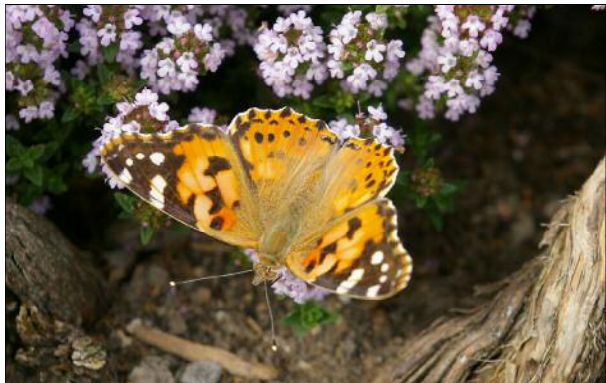


NEWSLETTER

Summer's Arrived!

Margaret Thompson Editor.



THIS lovely picture of a painted lady butterfly, taken by Jean Grainger in their allotment proves it so; as does the glorious rose, Silver Jubilee on my rose arch.

I am very busy at the moment with my 'veg plot' and I was so pleased with the healthy appearance of a dozen or so Purple Sprouting Broccoli plants,

grown from seed and all planted out. It was late (about 8pm) so I went indoors without netting them!! Yes, you've guessed it; next morning, twelve denuded stalks and the fattest pigeons on the planet. Anyone got a good recipe for pigeon pie?! I talked to the broccoli and said I was sorry for my negligence and they are perking up again and growing lots of leaves.

Like Jean I too am seeing a lot of butterflies this year. My garden is full of big trees, hence the pigeons, and lots of sweet smelling roses, so the Speckled Wood butterflies think they are in a forest. I also saw two different blues, a small one and a big one. Perhaps the very hot weather earlier this year, accounts for the greater numbers or maybe it's the myriad of 'weeds' which survive my fork.

Committee Notes

John Carleton Chairman

THE Committee did not meet this month, but business continued to be transacted using e-mail. The next face to face meeting will be in July.

We have been well served for many years by the kindness of Robin and Aline Burgess who have provided space in their own home to house the U3A photocopier and operate it for us. However, the photocopier is now getting old, expensive and temperamental. The Committee have been examining our needs and found that these would best be met by using a commercial photocopy service and no longer owning our own machine. With effect from 1st July we shall have a contract with Kall-Kwik of Watford, Market Street, for photocopying papers for our U3A Study Groups. Details of how the new system will work have already been passed to Study Group Leaders. The Committee have conveyed a warm word of thanks to Robin and Aline, on behalf of all of our members, for looking after our photocopying needs for so many years.



Peace Hospice June Raffle

Many thanks to all our lovely helpers, customers and donators for our recent raffle. With the donation from a "Coffee Morning", altogether we made a staggering £446. Many thanks for all your support. We will be pleased to receive, or can collect, any further prizes/donations.

John and June Baughen,

Study Group Topics

By Margaret Foster

Study Group Coordinator

Studygroups@watfordu3a.org.uk

GOOD NEWS; we have a new study group leader for the History Group. I am delighted to tell you that Pat Woollard has offered her services as SGL. Thank you Pat, I hope you enjoy your new role. As you will see, in the back of this Newsletter is your new, up to date, **Study Group Diary**. **NB late correction** to the **Film Group** entry:- From September: 1st Thursday of the month at 2.00pm.

This Diary takes a lot of time and work from a small number of people who want you to have information at your finger tips about your U3A, so **PLEASE KEEP IT SAFE** for your future reference.

I now have dates for the next London Underground Course, these will be available at the July Monthly Meeting. I also have the dates for the Third London Architecture Course, but as this does not begin until January 2010 I will bring them in September.

The first First Aid Course is arranged for 30th June and is now full. A sheet will be on the board for anyone who would like to join the 2nd course.

Plans for the Study Group Fair, which will take place at the August monthly meeting, following a short business meeting, are progressing well. I have very positive feelings about this because it will be the perfect time and place for Study Group Leaders to be seen and to be available to speak with members about their group/s. In view of this would SGLs please let me know if their group is full. also, would SGL please check that all the members of their group have renewed their membership, we still have a few memberships that have not been renewed, and as I said at the last meeting anyone who has not renewed their membership may not attend study groups because they are not insured. I stress this is for the safety of everyone.

