

## Message from the Chair

As many of you will know, we expect the coming months to be demanding ones for the U3AC and for its hard-working staff as the builders get to work on clearing asbestos and repairing the roof and putting Bridge Street into much better shape. This is actually to be welcomed, especially as we shall hopefully be signing, in the very near future, a new and exciting 11-year lease on the premises with our Landlord, Magdalene College, through its Agent, Cheffins.

The first set of works will begin on Monday, 7th April, 2025, with the vital need to remove asbestos safely from the building. To allow this to take place, Bridge Street will be completely closed for just over a week until Tuesday, 15th April, during which time the staff will be working from home. A 'Work from Home Policy' has already been drafted, and this will be considered and ratified in good time at our 1st of April Council Meeting. Of course, there can be

no guarantee that the work will not require to be extended beyond the 15th April, especially if further asbestos is uncovered during the initial removal. Hopefully, however, all will have been completed by the time the Summer Term gets underway in the following week.

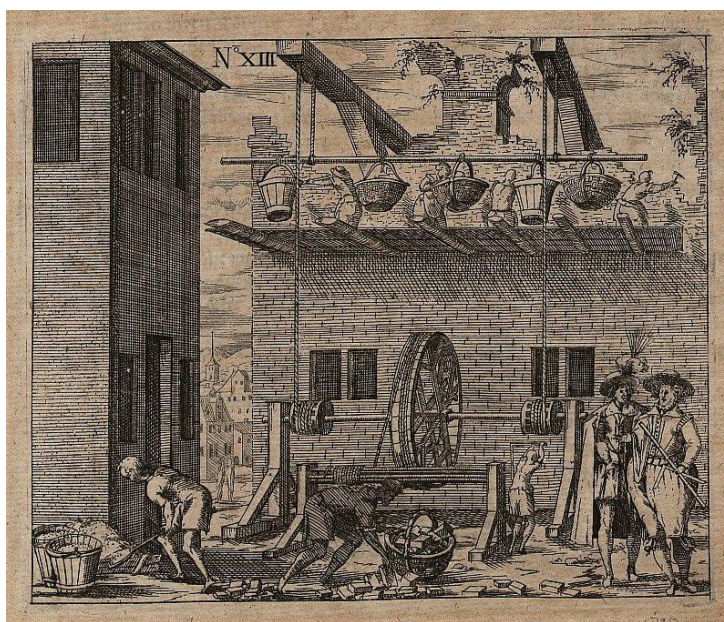
But this is only the beginning of a long spring and summer of important renovation works especially on the leaking roof and terrace. It is important to note now that the main construction period is likely to begin in June and to continue until late Summer. During this period, the premises will again be closed to all visitors, although we are hopeful that we will still be able run our Open Day for potential new members between 10.00 and 13.00 on Tuesday, 1st July, 2025 (**please pass on the details to interested family, friends, and neighbours**). We are also currently in negotiations over staff access during this period, and we shall keep you fully informed about the arrangements via the weekly *Bulletin* and our June and August *Newsletters*.

While all this renovation work is to be welcomed for the long-term success of Bridge Street and the U3AC, it does have an immediate impact on our income, because we shall have to forgo the important boost we now normally receive from letting out our teaching rooms during July and August to a leading Cambridge Summer Language School. This is one of the main reasons why your Council has reluctantly had to accommodate an increase in the U3AC subscription rates for 2025-26.

I must thus conclude by asking for your understanding, not only over this subscription rise, but also with respect to the demands that will inevitably be placed on our staff throughout the coming spring and summer. I know that they will, as will your Council, work diligently to ensure that all progresses as smoothly as possible throughout the various upheavals, but your forbearance will be required when inevitably things prove more difficult than usual.

Yet, in the end, it is all for the good, as we enter a new 11-year lease which should not only offer future stability but also important opportunities for improving our educational and social facilities.

**Philip Stott**



Quelle: Deutsche Fotothek

## Temporary Closure of U3AC Building between 7 and 15 April

As mentioned in the Message from the Chair, the Bridge Street premises will be **CLOSED** between Monday 7 April, 2025, and Tuesday 15 April.

Contact can continue to be made via email or by leaving a telephone message and we will call you back.

## Legacies & donations news

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In 2024, U3AC received legacies and donations from the estates of the late David Richardson, Joyce Whale, and Alan Durham. We remain deeply grateful for the generosity of these past members and benefactors, whose support continues to advance the work of U3AC. If you would like more information about leaving a legacy or making a donation, please contact us at [treasurer@u3ac.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@u3ac.org.uk) for additional guidance.

## Term dates

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**Summer Term:** Tuesday 22 April – Friday 13 June 2025

The start date for each course is given on the website.

