

The speaker for October is **Andy Smith**. Andy is a double-amputee who suggests that life with a disability - whilst often challenging - can have its lighter side! Today, he is going to talk about 'Dogs ... and Holidays!'

Love them or hate them, Andy Smith respectfully and poetically suggests that the human race has a lot to learn from its canine companions. The average British pooch enjoys a life of unparalleled ease and luxury ... despite being somewhat smelly, noisy and expensive to run. And if you're still having to live a 'dog's life' in a 'dog eat dog' world, then what you probably need is a thumping good holiday ... with, or without, Fido, Rover or Tiddles at your side!



Our November talk will be about "Doing Our Bit!" Delivered in character, let one man and his broom, "Mr Foreman" of the Emergency Road Repair Service (see photo gallery), talks about the roles carried out by some of the Home Front's unsung heroes, from the Upper Thames Patrol to the workers of the MG Works in Abingdon, via the Emergency Hospital Service. He also looks at some of the civilians who were awarded the George Cross & George Medal. Furthermore, for your delight and delectation, he performs an array of impersonations of notable men of the period! This talk is complimented with a small display of genuine WW2 Home Front civil defence badges and ephemera.



### **GBC Grant received**

Gravesham Borough Council are keen to encourage over 50's residents to keep active and are working in partnership with our U3A to help achieve this. At our **Pop Over Picnic** we announced GBC have given us a grant to enable **25 Free memberships** to our U3A to the end of the year, so we asked those at the Picnic and other subsequent meetings to nominate potential new members. We are pleased to advise all 25 new members have now been signed up and we welcome them to our U3A community.

Sam White, Sports & Recreation Officer at GBC, helped set up Tai-Chi at Legends, Thong Lane. Classes started on Monday 18th September and will meet every Monday at 10.00 - 42 members have signed up so far! Also, on 20th September, GBC arranged a guided tour for 15 members at the Cold War Bunker at Woodlands Park.

Please note that our membership fee has been reduced to £8 for new members up until the end of 2023. We would encourage you to lead family or friends to our website, where it is now easy to take advantage of this offer and join up. We are grateful for the support GBC are giving us. *Alan Scott*

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Marilyn Pascoe has announced that she is stepping down from the Social Committee after five years in the chair. Over that time, she has organised and co-ordinated many successful trips and events, as well as working tirelessly on the financial side.

She is succeeded by Doreen Neighbour, who has worked alongside her for all that time and built up an excellent working relationship. Thanks for all your hard work, Marilyn!

*Doreen Neighbour. Chair Social Committee*

### **A Message from our Founder Chairwoman**

A lot of mystery and gossip could have been avoided had the Master of Ceremonies given me a little space to introduce myself and then you would have known where I was coming from! This month was the correct 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our u3a. Trish French was our first Treasurer and, because she lived in Northfleet and was going to be the King Pin of the Quorum, included Northfleet in our name. Trish died of cancer after a long brave fight. She was a delight to know - so artistic and kind! Margaret Burton kept us up to date with H.O. news and new initiatives. Whatever happened to Margaret? Judith Pursell was the first membership secretary and moved to a car racing town, Stock something. She hoped to start a new u3a there but, somebody beat her to it. She was the most computer literate of the team. Then there was me, totally unsuitable as a Chairman but energetic and determined.

I had lots of help from all over the place. Cartridge World did a lot of computer work for me for nothing. Carol Edwards was very patient with me and taught me how to do sign ups and forms. She joined to do the minutes and lots of other things. Brian Edwards became the 2<sup>nd</sup> chairman because he knew what a Constitution was. I am no office worker. I work at Grass Roots level. I am a hands on girl, because my ambition in the nursing world was to care for and improve the lot of our elderly population. For the first 7 years of my life, I was cared for by my Grandmother. She taught me to cook. I also became an efficient advocate for our elderly whose care in the NHS was always regarded as the Poor Sister. Those days are over and it's my turn to be cared for.