At this point I would like to thank all the Study Group Leaders for all the work they do to make our U3A groups interesting and informative. Have a good month.

Dear Editor,

Letters to the Editor

From Dennis Fitton

Mr Reid needs to stick to facts. The motion rejected at the AGM of Watford and District U3A was to instruct the committee to prepare a report on reduction of our carbon emissions, not what he stated in his letter to the editor. This is not within the remit of the committee. Their function is to run the affairs of our U3A. No one is rejecting efforts to reduce our carbon emissions. It may surprise Mr Reid to hear that the members of the committee already put a lot of time and effort into the organisation and reinventing the wheel is hardly a productive activity.

I, like many other members, grew up during WW2. I have been 'making do and mending', recycling and repairing all my life not to mention travelling about 3 times as many miles per annum on my bicycle as in my car. Just because we do not trumpet our involvement in saving the environment does not mean that we are not fully committed to it. Mr Reid should think carefully about exactly what he and his motion said and the unjustified slur he has placed on his fellow members of WU3A. Anyone reading his letter on the web will get a false impression of our U3A and its members.

From:-**Yvonne & Michael Chapple**

We feel that Donald Reid is confused as to the motion he himself proposed. The rejection was not that we do not want to reduce carbon emissions. The opposite is the case; we are all doing as much as we can to decrease our carbon footprint.

We democratically voted "No" to his motion and he was very disappointed with this result but how dare he categorize Watford U3A as not being prepared to take action in cutting its emissions. We are a very responsible group of people. Who he seem to believe we do not care.

Carbon Emissions is something we all have to address in our own way, as responsible members of society and I feel here we must rest the case. Ed.

Committee Response to Member's letter.

THE SECRETARY, on behalf of the committee, would like to clarify the position regarding the letter from Donald Reid in the June Newsletter.

The motion proposed by Mr Reid at the AGM was that the Committee should 'prepare a report on ways in which this U3A could reduce carbon emissions'. The Chairman stated that the Committee declined to do this.

It should be made absolutely clear that the Committee is formed to run the affairs of this U3A to the best of its ability. It is NOT in the remit to prepare such a report.

Reducing carbon emissions is an admirable concept. The Committee have always encouraged car sharing.

Mr Reid, or any member, is at liberty to form a group to research the issues and report back to the whole membership if they so wish. Yvonne Fitton –Secretary.

Short Stories for You. from Janice Day

IT'S that time again; the writing group members are looking forward to speaking to some of you at the SGFair at the August meeting.

This year instead of putting together short story booklets we have put together some individual short story leaflets for you to pick up and take away to read. Hopefully some of you will find one or two to your liking; there is even a poetry leaflet this year. Do stop by our table for a browse or a chat.

Notes from the Antique Group by Sheila Wolff

AS my technician, aka husband, couldn't work the video we were supposed to see on the life and work of William Morris, we had to do a quick replacement which actually went very well. My wonderful members had brought some notes and details of his life and times and we found all sorts of interesting things we didn't know before: what a tremendously varied, talented person he was, not only with his art and furniture designs, but amongst other things he was a propagandist (what's that?) an architect, jeweller, lecturer, and not only a social democrat but a Marxist, museum adviser, etc., etc. When he died at the age of 62, his doctor remarked that he had died simply of being William Morris and doing more work than any ten men. It is rather ironic that a man so diverse and dedicated should be chiefly remembered by the modern reproductions of his wallpaper and fabric designs. All this has whetted our appetite for the sight of his work, so we SHALL watch the video when we can get the machine to work.

Anglo-German Walks by Dick Chapman

How to bring together Watford, High Wycombe, Marlow, Dacorum, Bushey, Sarratt and Chesham U3As!

FROM little acorns, great oaks can grow. The Anglo-German walking Group was formed two and a half years ago with a nucleus of Dick Chapman and from Bushey U3A, Mike Young. Once a month, we walk around ten miles in different parts of the Chilterns nattering away in awful German before stopping for a pub lunch. Now we have fifteen members from seven different U3As. Twelve members of our Group are British, wanting to improve their German for a variety of reasons, and three are native German speakers, willing to give up their excellent English in exchange for a great day's walk. We have had, occasionally, guest walkers from Germany, mainly due to our Twinning link with Mainz. The Chilterns, with its Red Kites and wonderful, wonderful, countryside make a suitable setting for our great 'Oak'- grown courtesy of that equally great organisation, our U3A!

