



Newsletter No. 103

October 2022

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

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT/LETTER

It seems a long time since I wrote, in January 2020, how optimistic I felt taking on the role of Chairman. As we remember only too well, much has happened since that time. It has not been the 3 years I expected, but has brought unexpected challenges.

Keeping the organisation going, keeping members in touch and eventually getting back to normality, have all brought their problems - to say nothing of getting to grips with Zoom!

Nonetheless, it has been an enjoyable time and I have been very well supported in the role by other members of the committee.

As a team we have achieved quite a lot and I would like to think that, going forward, that Enfield u3a is in a good place. Although I know it would go from strength to strength were we to have more committee members!

Over recent months, we have been faced with the closure of our meeting venue, St Paul's. The building will finally close at the end of the year and I hear it is to be sold. This faced us with the challenge of finding a new venue.

The committee considered several meeting places, and after much discussion decided that Enfield Baptist Church best met our needs. Unfortunately, this means a move to Wednesdays (same times) but distance wise is very close and convenient.

Although I am stepping down from the committee (I think 9 years is quite enough!) I will continue to be supportive of the new committee and wish them all well.

Chris Burnikell.
Chairman.

NEW VENUE, NEW START

Dear Members,

Most of you will be aware that our current venue for monthly meetings, St Paul's Community Centre, will be closing.

Over the last month, your committee has been very busy visiting possible venues. This has involved a lot of time and I should like to thank the committee for their work on this. After much discussion and weighing up all of the pros and cons, we have agreed that we will move to Enfield Baptist Church from the November meeting.

The church offers space and very good facilities and is used by many different community groups. The one downside of this, is that they are unable to accommodate us on a Monday. This has meant a change in day to a WEDNESDAY - so the first meeting will be on 9th November.

Chris Burnikell

Chairman Enfield U3A

Editor's report

First I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has send me articles about their groups, stories, and book reviews etc.

I took on the role of editor when I joined the committee and with the help Joy I was able to put something together for the first one, I have made a few mistakes, on the way.

This will be my last newsletter as editor, Chris Burnikell has volunteered to take on this role. So for the January 2023 newsletter if you have any items please forward them to her at chris@cburni.co.uk

Please remember this is your newsletter so please continue to provide us with your stories that you wish to share with Enfield U3a members

Michael Witter

ART APPRECIATION

Group 2



This painting I have to admit caught my attention because of the unusual shape. All was explained in a 10 minute talk given by:-Letizia Treves, Curator of the later Italian Paintings at the, National Gallery. The painting is 3 metres long.

The artist was an 18th century Venetian painter, Giovanni-Battista Tiepolo. 1696-1770. The title of the painting is, 'An Allegory With Venus and Time' - painted around 1754/8.

Much of this artist's work was on the walls and ceilings of, for example palaces and was to be viewed from below and from a great distance. Works of this nature were usually painted on the walls in Fresco which meant the painting was done directly on to wet plaster. In Venice there was a problem with Fresco as the damp, salty air made the work unstable. To solve this problem the painting would have been done on canvas and then set into plaster work or wooden compartments and put in position in this case on the ceiling.

One description of the painting explains that Venus, the Goddess of Love and Fertility, gestures towards the infant who is held by the winged figure of, Father Time. The act symbolises Eternity.

Time's scythe is by his side and an hour glass at his waist symbolises the passing of time.

Above this scene the, '3 Graces' bless the child by scattering flowers and Venus' team of Doves flutter above her while below her Divine son - the winged Cupid, hovers with his quiver of arrows.

It is said the painting was commissioned by the Venetian Contarini family to proclaim the birth of a son.

Gill Long

History Groups

As leader of two of our History groups, I am putting out an advert for your participation. Covid hit both groups who lost members and my Monday afternoon session moved to the Baptist church and the Tuesday morning group are now also moving from St Pauls to Enfield Library,

We are just finishing our study of the creation of Anglo-Saxon England, the Norman invasion and the medieval rule of the Plantagenet's.

