

Newsletter February 2022

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- Sunday + Club
- Table Tennis
- Ten-pin Bowling
- Ukulele
- Walking

WEBSITE -

<https://u3asites.org.uk/broomfield>

EMAIL -

broomfieldanddistrictu3a@gmail.com

From the Chair**Committee**

I'm pleased to report that at last month's meeting, two members expressed interest in standing for committee. This is very encouraging, however, we do still need another 4 or five members in order to ensure the branch has a sustainable executive in place for 22-23, so please, if you want to 'do your bit' to help keep Broomfield and District u3a going as a viable concern, don't delay, talk to any member of the current committee and we'll do our best to address any questions or concerns you may have.

**Next Meeting**

We have had a last-minute change of speaker for our **February** meeting due to our scheduled speaker being indisposed. However, we have been very fortunate indeed to have secured the services of Professor Jules Pretty, Professor of Environment and Society, University of Essex. The title of his talk will be **'30 for '30, Cutting Our Carbon.** The professor is also President

of the Essex Wildlife Trust and a noted expert in his field, so will be well placed to talk to us on how to cut our carbon footprint in half by 2030, a very topical subject!

This meeting will be held by Zoom as due to the short notice and other commitments Professor Pretty is unable to attend in person.

Invitations to this meeting will also be circulated to neighbouring u3a branches.

Further Meetings

Our **March** meeting will be held at the Parish Hall, where we understand, that a ventilation system is currently being installed. The revised arrangements we have made over the last two meetings seem to have worked well. Seating at well separated tables with lots of circulation space, rather than in close rows, besides reducing risk, has contributed to a more convivial atmosphere. We've also ended queuing by having signing-in at tables, and by improving the efficiency of catering arrangements. Credit is due also to members for your compliance with mask wearing requirements.

Raffle proceeds have been a great help towards covering (increased) hall hire charges.

Glynn Wadeson

Notes and Notices, February 2022

A Painting Week

This month's "off the wall" notice is about a "Painting week" in Crete! It seems to be well organised but I have no independent verification of the bona fides of the organisers. Please contact either myself or Barbara Bartlett, if you want to pursue this further.

Talks etc

I've now had updates from Gresham College and they have a wide range of lectures scheduled, ranging from Professor Chris Whitty on infections to "Error Correcting Codes" and "Sex Work"! See <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events>, for more details. I've also had a brief e-mail from the Inland Waterways Association but for details go to their website <https://waterways.org.uk/support/ways-to-get-involved/events>. (Note that some of the "events" listed there are "work parties"!)

Details of the 2022 talks organised by the Essex Branch of the Historical Association can be found on their web site: <https://www.history.org.uk/branches/resource/1203/essex-branch-programme>
The talk, originally scheduled to take place in mid-February about the world's first public radio broadcasts, made from Writtle in 1922, has been postponed and is now likely to be given in April or May.

Fraud

"Which?" Reports

Which?" has noticed that NatWest customers have lately been targeted by fake text messages, aiming to send recipients to a website that has nothing to do with the bank. The texts say that 'a new device has been registered' and provide a link to follow. At first glance the text is quite convincing – NatWest is named as the sender and the message doesn't contain any glaring mistakes:

Which? showed a copy of the text to NatWest, which confirmed that it was not sent by the bank. NatWest shared its top five tips for when you receive a text message asking you to follow a link:

- Never give your Online Banking PIN, password, card reader codes or mobile app codes to anyone via text.
- Do not phone the number included in the message, criminals on the other end might persuade you to give away personal information. You will always find the correct number on the official bank website.
- Real NatWest text messages may contain links to their websites, but, like their emails, never link to pages that ask for any online banking or full card details.
- If you have already clicked on a suspicious link, NatWest advises you to run a scan with your antivirus software to check your device for any malicious software.
- Make sure you have the latest anti-virus software on your device as it helps keep your device secure.

"Which?" has reported on the biggest scams of 2021, some of which may be familiar; see:

<https://www.which.co.uk/news/2022/01/the-five-biggest-scams-of-2021/>

"Which?" has also reported on a scam that involves a case of 'mistaken' delivery; see:

<https://conversation.which.co.uk/scams/delivery-mistake-identity-fraud-refund/>

The “Mum and Dad” Scam

A new scam was reported in the Daily Mail (19th January), where someone posing as your son or daughter first sends you a message saying that their normal mobile telephone has broken and then asks you for money. Beware!

Scam e-mails

Finally, I've recently received two e-mails which were both classic example of scams. One purported to be from UPS, asking for information to allow them to complete a delivery, the other claimed to be from E.ON, asking for my bank details so that they could reimburse me for an overpayment. Both e-mails came, however, from a Japanese (.jp) address, so I ignored them. (And I don't use E.ON.) As ever, be careful!