Chiltern scene at Whiteleaf Cross above Princes Risborough taken on a recent walk. Caught on camera, apart from Janet Carleton and myself is a guest



from Mainz. The picture gives a good idea of the beautiful views one gets in the Chilterns. Our walk is always on the fourth Friday of the month, and we could take a few more members. However, we have John Boyton, Janet Carleton and myself from Watford, and I think it unlikely that you'll get more than 2 or 3 from any U3A able to both talk in German and walk ten miles. however, This is a good example of an activity that thrives because of the Chilterns U3As providing the opportunity to get us 15 together in a way unthinkable without U3A. If interested see Diary and contact Dick.

A Message from Our Almoners

We can only be of help if we know so tell us if you become aware of someone in need of support in your Group.

Irene Lowe 7 Peggy Element
anet Carleton Kathleen McMahon

Peace Hospice Garden Party Photos John Grainger

DESPITE the inclement weather The Peace Hospice Annual Garden Party was a great success not least due to the magnificent support of many members of Watford U3A.



To mention but a few; the refreshments, the province of Val Webster provided a welcome retreat from the rain, everybody enjoying their strawberry teas. The Gardening Group provided a wonderful array of choice plants so nobody has any excuse for not having a well planted plot. Margaret Bolton [R] mustered talent to entertain,



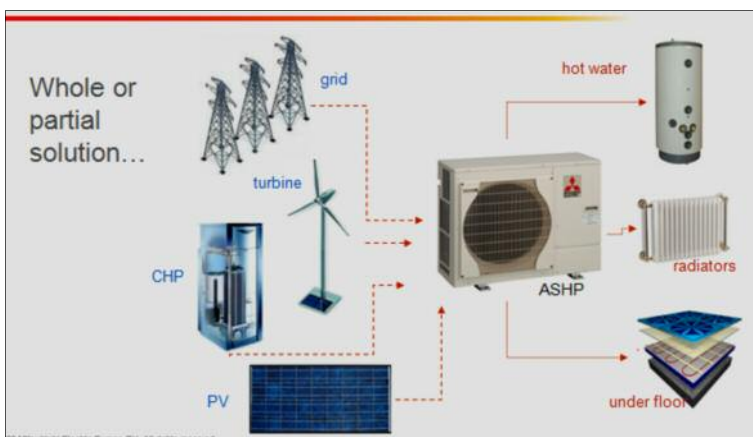
Brian Redding stage managed props i.e. tables etc in true theatrical style while Margaret Redding coordinated the volunteers into formidable teams. The sum of over £5000 was raised thanks to everybody's hard work and enthusiasm. An exhausting but very satisfying and enjoyable day.

Science Interest Group

Air Source Heat Pumps by John Britten

GLOBAL warming and the problems of carbon emissions have rightly formed the subject of many talks at the Science Interest Group in recent months, so we listened with particular interest to John Kellett's talk on "The future for Low Carbon Heating". John is General Manager of a company which makes Air Source Heat Pumps, a technology which has the potential (when allied with renewable energy sources) to provide genuinely carbon-free heating systems for domestic housing. John's talk set out very clearly why we need to find solutions - we all use 35 to 40 kWh per day on heating alone and whilst changing to low energy light bulbs certainly saves a little energy, it makes scarcely any impact on our overall energy consumption. However modern ASHPs, if installed in suitable well insulated buildings, can have a Co-efficient of Performance (an apparent efficiency) of over 300%, and so can make significant savings in both running costs and carbon emissions when compared with even the best gas boilers.

John's talk led into a lengthy Q&A sessions, which discussed the possibilities of the technology both here and in Europe. But unfortunately many of our members live in older houses with solid walls, and because of the high water temperatures needed in our heating systems ASHP installations would be less efficient and probably not cost-effective.



