

Are You A Grumpy Old Thing?

Margaret Thompson Editor.

OR just short sighted! I have been observing us oldies and thinking how sad and grumpy we often look, peering at the menu, or quite unable to open the pickle jar; squinting at the goods on a shelf far too high for us to reach and no shop assistant in sight or just trying to negotiate the broken pavements. Then there are the young!! Pushing their pushchairs at us while 'face' is averted 90° to natter to a friend or stare in a shop window and of course the resulting collision is our fault, 'silly old fools' for not leaping our of the way in time. If only they could appreciate that our leaping days are over. Consolation – there turn will come!! Meanwhile we must try to smile more. It will cheer us and those we meet. Don't grumble about the rain, needed to grow the crops, whether



Tulips photo Jean Groves



Committee Notes
John Carleton Chairman

farm, allotment or garden. My very own bluebell wood [L]; is this really where all that snow laid? Magic!

After thanking Dennis last month, thanks are due this month to Tom O'Callaghan who retires from the committee after four years in the not inconsiderable role of Membership Secretary and also to Janet Carleton who has given invaluable support to the committee as Minutes Secretary. Tricia Ashby, Frances Ayrton and Dick Chapman join the team and I hope they know how much they are appreciated for coming forward and enabling WU3A to continue to go from strength to strength.

THE May meeting was the first of the 2009/10 U3A year with new committee members. It was agreed that the Minutes of the 2009 AGM would be published in the Newsletter this Summer but not on our website.

New members to a monthly meeting will be greeted by Frances Ayrton and Dick Chapman to answer questions and introduce them to others.

The Treasurer gave an update of the financial situation (looking very healthy with the injection of membership fees!) and progress on the application for external funding.

Our Study Group Co-ordinator reported that the new courses in French and Mandarin, taking place at Watford Boys Grammar School, had got off to a good start. Likewise, many applicants wish to join in the First Aid courses and the extra lectures given by David Burnell.

Following the successful trial last year, It was agreed that the Committee would only need to meet six times in the year ahead, as email provides an excellent means of contact between meetings.

SGLs WHO?

From Francis Goode
SOME members have asked for help in recognizing Study Group Leaders; they want to be able to put a face to a name. Identifying the large number of SGLs in our U3A is quite some task for those of us past our prime. To help us, our Editor and Gerry Adams are kindly putting their heads together to produce the many faces of our SGLs and they will appear, just a few each month, in the Newsletter.

A second prop will be a display-board at our monthly meetings. Some labelled faces will be shown and the number will gradually build up over time. In the true spirit of U3A, the display and Newsletter publication is a purely voluntary affair; there will be some SGLs who prefer to be excluded.

Will any SGL, who is happy to join the growing band of named faces, please either send a suitable photo to the Editor, or, preferably, seek out Gerry Adams at the end of a monthly meeting. Gerry will be in the vicinity of the stage, with camera at the ready, flash powder dry and lens-cap off.

Study Group Topics By Margaret Foster

Study Group Coordinator
Studygroups@watfordu3a.org.uk

LAST month started with two Study Group Coordinators but now that Dennis has finally hung up his SGC's hat we are back to one. I will miss him very much but after all the hard work and time Dennis has given to Watford U3A and the U3A in general I am sure we all wish him a very happy retirement. I would like to thank all the members who so kindly wished me well as the new SGC and for the offers of help I have received.

The list for the first, "First Aid Course" is now full, but I will keep a list on the board for anyone who would like to join a second group.

Thank you to the members who signed up for a new computer course. Sadly we need more candidates to make it worth the school running the course, so if you missed the opportunity last month the list is on the board again this month. We are very privileged to be able to attend these courses, so please take the opportunity if there is something you would like to learn let us know, after all it is not often we get anything that is useful for free.

This will be the last reminder to SGLs who need to adjust their entry in the Study Group Diary please let me know A.S.A.P. because it is ready to print and it would be helpful if we do not have to make alterations after it is printed. If there are any members established or new who are interested in History and would be willing to take over as SGL for that group, please speak to Jackie Connal or myself.

Arrangements are going well for the Study Group Fair, please see separate article. I must record what a pleasure it was to attend the Garden Party in aid of the Peace Hospice and to meet so many Watford U3A members there. Everyone working away, giving generously of their time, energy & money for such a worthwhile cause and enjoying themselves. Sadly the weather was not kind but whenever has the weather beaten us?

