

October 2024

Newsletter No. 110



*"I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as
autumnal sunshine by staying in the house." -*

Nathaniel Hawthorne

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter. As we go through our 30-year anniversary there are reports of events that have happened and some yet to come. Thanks to those who have written reports. Contributions are always welcome, especially if your group has had a particularly interesting session.

Chris Burnikell

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In August we celebrated 30 years of Enfield u3a. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their support and hard work to ensure that the arrangements for the talk at our monthly meeting went well and made this a special time for all of us to celebrate together. We have made other plans to celebrate our 30-year anniversary: please see inside this newsletter for more details.

On a personal note, as chairperson for Enfield u3a, one of my roles is to listen and suggest ideas that will benefit our members with the help of the committee. We have been reviewing the use of our current venue, since leaving St Paul's and based on our recent experiences we have been exploring moving to another venue. More information to be announced before the end of this year.



I hope you all had a wonderful and enjoyable summer break, and that you enjoyed time with friends and family and are looking forward to meeting with your u3a family.

Michael Witter

u3a COMMITTEE

This month sees the AGM. The current committee, and officers, are all willing to continue in their roles. However, this doesn't prevent others being involved in other ways: non-committee members help with refreshments and attendance registers among other jobs. Many hands....as they say! If you feel you can offer any kind of help, particularly at events, please speak to any member of the committee.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

13th November: Robert Brewer How I became a tv/film extra. A talk about his six years as a TV/Film extra, how it started and his involvement with over 40 productions. These include Batman, Bond, Wonder Woman, TV dramas, soaps, comedies and even a couple of adverts. Copies of his book "One Head Many Hats" will be on sale at the meeting.

11th December: TBC. Please check Website for details

8th January: Alan Fitzgerald - Subterranean London. This presentation examines underground structures, tunnels and transport facilities under London. They were put in for various reasons: hiding utilities, defence purposes, sewers, pedestrian tunnels under the Thames and of course the Underground system. London is a maze of tunnels that go ever deeper underground.

GROUPS REPORT

It has been very quiet as far as starting new u3a groups is concerned as many people have been on holiday or visiting family, some even taking care of their grandchildren during the summer holidays.

We seem to be leaving summer behind now as nights are drawing in and getting colder. I have turned my attention once again towards starting some new groups. I already have some ideas but if you would like to see a particular subject group, feel free to contact me or come and see me at my table during the u3a monthly meetings. I am always open to new ideas and maybe others would also be interested.

The groups I am currently trying to get started are:

- Story Writing
- Solo Whist
- Cryptic Crosswords
- Small Home Repairs (maintenance)

We are still looking for someone to lead the Italian 2 group, if you know someone who can speak Italian. Also, we are still looking for a pianist for our choir and a group leader for the Art Galleries/Museums 2.

We have spaces in many of our existing groups so please contact me if you would like to join one.

Susan Sloggett



Enfield u3a 30th anniversary celebration.

Over 90 members assembled at the Enfield Baptist Church to be greeted with 30th anniversary balloons and a magnificent cake. The photos were taken and 96 year old. Eileen Truran was invited to cut the cake. She was a committee member for many years.

A special PowerPoint was prepared with many of the significant events of 1994. Included were five songs from that year with their lyrics so that all could join in. The best singing was reserved for Meatloaf singing "I would do anything for love" Who would have thought we had so many rock and roll fans!! Michael gave a very humorous commentary throughout. We were privileged to hear from Yvonne Boldinger, Colin Field and Joy Lewis reflecting on their early days in our u3a. Photos and a written piece have been sent to the Third Age Magazine and hopefully that will be published in time.

Here's to the next 30 years

Chris Truran



Joy Lewis, Committee Member, Secretary and Chair who ran the Freedom Pass Trips for many



Eileen Truran: committee member and Programme Secretary for many years.

TRIPS

We had two large coach outings to the seaside this summer, to Margate on 15th July and Southend on 9th September. Both venues were very quiet and on both occasions the sun didn't want to show itself but at least there was no rain.

The last time we visited Margate it was a beautiful day, and the place was buzzing but not so this time. It seemed a bit drab and rundown, and Dreamland looked derelict. We spoke to shop/stallholders along the front who were struggling to survive, such a shame. Their sole survival seemed to be Dreamland opening some weekends for concerts that attracted large crowds. Of course, this was before the school holidays and I'm sure things picked up later.