Other u3a Newsletters

There are two Newsletters in which you might be interested.

U3A Headquarters produces a monthly National Newsletter, which contains a whole range of information. You can subscribe to it by going to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter>. All you then need do is enter your name, e-mail address and select the region (“East of England”).

There's also “News from the East”, a much shorter Newsletter covering the East of England specifically. We have not (yet) found a way of subscribing

See also the ad on the next page regarding the new u3a podcast

Printed Copies

We will be issuing printed copies of the gist of the newsletter during the social isolation period to those members we know are off-line but we cannot guarantee exactly when these can be posted.



The u3a radio podcast has now launched on podcast platforms, including Apple, [Spotify](#) and [Google Podcasts](#). The episode can also still be listened to on our [u3a YouTube channel](#), with captions.

In the January episode, the team discuss the Kindertransport learning initiative, talk to a member of u3a in Australia and hear about the milestone of 5,000 trees being planted in the u3a 40th anniversary wood.

Please do share this with your members and, if you or a member of your u3a has a story to share with u3a radio, please [get in touch](#).

Check Your Spam Folder

Are you or any members of your u3a missing out on u3a emails? It may be that they are going into junk or spam; you can avoid this happening by reporting them as not spam or by adding our email address into your contacts. Please also regularly check your spam folder.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our Speaker is Professor Jules Pretty, Professor of Environment and Society, University of Essex. The title of his talk will be *'30 for '30, Cutting Our Carbon*.

The professor is also President of the Essex Wildlife Trust and a noted expert in his field, so will be well placed to talk to us on how to cut our carbon footprint in half by 2030, a very topical subject! We would like to invite members of our neighbouring branches to join us for the presentation.

Please Note:

*Broomfield Members Meeting starts 2.00pm, log in recommended between 1.45 and 2.00.

*Any Broomfield member wishing to discuss committee membership please log in at 1.30.

*For Non-Broomfield Members, please log in between 2.15 and 2.30.

Presentation starts at 2.30.

Topic: Broomfield u3a Monthly Meeting

Time: Feb 9, 2022 01:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting (just click on link below)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81152987251>

Meeting ID: 811 5298 7251

9 th February	30 for '30: Cutting our Carbon	Prof. Jules Pretty. University of Essex
9 th March	Charles Darwin, Triumph and Torment	Margaret Mills
13 th April	In the Footsteps of.....others	Malcolm Taylor
11 th May	Women's Lives and Work in 18 th -19 th century Essex	Dr Jane Pearson
8 th June	The Great American Songbook	Jim Stebbing
13 th July	Wildlife Photography	Tom Way

The usual calendar has been omitted from this edition of the Newsletter

BROOMFIELD & DISTRICT U3A – GROUP REPORTS

ART GROUP

Unforeseen circumstances have prevented the meeting planned for February and we will now be looking at March to get together, the date is to be arranged. If you are interested in joining us please let me know.

Barbara Bartlett

BADMINTON

Our next session will be on Monday, 7th February between 12 - 1 pm in the Chelmsford Sports Centre, Melbourne.

Barbara Bartlett

BEER APPRECIATION

Our anticipated venue for our February meeting does not open until 4.00pm We will meet on **Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 2.00pm** at Hop Beer Shop - 173 Moulsham Street - please note change of date (to get to the pubs that other dates cannot meet!!)



Malcolm Taylor

BOOK GROUP

We met on Saturday, 29th January in Broomfield Library where we discussed The Jewellers Wife by Judith Lennox. This book opens in 1938. After a whirlwind romance Juliet travels from Egypt to the Essex countryside as the wife of a wealthy jeweller, but beneath her husband's intelligence and ambition lies a cruel and ruthless man. So sets the scene for a tale of passion and betrayal that moves through the turbulence of war to 1960's London. Once again we had mixed reviews and the average score was 6/10. Our next meeting will be on Saturday 26th February at 2pm in Broomfield Library. .

Barbara Bartlett

BUS PASS

I am hoping we can start our trips again in March, possibly with a visit to Warley Place. Please see the next newsletter for more information.

Carol Greatrex

CANASTA

The Canasta Group has restarted, meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays as before shut down. This is for information only as we are full and I cannot accept anyone else into the group.

Marie Mackie

COOKERY

The cookery club is taking a break as one member is ill.

