

11<sup>th</sup> December 2013

To all Business Secretaries

Enclosed are the following documents :-

1. Your annual return for 2014 with some explanatory notes. To have it back by 30<sup>th</sup> January would be lovely!
2. A very exciting invitation to U3A members from the National Gallery in London.
3. A flyer advertising our second media training day in London on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Our first media training day, which was held in Birmingham, was very popular so we have restricted each U3A to 2 places.
4. The latest Textile Crafts newsletter from Julie Clark, our National Subject Adviser.
5. An update from Dick Chapman of Watford and District U3A on U3A National Chess by Email.
6. A flyer from Testimony Films, making a new documentary series for BBC2 on Britain's Greatest Generation, keen to hear from people over 80 with interesting stories to tell.
7. A flyer from the Imperial War Museum about its Centenary Partnership marking the anniversary of WW1.
8. A flyer from Wiley offering discounts on our 'Older and Wiser' series.

#### **National Website News – New noticeboards**

We now have a **Research** noticeboard which will be used for both U3A and external research. Any U3A member or members wanting help with projects can submit a notice which will be posted for a month and then removed, unless you request an extension. Details should be submitted by going to 'Learn the U3A Way' in the members' area and click on the research noticeboard link.

In addition we are setting up a **General** noticeboard which can be accessed via the members' area homepage. This can be used by anybody wanting to ask other U3As for advice or help on a particular issue. Please click on 'contact us' to submit your notice.

We already have a notice from The Museum of Design in Plastics (MoDiP) for our research noticeboard and one for our general noticeboard from Rob Powell ([powellmr@btinternet.com](mailto:powellmr@btinternet.com)/01803 813405) of Teign U3A wanting to hear from U3As which have introduced payment of membership subscriptions by standing order.

#### **North West Summer School – 26/29 August 2014 Newton Rigg College near Penrith**

The courses are Archaeology, Art (Colour), Creative Writing, Geology, History of Ideas/Literature 'The times, they were a-changing', A Musical Journey, Renaissance to Romanticism and Digital Photography – learning to know your aperture from your ISO. A full prospectus can be found on [u3asites.org.uk/north-west](http://u3asites.org.uk/north-west) or by contacting David Joseph on 01625 861327 email [davidbjoseph@btopenworld.com](mailto:davidbjoseph@btopenworld.com). The cost is £300 for residential and £150 for day attendance, with a discount if you book before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

#### **Direct Mail Subscription Scheme 2014/15**

We are currently working on the details and will get information to you as soon as we can in January. Just to remind you that we will always provide copies of Third Age Matters for open days/ publicity events etc and a handful of master copies to show new members.

#### **Adult Learners' Week Awards -[www.alw.org.uk/awards/2014](http://www.alw.org.uk/awards/2014)**

The closing date for nomination of an inspirational learner or an innovative learning project is 30<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **Dates for your diary**

24<sup>th</sup> March – Royal Institution.

30<sup>th</sup> April – Spring Concert at the Queens Chapel of the Savoy – booking forms available in the New Year.

21<sup>st</sup> May – Staying Sharp at The Royal Society – further details when available.

#### **Finally the National Office will be closing on Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup> and reopening on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.**

Everybody here would like to thank you and your members for your support, unfailing courtesy and friendship and wish you all a very merry Christmas and a healthy, happy and rewarding 2014.

Lin Jonas SEO/Company Secretary (GM/12/13)

**An exclusive study day for U3A members at  
The Sainsbury Wing Theatre, the National Gallery, London**

**Best of British: Exploring 18<sup>th</sup> century painting through  
The National Gallery Collection  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 11am – 3pm**



From Hogarth's satirising morality tales to the patronage of home-grown talent and the development of the grand manner portrait, the National Gallery invites U3A members to explore British painting at its best in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Join Gallery experts and invited speakers including Professor Vaughan, author of *British Painting: The Golden Age* and Jennifer Scott, Curator of Paintings, The Royal Collection at Buckingham Palace.

**Tickets: £18.00 per person** (lunches & refreshments not provided). **Tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis, maximum of 2 tickets per applicant.** Should you be unable to attend, we cannot refund ticket money but may be able to offer your place to another U3A member if there is a waiting list. Any queries should be sent to the U3A National Office: 020 8466 6139.

**Apply in writing with your contact details to:** The Third Age Trust, 19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QE enclosing a s.a.e. Cheques are payable to **The Third Age Trust.**

✂-----

To: The Third Age Trust, 19 East Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1QE. I enclose a cheque for £18 / £36 and s.a.e. Please send me 1 / 2 ticket(s) (delete as appropriate) **for Exploring 18<sup>th</sup> century painting through the National Gallery Collection** on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 11am – 3pm.

Name ..... U3A .....

Address.....Postcode.....

