



Newsletter December 2012 – March 2013

A Message from the Chairman

It always happens on a Wednesday! This term has seen another flood in the entrance corridor, a fire alert on account of a bowl of burnt risotto and a lecturer who nearly didn't make it to Mill Lane. William Newman, you are forgiven. Your affectionate and humorous reminiscence of your and your family's connections with Alan Turing delighted a nearly full house and was the highlight of a splendidly varied Autumn series of talks. Of course, Peter Woodsford, who organised them all, will now have to carry around his "50 Years of Ugandan Independence" just in case! We'll have to see that it gets an airing one day. Next term's programme looks every bit as interesting, starting with Professor Christopher Andrew on the Cuban Missile Crisis.

This term has also seen the installation of Marion Stewart as Director of Studies (Courses). In Carlos de la Riva she has a hard act to follow, but Marion is full of interesting ideas for our future development. I am also especially glad that our system of sub-committees seems to be working very effectively. It makes for much better decision making.

By the time you read this newsletter the two Christmas lunches at the Cambridge Regional College will have happened and the recorder group will have performed a Christmassy selection to its usual high standard. The U3AC Choir will also have survived certain logistical difficulties at the start of term to flourish its talents at its annual Christmas concert in St Paul's, Hills Road. Now we can look forward to the New Year's Party at Scotsdales on 10th January.

Seasonal thanks go to my colleagues on Council, Clem Messenger and her Cultural and Social Activities team, our simply wonderful staff in the Office, all our tutors, the not so small army of volunteers, whether in reception, at Mill Lane, Scotsdales, the Friends Meeting House or wherever else help is needed and, of course, to all of you. May they and you have a safe and very happy Christmas time and a peaceful New Year! Let us all just hope that the forthcoming sewer works in Jesus Lane do not cause too much inconvenience; but then U3AC members are known for their indomitability, aren't you?

Council elections

At the end of this newsletter is a sheet on which you are invited to make nominations for up to 2 members of Council. Please take this seriously and give thought to approaching those you know in U3AC who impress you with their organising abilities. We need good volunteers to offer to serve on Council in order to ensure that our organisation continues to thrive.

Charles Bonney

Christmas and New Year closing

Please note that the U3AC Office will close at 2.00 pm on 21 December and reopen at 10.00 am on 2 January

Dates of the academic year 2013

Spring term: Monday 14 January – Friday 22 March

Summer term: Monday 15 April – Friday 21 June

Autumn term: Monday 7 October – Friday 13 December

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Messages from members of Council

Courses and Allocations 2012 – 2013

In this first newsletter of the current academic year, we would like to extend a welcome to our new members, we hope that they are enjoying their allocated courses. We encourage all members to give feedback of the courses, both critical and positive so that we can sustain a successful programme of courses. A feedback form is provided at the end of this newsletter. We are particularly interested to hear from those members who have withdrawn from courses during this first term.

The U3AC continues to grow in popularity and this year our membership numbers stand at 2,588 compared with 2,536 at the same time last year.

Thanks to the commitment of tutors, U3AC can offer a broad range of courses – 306 at the current time.

However, there is still some capacity during the summer term for interested, enthusiastic members to offer to run new courses, thereby increasing course choice and our tutor base, please contact the Office if you are interested in doing so.

Some members will have been disappointed not to have been enrolled in courses which are very popular and with small groups we are actively looking at how we might address this.

Marion Stewart, Director of Studies (Courses)

New courses – please enrol with the Office

PHL 09: Early Christian Spirituality (spring term)

Tutor: Jill Gather

Day and time: Wednesday 1.30 – 2.30

Venue: U3AC Room 3

Length of course: 1 term

Number of places: 10

Start date: 16 January

The course seeks to introduce participants to the spirituality of the early Church by considering relevant texts from the third century onward. By studying the writings of early Christian ascetics (primarily of the Greek speaking world), we will be able to catch a glimpse of their teachings on prayer and the spiritual life. Particular attention will be given to the tradition of the prayer of the heart. Proposed course outline: 1. The Roots of Christian Spirituality. 2. Origen of Alexandria. 3. The Desert Fathers. 4 and 5. The Syrian Tradition. 6. Gregory of Nyssa. 7. Evagrius Ponticus. 8. Augustine of Hippo. 9. The Early Byzantine Tradition. 10. The Byzantine Hesychasts. No prior knowledge is needed. Our source book will be Bernard McGinn (ed.), *The Essential Writings in Christian Mysticism*, New York: Random House, 2006. Additional readings will be provided.