### 2025-26 Academic year

Monday 6 October – Friday 12 December 2025

Monday 12 January – Friday 20 March 2026

Monday 13 April – Friday 12 June 2026

## Chat with the Chair

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Philip Stott, the Chair will be holding his Chat with the Chair sessions on:

Tuesday 29 April, 14.00 - 16.00

Monday 19 May, 11.00 - 13.00

Thursday 5 June, 14.00 - 16.00

in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor social area. Do feel free to come along to raise any issues about U3AC, or indeed simply to ask questions, no booking required.

## New courses and talks – please contact the Office to enrol, places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis

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### SP 01: Cambridge history and the wider context

**Tutor:** David Berkley

**Day and time:** Thursday 11:00 - 13:00

**Number of sessions:** 7

**Places:** 20

**Start date:** 19 Jun

The highly religious and secular history of Cambridge. Influences in/out to/from the Western world. Monasteries, Renaissance, Reformation, Puritans, Cromwell, Wilberforce, Simeon and missionaries, F. Bacon. Science – Newton, Darwin, discovery of electron, 1st splitting of the atom, DNA. University and college educational system, world's 1st Debating Society, Architecture.

Other buildings covered – Old Divinity School, and Gates of Humility, Virtue and Honour. Also - Student pranks  
Colleges: Emmanuel, Pembroke, Queens', Kings, Trinity Hall, Magdalene, Jesus, Christ's, St Johns – and (hopefully) Sidney Sussex.

Churches: Round Church, Great St Mary's and St Edwards

**Meeting point for the first week:** The Round Church main entrance, thereafter different weekly venues (as per programme to be distributed 1st week).

### **CMP 05: PowerPoint tips and tricks (Summer term)**

**Tutor:** Dominic Prior

**Day and time:** Friday 10:30 - 11:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Yellow room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (3 weeks)

**Places:** 12

**Start date:** 25 Apr

This is an informal interactive course for anyone wanting to discover the fun side of PowerPoint: fun for the presenter and fun for the audience. After introducing the basic mechanics, the course will venture into tips and tricks for drawing elegant diagrams and creating neat transitions, as well as strategies for organising your material. You will need to bring a laptop so we can practice the ideas as we go along.

**Format:** Taught course or activity

**About me:** I am a PowerPoint enthusiast who enjoys finding visual ways of presenting ideas.

### **HIS 44: Hoofbeats through time (Summer term)**

**Tutor:** Elizabeth Salmon

**Day and time:** Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00

**Venue:** U3AC (Red room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (4 weeks)

**Places:** 20

**Start date:** 13 May

The history of humankind over the last several thousand years has, to a large extent, depended on the use and exploitation of the horse. Once the world's cleverest biped met one of the world's fastest animals in Central Asia, history changed forever. This course is a series of four stand-alone talks about different aspects of the interaction between horse and man in history and no previous knowledge of horses is necessary. Week 1: History of horse-riding from earliest times up to the present day.

Week 2: Tools of the trade - a look at the historical history of bridles, bits, saddles and other tack used by riders throughout time.

Week 3: Operation Cowboy - the rescue of the Lippizaner mares from behind German lines in the closing days of World War II.

Week 4: Horses throughout the world - a look at the history of some of the many horse breeds throughout the world.

**Format:** Lecture

**About me:** I have been interested in horses since I was seven years old and would like to share their fascinating history with those of like-minded interest.

### **HIS 45: Traversing the Himalaya on foot: A personal journey through its culture and history (Summer term)**

**Tutor:** Henry Edmundson

**Day and time:** Tuesday 15:40 - 16:40

**Venue:** U3AC (Red room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (4 weeks)

**Places:** 20

**Start date:** 22 Apr

During the last ten years, Henry Edmundson and his wife Connie have traversed the entire Himalayan chain on foot from Pakistan through Kashmir, India, Nepal, Sikkim, to Bhutan and beyond. Henry Edmundson will describe these adventures, weaving in the complex story of the region's geography, history, religions, and culture. You will be transported to areas which even today are seldom visited and introduced to the harsh realities of life among the world's highest mountains and the challenges the Himalayan peoples face both politically and environmentally.

**Format:** Lecture

**About me:** Henry Edmundson has climbed and trekked in the wider Himalaya and Afghanistan since 1965. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a member of the Alpine Club and of the Himalayan Club. He is the author of the award-winning "Tales from the Himalaya".

### **LEI 32: Backgammon (Summer term)**

**Organiser:** Annie Tamulonis

**Day and time:** Thursday 12:45 - 14:45

**Venue:** U3AC (Yellow room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (8 weeks)

**Places:** 10

**Start date:** 24 Apr

Beginners welcome as well as proficient players. This course is to be a social time of practice and learning. Please bring your own board if possible.

**Format:** Self-taught course or activity

**About me:** I have played Backgammon for a few years and hope to encourage others to enjoy the game and polish up their technique.

