

# NEWSLETTER

*-and wind comes off a frozen peak*

Margaret Thompson Editor



The struggling pink of my Magnolia Soulangeana amid the swirling snow of my garden in April.

hot bath and the warm log fire, especially as the hail and sleet lashed us as we got back to the cars, but what a great family gathering we had. I can thoroughly recommend it as a way to touch base and strengthen the bonds.

If you are about to purchase a new computer or ancillary equipment and are bewildered by what is available, why not start by speaking to a member of our computer group, leader John Carleton or phone John Boughton (230607), who runs our computer courses at Watford Boys' Grammar School. All advice is impartial and free. Have a good month; computing? Gardening? Rock climbing? !! Enjoying friends and family.

A beautiful sunny day for scrambling along the crags at the top of 'Sugar Loaf mountain in the Brecon Beacons S Wales, with the Usk Valley below and the Bristol Channel in the far distance.

1yr old Isabell has the best view, riding high on her daddy's shoulders.

Photos MCT



## Obituary Pat Tubb

We are very sad to report the death of Pat Tubb who died suddenly, in hospital, on the 9th of April, having suffered a heart attack.

Pat was one of our founder members serving on the first committee. She has continued to be very committed to the U3A Movement leading a Calligraphy Group for both Watford U3A and SWHerts U3A where she was also a member. She was a founder member of the Luncheon Group and regularly enjoyed our monthly meetings.

Our thoughts are with her friends and family at this time. Pat's funeral is on April 24th at 1.00pm in the small chapel at Garston Crematorium.

## Study Group Topics

By Dennis Fitton

Study Group Coordinator

Studygroups@watfordu3a.org.uk

I WOULD like to thank Gwen Brackfield for running the Counted Cross Stitch Group. She has decided to cease the group as numbers have declined. However long or short the duration of a group, it is a very worthwhile activity which gives pleasure to our members. Many thanks are due to our SGLs and the considerable effort they put into their groups.

If you have signed up for the London Architecture course, will you please pay me the £4 due if you have not already done so? If you find you are unable to come on the course, please let me know as this will enable people on the waiting list to join in.

## AGM: SECRETARY'S REMINDER

REMEMBER to bring the last three sides of the April edition of the Newsletter with you as this contains the minutes of the last AGM and the Chairman's report.

If you receive the newsletter by email don't forget to print these pages and bring them. The Agenda and Treasurer's Report will be available on the day of the AGM.

## COMMITTEE NOTES

From The Chairman  
John Carleton

THE TREASURER presented the statements of accounts for this year and projected expenditure for 2008/09. Despite reminders, a number of members have neither paid their renewal subscription nor declared their intentions and so there is still an element of uncertainty about the income available for next year. The financial statements to be presented at the AGM have been approved by the auditor, who has also made complimentary remarks about the accuracy and excellent presentation of the reports.

Concern was expressed that the Area Forum still provides little tangible benefit for those attending the meetings or for our U3A. The situation will be monitored and a decision taken about continued membership before the year end.

Some study group leaders continue to take time at the monthly meeting to needlessly announce what they have already had printed in the Newsletter.

The final arrangements for the AGM were discussed.

## Our First Outings of the Spring. Pamela Grant

ON THE Thursday before Easter, members of both Gardening and Art groups travelled to Kew Gardens, having been given horrendous forecasts both for the weather and the traffic. Our first couple of hours were dry with even a bit of sunshine every now and then although very windy and cold so most people dispersed to see as many of the Henry Moore sculptures being exhibited outdoors as they could. These were of all shapes and sizes and were impressively displayed around the grounds and were the subject of much interest and discussion.

After lunch the rain arrived but with glasshouses to visit, a Henry Moore film to watch and the teashop, gift shop and plant centre requiring attention we managed very well. Our prompt return enabled us to avoid too much traffic; an excellent day.



Our April trip was to the RHS gardens at Hyde Hall [above] in Essex and for many people this was a first visit there. The setting was an exposed hilltop in Essex with a stiff easterly wind, a bitterly cold but bright day. There was a lot of spring colour and some interesting plants, shrubs and trees to see in the numerous corners we explored. These included a large dry garden, an Australian and New Zealand one, one dedicated to the Queen Mother, sections of borders that were clearly colour-themed even at this time of year and areas of meadow and woodland beyond the formal part where a few people walked and watched hares. We were all impressed by the design of the garden and felt that it would be a lovely place to visit again in other seasons. Needless to say, the plants for sale were of superb quality and very few people resisted the temptation.

As you can see, some of us visited the shop and then left Ann to mind the bags.

photos Diane Livesey



## Exploring London The Royal Opera House: Pat Harding

AFTER the interesting talk by Georgiana Perrot in November about her work with the Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House, we managed to obtain tickets to go backstage.

There were 2 groups of 20 each, so after coffee the 1st group met in the foyer whilst the rest went off for lunch and a look round Covent Garden and beyond.

We were met by Stephen, our guide who had previously sung in the choir. He told us a brief history of the Opera House. The first theatre on the site was opened in 1732 putting on operas, pantomimes and plays. It was destroyed by fire in 1808 but reopened a year later. In 1847 it became an opera house but was again destroyed by fire in 1856. The present theatre, designed by E.M. Barry opened in 1858. It was closed during the wars, being a furniture depository in World War 1, and a Mecca Ballroom in the second. It reopened in 1946 where the Sadlers Wells

## Beneath the Arch

Dave Holland

THE NEW Wembley Stadium may have been years in coming and millions over budget, but ask any of the 32 members of the Sporting Forum who toured it recently 'was it worth the wait and money', their response would along the lines 'it sure was'. Put it this way, you could seat the entire population of the Borough of Watford (nearly 80,000) in the stadium and there would still be over 10,000 empty seats.

A convivial pub preceded our tour, which although schedule for 90 minutes, with added time was closer to 115 minutes, and that didn't include the Wembley souvenir shop. This is not just a football ground; it's the national stadium, the largest sporting arena in Europe. Chris, our quite excellent tour guide took us to the England changing rooms, the warm up zone, VIP reception, the Royal Box, pitch side dugouts, post match interview area, press conference room and the treatment rooms. Without mentioning names, some of our party actually sat in the 'royal seats' and there was the opportunity to 'touch' the 'old FA Cup', which stood supremely on the ledge in front of the Royal Box. Within the stadium there is the exclusive Corinthian Club - it offers 10-year memberships that guarantee top seats at all Home England Senior Internationals, The FA Cup Final & Semi-Finals, The FA Community Shield, The Football League Cup Final & The Rugby League Challenge Cup Final, plus first dibs on tickets to other events, social membership of Stoke Park Club in Buckinghamshire & access to members-only areas at Wembley. A joining fee of £16,100 is followed by annual payments of £5,450, which works out at £588 per event, including full hospitality for 10 years. And on that note we'll end.

The press conference!



performed Sleeping Beauty and in 1947 the Royal Opera performed Carmen.

In 1997 the theatre obtained a lottery grant and raised money for a 2 year development programme which combined all the departments onto the one site. Stephen showed us round the Amphitheatre Bar and Restaurant, the Gallery and Paul Hamlyn Hall. Also the costume room where costumes were made for the productions and then to the top floor where some of the dancers were rehearsing. Next we were able to look at the rear of the stage, where the scenery is stored for the current productions, and as a rehearsal had just finished, the curtains had been drawn back so that we could see the stage.

Lastly we went into the Auditorium and could watch the stagehands clearing the stage in readiness for that night's production. The decorations in the theatre were out of this world and several of us considered returning to watch one of the productions. After the tour we noticed that Georgiana's photo was hanging in the Hall for services to the theatre. After a look round Covent Garden and watching some acrobats we made our way back to the coach.



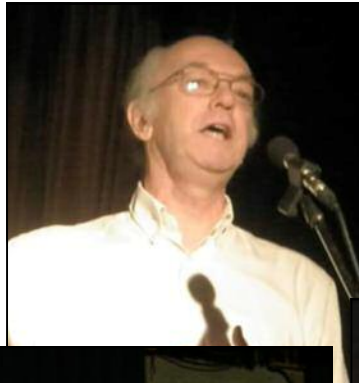
Russ London Wikipedia

# Performing Arts

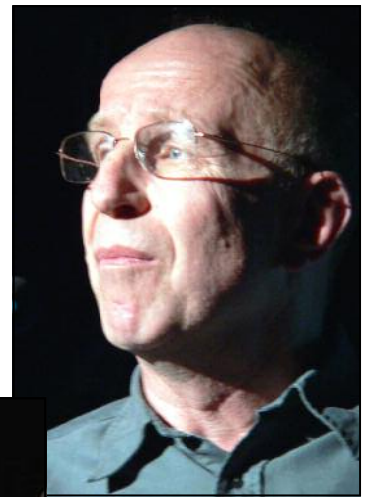
## A Wonderful Spring Miscellany



'Oh to be in England now that April's there'. **Marie Coe** 'Home Thoughts from Abroad' by Robert Browning



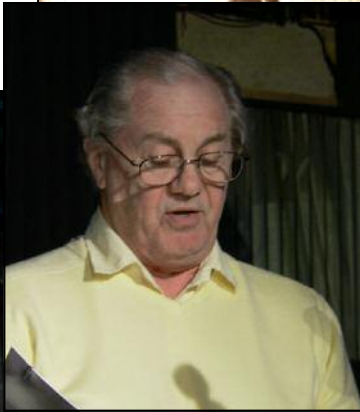
**Brian Redding** [R] who directed the Production, performed Ratty's song 'Duck's Ditty', composed according to Kenneth Graham, on the banks of his beloved river. **Colin Richards** [L] technical wiz kid produced the slides and can sing too and here is



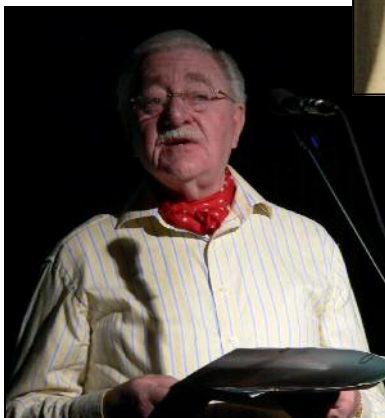
'Poisoning Pigeons in the Park' a la Tom Lehrer.



**Cynthia Morgan** read from Dylan Thomas's Under Milk Wood. **Basil Groves** [below] told us of the poem he would



**Margaret Thompson** with many 'April Fools Spoofs' ably aided and abetted by Jean Pearce [R]. [Above L] **David Helliwell** told us of Mole's 'Spring Cleaning' in Wind in the Willows and **Eileen Burnett** [L] gave us some very interesting Garden tips.



like to write, about daffodils, if Wordsworth hadn't got in first. **Margaret Redding** [R] told us of 'The Loveliest of Trees' the cherry covered with snow white blossom. [above R] **Alex James** read 'Tree' regaling us with the seasonal



splendour and **Monica Creegan** [below] read 'Full Throated Daffodils'. Everybody really enjoyed our performance and we certainly did, so 'here's 'til next time'.



The choir, directed by Celia delighted us with 'All in the April Evening' and 'April Showers' photos by **Gerry Adams & John Grainger**. Story **Margaret Thompson**



## TALES FROM THE HISTORY GROUP,

by E & B Long

AT OUR April meeting, Mo Reed told us about Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage, pioneers in the art of computing. Ada, daughter of Lord Byron, was born in 1815. Her mother, herself keenly interested in mathematics, ensured that her daughter was well taught in the subject.

In 1833, Ada was introduced to Charles Babbage, a mathematician, who had conceived the idea of a "difference engine" to eliminate errors made by humans in calculating astronomical tables. Ada immediately understood the importance of the work, particularly the extension of his ideas to an "analytic engine", which would develop a single purpose calculator into a "programmable" or "multi-task" calculating machine. While in Italy, where he had taken himself, due to lack of support in England, Babbage delivered a lecture, which he suggested to Ada that she should write up, which she did, adding copious notes of her own. It is from these notes, when, over a 100 years later, the notes were republished in 1953, that much of the basics of modern computing were developed. In particular; Ada's speculation that the analytic engine might, for example, be made to represent notes and thus compose music and carry out processing of the symbolic representation of other functions, e.g. words, hence 'word processing'. Thus the degree of her understanding and foresight was recognised.

In 1980 the U.S. Defence Dept. Standard for computer language was named "Ada", and given the reference title MIL-STD-1815, the number being the year of her birth. In 1998 the British Computer Society initiated a medal in her name.

Brenda Woodley reported on the history of the Athens Parthenon. Completed in 432 BC, with an opening speech by Pericles, who described it as the future centre of culture, it had a painted marble frieze, depicting scenes from Greek mythology. It was much damaged in 1687 by an explosion when used by the Turks as a powder magazine.

Lord Elgin a Scottish diplomat much concerned with the preservation of the frieze persuaded the British Government to buy it and it was transported to the new British Museum. However the Greeks now want it returned to Athens, even though it would not still exist, but for the action of Lord Elgin.

Betty Long began her mini-series on the lives of James II and his daughters Mary and Anne, who earned the epithet "Ungrateful Daughters" by their disillusioned father. Whilst in exile, after the Civil War, James had married Anne Hyde, daughter of the Lord Chancellor of Charles I. She bore him several children, most of whom died at a young age. The exceptions were Mary and Anne, both brought up as Protestants. With the restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, and with his elder brother, Charles II, reigning, James, Duke of York, returned to England and was recognised as his brother's heir, Charles's marriage to Catherine of Braganza, being childless. Charles refused to divorce his barren wife despite being urged to do so.

Both Charles and his brother supported the Church of England, and attended Protestant services, although it was evident that James was attracted to Catholicism. This was a source of great embarrassment to Charles and, in order to placate Parliament, then a stronghold of Protestantism, he had to exile his brother to Scotland. *(To be continued)*

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# STUDY GROUP NEWS

Please keep 'The Study Group Diary' for Group Leaders contact numbers, times and Group venues.

## Art Appreciation

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon 10.00 for 10.30am at Hollytree House.**

Our visit to the Royal Academy for the From Russia exhibition was enjoyed by all who went; a stunning and far-ranging collection.

**12 May** Phil McMahon on Norman Rockwell and a compilation of other US artists by Joyce, Margaret and Val.

**13 May** Essex Arms at **9.00am.** Earlier pick-ups in Bushey. Group visit to the Dulwich Picture Gallery for the "Coming of Age" of American art. Cost £27 includes coach, entrance and lecture. A few places still available. Cheques to D.A Steele as soon as possible.

## Antiques

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of the month NB 2.00pm-4.00pm in my home.**

We started off our April meeting in fine style, having at enormous expense i.e. the bribe of two hot dinners, coerced our tame antique restorer to give us a talk on the restoration and gilding of mirrors. With the help of some photographs of previous work done and explanations as to how the effects were produced to gild, burnish, and 'distress' mirrors, followed by some interesting questions from our members, we went on to talk about antique glass, how to tell the fine plate from the thicker, and then on to wine glasses, etc - all in the subject of glass, after all. Some members brought some fascinating items from their own collections for discussion. So interesting was all this that we are going on to discuss further the subject of glass next month.

## Book Discussion Grp

**4<sup>th</sup> Mon 2.00pm-4.00pm 9 Parkside Drive, Watford**

The Group is now down to six enthusiastic readers - is there anyone out there who would like to join us? Whatever you

think about a book - love it or hate it - you are guaranteed a thoroughly enjoyable couple of hours discussing it in good company. All books are provided by the library and our next 'read' is "The Painted Veil" by Somerset Maugham. **19 May NB** We normally meet on the fourth Monday of the month but, due to the Bank Holiday it will be the **3rd Monday.**

## Computers

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs 4.00pm Beechfield School, Gammons Lane.**

**15 May** Excel spreadsheets entering data, continuation.

**12 Jun** Excel spreadsheets summary charts **NB** change of date. There is a charge of £2 per person to cover costs.

## Cryptic Crosswords

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri of the month.**

Inter alia, the 1st qualifying puzzle of the 2008 Times Crossword Championship was tackled at a recent group meeting. No member present, however, felt sufficiently confident to stump up £25 to travel to Cheltenham and challenge the experts, who invariably complete puzzles in less than 15 minutes.

**4 & 16 May. Next Mtgs.**

## Current Affairs

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tues 10.00am** at Hollytree House.

**15 Apr** City Academies led us into a more general discussion of education standards and direction at our April meeting. Then we broached the topic of climate change, world food production - to be investigated and discussed further at our next meeting. Moral questions raised by organ donation and the possibility of selection of human eggs to obtain particular characteristics, (eg deafness) generated considerable discussion. A local proposal by Tesco to site three more convenience stores in the Watford area would be likely to lead to the demise of a number of small businesses, a concern to us all. At present

the Group is at capacity level, so anyone interested in joining should speak with one of the leaders first.

**20 May** Next meeting.

### **Cycling**

**10.00am 1st Monday and 3rd Wednesday starting at Watford Met Station. The Monday ride is run jointly with Watford Park U3A.**

NB that the Monday rides are similar to those on Wednesday. They are no further or faster. As we cycle on canal towpaths, I must point out that we should all have a permit to do this. This is free from [www.waterscape.com](http://www.waterscape.com). Click on 'cycling' and then on 'get a permit'.

**5 May Mon No ride today.**

**21 May Wed** Bridle paths around Sarratt.

**2 Jun Mon** Ley Hill, Whelpley Hill.

**18 Jun Wed** Denham via Aquadrome.

### **European Studies**

NB. May and June are **not the 4th Wednesday** deliberately as we have changed them as I shall be on holiday.

**7 May** European Literature and French Literature.

**11 Jun** Schiller/Goethe.

**23 Jul** Louis XV.

### **Exploring London**

**7 May** Winchester Waiting List.

**4 Jun** Saffron Walden and Audley End Waiting List.

**2 Jul** River Trip

Maidenhead to Windsor, free time and return. Price £20 Some tickets available.

### **Food & Nutrition**

**4th Tues of the month**

**Combewood House**

**27 May 2.30pm**

Colin Richards will give a presentation on diabetes. This is an extremely important subject for us to understand and appreciate so do come along and listen to what I am sure will be an excellent presentation.

### **Gardening**

**Hollytree House.**

**15 May** Ramster Gardens at Chiddingfold near Guildford in Surrey. There are still some tickets remaining for

this trip. Price £13.70. Enjoy the beautiful woodland areas, lakes and ponds as well as rhododendrons and many rare trees and shrubs. Only sandwiches will be available at Ramster so consider bringing a picnic lunch.

**19 Jun** Picnic or a snack at the Chiltern Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs then on to an afternoon at Toddington Manor, where the private gardens are being opened just for us. There are rose and herb gardens, and a pleached lime walk surrounded by herbaceous borders. With orchards, meadows and woodland too there will be lots to explore. Stockwood Country Park is currently closed while the gardens and buildings are being refurbished so we'll add it to our list for another time. Cilla and Pam have an invitation to go to a preview day in July so we can have a look!

**17 Jul** Barnsdale Gardens near Oakham. A visit to Geoff Hamilton's gardens has been requested and we have been able to reserve a day with them. The gardens are now maintained by Geoff's son Nick and there will be lots to see there; more information later.

If anyone has plants for the Peace Hospice Garden Party on 11th of May, please contact Jean Armstrong to arrange delivery/pickup, either 10th or 11th May. Thanks.

### **Greetings Cards**

**Hollytree House**

**8 May** Small buttons/ Handbag designs.

### **Italian**

**10.00am alternate Thurs**

This is very much a self help group, using audio/visual material, written exercises and original Italian texts. We are guided by a fluent Italian speaker.

### **London Theatre Group**

**14 May** We are going to see "Gone With The Wind"

Coach:**12.00pm** Bushey Synagogue **12.05pm** Bushey Med. Centre **12.30pm** The Essex Arms. For those who were disappointed that we had to cancel the Harold Pinter

plays, the Pump House Theatre in Watford has a double billing of Harold Pinter 'Celebration' & 'One For The Road', from Tues 27<sup>th</sup> May till Sat 31<sup>st</sup> May.

### **MoneyMatters**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thurs of the month**

**Hollytree House.**

**May** At our next meeting we are having a return visit from Richard Chamberlain to give us an update on the changes to Inheritance Tax and the new tax rules. Come and have fun!!

### **Music Appreciation**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wed: 10.00am** Coffee and chat. **10.30am**

Subsequent meetings will teach us about the members of the Orchestra, accompanied by relevant music.

### **Needlecraft**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mon** each month at Combewood House.

This group is full at the moment as the space we have is just adequate for our present needs but perhaps another group could be started?

### **Opera**

At our April meeting we put our brains to the test with a light hearted quiz devised by David Hancox, for which grateful thanks, and after the tea break we watched the first act of a production recorded in 1967 of 'Lucia di Lammermoor' with Renata Scotto and Carlo Bergonzi which was performed in Tokyo.

**12 May** 2 00pm at Christine's As above; Act II and III.

### **Pathfinders Group**

The Essex Arms **9.25am**

**27 May** Apsley and Kings Langley.

**24 Jun** Rickmansworth.

I regret this group is full.

### **Performing Arts**

**Johanna's Mon 7.30pm**

**12 May** Play reading.

### **Personal Development**

**19 or 20 May** Meal out TBA.

The Blue Check is not open on Mondays so would you like to go on a Tuesday instead? Partners invited.

### **Poetry Read & Study**

Monday evening, monthly by arrangement. New members

welcome.

### **Return to Cycling**

**2.00pm 1st Thursday** This group is run jointly with Watford Park U3A. The rides are between 5 and 10 miles based on the Watford B C map of local cycle routes.

**Please look under Cycling for my note about a permit to cycle on canal towpaths.**

**1 May, 5 Jun, 3 Jul.** Pump House, Local Board Rd .

### **Science Interest**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 10.00am**

**Hollytree House.**

**19 May** Phil McMahon. The Sun our nearby star.

**16 Jun** Pat Walker will talk about Radio Luxemburg.

**25 Jul (Fri)** Visit to West London Composting at Harefield, 2 groups one at 10.00am & one at 1 00pm. New members welcome!

### **Scrabble 2**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs of the month**

**14 May 10.00am**

### **Shakespeare**

**Last Wed 2.00pm**

**28 May** We shall be choosing what play to study after finishing reading 'Anthony and Cleopatra'; so please come with suggestions. We are also thinking about another group visit to a theatre.

**25 Jun** for our usual play reading and sonnet.

### **Snooker**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon 11.00am-1.00pm.** Town /Country Club.

### **Sporting Forum**

April presented the opportunity to tour of the new Wembley Stadium and this was followed by a visit to the BBC studios for a recording of the 'Question of Sport' programme. Look out for members in the audience!

**20 May** Guest speaker Ed Coan - PR & Media Consultant (formerly with Watford FC but now

freelance, including work for the national FA).

**16 Jun (Mon)** Evening at Windsor Races.

**15 Jul** Car rally.

### **Strollers**

**Meeting time 11.00am**

**13 May** Gwen and Don -St Albans Museum CP Lunch at

The Six Bells.

**27 May** Myra and Jane - Grimsdyke walk. Old Reddings CP Lunch at The Case is Altered.

**10 Jun** Brenda & Valerie, walk in/around Kings Langley Park, lunch The Young Pretender.

**24 June** Margaret and John - Bentley Priory Stanmore Cricket Pavilion CP Lunch at The Harvester.

**8 July** Elizabeth -Walk in/ around Shenley Meet at The Pavilion Lunch at The White Horse.

### The Explorers

**9.30am Meet at the Essex Arms to car share**

**2 May NB** change of venue. Harefield, to walk round the lakes. Meet Coy Carp CP (formerly called The Fisheries) Coppermill Lane Harefield. UB9 6HZ. Walk around the lakes.

**6 June 09.30 Charlock Way**, West Watford, Burnham Beeches Myra Jarrett.

**4 Jul 09.30 Essex Arms to car share** Ashridge. with Diana & Alan. Park Aldbury Village near pond or in CP.

**The Rock 'n' Roll Yrs** 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month 2.30 pm Hollytree House.

**22 May** Eddie Cochran/Gene Vincent.

### Thirsty Walkers

**9.30am The Essex Arms!** (bear in mind the road works which may cause delays!).

**22 May** Walk at Kings Langley led by John and Cynthia. Starting from The Rose and Crown (we think).

**26 June** Walk at Aldenham led by Jill Jenkins. From The Roundbush.

### Tuesday Trekkers

**9.45am** start at **10.00am**.

New members very welcome especially if you like walks of about 5 miles and a very worthwhile pub afterwards.

**13 May 9.45am** Jean & Peter Groves. Meet outside

Aldenham Church, Church Road Note, this walk has a Health Warning. During a recent 'recce' Peter tripped over an unseen wire fence and fell like a fallen tree flat on his face! Went through a field with 600 sheep and rescued

one trapped in water, I'm not sure who rescued Jean? crossed a wooden bridge and found a sign, This bridge is closed to the public and is dangerous. Peter will carry a new pair of wire cutters. Turn up and see if you can survive. I will chill in France, note the auspicious date!

**10 Jun** Brian the Brave for a more sedate uneventful walk starting from Chipperfield Church car park.

### Walking

**Walks start at JS A41 9.30am except London ones. Eight miles**

**14 May The Lee.**

**Six miles All 10.00am start**

**28 May** Gerards Cross.

**25 Jun** Harpenden.

### Wine Appreciation

**Last Friday in the month.**

Our March meeting tasted 8 different bottles of Fair Trade wine which was generally acceptable and reasonably priced. April was our first anniversary lunch with as always a wide range of wines from around the world.

### WitKnits

**10.00am 1<sup>st</sup> Mon each month**

### Writers Workshop

Come along and develop your skills.

New members welcome.

## RAFFLE AGAIN NEXT MONTH - 3rd JUNE

in aid of the

### Peace Hospice

LOTS OF GOOD PRIZES thanks to all who have donated. We are pleased to receive more at any meeting, or to our home.

**JUNE AND JOHN BAUGHEN  
CAN COLLECT THANK YOU.**

### Peace Hospice

#### Garden Party

**Sunday, May 11th**

**1.00pm-5.00pm.**

#### at Hunton Park

We still need bottles of any description and china and glass bric-a-brac for our stalls so please help if you can. Those of you kindly making cakes can you please wrap them closely in cling film and attach a list of ingredients. During the general meeting we will be selling balloon race tickets and programmes for the Garden Party which act as your entrance payment to the day.

**Val Webster**

### Watford HF

#### Rambling Club

Invites U3A Members to walk 6 miles in the Brighton Area on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00am.**

Cost £15.

Meet Coach at JS A41

**Peter Manhire**

### A Message from Our Almoners

As almoners we like to be aware of anyone experiencing difficulties such as illness, bereavement or having problems getting to meetings. We can only be of help if we know. We would therefore be grateful if you could let one of us know of anyone in need. SGLs often know when there is a problem so would they also let us know.

**Irene Lowe**

**Peggy Element**

**Janet Carleton**

**Kathleen McMahon**

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**Colin Richards**

Email [digitalequipment@watfordu3a.org.uk](mailto:digitalequipment@watfordu3a.org.uk)

## TALKS PROGRAMME

**2008**

**May** AGM

**Jun** Marion Birch

'Age Concern'.

**Jul** Gillian Stansfield

'Irrational Numbers'.

**Aug** Extended

**Coffee Break.** Come and catch up with your friends.

**Sep** Kyle McClland

'Watford New Health Facility'

**Oct** Pat Purcell

'Tales of the Opera'

**Nov** TBA

**Dec** WU3A

'Christmas Variety Show'.

For More detail contact  
Speaker Secretary

**David Helliwell**

[speakers@watfordu3a.org.uk](mailto:speakers@watfordu3a.org.uk)

Material for the

## June Newsletter

**MUST be received**

**by: 20 May**

For Written contributions see Study Group Diary or the website contact details.

**E-mail copy to:**

[editor@watfordu3a.org.uk](mailto:editor@watfordu3a.org.uk)