Here's a word for you to ponder on: Iatrogenic\*. You will only find it in an honest doctor's letter. Watch for it, in all you loved one's medical summaries. That's all from me for now. I hope some of you will join me in my home to explore the different Interest groups. They are what I feel are the backbone of u3a. What a difference 20 years make in so many disciplines. God Bless Us All, *Jenny Vallely*

*\*To save you the bother: Iatrogenic. (adjective): Relating to illness caused by medical examination or treatment. In other words, medics making a bad situation worse! ed.*

## NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

Sue Northcott reports that the expedition to the Wisley Glow Festival on Monday 27th November 2023 is now fully booked, thank you. *ed.*

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Barbara Blum writes that her **Dusk Strollers** group will be taking a rest through the dark winter nights and that she hopes to revive it as a 'Spring-Summer or depending on weather' fixture next year

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**Second Geography Group.** Our Geography Group is full but two or three people have expressed an interest in joining so I am exploring whether there is sufficient interest to start a second Geography Group. Please email me, Colin Nice, if you might be interested in joining such a group.

Essentially we choose a different country each month and each member of the group is allocated a different aspect of the country to study and feed back on the following month – so yes, there is a bit of homework! My contact details are towards the end of the newsletter *Colin Nice*

### **Ramble – Hampstead Heath - Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Oct**

Our all-day ramble is the 5 ml London walk originally planned for August, but postponed because of a rail strike. We'll be exploring the world-famous Hampstead Heath with its spectacular views over London, Parliament Hill Fields, 18 different ponds and Kenwood House, not to mention cafés and famous pubs. The rich and famous are often there so who knows who we'll rub shoulders with. We travel by high speed train to St Pancras and then by bus to Hampstead. There's a very nice café next to Kenwood House for lunch or take your own packed lunch and there's plenty of seating. Hopefully we should be back by 5pm.

Please let me know if you'd like to come.

**Meet** at 9.25am at the Rathmore Rd entrance to the station (train departs 9.45) and bring your rail and bus passes if you have them.

*Colin Nice*

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### **Hike to Shorne – Fri 3rd Nov**

Dennis Nicholls leads us on a 7 ml walk from Cascades to Shorne in our local area of outstanding beauty. Could even be a stop at the café in Shorne Woods Country Park!

**Meet** at Cascades main car park at 9.30pm

The Embroidery group has changed its name and is now called '**Sewingtogether**'. Led by Edina Geering, it has made a promising start and now has 15 members. We meet in the Community room at ASDA, Imperial Retail Park every Tuesday at 10:30. Our theme will be learning embroidery skills and working on projects.

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### **Fishing (fresh water) group**

The Fishing group now has 5 members and is led by Graham Saunders.



The **Tai Chi group** got off to a good start on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. A good few of our u3a Members have begun attending weekly Gravesham Council run Tai Chi classes at Legends Sports Centre next to Cascades. We are learning the slow, controlled movements to improve balance, flexibility, strength and wellbeing so if you see us looking serene and steady with wonderful posture you will know why! The schedule is every Monday from 10:00 to 11:00. The tutor is Steve Martin, £3 per session, no need to book. *Joan Porter.*

### **Mindfulness Meditation**

Join us to learn some useful breathing techniques and a variety of meditation practices to help bring relaxation to the body, calmness to the mind and learn to value the importance of finding quiet in our busy and often stressful world. Sessions will be chair-based, relaxed, fun & accessible. Suggested meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 1000-1130, venue to be decided. Sign up if you're interested. *Julie Redmond.*



**Two possible new groups.** Our founder-chairman, Jenny Vallely, would like to form a couple of new groups to meet in her home in Valley Drive, where there is a wide pavement and off road parking is possible.

- A Current Affairs Discussion group meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 14:30.
- A board games group, playing 'Upword' and 'Scrabble' and the like, meeting once a month on the day that best suits members.

Her house can accommodate up to 8 people. There will be a sign-up sheet on the social committee table at October's general meeting.

### **Bowls (Short Mat)**

There seems to be quite a lot of interest in short mat bowling. The venue would be the "Dome" at Legends sports facility, next to Cascades, Thong Lane. It has a lot to offer, an excellent 'true' bowling surface, existing tennis court markings which can be utilized and adjacent free parking. An all-weather venue and a bar for hot and cold drinks.

We envisage meeting twice a month eg 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays (possibly starting Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup>) 10:00 - 12:00, but this is open to discussion. There will be a signup sheet at the next general meeting.

