



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
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SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023 - GUILDFORD AREA u3a

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Guildford u3a members,

I hope you are all managing to enjoy the summer weather now it is here. This edition of the newsletter comes with your membership renewal form and information about Group Enrolment Day which we are holding for the first time this year at Spectrum. If you would like to join a new group or two, or just meet the Group Leaders for a chat, do come along. Details are in this newsletter, along with information about upcoming trips and outings.

Most groups do not meet during the summer months as people are on holiday and/or grandparent duty, but do not forget we hold coffee mornings all through June, July and August so that you do not lose social time with fellow Gu3a members. Details of places and times are in this newsletter.

Attendance at the last two Annual Lectures was very disappointing indeed. These are high-profile special events, costly to put on, and we cannot afford to keep running them at such financial losses. Rather than abandon them altogether, as we have been obliged to do with the Study Days, we thought we could scale them down, using one of our usual venues and a more modestly priced speaker. I should be very sorry to have to lose this special event as well.

Our Monthly Meetings are similarly poorly attended. Our Speaker Secretary, Jennifer Margrave, tries hard to find interesting talks for the last Monday in the month at the Queen Elizabeth Park Centre. In an attempt to foster more interest, we have decided to extend the meeting time. Along with coffee and biscuits there will be a table where you can find the latest information about Trips and Outings and book your place and also a book and jigsaw swap shop. I don't know about you but I did an awful lot of reading and jigsaws during the pandemic and few of them bear doing more than twice. Swap them! Similarly, anyone who has an upcoming Gu3a event can use this space and time to promote it. Please see the separate item in this newsletter for full details.

Did any of you take part in the *Off the Wall* events on 10th May? I tried to be at Hadrian's Wall then in person but it was all fully booked far too quickly. I had to make do with just walking the wall later in the month, ticking it at last off my bucket list. The weather was wonderful and we managed it in pretty good order!

I am sure you have noticed that we have replaced our alerts with weekly bulletins, to make sure you are kept regularly up to date with everything that is happening at Gu3a. In the latest one you can find your collected 1953 Coronation Day memories, for which I thank you all again. You can also find them on the website.

With all good wishes for a happy, relaxing summer.

Julie Beattie Chairman Gu3a

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES' REPORT

Nuffield Health Better Mobility Classes

Our new group, in conjunction with Nuffield Health Fitness and Wellbeing Club, started in May. We'll have blocks of six classes, each block having a different focus, including strengthening, stretching, wellbeing, etc. Each block will be advertised to Gu3a members separately, with a maximum of 15 places available. Our first classes have gone well, learning techniques for helping us to improve our mobility – often a challenge as we get older. The classes will continue in 2023/24 and we're looking forward to having fun while getting fitter.

Group Enrolment Day

Our Enrolment Day will take place on Tuesday 22nd August 2023, from 2.00-3.30pm, at The Spectrum Leisure Centre. We'll be in Arena B, downstairs, and access will be either through the front entrance (then past the café and down the stairs or use the lift), or from the underground car park and through the outside door. There is lots of parking on the site. There is no bus service to The Spectrum, but there are frequent buses along London Road, and then a short walk across Stoke Park.

This event is our chance to meet Group Leaders, to find out about what groups do, and to enrol in groups. Bring along a friend, who might be interested in joining us.

There will be a Membership Enrolment team there, but this is just for enrolling new members to Gu3a. Information about renewing membership will be sent out to all members next month, by email or, for some, by hand delivery or post. The Join/Renew page of our website will be updated shortly to give details of what to do this year. Existing members must renew their subscription either by online banking or sending a cheque to the Membership Secretary, or dropping a cheque into a box at the event.

We look forward to seeing lots of our members at our Group Enrolment Day. Come and join groups, or even offer to help us in some way.

Learning and laughing – my life with u3a

When I first joined Gu3a I could use a computer, but I soon had to learn about connecting my laptop to a projector for my Exploring Local History group. I didn't have a technical background, and didn't really understand much about IT, but I was willing to have a go. Most of the time things go as expected, but when they don't work there's often a funny side to laugh about. Everything worked pretty well until Covid came along, and we all had to learn to use Zoom. I found myself running the technology side remotely for several groups over the next two years. I even learnt to share YouTube videos in meetings. When we got back to

face-to-face meetings, I learnt to run hybrid meetings, with some people in the venue and some on Zoom, using more bits of technology. At Monthly Meetings I've been known to say "Talk amongst yourselves while we sort out this technology problem!". I've learned so much since I joined Gu3a. Our motto is Learn, Laugh, Live and, as u3a is a self-help organisation, there's plenty of opportunity to get involved. We've all got knowledge and experience that can be helpful, or used in groups. We don't need to be teachers to run groups – be enthusiastic about a topic, be willing to learn, and have a go.