David Burnell has offered to run a "Third London Architecture Course" if you are interested please sign the list on the board. Have a good month.



U3A Bluebell Walk from John Reeves We had a nice turnout of 14 friends on the 23rd of April, the Thirsty Walkers' day. This is Whippendell Woods near Grove Mill Lane car park, looking towards The Grove. The conditions were absolutely perfect, dry underfoot, with bright sunshine.

Exploring London By Pat Harding

THE May trip was a visit to the Canal Museum on the Regents canal near to St. Pancras Station. For once the traffic was kind to us and we arrived early.

The Chairman of the Canal Museum Trust gave us an introductory talk about the history of the building and life on the canals.

The museum building had been built in the 1850's and was an ice warehouse for Carlo Gatti, the ice cream maker. Ice was brought in blocks from Norway and stacked in ice wells under the building. One had been opened up which we could look down on. Later it was converted into stables for the barge horses who were led up a ramp to the upper floor to their stalls. The lower floor was used for offices and storage. A canal barge was on show complete with furnishings. It was amazing how whole families were able to live aboard.

There were lots of artefacts to do with canals and ice-cream in the museum together with a film showing life on the water. There was also a photo exhibition of canal in Great Britain including several local views.

We scattered for lunch and several of us walked to St. Pancras Station and the British Library.

The coach then transferred us to Camden Lock where we boarded our barge, the Jenny Wren and "sailed" to Little Venice via the London Zoo and past some fantastic houses including the most expensive in London.

Once again we were so lucky with the weather and the trip was enjoyed by all.



Photo Jill Jenkins

Peckham Rye by Joan Manhire

OUR journey took us by train and bus to Peckham Rye. We started our walk over a large common into Peckham Rye Park. In Marmura Road the houses were decorated with interesting barge boarded facades, and interesting brick designs, which took us into Brenchley Gardens a long public open space flanking the busy road, to arrive at One Tree Hill, that was in fact, a forest of trees!

After negotiating several roads we arrived at the Horniman Museum with its eclectic mix of artefacts. The roof of its new building is covered with plants to be eco-friendly. A beautiful greenhouse of the late 19th century is now used as a restaurant. The grounds contain sculptures, a small menagerie of birds and animals and exotic plants, including a magnificent sunken garden, where we enjoyed our picnic lunch.

We set off for our final destination, through the Nature Reserves of Sydenham, to Crystal Palace. "The Crystal Palace" was first constructed in Hyde Park, for the Great Exhibition of 1851 built entirely of glass and cast iron. It was dismantled and reconstructed at Pengeton Place then a rural estate set amongst 200 acres of landscape grounds. Unfortunately the building was destroyed in a big fire in 1936. Today the site contains many interesting features. Sweeping vistas of mature trees as seen from the terraces on the site of the old building. A Concert bowl, several lakes, a children's farm and most amazing collection of 15 prehistoric monsters, (it was originally designed for 33 but they ran out of money)! displayed in an imaginary swamp setting. In the centre of the grounds is the National Sports Centre. This whole area is in the shadow of the massive BBC Television Mast that transmits to millions in the South.

Returning by bus, everyone enjoyed the views of London as we travelled over the river Thames to Westminster, then by train to Watford.

It's a funny old world!

By Joan Manhire

HAVE you ever seen a green parrot being taken for an outing in the park? The parrot sat in his cage in a trailer pulled by a young man riding a bicycle, thoroughly enjoying both the outing and the attention he caused. Whatever opinions you have about birds in cages, he provided a very unusual and amusing memory of our walk through the Lea Valley on a beautiful sunny spring day.

August Monthly Meeting 'Study Group Fair'

FOLLOWING the Study Group Leaders' vote to have a SGFair this year a sub-committee met several times to establish a plan. Your meeting this year will be a little different from recent years. There will be chairs set up as for a normal monthly meeting but arranged differently to allow display tables to be set up around the room.

The meeting will follow its usual pattern with Committee and SGL notices first and it is hoped that some SGLs who do not normally speak may take the opportunity to introduce themselves. This will be followed by a longer time than normal for the usual activities as well as the opportunity to look at displays or info and ask questions about the numerous groups.