### LEI 33: Punting

**Tutor:** Ursula Stubbings

**Day and time:** Thursday 12:00 – 13:00

**Venue:** Meet on Silver Street Bridge near the toilets.

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (4 weeks)

**Places:** 5

**Start date:** 24 Apr

Meet on Silver Street Bridge near the toilets. Only swimmers need apply! Participants need to pay roughly £5 per session to cover cost of punt hire from Cambridge Chauffeur Punts (please bring £25 in cash to the first session). There will be four consecutive sessions plus an outing to Grantchester later in the Summer.

### LIT 45: The Sonnet (Summer term)

**Tutor:** Patricia Loughlan

**Day and time:** Alternate Fridays, 10:00 - 11:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Green room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (4 weeks)

**Places:** 10

**Start date:** 25 Apr

The sonnet is an exquisite and demanding art form. This course will analyse the form and read and discuss sonnets from the four great ages of sonnet-writing – Renaissance, Romantic, Victorian and Early Modern. I will email each week's sonnets to everyone in time to read ahead.

**Format:** Discussion

**About me:** I have long been enchanted by lyric poetry and have led U3A courses (in Australia) on the sonnet.

### LIT 46: Literature and Language and Challenge - in person (Summer term)

**Tutor:** Jenny Knight

**Day and time:** Wednesday 15:30 – 16:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Red room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (8 weeks)

**Places:** 16

**Start date:** 23 April

Here is an opportunity to test your knowledge of English literature and language informally in a series that offers friendly rivalry rather than fierce competition. Topics encompass adult and children's fiction, the alphabet, authors, etymology, grammar, poetry, plays, quotations, spelling, word games – even

nursery rhymes. You may find yourself puzzling over negatives that have no positive form or flowers (of the vegetable kind) in literature. Some activities will be emailed in advance; members are on their honour not to resort to Google for answers. Others will be issued in class, and a few will be topics for discussion rather than quizzes. Most will be new to U3AC; any reused ones won't have been aired for at least three years. The Zoom programme is similar, but quizzes will not necessarily be in the same order. The Zoom programme is similar, but quizzes will not necessarily be in the same order.

### LIT 47(z): Literature and Language and Challenge - Zoom (Summer term)

**Tutor:** Jenny Knight

**Day and time:** Tuesday 12:30 – 13:30

**Venue:** Zoom

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (8 weeks)

**Places:** 16

**Start date:** 22 April

Test your knowledge of English literature and language informally and in the comfort of your own home. These quizzes are intended for friendly rivalry rather than fierce competition. Topics encompass adult and children's fiction, the alphabet, etymology, grammar, poetry, plays, quotations, slogans, spelling, word games – even nursery rhymes. In recent years stately homes in fiction and Yiddish vocabulary have been tackled. Some quizzes will be emailed in advance, others will be issued in class, and a few will be topics for discussion rather than quizzes. Most will be new to U3AC; any reused ones won't have been aired for at least three years. They will be broadly the same as those in the in-person class (but not necessarily in the same week). Cheating by looking up the answers online as you go will spoil the fun.

### MUS 21: Summer Singers (Summer term)

**Leader:** Susan Whykes

**Day and time:** Tuesday 11:00 - 12:30

**Venue:** Downing Place URC (Gibson Hall)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (8 weeks)

**Places:** 24

**Start date:** 22 Apr

This SATB *a capella* group will be meeting for the pleasure of singing together. We will be singing a variety of music from Madrigals to folk songs. Whilst we welcome all singers good sight-reading abilities are essential. We will be using a variety of books including *The Oxford Book of English Madrigals and Madrigals and Partsongs* edited by Bartlett. Other music will be supplied for printing at home.

**Format:** Singing together

**About me:** I am a Music Teacher, with a wide range of experience in both orchestral and choral settings.

### WLL 15: Honoring the departed: A course in working through the stages of grief (Summer term)

**Tutor:** Heather Kara

**Day and time:** Wednesday 14:30 - 15:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Orange room)

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (3 weeks)

**Places:** 6

**Start date:** 23 Apr

This course is a repeat of WLL 07.

**Format:** Discussion

**About me:** Heather Kara has over 20 years experience learning and teaching Raja Yoga philosophy and meditation which covers profound questions about life, death and relationships.

### WLL 16: Mindful movement chair Yoga (Summer term)

**Tutor:** Tejodhi

**Day and time:** Tuesday 14:30 - 15:30

**Venue:** Cambridge Buddhist Centre

**Length of course:** 1 term. Summer (7 weeks)

**Places:** 10

**Start date:** 22 Apr

Join Tejodhi for Mindful Movement Chair Yoga on Tuesday afternoons. Chair Yoga is for everyone. It can help with a wide range of conditions and those with restricted mobility to support them to exercise, and can help

people who are not used to exercise to improve their strength and balance. Tejodhi's Chair Yoga offers another way of benefiting from Yoga using a chair as a prop. This is ideal for those who need a little extra support during their practice. Classes are accessible for people with mobility issues or who have difficulty getting up and down from a mat in a traditional Yoga class. The class will mainly involve seated poses on the chair. In the class we will warm up with some gentle stretches and Yoga poses, which encourage flexibility and strength. Breath work during and meditation/relaxation at the end of the session for an overall sense of well-being. Please note: there is no session on 13 May.

