

### From the Chair

Firstly, we wish you all a Happy New Year and good times in 2024.

We have speakers for our monthly meetings at the Metropolitan booked for 2024 – see the details on the Bushey & District U3A website. And we also have around 60 Interest Groups covering a wide range of topics. Again, do look at the website for details.

This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our U3A. We are arranging a 20th Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday 5th June. Do put the date in your diary: we'll provide more details in due course!

And if you have any questions or other things to raise, do contact our Committee Members via the Contact page on the website. Or come along to the Monthly Meetings and talk to Committee Members in person! And if any new Members do come along, we'd be delighted to welcome you!

Andrew Gunton  
Chair

## **This month's meeting**

Our next meeting will be held at the Metropolitan Bushey on  
Tuesday, January 16th at 10 am.

The Speaker is John Fieldsend on "Kindertransport - My Story"  
John Fieldsend is a Kindertransport child and Anglican Vicar

John was born in 1931 in Czechoslovakia, and moved to  
Dresden, Germany when he was very young.

John's parents decided to send John and his brother on a  
Kindertransport to Britain, where they would be safe. John can  
remember his father teaching him how to say "I can't speak  
English" in English and saying goodbye to him and his brother.  
John later found out that he owed his place on the transport to  
Nicolas Winton, who saved over 600 children from Nazi  
persecution.

## **Vacancy for Webmaster**

Recently retired? Have IT skills? Have time on your hands?

Bushey & District u3a needs you!

We have a vacancy for a Webmaster to manage and update the content on our website.

You'll get content typically from the Chairman, the Interest Group Coordinator, and the Interest Group Leaders.

And you can do this from your PC at home,

An interesting position for someone who is creative,

Our current Webmaster Harry Whiteley is happy to show you how to manage the website. Thanks to Harry for his contribution over the years!

### **From your Membership Secretary**

Those of you who joined before I became Membership Secretary in October 2022 will recall that for a number of years Bushey U3A felt obliged to place a cap on the membership. The limit on numbers was 700 and this was achieved by having a restricted window in which to join, together with a post code restriction. Membership numbers dropped dramatically during as a result of lockdown and the continuing apprehension of catching Covid. In order to counteract this, membership is now year-round and there is no post code restriction.

I thought you'd be interested to know that the total membership for the year 2023 stands at 698. Welcome to those 14 members

who joined in November and December. Inevitably each year sees a number of members who leave, either through death or infirmity, moving to another area or simply ceasing to be interested. The total for 2023 is 33.

Please don't forget to bring your shiny, plastic membership cards to the monthly general meetings. For those of you who don't yet have shiny, plastic cards, please bring your temporary paper ones - they're just as valid.

Regards

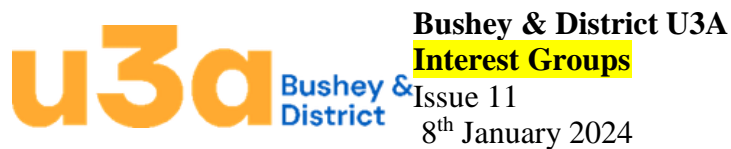
Marilyn Apple

**The next Pop In coffee morning at  
Par 3 will be on 31st January  
2024. Come along for a coffee  
and meet your fellow u3a  
members.**

**from Jeremy Gasson - Interest Groups Co-Ordinator -**

[jeremy.gasson@ntlworld.com](mailto:jeremy.gasson@ntlworld.com)

Firstly, please note that your Committee has decided to change the name of the various Groups to **INTEREST GROUPS** as and from now, rather than the previous name and heading - "Study Groups". The reason for this change is that they feel the word "Interest" is more the theme to denote what we are "interested in", and not like attending and undergoing "studying" any particular subject(s) say at the Open University!



Below is a list of the around 60 Bushey and District U3A Interest Groups. We've included the Group Leaders names, when and where they meet, and the current status of each Group e.g. 'New members welcome'; 'Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list'. 'additional important notes'

For more details about each Group, visit the Groups page on the website at <https://u3asites.org.uk/bushey/groups>.