**Mexican Train Dominoes** New board game group. Interested? Please contact *Peter Buttle*.

### **Going to the 'Flicks'**

Did you know we have a cinema in Gravesend and have you seen a film there recently? We have 82 Members in our Woodville Friends' Group, started to encourage Members to enjoy company while watching a film (or show) at the Woodville. 1100 hrs showings are £6 for anyone and, with your u3a Membership card, you get afternoon and evening showings for £6 too. Free loyalty cards are available at the box office – see 5 films then get 6<sup>th</sup> free. For live streamed shows from National Theatre Live and the RSC, see 3 screenings and get 4<sup>th</sup> free. How good is that? Sadly, this great local facility is very underused yet is on our doorstep – just a free bus pass ride away, with the option of adding on a

coffee and a chat before a film, lunch after and a bit of shopping in town. All our Woodville Friends receive a monthly email of What's On and Sue and I liaise with Members who would like some company. How about giving it a try.

If you would like to join Woodville Friends, please login to our U3A website <https://u3asites.org.uk/gravesend/home> (or Google U3A Gravesend) then go to MEMBERS tab and MEMBERS LOGIN then within Groups select Woodville Friends and click to join the group. Any problems, email [joan.portergrav@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joan.portergrav@hotmail.co.uk) *Joan Porter & Sue Kirwan*

**Christmas Meals** - we're not offering to cook the turkey or peel the sprouts, but here are two tempting u3a Christmas meal options on offer:

- **Cruise Ship Lunch and Show – Sat 2 December 10:00 – 15:30 approx. – Ambassador's Cruise Ship 'Ambition' £69pp.** Sail across from Gravesend to Tilbury to join the Ambition for a welcome cocktail, look around the ship, 5 course meal and show.

Full payment must be made before Tuesday, 17 October when the group booking will be made. Look on [www.u3asites.org.uk/gravesend/home](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/gravesend/home) under 'Events' for full details, or contact Peter Buttle [peter\\_buttle@hotmail.com](mailto:peter_buttle@hotmail.com).

Signing up and payment can be made at the General Meeting, on Friday 13 October. (NB – to book your place Peter will need to have your cheque, your name, as it appears on your Photo ID (needed on the day) and your date of birth.

- **Bartellas in Meopham**, Wed. 6 December at 12:30 hrs. £30 for 3 course lunch, tea/coffee payable on the day. No ID required. Always an excellent meal and service. Organiser Maggie Hart [maghart@hotmail.com](mailto:maghart@hotmail.com). Sign up sheet at the next General Meeting.

**Two** occasions to get glammed up, enjoy good food and company (and with NO washing up!!) *Joan Porter, SOCIAL COMMITTEE*

## OTHER LOCAL NEWS

### THAMES CLIPPERS (UBER BOATS) TRIP TO LONDON THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER.

Thames Clippers are running trial trips from Gravesend up to London.  
Full details are on this website :

<https://www.thamesclippers.com/whats-on-and-offers/gravesend-tilbury-leisure-trips>

The boat leaves Gravesend Town Pier at 09:45 and arrives at London Bridge City Pier at 11:00 following a brief diversion to Tilbury. The return trip leaves London Bridge City Pier at 17:25, arriving back at Gravesend at 18:25.

A return ticket is available for £23.50 (£11.75 with a bus-pass) but it's worth considering buying an **ALL DAY TICKET** costing £30.00 (£15 to most of us) as this will also allow you to travel on any of the the regular Uber Boat services going up river from the Pool as far as Battersea Power Station. Not only is the old power station now fully restored, enabling those with a head for heights to visit the viewing area on one of the chimneys, but there is also a new shopping centre there for those with money to spend! *ed.*

The City Praise Centre are holding a **Coffee Morning** on 13 October, at 11 am in aid of the MacMillan Trust in conjunction with the Gravesham's Health Inequalities worker. If you would like to go you would be very welcome.  
*Doreen Neighbour*

Did you know that the **Curry Mecca** in Gravesend has been voted one of the best Indian restaurants in Kent? The manager, Ash, is considering holding an event for senior citizens in the area. Planning is still at an early stage, but would take the form of a meal (which may be discounted slightly for people without transport to get to the event). Entertainment could be provided in the form of a small jazz group or combo playing music suitable for the age group.