**Format:** Taught course or activity

**About me:** I am a Yoga Alliance certified yoga teacher based in Bury St Edmunds and have been practising yoga for most of my adult life.

### One-off talks – please contact the Office to enrol

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#### Understanding Coppélia: the dark comic ballet born out of tragedy

**Speaker:** Emeritus Professor Philip Stott

**Date and time:** Thursday 24 April, 14:00 – 15:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Pink room)

**Places:** 30

Coppélia, first performed in Paris in 1870 and with its enchanting score by Léo Delibes, is often regarded as one of the happiest of comic ballets, and it is frequently chosen to introduce children to dance. To this day, it remains the most performed ballet in Paris. Yet, Coppélia was born in tragedy, and its roots lie in the dark romanticism of E. T. A. Hoffmann's *Der Sandmann* and *Die Puppe*, and in the C19th obsession with automata. The story not only involves dark magic but also a narcissistic projection of erotic desire onto a doll with no depth and no personality, a mere visually palpable surface. In this fully illustrated talk, we shall examine in detail the origins and character of the ballet, employing many wonderful excerpts in performance by some of the world's greatest dancers.

**About me:** I have already presented a number of talks to the U3AC including two on ballet history, namely on *Giselle* and *Paquita*. He has had a long-time interest in both early music and in the story of ballet. He was a Professor at SOAS in the University of London, and he is a classical composer.

## Personal use of AI

**Speaker:** Tim Ewbank

**Date and time:** Tuesday 29 April, 11.30 - 12.30

**Venue:** U3AC (Pink room)

**Places:** 30

Talk of AI is everywhere; in business, in medicine and in defence. However, you may not know that it is also available on most personal computers, to use for free. This talk will show you how you might be able to make use of it in your everyday life. I will also explain some of the industry background, products and frequently used jargon. It's an information session rather than training, so no need to bring computers with you.

**About me:** I've long been an observer of technology trends, including social media. I use AI frequently in my daily life.

## Hidden voices of World War 1: The poems time forgot

**Speaker:** Dr Martin Stephen

**Date and time:** Monday 12 May, 11:15 – 12:15

**Venue:** U3AC (Red room)

**Places:** 20

We look at four areas of poetry:

1. Outstanding individual poems by unknown authors ('The Train', Helen Mackay)
2. Poems about the war by famous poets not known as war poets ('To A Bulldog', JC Squire).
3. The poems read by soldiers and civilians at the time, selling literally millions of copies ('Woodbine Willy' [Revd Studdert Kennedy]).
4. Neglected but brilliant poets (Charles Sorley, 'All the Hills & Vales Along').

**About me:** Dr Martin Stephen is former Headmaster of St Paul's School, London, The Manchester Grammar School, and The Perse School, Cambridge, a former Emeritus Lecturer at the University of Manchester and author of *Never Such Innocence: Poems of the First World War and Poetry and Myths of the Great War*.

## Adapt and Thrive Workshop

**Speaker:** Cameron Adams, Retired Environment Agency Account Manager

**Date and time:** Thursday 15 May, 10:30 - 12:30. (Booking deadline is Friday 9 May)

**Venue:** Main Seminar Room, Cambridge Conservation Initiative, David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge, CB2 3QZ

**Places:** 30

In 2021, the Environment Agency urged the government, businesses and society to focus on adaptation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adapt-or-die-says-environment-agency>

As extreme weather events like flooding, heat stress, and drought are becoming more frequent, prioritising adaptation is essential to managing unavoidable climate disasters and save lives. Join us for a highly interactive workshop which will encourage you to challenge your thinking about adaptation.

Through presentation, groupwork and discussion we will explore global and local challenges to identify what humanity needs in order to survive and thrive.

The event is open to members of the U3AC and CCF.

With thanks to the Cambridge Conservation Initiative for kindly allowing us to host this event at the David Attenborough Building.

## Providing a sustainable bus network in the post COVID world

**Speaker:** David Boden, Business Development Director, Stagecoach East and Chair of CP Bus Alliance

**Date and time:** Monday 19 May, 14:00-15:00

**Venue:** U3AC (Pink room)

**Places:** 30

People's need for bus services are not the same as they were 40 years ago. With the average bus costing £180k+ to put on the road and the average fare being £2, you need to ensure that buses actually go where and at the right times when people will use them. It also means using innovative ways to meet bus resource to demand, which could be a small bus, picking up in rural areas and feeding into other bigger buses. It also means operators competing but also working together for the common good of passengers. It also means bus operators delivering reliability but local authorities/utility companies and others minimising their impacts on the road network, to allow bus operators to deliver punctuality.

**About me:** 28 years of public service, in all forms of road passenger transport, has left me with an intense passion to think outside the box and provide viable sustainable bus services for rural and urban communities. Having worked all over the UK, for bus operators, local authorities and on national government initiatives, I like to work across organisational boundaries to ensure that

every £1 of funding is spent for the benefit of residents.