Southend was after the children had returned to school so again very quiet with the Adventure Playground attractions not operating. However, the pier train was running, and I think nearly everyone took a trip down the pier as a "must do" on a Southend visit with some brave souls walking one way, and a few even both ways. The rest of us stuck to the famous pier trains although there isn't much at the end anymore. A cafe and the Lifeboat shop (+ plenty of seats) although I am



informed that during the holidays it was extremely busy and there was a galleon "parked" at the end for people to explore. All in all, though, people seemed to have a good time on both trips, with the sea air blowing away the cobwebs, promenade walks and plenty of cafes/bars open.

A PIRATE ADVENTURE! GOING ABOARD THE SPANISH GALEON ANDALUCIA AT SOUTHEND PIER



That is the last coach trip for this year but roll on next year when I have a few ideas. If anyone does have any ideas for places of interest to visit, please let me know. Over the years we've done quite a few and are on 3rd/4th trips to some seaside resorts but I would like a few more suggestions to add to my list.

Gaynor Green

SOCIAL GROUP

We enjoyed a talk in July by Pauline Martindale about her time as a Prison Officer. It was very interesting, and informative, and finished with a song.

In September Chris Truran gave us a fascinating talk about first forensics, going back far more years than I would have imagined. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

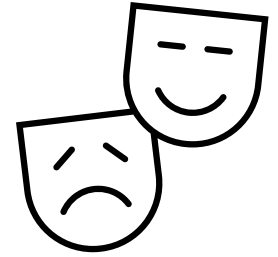
On 23rd October we will have a talk by Joe Studman - A Spoonful of Sugar, about medicine in Enfield over the years.

The 27th November meeting will be our Christmas party, which is always popular. Held at Christ Church Hall, Chaseside, Enfield EN2 6NB at 2pm.

Sue Sims



WEST END THEATRE



We came out of the theatre with rictus smiles on our faces from the continuous laughter prompted by this show.

Any fears that the actors here would be pale imitations of the originals were quickly allayed. They were all true to the originals and just as funny. We had a wonderful Basil, ever on the verge of bursting a blood vessel and, with his gangling body, incapable of performing the simplest task, in fear of the tyrannical Sybil and venting his frustrations on a constantly confused Manuel.

Three familiar sketches were merged into the show - Hotel Inspectors; Basil's failure of communication with a guest with hearing difficulties; the Germans. Familiarity with the material did nothing to deter our enjoyment. Spontaneous applause came from the audience, accompanied with great laughter, particularly at Basil's awkward goose-stepping in front of the Germans and at the climax of the last scene with Manuel's 'I know nothing!' Nostalgia probably played a large part in our appreciation.

Thanks, as always, to Gaynor for arranging such an enjoyable afternoon. As one member remarked, it was good to have something to laugh about when the general news is so gloomy.

Joy Lewis



WALKIE TALKIE GROUP

In July we visited Greenwich, led by Gill Hardcastle. We met at Island Gardens DLR station and began by walking under the Thames through the Greenwich Foot Tunnel which was an interesting experience. Then on to



the World Heritage Site which includes the Cutty Sark, the Maritime Museum and Royal Naval Hospital where we stopped for coffee.

Then we continued walking up through the Park for a spectacular view across London and back down to the Observatory where we were just in time to see the time ball fall. This only happens once a day at 12 noon GMT so Gill timed it perfectly. After several grey, drizzly days we had a lovely day for walking, sunny but with a gentle breeze. A few people stayed on to explore the market and other parts of Greenwich but most of us came back on the Uber boat to the Tower.

Lea Valley Park was the venue in August. We set off from the entrance to the White Water Centre. We were unable to walk through the Centre to the Park as all connecting gates were locked but joined the towpath a few yards further on. The path was quite busy with lots of bikes and runners but we stood our ground and even managed to pick a few blackberries along the way. We walked along the River Lea passing houseboats and locks and plenty of wildlife before crossing between Seventy Acres Lake and Hooks Marsh Lake which was very peaceful after the busy towpath. Coming back along Horsemill Stream we returned to our starting point. Some of us then walked on to Waltham Abbey where we found a welcoming pub for refreshments before catching the bus back to Waltham Cross.





Again, we were lucky with the weather for our September walk. It was a cool but bright day for our stroll round Kensington Gardens. Entering via the Kings Arms Gate we walked past the front of the Palace to Broad Walk. We then entered The Sunken Garden. Three tiers of planting lead down to a rectangular pond. This was a favourite place of Princess Diana and there is a statue of her at one end. We stopped for coffee at The Orangery Café. The service was slow but the cakes were served on plates with crowns on them and some people even got china cups! Refreshed, we moved on to the Round Pond, an open area with paths radiating in all directions and lots of water birds around. From there we progressed to the Italian Gardens still full of colour and with fountains playing. They also have some attractive (in more ways than one) ice cream vans. From here we made our way back along the side of the Long Water, passing Peter Pan and the Albert Memorial in golden splendour to the Flower Walk and back to Kensington High Street.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

30 Year Celebration Quiz

Tuesday 29th October 2pm

Parish Centre, Our Lady's Catholic Church,
London Road.