Current Affairs from John Crowder

STARTING our June meeting with a discussion on whether Prince Charles should have publicly expressed his opinion on the plans for a building to replace Chelsea Barracks, which led to abandonment of the original professional design, we continued through a range of topics moving smoothly from one subject to the next. Were we all aware of the extent of the surveillance that follows us all in our daily lives? We discovered that even in Watford, by thermal imaging techniques, the council could learn how well insulated are our houses. There is no doubt that police surveillance helps to catch criminals, but are we all happy that intimate details of our lives are being recorded. It seems that with the progress of modern technology, there is little we can do to stop it. Is the Government proposal to have Broadband in every home just all part of the plot?

We couldn't agree with the bishop who equated middle-age, middle class drinking to the behaviour of lager-louts on the streets, but we had sympathy with Madonna's efforts to adopt a Malawian child. We felt Gordon Brown has a good case for holding the Iraq war enquiry in private, noting how the public Londonderry enquiry has dragged on for years, costing many millions and unlikely to produce a report to satisfy anyone. Inevitably we came back to the question of MP's expenses but are concerned that public reaction should lead to the loss of many very capable and effective politicians. We were firmly against giving votes to 16-year olds but discussed the need to reshape the electoral system. Should voting be compulsory? Could proportional representation provide an answer - and what form should it take? - there are many possible complications.

Because of the way we hold our discussions, the Group can't cope with any more members at present, but the leaders maintain a short waiting list.

U3A Science Visit to the Potteries Are You a member of 'The Turnover Club?' by Pam Grant, Stuart Morris and Brian Mee



THE DEMONSTRATIONS at the Wedgwood Factory and the Gladstone Pottery Museum showed us how Crafts People used to make world famous brands of pottery, china

and porcelain. Today most of the wares are made in the Far East and the processes are all automated. We were able to question the experts about making china flowers, painting exquisite pieces, constructing cameos with china and metal parts silver-soldered and various other experts 'throwing' pots. They were mostly retired craftsmen and women who had previously worked on piece-work rates making thousands of items per day in the factories in Stoke-on-Trent.

We also enjoyed guided tours around the Gladstone Museum and the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery – which is an amalgamation of five museums from five of the Six Towns that constituted The Potteries. Glazes were developed over the millennia – Chinese, Persian and European potters each developed at different times. Glazes allowed a wide range of colours to be developed as a glaze changes the colours of metal oxides when they are fired. Pure metals such as silver, gold, platinum and copper were used in glazes hundreds of years ago, producing 'lustre' by interference fringes in the very thin layers of metals etc in the glaze.

At the Gladstone Museum in particular we learned so much about the social history of the towns where pottery working involved most of the families, including children - until their employment was banned. The work was hard, the pay low and the atmosphere thick with clay and flint dust as well as smoke when the kilns were fired. This caused serious health problems resulting in short lives and life expectancy was around 45.

Some made a short visit to the Industrial Museum site at Etruria so named by Wedgwood in memory of Etruscan processes, to see the old milling machinery, which had been used to break down cattle bones and flints into very fine powders for use in bone china etc., we also saw the canal which Josiah Wedgwood built in the mid-18th century to transport materials and finished products, there being no smooth roads or any railways at that time.

The iconic old coal fired bottle kilns met their demise when the Clean Air Act of 1956 outlawed them. The health of workers improved drastically though and their average life expectancy increased from about 45 years. Sadly



This is the steam engine which drives all the works at Gladstone, by belts and pulleys John Morgan

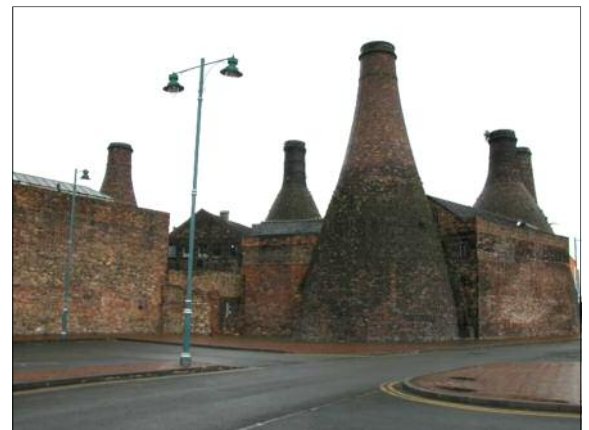
the Industrial Age of those well-known Pottery Giants such as Wedgwood and Spode is now passing into history, but North Staffs remains a world leader in developing new techniques and equipment for the production of ceramic ware. Hotel ware is still made locally but by automated

processes. If ever you have the chance to try North Staffordshire Oatcakes with bacon and cheese rolled inside they are delicious! More info from Stuart!!

