreciated. 2015 is the 50th anniversary of the twinning of Cambridge and Heidelberg. Let's hope that we can make it a memorable visit!

Naples Trip November 2014

The destination this year for the Italian Cities group was Naples. We had all been watching the weather forecast for southern Italy and showers seemed likely. Luckily during our time there, rain fell to the North and the South but in Naples we had sunshine.

The hotel was in an excellent location with breakfast room and large balcony facing the 13th C. Castel Nuovo. Marring the view of the castle, excavations were in place for the underground, these were held up due to the discovery of some ancient ruins.

Day one and we took public transport to Pompeii where Alan had organised a guide. She gave us an enormous amount of historical information beginning with the fact that the eruption of Vesuvius took place on 24 August 79 AD, which completely destroyed Pompeii and Herculaneum. This set the scene for our tour of Pompeii and what one sees today is the result of extensive excavations over many years.

Our next stop was to Herculaneum, where we wandered around on our own. This is a much smaller site and there is a marked contrast between the two places, Pompeii was buried by pyroclastic rocks and Herculaneum by a mud avalanche. These two cities remained undiscovered until excavations began in the 18th C.

As a follow up, the next day we visited the Museo Archeologico Nazionale, where the best finds of the two cities are stored. Here we saw many excellent and well preserved mosaics, wall paintings and artefacts. Our itinerary took us to Italy's oldest working opera house, the Teatro San Carlo where we were given a guided tour of this distinguished building.

Saturday found us on a hydrofoil to Capri, we had another clear, sunny day and on reaching the island most of us climbed to the ruined villa of Tiberius, a roman emperor. From this elevated site we had excellent views of the mainland. Part of the group then chose to walk to Anacapri while others went to the gardens of Augustus, the first Roman Emperor. As on other days we enjoyed the local café for our mid-morning coffee and lunch stops.

On Sunday we visited the 4th C. Duomo dedicated to San Gennaro, patron saint of Naples. Inside the Duomo is the oldest structure in Naples, Santa Restituta, erected by Constantine in 324 AD. Next we went into an old chapel, now the Museo Cappella Sansevero, which holds 18th C. sculptures and paintings, including the famous 'Veiled Christ'.

Alan found a variety of good restaurants suitable for the size of our group. We were entertained by local artists and sampled the delights of Italian cuisine and the local Limoncello, and all within walking distance of the hotel!

Favourable comments were bandied around and the trip deemed to be a great success.

There are a few more stories one could tell, but we won't!

Hazel Harrison and Sue Roe



Other Organisations

Cambridgeshire Bobby scheme

This scheme works with a number of partner agencies including the Police, Local Authority and other charities. This local charity provides a service to older or vulnerable people by fitting door chains, window alarms and other security devices to improve home security to reduce crime and the fear of crime. If you have been a victim of burglary and are 60 or over, you will receive a free visit. If you are 65 and over or disabled and would like a visit from the Bobby Scheme advisors to reduce your chance of becoming a victim, they ask for a minimum donation of £25 towards costs. Key safes supplied and fitted at a cost of £50. If you would like a visit call 07866 602100 or 01480 413311.

Park and Ride

Members using the Park and Ride sites should be aware that a parking charge has been introduced that everyone needs to pay irrespective of whether they pay to travel on the bus. This has led to long queues at the machines that seem to be unnecessarily complicated. The following procedural details might be helpful: Park your car first. Go to the machine; there are 3 options: park only, park & ride, ride only. If you have a bus pass then select park only. Press the button under the relevant option.

Enter at least 3 digits of your vehicle registration number. Press the green button to continue. The machine will then show you up to 5 images of number plates that match your criteria. Use the buttons to scroll through these, once you have found your vehicle, press the green button. The prices then display, for up to 18 hours @ £1, press button 1. The payment screen will then display, either enter your cash (change not given) or insert your card. Follow the instructions on the card reader. A card receipt will then print, followed by your parking confirmation. If you pay with cash, you will just receive your parking receipt. You do not need to display this in your vehicle. Tickets are non-transferable as the system is based on your vehicle registration number. If you are passing through the site and will not be staying for longer than 1 hour, you do not need to do anything as there is a 1 hour free parking policy.

