



*Hi everyone !*

On a recent visit to Ireland I spent a while at the world heritage site known as the Giants Causeway. The Irish myth is that an Irish giant (Finn McCool) was challenged to a fight by the Scottish giant Benandonner. He accepted the challenge and built the causeway across the North Channel so the two could meet. Two versions of the outcome exist. One states that Finn beat Benandonner. The other Finn hides from the Scot when he realises he is much bigger than he thought. Finn's wife disguises him as a baby in a cradle. The Scot on seeing the size of the "baby" thinks the father must be massive and flees back to Scotland.



Belfast City Hall at night

In reality the basalt columns were created some 60 million years ago due to volcanic activity. The molten basalt broke through the chalk beds and as it cooled, contraction occurred. The unusual hexagonal shapes of most columns was caused by difference in the cooling speed of the lava.



If you find yourself in this part of Ireland, I can recommend a visit although it may be an idea to check for best days and times as it is a worldwide attraction.

*Adrian Wilson*

**Thought for the day:**

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

*Edward Everett Hale*

**Stop Press**

*See back page about an additional visit to Kew Gardens Lights Trail*

**This month's talk**

The speaker for the September meeting will be Andrew Baker, who will be giving a talk entitled

*"The Swinging Sixties"*

**CALLING ALL GROUP ORGANISERS**

We would love you to come to Coffee and Chat morning on Wednesday 20th September at 10.30am

As Greenwood Park Centre is so overwhelmed with bookings from our wonderful groups, this year the venue will be **Park Street Baptist Church Hall, Penn Road (AL2 2QF)**, but the cakes and coffee will still be of the very high standard.

*The Committee*

**Laughter is the best medicine**

Were people aware that the young girl who stands in the middle of a tennis court is called Annette.



**INTEREST GROUP**

**Refreshment**

**Rota**



- |          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| Sep. 7th | Photography 1    |
| Oct. 5th | Pins and Needles |
| Nov. 2nd | Photography 2    |
| Dec. 7th | Xmas Party       |
| Jan. 4th | Play Reading     |



**A talk about dementia.**  
**Friday, October 6th,**  
**12 noon until 1.30pm,**  
**in the Orton Hall in**  
**Greenwood Park**  
**Community Centre.**

I'm sure we're all aware of people who are either starting a journey along the dementia road, or who are already some way along it. It is enormously helpful for the sufferer and for us, if we have an understanding of how best to interact with them in a helpful way.

Rob Kember, a member of Dementia Friends, came to our u3a to do this talk some years ago and it was very well received, so we are pleased to welcome him back.

Do join us on Friday 6th October if you are interested.

## CHINNOR & PRINCES RISBOROUGH RAILWAY

On what was possibly one of the hottest days in August, we were visiting the Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway (C&PRR). Unfortunately, we were unable to get a place on Joy's coach, therefore we made our own way to Chinnor. The coach party stopped at Wendover for a lunch and a browse before proceeding to Chinnor. Arriving early before the coach we had time for a walk and found the C&PRR maintenance yard. One of the volunteers invited us in and gave a brief tour around the yard. Currently, the volunteers are restoring a carriage and a mobile crane, besides working on routine running repairs. Up to 300 volunteers give at least one day a month in running and maintaining the C&PRR.

Back at the Chinnor station our party awaited the arrival of our steam train. In the true tradition of railways, our train was running late – well, it wasn't a clockwork train! However, we boarded our carriages and set off to steam along the Icknield Line, through the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire countryside, while enjoying our cream scones and tea/coffee. At Princes Risborough, the steam locomotive was unhooked, driven to the other end of the carriages and recoupled for the return journey.

On the whole a very pleasant outing and I believe everyone enjoyed themselves.

*Dave Brennan*





**IMPORTANT:** Please remember to have with you or wear your CG Membership card and, more importantly, an up to date emergency contact card, preferably kept together in lanyard.

Details of each event can be found in the Newsletter or on our website. Please note the month when tickets are available for trips. Purchase of tickets (cheques only please) can be made at our monthly meetings via Joy Dabson, Event Organiser.

**Tickets:** Chiswell Green u3a members ONLY for the first month when tickets for trips are on sale. Tickets for guests will be allowed in the second month when they are on sale. This is to avoid waiting lists for members when guests have taken up places. Tickets must be paid for on the day they are booked, with cheques made payable to "Chiswell Green u3a". Please write your membership number on the reverse. Cheques are paid into the bank as and when they are received, unless otherwise stated. If paying for more than one Outing by post, please send separate cheques for each event. Obviously, they can go in the same envelope.