HIS 36: A Short History of Europe (summer term)

Co-ordinator: Dick Wilson

Day and time: Wednesday 1.00 pm – 3.45 pm

Venue: U3AC Room 1

Length of course: 1 term

Number of places: 20

Start date: 24 April

This course is a repeat of course HIS 04. It will be given on Wednesday afternoons from 24th April to 26th June. The course is 20 classes, so there will be **two** each Wednesday, 1.00 pm to 2.15 pm and 2.30 pm to 3.45 pm. The course will describe or illustrate some of the main events and changes in Europe, from its original population by human beings to the present day, and will emphasize the chronology and connection between events. Where did Europeans come from? The rise and fall of empires. Religions, technology, science and other ideas. The course will be in lecture form with questions, presented by the co-ordinator or others with expert knowledge of particular topics.

Additional courses are advertised in weekly bulletins as they become arranged.

Courses - General

Cycling Club

The formal cycling programme has ended, but between now and next April, there is still the possibility of sunny, mild cycling days. We plan to repeat the very successful system we used last year: any leaders inspired by a good weather forecast, will circulate details of a short-notice ride. So it is still a good time to sign up to the club so that you will be put on the e-mailing list. cyclingu3ac@gmail.com

Thursday Swimming Group

There is a thriving and friendly swimming group which meets to swim at the Leys School pool every Thursday between 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm. We actively welcome new members. A fee of £45-£50 per person per 12 week term is charged to cover the hire of the pool and lifeguard. The Spring term will run from 17 January to 11 April 2013 with a week's break on 14 February for half term.

The Leys heated pool is a generous 25m long with changing areas and showers. Our group size is limited to a maximum of 23 swimmers so as to give everyone plenty of space. The venue is cycle-friendly but please note that it is not possible to park cars on the School grounds. The nearest free parking is at the Lammas Land car park - the pool is a pleasant 10 minute walk from there via the footpath across Coe Fen. Entry to the pool building is from Fen Causeway.

If your New Year resolution is to keep fit and active and you think you might like to join us for a weekly swim please contact Sue Green via the Office.

U3AC Summer Holiday Programme

If you would be willing to lead a course/lecture/event over the summer, (between July and September) please contact the Office. We will collate the information and prepare a summer holiday programme which will be available nearer the time.

Administrative Information

Email communication

If members have provided the Office with their email address, they are used as a fast, cost effective way of informing you of course information. However, please let us know if you change it as we often have emails 'bouncing' back from closed accounts. If we do not hold an email address for you we will continue to send notifications through the post.

U3AC Premises – access for members with mobility issues

A handrail is fitted at the front door entrance and further handrails are fitted to the walls on the staircase up to the first floor. A bell at low level near the front entrance can be used to alert staff to members who require assistance or the ramp to access the building. An intercom system is also installed for members who wish to speak to staff before proceeding to the first floor.

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 are making savings in postage by combining husband/wife mailings in one envelope. If, however, members would like their mailings kept separate please inform the Office.

Change of members' contact details

It would be very helpful if members could inform the Office of any change of home address, or email address, and especially any new telephone number.

Copy for next Newsletter

Articles/information that members would like to be published in the March newsletter should be received by the Office no later than **Friday 8 March 2013**.

Council Minutes

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

Next Council Meeting

Friday 8 February 2013.

Evacuation from U3AC premises

Tutors of courses held in the U3AC premises have been given instructions on action to be taken if the fire alarm sounds. Please ensure you exit the premises swiftly without stopping to collect personal belongings and proceed to the assembly point which is in front of the mail box at the top of Thompson's Lane. The tutor will call the register again to ensure you have evacuated safely.

Recent visits

Heidelberg Exchange visit 29 August – 5 September 2012



*Hey we to the other world boys
Where 'tis thought they merry
merry be*

These were the opening lines of the Philippa-Spencer Singers' swan-song on the eve of their departure, at the Klosterhof where we had our last meal as guests of the Akademie für Ältere (Heidelberg's U3A), after being given a guided tour of the Abtei by Brother Bruno and an organ recital including 'God Save the Queen'!

The boys and girls had enjoyed a week in the company of our hosts from the Akademie and were bidding farewell to friendships made or renewed...

This year, the 7th in a series of alternating exchange visits between the institutions of our two twinned cities, 14 of us hied away (by train or air) to Heidelberg - double our number in 2010. For most of the participants this was their first time there, at least with the U3A. Because of pressure on accommodation in the town centre, we were booked into the ultra-modern, would-be energy-saving, Midori (Japanese for 'green') in Dossenheim, where we were met for dinner in the old 'Gasthof Löwe' on our first evening. It is an attractive village, about 6 km north of Heidelberg, but well served by the local S-Bahn. The computer-controlled hotel rooms initially left many of us rather baffled, but they were of generous size compared with the Vier Jahreszeiten where we stayed in the past, and there was plenty of space in the breakfast room, too, though half the tables were so high you couldn't move the chair nearer once you had climbed up.