I have suggested to him that he may have more success with a lunchtime event although I am sure that many members of the U3A would be happy to turn out of an early evening. I am seeing him next on Friday 13 October. If you are interested please contact me at [mikeswift@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mikeswift@blueyonder.co.uk) or on 01474 744198 or 07762 607870 so that he can get some idea of numbers.  
*Mike Swift*



## **Creative Writing Story Of The Month**

### **The Odyssey – by Robert Vanderwindt**

I love to go travelling by land, sea or air  
To see those places I've dreamed about to ramble without care.  
I've seen the films, the books I've read  
Now in the footsteps of Marco Polo oh I long to tread.

In Europe I would proudly stroll to see each historic site  
Take in Vienna's magnificence and enjoy Paris by night.  
On a gondola in Venice I'd see the canals so grand  
Or even visit Finland and look at Santa's land.

Asia is a mystery with bazaars and temples galore  
The Taj Mahal, the Forbidden City, who could ask for more.  
The enigma of Mount Fuji and pagodas oh so rare  
Even the great desert places with shimmering sands everywhere.

Africa has always fascinated me, even as a child  
Its jungles and its animals so big, so strong, so wild.  
America the land of the free with its traffic, cities and bustle  
Yet even here a world of calm exists, of beauty without hassle.

Australia so far way, almost a world apart  
With kangaroos and koala bears they always pull your heart.  
The Pacific islands so remote, a paradise they seem  
A place to live, a place to love a precious eternal dream.

But always back to home I'll come, for nowhere does compare  
To familiar food, family and friends, even East Enders I can bear.  
To England's green and pleasant land, an island like a jewel I'd return  
Home is best, home is fine a lesson I should learn.

## GROUP REPORTS



**Birdwatchers** Last month we headed over the river to RSPB **Rainham Marshes**. The reserve is made up of a variety of habitats including wet grasslands and ditches, dry grasslands and scrub, woodland and pools. From the RSPB centre you can look out over a large chunk of the reserve. Bird feeders are positioned in front of the large viewing area where we could see a healthy population of house sparrows coming to feed. From here we could also view some of the pools where little egrets, grey herons and greylag geese were resting or feeding.

Next we headed towards the wooded area which was fairly quiet, only hearing and seeing a robin and a fleeting blackcap. As we proceeded round the reserve towards the first hide we could hear the call of Cetti's warbler and had a view of a kestrel, fleetingly again, flying above us. From the hide coot, gadwall and mallard ducks were seen, either asleep or gliding over the pool. Moving on we had views of starlings collecting together on one of the pylons and could hear their delightful chattering and whistling noises that they make. Further on we had views over more pools and added more ducks to our list, teal, wigeon and shoveler.

Our next stop was the Firing Butts hide, this site used to be a military firing range. Here we had views of a little grebe constantly bobbing under the water to feed, and a wading bird called a ruff. The ruff goes off up to the artic to breed in the summer and at this time of the year we see them as they return on their way back to Africa. On our way round we had also been seeing other wildlife. Red admiral butterflies feeding on the flowering ivy and a couple of Devil's coach-horses. These are long black beetles that curl up their abdomens if they feel threatened, which we saw them do. On the way back to the centre we observed a buzzard being relentlessly mobbed by a crow. It made it possible to see how much larger the buzzard was. Our final couple of birds were kindly pointed out by some photographers. A stonechat and a whinchat. Both birds like to perch on top of bushes before flying off low to the ground or another perch. Stonechats are with us all year but whinchats are summer visitors so will be just passing through on their way to warmer climes.

*Irene Robson*

## **Witness for the Prosecution**

The venue for this unique production is the ex Council Chamber of London County Hall and all 22 of us were stunned by the magnificence of the early 20th century building with its grand marble colonnades and beautiful woodwork.

All the action for this play is based on a story by Agatha Christie and centres around the trial for murder of a wealthy, unmarried, middle aged woman by the attractive young man on trial. It is performed in the round and the Council Leader's chair serves as the Judge's seat. The small cast of outstanding actors keep the suspense going until the final minutes of the play and our group members were unanimous in their praise for this most unusual of productions. *Jan Rees*

## **Sewingtogether #2**

The first meeting of the newly formed sewing group met at the ASDA Community Room on Tuesday 19 September under the guidance of Edina and was enjoyed by all. The group discussed and agreed to continue to meet once a month. We also discussed future projects and a name for the group.