After a final lesson on this, we move on to the Social and Economic history of Britain since 1733. This covers a huge range in the lives of ordinary people including developments in farming, industry and transport and how life was revolutionised during the last three hundred years. Also, how the development of a global Empire effected life in our location.

If this sounds interesting, please join us at either the Enfield Baptist church from 2pm to 4 pm on the first and third Monday in the month or at the Enfield Library 1st floor from 11.30am to 2pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays in the month. You will be made very welcome and a break for refreshments and socialising is also included. Lessons restart on Monday September 5th or Tuesday September 13th.

Colin Field.

Do you play Mah Jong? Would you like to learn?



The Mah Jong Group has room for new members. We meet at The Jolly Butchers, Baker Street, Enfield, at 2.00pm on the 1st and 4th Mondays of the month.

Sign up at the next monthly meeting or e-mail via the contact page of the Enfield u3a website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/enfield/home>

GROUPS REPORT

A big thank you to those group leaders (and some members) who helped out last month at the Culture Palace, showcasing some of our group activities.

We have 32 groups up and running, although we have interest in more we cannot run these without leaders. It may be initially a bit daunting, but with support and guidance you will succeed - ask any current leader! Apart from support within our own organisation, pairing you up with someone in one of our neighbouring u3a's running the same group would be a first step. Also, it can be a shared job. Currently we have interest in Latin, Gardening, Drama and British Holidays.

Of course, to keep 32 group leaders happy, we need a group coordinator! While I have looked after our group leaders, we really need someone to fill the position permanently. Again, this can be a shared job. And again, you would be supported in the early months of the job. Not sure what it involves? If you are interested, there is a brief job role prepared by the organisation to help you decide. These can be emailed to you. If you feel you can join our team of group leaders or step up to be group coordinator, please contact me or any committee member you without any expectation.

Chris Burnikell

chris@cburni.co.uk

Our treasurer was very pleased to receive so many subscription renewals by bank transfer or cheque. **Hurry Hurry**

If you have not renewed yet please note the deadline is **30th November**. If your payment is not received by this date we will assume you do not wish to renew and your membership will be cancelled.

Thank you

Enfield Quiz

1. Name Enfield's two Grade 1 listed buildings on Historic England's list.
2. Which comedy star launched the world's first ATM in Enfield Town in 1967?
3. The Ediswan Building in Duck Lees Lane, Brimsdown was identified by the Institute of Physics as one of the birthplaces of the electronic revolution but which two very useful devices did James Dewar and Ambrose Fleming, two of its famous occupants, invent?
4. Edmonton once had one of the largest cinemas in the world on the corner of Angel Road and Fore Street. What was it called?
5. Enfield Market was granted a charter in 1618. By which king?
6. Where is the cross which used to stand in Enfield Market Square now?
7. Which film was (loosely) based on the life of Edmonton resident, Gladys Aylward?
8. Which two waterways cross at Clarendon Arch in Bush Hill Park?
9. Where was the Two Brewers pub destroyed by German bombing in 1940 with the loss of 20 lives?
10. How much did Southgate Urban District Council pay for Broomfield House and park in 1903: £10,000, £25,000 or £50,000?
11. The Warburton's Bakery in Brimsdown is the UK centre for crumpet production but how many loaves can it produce per hour?

Where did music hall star Marie Lloyd give her last performance in 1922?

12. In which league does Enfield Town FC play?
13. Which famous poet was educated at Clarke's Academy (where Enfield Town railway station now stands)?
14. There are four locks on the Lee Navigation in Enfield. Can you name them?

U3A WEEK SEPTEMBER 2022



To celebrate 40 years of the u3a groups around the country held events to let people know what we were all about.