Moira MacQuaide

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The current Gu3a ends on 31st August so Renewal time is fast approaching! Most of you, except those who have joined since 1st May or purchased an extended membership during Christmas 2022/ New Year 2023, will shortly receive an invitation to renew by email. Those who do not use email will receive a paper copy. Please help me to process everyone's renewal efficiently by following these guidelines.

- Renewal invitations include the data that Gu3a hold about you. Please check this carefully and email me with any updates or omissions. **There is no need to return your renewal invitation with your subscription on this occasion.**
- Renew straight away; all renewals will be dated until 31st August 2024.
- Pay by Bank Transfer if possible, using your **membership number as the reference.**
- If you pay by cheque, make your cheque out correctly & write your membership number on the back of your cheque. There will be a post box for cheques in the Membership Area at Group Enrolment Day on 22nd August for those who wish to avoid postal costs.
- There is the option to pay using Paypal but they have become greedy and take £1.13 of your £30 in fees so your membership subscription does not go so far if you pay this way.
- New membership cards will be sent as an email attachment. If you prefer a physical card, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Guildford u3a, PO Box 1631, Guildford GU1 9HA. If you would like a paper prospectus, please make your envelope C5 size, 23 x 16cm with a standard rate stamp.

I will endeavour to send out all the new membership cards by 1st September but I do need you to help by following these guidelines to achieve this.

Sue Watson, Membership Secretary. Membership@guildfordu3a.org.uk 01483 323631

SURREY NETWORK STUDY DAYS

Friday 15 September An Utterly Incomplete History of Keyboards & Keyboard Music – Steven Devine

Friday 20 October Quarks, the Universe and Everything – Professor Philip Harris, University of Sussex

Friday 17 November Rembrandt - From Fame to Poverty & Final Acclaim – Colin Wiggins
Places for all lectures are available in the hall or for on-line viewing

MONTHLY MEETINGS

To try to encourage more interest in our monthly meetings they will take on a new format from September. They will still take place at the Queen Elizabeth Centre but will start at 1.30pm in the hall on the top floor of the building. There we will serve tea, coffee and biscuits and you can bring along any books and jigsaw puzzles you no longer want and be able to swap them with other people. Our Trips and Outings organisers, Ann Elms and Jackie Ring will be there with all the details of upcoming visits which you can sign up for. If you are a member of a group which is holding a special event, for example flower arranging or a guest speaker at Science Forum, this is also an opportunity for you to let other members know about it. There will also be information about any events at the university. Our speaker will give their talk on the middle floor at 2.30pm as usual. We look forward to seeing you there! Members will be able to see all the talks organised in the new prospectus or when the new 'term' is put on the website.

Julie Beattie

VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNINGS

These are held fortnightly, at 11.00am, varying the days. The dates, and how to join in, are on the Gu3a website.

Moira MacQuaide

GENERATING PUBLICITY FOR THE u3a

We are looking to publicise newsworthy stories about the Guildford u3a that will be of interest to the general public as well as other Gu3a members. We need to attract a steady flow of new members and using the media is one way of generating interest.

It would therefore be very helpful if members and group leaders could keep an eye out for interesting and possibly unusual news items within their groups that could be of interest to members and non-members. Topics should have a connection with the u3a, rather than being something a member has done outside the organisation.

Example topics could be a member winning a prize for a piece of art created in a u3a group, a newsworthy talk given by a high profile speaker or a visit to somewhere that has been in the news recently.

For all news items, it helps a lot to have a good photo, or even a video. Please note that members need to give their permission to appear in photos used for publicity.

The types of media we target include social media such as Facebook, local free magazines such as VantagePoint, and local newspapers and radio.