After living in Cambridge, it can come as a culture shock to find that some parts of Europe have significant up and down bits, especially Heidelberg, where almost every street and lane leads up into the wooded hills on each bank of the surprisingly mighty River Neckar. Once again, Hedi Weber, her husband, Kurt, and friends had laid on an interesting mix of visits to places ancient and modern, including a walking tour of Heidelberg Old Town, with the delightfully knowledgeable Nils-Uwe acting as our guide; followed by a tour of the Haus der Astronomie, the new observatory of the Max Plank Institute at the top of the Königstuhl; and the famous Castle (once lived in by Elizabeth Stuart, wife of the Elector Palatine and daughter of our King James I) on our-way down the hill – and that was just the first day! Next day brought an excursion to Worms (home of the German reformation of Martin Luther), with a mini-train ride round the town and lunch in a traditional brewery, followed by a tour of the Dom (cathedral) with our very informative guide, Herr Lautenschläger, before enjoying an ice-cream parlour and local museums and monuments. Back in Heidelberg on the third day, we faced a steep climb to the Celtic sites and monastic ruins on the Heiligenberg and, part-way up, an amphitheatre which, it was confessed, had been used for Nazi rallies (and later for baseball, by the Americans!); and then the event which had determined our dates, the late-night illumination of the Castle and spectacular firework display.

Sunday was perhaps the best, and certainly the most relaxing, day of all, when we paired up into small groups for individual excursions with our hosts to follow specific interests and in some cases visit their homes. Next day brought Lobdengau's splendid Roman museum and the Karl Benz motor museum; and a special treat was the evening garden party at Frau Lore Meier's house: magnificent food accompanied by the classical guitar and a chance to really get to know each other. More formal was the civic reception on our final day, in the historic Prinz Carl Hall (covered by the local press – we got our picture in the paper!), followed by lunch in the impressive cellars, then some of us enjoyed a boat ride on the river before making our way up to the Abtei (abbey).

Continued overleaf

We acquired two gifts to the group, either of which may be borrowed on request by U3AC members. Send an e-mail or contact Peter Burkinshaw via the Office. One is a CD of music from various shows and the other a DVD about Karl Benz's struggle to develop the first 'horseless carriage' (German soundtrack). The latter is quite tough to follow, but one bit stuck in my mind. This was when Karl was trying to raise finance at the local bank. After listening, the manager said "Why do we need horseless carriages when we have plenty of horses?" - an attitude that seems to persist to the present.

Next summer we will be hosting the Akademie here in Cambridge, for which we are already recruiting members. Those interested should contact Peter Burkinshaw, as above.

Trip to Venice November 2012



Young v old: U3AC v La Serenissima (Venezia)

If you want an excellent holiday just choose one run by Alan Winfield. His calm controlled personality, coupled with a depth of knowledge of all there was to experience, contributed towards all of us enjoying what was a wonderful introduction to the wonders of Venice. No one who went on this trip failed to be inspired to return. And, what's more, he seemed to have magical powers over the weather – the sun shone every day. I came back with almost a suntan!

I decided that the best way to write a report was to combine the feelings of my fellow travellers - unfortunately there is not enough room to include everyone's. What follows is a selection.

Clem Messenger

'After seeing all the flooding on TV, we thought we wished we were not coming to Venice but we arrived in glorious sun shine, it has been marvellous.'

'A city of contrasts – the bustle of St Mark's Square to the peace and tranquillity of Tronchetto. A cultural delight.'

'An earthly paradise'

'No traffic on roads - great place for a boat salesman'

'Relaxing boat trips, magical narrow streets with a great variety of shops'

'A happy return for me, but with Alan's guidance I'm seeing and understanding far more'

'I am in 7th heaven because around every corner there is a potential painting'

'A dream come true to see the amazing glass they make in Murano'

'The shops are individual and gorgeous. The only problem how to find that shoe shop with those gorgeous boots!'

'A memory from a visit 50 years ago; the only difference is the change in the shops'

'Venice never fails to delight and surprise - day and night'

'We have had a lovely time with lovely people. Thank you Alan for giving so generously of your time.'

'The trip was 10/10'

'Benissimo'

General

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.

We were sorry to hear recently of the deaths of:

David Drucker

Diana Ives

Muriel Jay

Mary Ledzion

Bill Shephard

Research

Research at the U3AC

The U3AC is developing a research culture, encouraging and facilitating both group and individual projects. If you have some ideas for either a group or individual project, we would invite you to contact the Research Committee via the U3AC Office by phone 01223 321857 or by email office@u3ac.org.uk. Don't worry about your research skills, as we can provide any training that you might wish. An example of a new research project is "Positive Aspects of Ageing". You have all heard about negative aspects of ageing and about factors that reduce the impact of such negative factors. But we are concentrating on the factors that show positive change with age. We have formed a team and are designing a questionnaire as our first milestone. If you would like to join us, please email me, Ray Adams at adams@churchillians.net. A research background is not a prerequisite!

