



# u3a Epsom & Ewell

## Learn, Laugh, Live

<https://u3asites.org.uk/epsom-ewell/home>  
 Email enquiries to: [u3aepsom@gmail.com](mailto:u3aepsom@gmail.com)

### AROUND THE GROUPS – Your Group Co-ordinators are Jenny Powell & Brenda Griffiths



#### Exploring London

The group have been holding Zoom meetings and have a WhatsApp group.

Group Leader: Maureen Northrop



**Medieval History** The group continued meeting outside throughout the summer, they are now going to use zoom to continue.

**Don't forget: - to log onto the U3A Epsom and Ewell website where you can view everything that is going on at your U3A and more.**

**On the Web page you will find a list of all the groups, all the outings for next year and a list of the zoom talks that are taking place and how to book onto them.**

**Tony's words is the best place to go for an interesting read and if you have anything you would like to add then please send it to him.**

### *Philosophy Group.*

The leader has tried zoom but some of the group weren't so happy with this so they are staying in touch via email.



**Poetry Group** The group leader held garden meetings during the summer months but now have been meeting in pairs and walking in the park as the point of the

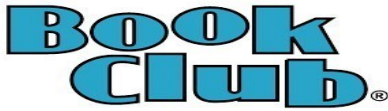
group is to discuss poetry. The whole group stays in touch via email and phone. Group Leader: Ann Glover



**Belly Dancing Group.** The group leader has done all the risk assessments required for the Belly dancing Group ready to return to the Longmead Centre once lockdown has ended. She has been in contact with her group throughout. Group Leader: Sandra Ransom



**Photography group.** The group leader has kept in touch via email and they have been out as allowed. He is looking into building a web site. Group Leader: Martin Lewis



The group leader has set up WhatsApp for her book club, they have video chats, emails and phone calls. Choosing and discussing books as a group. Group Leader: Lucy Penney

## TUESDAY VIRTUAL JAZZ CLUB



In the early days of u3aJazz I prepared presentations with a theme, drawing on videos from YouTube with information from the Wikipedia online encyclopaedia. Here is the one from some 8 years ago prompted by Strictly Come Dancing named "1920's Hot, Hot, Hot Dance" which I later posted on YouTube where it has achieved 2.4 million views. Strangely enough, the extracts from "Strictly" are the parts of the presentation which have received the most criticism, people like the old stuff - not the modern! The other criticism is that most of the film is 1930s, not 1920s.

The fact is that very little genuine 1920s filmed jazz dance is available - sound for movies arrived too late. You may watch it at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUFVnrndn1ps&t=59s>

The last part of the film "Whitey's Lindy Hoppers" is now available as cleaned up Hellzapoppin' in full colour Colorized with DeOldify at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzc7vY9VTnk> well worth a look.

### "Bolden" The Movie - Not Recommended

Last week I mentioned a movie available on Amazon Prime named "Bolden" about Buddy Bolden, creator of jazz. I had not then seen it. I can only recommend that you do not waste your money. It is full of extreme violence based on a fictitious story about bare knuckle prize fighting. Why Americans find such violence so compelling I just do not understand. It starts off with the statement that little is known about Buddy Bolden - Not true, the carefully researched book "In Search of Buddy Bolden - the First Man of Jazz" by Donald M Marquis gives a very full account of his life and remarkable achievements prior to his commitment to the Louisiana Insane Asylum.

Unfortunately, there is far too little of Bolden's music in the film, but what there is too well executed by Wynton Marsalis. However, I shall never watch the film again. What a lost opportunity to make what should and could have been a great film. I do however recommend the book - a wonderful read of the painstaking research by Donald Marquis. Why the filmmakers had to invent a crass story of violence to distort the true story I shall never understand. No wonder it never went on general release.

## Turkey to Jazz Marches

David Burr has alerted me to Armenian Zildjian cymbal makers. The Armenians were a Christian sect whom Turkey has always denied massacring in 1915. Some of the Armenians moved to the USA in time and eventually started manufacturing Zildjian Cymbals there. The father was succeeded by two sons, who both ran the business, but when the father died the elder son (with his son) together ousted the younger brother Robert **Zildjian** who went on to set up Sabian Cymbals in Canada. So, there are now two companies manufacturing cymbals, both with roots going back to the original Avedis Zildjian, cymbal maker, founded in 1623 in Constantinople (now Istanbul). It all makes an interesting (marketing) story, which you can watch at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CWIN-cCPPs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snL8kdW3ys>

I wish you a Happy New Year - Mike

## PROPOSED NEW GROUP – Ballroom Dancing



A request was made for a Ballroom Dancing Group. If anyone is interested please let Brenda Griffiths know. This group will be set up when conditions allow and as soon as there are enough interested members.

## OTHER NEWS –

### Welcome to Tea 'n Talk, Coffee 'n Cake – Rosie & Sue's U3A Coffee Club.



We meet at Roots Café in the Epsom Methodist Church where we have the opportunity to buy a selection of hot and cold drinks, served with delicious homemade cakes. Make new friends, always plenty to talk about in a friendly relaxed setting and find out more about our U3A.

Sadly, due to Covid Government Guidelines, we don't have any dates or times at the moment, but hope to get it up and running again fortnightly in the New Year, but all places for now, will need to be booked.

Contact Sue on 01372 817497 or email Sue at [david.wood793@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.wood793@ntlworld.com)