Tickets £3

Available at the October meeting



Come and socialize while remembering all of the things you DO know about the past 30 years!

**Thursday, 5th December (afternoon)
at the Conservative Club in Baker Street.**

The venue has been booked exclusively for us.

There will be a 3-course buffet meal and entertainment. All welcome!

The cost is £22 (+ £2 entry for non-members.)

If you haven't already done so, please add your name to the list on my table.

A £5 deposit is required either in cash/cheque at the meeting or by bank transfer to the Social Account. The balance to be paid at or before the November meeting by transfer or cheque.

If you are not at a meeting but would like to be included, please email writetogaynorgreen@hotmail.co.uk

30th

Anniversary


Christmas
PARTY

BEYOND ENFIELD u3a

u3a Festival in York 18th-20th July

The festival was attended by over 900 members, over three days. Members could attend for a day or for all three.

York University proved ideal, all venues were close together, located on a beautiful lake complete with fountain and wildfowl. For those of us staying, student accommodation was available on site.

The programme was packed full of interesting talks, ranging from astronomy to Christopher Marlow. A range of indoor activities were available to book: everything from painting and sewing to music workshops. On offer for the more active there were yoga and tai chi, plus outdoor sessions of croquet, pétanque and pickleball. In addition, there were music sessions featuring groups from different u3as, and a quiz.

Among the displays was a beautifully embroidered quilt. A competition was launched, open to all u3a members, to make a quilted square, depicting an aspect of the u3a. These squares were then judged by a panel of experts and the best 40 selected. The Blanket Hall in Witney, Oxfordshire, have agreed to hang the quilt in pride of place in the historic upstairs Great Room.



The organising team were mainly from Yorkshire & Humber u3a region, led by their trustee - Margaret Fiddes. It was a mammoth task and involved many months of planning. Already, they are planning for the future: 2026 seems likely so look out for advance news. I am sure members would enjoy the experience.

One of the guitar groups providing entertainment, from Lichfield u3a



Chris Burnikell

Regional Talks

The London Region Events Team are pleased to announce that the Monthly Online Talks programme will continue for another season from October 2024 to March 2025.

As usual, the talks will be delivered via Zoom on the first Monday of each month 17.30-18.30 (log in from 17.00).

Visit the main u3a site events page of our website for the Autumn Programme with further details and links to booking forms. Please register early as bookings will close 48 hour prior to each talk.

Monday 7th October: The New Scramble for Africa

Monday 4th November: Secrets of the Human Brain

Monday 2nd December: Women Travelling Alone

For assistance please email talks.lru3a@gmail.com

Library closures

Enfield Council is proposing to close eight libraries including Bowes Road, Oakwood, Southgate and Winchmore Hill libraries. It is important that we make our voices heard. Please read the consultation papers and complete the questionnaire online or pick up a paper copy in a library. This is the Phase 2 questionnaire which needs to be completed even if you did one earlier in the year.

<https://www.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/library-consultation>



GRANDAD'S PUB QUIZ

All of these are in ENFIELD.

Note most of the Pubs have a THE at the front. The clues ignore this.
Submitted by David Haws. (Answers at bottom)

- 1) Botham and Boycott
- 2) Happy with the Harvest
- 3) Royal Knob
- 4) Cockney Looks Happy
- 5) Very Wet Keith
- 6) Crazy Lope by Stupid Shop
- 7) Sits on (3) and Bottom of Trotter
- 8) A Lot of These for (2)
- 9) Not Over the 8 but Under
by 2: What a Clanger!
- 10) Makes You Think
- 11) Fantastic Beast
- 12) Forces Time Slot with Dogs
- 13) Bookshop Shortly Follows D
- 14) Stalk But Mind Your Head
- 15) O' What Happened to Old
George



- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1. | THE CRICKETERS |
| 2. | THE JOLLY FARMERS |
| 3. | THE KING'S HEAD |
| 4. | THE JOLLY BUTCHERS |
| 5. | THE MOON UNDER
THE WATER |
| 6. | THE HOP POLES |
| 7. | THE CROWN AND
HORSESHOE |
| 8. | THE WHEATSHEAF |
| 9. | THE SIX BELLS |
| 10. | THE WONDER |
| 11. | THE GRYPHON |
| 12. | THE STAG AND
HOUNDS |
| 13. | DOYLE'S |
| 14. | THE DOG AND DUCK |
| 15. | ONEILLS |