Jacqui Barnaby

GARDENING

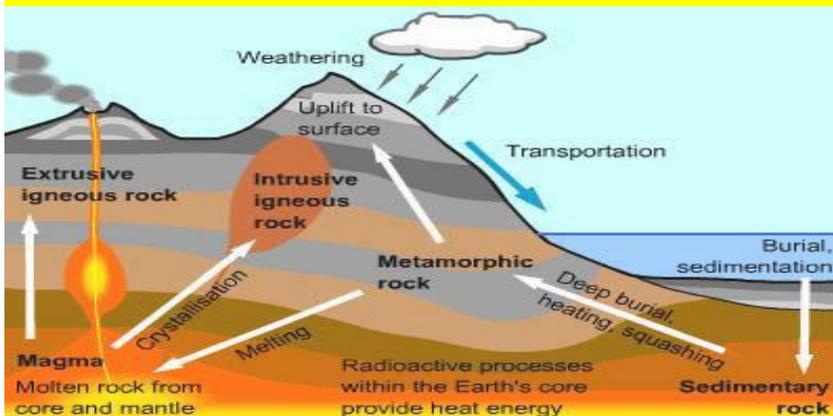
The Chelmsford Group have an outing to see snowdrops in February. Unfortunately, the garden they are visiting has a restriction on the number of visitors so the Chelmsford group have, naturally, prioritised their own members. This time we miss out. Sorry.

They do have an outing to Warley Place on the afternoon of Thursday 24th March. I will find out details if there are any of you who would like to join them.

Little Waltham Garden Club has its next meeting on Wednesday February 2nd at 7:30. Meet in the Memorial Hall in Little Waltham.

Pat Radford

GEOLOGY

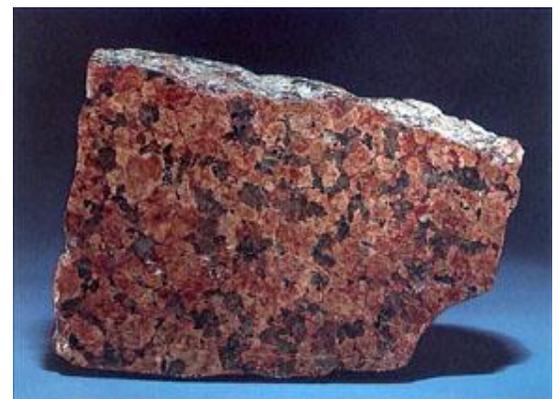


Everyone who came last month enjoyed looking at the pegmatite mineral specimens and gems, then learning how they were formed and mined.

We decided that next time we would go back to basics and look at the Structure of the Earth and the Rock Cycle which are fundamental elements of geology and

give us 'hooks' on which to hang particular details. Thus the next meeting will be on Tuesday 22nd February at 2pm. It will be a good one for people new to the subject to attend. Do please bring any interesting rock or mineral specimens you may have and we shall try to fit them into their place in the rock cycle.

Looking forward to an interesting session,





Ros & Ian

HEALTH MATTERS

At our first HM session, we had an enjoyable and informative time talking about 'Sleep' and we exchanged tips on how to return to sleep. The next session will be on 'Pain' and will be held on Tuesday, 8th Feb (2pm). New members are always welcome but please let me know if you wish to attend.

Gill Sturman

HISTORY

If you're interested in the idea of an occasional or regular history topic/discussion group please let me know and I'll convene an initial meeting to discuss format and ideas.

Glynn Wadeson

LACEMAKING

The lacemaking group continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month (and the 5th

when there is one) in limited numbers, at 2pm. New members are always welcome and we can provide all the equipment and materials needed to get you started.

Wendy Talley

LUNCHEON CLUB

I know that I have not contributed in the monthly Newsletter for over a year now, so felt it only right to let you know that I am still here and prepared to carry the group on once hospitality opens up. Having said that, I do feel at this stage our monthly meeting will be very different, as having the numbers we used to get (20+ sometimes) with social distancing it will not be the same but feel we must try to get back to some sort of normality.

I will keep the group posted once we have specific guidelines. Stay safe everyone

Muriel Whiting

MEDITATION

If anyone is interested in taking over running the Group, please contact one of the committee.

NATURAL HISTORY

The Group aim to meet at the bridge in Mill Lane Broomfield at 10.30pm Tuesday 15th February. The Essex Wild Life warden of Newland Grove will lead a walk to and through the Reserve, explaining management aims and techniques plus information of flora and fauna found there.

All welcome. A small donation required.

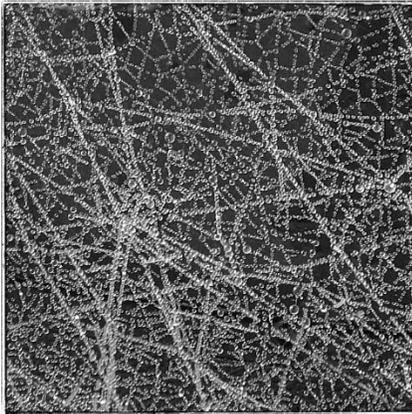
Sue Browning

NEEDLEWORK

Sonia and Eileen are the new leaders of the craft group which meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. The 2nd Friday is at the home of Sonia and the 4th Friday at the home of Eileen. Hope some of you will join us.

