

Message from the Chair

As I write this, the Spring term is coming to an end and, as many of our courses take place only in the first two terms of the academic year, many of the U3AC courses are also finishing. Of course this does not apply to all courses by any means, but it is a fact that members - and tutors - are often otherwise occupied over the spring and summer months. However, the U3AC still maintains a varied programme and this year will be operating a Summer School in July/August, as previously mentioned and there is, as always, a great deal for the staff to do in the office. You may have noticed that we are issuing this Newsletter a little earlier than usual, mainly because it includes details of summer courses and thus gives members more time to consider which courses they would like to apply for.

As a result of the early issue, this letter is being written before the AGM takes place and therefore I cannot provide any feedback about outcomes from that meeting, which normally forms a substantial part of the Chair's letter at this time of the year. I am not generally in favour of writing just for the sake of writing, so I do not have much else to say at this point - which is perhaps a good thing and also means that the organisation is working smoothly, thanks to all those who give so much of their time to the running of the U3AC.

You will all have been provided with the papers for the AGM and you may find it helpful to look at the various reports, which give more information about what has been happening in recent months - but I would like to remind you about the concert on 14th May given by the City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, which benefits U3AC - details available later in this Newsletter.

With best wishes for Easter and the warmer weather to come.

Sally Livesey, Chair U3AC

U3AC Summer Term 2016

Monday 11 April – Friday 17 June 2016

Start dates for each course are shown on the website

2016-17 Academic Year

10 October – 16 December 2016

9 January – 17 March 2017

(Tuesday) 18 April – 16 June 2017

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New courses – please enrol with the Office

Call Push Rescue 1

Tutor: Diane Anstee

Date and time: Thursday 14 April 9.45 - 11.05

Venue: Room 5

Number of places: 9

Do you know how to give basic life support (cardiopulmonary resuscitation)? The British Heart Foundation has launched a new initiative to help create a nation of lifesavers. Come along to a single workshop to learn these simple, but vital skills. All you need is the ability to kneel down (but if that's not possible, come along and watch!).

Call Push Rescue 2

Tutor: Diane Anstee

Date and time: Thursday 21 April 9.45 - 11.05

Venue: Room 5

Number of places: 9

Repeat of Call Push Rescue 1

FIT 39: Tennis (summer term)

Co-ordinator: Paul Pinnington

Date and time: Thursday 12.30 - 2.00

Venue: Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club

Length of course: 1 term

Number of places: 24

Start date: 14 April

We play at the Tennis Club on Wilberforce Road and currently have twelve players who joined in the Autumn term, but would welcome some more. There is plenty of parking at the club. If you have any queries please contact paulpinnington@gmail.com There is a fee of £20 for the term, payable to U3AC on application.

EDU 02: Issues in Education (summer term)

Tutor: Colin Byrne

Date and time: Thursday 10.30 - 12.30

Venue: Room 3

Length of course: 7 weeks

Number of places: 10

Start date: 5 May

Education has undergone many changes in recent decades and is continuing to change. Scarcely a day goes by without education news or articles appearing in the press. Many interesting experiments in schooling and higher education are taking place in different parts of the world forcing us to reconsider existing approaches. Key questions are: What is our education system aiming to achieve? How can we best achieve this? To what extent does our system achieve what we want it to already? What changes are needed to improve the system? There are many issues concerning teachers and teaching, teacher education, curriculum, examinations and assessment, personalisation and individualisation of learning, creativity, the relation between education and society, to name just some. This course offers the opportunity to discuss a selection of those topics that interest members of the class, so please enrol to enjoy the discussion.

SCE 26: Climate Change – The Basic Science

Tutor: Mick Mitchell

Day and time: Wednesday 1.15 - 2.15

Length of course: 1 term (5 wks: ends 11 May)

Number of places: 25

Start date: 13 April

Repeat of SCE 06.

Summer term courses

At the time of going to press the following courses starting in the summer term still had vacancies, full details of each course can be found on the website. Please enrol with the Office.