From the London Region Exclusively for u3a members

Treasures of the Wallace Collection

Hertford House, Manchester Square
W1U 3BN
12th November 2024 11.15-15.30

Registration from 10.30 a.m.
This event is designed as an introduction to the varied and intriguing Wallace

Collection. Learn about the Adoration of the Magi Rembrandt's - Titus the Artist's Son Rosa Bonheur - the 19th century animal painter and other talks showcasing the Treasures



u3a Christmas Concert

Brandenburg Camino Singers Monday 9th December 2024 14.00-16.00
at St Margaret Pattens Church, Rood Lane, Eastcheap London EC3M 1HS

Join u3a for a concert of traditional carols enhanced by the gentle glow of mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £27, seating is unreserved.

The concert will be introduced and conducted by Bob Porter, the acclaimed Brandenburg Choral Festival of London's Artistic Director.



ENFIELD u3a GROUPS OCTOBER 2024

Subject	Group Leader	Day/Time
Art	Eileen Flack	1st Monday 1.30 - 3.30
Art Appreciation 1	Chris Abbott	1st Wednesday 10.30 - 12.30
Art Appreciation 2	Gill Long	3rd Thursday 2pm
Art Galleries/Museums	Pat Bishop	4th Wednesday
Board Games/Cards	Gaynor Green	3rd Thursday 2pm
Book Club 1	Soo Hynes	3rd Monday 2.30
Book Club 2	Jenny Kirby	3rd Monday 2.00
Book Club 3	Chris Burnikell	1st Thursday 10.15
Canasta	Dee Patterson	4th Thursday & 3 rd Monday 2pm
Cardmaking/Handicrafts	Chris Burnikell	2nd Friday 10.30
Chess	Ramesh	1st & 3rd Wednesday pm
Cribbage	Joan Williams	1st Thursday 2pm
Discussion Group	Ann Pretty	3rd Friday 10.30 - 12.30
Freedom Pass Trips	Jacqui Hall	N/A
French Inter/Adv	Deirdre Barrie	1st & 3rd Tuesday 2pm
Gardening	Stephanie Milverton	3rd Tuesday 2pm
Genealogy	Jackie Butcher	4th Friday 2pm
German Intermediate	Peter Kenny	Monday 2.30pm
History 1	Hadi Samsami	1st & 3rd Monday 2pm - 4pm
History 2	Cheri Ford	1st & Thursdays 2pm - 4pm
Italian for Beginners	No current leader	Every 2 weeks Tuesday 11am
Knitting and Crochet	Anna Davey	Last Thursday 10 am
Mahjong	Maggie Hook	2nd & 4th Monday 2pm
Moving Image Club	Michael Witter	1st Wednesday 2pm
Outings	Gaynor Green	As and when
Photography	Sue Bell	Last Tuesday 10am
Play Reading	Marianne Lanjri	2nd Thursday 12pm - 2pm
Play reading	Erica Zimmerman	4 th Wednesday 2pm
Pub Quiz	Gill Fletcher	As and when
Scrabble 1	Ann Oakley	1st Friday 2pm
Scrabble 2	Mike Eppel	1st Wednesday 2.30
Social Group	Sue Sims	4th Wednesday 2pm - 4pm
Spanish Beginners	Ann Kent	2 nd & 4 th Fridays 10.30
Spanish Intermediate	Ann Kent	1 st & 3 rd Fridays 10.30
Sunday Lunch Group	Gill Fletcher	3rd Sunday
Theatre Visits	Gaynor Green	As and when
Walking Group	Gill Fletcher	2nd Thursday

QUICK CALENDAR OF GROUPS	
Mondays	pm: Book Club 1, Book Club 2, Art, German Int, History 1, Mahjong. Canasta
Tuesdays	am: Photography, Italian for Beginners
	pm: French Intermediate/Advanced, Gardening,
Wednesdays	am: Art Appreciation 1,
	pm: Social Group, Scrabble 2, Chess, Moving Images, Poetry
Thursdays	am: Walks, Book Club 3,
	pm: History 2, Art Appreciation 2, Board Games, Canasta, Play reading
Fridays	am: Discussion Group, Spanish, Cardmaking/handicrafts
	pm: Scrabble 1, Genealogy
Sundays	Sunday lunch group
As arranged and notified	Theatre Trips, Outings, Art Galleries/Museums, Pub Quiz

CONTACTS

Registered Charity No. 1070139 Website: www.enfieldu3a.org.uk

Trust Website: <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

London Region Website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/london-region/home>

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