Dr Ray Adams, Chair, U3AC Research Committee

Publicity

It is the aim of the Publicity Committee to raise the profile of the U3AC within Cambridge and, to this end, we would like to get our lovely posters out throughout the year, and not just before the Open Day. There is a box of them in Reception and if people could take a few to place in doctors' and dentists' waiting rooms, that would be very helpful. Also, could groups who put on performances or exhibitions take some with them and ask if they can be displayed in the premises they use?

Social

Wine Tasting at Bridge Street

6 February 2013 with a Spanish theme. Further details will be in the weekly bulletin nearer the time.

Monika Pruetzel-Thomas

Other organisations

New screening programme for 65+ men in Cambridgeshire

All 65-year-old men in Cambridgeshire are to benefit from screening for abdominal aortic aneurysms (also known as AAAs) as part of a new national screening programme. Addenbrooke's Hospital has introduced the NHS Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening Programme.

An estimated 80,000 men in England aged between 65 and 74 are affected by the condition, which is caused when the main blood vessel in the abdomen – the aorta – weakens and starts to expand. **If undetected, the condition can be fatal and around 6,000 people die in England and Wales every year from a burst AAA.**

The NHS AAA Screening Programme aims to reduce deaths from the condition by up to 50 per cent amongst men aged 65 and over by detecting AAAs early and offering appropriate monitoring or treatment. Men aged 65 and over are most at risk from the condition and invitations for screening are therefore being sent out to men in the area in the year they turn 65. **Men over 65 who have never been invited for AAA screening can ask for a scan by contacting the local screening service.**

Clinics are being ran throughout Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and West Suffolk, so finding one close to where you live should be easy.

Men who have an AAA will not generally notice any symptoms, which is why screening is important. AAA screening involves a simple, quick and non-invasive ultrasound scan and men receive their result immediately.

More information or to be sent a self-referral pack, please visit the national programme website at: <http://aaa.screening.nhs.uk> or phone the local screening centre on 01223 256909.

Computer training

Do you have difficulty using a computer? Perhaps you find it uncomfortable or maybe you just can't understand what they are all about. You might want to keep in touch with relatives by email, research friends and relatives on the Internet, or find out details about local organisations, including health and social services. Perhaps you just don't know where to begin!

Local charity **Cambridge OnLine** has been helping people to access computers and the Internet for over ten years. All our services are free, and tailored to individual need. You will be working one-to-one with a tutor in an informal and friendly environment. We specialise in helping people with any kind of disability, older people, and complete beginners – anybody who needs some help and encouragement to use a computer or access the Internet.

Call us now to book an informal visit to our Learning Centre based in Cambridge: 01223 300407

Adventures in Italy

This event takes place on Saturday 12th January 2013, and is a celebration of the Library's fascinating collection relating to the Victorian polymath Samuel Butler (1835-1902). From 10am to 4pm, the beautiful Old Library will be open for an exhibition of items from the Butler Collection, and related talks will take place throughout the day. As well as being a writer, painter, photographer and evolutionist, Samuel Butler was a great traveller, who in the latter part of his life adopted Italy as his second country. From the Alpine ranges bordering Switzerland in the north to Trapani on the west coast of Sicily, Butler covered hundreds of miles (many of which were off the standard tourist track), carrying out hugely original literary-historical research and befriending the locals wherever he stopped to rest. The places and scenes that caught Butler's imagination in the 1880s and 1890s are beautifully documented in the Library's collection, which includes almost 2000 original photographic prints and several hundred artworks created by Butler as he went, as well as the maps he used and the souvenirs he collected on his travels. Anyone with an interest in Italy, the Alps, nineteenth-century travel, walking, photography, art, art history, classical literature (particularly the 'Odyssey'), or Samuel Butler will find something to interest them at this event. Full details of the programme are given on our website at <http://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/butler-day-adventures-italy>. All the events are free to attend, though booking for the talks is strongly encouraged.

The Strethall Lectures 2013

An annual lecture series given by distinguished speakers and held in Saffron Walden.

Friday 1st February 2013, Terry Molloy ~ My life as an actor and member of two of the BBC's most iconic programmes, The Archers and of course, Doctor Who.

Friday 8th February 2013, Michael Hall ~ G F Bodley and Victorian church restoration.

Friday 15th February 2013, Anthony Penrose ~ Lee Miller's life in the world of fashion.