**If you would to view this as a PDF [click here](#)**

***Jeremy Gasson, Interest Group Co-Ordinator***

**Antiques, Curios, Collectables**, Leader: Wendy Mote,  
Deputy: David Sands

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 1:30pm - 3:30pm  
ASDA Community Room, and outside venues

Group is currently full

**Art 2**, Leader: Barry Rickwood  
Mondays, weekly, not Bank Holidays, 9.30am - 12noon  
Tesco Community Room

New members welcome

**Best Literature Past 50 Years**, Leader: Thomas Kingston  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month, 10am – 12noon  
via Zoom

New members welcome

**Biography - Exploring Lives**, Leader: Pat Pollack  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, 10am – 12noon  
Meetings at Members' homes

Group is currently full

**Book Lovers**, Leader: Penny Shaw  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2 p.m.  
Meetings at Members' homes

New members welcome

**Books - Read With Us**, Leader: Frances Kaufman  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, 2pm – 4pm  
Group Leader's home

**New members welcome**

**Bridge**, Leader: Anthony Bernstein

Wednesdays, weekly, 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Hartsbourne Country Club, Bushey Heath, WD23 1JW

**New members welcome**

**Bridge Online**, Leader: Malcolm Walker

*Runs with Borehamwood & Elstree U3A*

from 10am on Zoom

Members' homes via computers

**New members welcome**

**Budding Artists Group**, Leaders: Jenny Atkinson & Veronica

Fedarb

Mondays, weekly, 2pm-4pm

Main Hall, St Andrew's Methodist Church, High Road, Bushey

Heath

**New members welcome**

**Canasta**, Leader: Gillian Paice

Every other Tuesday of the month, 2pm-4pm

Bushey Bowls Club, Chiltern Ave, Bushey

**Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list**

**Chat Monday**, Leader: William Evans

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, from 10am

via Zoom

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**Current Affairs 1**, Leader: William Evans

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 2pm-4pm

Meetings at Members' homes

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**Current Affairs 2**, Leader: Carol Evans

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, 10:15am – 12.15pm

Meetings at Members' homes

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**Current Affairs 3**, *Possible NEW Group*, Leader – William Evans

Date and time To be decided

Meeting place To be decided

**CLOSED** at present

Let us know if you'd like to join – or to be Leader !

New members welcome

**Famous Lives**, Deputy Leader – Susan Fligg

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday morning in the month

Meetings held at Pat Pollack's **OR** Susan Fligg's homes

A very limited number of new members welcome

**French Improvers-1**, Leader: Denise Piddington

Wednesdays, fortnightly, 10.15am - 12.15pm



Meetings at Members' homes

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**French Improvers-2**, Leader: Denise Piddington

Thursday, fortnightly, 10.15am – 12.15pm

via Zoom

New members welcome

**French Intermediate**, Coordinator: Frances Francis

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Meetings at Members' homes

A reasonably advanced Group, just above O-Level. Quite informal and use a magazine "La Vie Outre Manche" to read and translate.

New members welcome

**Gardeners Own**, Leaders: Helen Griller & Phil Griller

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 10 am – 12 noon

Members' own gardens

Group is full, with a waiting list

**Gardening - Allotment Group**, Leader: Pam Stacey

Variable

U3A allotment, Merry Hill Road, Bushey

New members welcome

**German Conversation**, Leader: Sigrun Rust

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Group Leader's home

Group is currently full

**Greatest Blunders in History**, Leader: Thomas Kingston

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, from 2pm

via Zoom

New members welcome

**Greatest Britons of all Time**, Leader: Thomas Kingston

1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 10 am

via Zoom

New members welcome

**Healthy Eating**, Leader: Madhvi Harvey

2nd Wednesday of the month, from 1pm

Meetings at Members' homes

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**History of Everyday Things**, Leader: Jane Collins

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, from 10.30am

Group Leader's home

New members welcome

**How Does Your Garden Grow**, Leader: Yvonne Zane

Last Wednesday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Members' own gardens

**New members welcome**

**Italian Improvers**, Leader: Pam Giles

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2.15pm – 4.15pm

Meetings at Members' homes

**New members welcome** - but *not* for beginners

*New* **Kalooki Group**, No Leader yet!