### Echoes of the Big Bang: A Cosmic adventure story

**Speaker:** David Carter

**Date and time:** Thursday 22 May, 14:00 – 15:00

**Venue:** U3AC (Red room)/ via Zoom.

**Places:** 20

I will tell the story of how two researchers accidentally won a Nobel Prize for discovering the "cosmic microwave background", which provides the crucial piece of evidence that the universe started with a big bang. I'll then explain how further careful work expanded on this discovery and provided an explanation for why the universe is lumpy - a result that Stephen Hawking called "the greatest discovery of the century - if not all time". The talk will feature pigeons, but no maths, only arithmetic. It's intended as a taster session for a "Cosmology for the Curious" course I'm planning to run next academic year.

This talk will be a hybrid event – please let the Office know whether you would like to attend in-person or via Zoom.

**About me:** I'm a Cambridge maths graduate and former Google and NASA software engineer. I am not a cosmologist.

### Introduction to the Old European Civilisation

**Speaker:** Tanya Bagrij

**Date and time:** Thursday 12 June, 11:30 – 12:30

**Venue:** U3AC (Pink room)

**Places:** 30

This is a taster presentation for a course to be run later this year. The culture of Old Europe "Ancient Europe" represents a very different but just as authentic form of civilization (~7,000 - 2,500 BCE), one with a highly developed egalitarian social structure - based on a harmonious, non warfare-orientated agricultural economy, presenting a wealth of findings concerning religion, customs, rituals, and art. Although, the original fabric of Old Europe no longer exists, this does not mean that its traditions have vanished. On the contrary, the cultural achievements and traditions of the first great European civilisation have survived in subsequent cultures with multiple transformations (i.e. the Minoan, the Basque, the Etruscan, the Celtic, the Baltic etc).

**About me:** I am a researcher and a trained teacher in Natural Sciences for higher education; and have a passion and life-long interest in anthropology and archaeology.

## Summer term courses with vacancies

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The following courses starting in the Summer term still have vacancies.

ARTC 02: Hardanger, pull thread and other decorative stitches

CMP 04: History of programming languages

FIT 39: Eco-friendly walks using public transport - Friday

FRE 14: A tale of two plays: a bilingual course

HIS 10: Cambridge sport: in Fenner's hands

WLL 13: Understanding sexual orientation and gender identity 2

## Code of Behaviour

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The following Code of Behaviour was approved by Council on 20 February 2025 and replaces the previous Tutor / member protocol.

### **Principles**

All U3AC members, staff and guests are entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. We aim to prioritise the safety of members and support them in making choices and having control about how they participate in courses and activities. We are also committed to encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion amongst our membership and not allowing discrimination to occur.

### **Meeting your responsibilities**

To give positive guidance this Code of Behaviour provides a list (not exhaustive) to help you as a member ensure that U3AC follows the principles in the paragraph above.

### **Code of Behaviour**

- Treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Treat everyone equally and equitably.
- Remember someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well-intentioned. Ensure your behaviour is always appropriate.
- Respect everyone's right to personal privacy.
- Observe the rules established for everyone's safety and security.
- In all activities avoid dominating discussions or aggressively contradicting those leading the activity.
- If you are a tutor or leader of a course or activity, provide an inclusive and encouraging learning environment particularly for the quieter, less confident members.
- Use appropriate language – speaking, writing, phoning, emailing or using social media.

### **Other People's Behaviour**

- Allow members and staff to talk about any concerns they may have.
- Encourage others to challenge any attitudes or behaviours they do not like.
- For tutors or leaders there are no perfect, standardised methods of dealing with disruptive behaviour. They vary from group to group and from tutor/leader to tutor/leader. Even when someone's behaviour is irritating, courtesy is essential, but tutors/ leaders should never replicate disruptive behaviour.
- 'Disruptive behaviour' is defined as departing from what is normally perceived as appropriate behaviour by participants in courses and activities, both during classes and activities themselves and/or outside of them (including written and verbal communications), which prevent the class or activity from properly fulfilling its objectives, and/or makes participants (including the tutor/organiser) feel uncomfortable, frustrated or intimidated.

### **Practical Arrangements**

It is helpful for tutors/leaders and members to develop a joint understanding about how their sessions together can be made as enjoyable, respectful and productive as possible. You will find detailed guidance in the Tutor Support Handbook: Part 3 'Delivering a course or activity' and Part 4 'Issues you may encounter'.

### **When problems arise**

From time to time, despite every effort, problems do arise. However, in the first instance, try to resolve the situation informally through discussion with those involved/concerned. Recourse to the U3AC Complaints Policy procedure early on might lead to a more protracted process and entrenched positions.

**John Procter, Director of Studies (Courses) on behalf of Courses Committee**



## Programme 2025-26

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We have started planning next academic year's course programme. If you would be willing to run a course or activity, please contact the Office for further information and instructions on how to submit the details.