Friday 22nd February 2013, Professor John Burland ~ Rescuing the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Tickets may be booked on-line at <http://www.saffrontickets.com/> for £6.50 each session or at the Tourist Information, Market Place, Saffron Walden. A series ticket can be booked for £22.50, enquiries to strethall.church@btinternet.com all funds raised are for the benefit of the church fabric.

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:

- ❖ from the display area at 27-28 Bridge Street
- ❖ at the Wednesday lecture
- ❖ 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 will be sent forms as soon as they are available (see form below)**
- ❖ by email from the Office

NB: when sending forms to the organiser you **must** clearly mark the back of the envelope "U3AC" with the name of the trip. 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, forms are usually available about 4 weeks before the outing

Thursday 7th March

William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow

Part of day to be spent at gallery, rest to be confirmed

Organiser: Monica Williams

Assistant Organiser: Clem Messenger

March tbc

The Babraham Institute

Details to be confirmed

Organiser: Clem Messenger

April, date to be confirmed

London Crime and Punishment Walk

Blue badge guided walk

Organiser: Clem Messenger

Date to be confirmed

Sculpture Trail in Cambridge

Organiser: Janet Rallison

Assistant Organiser: Monica Williams

- 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 and Northampton Street.

U3AC Film Group Spring Programme 2013

This term's programme is designed to present a variety of sub-genres under the headings of Tokyo Tales (**TT**), Post War Europe (**PW**) and Emigration (**EM**) and also include examples of a classic Musical (**M**) and a Western (**W**). We are also giving a special place to the work of two contemporary Belgian film-makers, the brothers Jean-Pierre Dardenne and Luc Dardenne. Screenings take place at the Arts Picturehouse every Tuesday at 2pm.

15 January The Kid With A Bike Dir. Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne Belgium (88 mins) (2011)
 There is no doubt that this film by the brothers Dardennes was the outstanding work to come from the 2012 Cannes Film Festival. It is an engaging story telling of an abandoned child who achieves grace through the sympathetic help of an adult who cares enough to offer love and perseverance, without seeking for reward.



22 January The Third Man Dir. Carol Reed UK (105 mins) (1949) (PW)
 An out of work pulp fiction novelist, Holly Martins, arrives in a post war Vienna where a shortage of supplies has led to a flourishing black market. He arrives at the invitation of an ex-school friend, Harry Lime, who has offered him a job, only to discover that Lime has recently died in a mysterious traffic accident. Martins soon notices that some of the stories he is told are inconsistent, and determines to discover what really happened to Harry Lime. Orson Welles and Joseph Cotton star in this gem of 1940's film-making.

29 January Tokyo Sonata Dir. Kiyoshi Kurosawa Japan (120 mins) (2008) (TT)
 A typical household teeters on the verge of collapse in this drama from director Kiyoshi Kurosawa. Businessman Ryuhei Sasaki is the principal breadwinner of a seemingly happy family in Tokyo, he has teenage sons, Takashi and Kenji, and a wife, Megumi. But what Megumi and her children don't know is that Ryuhei is out of a job; his position was outsourced to a company in China, and he's too ashamed to tell his family the truth. Winner of numerous awards, including best film and best screenplay at major Film Festivals in Chicago, Cannes and Tokyo.

5 February America, America Dir. Elia Kazan USA (174 mins) (1963) (EM)
 The director Elia Kazan, ethnic Greek but Turkish by birth, tells the story of the struggles of his uncle in emigrating to America in the 1890's. A film of great importance to Kazan, as the son of immigrants, but also one that resonates strongly with many Americans. His uncle, portrayed as Stavros in the film, journeys from the poverty and persecution of Anatolia to the commercial vibrancy of Constantinople and finally the promised land of America. A heartfelt tribute to the struggles of the director's forefathers. The production is blessed with the marvellous cinematography of Haskell Wexler.

NOTE: This programme will start at 1 pm.

12 February The Silence Of Lorna Dir. Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne Belgium (105 mins) (2008) (EM)
 Sokol and Lorna, two Albanian emigrants in Belgium, dream of leaving their dreary jobs to set up a snack bar. They need money, and a permanent resident status. Claudy is a junkie - he needs money to satisfy his addiction. Andrei, the cigarette smuggler, must hole up for a while outside Russia; he has loads of money. Fabio, the Italian taxi driver and aspiring gang boss, engineers a scheme in which he will pay Claudy to marry Lorna so that she acquires a Belgian citizenship.