We held two events: on Wednesday 21st we had a stall in the Palace Gardens shopping centre. We were helped in our celebrations by the North London



Singers, a local choir, who gave a rapturous rendition of 3 numbers - a capella. Our thanks go to Claire and Martyn Stodgen and all of the choir members for their support.



Later on in the morning we welcomed the Barnet u3a Ukulele Group. We were treated to a number of songs, some very familiar so we were able to sing along. Thanks to all of the group members and to

Ralph Samel, the group leader and resident comedian!

On Saturday we took over part of the Culture Palace in the shopping centre and many group leaders (and some members) came along to talk to visitors about their activities.

The following are thanked for giving up their time:

Judy Hunt (Moving Image Club)

Pat Bishop (Art Gallery visits)

Joy Lewis (Freedom Pass Trips)

Deirdre Barrie & Nan Hutchins (French)

Gaynor Green (Cards & games and Trips)

Dee Patterson (Canasta)

Susan Bell (Photography)

Chris Burnikell (Craft)

Jenny Kirby (Book Club)

Sue Sims & Barbara Cooper (Social Group)

Ann Kent (Spanish)



In addition to this there was a display of photographs showing several group activities, some images from the Photography Group (thanks to Sue Bell) and some work from the Art group (thanks to Bob Adams and Anne

Running throughout the week was the Teddy bear Competition. Many of you knitted yellow teddies for us a few months ago. These teddies, all labelled up, found their way into 20 shop windows in Palace Gardens.

Many children were attracted to the brightly coloured teddies and took part in finding where the teddies had been hidden. Amazingly, some found all of the teddies, so we needed the tie-breaker!



Apart from the committee and everyone else named above, the day was ably promoted by Ann Hardy, who engaged many passers-by and encouraged them to find out more about the u3a. Also the Spanish group who helped with promoting.

Overall both events were a success. We promoted what we do and also recruited several new members.

Here's looking forward to u3a Day 2023!

Chris Burnikell

Enfield u3a - your u3a - relies on a small group of people to keep it going. Our committee numbers are diminishing because there are rules about how long people can serve in specific roles and so we need to recruit new committee members to help spread the load. Please consider joining us. If you would like more information about what this would involve, please contact Chris Burnikell on 020 8245 2686 or Maggie Hook on 020 8367 6871. Specifically, we need a new Treasurer. Do you have any book-keeping skills? Could you help us? Our outgoing Treasurer would be pleased to guide you and hand over all the relevant paperwork. For further information, contact Stephanie Milverton on 020 8804 9437. Please note that Charity Commission rules mean that Enfield u3a cannot continue to operate without a Treasurer, so this plea for your involvement is really important.

WALKIE TALKIE GROUP

For the July walk we returned to Whitewebbs, meeting at the Hop Poles and walking to Beggars Hollow. It was a very warm day and we were glad to move into the shade of the woods, past the Lake where we saw a variety of wildlife including a whole family of terrapins, herons and some very big fish and on to find the Flash Lane Aqueduct.



This Scheduled Monument was built in 1820 to carry the New River over Cuffley Brook. It became redundant in 1850 when a new pumping system allowed the Flash Lane loop to be bypassed.

It became overgrown and forgotten until Enfield Archaeological Society rediscovered it in 1968 and was repaired and restored in 1998 by the Enfield Society.

From the Aqueduct we made our way back to Beggars Hollow for some welcome refreshments.



To celebrate the u3a's 40th anniversary in September London Region invited all the walking groups in the region to complete the Capital Ring and London Loop walks between them.



Our nearest section of the London Loop covers Cockfosters to Enfield Lock, a distance of about 9.5 miles.

This is a bit further than we usually do but 12 of us took it on. Luckily it was a dry, cooler day and comfortable walking.

We set off from Cockfosters station (with only a slight detour round the car park) through Trent Park, across Ferney Hill and on to the area being replanted by Thames Water and an army of volunteers to restore a small part of Enfield Chase.