You can also pay your parking charge before you arrive at the Park & Ride site whether you are a regular or infrequent user. All payments are handled through the website at www.cambridgeparkandride.com

External Research Studies

We are frequently contacted by University departments and institutes looking for volunteer subjects. All requests for volunteers are placed on the U3AC website <http://www.u3ac.org.uk/requests-for-volunteers/>

Jump Start

How to begin? The virgin white sheet of paper lies in front of me, tempting and promiscuous as a teenage schoolgirl in a short skirt. Ah, I remember the joy of strutting across the road, lorry drivers screeching to a halt, wolf whistles, and hoots. Oh yes, to be sixteen in the '60s, young and powerful but innocent and oblivious of life's perils.

But that's not a winning beginning.

All happy families are alike in the best of times and the worst. Ridiculous. Something more mundane?

Today, on my way to my lecture at the Cambridge U3A, (nothing funny happened), weaving as fast as I could through the camera-pointing tourists (why should they want to photograph a sweet shop when behind their backs lies the 12th century Holy Sepulchre?).

No, too grumpy. One has to beware being tetchy, better an aged inane smile.

Now when I cross the road, (look right, look left, can't be bothered to look right again) traffic pulls to a sympathetic halt. I totter across, raising my umbrella in gratitude. Roads are certainly wider nowadays.

Damn, now I'm paddling in a stream of consciousness that may slowly pour into the sea of nostalgia. An ocean so deep and with such tidal force that I may never surface.

No, I want to begin with a glorious jump-start. Which reminds me. Yesterday, my old car failed to cough into life (slightly possible that I had left the headlights on after driving home late, well, 9 o'clock, from that concert). Where was I? Jump-starting. This pretty young man who lives in the flat above, came to my rescue - like a knight in shining armour, although he actually wore shabby shorts and a T-shirt. He flourished strange, red and black cables. In a flash, he opened my bonnet and then the sleek, silver bonnet of his dashing sports car and connected us! Very exciting! My old engine juddered into life with more enthusiasm than it had shown in a long while.

I was pleased and surprised when my hero readily accepted my invitation to a celebratory coffee. Fortunately my kitchen was tidier than usual and how he enjoyed my ginger cake. It was marvellous to watch him eat (three generous slices) with such gusto. He talked about his work and I was careful not to talk about the past or myself. I didn't understand much except something about computer programming and working from home. As he talked, ate and sipped his coffee, I suddenly realised he was lonely. Lonelier, even, than I.

He gave me his card, a stout cream card with elegant dark grey print. I could read it without my glasses. I asked him to pronounce his name, then quickly wrote it in phonetics on the back of the card. I read it aloud. He jumped to his feet and looked with great interest at my scribble. He wanted to know how I had done that. Perhaps they don't teach phonetics in Polish schools... or any schools now. I didn't tell him that Russian was one of my languages. It is never certain how a Pole will react to the word Russian, understandably.

We had a very interesting chat about linguistics and he thought I could be very helpful with his work. He's coming to lunch next week (I'm thinking a light starter, maybe scallops and ginger, he obviously likes ginger, and then lasagne verde, which I can prepare in advance, then my favourite petits pots au chocolat, served in my white porcelain coffee cups, maybe orange salad on the side?)

He seemed so pleased to be invited. Then he said that next time it would be his turn, a business lunch in town.

How very amusing. Quite a beginning.

Avril Hinton

U3AC Film Group

U3A Film Group Programme

Established in October 1999 with the much valued contribution of the Arts Picturehouse Cambridge management, the aim of the U3AC Film Group is to show a wide range of the best in both historic and contemporary world cinema from all countries, generations and genres, and our programmes take a robust and adventurous approach to the history of cinema. The Group's shows take place at the Arts Picturehouse every Tuesday during term time and commence **promptly at 1.00 pm** other than when an epic or exceptionally lengthy film is shown, and for safety reasons and out of courtesy to fellow members and others in the audience, members should be in their seats a little before the start of each screening. Members are most welcome to attend our post screen discussions and to make suggestions for future showings.