Telephone: ..... Email:.....

# MEDIA TRAINING DAY FOR U3As – 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014

10.30am – 4.00pm.

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

**Venue** - NUJ, Headland House, 308/312 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP

**Trainers** - Francis Beckett & Alan Slingsby

## **Agenda**

- 10.30** Arrive, registration, coffee.
- 10.45-11.00** Welcome, purpose of the day, introductions.
- 11.00-11.45** Why media relations matters, and making contact with local media. What is a media release? How do I write one? Setting the media release exercise. .
- 11.45-12.30** What is your U3A newsletter for? Writing and editing; design and production.
- 12.30-1.00** Quiet time to write a media release
- 1.00-1.45** Lunch
- 1.45-2.30** Split into two groups.
- Group 1 – analysis of media releases
- Group 2 – newsletter surgery
- 2.30-3.15** Continue in two groups.
- Group 1 – newsletter surgery
- Group 2 – analysis of media releases
- 3.15-4.00** Question and answer session.

Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

**There is no charge to attend but U3As are restricted to 2 places.**

-----  
**If you wish to attend, please fill out this slip, detach it and return it to the National Office.**

Name	U3A	<b>Please return this to :</b>  <b><i>The Third Age Trust 19 East Street Bromley BR1 1QE</i></b>
Address		
Email		
Telephone		

**Places are limited so please apply quickly**

TEXTILE CRAFTS NEWSLETTER 18th NOVEMBER 2013

I'd like to take this opportunity to say "Happy Christmas" to all group leaders.

I know quite a few groups do specific things such as making cards and tree decorations and this can be a useful way of doing a short project which can be finished in one session. It's always nice to have a completed piece to take away. Another short project could be something such as the challenge I recently issued to my group : I asked everyone to do a small piece for our December meeting and gave out individual titles such as – elephant, house, church, oblongs. To play fair, I said they could give me a challenge, too, so they chose a shop for me to do – I've made a 3D Dress Shop and really enjoyed it!

I've been asked to evaluate two magazines for recommendation to groups. The first of these is "Patchwork" and as I myself don't specialise in this, I gave it to one of my group who is an expert. She thought it was very good and liked the way it appealed to all stages of ability from beginners to experienced people. There were some useful projects, too. It can be checked out at [www.popularpatchwork.com](http://www.popularpatchwork.com). The other is "Homemade" – [www.homemadewlove.co.uk](http://www.homemadewlove.co.uk) and consists of several different sections. I felt it was a very interesting read but probably too diverse for our groups, if like mine, yours has a limited amount of money to spend. However, one of my members found a very interesting project to do in it so it would be worth looking at. Watch out for a competition in "Third Age Matters".

Now, some more web addresses to look at. I apologise to those of you who aren't on the internet and hope one of your members can take over this for you. [www.slicecrafts.com](http://www.slicecrafts.com) has something called a "slice fabrique" which is cordless and will cut out letter, pictures and motifs. I've also been told about [www.createandcraft](http://www.createandcraft) which covers crafts in general.

For anyone in Edinburgh before December 8, a visit to the "Great Tapestry of Scotland" at Cockensie House would be a bonus: 1,000 volunteer stitchers have joined to tell the story of the nation in a monumental embroidery.

Just a note about my entry on the Advisers' list in "Third Age Matters". I asked for my e-mail not to be included but in the last issue, not only was it put in but it was an old email address which I can't access any longer. If you've used it and thought me rude not to reply, that's the explanation.

Best wishes to all,

Julie Clark  
National Subject Adviser

# U3A National Chess by Email

*'I'm thoroughly enjoying my games of email chess. It's almost addictive!'* Victor Allt, Barnsley U3A.

Just two years into the formation of the U3A National Chess by email, there are 57 members from 54 different UK U3As playing chess with one another by email.

**How does it work?** It operates via a page in the members' area of the national website ([www.u3a.org.uk](http://www.u3a.org.uk)) and holds the following information about each member: name, grade, U3A, short chess profile, preferred speed of play and email address. Any member can request a game and moves are exchanged by email; as simple as that. There is no limit to the number of members that can join; the more the merrier!

Chess is a serious game and can become stressful. However, U3A chess by email has all the ingredients to make for **enjoyable, stress-free chess**. How can it be done?

- ❖ By playing someone of the **same ability** who plays at a **compatible speed** (e.g. 1 or 2 moves a day; or 3 + according to desire/ agreement).
- ❖ By remembering it is **non-competitive** (no championships, league tables or matches).
- ❖ By picturing those **wonderfully complicated board positions** that arise in every game for you to try and **untangle at leisure**
- ❖ By **resigning** if you make a **serious mistake** (and simply start another game).
- ❖ By **making friends with your opponent**. 'I've met some very interesting people.'
- ❖ By **not getting too excited** at the thought of **what your next email post brings!**

The wide range of grades of player on the 'Players List' means that anyone from a recent learner to a county player can find someone of their own level to play.