Sadly, quite a few of the newer trees were showing signs of suffering from the extremely hot weather but some were still looking healthy.

This took us down to Salmons Brook and up again to the Ridgeway allowing a fine view of the London skyline. On through Rectory Farm to Strayfield Lane and Hilly Fields.

We stopped for lunch at our favourite café in Beggars Hollow.

Refreshed and revived we moved on past Forty Hall to follow the Turkey Brook, across the A10 and down Turkey Street to the Hertford Road.

On again through Albany Park viewing the new wetlands there where a kingfisher was spotted along with plenty of ducks.



The end was now in sight and we were all glad to reach Enfield Lock and the bus home. We did (at least) 102 miles between us.

London Region is collecting the figures and will publish a grand total in the TAM magazine.

Thanks to everyone who took part and particularly to Denise and Philip who did a lot of the work planning for this walk.



FREEDOM PASS TRIPS

We visited two quite different gardens in June and August this year.

One of the many rooftop gardens gracing the City of London is at 120 Fenchurch Street. It claims to be the largest. On the 15th floor, it is not as high as some others, such as the Sky Garden nearby, which gives it a more intimate feel among the rest of the crowded city buildings while still offering great views over the rest of London.

The spring flowers had finished but the air was full of the scent of jasmine and we were lucky enough to catch a profusion of other shrubs and plants in full bloom. They also have apples growing, espaliered against a sunny wall.

Although quite empty at the time we visited, there is plenty of seating available for workers nearby to enjoy their lunchbreaks in such lovely surroundings. We felt lucky to have free access to share the experience.



Our August garden visit was quite different. After the long summer drought our expectations were low when visiting the TOWER OF LONDON SUPERBLOOM display, where thousands of seeds had been planted all

around the moat, changing with the seasons. However, we were pleasantly surprised to find a great deal to interest us there. Drifts of bright cosmos and other colourful plants shone among the more neutral shades of others which had shed their seeds and we noted at least three different varieties of sunflowers towering above them.



The moat has become a welcoming new habitat and a green haven for pollinators, insects and seed-eating birds and the millions of seeds collected have provided a store for next year's planting.



A few of us couldn't resist the temptation to try out the large slide.



ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE. Our more serious hats were worn in September for this trip. The visit had been planned for what turned out to be the hottest day on record in July when it was considered a danger to health to be out and about. We were grateful for the opportunity to rearrange the date.

Waiting in the vast Great Hall, we were impressed by the height of the building. With its soaring arches and stained-glass windows, it is reminiscent of a cathedral and was certainly built to impress.

Stan, our guide, was quick to draw attention to the beautiful mosaic-tiled floor which is usually walked over without a thought to the meticulous work carried out by skilled Italian workers who laid it.



Since it was made a Grade I listed building in about the 1970s there is now no opportunity to expand so Stan explained that annexes have had to be built and other buildings taken over to cope with the extra demand for courts, now numbering hundreds, which has evolved over the years. Lists of the many cases taking place that day are displayed in the Great Hall.

The building was designed by the architect George Edmond Street. It took 8 years to complete, after an early strike by the stone masons held up progress. George Street died an early death before completion, due, it is believed, to the stress of the work.

It was eventually opened by Queen Victoria in 1882 and its purpose was to deal with civil cases. The recent Covid crisis meant that several Criminal trials were held there in 2021 to help with the backlog at the Old Bailey.

Stan told us of the many characters among the judges at the Courts and we viewed some of their gowns and wigs which used to be powdered against attacks by vermin but are now treated by modern means.



We passed many courtrooms and entered the lovely Painted Room which features decorations in tribute to Queen Victoria. Next door to this is a room called the Bear Garden named after the Queen described it as such during one of her visits since there was such chatter from the barristers arguing inside it.

The enormous cost of maintaining such a large building has led to some diversifying by letting it out for films, e.g. *Bridget Jones's Diary*, a few weddings and for such events as London Fashion Week.

