

## **Our U3A Talk Monday 16th June Ian Cooper Vincent Van Gogh**

Ian Cooper, one of our Stanmore members, returned to once again give us an enthralling talk, this time on Vincent Van Gogh.

After a brief introduction, Ian ripped off his jacket rather like Superman, to reveal a shirt patterned with a Vincent painting and later in his talk he briefly put on a matching Vincent baseball cap!

Ian was very knowledgeable about the subject of Van Gogh and it was amazing to discover that he only ever sold 1 painting in his lifetime.

Ian showed us many examples of Vincent's paintings and described his unusual penchant for yellow paint, with reference to his eating habits.

Don't ask!

There were several theories as to why he cut off his ear and indeed his suicide at the age of 37.

We were treated to a clip of the song 'Vincent' by Don Mclean and the presentation ended with a short extract from an episode of Dr Who when Vincent was transported forward in time and taken by the Doctor to the Musee D'orcet to see how much the public adored his work.

A virtually unknown painter in his lifetime but an iconic figure today.

Ian went into some great detail about Vincent's early life, his paintings and his very unhappy romantic life.

Ian's talk was extremely well received and we all learned a great deal about Vincent's very short life.

Richard