<p>CardNo</p> <p>Start Date Expiry date</p> <p>Switch Issue No</p> <p><i>Please make cheques payable to</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">'City Screen' (Cambridge) Ltd</p> <p><i>Please return this form to The Arts Picturehouse, 38-39 St Andrew's Street, Cambridge CB2 3AR</i></p> <p>*Please note - unless otherwise stated in the cinema programme screenings are open to everyone</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">METHOD OF PAYMENT</p> <p>U3AC MEMBERSHIP NO:</p> <p>ADDRESS:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	<div style="text-align: right;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center;">FILM GROUP</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL INCLUSIVE PRICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£27.50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Every Tuesday at 2pm Term starts 15 January and concludes 19 March MEMBERSHIP TO ACT AS TICKET PLANNED POST SCREENING DISCUSSIONS USE OF THE ARTS PICTUREHOUSE CAFE-BAR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APPLICATION FORM</p> <p>TITLE..... INITIALS</p> <p>SURNAME</p> <p>ADDRESS</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
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19 February A Foreign Affair Dir. Billy Wilder USA (105 mins) (1948) (PW)

A congressional committee visits occupied Berlin to investigate G.I. morals. Congresswoman Phoebe Frost, appalled at widespread evidence of human frailty, hears rumors that cafe singer Erika, former mistress of a wanted war criminal, is "protected" by an American officer, and enlists Captain John Pringle to help her find him not knowing that Pringle is Erika's lover. Jean Arthur and Marlene Dietrich are excellently cast as Phoebe and Erika and the film comes across as one of Wilder's best as he gives us an account of the city he knew so well.

**26 February When A Woman Ascends The Stairs Dir: Mikio Naruse Japan
(111 mins) (1960) (TT)**

This is the story of Mama, a.k.a. Keiko, a middle-aged geisha who must choose to either get married or buy a bar of her own. Her family hounds her for money, her customers for her attention, and she is continually in debt. The life of a geisha is examined as well as the way in which the system traps and sometimes kills those in it. The films of Mikio Nareuse are relatively unknown in this country and we are proud to give Film Group members the opportunity to see this quietly rewarding, poignant film.

5 March 3:10 To Yuma Dir. Delmer Daves USA (90 mins) (1957) (W)

A gripping psychological drama in the Western genre with Glenn Ford as the leader of a gang of murdering thieves and Van Heflin as Dan Evans, a struggling rancher, who agrees to bring him in, because he needs the money. In the process Evans finds that he has to wrestle with his own sense of ethics; Glorious cinematography, of the highest order, comes from the camera of Charles Lawton, and the original story from the pen of Elmore Leonard.

**12 March The Lives Of Others Dir. Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck
Germany (137 mins) (2006) (PW)**

Set in East Germany not long before the fall of the Berlin Wall, we are told the moving story of a police investigator forced to confront himself and the work he does. In a society poisoned by secrecy, fear and the abuse of power, some of the film's characters; artists, actors, writers must look deep inside and decide what they are made of; none more so than the investigator. The strength of the film is that it works on numerous levels - especially in the way it approaches the main character's complexity as an individual, and that no character is one-dimensional or facile.

19 March Guys And Dolls Dir. Joseph Mankiewicz USA (150 mins) (1955) (M)

Joseph L. Mankiewicz, one of the great director/screenwriters American cinema, brings Damon Runyon's world of Times Square, its street-life and its characters, colourfully to the screen with the combined talents of a great Production Design Dept and a stellar cast including Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Vivian Blaine, Jean Simmons and Stubby Kaye and an array of distinctive character actors. Frank Loesser's music is energetic, vibrant and occasionally romantic. Come and join us at "the greatest floating crap game in the world" as the fabulous Stubby Kaye urges us to "*Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat.*"!

The Norah Boyce Science Lectures

This lecture series will continue to be held in the Sackler Lecture Theatre of the Institute of Astronomy on Tuesdays. The lectures will start at 5.45pm. **Please do not arrive before 5.30pm** as access to the room is not available until this time. All welcome.

The Institute of Astronomy is in a side road marked 'University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise', on the north side of the Madingley Road, roughly opposite J J Thomson Avenue. It is 300 yards from the bus-stops there. Leaving the Madingley Road there is a car park on the right hand side and the Institute of Astronomy is the second building on the right further on. If the first car park is full, continue past the Institute and bear right for a second car park. The OS map reference is 543050 259390 or TL430594.

Spring term 2013

15 January What are the Chances? Living with Risk and Uncertainty

Professor David Spiegelhalter

David Spiegelhalter is Winton Professor of the Public Understanding of Risk at the University of Cambridge and previously Senior Scientist in the MRC Biostatistics Unit. His background is in medical statistics, particularly the use of Bayesian methods in clinical trials, health technology assessment and drug safety. He led the statistical team in the Bristol Royal Infirmary Inquiry and also gave evidence to the Shipman Inquiry. He was elected FRS in 2005 and awarded an OBE in 2006 for services to medical statistics.