LEI 12: Drop in Scrabble

MUS 03: Getting to know Richard Wagner

MUS 04: Handel in Summer

PHL 06: More Healings Without Material Aids

SCE 20: The Answer lies in the Soil

Administrator's report

It might surprise you to know that the preparation for the 2016-2017 academic year began in February with the call to tutors and perspective tutors to provide details of their course offering. This year for the first time we have asked tutors to submit the details via an online form on the U3AC website. The Office staff have been delighted with the response and to date we have had 163 online returns. The feedback from tutors has been positive. At the beginning of April, once we have all of the proposals, the task begins of timetabling over 350 courses, of which in the region of 190 will be scheduled into the Bridge Street rooms. The Programme will start to come together for publication at the end of June ready for members to apply to courses. This year we hope to provide members with an online Course Application form. Paper applications will still be available.

Tutor support sessions

Are you a tutor or interested in becoming one?

Then this session may be for you. Support for U3AC Tutors: 'Reaching Out to All Learners'

- How do we reach out to all learners as tutors?
- What do we need to do to increase confidence in being a tutor?
- How do we develop strategies for working well with a group of U3AC members?
- How do we plan for our course sessions?

This workshop will help tutors to find answers to these questions. They will be practical and discussion based, within a proven structure of tutor support and development. Workshop participants will be expected to take an active part in the session. The session is on **Monday 4th April** at Bridge Street and will be from 10.00am – 1.00pm. Maximum of 20 participants. Applications are invited in the usual way for short courses, through the Office. Course Tutor Maggie Balshaw

Dr Maggie Balshaw is an experienced teacher educator and researcher into staff and school development. She has a PhD from Cambridge University in these subjects, and has run staff development workshops in the UK and in many international contexts.

Vacancy list

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

Courses 2016 - 17

* HIS 40 / 41: Your Cambridge Take 2 and 3

The organisers of the above courses will "retire" at the end of the current academic year. In order for the courses to continue next year we need 3 organisers. A list of visits and talks will be provided together with names and contact details.

Please contact the Office if you are interested. It will guarantee you a place on the course!

Courses in the 2016 - 2017 academic year

We have started planning for courses commencing October 2016 onwards. If you would be willing to offer a course, please complete the proposal form on our website <http://www.u3ac.org.uk/proposal-for-courses-2016-2017/> Closing date for applications is 31 March and we start timetabling in April.

4-Week Summer School

A 4-week Summer School will run from Monday 11 July to Friday 5 August 2016.

This will replace previous years' summer holiday courses which have taken place over a 13 week period. It is hoped a shorter, more condensed programme will prove more convenient and popular with members. Proposal forms for tutors will be available online from **Monday 4 April 2016** and will need to be submitted by **Tuesday 31 May** <http://www.u3ac.org.uk/proposal-for-2016-summer-school-course/>

The summer school programme will be available to members from Monday 6 June 2016.

Once available you may

Download a copy from the website

Request an emailed copy

Collect a paper copy from the U3AC Office

General

EU reading list

There has been an expression of interest in the EU reading list that was produced after U3AC's January EU conference. It can be found on <http://www.u3ac.org.uk/event-reports/>

Musical entertainment needed?

The Madrigal Group occasionally sings at events during the spring and early summer. If you need a group of singers for an event you are organising, please contact Jennifer Day (jenniferdayok@hotmail.com) or (07503 938920) to see if we are the right group for you. In the past we have given short concerts or been part of a fund-raising event such as a garden party.

Open Day 2016

Would you be able to volunteer on Open Day – 6th July 2016?

Yes, we are already beginning to plan this year's Open Day and if last year's event is anything to go by we will have as many if not more visitors so we would encourage YOU, as member volunteers to help during the day.

If you can spare an hour or two anytime between 10.15am – 3.30pm please do contact me.

Your support would be very much appreciated.

Sharon Camilletti, Publicity sub-committee jsc1110@hotmail.co.uk m: 0772 584 7303

Tote bags

Cotton tote bags printed with the U3AC logo costing £1 are available from the Office.

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.

Coffee cups

We have recently changed the cups we use to recyclable ones. These happen to be slightly bigger which has made some members question the amount of coffee etc being dispensed. Please be assured that this is unchanged. In addition, the cost of hot drinks hasn't been reviewed for some time, although prices have increased. We have, therefore, had to increase the cost to members from 50p to 60p.

Victor Whittaker's courses 'Modern Germany: Antecedents and Achievements' and 'Spain and the Americas'

Course books have been prepared and are now ready for printing. A copy will run to about 40 pages of text and 20 figures and cost about £12. He now needs to know how many to have printed. Those wanting a copy of either or both books are asked to leave their names with the U3AC office by 30 April 2016 and he will order then leave copies for sale and collection. The course books are too long for inclusion on the U3AC's web site and it did not seem feasible to make memory sticks for loan. Down-loading from an independent web site might raise problems of copyright; thus the solution of printed copies for sale at near cost price seemed the best one.