Time and place TBC

**New members welcome**

**Latin for Beginners**, Leader: Sigrun Rust

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Group Leader's home , and on Zoom

**New members welcome**, those who have done Latin at school, no  
beginners.

**Lunching Ladies**, Leader: Helen New

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month Tuesday p.m.

Various venues

**Group is currently full**

**Mahjong**, Leader : Helen Price

Time and place To be decided

**New members welcome**

**Needles and Hooks**, Leader: Margita Munday

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Meetings at Members' homes

Group is currently full

**Opera**, Leader: David Bagon

Last Friday of the month, 2pm – 4pm

Radlett

New members welcome

**Our ever changing Language**, Leader: Thomas Kingston

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, from 10am

Via Zoom

New members welcome

**Outings**, Leaders: Elizabeth Ramsden, Gillian Flitt

Variable

Details on the website and in the Newsletters

Open to all Members of Bushey & District U3A

**Photography**, Leader: Tony Baron

Monday fortnightly, from 2pm

Members' homes, and on Zoom

Group is currently full

**Pilates Group 1**, Leader: Gay Butler

Fridays at 11.00 am

The Grove, Bushey

Existing & new members welcome incl. beginners

**Pilates Group 2**, Leader: Gay Butler

Fridays at 12.15 pm

The Grove, Bushey

Existing & new members welcome incl. beginners

**Play Reading**, Leader: Marion Sherry

Last Friday of the month, 10am – 12noon

Group Leader's home

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**Poetry Group**, Leader: Andrea Neidle

Last Wednesday of the month, 10.30am – 12noon

Group Leader's home

New members welcome

**Practical Philosophy**, Leader: Ed White

1st meeting: Wednesday 5th April, at 11:00am

Group Leader's home

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**RUGS - Really Useful Group**, Leader: David Bearfield

Variable

At monthly meetings at Met Club, and more

If you are able to offer your services contact us! All offers

gratefully received.

**“Revisiting the 60’s : swinging or swingeing?”**, Leader :

Thomas Kingston

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays in the month, Tuesday, fortnightly

Meetings on Zoom

**New Members welcome**

**Rummikub Group.** Leader :Denise Rickwood

2pm – 4pm

Par 3 Lounge, High Street, Bushey

**Group is currently full and has a waiting list.**

**New! Rummikub** Group Two, Leader: Sue Elliott

Time and place To be agreed

Details to be added soon.

**New members welcome.**

**Russian**, Leader: Kay Bagon

Run jointly with Radlett and St Albans U3As

Thursday, weekly, 4.15pm to 5.30pm.

**New members are welcome** **but** they would need to be able to

**read Cyrillic & know a few Russian phrases.**

**Science**, Leader: Mike Shaw

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 10am – 12noon

Thorp Community Room, Garston Fire Station, near the ASDA  
roundabout, Watford

Group is full, but happy to add you to the waiting list

**Social Events Group**, Leader: Denise Rickwood

Variable – see website!