Members of 'The Turnover Club' turn over any cup, plate, saucer, jug etc to see where it was made!



We took part in a workshop attempting to fashion our first china clay flowers! We enjoyed a most interesting afternoon as Sheila speedily showed us the intricacies of flower production.



Stuart Morris

Wine Appreciation The Blend leading the Bland by John Britten

TONY carried out an interesting experiment during our May tasting of South African wines. We had moved on to the reds, and had already enjoyed a most amazing Diemersfontein Pinotage with a remarkable coffee "nose" and a complexity which led us to wish that all Pinotages could be as good as this. We had also tried a somewhat duller Shiraz from the Cederburg district, and then a Western Cape blend of Pinotage/Shiraz which tried to bring out the best of both grapes. But then Tony suggested making our own blend, taking the remainder of the Pinotage and of the Shiraz and mixing them in the glass. The result was an excellent wine which was much fuller and richer than the commercial blend - although it would probably have cost about £1.50 more a bottle.

Our final South African wine was also a blend - an unusual combination of Shiraz, Mourvedre and Viognier, which we all agreed was a wine for sipping and thinking about rather than just quaffing. It had finesse and balance, and at only £5.99 seemed remarkably good value. Once again, we had learned a lot from our Friday afternoon experience.



Our tutor doing his stuff.



Sissinghurst Castle Kent

Gardening Group Two Fabulous Trips to Contrasting Gardens by Pam Grant

OUR May and June trips could not have been to destinations more different in style and scale but the days were equally glorious and enjoyable with warm sun, blue skies and pleasant breezes on each occasion. May saw us travelling to Exbury Gardens in the New Forest, a well-known 200 acre estate home to the world-famous Rothschild collection of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias and rare shrubs and trees. A wonderful chance for everyone to wander through lovely open or wooded areas and along paths near streams or ponds or down to the Beaulieu River. Some took a ride on the little train to



Beautiful Environment and Good Company.

give weary feet a rest! Maybe we were a few days late for the best show but beautiful colours were around every corner and the huge wisteria arch was simply magnificent. In June we went to Sissinghurst Castle where the gardens were designed by Vita Sackville-West and her husband in the 1930s. They developed the ten 'garden rooms' around many of the existing old walls and buildings with each distinct 'room' having a different feel. Possibly best known is the 'White Garden' where the idea of combining many shades of white, grey and green has influenced 20th Century gardening so much. The newly planted white delphiniums in particular were absolutely stunning. The Cottage Garden by contrast used only hot colours – reds, oranges and yellows - and other areas such as the main courtyards were similarly beautiful. By contrast a walk along by the moat provided a quiet moment and a gentle stroll along mown paths through a lovely wild flower area. And how many people climbed up the tower for a better view?



Exbury Gardens Hampshire.

Art Group Portraiture Through The Centuries By Colin Richards



OUR current theme in the Art Group is portraiture. So far we have seen Roman, Byzantine and Renaissance portraits. Why and for whom were they made?

In Roman times, the Emperor Julius Caesar, was the first world leader to have his head in profile, which has become the court pose, on a coin. In Egypt, a series of strikingly realistic 'mummy portraits'. [L] appeared in the 2nd C AD.

Portraits were expensive luxury items and so initially the people depicted were great political rulers; Emperors and Kings. With the increasing wealth and power of the Christian Church, Popes and Cardinals had their portraits painted, and by the Renaissance, rich bankers such as the Medici demanded portraits of themselves and their families. By the end of the Renaissance, even well-to-do tailors could afford to have their portraits painted.

The Romans, as usual, took their artistic models from the Greeks. No Greek paintings survive, but the documentary evidence,



The Money Lender and his wife
Quentin Massy 1514

Roman copies and the Egyptian mummy portraits suggest that they painted very realistically. The Byzantines, although best-known for their stylised icon paintings, could also paint with great realism, continuing the Greco-Roman tradition. The Italian Renaissance was heavily influenced by Roman statues and artefacts that were excavated at the time, but it is now clear that the Northern European 'Renaissance' was earlier and more advanced than its more celebrated southern counterpart. In particular, the Northern artists' use of oil paints predates the Italians as does their delicate and realist use of light, often from a window in the painting.