IMPORTANT. To all SGLs who offered to provide us with info about their group please bring it to the monthly meeting on Tuesday 7th July to enable us to mount and combine where appropriate onto display cards. If you have requested a table this will be available to set up on the day from approx 8.30am onwards. Large tables are 60 by 30 inches and small are 24 inches square

If you have ask for your previous display panel John G. will bring it to the June meeting

We hope as many SGLs as possible will be able to attend, as this is an ideal occasion for members to meet and speak with them.

Any questions should go to Margaret Foster (SGCo-ordinator) or Yvonne Fitton (Secretary)

42 U3A Carbon Foot Prints from Watford to Whitby and Back. By Terry Godfrey

DAY 1, Monday 20th April; dawn at the Essex Arms & in the mist, two ladies, not to mention any names, Etta & Sheila, were first in line waiting for the coach. When it arrived like on all U3A trips there was a mad rush for seats. The coach owner/driver, Ron, was introduced by our tour leader Jackie Connal. We had an update on HSE, not least the danger of the steps to the emergency exit door, which prompted a regular comment, whenever we got off of the coach, "These steps are very dangerous!" The sun appeared as we set off and en-route Jackie announced that she had graduated to reading the Guardian, which made all of us hide our copies of the Daily Mirror. Except for two from the crossword group, who were deeply involved solving the cryptic crosswords of three broad sheet newspapers, including the Guardian! Our first visit was Caulke Abbey dated 1704, a National Trust property that is still in a state of refurbishment. With an interesting enough interior it was a good place to enjoy the fresh air and a walk in the grounds. Finally we reached our destination, the Hotel Rendezvous Skipton. The hotel was fine, clean and spacious and the food offered was varied and the service first class.



Day 2 The Parsonage, in Haworth, the home of the Bronte family was very interesting in that such a literate family, mainly self taught, did most of the household chores and yet, the girls, whilst cooking, would be teaching themselves to read foreign languages. The village was quaint, but in the days of the Bronte's its death rate, due to poor sanitation, was proportionally higher than that of London. Saltaire, a town named after Titus Salt was our next stop. In the early 1900s he built a village and a large mill, now an exhibition centre where we saw the work of David Hockney.

We saw as much as we could before leaving for our next visit to

Harewood House. The 1759 house, is a wonderful looking building, reminiscent of those that we left behind on the Cassiobury Estate, with ceilings by Adams, furniture by Chippendale and paintings, in all of the rooms, by many of the Masters. The magnificent estate was landscaped by Capability Brown. The flower beds in bloom with spring flowers had a team of gardeners, on their knees, weeding; (not for me, my weeding days are over!)

Day 3 (St Georges Day) A Surprise Day; our final destination being the seafaring town of Whitby, home of the navigator and sea captain, James Cooke and the only Steam Bus in the world. They also boast the Magpie reputedly the best fish and chip shop in the country. With some local history and a brief history of sheep from a local guide our journey through the beautiful country side was greatly enhanced. Surprise No1, was a steam train ride from the village of Pickering to the village of Goathland, which was the scene of a TV series 'Heartbeat', the ride was nice and relaxing and the village, although pretty, was a little too, "Heartbeat", commercial, for me. After Goathland the coach took us to Whitby, which was alive with people. I have never seen so many large, tattooed, dog handling smokers in my life. The flag of St George was proudly flying from a number of flag staffs. This is, indeed, England, it must be the tattoos and the fish & chips! The town has kept its ancient look and it was easy to imagine the life of years gone by. There was an exhibition of photographs by Sutcliffe, circa 1900, that showed the life and times of Whitby. It was very interesting and for me, well worth another visit, another time. Surprise No.2, was a ride in the Steam Bus. The family running the bus were even more surprising, for it was the father, who rebuilt the bus from scrap who is the driver, the mother issued the tickets and gave the commentary and their son was the stoker; he was covered in soot. I asked if he "blackened up" for the visitors, but he assured me it was genuine soot from his stoking the fire. The last surprise of the day, was a trip on a retired life boat. The sea, outside the harbour was calm, but the wind was cold.

DAY 4 The glorious Harrogate Flower Show, did not detract from the beauty of the Yorkshire Dales enroute, the weather helped and the flags of St George gave that extra colour. There was plenty to see, with glorious flower displays, all sorts of gardening bric-



Whitby Abbey above the harbour



abrac on offer, but no room in the coach to bring anything home, what a relief! At the end of the day we piled back onto the coach tired and happy and looking forward to the comfort and food back at the hotel. At dinner some of us, wanting to become more English, tried the hotel's fish and chips. However, the portions were so large and too much for most. Perhaps trying to become more English would be better achieved with a visit to the tattoo parlour.