In his post he leads a small team (UnderstandingUncertainty.org) which attempts to improve the way in which the quantitative aspects of risk and uncertainty are discussed in society. He works closely with the Millennium Mathematics Project in trying to bring risk and uncertainty into education. He gives many presentations to schools and others, advises organisations on risk communication, and is a regular newspaper columnist on current risk issues. He has also competed in Winter Wipeout.

None of us know what is in store for us, but facing this full-square can be tricky. Professor Spiegelhalter will look at some of the ways that institutions use to communicate to us the uncertainty about the future, whether verbal, numerical or visual, and suggest some alternative metaphors that may be effective. He will also consider the dangers of 'premature reassurance' and the 'calm down, dear' school of risk communication.

19 February Maintaining the Wires: Challenges and Solutions in the Ageing Nervous System

Dr Michael Coleman

Dr Michael Coleman is a group leader at the Babraham Institute working on the ageing nervous system and is the organiser of the recent 'Ageing and Basic Bioscience' conference at Babraham. His group identified a gene that slows the degeneration of nerves; his research team is working towards strategies to mimic this effect pharmacologically. Ongoing research into nerve loss during normal ageing complements the group's other interests in neurodegenerative disorders, funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Alzheimer's Research UK respectively. Dr. Coleman previously worked at the University of Oxford as a postdoctoral scientist and in Cologne, Germany as a junior group leader.

Axons are the wires that form the links between the nerve cells in our brains, spinal cords and nerves, and without them our nervous system cannot function. We need them for movement, vision, hearing, thinking, memory, and for controlling a wide range of involuntary functions. During normal ageing we lose up to 45% of our axons and associated synapses. This number is increased by diabetes, obesity, excessive alcohol intake and other stresses, and can be reduced by restricting caloric intake or by exercise. The consequences of axon loss during normal ageing are not normally felt until middle age even though the process begins in our 20s. Once numbers fall below a threshold, cognitive performance steadily declines and we slow down as muscle innervation switches from 'fast' neurons to 'slow' neurons. Axon loss during normal ageing also predisposes to a range of age-related neurodegenerative diseases. Ageing is the biggest single risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, motor neuron disease and glaucoma. This talk will explain these processes in more detail and describe our work on mechanisms of axon loss how this can be reduced.

Continued overleaf

5 March **How Plants Tell the Time**
Dr Alex Webb

Dr Alex Webb is a Reader in Cell Signalling in the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge. Dr Webb has over 20 years of experience studying how plants cope with the extremes of heat and cold, wet and dry, light and dark that are part of the daily life of these sedentary organisms. He is a fellow of Churchill College.

Dr Webb will describe how plants measure time and the role of the internal 24 hour clock of plants in anticipating the daily fluctuations in temperature and light availability caused by the rotation of the planet. He will demonstrate how fireflies and jellyfish have been used to illuminate the secret internal workings of the plant body clock that controls flowering and leaf movements.

Summer Term 2013

14 May **Cambridge Sundials and Time**
Dr Frank King

21 May **Title to be announced**
Val Gibson, Professor of High Energy Physics

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL

At the AGM on Wednesday 20 March 2013 two seats on U3AC's Council will become vacant. Nominations are therefore sought for two new Council members.

If you would like to nominate someone please ensure your suggested nominee is willing and eligible to stand (members of Council during the period March 2011 – March 2013 are not) then find another member to second your proposal. Nominations should be submitted using this form and accompanied by:

- a photograph of the nominee
- a short statement summarising her/his involvement with U3AC activities, including length of membership and any other relevant information.

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

NOMINEE'S NAME <i>(please print)</i>	PROPOSER'S NAME <i>(please print)</i>	SECONDER'S NAME <i>(please print)</i>	NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE
FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:			

Return this form to:
The Secretary, U3AC, 27-28 Bridge Street, Cambridge CB2 1UJ **by Friday 8 February 2013.**

Wednesday Lectures

SPRING TERM 2013

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.

16 January The most dangerous moment in British History, and how we escaped - The Cuban Missile Crisis

Professor Christopher Andrew, Emeritus Professor of Contemporary and Modern History, University of Cambridge and Chairman of the Cambridge Intelligence Seminar

Christopher Andrew is the author of 'The Defence of the Realm', the first official history of MI5. In this talk he tells the story of the Cuban Missile Crisis, a vivid memory for many of us, using some rarely seen photographs.

23 January Brain Reconstruction: Biomedical Breakthrough, or Biological Impossibility?

Professor Jack Price, Head, Centre for the Cellular Basis of Behaviour, Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College, London

Regenerative medicine promises not just new therapies, but a reshaping of our relationship with debilitating disease. Now that stem cell therapies for brain diseases are in the clinic, brain repair and human enhancement are surely just a step away, but is the human brain really that tractable?

30 January The Cambridge Humanitarian Centre

Steve Jones, Chair of Trustees and Anna-Joy Rickard, Director

The Humanitarian Centre is a Cambridge international development network that connects people working in academia, industry, government and charities to develop more effective ways of working together to tackle global poverty and inequality. It also builds the skills and capacity of charity members, positively impacting communities across the world. The Humanitarian Centre will discuss Cambridge's contribution to the prevention and alleviation of global poverty and the power of networks and networking to aid this.

6 February Children of the Empire

Dr. Sean Lang, Senior Lecturer in History, Anglia Ruskin University

What did the British Empire mean to the children who grew up in it and were supposed to carry it forward into the future? What did they learn of the Empire at school, and how did views differ among children in different parts of the empire on which the sun never set? This talk will look at the culture of literature and games for children, at the foundation of the scouting movement, and at the Royal Commonwealth Society's essay competition to show how children's views of Britain's empire were shaped and changed as the empire itself rose, shuddered and fell.

13 February Harwich for the Continent, Frinton for the Incontinent – A look at urinary control

Dr. Robert Whitaker, Fellow of Selwyn College and sometime Consultant Paediatric Urologist at Addenbrooke's Hospital, U3AC member

Many who are a little incontinent claim they have a "weak bladder" but this is the least likely diagnosis of all. We will explore the nervous control and the muscles of micturition in both continence and incontinence. Explanations will be offered for most of the common problems that are encountered clinically.

Continued overleaf

20 February The introduction of socially responsible investment in the UK

Lyn Wilson, formerly non-executive director of Friends Provident Life Office and U3AC member

Ethical, or socially responsible, investment was a gleam in the eye in 1984 when the first investment trust in the UK was launched. Staff called it 'The Brazil Fund' because they thought only nuts would chose to put their money into a fund buying shares in companies whose products or services were designed to benefit mankind and the environment. Longer term sustainability issues are taken into account - integrating environment, social and governance issues into financial decisions which support efforts to tackle climate change, food, water and energy scarcity and human rights. This was a challenge and today the funds in London are some £22 billion (£22, 000, 000, 000).

27 February Churchill's Favourite Sculptor - The life and works of the sculptor Oscar Nemon

Lady Aurelia Young

The story of how a young Jewish boy from the Balkans travelled across Europe to England sculpting on his way some of the 20th Century's leading personalities including Sigmund Freud, Winston Churchill and HM The Queen. Aurelia Young is Oscar Nemon's daughter, she will illustrate her talk with photographs and cine film clips. (The quote 'Churchill's favourite sculptor' is from Martin Gilbert's book 'Churchill and the Jews')

6 March A Noble Thing – a discussion about the National Trust

Merlin Waterson, former Director of Historic Properties at the National Trust and Nick Herbert, U3AC

During the twentieth century there was an unprecedented transfer of property from private ownership to a single charity, the National Trust. In his book, 'A Noble Thing', Merlin Waterson considers the motives behind these gifts, and what makes someone of great or little wealth give it away. His former Regional Chairman, Nicholas Herbert, questions some of his conclusions.

13 March Can a Darwinian be a Believer?

Ken Edwards, Geneticist and U3AC member

The argument between a belief in God and an acceptance of Darwinian evolution continues. One the one hand Richard Dawkins and others claim that evolution and other scientific discoveries leave no place for God, while fundamentalist believers assert the opposite. I shall argue that Darwinism is clearly established and does not allow for intervention of God – not even in the evolution of humans – but that a belief in a non-material spiritual world must be a matter of personal experience and conviction.

20 March No Lecture (AGM)

Further details about each lecture can be found on our website. Any last minute changes to the programme of Wednesday lectures will be publicised in the weekly bulletin

Feedback on courses

It would be useful if members could give feedback on the courses that they have attended this term.

Course code and title:

Tutor name:

Venue:

Do you feel the course description in the Programme of Studies was accurate? ..YES / NO

Did you learn the knowledge or skills you intended from attending this course? ...YES / NO

Would you recommend this course to another member?YES / NO

Did the tutor arrive in good time to start the class each session?YES / NO

If an additional fee was payable, do you feel this was good value for money?.....YES / NO

If any of the above answers are NO please give your reasons why

.....

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	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
How do you rate the course venue?				
How do you rate the quality of teaching?				
How do you rate any handouts provided by the tutor?				
How do you rate the quality of any audio-visual equipment used?				

Additional comments relevant to this course

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Suggestions for improvement

.....

If you have withdrawn from this course, please give your reasons why

.....

.....

Name (optional)

Once completed please return to the U3AC Office