Administrative Information

Text messaging

We have set up a text messaging service in order to notify members of last minute class cancellations. If you would like to receive such messages please submit your mobile phone number to the Office using this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cm6llwLPrFjIGO7XWBIOv8HDudfwU85IRhhilmbqb_Q/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

Programme 2016 – 2017

Next year's programme will be sent out at the end of June.

It no longer includes tutors' telephone numbers, email addresses or home addresses (if a class is held in a private address). For members with internet access these details will be available on the "restricted" area of our website (for which you need to log in using your email address and membership number), members without internet access can request tutors' details from the Office.

Although these personal details were previously in printed format, we were unable to control who had access to them and as an organisation we have a duty under data protection rules to handle and keep personal information safe and secure.

In addition because the programme is printed in May and is in use until the following June, personal details often changed which meant that information was no longer accurate.

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.

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 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.

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 7 October 2016.

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 be viewed on the U3AC website.

Social

Wine Tasting

Wine tasting Tuesday 26 April at 6 pm, Bridge Street. £10 per ticket plus £1 for cheese on the day. Join us on a 'Tour de Monde' led by Matthew Boucher from 'Thirsty' and we will be taken on a longer journey around the world in wine. Tickets now available from the Office.

Concert by CCSO

Following last years' successful co-operation with the City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra at a concert which included Scheherazade as well as a new commission by young composer Chris Roe, the orchestra will be partnering with U3AC again this year at a concert on

Saturday 14 May 2016 at 7.30 pm in West Road Concert Hall

The concert starts with Bartok's serene and highly melodic 3rd piano concerto. The soloist will be pianist Erdem Misirlioglu, who has performed with CCSO every year since winning the piano section of BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in 2008. The second work in the programme is Mahler's epic 5th Symphony, best known perhaps for its Adagietto, used in Visconti's film Death in Venice.

U3AC benefits from the arrangement with the orchestra in that it retains 50% of all ticket sales made via U3AC. Such additional funding is a great help to U3AC in helping it maintain and expand its range of activities.

Tickets for the concert cost £16 for concessions and are now on sale from the U3AC Office.

Garden Parties

We hope to run a programme of Garden Parties again this year to follow on from the very successful parties held in previous years enjoyed by our members. If you would like to host a garden party in your garden, please contact the Office. Tickets are sold for these occasions by the Office to raise money for a charity of your choice.

Deaths

We were sorry to hear recently of the deaths of:

Rev William Taylor in November
Philippa Spencer in January
Barbara Tregear in January
Helen Lawrence in January
Lady Beryl Newns in January

Lynn Eldrett in January
Audrey Stenner in January
Elizabeth Edwards in January
Robert Manning in February
Graham Pechey in March

Other Organisations

Accessing University Libraries

Avid readers and members doing research might like to know they can use the Libraries of the Universities of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin.

For CU you need apply in person with a photo ID and proof of address to the Admissions Office in the main library building. Membership is free for a week, and then £10 for six months. You can access all areas including the reference section and special exhibitions. You can't however withdraw books.

Anglia Ruskin may be able to give access to visitors for research purposes to consult specific materials. You will need to apply in person showing photo ID, proof of age and address etc and complete a form

Outside Organisations' events

Information about events organised by outside organisations is available on our website

<http://www.u3ac.org.uk/outside-organisations/>

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/>

Lullaby

You might be lucky, you might
be alone where the sun
lights the pathway over
fallen leaves, and see her
coming with her hooded pram,
heedless of her surroundings.
It can't be planned of course.

It's pure luck if she appears
precisely at that moment
singing to her baby.
Don't miss the way she smiles
at him, her lullaby
an invisible thread,
linking them together.

She only walks this dappled lane
when the autumn weather's calm.
If you pass her on your way,
listen closely, catch a song
that feels like happiness,
between before and after
the commotion of your day.

Thank-You Note

There are many things between us that we share.
A love of gardens, plants, green woodland walks.
I'm excited by your knowledge of the arts
and grateful for your comments on my verse.
Now I'm waylaid by something new you've made,
a first class bitter marmalade.
Yesterday you gifted me a jar
of your tart and sunset-red preserve.
Just the way I like it. Unwittingly
I said you've found a highway to my heart
that's paved with dreams. Treat them tenderly
for closeness comes from things we share.
How could you know, I love to taste that sharp caress
when I spread my crunchy toast with all that bitterness.