Day 5 – Final Day We took in the Skipton Market, almost identical to the market at St Albans and we visited the 900 year old Skipton Castle. The castle weathered many battles over many years, not least its three year siege in 1645 when it held Cromwell's army at bay until it finally surrendered. Cromwell allowed it to remain standing, making it one of the best preserved and most complete medieval castles in England. Then, with Ron at the wheel, a relaxed journey back to Watford after a wonderful, well organised trip, excellently managed by Jackie Connal (pity about her newspaper) and we could not have asked for a better informed coach operator.

'A meal without wine is like a day without sunshine'

by John Britten

If, as the French epicure Jean Brillat-Savarin famously remarked, "a meal without wine is like a day without sunshine", then our wine-tasters' lunch in April was a V E R Y sunny day!! Tony matched the excellence of Gill's catering with a superb selection of ten wines, starting with a dry Manzanilla as a perfect accompaniment to the smoked salmon - although many of the group thought that the Wither Hills Sauvignon Blanc, bursting with the flavours of grapefruit and ripe gooseberry, was an even better companion. A hefty Grenache de Chateau Maris was one of two reds which admirably partnered the casserole, whilst the distinguished cheese selection tasted even better with the rich Duke of Clarence Madeira. And although it may not have been Aristotle who first said that "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts" nonetheless the phrase was well exemplified by our final tasting - a remarkable Late Harvest Muscat from one of Chile's most northerly vineyards paired with Gill's very summery and southerly fresh Lemon Mousse. On their own, each was a delight - together they were heavenly. Thank you Gill and Tony for yet another excellent event, and for teaching us about wine in the most enjoyable way. P.S. If you ask nicely, Gill may still have room for one or two new members.

Dear Editor,

Letters to the Editor

From Donald Reid

I was surprised that we rejected the motion to reduce carbon emissions at the AGM when the following have already agreed to reduce their emissions:

- The UK Government
- The US Government
- Most leading Western governments
- All of the main UK political parties
- Leading UK companies including Marks & Spencer, John Lewis, Tesco, Lloyds TSB, etc

So that leaves us as the only organisation known to me which has refused even to consider cutting its emissions. An advert for hybrid cars currently on TV says "everyone wants to do their bit" - but not if they are in the Watford U3A, it seems.

An Exhibition of Local History

An invitation to visit one of

Hertfordshire's oldest timber framed buildings
CROXLEY GREAT BARN c.1398 (Grade2*)

A 5-bay, aisled 'threshing' barn over
100ft x 40ft, with crownpost roof ~
Great Barn Tour Dates 2009
(last Saturday in month)

27th JUNE 25th JULY 29th AUGUST
26th SEPTEMBER 31st OCTOBER

Tours commence at 11.00am and last an hour.
Join us at Caravan Lane, Rickmansworth High
Street (east end) at 10.30am, then 10-15min walk.
Parking in public CP only. Bear in mind that the
barn has a rough uneven floor and the footpath
may be muddy so do choose appropriate shoes.

Groups Welcome

Enquiries to: 01923772325 or e-mail:

info@trmt.org.uk

Web: www.trmt.org.uk

STUDY GROUP NEWS

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

Art Appreciation

2nd Mon 10.00 for 10.30am at
Hollytree House.

For our May meeting Colin Richards had prepared a wonderful collection of Roman and Byzantine portraits including a mummy portrait and some of the most amazing Icons which he explained to us, including how to write an icon, an image designed to be read.

8 Jun Margaret Thompson
'Faces of the Renaissance'.

Antiques

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

As usual, our members enthusiastically brought some of their precious items, this time: glass. Regarding wine glasses, we discussed the different shape and therefore, date, of not only the wine bowl, but the stem and how they managed to get those intricate twists and twirls in the centre of the stems. Fascinating to learn the origin of glass making, by accident of course, by the Phoenicians, several thousand years B.C (there's nothing new under the sun!) Also discussed the difference between cut glass and moulded, and how to tell one from t'other. Members' pieces went from an attractive art deco bowl to some wine glasses of an interesting age, and on the way we learned of the earliest looking glasses: lakes or ponds, shiny smooth steel or metal, until a more useful method of producing glass was developed. Also how, in the olden times it was bad luck to look in a mirror when someone had died, not only so that the reflection could not steal your soul, but when the mirrors were covered after a death, it was to allow time for the spirit to depart and enter the next world.