The closing date for submitting proposals for inclusion in the printed Programme is **11 April 2025**.

## About courses

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### Feedback for courses

We have sent an email request to members to complete a feedback survey for courses they have attended that finish this term. This applies to two-term autumn/spring and one term spring courses.

The information that you offer about your experiences is appreciated by tutors as they can use it to inform their own reviews and in planning their next course. We have received appreciative emails from tutors who value this feedback.

The information is also useful for the Office and Courses Committee in identifying overall satisfaction and engagement patterns from members. All feedback is treated confidentially.

### Applying for additional courses

Would you like to apply for additional courses?

The list of courses with vacancies can be accessed via the homepage of the U3AC website and is updated regularly. To apply for a course, contact the Office.

### Withdrawing from a course

If you are no longer able to attend a course in which you have a place, please inform the Office at the **earliest possible** opportunity, so that the place can be given to someone on the waiting list. Please do not wait until the course is about to start or has started. Thank you.

### If you cannot attend the first session of term

If you are unable to attend the first session of your course, please inform the tutor or the Office **before term starts**. Many courses have long waiting lists and we must be fair to other members, so if we do not hear from you, we will replace you with someone from the waiting list immediately after the first session.

### If you cannot attend a course session

For courses held in our Bridge Street premises or by Zoom: please inform the Office.

For courses held outside: please send apologies directly to the tutor. Contact details are on the website underneath each course description. You will need to log in to the website to access this information (see below).

### Tutors' details

For data protection reasons, the Programme does not include tutors' contact details or the venue if a course is held in a member's home. This information is given on the members' area of the website. Members without internet access can obtain this information from the Office.

To view the details on the website, log in using your username and password. Your username is usually your first name, then a full stop, then your surname. The first time you log in, you will need to set up a password. To set up a password, click the 'Forgotten Password?' button on the login screen.

Please contact the Office if you have any difficulties using the website.

## Events

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### Summer events

We will again be organising a programme of sporting and other outdoor activities over the summer, details of which will be advertised in the weekly Bulletin at the end of May.

If you would be willing to assist with arranging events please contact the Office team.

### Wine Tasting

Matthew will be delivering another wine tasting session entitled Springing into Summer – wines for a balmy Cambridge Ball season. On Wednesday 14 May at 5.30 pm. Please arrive after 5.15pm. Cost is £17 per person. Bookings open from the beginning of next term: Tuesday 22 April.

Places can be booked via Eventbrite (who charge a non-refundable booking fee): <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wine-tasting-may-tickets-1279211378669?aff=oddtcreator> or in person at the U3AC Office, or by Bank Transfer:

Payee: U3AC no2 account  
Sortcode 08-92-99  
Account Number 65863363  
Reference: your surname and wine tasting

### Open Day

An Open Day for prospective members will be held on Tuesday 1 July 2025 from 10 am – 1 pm. Please tell your friends and neighbours.

Please note staff will not be able to assist current members with enrolments or enquiries on this day.

## General information

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### Members' accessibility to courses

Just a reminder that many courses can be adapted to cater for members with visual or hearing impairments. For example, the Bridge Street classrooms have a hearing loop and on request we can make photocopies in large print. Please get in touch with the Office or let your tutor know if you require any assistance or support during your chosen courses.

A wheelchair ramp is available on request, by ringing the bell to the left of the step, at our Bridge Street premises. A list of all other course venues with disabled access is listed in the back of the U3AC Programme.

### Volunteering

Although many members will have joined U3AC to take part in courses, all members are encouraged to volunteer in some way. Information on all volunteering opportunities within U3AC can be found on our website under [About U3AC](#)

### A reminder

The annual membership subscription contributes to the administration and accommodation costs of the U3AC. **It is not a payment for courses, lectures or activities.** Members can attend the Wednesday and Norah Boyce lectures (space permitting), apply for up to 6 courses and apply for events arranged throughout the year.

### Discounts to members

We have a number of discounts for U3AC members in shops and restaurants around Cambridge. Many of these display a U3AC logo in their window or by the till to make it easier for you to spot. You can download the full list (giving any terms and conditions for the discount) from the U3AC website; there is a link on the homepage.

## Other organisations

Details of events held by other organisations can be viewed on our website:  
<https://www.u3ac.org.uk/social/other-organisations/>

## General administration

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### Council meeting

The next U3AC Council meeting will be on Tuesday 1 April 2025.

## U3AC Cultural and Social Activities Committee

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**The Cultural and Social Activities committee**, chaired by Clem Messenger, organises trips and visits throughout the year. Information about these can be obtained from:

- weekly email Bulletin
- U3AC website: [Trips and visits](#)

Applications open at least 4 weeks before each outing and will be processed on a **first come first served basis**. You can apply either via the website, or by completing a paper application form. Places can only be offered to a non-member if there is no waiting list and arrangements must be made through one of the organisers.