The Tailor 1565 Giovanni Moroni

MoneyMatters 'The Tale of the Friendly Lawyer' By Philip Wolff

TODAY we were addressed by a *friendly* lawyer! He gave us the 'lowdown' on the benefits of having written a will as certain laws have been changed and beneficiaries of an estate can be greatly out of pocket if there is no will or if the will is badly written.

An example he gave was that of a man who always referred to his wife as 'mother', particularly when talking to his children. When he died his own mother claimed that his assets were hers as she was his mother. This resulted in legal action which severely delayed the grant of probate together with costing the estate considerable legal costs.

He then explained the extent of safeguards included in the two types of 'power of attorney', how they differ from the old type, the approximate cost of setting them up and ways of covering oneself (to a certain degree) within a will. One way is to make a 'living will'-more about that another time.

A jolly time was had by all in spite of the possibly sober subject. The speaker was so well received that at my request he is prepared to make a return visit if I am besieged!!!

STUDY GROUP NEWS

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

Anglo-German Walks

4th Friday 10.00am

26 Jun next walk. We could take a few more members so if you are able to both talk in German and walk ten miles? We are a good example of an activity that thrives because of U3A- having U3As surrounding the Chilterns provides the opportunity to get 15 or so of us together in a way unthinkable without U3A. Interested

Art Appreciation

2nd Mon 10.00 for 10.30am at Hollytree House.

In June Margaret Thompson showed us the progression of portraiture from the middle Ages to the High Renaissance. 13 Jul We are eagerly anticipating Margaret Bolton's talk on Impressionist portraiture.

Antiques

2nd Tues of the month
2.30pm-4.30pm my home.
14 Jul Art Deco and Art Nouveau

Beginners Bridge

Alternate Weds 10.00am-12 noon. 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
Chess is still very strong with excellent players and some from other U3As which makes it interesting and competitive. Anyone wanting to start afresh is very welcome

Computers

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

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.



Dennis Fitton

Cycling

10.00am 1st Mon & 3rd Wednesday starting at Watford Met Station.

The Monday

ride is run jointly with Watford Park U3A.

6 Jul Denham Country Park.
15 Jul Elstree Airfield.
3 Aug Bill's mystery ride.
19 Aug Mystery ride ending chez Y&D for Summer picnic.

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.

22 Jul Industrial Revolution .

Exploring London

1 Jul Salisbury and cathedral. One ticket has become available. Please contact Pat.
5 Aug Petworth House One ticket left.

Film Group

2.00pm 3rd Mon Herga Court
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
Aug NO Film Holiday Break. For future films we changing date to the 1st Thursday of the month. Please let Barbara know if day is suitable.



Janet Carleton

Food & Nutrition

Combewood House. 2.00pm

Jul NO meeting

22 Sep I have arranged a visit to Tiptree in Essex to the Wilkin preserve factory. We will be given a talk by Tim Came, the director of a sister company and son-in-law of the Chairman, Peter Wilkin, and a tour of one of the orchards at Tiptree. There will also be an opportunity to visit the museum and have a cream tea. The talk and tour is a special dispensation as normally this is reserved for corporate business so do support us and add your name to the list on the board where you will find further details.

Gardening

3rd Thurs 10.00am

16 Jul Bressingham in Norfolk for a visit to Blooms Nurseries and Gardens. Also revive some "Dads' Army" memories in Walmington-on-Sea! Waiting list.

20 Aug Afternoon visit to Stockwood Park, Luton for Group members. Our gentle 'Garden Party' afternoon without too long a journey and a chance to potter and have a cream tea together. We'll aim to get there at about 2pm so suggest that you have an early bite of lunch at home first. Price £9.50 to include coach, cream tea and gratuities.

17 Sep Groombridge Place in Kent. Restored 17th Century formal gardens within the walls of a moated castle. Water and new features such as a maze, knot garden and an aerial walkway leading to an Enchanted Forest! More details later.

Greetings

Cards

Hollytree House
There has been a slight change in our planning since the last N/L. For a while we will try having two months on each topic area. People felt they sometimes missed out and/or got ideas from other people that they would like to expand. As we are unable to all meet for the whole day the time always runs out!!!