There was some poignancy in noticing the change to 'King's' rather than 'Queen's' in the direction boards.

Joy Lewis

Ukulele Group



The July meeting of the Social Group was very jolly with a visit from some of the Barnet U3A's Ukulele Group, who played and sang lots of old numbers which we were all familiar with and we joined in with gusto.

Sue Sims

ENFIELD U3A GROUP LEADERS

OCTOBER 2022

Subject	Group Leader	Day and time
Art	Eileen Flack	3rd Wednesdays 10 30 am
Art Appreciation I	Chris Abbot	1 st Wednesday 10.30 am
Art Appreciation II	Gill Long	3 rd Thursday 2 pm
Art Galleries/Museums	Pat Bishop	As arranged and notified
Board Games/Cards	Gaynor Green	3 rd Thursdays 2.00 pm
Book Club I	Soo Hynes	3 rd Monday 2.30pm
Book Club II	Jenny Kirby	3 rd Monday 2.00pm
Book Club III	Chris Burnikell	1 st Thursday 10.30am
Canasta	Dee Patterson	4 th Thursday 2pm
Cardmaking/Handicrafts	Chris Burnikell and Pauline Hunt	2 nd Wednesdays 10.30 a.m.
Outings	Gaynor Green	As arranged and notified
Discussion Group	Ann Pretty	1st Friday 10.30am
Freedom Pass Trips	Joy Lewis	As arranged & notified
French Int./Advanced	Deirdre Barrie	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday 2.00 pm
German	Peter Kenny	Monday 2.30pm <u>not</u> 2 nd in the month
History I	Colin Field	Monday (alt) 2.00pm
History II	Colin Field	Tuesday (alt) 10.30 am
History III	Sheila Smale	1 st and 3 rd Thursday 2.00 pm

Italian for Beginners	Mike Eppel	Every other Tuesday 11.00 am
Mahjong	Chris Burnikell	1 st and 4 th Monday 2.00 pm
Moving Image Club	Judy Hunt	1 st Wednesday 2.00pm
Photography	Sue Bell	4 th Tuesday 10 am
Play Reading I	Marianne Lanjri	2 nd Thursday 12 - 2pm
Pub Quiz	Gill Fletcher	As arranged & notified
Rehearsals Barbican/LSO	Jean Fawcett	As arranged & notified
Scrabble I	Ann Oakley	1 st Friday 2.00 pm
Scrabble 3	Mike Eppel	1 st Wednesday 2.30 pm
Social group	Sue Sims	4th Wednesday 2.00 for 2.30 pm
Spanish Beg./Intermediate	Ann Kent	Fridays 10.30 am
Sunday Lunch group	Gill Fletcher	3rd Sunday
Theatre Visits	Gaynor Green	As arranged and notified
Walking Group	Gill Fletcher	2 nd Thursday 10.30am

QUICK CALENDAR OF GROUPS

Mondays	pm: Book Club I; Book Club II; German; History; Mahjong;
Tuesdays	a.m: History II, Photography, Italian for Beginners p.m: French Intermediate/Advanced, Moving Images.
Wednesdays	a.m: Art Appreciation, Art

	p.m: Social group; Scrabble II;
Thursdays	a.m: Walks; Play-reading; Book Club III, p.m: History III, Art Appreciation II, Board Games, Canasta
Fridays	a.m: Discussion Group: Spanish, Cardmaking/handicrafts pm: Scrabble 1
Sundays	Sunday lunch group
As arranged and notified	Freedom Pass Trips; Barbican Rehearsals (LSO); Theatre Trips, Outings; Art Galleries/Museums; pub quiz.