Sonia Hudson
Eileen Chapman

PHOTOGRAPHY



C.GREATREX

Glynn Wadeson

Photo group meets 10-12 on the third Thursday of each month, at Little Waltham United Reformed church. Beginners and improvers are welcome.

If there's any potential members who would be interested in joining the group but can't make the third Thursday am time do get in touch with me.

This month's link – "7 Photography mistakes I see all the time" (youtube) - <https://youtu.be/ZHnNyKQsdLw>

SCRABBLE

We shall meet as usual on the 4th Thursday of the month Thursday 24th February at 2pm at the Methodist Church Hall. New members welcome. Please do contact me if you wish to come.

Heather Steed

SUNDAY + CLUB

The Sunday + Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Muriel Whiting

TABLE TENNIS

I have booked four tables on two dates in February. The cost will be either £1 or £2 depending on how many playing at Melbourne Sports Centre. Tuesday, 8th February at 11.30 for an hour and Thursday, 24th February also at 11.30 for an hour. Hope to see as many players as possible for a light-hearted game.

Jean Lock

TEN-PIN BOWLING

Hi fellow bowlers, I hope you all had a good Christmas & New year and your resolution was the same as mine ,for a safe & healthy 2022.

The ten pin bowling is still on hold, the city bowls web site is saying early 2022 so let's keep our fingers crossed that it is soon. I will be in touch with you all as soon as I have a date to start. Stay safe

Lorna Stuart

BROOMFIELD UKULELE GROUP (BUGS)

The Ukulele Group has now resumed its regular meetings at the United Reform Church in Little Waltham. We meet every first and third Thursday of the month. We start at 2pm and the session lasts for two hours. There is plenty of free parking.

We are looking for new members to join our group. These can be players of other instruments and/or people who just enjoy a good singsong.

Pat Platt

WALKING

We had an enjoyable walk in January along the banks of the river Chelmer & through the slightly more “rural” parts of Springfield.

I thought we would try another local walk that is urban/semi-rural. This is also ideal for those who might like to try a “stroll” on their own and also give us the opportunity to see the devastation caused by the massive housing developments in the NE of the town..

We will meet outside the Beaulieu Community Centre (off White Hart Lane) in the parking area by Coffee Squared (gives the possible opportunity for a coffee & muffin afterwards) at 10.00am on Tuesday 15th February. I say “possible” as parking is limited to three hours. As our walk is just under 4 miles we should have adequate time to socialise – but that may depend on the number of footpath closures/changes we encounter on the day.

Please let me know if you are coming, as usual mobile 07375 604506 operative on the day.

Malcolm Taylor

BROOMFIELD BUDDIES

Climate Change – Efforts to establish this group appear to have failed. If anyone wants to try again please contact one of the committee.

Please let us know if there are any other Groups that you may be interested in running or helping to run.

Barbara Thomas and Barbara Bartlett

GROUP LEADERS

Art	Barbara Bartlett
Badminton	Barbara Bartlett
Beer Appreciation	Malcolm Taylor
Book Group	Barbara Bartlett
Bus Pass	Carol Greatrex
Canasta	Marie Mackie
Cookery	Jacqui Barnaby
Gardening	Pat Radford
Geology	Ros Mercer
Health Matters	Gill Sturman
Lacemaking	Wendy Talley
Luncheon Club	Muriel Whiting
Meditation	New Group Leader needed!
Natural History	Sue Browning
Needlework	Sonia Hudson Eileen Chapman
Photography	Glynn Wadeson
Scrabble	Heather Steed
Sunday + Club	Muriel Whiting
Table Tennis	Jean Lock
Ten-pin Bowling	Lorna Stuart
Ukulele	Pat Platt
Walking	Malcolm Taylor

New Group Leaders needed!

Any volunteers to run a History Group?

Any proposals for new groups?

Contact the editor for inclusion in next month's newsletter *or* if you'd like to talk it over first, please contact Pat Radford, our Group Co-Ordinator.

THE COMMITTEE

Chair	Glynn Wadeson	-
		-
Vice Chair & Speaker Coordinator	Faith Marchal	-
		-
Treasurer	Gill Sturman	-
		-
Co-Secretary	Ann Corbey	-
		-
Co-Secretary	Judy Keily	-
		-
Membership Secretary	Peter Radford	-
		-
Group Coordinator	Pat Radford	-
		-

Many thanks to Malcolm Taylor for continuing to act as Website Editor