13 Jun Video on life and works of William Morris.

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)
18 Jun Problem solving. There is a charge of 50p per person to cover costs.

Cryptic Crosswords

1st & 3rd Fri of the month.
5/19 Jun & 3 Jul next mtgs.

Current Affairs

3rd Tues 10.00am Hollytree House. We discussed; Parliament scandals; Bus passes\rail fares; Privatisation of Royal Mail; and Keeping up with technology at today's meeting.

16 Jun 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.

1 Jun Flaunden and Bovingdon.

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

European Studies

4th Wed 10.00am
In the last few months we have looked at the histories of Austria, the Ottoman Empire, Poland, Italy and Britain. We are now looking at aspects of the social life across Europe.
24 Jun Agrarian Revolution
22 Jul Industrial Revolution

Exploring London

3 Jun Hever Castle. W List.

1 Jul Salisbury and cathedral. W. List.

Film Group

2. 00pm 3rd Mon

Herga Court

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.

20 Jul 'Educating Rita'.

1983. Director: Lewis Gilbert. Michael Cain, Julie Walters. A comedy about a teacher and a very memorable student. 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.

23 Jun Julia fuller from the Co-op will talk on their ethical standards. Interesting concept for us to take on board.

Gardening

3rd Thurs 10.00am

We will hopefully have had a lovely trip to see the glorious rhododendrons at Exbury Gardens near Southampton by the time you read this!

Imagine the beautiful colour in such a huge area.

16 Jun (NB. Tuesday!) Visit to Sissinghurst. Waiting list.

16 Jul Bressingham in Norfolk for a visit to Blooms Nurseries and Gardens. Also revive some "Dads' Army" memories in Walmington-on-Seal! Tickets on sale this month to Garden Group members. Open sale next month. Price £16.

20 Aug Afternoon visit and Cream Tea at Stockwood Park, Luton for Group members. More details later.

Greetings Cards

Hollytree House

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)

8 Jun Will all members interested in the History Group come to the Fire Station, Garston, to discuss the future of the Group. John will continue his talk on 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 numbers are creeping up what with Watford U3Aers wanting to find out how to SAVE money but with Bushey U3Aers drifting in as well - the more the merrier! NICE TO SEE YOU, TO SEE YOU NICE. (apologies to Buce Forsyth). For the few who don't know, we meet the FIRST Thursday of each month. This sometimes comes before the General Monthly meeting so note the dates in your diary. (Not like I do - note it and forget to look it up!) see you sometime.

Music Appreciation

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

Needlecraft

1st & 4th Mon Combewood House. Group full.

Opera

2nd Monday in month

2.00pm at Christine's

8 Jun Having seen most of the first two acts of Eugene Onegin in May, we shall be studying the last act, followed by extracts from a video recording of a Gala concert given by Placido Domingo at Wembley in 1983.

Cinema opera programme

(please check the newspaper nearer the time or the websites for Vue and/or Odeon Plus)

Tues 26 May 2.00pm -

Carmen - Vue cinema,

Watford

Monday 1 June - Rigoletto -

Royal Opera House

production showing at the

Odeon, Hatfield - time tba.

Tuesday 30 June - La

Traviata - live from Covent

Garden at Vue cinema time

tba.

Panto Group

The Panto Group Production

team met last Monday to

discuss plans for the

Christmas 2009 Variety Show

(yes I know it is a long way

off but boy does time fly

when you are having fun) and

we have put together some

ideas so watch this space!

Pathfinders Group

The Essex Arms **9.25am**

All Walks start at the The

Essex Arms at 9.25

23 Jun Ponders End

8 Jul 9.15am WEDNESDAY

Special London Walk

Meet at Watford Met Station

28 Jul Berkhamsted

25 Aug Tring Park

22 Sep Shenley Park

27 Oct Ashridge

Performing Arts

Johanna's Mon 7.30pm

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. We are now learning about the various tools that can be found in Photoshop Elements.

Would all members of the group prepare a sheet of photos they have manipulated showing the 'before and after' aspect, so that they can be displayed at the SGFair in August.

9 Jun 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.

4 Jun next ride.

Science Interest

3rd Monday 10.00am; all meetings Hollytree House.