### Applying online

On the Trips and Visits area of the website: log in, select the relevant event and complete the requested information. Payment is by bank transfer, and all communication is by email.

### Applying using a paper application form

Forms are available:

- to download from the website, in the Trips and Visits area (you will need to log in)
- from the reception area at the U3AC premises
- by emailing the Office
- by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Office with the name of the event in the top left-hand corner

It is important that you:

- **Complete the application form correctly** - especially the section at the bottom specifying a contact number for emergency purposes as this is a U3AC requirement.
- **Send or hand in your completed form to the U3AC Office.**
- **Pay either by BACS or by credit or debit card (in person at the Office).**
- **All communication is by email.** If you do not have an email address **include a stamped self-addressed envelope**, for notification of your successful application.

If your application is successful you will be sent an acceptance email, please bring a copy of this with you on the trip.

**Pick-up points:** Our standard pick-up points are the Trumpington and Madingley Road Park & Ride sites (where parking for the day is free).

### The following trips have been arranged:

Thursday 1 May	Bletchley Park (now full)	
Thursday 5 June	Windsor Park and Savill Gardens -	Application forms now available
Tuesday 8 July	Chartwell, Churchill's home in Kent -	Application forms available
	nearer the time	
Thursday 11 September	Visit to Knebworth House	
Visit in Autumn tbc	Churchill War Rooms and National Gallery etc	

Additional events will be advertised in the weekly Bulletin.

## U3AC Film Group programme – Summer Term 2025

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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 shown in Screen 2 or mainly 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, and members are kindly requested to adhere to the start time of 1.00 pm as a dark cinema can be hazardous. Members are most welcome to attend our post screen discussions and to make suggestions for future showings.

The cost of our season of Tuesday shows remains at £45 per term.

**Members are kindly requested to ensure that all electronic devices are switched off or in the case of mobile phones switched to silent mode, and under no circumstances should photography/filming take place in the cinema.**

**22 April**      ***The Godfather – Part 1***      **Dir: Francis Ford Coppola: USA 1972 (175 mins)**  
Coppola's great masterpiece is set in the Forties and opens at the lavish wedding of Connie, the daughter of the revered Godfather, Don Corleone, an event where business and pleasure naturally go hand in hand. Depicting the importance of family life in modern society, this classic, but **violent** film is about a father and his sons, and questions of power and succession. No matter how many times you've seen this on TV, or otherwise, this screening should not be missed!

**29 April**      ***The Godfather – Part 11***      **Dir: Francis Ford Coppola: USA 1974 (200 mins)**  
The saga of the Corleone family continues, contrasting Vito Corleone's rise as a Mafia kingpin in 1920s New York with his son Michael's expansion of the family empire. (This film contains **violent** scenes).

**6 May**      ***The Teacher's Lounge (Das Lehrerzimmer)***      **Dir: Ilker Çatak Germany 2023 (99 mins)**  
This 2023 German drama film was directed by Ilker Çatak, who co-wrote the screenplay with Johannes Duncker. Leonie Benesch stars as a teacher tasked with finding out which of her students is responsible for a series of thefts.

**13 May**      ***Our Man in Havana***      **Dir: Carol Reed: UK 1960 (108 mins)**  
A vacuum cleaner salesman is recruited by the British secret service to act as a spy in Havana. When he sends off phoney reports, recruits mysterious agents and claims to have discovered rocket installations, the Home Office decides to send him some help in the form of an agent named Beatrice.

**20 May**      ***All We Imagine as Light***      **Dir: Payal Kapadia: France/India/Netherlands/Luxembourg/Italy 2024 (115mins)**  
*All We Imagine As Light* is the story of three nurses in modern-day Mumbai, each having come to the big city from smaller home towns. "There is a freshness and emotional clarity in Payal Kapadia's Cannes competition selection, an enriching humanity and gentleness which co-exist with fervent, languorous eroticism and finally something epiphanic in the later scenes and mysterious final moments" (Guardian).

**27 May**      ***Sweet Smell of Success***      **Dir: Alexander Mackendrick: USA 1957 (97 mins)**  
New York City newspaper writer J J Hunsecker holds considerable sway over public opinion with his Broadway column, but one thing that he can't control is his younger sister, Susan, who is in a relationship with aspiring jazz guitarist Steve Dallas. Hunsecker strongly disapproves of the romance and recruits publicist Sidney to find a way to split the couple, no matter how ruthless the method.

**3 June**      ***Léon Morin Priest***      **Dir: Jean Pierre Melville: France 1961 (130 mins)**  
As the Germans take over France during World War 11, widowed mother Barny becomes increasingly anxious about her half-Jewish daughter. She decides to hide the girl in a nearby farm and have her baptised as a cover. The ceremony reminds Barny of the absurdity of religion and inspires her to pick a fight with the parish priest Léon. She's surprised to learn that he shares a great many of her views and the two begin a chaste yet deep relationship.