Our first project was a fabric book cover embellished with buttons and beads. We chatted as we sewed, made new friends, shared resources and helped one another along the way.

After a lot of ideas, the name 'Sewingtogether' was unanimously decided upon, also that we should meet on the first Tuesday of each month which was the most convenient for all. We plan on finishing our book covers at the next meeting. *Edina Geering*



## **Culture on our doorstep**

Nearly 30 of our Members, over 2 visits, recently enjoyed a fascinating few hours visiting the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara Sikh temple in Gravesend.



We were warmly welcomed, covered our hair, left our shoes and our worries near the door and were given a conducted tour inside this serenely beautiful and restful place of worship. We learned that the Sikh religion is based on equality where all who enter are treated to respect and nourishment. The main tenets of Sikhism were explained and we were able to ask questions to better understand a culture and religion on our doorstep that many of us knew little about. Each Gurdwara has a free community kitchen where meals are served to people of all faiths. Members were very happy to partake of the food generously offered and

pronounced it wonderful. Thank you to our contact Diljeet Nota for arranging the visits and to a very patient Mrs Gill for being our guide. *Joan Porter*

### **Geography Group**

We were all given a different European river on which to find geographical facts (length, countries passed through, etc), together with a few other interesting or 'fun' fact. The rivers covered Europe, with rivers Don and Volga mainly or completely within Russia – the Volga, at 2,200 mls, being Europe's longest. The Danube, the second longest at 1770 mls, passes through or forms the border with ten countries, the most by any river anywhere, and it passes through four capital cities on its way.

We also covered the Elbe in Germany and the Czech Republic, the Loire and Rhone in France, Tagus in Portugal and the Dnieper, with its source in Russia, subsequently flowing through Kiev in Ukraine, before reaching the Black Sea. It was in the news recently when the Russians blew up an important dam on the river.

Those of us that enjoy river cruises were in 'cruise heaven' and able to enjoy again their cruising experiences, as well as to be given new ideas for future ones! *Colin Nice*



## Walks report – September



In this summer of changed walks because of rain or rail strikes, our planned walk from Sandwich to Deal was cancelled, being replaced by a worthy substitute walk from Maidstone along the Medway Valley Path to Watlington. There's a really nice café by the bridge at Watlington, shorn of frills, but budget priced, and with a nice selection of goodies. We caught the bus back to Maidstone having enjoyed a jolly good walk – and a very nice café stop!

Later in the month Tony Smith led another good crowd on a 5 ml walk from the Riverside Country Park in Lower Rainham along the Medway to Motney Hill, before turning inland a little and visiting Berengrave Nature Reserve – and subsequently of course, the café on their return to the country park!

*Colin Nice*

Does anyone else feel like their being watched?

Like Comment Share



Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)

\*They're

Just now · Like · Reply



### **A Tour de Force in Three Acts!**

Last Saturday night, 66 members of our U3A assembled down at the Three Daws for an evening of beer, fish and chips and Murder Most Foul!

The scene is 1950s Hollywood, but not the 'Technicolor' Hollywood of Marilyn Monroe and Clark Gable: rather, the sleazy black and white B-movie world of Ed Wood, Bela Lugosi and poverty-row productions of horror, sci-fi and exploitation movies like *Night of the Ghouls*, *Orgy of the Dead* and *Jail Bait!* A world of incompetent hack directors, alcoholic technicians, underpaid and exploited *ingenues* and aging, fading actresses, where bodices are tight and the budget even tighter!

After being briefly introduced to the movie cast and crew with their stratospheric levels of mutual fear and loathing, we witness the shambolic enactment of a 'virgin sacrifice' scene in a 'Gothic Abbey', whereupon the director breaks everyone for lunch. A moment later, the loathsome, overbearing producer staggers onstage with a surprisingly effective prop dagger protruding from his chest and collapses, dead, in front of of our amazed eyes. Whodunnit, and why?

After our supper break, time to get another round in and peruse the intriguing profile notes of the characters involved, we are invited to a Q&A session with all the film cast and crew (except the corpse) - an opportunity to explore how they felt about the producer and each other and explore their manifold guilty secrets. We are then supplied with descriptions of the 'evidence' gathered by the Scotland Yard detective (in Hollywood?!) and his trusty PC, some of which is relevant and much not, and invited, each one of us, to identify the killer and their motivation. Finally, the Inspector reviews the possible killers and identifies the real culprit, who unrepentantly confesses to us why he did it. Fifteen of us had correctly named the killer, although pinning down the motive proved more challenging.