David Thear

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 in the “downloads” area (you will need to log in to access these)
- ❖ 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

Thursday 5 May

Waddesdon Manor and gardens

Cost £31.25 or £17.25 for National Trust members.

Organiser: Gill Hodge

Closing date for applications is Thursday 14 April

Thursday 16 June

“**Guys and Dolls**”, the highly praised West End production at Milton Keynes.

Cost £38.

Organiser: Ann Jessett.

Application forms available nearer the time.

Tuesday 12 July

Two-centre visit to Jordans Mill & Garden and Moggerhanger House

Cost and times to be confirmed.

4. 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.
5. Activities are publicised in Bridge Street and also at the Wednesday Lectures. The Chairman is Clem Messenger.
6. 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.

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 our films are usually shown in Screen 3. There are no ads or trailers which means that all of our films **commence promptly at 1.00 pm** other than when an epic or exceptionally lengthy film is shown. Members are most welcome to attend our post screen discussions and to make suggestions for future showings.

Members are kindly requested to ensure that all electronic devices are switched off or in the case of mobile phones switched to silent mode.

Summer Term 2016

12 April No Country for Old Men Dir: Ethan & Joel Coen: (USA) 2007 (117 mins)

The Summer Term gets off to a cracking start with this masterful multi-faceted thriller from the Coen Bros. Set in Texas in 1980, the film begins when a Vietnam War veteran, Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin) stumbles across a desert drug deal gone wrong and escapes with a suitcase containing \$2 M. A game of cat and mouse ensues as Moss is pursued by a ruthless assassin. Adapting Cormac McCarthy's tense noir novel for the screen the Coens marry McCarthy's apocalyptic sense of breakdown with their own blackly comic sensibility and deliver a complex utterly riveting thriller. All in all a really terrific crime film.

19 April That Obscure Object of Desire Dir: Luis Buñuel: (France/Spain) 1977 (99 mins)

This final masterpiece from the great Spanish director is a fitting end to a dazzling career. A witty, ironic and barbed morality tale, it follows the increasingly desperate attempts of a wealthy businessman, Fernando Rey, to seduce his maid unaware that his world is collapsing around his ears. Two actresses play the role of Conchita which teasingly suggest the indecision in Rey's mind as he searches for the woman of his dreams. In the view of your organiser this is one of Buñuel's greatest films and as it is not generally available for showing at present it will be shown from a DVD.

26 April A Bout de Souffle Dir: Jean-Luc Godard: (France) 1959 (86 mins)

Made with the assistance of Truffaut & Chabrol this is the keystone of the French New Wave. A homage to such fatalistic heroes as Jean Gabin & Humphrey Bogart, Godard's masterpiece employs just about every trick associated with the nouvelle vague: location, shooting, direct sound hand-held footage, jump cuts, in-jokes and visual tributes to master film-makers. Jean-Paul Belmondo is superbly shambolic as the petty thief whose brief alliance with American newspaper vendor (Jean Seberg) precipitates his demise.

3 May Before Midnight Dir: Richard Linklater: (USA/Greece) 2013 (108 mins)

The magic is still alive in Linklater's third astute probe into the developing relationship between Ethan Hawke and Julie Delphy. Nine more years have passed and the two lovers live in Paris with their twin daughters. At the end of an idyllic Greek holiday, they talk honestly about their life together in relaxed long takes, and the intelligent banter, sharp humour and emotional truths show the duo clearly comfortable in their character's skin, but the core concerns remain, mortality, regret, romantic maintenance and an optimistic outlook; a fitting conclusion to an outstanding film trilogy.

10 May Timbuktu Dir: Abderrahmane Sissako: (France/Mauritania) 2014 (95mins)

Set in 2012 when jihadists occupied the Malian city of the title, Timbuktu is particularly timely especially given subsequent events in Isis –controlled territories. Criss-crossing between different characters we meet a family of goat and cattle herders, local musicians, fishmongers and imams who are all suddenly compelled to obey sharia laws that prohibit that we in the West take for granted. This film exposes the cruelty and absurdity of fundamentalist regimes, but with a warm, surprisingly humorous touch.