SPRING TERM 2015

13 January Ace in the Hole Dir. Billy Wilder: USA 1951 (111 mins)
Kirk Douglas stars as an on-the-skids journalist investigating an incident involving a man trapped in a cave. The man's agony is prolonged as Douglas turns the incident into a major interest story. One of Hollywood's great masterpieces filled with Wilder's caustic wit and Douglas's trademark intensity.

20 January Throne of Blood Dir. Akira Kurosawa: Japan 1957 (104 mins)
In continuation of our occasional Shakespeare theme this loose adaptation of "Macbeth" is regarded as one of the greatest adaptations and one of the finest classics of World Cinema. There's no denying the power of the atmosphere Akira Kurosawa builds up through his majestic use of camera movement and the eerie sets. The great Toshiro Mifune as the villain is so much at the mercy of fate and the elements that all that one can feel at his death is pity.

27 January Guys and Dolls Dir. Joseph L Mankiewicz: USA 1955 (143 mins)
"With Salvation Doll Jean Simmons waking up to love with 'If I were a Bell' and Frank Sinatra and Vivian Blaine as Nathan Detroit and his ever lovin' Miss Adelaide, what more could you want ? " A must for chasing those mid- winter blues away!

3 February The Graduate Dir. Mike Nichols: USA 1967 (101 mins)
This landmark satire on America's bourgeoisie thrust the unknown Dustin Hoffman into the limelight and won a best director Oscar for the late Mike Nichols. In his first major role Hoffman is sensational as the innocent college graduate seduced by older married woman Anne Bancroft and then falling for her daughter Katharine Ross. A sharp script and memorable music from the evergreen Simon and Garfunkel.

U3AC
University of
the Third Age in Cambridge
FILM GROUP
All inclusive cost £30.00

**Arts
Picturehouse**
Picturehouse
Kiosque
Cambridge

Tuesdays at 1 pm
Starts 13 January and concludes 17 March

APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

*New card available from the date of the first
screening of the season*

| | |
|---|--|
| + | |
| Title and First Name | |
| Surname | |
| Email | |
| Phone/Mobile | |
| (If Renewing) Picturehouse Membership Number: | |

Payment methods:

1. Phone: 0871 902 5720
 2. At the cinema
 3. By Post (via cheque)
- Payable to: City Screen (Cambridge) Ltd.
Arts Picturehouse
38-39 St. Andrew's Street
Cambridge, CB2 3AR

Please note - unless otherwise stated in the programme screenings are open to everyone

10 February The Conformist

**Dir. Bernardo Bertolucci:
Italy/France/West Germany 1970 (108 mins)**

A masterly blend of Freud and Fascism – Bertolucci's adaptation of Alberto Moravia's novel examines the link between sexual and political repression in order to assess the impact of Italy's authoritarian past on its deeply divided present. A "disturbing, visually imposing and influential movie". Totally brilliant and quite unmissable.

17 February Accident

Dir. Joseph Losey: UK 1967 (101 mins)

In my view, and despite being set in "the other place", and directed by an American director, this is a quintessential English film. Shimmeringly photographed by Gerry Fisher, Oxford and its surrounding countryside have never looked as beautiful in this delicious exercise in character assassination. Dirk Bogarde and Stanley Baker seize upon every opportunity presented in Harold Pinter's merciless script as two Oxford dons become infatuated with the same student, and donnish civility only thinly veils the disappointment, lust and cruelty of unfulfilled middle age. Perfect direction from Losey – a most brilliant film.

24 February M

Dir. Fritz Lang: Germany 1931 (110 mins)

One of the great classics of German cinema. Peter Lorre has a real edge of menace, as he plays the self-loathing child murderer whose crimes are always preceded by a chilling whistle. Making his talkie debut, Fritz Lang continues to fill the screen with the atmospheric expressionistic images that made him Europe's pre-eminent silent director. His use of sound is also inspired, whether in crowd scenes or details like the clicking-open of Lorre's knife. "A genuine masterpiece".