**10 June**      ***Letter From an Unknown Woman***      **Dir: Max Ophüls: USA 1948 (86 mins)**  
This American 1948 romantic film was based on the 1922 novella of the same name by Stefan Zweig. In early 20<sup>th</sup> century Vienna a man named Stefan Brand returns home; he is due to duel against an opponent the next morning but plans to skip town and avoid it. His mute butler hands him a letter, addressed to him by a woman who claims that she may be dead by the time he receives it, which Stefan begins to read.

**17 June**      ***Only the River Flows***

**Dir: Wei Shujun: China 2023 (102 mins)**

A police chief Ma Zhe, investigates a series of murders in a riverside town in rural China in the 1990s. Though an arrest is made quickly, clues push the policeman to delve deeper into the hidden behaviour of the locals and piece together the truth.

**24 June**      ***The Apprentice***

**Dir: Ali Abbasi: USA 2024 (122 mins)**

This 2024 independent biographical drama film examines Donald Trump's career as a real estate businessman in New York City in the 1970s and 1980s, including his relationship with attorney Roy Cohn. The film received praise from critics for its acting, directing and editing. Trump meanwhile described it as a "defamatory, politically disgusting hatchet job" intended to harm his ultimately successful 2024 presidential campaign.

**Our First Show after the Summer break will be at 1.00 pm on Tuesday 7 October 2025**

### Tickets for U3AC Film Group screenings

Tickets for single shows are available on the door for the standard cinema ticket price. U3AC members can get a reduced-price ticket by first purchasing a U3AC 10-week Term Card (or adding this to your existing Picturehouse Membership), and then obtaining a paper ticket (at no additional cost) on the day.

1. Buy a 10-week film term card for the discounted price of £45. This allows you entry to each of the 10 films screened at 1 pm each Tuesday of the term, at no extra cost.
  - 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, which stores your 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 Arts Picturehouse till before each term (you cannot do this over the phone or on the U3AC or Picturehouse websites).
  - **Note:** If you already have a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, either one for which you've paid an annual fee or a prior U3AC Term Card, Picturehouse staff will add the current U3AC term to your existing card.
2. You will need a paper ticket 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.

Show this to the usher at the door to gain entry to the film.

## Wednesday Lectures – Summer Term 2025

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The lectures this term are being run as either Zoom or hybrid events, giving members the opportunity to attend either via Zoom, or apply for a limited number of pre-booked places to attend in person. The talks will be held in the Pink room here at Bridge Street. Places can be booked 7 days before each lecture and are open to members only. Zoom links are on the website (you will need to log in to access them) and will be included in the Bulletin each Wednesday on the day of the lecture. Lectures will start at 2.15 pm.

Any last-minute changes to the programme will be publicised in the weekly Bulletin.

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### **23 April      Justice for some: Comparative miscarriages of justice      HYBRID** **Note: Speaker is on ZOOM**

Speaker: Kent Roach, C.M., F.R.S.C. Professor of Law at the University of Toronto

The differing concepts of miscarriages of justice, wrongful convictions and innocence will be discussed with an emphasis on differences between England and the United States. The inability of the English system to respond to the Post Office scandal and other recent failures such as the Victor Nealon and Andrew Malkinson case will be discussed as will the remedial legislation that overturned the Post Office convictions.

This is the fifth of our International Canadian Zoom lectures.

### **30 April      Gliding over the Andes      HYBRID**

Speaker: Terry M Holloway FRAeS Aviation Consultant and Freelance Flying Instructor

Terry led an RAF expedition to Chile in 1996, comprising five pilots and was the first Englishman to fly over the Andes from Chile to Argentina passing over the summit of Mount Aconcagua, which is the highest mountain in the Americas at just under 26,000 feet.

### **7 May      Gardens: wildlife refuges or impoverished in diversity      HYBRID**

Speaker: Dr Julian Doberski, U3AC member and Ecology lecturer ARU

A review of garden habitats, some of the effects of plant choice and garden management on species diversity and some pointers to what gardeners can do to promote biodiversity. In 2024 I published *The Science of Garden Biodiversity*.

### **14 May      A lab of one's own: Cambridge women in the First World War**

**HYBRID**

Speaker: Dr Patricia Fara, an Emeritus Fellow of Clare College, and a historian of science

Many Cambridge women took over traditionally male roles during the First World War, including some extraordinary scientists, doctors and engineers who helped to ensure victory. Confronting danger, prejudice and disease, they worked in factories, laboratories and hospitals, both at home and overseas. After the Armistice, the old stereotypes returned, and women were squeezed out once again – but Britain had changed forever.

### **Wednesday Lecture recordings**

Recordings of last term's Wednesday lectures are now on the Wednesday Lectures page of our website for you to view.

### **Norah Boyce Science Lecture recordings**

Recordings of last term's Norah Boyce Science lectures are now on the Norah Boyce Science Lectures page of our website for you to view.