



Chipping Norton & Area u3a

<https://chippingnorton.u3asite.uk>

Newsletter July 2026

Dear Members,

A small but select gathering of members enjoyed the sandwiches and cream tea celebrating 25 years of Chipping Norton and Area u3a at the rugby club on the 15th of July. It was another warm afternoon, and the majority chose to sit inside for the informative presentation by Age UK. Some of the attendees are shown here:



Our upcoming monthly meeting takes place at 2:30pm on Wednesday, 5th August at Chipping Norton Town Hall. Janine Kilroe, an award-winning fine art photographer, with over 35 years' professional experience travelling and working with many international blue-chip companies will give a presentation on 'The Pre-Raphaelite Sisterhood'. Come and discover the little-known artists and artworks of the Pre-Raphaelite Sisterhood, a group of talented female artists, makers, writers and poets in the 19th century who contributed significantly to the Pre-Raphaelite movement. Notable figures included Evelyn de Morgan, Jane Morris, and Christina Rossetti, among others. Despite their artistic talents, these women were often overshadowed by their male counterparts and remembered primarily as muses rather than creators in their own right. As usual, doors will be open from 2pm.

I am continuing to record the names of members interested in joining any of the new groups proposed in the recent bulletins and newsletters, i.e. BSL for beginners starting on 23rd September, Music Appreciation starting on 8th September, Members On Their Own and Pub Lunches. We only have volunteer leaders for the first two of these groups so please think about leading if you would like to join the MOTO or pub lunch groups.

'Exploring Music' will involve a monthly programme of predominantly but not exclusively classical music with the group leader's presentation of background information. The intention is that each month there will be a different theme such as 'colour', 'forests', or even 'fun & games' and involves listening to music that relates to each theme exploring how composers, well known or not, respond to the subject.

Despite the heatwaves, the mixed walking cricket has proved popular and continues throughout the summer on Tuesday afternoons at Chippy Cricket Club. Full details are available from Lesley via the link on the groups page of the website.

This year's national 'u3a week' is taking place from 19th to 27th September but due to committee member commitments, the Chippy u3a Annual Open Day will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday 15th September 2026. This is our chance to show the community what we do and advertise our special interest groups to potential new members. Further details of the arrangements for the day including the assistance required from group leaders and members will be available in the next few weeks,

A long standing u3a member and keen cyclist has recently moved to the Cotswolds and is interested in forming a Social Cycling group. The emphasis would be on social: no racing, no major roads, and no-one left behind. Speed and distance would be decided to suit participants. Please let me know if you would be interested in taking part.

We look forward to seeing you on the 5th August.

Mark Knight

Secretary, Chipping Norton & Area u3a