For full information, including how you might decide on your grade, email Dick Chapman, of Watford and District U3A, at [dick.chapman@ntlworld.com](mailto:dick.chapman@ntlworld.com)





## Britain's Greatest Generation

**Award winning history documentary company Testimony Films are making a new documentary series for BBC2 paying tribute to Britain's Greatest Generation.**

We want to hear from men and women in their 80s, 90s and 100s who have vivid and interesting stories to tell from their past.

From childhood to war; romance to retirement – this generation has experienced the most radical amount of change within their lifetime than any other. Their memories and values are hugely important for educating and inspiring our future generations.

Do you have interesting tales of childhood in the 1920s and 1930s?  
 Did you serve during World War 2 or keep our home fires burning?  
 Have you found a new lease of life since retirement?  
 Are your children or grandchildren fascinated by your tales of the past?

If so we would love to talk to you about your story!

If you would like to share your memories with us please get in touch with Pete, Emily or Sara - Tel: 0117 925 8589, Email: [pete.vance@testimonyfilms.com](mailto:pete.vance@testimonyfilms.com),  
 Address: 12 Great George Street, Bristol, BS1 5RH



### **Sign up your U3A to the Centenary Partnership Programme today!**

The Centenary Partnership is an Imperial War Museums (IWM) led initiative for not-for-profit organisations that are marking the anniversary of the First World War (2014 – 2018). To date we have over 1,800 local, regional, national and international organisation members which includes everything from museums, archives, libraries, universities, universities, music and art organisations through to special interest groups. By joining the Partnership, organisations can work strategically together with a collective voice to commemorate this iconic anniversary to a wide and diverse audience.

As a member of the Partnership you can access an exclusive extranet website [www.1914.org/partners](http://www.1914.org/partners) which allows all members to share ideas and expertise, update each other on their plans, ask questions, distribute resources and form local partnerships for planned activities.

On the extranet you can also access a range of specially curated free resources including 100 free digital assets from the IWM collections, a historic timeline giving a dated account of all major events throughout the wartime period (1914 – 1918), downloadable DIY Exhibitions, and a range of Useful Guides on art, collections, research, learning and communications.

Members of the Partnership also have the opportunity to publicise any centenary events that they might be planning through our newly launched Centenary Events Calendar [www.1914.org](http://www.1914.org).

I hope that you will consider joining the Partnership. Please go to [www.1914.org/partners](http://www.1914.org/partners) for further information as well as the 'New Centenary members' form which you would need to complete to sign up. For new U3As I would recommend that one person is responsible for signing the organisation up (ie U3A Norwich) and then as many individual users as required can sign themselves up and create personal logins afterwards.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Lucy Footer  
Centenary Programme and Partnership Coordinator

IWM  
Lambeth Road  
London SE1 6HZ

T 020 7091 3155  
W [iwm.org.uk](http://iwm.org.uk)

Centenary news and resources: [www.1914.org](http://www.1914.org)





# Take a Peek Inside...



Do you think we are missing a technology topic in our Older and Wiser series? We are always thinking about new topics to add and we'd love to hear from you. If you have a suggestion for a technology focused title for our Older and Wiser Series then drop us an email.

Ellie Scott • Associate Commissioning Editor • [escott@wiley.com](mailto:escott@wiley.com)

THE THIRD AGE TRUST  
**U3A**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



Sean McManus with Rosemary Hattersley

## iPad® for the Older and Wiser 3rd Edition



### Discover How to:

- Set up and secure your iPad or iPad mini
- Browse the web and use email
- Enjoy books, videos, music and photos
- Find and use apps

Get Up and Running with Your iPad or iPad mini **WILEY**

978-1-118-63501-8 • RRP £14.99

- Published in partnership with the Third Age Trust
- Explanatory screenshots and easy-to-read font
- Full colour throughout
- Helpful chapter summaries
- Icons to focus attention
- Brain-teasers – a fun way to reinforce learning

Available from your local bookstore or at [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



Also available wherever books and ebooks are sold

**WILEY**





# Technology Made Easy by U3A Book series 'Older and Wiser'

If you are looking for some guidance when it comes to IT, the **U3A book series** has all the support you'll need



**40% OFF**  
with Wiley online!

From discovering the internet to mastering your laptop, this series offers a range of helpful, easy to read advice to guide you through.

Now received 40% discount on all Older and Wiser titles when you buy online with [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)! Just enter promotional code **VBE55** when prompted at the checkout stage.

For additional information on the Older and Wiser books, and for support with any technical issues, go to [www.pcwisdom.co.uk](http://www.pcwisdom.co.uk)

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE