

It's an ill wind !

Margaret Thompson Editor.

WHAT a tragedy that that 'railway butcher' Beeching axed so many of the railway lines in the 1960s, some of which are now being recommissioned. BUT without him we would not have some of the best footpaths in the country; not least our very own Ebury Way. I am always surprised to find folk who do not know of its existence. How else would you get from Cassiobury Park to Rickmansworth for a coffee? I can join it at Hampermill thus avoiding a car journey at the start of my walk.

Strolling along in the hazy spring sunshine, marvelling at the bursts of bright green on the trees, especially the willows and entranced by the myriad of birds singing their lusty songs I said to my companion, "It's much we don't see Dennis Fitton and his entourage cycling forth along here, but I don't think it's their day is it?" Then, within seconds, out of the misty morning, a figure comes hurtling towards us, riding his trusty steed. "Hello you two," he hailed as he sped past followed at varying intervals by his Squires and Pages. Yes, you have guessed, it was our very own Dennis, how amazing. Does this sort of thing happen to you?

On behalf of us all I want to give a big thank you to Dennis for all his work and time spent as Study Group Co-ordinator.

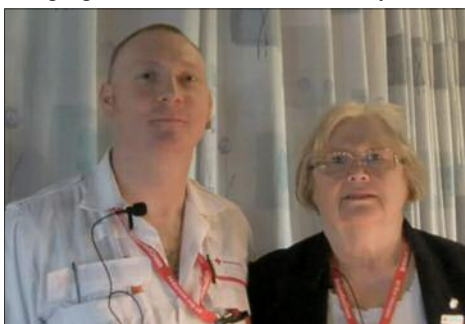
Taking advantage of this sudden burst of summer, I have got the main crop spuds 'in' and sowed more lettuce. The runner beans are 'up' in the greenhouse, as are the beetroot and sprout seedlings, so with luck and a tail wind we should not starve this year, recession or no!

At our last Monthly Meeting we heard about the work of the British Red Cross from Gill Hutchinson and John Sales [below photo Gerry Adams]. Gillian has 40 years experience in First Aid work and in bringing First Aid to the community.

Committee Notes John Carleton Chairman

The final arrangements for the May meeting were discussed: The AGM will start at 10.00am and will be followed by an extended coffee break, after which there will be a normal session for notices. The Treasurer presented his final financial statements which had been approved by the Auditor. The time table for next year's financial report will be reconsidered in light of this year's experience.

The Membership Secretary reported that our membership now stands at 420, though he is still waiting to hear from several members who have not yet renewed from last year. The Study Group Co-ordinator, giving his final Committee report, gave details of changes in some Study Groups and new courses. Alternative ways of welcoming new members to monthly meetings were considered. Our Regional Representative was warmly thanked for his labours over the past two years attending meetings of the Herts Network of U3As, we have now resigned membership of this group.



British Red Cross Emergency Life Support

A four hour course providing the opportunity to learn key life saving skills and gain awareness of dealing with shock and significant blood loss.

The above practical course, which is designed to meet the likely needs of a group such as ours, will take place as a morning session at the BRC centre in Croxley Green, at a date TBA. Group size will be small but the course may be repeated to satisfy demand. The cost is £20.00 per person. Please contact our Study Group Co-ordinators; Dennis Fitton or Margaret Foster as soon as possible if you wish to be added to the list.

Study Group Topics

By Dennis Fitton

Joint Study Group Coordinator
Studygroups@watfordu3a.org.uk

THIS will be my last column as I shall be handing over to Margaret Foster. I cannot promise that she will not grumble and harangue you as much as I have for the past 3 years but she will do it with greater charm.

Jan Prest will become joint SGL with Michael Thomas for Cryptic Crosswords. This will provide welcome help to Michael who with Rae has worked very hard to run a group which is much appreciated by those of us who struggle for the correct word or phrase twice a month.

As I said at the last monthly meeting, please think about the amount of effort that the SGLs put into running their groups. The smooth running of a group may not be as easy as it may appear or you may think. Through my membership of various groups and work as SG coordinator I have come to realise the talent and effort we all receive from our SGLs and often take for granted. Please see if you can help ease the pressure on them.

The Language courses will commence on Monday 27th April at Watford Boys School: 2.00-3.00 pm for French and 4.30-5.30pm for Chinese. Go to the enquiry office in the centre of the building.

David Burnell has agreed to run another 'London Underground' course, probably before September. If you are interested please sign the sheet on the notice board or inform Margaret. From previous experience this course is highly recommended.

We are still trying to meet your needs for computer courses. Do you want 'Word Processing', 'Spreadsheets', 'Emails and Internet', anything else and at what level; Absolute beginner, Intermediate or Advanced? Please indicate your needs on the notice on the board or inform Margaret Foster, Dennis Fitton or John Carleton (who is happy to discuss details and levels).

Please see column L for the note on First Aid courses.



The Pictures Tell it All

by Margaret Thompson

THE weather was chill with a biting north-easter, searing into the city but the spirits were willing and the camaraderie warm. Seventeen WU3A members who had attended the Architectural Course followed our enthusiastic lecturer David Burnell around the diverse Architecture of the City, from the medieval to the 21C.

[L] With two of our 'fellows'



trying to get a photograph from the other side of the road, is 88 Wood Street designed by Norman Foster. It reflects the Wood Street Police Station, also his work, built in 1966. The tower is the section house. The constables must have great views. Foster also designed the Old Bailey extension. [Above R], Looking West in Brushfield Street, the juxta position of

the late 20C glass of the Broadgate development, built over the tracks of Liverpool Street Station and the 18C houses on the left, exemplifies much of the London street scene. Except, I am reliably informed by David, that only the first house is really old; dating from 1720, the ones next to it are 1980s prize winning rebuilds. [Above] Facing E we look towards Christ Church, Spitalfields, magnificently restored, and the modern market.

Our big thanks to David Burnell and his wife Glennis, who braved the biting wind and acted as our 'whipper in', for a wonderful, and fascinating afternoon; a fine end to a very interesting and informative course.



Outside the Royal Exchange at the end of the walk photo Colin Richards

Stump Work by Alison Beattie

OUR Needlecraft meeting on April 6th was an introduction to Stump Work. We were given an interesting talk by Kay Dennis, a lecturer, teacher and absolute lover of Stump Work, which is 3D picture making in embroidery and needle lace using a huge amount of imagination and vision. The work Kay brought with her was beautiful. Picture of birds, animals, trees, flowers, ponds and people, not just embroidered but standing out from the picture in a most realistic manner. To most of the group, it was a new craft and we were all intrigued as to how this clever effect was obtained. We are hoping Kay will be able to come back and help each of us with a



sample of this craft – but do not hold your breath for any spectacular samples as Kay has been doing Stump Work for many years and I do not think the members of the group have enough time to catch up with her – but we will have a try!!

Peace Hospice June Raffle

Our quarterly raffle is here again which is going to be another "good" one with some lovely items you have donated. We also received a large amount of cash from a Coffee Morning. Many thanks to those who supported that too. We will be at the May meeting after all to receive any items and we can also collect any donations if you care to call us. Thank you,

John and June Baughen,

WU3A ALMONERS

Irene Lowe
Peggy Element
Janet Carleton
Kathleen McMahon

Wine Appreciation

by John Britten

ITALY has about 4,000 different grape varieties, but because of the nation's history and geography most of its wines were restricted to very local areas. Since the 1960s several have become better known in Britain, and at our March meeting we sampled eight popular wines (or rather seven - because in an unlikely repeat of February's experience one wine was slightly "corked" and had to be returned).

We began with a Prosecco Sparkling Rose - fast becoming one of Britain's favourite "Fizzes" . Fresh, flavoursome and not too dry it was liked by the whole group. So too was the final wine - a Chianti Classico Barone Ricasoli from Tuscany's oldest producer - with a rich refined taste which fully justified its £9.99 price tag. Between these two were some grape varieties which we all knew - the Valpolicello certainly lived down to its reputation - and others which were less familiar.

An organic Nero d'Avola from Sicily was still young for its age and would probably improve for two or three years, whereas a Dolcetta d'Alba from the Piedmont already had more character and body and was ready for drinking now. This tasting may have confirmed some of our prejudices about Italian wines, but it also introduced us to some new and worthwhile types.

WU3A at the BBC by

Pat Harding

THE April Exploring London trip was a tour of the BBC at White City. Unfortunately protesters against the G20 conference also decided to hold their event on the same day. The traffic was awful and our coach driver tried several routes out of Watford, and again when we neared White City. However although late, we arrived safely.

We were dropped at the wrong entrance and with members of the first group we rushed across a green and went into main reception. Eventually the guides arrived and we were taken through security to an open space in the middle of the building. There we were told of some of the history of the BBC and some facts and figures. There are more than 8000 people working in the building for various departments. The building is known as the "Doughnut" because of its shape, round with a hole in the middle.

We then went upstairs to a viewing room, also used for interviews for News 24, where we could see lots of reporters and researchers on their computers. Monitors from around the world were on show and we witnessed President Barack Obama at 10 Downing Street with the Prime Minister. George Alagiah (apologies if spelling is wrong) was busy at his desk. Next we went to the weather department where some of our group tried their hand at pointing to the map. We also saw how wearing certain colours would affect the production.

We then went to the viewing gallery of studio 3 where the set of Jasper Carrot's Golden Balls was set up. The BBC hires out studios to other companies, in this case ITV at £50,000 for 12 hours, several programmes would be recorded. We then crossed to studio 4 where a rehearsal was taking place of Alan Titchmarsh's show. As he was wearing no makeup and looking very scruffy we didn't recognise him until we saw him on the monitor.

Next we went a green room where our guides answered a lot of questions before we went to an interactive studio where Arthur read the news and Pam and Cindy played a version of the Weakest Link and lastly we visited the BBC shop.

We then walked to the nearby Westfield Shopping Centre where we had lunch, and I noticed quite a few shopping bags when we met up again for a much quieter ride home.



Gardening Group Tulips Glorious Tulips by Pam Grant

Abbey House Gardens in Malmesbury have become famous over the last few years because of the BBC TV programmes entitled "The Naked Gardeners" but the history goes back a long way further! We and the owners remained clothed, thankfully, which was more suitable for a grey day in April when at least we did not have the torrential rain suffered in Watford. Well done to everyone who kept their fingers crossed as we only had a couple of brief showers!

We went mainly for the displays of tulips which were glorious. It was lovely to see thousands and thousands of them in riotous colour and assorted sizes and shapes, very different from the colour-coordinated planting we so often see in parks and gardens. The backdrop at every turn in the five acres was either dark hedging or views of Abbey House or the ruined Abbey.



The owners have only been there for fifteen years but have rescued the gardens with an eye on the history attaching it to the Benedictine monks who lived there. In one quiet corner a life-size cowed monk sat in everlasting contemplation, whilst many other sculptures were more modern in design.

This was quite a small but really labour-intensive garden where the tiny clipped box hedges and the topiary, not to mention the 180 fruit cordons around the huge herb area and 100,000 tulips, gave testament to the amount of work needed each year. The area down towards the river was completely overgrown but now has paths bordered by lovely trees, shrubs and bulbs. This would be a beautifully shady area in summer and many members indicated a wish to return perhaps when the roses and herbaceous borders in the main garden were in full bloom. It proved a very different destination from many places we visit and was very much enjoyed by all.



STUDY GROUP NEWS

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

Walking Exploring a New Walk Peter Manhire

IT was a beautiful morning. The sun was shining, the sky a clear blue when Joan and I decided to explore a new walk for the group. Starting at Hayes, we strolled along the towpath of the Grand Union Canal, section eleven of the London Loop. The canal seemed sluggish and muddy here, whilst on the opposite side factory units hugged the bank. But at our feet the golden Celandines and paler Coltsfoot flowered in profusion, together with both blue and white Violets, whilst trees of Pussy Willow, yellow with pollen hung over our heads. Leaving the Grand Union at the Slough arm, we joined the River Colne which took us eventually to the "Little Britain" lake; so called because it is said to be shaped a little like a map of the British Isles! We enjoyed our picnic in this very attractive area. After lunch we re-joined the Canal again which eventually took us into Uxbridge, and the end of our exploration, a total distance of some seven miles.

Will we be taking our U3A walking friends along these footpaths? A definite NO! The reason being that we were so disappointed to find the enormous amount of LITTER strewn along the banks of the Canal, especially for the first half of the walk, it was just dreadful. Only the lake area seemed to have escaped the attention of the Litter Bugs. Such a shame.

Science Interest April 2009 by Brian Mee

GAVIN PEACOCK, who had worked in the electronics industry for many years, designing digital systems, explained how these systems are based on binary coding. Logic gates control the flow of data within these systems and are incorporated into integrated circuits. More and more circuits which are smaller and smaller now control many applications which we use day to day. Gavin described how our digital Quartz watches work. The quartz crystal oscillates under a voltage at a fixed frequency so that the display numbers or fingers change at specific times. A watch may not keep perfect time as the crystal is affected by change of temperature. A compact disc consists of a spiral track starting at the centre and moving out to the rim. A laser light – a coherent light beam of an exact frequency – reads the holes in the track and converts them to a sound of specific frequency. These small spots of sound occur many thousands of times every second and we hear a continuous orchestra or whatever, as our ears are easily fooled!! The signals are sent to a processor which then makes sure the timing of the sound is precise as it goes to the loudspeakers. Digital cameras were a third application which Gavin explained. A four mega-pixel camera has 4 million pixels per square inch. Digital cameras do not resolve colours very well. A colour filter grid is set over the pixels of light sensors in the camera and the colour is an aggregate of the pixels in the surrounding area of a particular pixel. Gavin showed some examples of designs for control of sensing equipment that he had made while working.

Peace Hospice Garden Party May 17th 1.00pm-5pm

Thank you to all those members who have volunteered or contributed in different ways towards the success of the garden party. We are still in need of the following and if you can help we would be delighted:

Volunteers to help set up at 9am. or take down stalls at 5pm. and to man stalls from 1pm.

Bric-a-brac Bottles of any description. CDs and DVDs. Books, especially children's books. Soft toys. Plants Home made cakes - please can these be securely wrapped with a list of ingredient. Margaret Redding and I will be at the meeting taking down details, giving out details of where to drop off donations and selling balloon race tickets - please look for the balloons and you will find us. Valerie Webster.

Art Appreciation

2nd Mon 10.00 for 10.30am at Hollytree House.

In April we did not have an in house meeting because of the Easter BH but on the Tuesday, 23 of us went down to the National Gallery for a talk about the development of portraiture. Gilly Bretton our guide gave us a fascinating insight into the manner and symbolism of the portraits she showed us, starting with the Wilton Diptych and ending with Rubens.

11 May Colin Richards, a thousand years of art 'From Roman Portraits to Icons and Byzantines'.

8 Jun Margaret Thompson 'Faces of the Renaissance'.

Antiques

2nd Tues of the month 2.30pm-4.30pm my home.

As usual, our members brought some of their interesting pieces of porcelain to discuss and in some cases we managed to identify the marks. The usual enthusiasm prevailed and many interesting pieces of information were discovered.

14 May Glass: mirrors, drinking, cameo vases, etc.

Beginners Bridge

Alternate Weds 10.30am

Dates sometimes vary. People are making good progress. Class full for the moment.

Book Discussion

Group 4th Mon 2.00pm-4.00pm

The Group now meets at 28 Devereux Drive. Telephone the Study Group Leader for a list of books to be read in the coming months. New members very welcome.

Chess

2nd & 4th Tues 9.30am

Computers

3rd Thurs 2.00pm Thorpe Community Room, Garston Fire Station, St Albans Road, (Next to Asda)

There is a charge of 50p per person to cover costs.

Cryptic Crosswords 1st & 3rd Fri of the month.

1 & 15 May next meetings.

Current Affairs

3rd Tues 10.00am Hollytree House. Potential new members please contact the leaders Betty Crowder or Joyce Hoffbrand before coming to a meeting.

Cycling

10.00am 1st Monday and 3rd Wednesday starting at Watford Met Station.

The Monday ride is run jointly with Watford Park U3A.

4 May Hockeridge Bottom. 20 May Felden and Apsley.

1 Jun Flaunden and Bovingdon.

17 Jun Meet at Griffiths Way St Albans to ride to Mill Green along the Alban Way.

European Studies

Continuing our study of the 18th Century.

Exploring London

6 May Canal Museum and Barge ride. Waiting List.

3 Jun Hever Castle. W List.

Film Group

2. 00pm 3rd Mon

Herga Court

18 May Flying Down to Rio. 1933 Director - Thornton Freeland. Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Dolores del Rio. Comedy, Musical, Romance.

15 Jun Monsieur Hulot's Holiday. 1954 Director - Jacques Tati. Jacques Tati. Nathalie Pascaud. It's laugh-vacation time as Jacques Tati romps through the most gloriously mad lark ever to tickle the ribs of young and old alike. After the film there will be tea and discussion of the film. Please let Barbara know if you can come.

Food & Nutrition

Combewood House 2.00pm.

26 May Following our very

successful trip to Carpenders Park Nursery in March I will be asking members to cook something for the group with one of the herbs purchased on that day. We will then discuss the herbs and learn from one another the different ways in which they may be used.
Jun A talk from the Co-operative Society.

Gardening

3rd Thurs 10.00am

21 May Exbury Gardens for rhododendrons. Waiting list.

16 Jun (Note this is a Tuesday!) Visit to Sissinghurst. Waiting list.

16 Jul Bressingham in Norfolk. More info to follow.

Greetings Cards

Hollytree House

14 May Experiments with lace and/or Leather. Make what you like of that!

11 Jun Leaves and silk painting.

9 Jul Iris folding, an old favourite. Papers/ribbon/lace.

History

2nd Mon 2.00pm Fire

Station Garston (Asda CP off A41)

Following the retirement of Eric and Betty Long as SGLs the Group has decided to change their venue.

11 May John Parsons will continue his account of the History of British Prime Ministers.

Italian

10.00am alternate Thurs

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

Jazz

3rd Wed 2.30pm

London Theatre Grp

10 Jun We have obtained tickets to see CALENDAR GIRLS at the Noel Coward Theatre. It has a great cast including Lynda Bellingham, Patricia Hodge, Sian Phillips, Gaynor Faye and others. Coach times will be:-

Bushey Synagogue 12.00pm
Bushey Haydon Rd 12.05pm
The Essex Arms 12.30pm

Luncheon Club

4th Wed in month

We are still up and running and would be pleased to see any members who would like to join us for lunch. Please phone Fay for further details.

MoneyMatters

1st Thurs Hollytree House.

10.00am - Noon.

Our meetings seem to be jogging along pretty well. 27 members at our last meeting, including some new faces as well as the old ones - who don't seem to get any older! We had an interesting insight into the workings of Herts/ Three Rivers county council's Health Care systems which until you look it up on the web, you don't know how very complex it is. I am hoping to arrange for the Health Care Finance department to send someone to tell us how us poor mortals could benefit in the likelihood that we may need their help. On a strictly personal note, I want to thank so many of you who turned up early to arrange the seating and all the ancillary bits and pieces, especially as I was rather late getting there through a hospital call. - Greatly appreciated.

7 May Next meeting.

Music Appreciation

3rd Wed: 10.00am Coffee and chat. **10.30am** meeting.

20 May the lives and music of Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky.

Needlecraft

1st & 4th Mon Combewood House. Our meeting on April 6th was an introduction to Stump Work. Group full.

Opera

2nd Monday in month

2.00pm at Christine's
NB: the change back to the **2nd** Monday as the Vue cinema appears to have ceased to present the opera films, at least for the moment, so I have decided to revert to the usual day in the month.

27 Apr Rigoletto

11 May TBA.

June – Rigoletto – Royal Opera House production

Tuesday 30 June – La Traviata – live from Covent Garden. I suggest you look at the Odeon website under 'Odeon Plus' to check these dates and times. I shall keep an eye on the Vue cinema website for any news.

Panto Group

If you are interested in airing your talent next Christmas, Dick Chapman, Panto Study Group Leader, would love to hear from you and answer any queries. 231754 or email dick.chapman@ntlworld.com

Pathfinders Group

The Essex Arms **9.25am**

26 May Bovingdon Green/ Ley Hill.

23 Jun Ponders End.

I regret this group is full.

Performing Arts

Johanna's Mon 7.30pm

At the last meeting in addition to discussing the two recently seen plays: 'Scaramouche Jones' & 'A Chorus of Disapproval', we also read four sketch scripts and have chosen two which we intend to perform at the Christmas Variety Show.

11 May Another play reading at Johanna's House. We had a good time at the last one so come along to this.

Two performances below you might like to attend. Members who wish to do so please contact Brian Redding by **24 April** and he will get the tickets.

10 Jun Hall Barn Open Air

Theatre near Beaconsfield Romeo and Juliet Cost £10. Picnic beforehand in grounds.

19 Jun 8.00pm The Maltings St Albans 'Playing Burton' Cost £12.

Regents Park Outdoor

Theatre. They are performing four plays this season. They are:-Much Ado about Nothing; The Tempest; The Importance of being Ernest & Hello Dolly. If you want to attend any of these please organise your own tickets. You can do this by phoning 08448264242 or via website www.openairtheatre.com .

19 Jul (Sunday) Summer

party details TBA.

We will be communicating by E-mail from now on but for those who don't have it by post or telephone. Please ensure that Brian has your email address.

Photo Manipulation

Falconer School, Bushey

2nd Tuesday of the month

4.00pm– 5.30pm The lectures are by Gerry Adams. **12 May** We will be learning how to use the first of the many tools available, which may help us to produce some Before and After photographs to display at the Study Group Fair in August. Please remember to bring your memory stick etc with you.

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.

Short rides in the Watford area based on the Watford Council map, starting at the Pump House at 2.00pm.

7 May, 4 June.

Science Interest

3rd Monday 10.00am; all meetings Hollytree House.

NB No meeting in May

18 - 20 May Visit to the Potteries.

15 Jun The Future of Low Carbon Heating – John Kellett, of Mitsubishi Heating

20 Jul Visit to The Paper Trail, Apsley

New members always welcome

Scrabble 1

2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Our group is still full.

Scrabble 2

2nd Thurs 10.00am.

Our group is now full. Maybe someone would wish to start Scrabble 3?

Shakespeare

Last Wed 2.00pm

27 May Having seen the DVD of: 'Henry the Fourth Part Two', we are going to continue reading the play with better understanding.

24 Jun It is a long play, so

we will still be reading it at this meeting, when we will also choose the next play to read.

17 Sep The trip to Stratford-upon-Avon is now organized to see: 'The Winter's Tale'.

Snooker

Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) **11.00am-1.00pm**. Joint Group with WPU3A.

Sporting Forum

A visit to the Ice Hockey at Slough provided a thoroughly entertaining evening for those members who attended. It gave an insight into the skill and speed involved in this sport. Speed of a different kind was the focus of our attention as we wined and dined whilst watching the greyhounds and attempted to identify (some more successfully than others) the fastest canine.

19 May Guest Clive Ross, Chaplain of Watford Football Club

8 Jun (Monday) Evening racing at Windsor.

Strollers

Meeting time 11.00am New members will be welcome.

Distances are not shown but are usually 2.5 to 3 miles.

12 May : NB - CHANGE OF ARRANGEMENTS:

Peggy and Dorelle Croxley Green canal walk. Park and lunch at The Two Bridges (corner of Baldwins Lane).

26 May Jane and Myra - Grimsdyke (rhododendrons - lots of them) Park overlooking Harrow, near the Case is Altered; eat at the Harvester.

9 Jun Pat and Joan -canal path walk at Harefield. Park and eat at the Coy Carp, Coppermill Lane.

23 Jun Joan and Cindy - Cassiobury Park. CP and eat at the Essex Arms.

14 Jul Gwen and Don-Boxmoor/Two Waters Park and eat at the Fisheries Inn.

28 Jul Planning meeting at Peggy's; bring your own lunch -she will provide

drinks. Thank you again, Peggy.

The Explorers

1 May 10.00am Essex Arms Whippendell Woods Bluebell Walk. Leader Diane Falkener
5 Jun 10.00am The Cock PH CP, Church Lane Sarratt.

Leader Raymond.

3 Jul 10.00am CP opp. the Windmill PH Chipperfield. Leader Elizabeth.

7 Aug 10.00am The Nap CP Kings Langley/Apsley Leader Jean Grainger Eat Rose & Crown, Kings Langley

4 Sep 9.30am Charlock Way to car share. Black Lake, Fulmer, leader; Myra. Eat ???

Strong walking shoes or boots, lightweight waterproof, and something to drink along the way. If you are joining us and you let the organizer or leader know by phone, then if you are late someone will wait for you. My mobile phone number is

The Travel Group

YORKSHIRE TRIP:

The Rock 'n' Roll Yrs
4th Thursday each month
2.30pm Hollytree House.

Contact: Andrew Cannon

Thirsty Walkers

Every 4th Thursday.

Don't forget we meet at The Essex Arms at **9.30am** to share cars.

28 May NB change of walk details Walk through Croxley led by Tricia Ashby and Gill Cooksey from The Coach and Horses, Croxley Green.

25 Jun Walk led by Jill Jenkins through Denham and Harefield.

23 Jul Walk led by Peter and Jean Groves: Rickmansworth Aquadrome. Lunch at the Rose and Crown.

Tuesday Trekkers

Meet 9.45am start at **10.00am**. Walks of about 5mls ending at a very worthwhile pub.

12 May Meet Aldenham Church. Val leads us for the first time and promises beauty, bright sunshine, bluebells and beer. Perhaps she will do the June walk too!

U3A Singers

1st & 3rd Monday 2.30pm

Walking

Most walks start at JS A41

Eight miles 9.30am

13 May 9.00am London meet Met Station with Bus Passes.

10 Jun Hertford.

8 July Haddams.

12 Aug Windsor.

Six miles All 10.00am start

27 May Chalfont St Peter.

24 Jun Great Gaddesden.

22 July Harpenden.

26 Aug Redbourn.

Wine Appreciation

Last Friday in the month.

Writers Workshop

Come and develop your writing skills.

New members welcome.

**Help promote security
West Herts Against
Crime.
contact Russell Cleaver**

**Any News from your
Study Group?
COULD YOU HELP?**

by sending us some News or writing an article about your group or one that you attend? send your copy to:
editor @watfordu3a.org.uk
or type it out and post it. Ed.

Glasses for Charity

84 pairs of glasses, a little more than 18% of our U3A membership, were collected and delivered to the collection agency who provides them to Third World countries.

Thank you all for your support. If you have more glasses that are available I will collect again at the October meeting and put a reminder in the September issue of the News Letter. Again thank you for your support.

Jacqueline Godfrey

Committee members

**Chairman John Carleton
Secretary Yvonne Fitton
Study Group Coordinator
Dennis Fitton**

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Watford U3A's Projector & Laptop

To check availability and make a booking for the digital projector & laptop computer:

Colin Richards

Email

digitalequipment@watfordu3a.org.uk

TALKS PROGRAMME 2009

5 May A.G.M.

2 Jun David O'Neale NHS Foundation Trust.

7 Jul Mike Pocock Three Valleys' Water.

4 Aug Study Group Fair.
**For More detail contact
Speaker Secretary:-**

David Helliwell

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