17 May Germany, Year Zero Dir: Roberto Rossellini: (Italy/West Germany) 1947 (69 mins)

The number of studio shot scenes in the concluding part of Rossellini's war trilogy, shows that he was already moving away from the neo-realistic style. Yet the documentary footage of a decimated Berlin is still enormously powerful. The shadow of Nazism hovers over the depiction of desperation, as 12-year old Edmund Moeschke scavenges among the ruins to feed his family and tries to alleviate the suffering of his father. This will be shown from your organiser's personal DVD.

24 May Yentl

Dir: Barbra Streisand: (UK/USA) 1983 (127 mins)

Based on a story by Isaac Bashevis Singer and set in 1904 in Central Europe, Barbra Streisand's first film as a director is about a Jewish girl who dresses as a boy to receive a religious education. 'Yentl' won the Oscar for best original score and two of the film's songs were nominated for Academy Awards.

31 May Listen to Me Marlon

Dir: Stevan Riley: (USA) 2015 (103 mins)

Despite his towering public profile Marlon Brando was a deeply private man. Yet in this documentary the actor lowers his defences to reveal his innermost thoughts. Director Stevan Riley's film is a fascinating collage which profoundly probes its subject's psyche. The film was commissioned by Brando's own estate, and is entirely constructed of hundreds of hours of audio recordings made by Brando himself. A fine tribute to a great screen actor. I hope to show some of his films in our 2016/17 season.

7 June Dr Strangelove or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb

Dir: Stanley Kubrick: (UK) 1963 (90 mins)

Kubrick's ferocious Cold War satire makes us smile through gritted teeth as an unhinged general (Sterling Hayden) sends a squadron of nuclear bombers to attack the USSR and trigger an apocalypse-laden doomsday machine. Peter Sellers's three performances (bemused airman, confused president and crazed US Nazi adviser, re-armed by the prospect of world annihilation) spirals from gentle humour to surreal horror. Kubrick's unsparing disgust with our warlike instincts was never so obvious or so grimly comic.

14 June Red River

Dir: Howard Hawks: (USA) 1948 (133 mins)

This magnificent cattle – driving western is considered to be one of the greatest achievements of American cinema. Basing his film on co-screenwriter Borden Chase's novel, producer/director Howard Hawks is aided by arguably John Wayne's finest screen performance (as cattle boss Tom Dunson) and he's matched by young Montgomery Clift (as Dunson's ward). This is Hollywood film-making at its highest level with music (Dmitri Tiomkin) and photography (Russell Harlan) that enhances and embellishes the text. I hope to show another great western (Sam Peckinpah's 'The Wild Bunch') in the Autumn Term.

U3AC 10-week terms at the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse

- U3AC members can buy a 10-week film term for a discounted price of £30. This allows you free entry to each of the 10 films screened at the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse at 1 pm each Tuesday of the term.
- To get set up, register at any till at the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse near the beginning of a term. Bring your U3AC membership card as proof of eligibility to this scheme. The Picturehouse staff will issue you with a plastic Picturehouse Membership card.

U3AC term card

- Your U3AC term information is stored electronically on a plastic Picturehouse Membership card.
- This plastic Picturehouse Membership card will hold 10 free U3AC screening ticket credits on it, lasting the whole of the 10 week term. Please keep this card and renew it at any till before each term at the cinema (not yet over the phone or on our website).
- If you already have a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, for which you've either paid an annual fee or from a prior U3AC term, we will add the current U3AC term to this existing card.

Entry to each U3AC film

- Each week's film starts promptly at 1 pm every Tuesday of the term (unless otherwise stated).
- You will need a paper ticket stub to gain entry to each week's U3AC film.
- Present your plastic Picturehouse Membership card at any till in the cinema to get your free ticket to the current week's U3AC film, which you can show to the usher to gain entry to the film.

Please note that our first show of the Autumn Term 2016 will commence at 1.00pm on Tuesday 4 October, one week ahead of the start of the U3AC Term.

These are an established and popular part of the U3AC's activities, complementing the Wednesday lectures. We offer about eight to ten lectures per year, on Tuesday evenings, and aim to cover a broad range of scientific themes each year, both general and topical.

We can call upon the wealth of talent in local organisations - the universities, research institutions etc. plus some notable presenters from outside the region. We engage speakers who are known to us or have been recommended, and have the ability to make science accessible – usually helped by excellent visuals.

So whether you are just interested, or quite knowledgeable and want to learn more about a particular topic, you are invited to join us.