New U3A Website

www.U3asites.org.uk/enfield

A reminder that we have a great new web site for U3A Enfield, colourful and bright, so as things move forward and we add new and interesting pages with information for you to view, can you visit the new site and give us feedback on the layout. We would also like you to give us your ideas of what should be included on the website, forward you're ideas to us by email to;

enfieldu3a@gmail.com



BIRTHDAY GIRL by NIKO WOLF

On the front cover of the book, is written:

"He loved her. He lost her. He should never have written her off".

That was enough for me to know I was going to enjoy this real treat of a tense thriller. As each secret is revealed, you just have to keep reading.

It starts in the 1990s when Jonathon and his wife Maddy go to the beach for her birthday. But why does she get into a stranger's car and allow them to drive away. Over the years, the police can find no trace of her, and declare her dead.

The story now switches to the present time. 20 years have passed and Jonathon is now living a good and happy life, when he suddenly catches a glimpse of his dead wife. No one, (including the police) believe him...and the reader is asked to decide if she is really dead.

There are lots of secrets among those closest to him who are hiding something dramatic enough to change his life.

Sarah Bonner has written: "A wonderfully taut and tense exploration of success in the face of trauma." Sandra

THE NO-SHOW by BETH O'LEARY

The front cover reads: THREE WOMEN. THREE DATES. ONE MISSING MAN... The story starts with 3 young single women who each have a date with Joseph for Valentine's Day.

Siobhan is due to meet him for breakfast Miranda is expecting to have a Valentine's lunch with him and Jane is due to meet him for dinner.

But he fails to turn up for any of these 3 dates.

All 3 women are in love with him....but it appears that there maybe someone else as well.

This is both a heart breaking and a joyful story. We gradually learn much more about all 3 women and their very different lives. However, even 200 pages into the novel we don't get much information on Joseph.

"A brilliant, multi-layered romantic story" says Lauren Oh Sophie Kinsella writes: An ingenious, heart-warming and romantic story with great depths amid the humour and the lightness." Sandra

WO NIGHTS IN LISBON by JAMES PAVONE

A woman called Ariel wakes up in a hotel room in Lisbon to discover that her husband is no longer in the bed, and has in fact completely disappeared.

There is no note, he doesn't answer his phone.

They have not been married very long and she is unsure if she knows enough of his background to form an opinion as to what he may be involved in.

However, there is more to her we discover....why does she now use a new name and what was she involved in before she met him.

We later get a hint that he may also have changed his name.

She seeks help with Hotel Security, but as they can't help she tries the Police and the USA Embassy....without much success.

The story unfolds minute by minute (hence the title) and as readers we feel the tension she is suffering.

Has he been kidnapped? And if so how will she raise the ransom money as it is a Holiday weekend.

Her own story gradually unfolds and this is now a multi-layer thriller.

John Grisham has written: "I defy anyone to read the first 20 pages of this breakneck novel, then try to put it down." Sandra

MEMBERSHP RENEWAL FOR 2022/23

Is due 1st September 2022 the fee is £18.00 for the year 1st September 2022 - 31st August 2023

There are three ways to Pay

1. ON LINE

Enfield University of the Third Age

Lloyds Bank

Sort Code 30-99-86

Account No 01771825

Please quote as reference - name and membership number

2. AT THE MONTHLY MEETING

By Cheque payable to Enfield u3a

By Cash please bring exact amount

3. BY Post

Cheque payable to Enfield u3a with your name and membership number on the back.

Post to "The Treasurer" Stephanie Milverton 64 Lincoln Way Enfield EN1 1TD

Answers

1. Forty Hall, Groveland's
2. Reg Varney
3. The vacuum flask and the diode radio valve
4. The Regal
5. James I (or VI if you are Scottish)
6. Myddelton House gardens
7. The Inn of the Sixth Happiness
8. The New River and Salmon Brook
9. Ponders End (corner of South Street and the High Road)
10. £25,000
11. 11,000
12. Empire Theatre, Edmonton Green
13. Isthmian League Premier
14. John Keats
15. Picketts, Ponders End, Enfield and Rammey Marsh