Stephen Bailey

HEALTH & ACTIVITY TRACKER PILOT

The Health & Activity Tracker pilot is part of a new collaborative project between Surrey Libraries, Active Surrey, SCC IT & Digital, and University of Surrey to introduce a new service to the libraries: Active Surrey began a new partnership with Surrey Libraries in 2022 to provide opportunities in library settings for residents to take part in activities, events and services that will increase/impact their physical activity levels.

Since March 2023 residents living in or near Camberley, **Guildford**, Redhill, Merstham and Redhill Libraries can borrow for FREE (if a library member, if not they can join) a Health & Activity Tracker. The trackers are available to borrow for 6 weeks with an opportunity to renew. The trackers have a whole host of features including sleep and activity tracking, heart rate and stress monitoring, and PAI – personal activity intelligence metric which can help wearers manage their health status. Each library will have 3- 4 trackers which are available to loan to adult members. For further information please

visit <https://www.activesurrey.com/community/libraries> and <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/news-and-events/news#monitors> for up to date availability of the trackers at each library.

RETIREMENT OCCUPATION

The word ‘Retirement’ means many things to many people. I have been very fortunate in my ability to focus on giving illustrated presentations as a main retirement occupation. Tracing my family history, I ascertained that my grandfather was a cousin to Sir Joseph Lyons (always known as Joe), the co-founder of J Lyons & Co, famous for its Teashops, Corner House restaurants, Swiss Rolls, Cup Cakes, etc .

The family relationship encouraged me to research the company history, which has led to numerous presentations. These cover not only company history but extend to the story of LEO, the world’s first commercial computer, designed and manufactured by Lyons and Art in the Lyons Teashops, a post-war project to glamorise the run-down teashops with commissioned lithograph paintings.

I have given more than 200 presentations since the year 2008, advertised only by word of mouth. Audiences have included 46 u3as mainly in S.E. England. Guildford u3a is, of course, among these! The pandemic led me to give successful online talks, which now continue unabated.

Central u3a have recently developed a project, enabling any member to offer talks online, to which all members nationwide can obtain access. In this way I gave the J Lyons company history talk on 23 March and the LEO talk on 16 June.

Pleasingly, there have been spin-offs in the form of invitations to talk online to Exeter u3a and to London Regions u3a, which consist of 43 u3as across London. A more recent development has been an invitation to participate in the u3a Radio Podcast, which consists of monthly episodes covering recorded interviews on any subject of interest. My interview covering matters about the J Lyons history was released on 17 June – see <https://www.u3a.org.uk/news/u3a-radio-podcast>. The second part of the interview covering the J Lyons story is due for release 17 September.

Neville Lyons, long-time member Guildford u3a

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

ENGINEERING GROUP

Whilst many u3a Groups excel at exploring our rich heritage, last week Guildford u3a Engineering Group took a look into the future with a visit to the University of Surrey, touching on communications, automotive design, wind tunnel airflow modelling, and robotics.

The University have the largest academic Communications Systems facility in Europe, complete with its own campus-wide cellphone network, and played a key role in the development of 5G mobile.

Be not afraid - 6G is coming, but not just yet. The 5G/6G Innovation Centre is now focussing on setting 6G standards, including for immersive experiences such as virtual and augmented reality for industry and consumers.

The Formula Student Engineering Design Centre were busy preparing their EV racer entry for the 25th international 'Formula Student' event at Silverstone, where all aspects of the design come under intense scrutiny, prior to racing against the clock. Closeness to industry is emphasised with a McLaren chassis hanging on the Centre wall

The Centre for Aerodynamics and Environmental Flow can model fluid flows around bicycles, buildings and much more, key to understanding issues such as wind power and air pollution. Measurements are automated, but It gets a little noisy when the wind tunnels are operating!



Finally robotics – the Centre for Vision, Speech and Signal Processing demonstrated advances in speech and computer vision with a number of robots including 'Spot' the dog who has an autonomous neural network for a brain, can run, climb stairs and then plug itself in when the batteries get too low. Dogfood not required, just a nice juicy recharge..

Chris Payne

JAZZ GROUP

We have enjoyed a great line up of bands this year. The music has been mainly in the trad jazz style from the '20s and '30s New Orleans and Chicago, Dixieland and Tin Pan Alley, but within that there was a wide variety. This has included the repertoires of Stephane Grappelli and Django Reinhardt, Louis Armstrong, Bix Beiderbecke, Chris Barber, Acker Bilk and Jelly Roll Morton and others. Over the concerts we have seen quite a range of instruments being played piano, trumpet, trombone, sousaphone, banjo, clarinet, banjo, etc but also a three-stringed double-bass, and a Stroh violin. And one musician played drums and tuba at the same time!