Yvonne Fitton

9 Jul Silk painting (and using the pieces) and leaves. Please bring cards for display, or sale, at Aug SGFair.

13 Aug Folding paper/card in various ways including butterflies and iris folding.

ALSO joint group bring- and - share lunch 12-2.00pm

10 Sep as August.

8 Oct Embossing and using CDs. (inc.Christmas)

12 Nov More Christmas (inc.weaving).

10 Dec Boxes and men's cards.

History

2nd Mon 2.00pm Fire Station Garston (Asda CP off A41)

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.



Stuart Miles

Jazz 3rd Wed 2.30pm

The Jazz Meeting today went well and we listened to a programme of Swing.

15 Jul will be done very appreciatively by one of our members, Ray Gynne entitled 'Classical Crossover'. The influence of Classics on Jazz and Jazz on Classics. We are anticipating an interesting meeting. All are welcome.

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.

Last month's talk was arranged at very short notice without any members knowing about it. In spite of that there were twenty three of us in attendance, so those of you who didn't turn up missed a most interesting and informative talk, see article, and you next month?

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
In June we enjoyed watching the last act of Eugene Onegin followed by a concert filmed in 1986 at Wembley arena given by Placido Domingo.

13 Jul We shall be studying Handel's 'Semele'

Panto Group

Plans ongoing!

Pathfinders Group

The Essex Arms 9.25am

All Walks start at the The Essex Arms at 9.25

Happy Birthday Pathfinders

It is 7 years this month since Pathfinders took their first

walk. It was the first middle-

distance walking group of W

U3A. I am pleased to say that

22 of our original members

are still regular walkers. Our

group has walked around 400

miles in these 7 years. I would

like to thank all my members

for the help and support they

have given to me over the

years. We are celebrating with

a special, extra, walk around

Primrose Hill and the London

Parks. I look forward with

optimism to the next 7 years

and 400 miles Jan Prest.

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

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



John Foster

Falconer
School, Bushey
2nd Tuesday
of the month
4.00pm-
5.30pm

14 Jul Once again Gerry Adams will be explaining the uses of one of the various tools in Photoshop Elements. Please remember to bring along your memory sticks etc. as well as any photos to be included in the Study Group Fair in August. These should be 'before and after' prints showing what can be done to turn a mediocre photo into something worth keeping.

11 Aug NB: due to the school being closed in August, arrangements have been made for a one-off session at the Garston Fire Station 2.00pm-4.00pm.

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

Council map, starting at the

Pump House at 2.00pm.

2 Jul, 6 Aug, 3 Sept.

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2 Jul, 6 Aug, 3 Sept.

2 Jul, 6 Aug, 3 Sept.

Shakespeare



Francis Goode

Last Wed

2.00pm

29 Jul Now

starting the

study of: 'The

Winter's Tale',

in preparation

for seeing the performance at

Stratford-upon-Avon in Sept.

26 Aug continue reading: 'The

Winter's Tale'.

17 Sep Trip to Stratford.

Snooker

Every Monday (except Bank

Holidays) 11.00am-1.00pm.

Joint Group with WPU3A.

Sporting Forum

Windsor Castle provided a

spectacular backdrop as some

of our members attended the

'Sport of Kings' meeting on

the banks of the River Thames

in early June. It's true what

the papers say 'your

investments may well go

down as well as up' (as some

of us discovered). We are

hoping for fine weather at our

garden Party Lunch.

21 Jul Garden Party Lunch.

18 Aug Mystery car run.

Sep 15 Ten-pin Bowling.

Strollers

Meeting time 11.00am New

members will be welcome.

Distances are not shown but

are usually 2.5 to 3 miles.

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

and she will provide drinks.

Thank you again, Peggy.

The

Explorers

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



John Grainger

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 07504 357 283.

The Rock 'n' Roll Yrs

4th Thursday each month

2.30pm Hollytree House.

23 Jul Hits of 1957.

AUG: NO MEETING.

Thirsty Walkers

Every 4th Thursday.

Meet at The Essex Arms at

9.30am to share cars. See you

there!

23 Jul Walk led by Jill

Jenkins through Denham and

Harefield. Lunch at The Coy

Carp.

27 Aug Walk by Paul Telford

at Merryhill, Bushey.