3 March The Past

Dir. Asghar Farhadi: France/Italy 2013 (130 mins)

Iranian filmmaker Farhadi's follow-up to "*A Separation*" (previously shown to the U3AC Film Group) visits the same territory of complex family relationships within repressive societies. Ahmad travels from his home in Teheran to Paris to finalise his divorce from his long estranged wife Marie. Already living with a much younger new partner and his son, Marie appears simply to want a civilised closure, but as Ahmad is obliged to stay in their somewhat chaotic household, it's soon obvious that this won't be easy, especially when a shocking truth from the past is revealed.

10 March Two Days, One Night

**Dir. Jean – Pierre & Luc Dardenne:
France/Belgium/Italy 2014 (95 mins)**

Sandra returns to work after a bout of depression to find that her co-workers have voted her out of a job in favour of a 1000 Euros bonus. Her boss gives her a week to change their minds, prompting a series of confrontations that test both Sandra's ingenuity and her colleague's scruples in this expertly understated social drama. (The Dardenne Bros are well –established favourites of this Group).

17 March REDS

Dir. Warren Beatty: USA 1981 (187 mins)

It took Warren Beatty's ferocious energy as the Oscar-winning director of this epic film to even attempt this chronicle of the Russian Revolution, focused through a radical love affair, and come up with a final product that is close to the project's original intentions. The film tells the story of John Reed, the author of "*Ten Days That Shook The World*" regarded by many as the definitive account of the 1917 Russian Revolution. For members this is a really great chance to see a film that has been shown rarely on terrestrial TV. **(Please note that this epic film is just over 3 hours in length)**

U3AC Cultural and Social Activities Committee

1. Information may be obtained from:

- ❖ the printed bulletin from 27-28 Bridge Street
- ❖ the website: www.u3ac.org.uk
- ❖ email: office@u3ac.org.uk

2. Application forms can be obtained in the following ways:

- ❖ on the website
- ❖ by email from the Office
- ❖ from the display area at 27-28 Bridge Street
- ❖ at the Wednesday lectures
- ❖ by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Office with the name of the event in the top left hand corner
- ❖ for a fee of £7 annually (payable in September) members can be sent forms as soon as they are available

NB: when sending forms to the organiser you **must** clearly mark the back of the envelope "U3AC" with the name of the trip. Forms are usually available about 4 weeks before the outing. A draw is held, if necessary, about 2 weeks later in order to make it fair for everyone. **All forms must be sent directly to the organiser with a stamped addressed envelope.**

It is important that forms are filled in correctly especially the section at the bottom re. a contact number for emergency purposes as this is a legal requirement.

We ask members to bring their acceptance slips with them as confirmation of the acceptance of their booking, to avoid any misunderstandings.

3. The following events have now been arranged

Tuesday 24 March

Tour of BBC Broadcasting House, Portland Place

Organisers: Clem Messenger and Janet Rallison

Cost: £24. Forms available 12 January

Wednesday 22 April

Visit to the William Morris Gallery and The Geffrye, Museum of the Home

Organisers: Monica Williams and Margaret Shaw

Cost: £13.50. Forms available February

May TBC

RHS Garden Wisley - Royal Horticultural Society

Organisers: Margaret Shaw and Gill Hodge

- Members are reminded that places on a visit can only be offered to a friend who is **not** a member if there is no waiting list for a trip. Arrangements must be made through one of the organisers.
- Activities are publicised in Bridge Street and also at the Wednesday Lectures. The Chairman is Clem Messenger.
- We shall use the **Trumpington** and **Madingley Road Park and Rides** regularly as our two pick up points, except on Sundays, when we shall also be using Bateman Street.

Norah Boyce Science Lectures

Please note The lectures are now held on Tuesdays at 5.45 pm in the Garden Room at St Edmund's College, Cambridge CB3 0BN. This is accessed from Mount Pleasant, off Lady Cavendish Road, off Madingley Road. There is on-street parking (free after 5 pm at present) plus a small number of parking spaces on site for those with walking difficulties.

The capacity of this venue is smaller than the previous one therefore it may not be possible to accommodate everyone.

Spring term

13 January The Once and Future Internet

Professor Jon Crowcroft FRS

Professor Jon Crowcroft, FRS is the Marconi Professor of Communications Systems in the Computer Laboratory of the University of Cambridge.