Band members tell us about the pieces they are playing, something of the lives of the musicians, as well as entertaining stories about their own musical journeys - perhaps when they've met one of these original players. They will often take requests if a member has a favourite piece – for example Fats Waller's *Yer Feet's Too Big* – with very little discussion amongst themselves about how the piece should be played – C? one, two, three – and off they go. Stand-out memorable moments from the year are a vocal rendition of Louis Armstrong's *Winter Wonderland* at the end of our December concert which put us in the mood for Christmas, and a haunting *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* on flute.



We hold six concerts a year from October to April, not in January, in Shalford Village Hall. Admission is £6 for each concert to cover the cost of the band and refreshments. Advance booking is necessary, so that we know beforehand that we've got enough money to pay the band, and that we don't overfill the hall.

Please contact me if you would like to receive information for next year's concerts, which will be circulated to all Jazz Group members in September.

Jackie Ring 01483-824450 ring_jackie@yahoo.co.uk

u3a SINGING GROUP



Another successful year for our group is coming to a close. In December we performed our usual seasonal mix of Carols and Christmas songs and during Easter week "The Journey to the Cross" and other sacred music, both at St Nicholas Church. This term, just for our own enjoyment, we have been singing some of our favourite "songs from the shows", Gilbert and Sullivan, and "choral classics". There is something to suit everyone. After a summer break, we look forward to resuming in early

September. We rehearse at St Catherine's Village Hall, on Monday 10am – 12 noon. Our Monday morning rehearsals set us up for the week! New members are welcome and, whilst reading music is helpful, it's not essential!

SINGING FOR FUN GROUP The Singing for Fun Group is going from strength to strength. Numbers are very healthy and are keeping up. Each fortnight we sing a variety of songs of great variety. Traditional, Folk, Songs from the shows, modern pop, 1950s 1960s etc. etc. At our last meeting of the term the 28th June, we shall belatedly celebrate the Coronation and also enjoy a Cream tea. Kim and I are now working on producing new song sheet words for the Autumn hence increasing our repertoire still further so more members will be warmly welcomed when we resume on Wednesday 6th September. 2 pm at St Nicolas Hall. No singing in parts or music to read, Come and join us. Singing is good for the soul! Please contact me for any further information. I would like to put on record my profound thanks to Kim for her invaluable assistance with administration. etc.

John Varney, Leader

TARGET SHOOTING Taster Session – Wed 20 September, 2.00 – 3.30pm

Have you thought you might like to try this sport? Maybe for the first time - or perhaps this is something you did years ago and are feeling 'rusty'. Why not try a Taster Session? This will be held at the Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley, the headquarters of the National Smallbore Rifle Association. No previous experience is necessary – and all equipment is provided.

The 90-minute session will be led by their fully-qualified instructors, with a maximum of three participants per group, giving a high level of individual instruction. The session commences with a full safety briefing, and includes insurance. Two disciplines will be experienced – 10m air rifle and .22 live fire.

The activity is appropriate for people with a disability, and the instructors are particularly good at accommodating these – but please let us know in advance. We have been on the range while the Paralympic team have been practising, which was very interesting to observe.

The Target Shooting Group has been running for a few years now, with sessions each month between October and June. Members progress at their own speed, for example using turning targets and learning how to adjust their own sights, and new disciplines have been experienced when possible, such as cross bows and pistols. New shooters are welcome to join the group and can be accommodated more easily at the start of the year when extra or slower instruction can be given.

The cost of the 90-minute session is £35. This includes – full tuition from qualified instructors on two disciplines, full safety briefing, use of their ranges, all necessary equipment and insurance. Booking in advance is essential so that we are able to have the required number of instructors available.

If you would like to come along to try this sport for yourself, please contact me for further details.