Our thanks are due to Marilyn Pascoe and the Alternate Shadows Players for a thrilling, memorable and very sociable evening, and to the staff of the Three Daws who produced such excellent suppers at the first interval. *Mick Brookes*



## Pop Over Picnic – 13 September



No pyramid stage, blue skies, mud or dodgy loos, but our first 'pop over' picnic on Legends Sports' area, near Cascades, was a resounding success. Over 50 Members (more than 10% of our Membership) brought their packed lunches and enthusiasm to enjoy some good company and entertainment. We had music, courtesy of our ukulele players, rousing piano and accompaniment from Jonnie and Jools and the 'melodic' voices of the picnickers belting out everything from 'Delilah' to 'The Wild Rover'. The police helicopter hovered above for a while but left us to our mini festival.

Our Pétanque demo resulted in Gurpal, playing for the very first time, throwing a brilliant boule. We didn't shake, rattle or roll but instead had a modern jive session to show just how much fun can be had at a modest pace. We even had a tap dancer - tricky on uneven grass. New Members hopefully found us a friendly bunch and will try other activities. Thank you to everyone who made it such a great event, perhaps to be repeated ... *Joan Porter.*



**Information given below is directly from the Beacon website as at 5Oct. If your group's meeting is missing or wrong, please contact the relevant Group Leader!**

**FRIDAY 13th OCTOBER**

10:00 Photography 2 - Ben Winder  
**13:45 Meeting at City Praise Centre**

**SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER**

**19:30. Barn Dance Christ Church**

**MONDAY 16th OCTOBER**

10:00 Tai Chi - Alan Scott  
12:00. Ukelele - Alan Scott  
14:00 Rummikub - Anne Pilkington  
19:30. Modern Jive Dance - Alan+Lynne

**TUESDAY 17th OCTOBER**

10:00 Spanish - Janet Rees  
10:30. Creative Writing 2  
10:30 Sewingtogether - Edina Geering  
13:00. NK College Lunch  
14:00 Reading - Margaret Groom  
14:00 Afternoon Tea - Maggie Hart

**WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER**

10:00 Mah Jong I - Linda Mei Stevens  
11:00 Tame your Digital tech - Ali M  
12:00. Virtual Get Together Peter B  
14:00 Badminton - Sandra Parker  
14:00 Classical Music Appreciation  
14:15 Line Dancing - Linda Howe

**THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER**

10:00 Creative Writing - Penny Collins  
12:00 Fully Loaded - Ben Winder  
14:00 Thursday Bowls - Dennis Neighb'r

**FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER**

09:25. Ramble Hampstead Heath - Colin  
14:00. Canasta - Sylvie Stickings  
14:00. Pool - Tony Tigg

**MONDAY 23rd OCTOBER**

10:00. Psychology - Lin Fridd  
10:00 Tai Chi - Alan Scott  
14:00. Cycling Club - Peter Buttle  
14:00 Readers Forum - Carol Edwards  
19:30. Modern Jive Dance - Alan+Lynne

**TUESDAY 24th OCTOBER**

**08:15 Holiday Coach for Cheshire**  
10:30 Sewingtogether - Edina Geering  
12:15. Petanque all Year - Joan Porter  
14:00 Bridge - Anne Stott  
14:00. Painting and Sketching - Judy D

**WEDNESDAY 25th OCTOBER**

12:00. Virtual Get Together Peter B  
12:30. Lunch Bunch - Brown's, BW  
14:00 Badminton - Sandra Parker  
14:15 Line Dancing - Linda Howe

**THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER**

10:00 Rummikub 2 - Sandra Parker  
10:30. Armchair Travellers - Sally  
10.30 Senior Elastixs - Jan Elci  
14.00 French Convers'n - Anne Stott  
14.00 Geography - Colin Nice  
14:00 Thursday Bowls - Dennis Neighb'r

**FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER**

10:00. Bird watching - Irene Robson  
14:00 Wine Appr'n - Brian Edwards

**SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER**

**Solos visit the Orchard Theatre**

**MONDAY 30th OCTOBER**

10:00 Tai Chi - Alan Scott  
19:30. Modern Jive Dance - Alan+Lynne

**TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER**

10:30 Sewingtogether - Edina Geering

**WEDNESDAY 1st NOVEMBER**

**Day Trip to the Poppy Factory**  
10:00. Film Apprec'n - Jean Stephens  
11:00 Tame your Digital tech - Ali M  
14:00 Art Appreciation - Robert V  
14:00 Badminton - Sandra Parker  
14:15 Line Dancing - Linda Howe

**THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER**

12:00 Solos Coffee Meet - Linda Howe  
14:00 Thursday Bowls - Dennis Neighb'r

**FRIDAY 3rd NOVEMBER**

09:30. Hike - Cascades to Shorne  
14:00. Mexican Train Dominoes - Peter  
14:00 Table Tennis. Tony Tigg

### **SUNDAY 5th NOVEMBER**

No Sunday Lunch organised this month

### **MONDAY 6th NOVEMBER**

10:00 Photography 1 - Anne Pilkington  
10:00 Tai Chi - Alan Scott  
12:00. Ukelele - Alan Scott  
19:30. Modern Jive Dance - Alan+Lynne

### **TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER**

10:00 Spanish - Janet Rees  
10:00 Model Making - Chris Hewlett  
10:00. Poetry Appr'n - Theresa Johnson  
10:30 Sewingtogether - Edina Geering  
14:00 Local History - Joyce Bell  
14:00. Rummikub 3 - Anna Burroughs

### **WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER**

10:00 Mah Jong 2 - Sandra Parker  
12:00. Virtual Get Together Peter B  
14:00 Badminton - Sandra Parker  
**14:30 The Lion King Curtain time**

### **THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER**

10:00. Cribbage 1 - Brian Edwards  
11:30. Low Impact Fitness - Lynne  
13:45 British History - Mick Brookes  
14:00 Thursday Bowls - Dennis Neighb'r

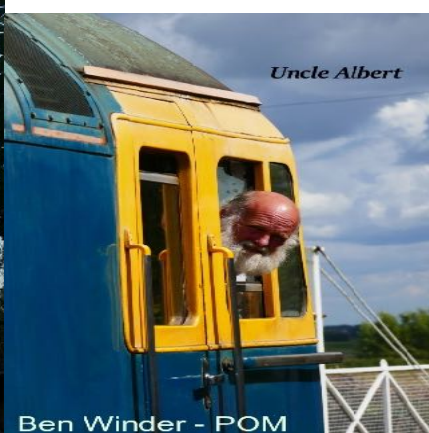
### **FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER**

10:00 Photography 2 - Ben Winder  
**13:45 Meeting at City Praise Centre**

Next month's issue will be edited by Trevor Woodward. Please send all editorial contributions to [grv.u3a.editor@gmail.com](mailto:grv.u3a.editor@gmail.com) , deadline Wed 1st November 2023

### **Photography 2 - Gravesham Project**

We revisited aspects of Gravesham, central Gravesend, outdoor spaces, buildings, recreation, transport, places of worship etc. We noticed changes and some deterioration, especially in central Gravesend, closure of pubs and shops but there are still pockets of interest and beauty. Ben's Picture of the Month 'Uncle Albert', guess why! Next theme 'On The Edge'. Joan Porter.







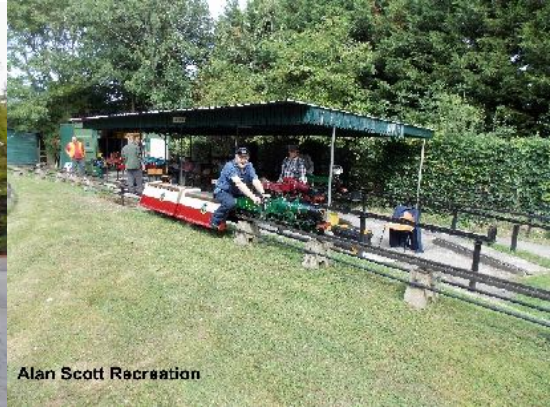
Joan Porter Central Gravesend



Jill Pritchard Open Spaces



Ann Buttle - Pubs



Alan Scott Recreation



Rob Porter Transport



Peter Buttle Around Gravesend

**Main Committee - no change from last month**