Tuesday Trekkers

Meet 9.45am start at

10.00am. Walks of about

5mls ending at a very

worthwhile pub.

14 Jul Chipperfield CP next

to church. Carol and Alan lead

through countryside they

know well as ex residents,

finishing at Windmill Pub.

11 Aug Shenley tea room near

cricket club Val leads. Picnic

if weather kind.

8 Sep A Dennis special,

something for everyone, bus

pass will be useful. St Albans

to Hatfield via the Alban Way

Board 724 (Harlow) bus as

follows: Croxley Met 0959

am, Croxley 2 Bridges 1002

am, Clarendon Rd. Stop 16

1007 am, Watford Junction

Stop 2 1012 am, St Albans

Rd, Regent St 1015 am, St

Albans Rd opp library

1018am, Garston Bus Garage,

TGI Fridays 1023am, Ask for

Abbey Stn, St Albans. This

route, the cafe and the pub

have all been tested by your

cycling SGL and have been

awarded 5*.Return from

Galleria at 1406 or at any time

later depending on how long

you spend shopping.

U3A Singers

1st & 3rd Monday 2.30pm

Walking

Summer Picnic

Most walks start at JS A41

Eight miles 9.30am

8 July Haddams.

12 Aug Windsor.

Six miles All 10.00am start

22 July Harpenden.

26 Aug Redbourn.

Wine Appreciation

Last Friday in the month.

Writers Workshop

Come and develop your writing skills.

New members welcome.

Thank you to you all, especially SGLs, who have sent in NEWS.

Any News from your Study Group?

Do You Still Exist?

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.

The Peace Hospice Gardens need YOU 2 to 3 hours to spare? contact Maggie on 335348

50 YEARS IN WATFORD!

Joan and Tony Platts came to Watford in March 1959 and, after 30 years spent as a GP in North Watford, Tony retired. He has since produced a 160-page A4 booklet entitled "My Family Story" which traces his side of the family from the mid 17th century to now, with emphasis on his memories of family and working life and life in retirement.

The first professional printing included errors that were corrected in a second printing which was distributed to family members at Tony's 80th birthday celebration on 23rd May. Copies of the first printing have been given to close family friends (with a sheet of corrections) and the remaining copies are now offered to anyone who might be interested. £2 will cover the cost of postage.

FREE GREEN TEA Following an agreement to purchase

3 months supply of Wu-Yi authentic green tea (look at internet) it transpired that after one month, under guarantee, as it did not help weight loss my money was reimbursed.

I am left with a sealed box of 60 teabags and 60 loose bags FREE for anyone who would like them. For both offers : Contact Tony

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.

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

Help promote security West Herts Against Crime. contact Russell Cleaver

An Exhibition of Local History
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 ~

(last Saturday in month)

25th JUL 29th AUG 26th SEPT 31st OCT

Tours approx 1hr commence at 11.00am

Meet at Caravan Lane, Rickmansworth High Street (east end) at 10.30am, then 10-15min walk. public CP only. Walking Shoes.

Groups Welcome Enquiries to: 772325 or e-mail: info@trmt.org.uk Web: www.trmt.org.uk

Watford Park U3A Painting Group 1

Pump House Theatre and Arts Centre

Lower High Street Watford WD17 2JP

Annual Summer Exhibition

Wed 24th to Sat 27th June 2.00-5.00pm

Private Viewing Tues 23rd June 7.00-9.00pm

This lively group meets every Tuesday from 10-00 – 2.00pm and provides visual art drop-in sessions and group criticism. It is an open creative space where we work, exchange ideas, skills and have practical demonstrations and an opportunity to study a selection of art books or perhaps just have a chat and a coffee.

Come along to our Exhibition and see what we do. **Contact Francis Smith** for further details and for the list of workshops available



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

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

TALKS PROGRAMM

7 Jul Mike Pocock Three Valleys Water.

4 Aug Study Group Fair.

1 Sep Sgt Dave Simkin on Neighbourhood Policing.

6 Oct Neal Holms-Smith Veteran trees.

3 Nov is Diane Randall Bees both honey & bumble and Manuka honey

For More detail contact Speaker Secretary:-

David Helliwell

speakers@watfordu3a.org.uk

Material for the

August Newsletter

MUST be received by: 20 July

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

E-mail copy to:

editor@watfordu3a.org.uk