Jackie Ring 01483-824450 ring_jackie@yahoo.co.uk

OUTINGS AND VISITS REPORT

Our trip to the City of London in March showed us how much has changed in the 'square mile' recently, making it almost unrecognisable for those of our members who had worked in the area. Cranes, road works, barriers and signage were everywhere – and neither cars nor buses are allowed in the area during the day. Simon, our driver, was challenged by someone in a hi-viz jacket "You can't bring that down 'ere, mate." But he did! With silent cyclists now the kings of the road (and pavements) we had to be on our guard at all times, but we made it safely into the **Bank of England Museum** for a very interesting visit. We were given an informative presentation on the history and work of the Bank, its role and limitations in advising governments, trying to keep the economy stable by controlling inflation (a topical

subject), and how bank notes are designed and produced to avoid counterfeiting. Our knowledgeable guide answered many questions. We were then free to look around the museum where there were displays of old coinage and notes, explanations of how wealth was created through trade and industry - and a solid gold ingot which we could try to pick up. In keeping with the financial theme, some of us adjourned to the Crosse Keys for some lunch – this ‘grandiose’ building used to house the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and many of its features remain such as the counter now used as a bar.

Our afternoon started by venturing high up to the **Sky Garden** for an amazing aerial view of London’s impressive skyline – old familiar landmarks like St Paul’s are now dwarfed by the new skyscrapers. Some members also visited another newer roof garden which was at only the 15th floor, but open air and a much greener space.

We then had a private tour of **Mansion House** where our entertaining guide showed us around this magnificent building, home to the Lord Mayors of London and used for civic functions. On the day of our visit the staff were preparing for a formal dinner for plumbers in the evening, setting out their robes ready for them to wear, and place settings in the fabulous Egyptian hall. Other rooms included the Salon with its magnificent chandeliers, and down in the underground vaults was a seriously impressive display of gold and silver-ware used on formal occasion – a couple of extra blokes in suits appeared at the back of our group at that time - just in case! Then it was back to the noise of the street again to our waiting coach.

By complete contrast, our visit in April to Milestones Museum was a nostalgic trip down memory lane. We enjoyed having a go on amusement arcade machines in the form of a seaside pier where we tried to dislodge pennies, laughed at ourselves in distorting mirrors and then strolled along cobbled streets with replica shops from Victorian times right up to the 30s and 40s and beyond. There was something for everyone with vintage vehicles and fascinating films of life in bygone years. There were things to see around every corner - a pub serving real beer and the customers having an East End sing-a-long!



We then went on to the **The Vyne**, a National Trust Property for a private visit. This was originally a Tudor house but has had many additions and alterations. Every room was different and had its own style – the blue and white stone entrance hall, the room covered with magnificent tapestries, smaller luxurious bedrooms, a family chapel, the long dark oak-panelled Tudor gallery was directly above the light and bright stone gallery. The house has lovely gardens ideal for a stroll – and a cup of tea!

It was a treat to return to the magnificent **Royal Albert Hall for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra’s Film Music Gala**. A sunny day meant we could enjoy some time in Hyde Park before the concert. The programme included classics such as Harry Potter, E.T., the Good the Bad and the Ugly and also newer pieces from Frozen and Encanto. They were accompanied by a magnificent choir - in some pieces the sound carried up to the rafters! We had excellent seats, a choice of stalls where we were close to the action on the stage, or front circle with an amazing view of the whole auditorium.

On Bank Holiday Monday, 6th May, despite rather poor weather, around 20 brave u3a members celebrated **King Charles III's coronation** in the grounds of the Spectrum and we had a great time sharing patriotism together.



In May our visits to Exbury Gardens were a great success. There was such a long waiting list that a second trip was possible. We stopped off in Lymington, in beautiful sunshine, to have coffee by the harbour and looked longingly at the delightful boutique shops



This was followed by going to Exbury Gardens where we had an amazing guide who told us about its history and the de Rothschild family. He kept our attention as we walked around, by telling us tales of the gardens, and how the plants were found and brought here, and how 'Mr Lionel' grew different varieties from seeds. The steam railway was fun and an easy way to look at the gardens where the azaleas were in full bloom. Some members walked further afield around the grounds, to see the house, various statues, and the beach by the river. Some members of course visited the shop!

The visit to Windsor Castle and cruise on the River Thames finally took place in June and was described by one member as "another amazing day out" and by another as "one of the best days out ever". We had a wonderfully relaxing morning on the Thames travelling through Boveney Lock up as far as Bray, past some impressive houses, with an informative commentary and an absolutely delicious ploughman's lunch. A short stroll up to Windsor Castle followed where a very thorough talk was given on the life of Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle. We then went our separate ways to see the highlights of the castle which individuals wanted to focus on – this included the State Rooms, the Doll's House or, as many

wanted to see, the final resting place of the Queen now reunited with her parents and Prince Philip in St George's Chapel.