If you wish to make a booking for an Outing, you can still do so by contacting the Events Organiser (Joy Dabson) by phone (01923 268018) or email ([trips@chiswellgreenu3a.org.uk](mailto:trips@chiswellgreenu3a.org.uk)) or via our website. Payments should be made within seven days.

**Pickup point:** The coach will be in Tippendell Lane, at the entrance to Greenwood Park. Please be **prompt** – the coach will not wait. A driver's tip is included in the price of the Outing.

If you are unable to go on an Outing, or running late, please contact the Events Organiser by phone, up to 10pm the night before the trip (01923 268018) or by Event Mobile on the day of the trip (07824 671857). Please make a note of this number. If someone is able to take your place, you may be able to have a refund but this cannot be guaranteed. Ideas and suggestions for trips are always welcomed, and can be placed in the Suggestion Box on the signing table.

\*\*\*\***Disclaimer:**\*\*\*\* If you are participating in any Chiswell Green u3a trip or event, please read the Disclaimer below.

***It is the personal responsibility of each member to decide on their own capability to participate in any trips or events organised by the Chiswell Green u3a. Chiswell Green u3a cannot accept any responsibility for your fitness to undertake a trip or participate in a group, event or journey. By committing to any activity you will be declaring that you are fit and able to participate in the said activity.***

### Travel Quote:

Venice is like eating an entire box of chocolate liqueurs in one go.

Truman Capote

### Wednesday November 29th 2023 early evening

#### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRAIL AT KEW GARDENS

Sold out/Waiting list

Discover glittering tunnels of light, dancing lakeside reflections and trees drenched in jewel like colours. Don't forget to glimpse Father Christmas on the way. The Light Trail is approx 3km long, the route is on pathways. There are no covered areas so wear appropriate clothing and footwear. We have our own designated entry time, and our coach will drop off and pick up at the Elizabeth Gate. Along the route independent street vendors will offer tasty festive delights from hot food and sweet treats to special winter warmer drinks and hot chocolate. Victoria Plaza will be open all evening to buy gifts, treats, toys etc.



**NOTE: ALL PAYMENTS AT KEW ARE CASHLESS/CARD ONLY**

Depart Greenwood Park: 3.30pm

Depart for home: 8.00pm

Cost: £31.00

### Saturday January 13th 2024—THE MILL AT SONNING

Sold out/Waiting list

"**HIGH SOCIETY**" Matinee performance. Cole Porter's classic feel good musical is based on *The Philadelphia Story* and the film starring Bing Crosby, Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra. Full of songs you will know including "True Love" and "Who wants to be a Millionaire". As usual the price will include a two course meal (several choices, help yourself main, waitress service dessert, coffee), theatre ticket, coach and driver's tip.



**Now open to family and friends**

Depart Greenwood Park: 10.30am

Depart for home: approx 5.00pm

Cost: £84.00

**PARKING:** Could we please remind members not to park in either of the car parks at Greenwood Park if you are going on one of our trips. If parking in local roads, please park with consideration for the local residents, and if possible, car share to help ease the parking problem. Thank you.



## **Additional visit to Kew Gardens Lights Trail !!!**

**Due to the excessive demand for the November 2023 visit to this popular venue, Joy Dabson has been able to negotiate tickets for a second visit on Wednesday 3rd January 2024 early evening. Family and friends will be welcomed. Tickets will be on sale at September's meeting.**

The Lights Trail is approx 3km long, the route is on pathways. There are no covered areas, so wear appropriate clothing and footwear. We have our own designated entry time, and our coach will drop off and pick up at the Elizabeth Gate. Along the route independent street vendors will offer tasty festive delights from hot food and sweet treats to special winter warmer drinks and hot chocolate. Victoria Plaza will be open all evening to buy gifts, treats, toys etc.

**NOTE: ALL PAYMENTS AT KEW ARE CASHLESS/CARD ONLY**

**Depart Greenwood Park: 3.30pm**

**Depart for home: 8.00pm**

**Cost: £31.00**

**Didn't we have a lovely time the day we went to Brighton**



*... and finally*

Some of you might remember from the last Newsletter about the Photography 2 Group's visit to the Bird of Prey sanctuary at Herrings Farm near Bedford. What was not mentioned was that yours truly had a close encounter with one of the birds. As we were trying to take photographs of birds in flight, much to the amusement of the rest of the Group, a barn owl landed on my head. Please be assured that no creatures were harmed during the photographing of the birds; and we parted the best of friends.