This talk will describe the past and anticipated future of the technology of the Internet, structuring the seminar around the themes inspired by the 5 volumes of the book, "The Once and Future King" by T. H. White.

27 January Did Your Genes Play Dice When They Made Your Brain?

Professor Bill Harris FRS

William Anthony "Bill" Harris FRS FmedSci has been head of the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience of the University of Cambridge since its formation in 2006.

His laboratory has been looking at the way the retina is made from retinal progenitor cells during development. They use embryonic zebra fish for most of our work and are concentrating on the genes and molecular mechanisms that lead progenitor cells out of the cell cycle and down pathways to specific fates.

17 March Spots Before the Eyes – A Century of Diffraction Crystallography

Dr Erica Bithell

Dr Bithell is a Learning Technologist with the University Information Services, supporting and developing Cambridge University's Moodle virtual learning environment.

This talk will introduce diffraction using effects that are beautiful and easily demonstrated: the patterns that we see in ocean waves, in moonlight, and on our DVDs and credit cards. We will trace a century of crystallography – with its strong links to Cambridge scientists – and find out how diffraction can turn crystal structures inside-out and open a window on the ultra-small.

Summer term

14 April Battling the Bugs: Overcoming the Challenges of Antibiotic Resistance

Dr Christine Boinett

Dr Christine Boinett is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

21 April Ice Cores and Climate Change (exact title to be confirmed)

Professor Eric Wolff FRS

Professor Wolff is Royal Society Research Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge

Wednesday Lectures

SPRING TERM 2015

This series of weekly lectures will take place in Room 3 of the University Lecture Rooms at no. 8 Mill Lane, starting at 2.15 pm.

All members are welcome to attend. Please have your membership cards ready to show on entry. Non-members may attend as guests for a fee of £2 per lecture, subject to availability of space.

Any last minute changes to the programme of Wednesday lectures will be publicised in the weekly bulletin

14 January *The Heroes of 1989*

Gerald Goldstone BA, U3AC member, retired history teacher, Impington Village College

The collapse of most communist regimes in 1989 was truly dramatic, the more so for being unexpected. Some politicians have claimed credit but no-one planned what happened. This lecture looks at a selection of ordinary people who, often unwittingly, played vital roles in the process – the Polish crane-driver, the Hungarian border guard, the German and Romanian pastors and many others whose actions and decisions helped change the course of history.

21 January *The Hanging Gardens of Babylon at Nineveh*

Dr. Stephanie Dalley

Six of the seven early world wonders are known to have existed, but no evidence could be found in Babylonian texts or by archaeologists at Babylon for the palace garden. The Greek texts describing it are many centuries later than its supposed creation. This talk will explain how to understand the tradition, showing that the garden existed in Nineveh, built by Sennacherib, and included features of engineering and architecture that qualified it as a great marvel, more than just a fine garden. Enough information has been gathered to allow a new reconstruction drawing.

28 January *If I were a man, I would be a layclerk: the role of women in cathedral music today*

Ms Sarah McDonald, Director of Music, Selwyn College and director Ely Cathedral Girls' Choir

A talk about the involvement of women in musical roles in Anglican cathedrals in the UK, from the introduction of girls' choirs to the present day.

PLEASE NOTE: SINCE GOING TO PRESS THE DATE HAS CHANGED – THIS LECTURE WILL NOW TAKE PLACE ON 11 FEBRUARY

4 February *Tunnelling Under Cities - Advances in Research and Practice*

Professor Robert Mair, C.B.E., F.R.Eng., F.R.S., Head of Civil Engineering, University of Cambridge

Professor Mair's talk will focus on the challenges of developing underground transport for today's crowded cities. He will outline the latest techniques in construction and monitoring and discuss research advances, some of which were developed in Cambridge and show examples of major projects from around the world. He will answer questions such as "How can tunnels be built in ground sometimes as soft as toothpaste?" and "What else is underground already that might get in the way or be adversely affected?"