Please do have a look at the **Outings and Visits** section of the Groups page of GU3A website for pictures of past outings. When available, we put full details of all our future trips under **Events** so you can always check there if you think you've missed something.

Future trips planned

The Sound of Music at Chichester - Tuesday 29th August – some tickets may still be available and ***Witness for the Prosecution, County Hall – Thursday 14th September*** – let me know if you would like to go on the waiting list in case someone drops out.

Bletchley Park Forties Day – Saturday 23rd September – should be a fun day out with half the people going dressing up in forties gear and there will be lots of forties style entertainments and exhibitions as well as the normal displays there. There are still a few places left.

High Society at The Mill Theatre, Sonning - Sunday 10th December – details and a booking form will be circulated soon.

CONCERT VISITS

Steve Moore has started planning the autumn and winter concert programme and will be advertising his forthcoming trip to the **Barbican for Handel's Fireworks and Water Music on Wednesday evening, 18th October.**

Ann Elms and Jackie Ring

SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY VISITS

OUTING TO THE HORNIMAN MUSEUM-22nd May

What a lovely outing and well worth a second visit; The Horniman is small, quirky but immensely varied. My first Outing of the year took us right through South West London instead of the boring M 25 with magnificent urban trees, like horse chestnut, in full bloom.

The museum is the private collection of Frederick John Horniman, an affluent tea trader. His collection started in the 1860s, and transpired into a museum in 1901. The museum had originally been the family home, but they had to move out when the collection took over the house! We mostly went off and did our own thing, sometimes meeting up at the pleasant café. Quite a few of us however did spend some time in the **Musical Instrument Gallery**. Not only can you see an extremely wide variation of all kinds of musical instruments but you can watch videos of ethnic performance or how to make a brass instrument and to listen to a wide variety of sounds from the music boards (seated, I add).

The World Gallery has been completely re designed since my last visit arranged in Continents with four interlinked spaces. There is the **Introductory Area**, **Encounters** showing ways of living, **Perspectives**, with an area which reflects on how and why we categorise, describe and understand the world, and **The Horniman Vision**. It is light and colourful now.

Perhaps we can give the **Natural History Collection** a miss although you must see the stuffed walrus, and unless you wish to re visit childhood museum memories of stuffed animals and many bones (although this is Horniman's own collection and unique) but only because there is much more. **The Aquarium** is extra and so is the **Butterfly House** except that it was closed for the time being. In addition, there are always a variety of other small exhibitions.

Then there is outside. There are pretty gardens and Nature Trails as well as a magnificent panorama of the City part of London. And don't forget the animal enclosure including one very large, white rabbit. And it is all free apart from those mentioned. No need to book or print out vouchers. Just come and go freely. Then if you are really bored, Dulwich Gallery is in easy distance



I made this booking with little warning so many people already had commitments and May was rather a full month. Also nine people had to drop out sadly so, I have decided to re-book for early September but no date yet.

I see that the Young V and A, formerly the Museum of Childhood is re-opening after a total makeover. This might be worth visiting again. Also to marvel how this once 'no go' area called Shoreditch has re invented itself, at a cost. I am still pondering now to get a coachload of

people into The Foundling Museum and the Museum of the Home when they are so restrictive of numbers. I have not been to the Old Operating Theatre and Herb Garret for a while either.



We always have an end of term tea. This time we went into June since we lost October with the Queen's funeral. Consequently it is the smallest turnout ever of 2022. Nevertheless, it was a most enjoyable social end to yet another year. I started in 2005 and a few original members were present and at least half have been faithful for over ten years. However, in case prospective members think it might think it is 'cliquish' this is not so. I have a new intake each September (and would never ever consider a waiting list.")

Sheila Darzi – Leader of Social Anthropology Group

THE DEADLINE for the **AUTUMN 2023** newsletter is **13 OCTOBER**: please submit your contributions as a **Word.doc or compatible** in Calibri font, single spacing. **Photos as individual jpg files** please. Anything sent after the deadline will be held over until the next newsletter