Various venues

Open to all members of Bushey & District U3A

**Spanish Beginners** Group 4, Leader: Marjorie Whiteley

Tuesday, fortnightly, 10.30am – 12noon

Group Leader's home

Group is currently full

**Spanish Beginners Plus**, New Leader needed! Please contact

Frances Francis

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 9.30am – 11.30am

Meetings at Members' homes

New members welcome

**Tennis - Rusty Racquets**, Leader: Pam Stacey

*Run jointly with Radlett U3A*

Monday, weekly, from 10am

Elstree Tennis Club

New members welcome

**The 30 Most Influential Cities**, Leader: Thomas Kingston

2nd & 4th Monday of the month, Monday from 10am

Via Zoom,

**New members welcome**

**Theatre & Arts Lovers**, Leader: Sally Brooks

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 10am – 12noon

Meetings at Members' homes

**Group is currently full**

**Theatre Outings**, Leaders: Frances Francis, Fran Vintner &  
Jenny Atkinson

Variable, Visits are every 2 or 3 months

Various theatres inc. Palace Theatre, Watford

**Open to all members of Bushey & District U3A**

**Theatre Studies Group**, Leaders: Trina Soames

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 10am to 12noon

Meetings at members' home

**Group is currently full**

**Travel Group**, Leader: Denise Piddington

Details on the website and in the Newsletters

**Open to all members of Bushey and District U3A**

**Walking - Five Mile Walkers**, Leader: Alison Scarth

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, starting 9.30am

Variable. At a pub where lunch can be had afterwards

**Open to all members of Bushey and District U3A**



**Walking - Wanderers Group** (c.8 miles), Coordinator: Gillian  
Gurner

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, starting 10.30am  
Variable, and may a stop at a pub for lunch

**New members welcome**

**What The Papers Say**, Leader: Denise Rickwood

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 2pm – 4pm  
Group Leader's home

**Group is currently full**

**Wildlife Study Group**, Leader: Yvonne Zane

*Run jointly with Radlett U3A*

*Variable*

Variable, visiting nature reserves

**Open to all members of Bushey and District U3A**

**Wings and Wheels etc.**, Leader: Tony Baron

Thursdays

Variable – see website and newsletters

**New members welcome**

**Writing**, Leader: Ron Duckling

*Run jointly with Watford Park U3A*

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, from 2.30pm

ASDA, Watford and on Zoom

**CLOSED at present, We'll update when things change!**

**World Religions**, Leader: Barry Rickwood, Administrator: Cynthia  
Freedman

Last Thursday in the Month, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting due 25<sup>th</sup> January  
Bushey Beaumont Care Home, High St. Bushey

**New Interest Group**

**New members welcome**

**Yiddish for Fun**, Leader: Adela Lassman

Monday, weekly, 11am – 12noon

Group Leader's home

**New members welcome**

**Yoga**, Leader: Pam Hall

Monday, weekly, 12.15pm - 1.45pm

St James' Church Hall, Bushey

**Group is full but we're happy to add to the waiting list**

If you know that any of the detail is incorrect, please let me know.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pilates

"Bushey U3a Pilates is restarting at a new venue at Bushey Grove

Leisure centre. Group 2 currently has vacancies for new members including beginners. Please contact Gay Butler on 07799 063404 if you are interested and would like more information or check the website for details. Start 2024 on a health kick!"

### **World Religions**

Please be advised that a new World Religions group has been set up as above. The leader is Barry Rickwood and Cynthia Freedman is the administrator.

The meetings will be held at Bushey Beaumont Care Home on the last Thursday of the month, with the first meeting being on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm. Meetings will last 2 hours.

### **Wings & Wheels**

The Wings & Wheels outing to the Mini factory is now fully booked but if members wish to be put on the waiting list could they please email through the web site.

### **Postage Stamps**



Please remember to save any stamps you receive on cards and letters. I collect them all year round to help raise funds for Peace Hospice Care in Watford. You can give them to me at the monthly meetings. If you do not attend these, please pass them on to a friend who does. Thank you very much for all your continued support of Peace Hospice Care, it is very much appreciated.

Season's Greetings,  
Judy Dorée

[Click here for a PDF version of this newsletter](#)

[Click here to contact any committee member.](#)

### Third Age Trust

- Third Age Trust's - Your u3a Friend's Newsletter, [December](#)

Bushey and District u3a  
[Editor:](#) David Bearfield

Non profit charity Bushey & District u3a