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

24 Jun We will continue reading and discussing: 'Henry the Fourth Part Two'.

29 Jul The next play we shall be studying is: 'The Winter's Tale', as, in September, a number of us are going to

Stratford-upon-Avon to see a performance of that play.
17 Sep Trip to Stratford.

Snooker

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

Sporting Forum

Ice Hockey, Greyhound racing, the Chaplain of Watford Football Club – if you want variety then the Sporting Forum has it on offer. Clive Ross was our guest at the May meeting and he gave a thought provoking and fascinating insight into the role of Chaplains in sport through the organisation SCOR. Incidentally SCOR originated in SW Herts when Revd. John Boyes from St James Road Baptist Church linked up with the then Watford FC manager, Graham Taylor. That was 30 years ago and it now has members involved in some 30 different sporting activities.

8 Jun (Monday) Evening racing at Windsor.

21 Jul Garden Party Lunch.

18 Aug Mystery car run.

Strollers

Meeting time 11.00am New members will be welcome.

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

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 Park 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

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 Rock 'n' Roll Yrs

4th Thursday each month

2.30pm Hollytree House.

25 Jun Bill Haley.

Contact: Andrew Cannon

Thirsty Walkers

Every 4th Thursday.

Meet at The **Essex Arms at 9.30am** to share cars. Due to circumstances, walks for June/ July are revised. Sorry about that! The corrected versions are shown below.

25 Jun Walk led by Peter and Jean Groves at

Rickmansworth Aquadrome. Lunch at the Rose and Crown.

23 Jul Walk led by Jill Jenkins through Denham and Harefield. Lunch at The Coy Carp (I hope I've got the right spelling!).

Tuesday Trekkers

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

Since John announced my crazy activity of running the London Marathon a number of people have asked for more details, the basics are: I had a large bowl of porridge for breakfast before the race.

My finish time was 5hrs 5min 57sec. This was the eighth time I had completed the Marathon, the first occasion was in 1982. Yes I would like to do it again sometime.

Perhaps when I'm eighty?

9 Jun Chipperfield CP by church. Marathon man Brian leads but only about 5 miles this time.

14 Jul Chipperfield CP by church. Not a duplication a genteel stroll: Carol and Allan.

11 Aug Shenley tea room near cricket club Val leads. Picnic if weather is kind.

U3A Singers

1st & 3rd Monday 2.30pm

Walking

Summer Picnic

Jun 7 12.00am Sun Meet

JS A41 Long Crendon.

Most walks start at JS A41

Eight miles 9.30am

10Jun Hertford.

8 July Haddams.

12 Aug Windsor.

Six miles All 10.00am start

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.

Any News from your Study Group

Are you still with us?

Anglo-German Walks

Better Photos? Chess?

Classics? Italiano

Intermedio? German

Conversation? WitKnits?

Travel Group? Jazz??

Editors Correction

Sincere apologies to Jean Pearce and the Needlecraft Group, for attributing the excellent article on Stump Embroidery, written by her, for the May edition of the Newsletter, to her daughter Alison. Ed.

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

Committee members

Chairman John Carleton

Secretary Yvonne Fitton

Study Group Coordinator

Margaret Foster

WU3A Almoners

Irene Lowe

Peggy Element

Janet Carleton

Kathleen McMahon

JB Computer Services

01923 230607

jb.computerservices@yahoo.co.uk

NB U3A Diary 2010

The Third Age Trust again offers diaries at **£1.90**. You can send away to **TAT** yourself and get delivery post-free; or, if you put your name on the list and pay **Francis Goode £1.90**, he will have your diary available for collection at a monthly meeting.

MICROSOFT OFFICE PROFESSIONAL WORD, EXCEL, ACCESS, OUTLOOK, POWERPOINT, PUBLISHER.

MRP Cost: **£400+** special offer to bona fide members of the U3A **≈ £97**

Contact: THE THIRD AGE TRUST 19 East St. Bromley Kent BRI IQH

tel 02084666139 email: national.office@u3a.org.uk

TALKS PROGRAMM

2 Jun David O'Neale NHS Foundation Trust.

7 Jul Mike Pocock Three Valleys Water.

4 Aug Study Group Fair.

1 Sep TBA

6 Oct Neal Holms-Smith Veteran trees.

For More detail contact Speaker Secretary:-

David Helliwell

speakers@watfordu3a.org.uk

Material for the

July Newsletter

MUST be received by: 20 June

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

E-mail copy to:

editor@watfordu3a.org.uk