The lectures are 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 Margaret 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.

Summer Term 2016

12 April ***Planetary Space Weather – Radiation Belts Of The Solar System***

Emma Woodfield, Space Weather and Atmosphere Group, British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge

Space is not the quiet place we sometimes imagine, it has its own wind - the Solar wind. The Sun is also prone to hiccupping every so often and throwing huge balls of flaming gas out into the Solar System which can lead to superb auroral displays as well as serious problems for spacecraft and even electrical power grids. In this lecture I will guide the audience through the wonderful images and movies we have of the effects of space weather on the planets, and then lead through to recent advances in our understanding of the Van Allen Radiation Belts at many of the planets, where dangerously energetic particles lurk. Predicting what conditions satellites, spacecraft and astronauts are going to encounter in Space is a tricky job and the radiation hazards presented in these regions around many of the planets in the Solar System is a very important part of that. The talk will describe how we model the ebb and flow of the energetic particles that form the radiation belts focussing particularly on Jupiter and Saturn.

26 April ***What Is Ageing And What Can We Do About It?***

Richard Faragher, Professor of Biogerontology, University of Brighton - past Chair of the British Society for Research on Ageing and of the International Association of Biomedical Gerontology

What the ageing process is and why has it evolved? What is the science which has led to our modern understanding of how a failure of healthspan maintenance mechanisms contributes to the many problems and pathologies which older people face? However, we now stand at a moment in human history where it is becoming possible to use our understanding of these mechanisms to design drugs and interventions which will improve the resistance of older people to infectious disease, potentially treat cognitive impairment and lead to healthier, happier and possibly even longer lives

10 May ***The Butterfly Effect***

Professor Mike Thompson, Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics University of Cambridge

Beautiful graphics have made the subject of “chaotic” systems universally appealing, and can be used to explain the unpredictability in many diverse fields. Simple equations fed into a computer produce breath-taking “fractals” of ever-increasing complexity, providing a graphical tool for describing and controlling complexities of the world. Cutting across traditional disciplines, chaos has been used to control lasers for telecommunication, improve weather forecasting and devise fuel-efficient trajectories for space-craft. The so-called ‘butterfly effect’ describes how systems can develop a severe sensitivity to their initial state.

Wednesday Lectures

Summer Term 2016

This series of weekly lectures will take place in The Debating Chamber of The Cambridge Union Society, 9A Bridge Street CB2 1UB, 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

13 April *Great Zimbabwe: a Black & White Issue*

Tim Ewbank, Tutor and Member of U3AC

The country that is now Zimbabwe took its name from a unique ruined city that is the largest pre-European man-made structure in Africa south of the Sahara. It is built entirely of granite, without any form of mortar, offering little archaeological evidence as to its origins. Consequently, since its “discovery” by European explorers in the mid 19th century, its origins have been a source of much debate of variable scientific validity.

My talk will describe the site and its exploration; then review the evidence for the competing claims to the fundamental questions of who built it? When? For what purpose? I will also explain why it is politically contentious.

20 April *Imagery on Roman Coins*

David Page, Tutor and Member of U3AC

This talk is about images found on Roman Coins. It is a short illustrated history about how some of Rome's leaders (with no TV and no photography available to them) used the state's coinage to advertise their personal achievements.

27 April *Battling on the Home Front – saving energy*

Dr Richard McMahon, Engineering Department, Cambridge University

There is a general, though not universal, acceptance that emissions of carbon dioxide need to be curbed in case the current experiment in climate change has a bad outcome. Indeed, in the United Kingdom such reductions in emissions are mandated by law. This talk will look at some of the many technologies for furthering this goal that are coming into the domestic sphere. These include the well-established such as solar panels as well as newer approaches such as heat pumps, electric vehicles and energy storage units. There are also the heavily promoted such as smart meters. What can these do for us and do they deliver on their promises? The speaker will add some personal experiences!

4 May *Art that has provided inspiration*

Dr Maggie Balshaw, Tutor and Member of U3AC

This is a personal exploration of twenty works of art that have, through the years, right from those I discovered when at school, to those that now inform and inspire my art classes at U3AC. They are in the main, works that I have seen in galleries in Europe and further afield. Some of the works will be instantly recognisable to members, others more obscure. The selection is not intended to be the ‘Art Top Twenty’, just the 20 that I have chosen to reflect my artistic journey.