PLEASE NOTE: SINCE GOING TO PRESS THE DATE HAS CHANGED – THIS LECTURE WILL NOW TAKE PLACE ON 4 FEBRUARY

11 February **Welcome guests or wayward migrants? Foreign students in Britain 1185-2015**
Dr Hilary Perraton, U3AC member

Foreign students have been coming to Britain for over 800 years. Their roll call includes Erasmus, Rutherford, Sorabji, Watson, Sen and tens of thousands of trainee nurses from the Caribbean. They came to a mixed welcome, influenced this country and its institutions and were influenced by them. Their story is of interest both in itself and for the light it throws on the history of class, race and empire. Drawing from his recent book *A history of foreign students in Britain* (Palgrave Macmillan), the speaker will go on to explore the relevance of the historical record to current debates about university fees, relations with continental Europe, and immigration.

18 February **Medieval churches and their stained glass: the case for Norfolk**
Dr Claire Daunton, University of Cambridge

In spite of losses through reform, iconoclasm, neglect, and changes in patterns of worship, a number of Norfolk's medieval parish churches retain fittings and furnishings which would have been recognisable to their medieval builders and benefactors. The lecture will explore some of these fittings, concentrating on stained glass.

25 February **Broadcasting past and future**
Roger Mosey, Master of Selwyn College

The former BBC executive Roger Mosey's roles included being editor of the Today programme, head of Television News and director of Sport, before being put in charge of the BBC's coverage of London 2012. He will talk about lessons from his career in broadcasting and also about the opportunities for the established media to be a force for good in the digital world.

4 March **Modern Families: Parents and children in new family forms**
Professor Susan Golombok, University of Cambridge

The lecture will summarise research on parenting and child development in new family forms including lesbian mother families, gay father families, families headed by single mothers by choice and families created by assisted reproductive technologies such as *in vitro* fertilisation (IVF), egg donation, sperm donation, embryo donation, and surrogacy. The research will be examined in the context of the issues and concerns that have been raised regarding these families. It will be argued that the quality of family relationships and the wider social environment are more influential in children's psychological development than are the number, gender, sexual orientation or biological relatedness of their parents or the method of their conception. The lecture will be based on Susan Golombok's forthcoming book with the same title.

11 March **From Liking to Selfies to Wittgenstein**
Professor Richard Harper FRSA, FIET, Principal Researcher, Human Experience and Design, Microsoft

Theories about language end up being theories about many things, including theories about human practice and human knowledge. In this lecture I will introduce the audience to the changing landscape of communication and how it is reflected in the shifting vocabularies that we use where terms such as 'Likes' get newly minted and yet slip into everyday discourse. I will explore how and why language evolves in this way and use this as a vehicle for introducing the salience of Wittgenstein's philosophy to understanding society.

18 March **No lecture -** **AGM**

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL

As mentioned in the recent note from U3AC’s Chairman, new members are needed for our Council – the body responsible for management of U3AC.

Council members are U3AC’s trustees and, as such, have responsibility for the organisation’s finances, policies and operations. Full details of the role of trustees can be seen at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know>

In terms of time, membership of Council requires preparation for, and participation in, up to six meetings each year together, where necessary, with attendance at meetings of sub-committees. Council members are also expected to take part as hosts at certain social and new member events.

At the AGM on Wednesday 18 March 2015 nine seats on U3AC’s Council will become vacant. Nominations are therefore sought for eligible candidates to stand for these vacancies. Eligible candidates are U3AC members who did not serve on Council in the period March 2012-March 2015 and are not disqualified by charity law to act as a trustee (disqualifying factors are described in the following Charity Commission document): https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/316308/trustee-declaration-v4.pdf

If you would like to nominate one or more people to stand as a candidate please ensure your suggested nominee(s) is/are willing then find another U3AC member to second your proposal. Nominations should be submitted using the attached form and accompanied by:

- photograph(s) of the nominee(s)
- short statement(s) summarising the nominee(s) involvement with U3AC activities, including length of membership and any other relevant information

Nominee(s) should sign the form to indicate they are eligible and content to be nominated.

Completed forms should be returned to:

The Secretary, U3AC, 27-28 Bridge Street, Cambridge CB2 1UJ **by Wednesday 18 February 2015.**

If more than nine nominations are received there will be a ballot at the AGM.

| NOMINEE | PROPOSER <i>(please print)</i> | SECONDER <i>(please print)</i> | NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE |
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