



MARCH 1ST 2020

Remember to check our website for the latest information

www.radlettu3a.org.uk

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month at 9.45am for 10.00am at the Bushey Sports Club, Aldenham Road, Bushey, WD23 2TR. All members are welcome. Please bring your membership badge to register your attendance, your cheque book and diary for booking outings. The 602 Uno bus travels from Radlett to the Bushey Sports Club. Concessionary bus passes issued in Hertfordshire can be used on this bus at any time of day. Quite a few members travel on it, catching the 9.08 am at the Red Lion and returning on the 12.06 pm from the Bushey Sports Club.

Chairman's message

Happy February everyone. The weather has been dreadful but we are all keeping our groups going and they are thriving. Thank you all for that. The only news this month is that the Metropolitan Police Bushey Sports Club is talking about setting up parking payment machines and we are waiting to hear a little more about this. We have been told about it in principle but nothing has yet been confirmed to me yet. As we share this venue with both Watford and Bushey we are all in communication and will keep you advised. We just want you to be aware and prepared for this when you come to our Tuesday morning meetings.

Adrienne

SPEAKER

Tuesday March 10th – ‘Behind the Scenes in the Salesroom’. A talk by David Fletcher

David has been a fine art valuer and auctioneer for over 30 years. He is a native of Bedfordshire and now runs his own valuation company. He was at Phillips Fine Art auctioneers (now Bonhams) for 11 years. His talk will describe his life and times as a fine art auctioneer and valuer and will feature a mock auction. He is BBC Three Counties radio's antiques expert and until its demise in 2019 was an on-screen expert on Flog It.

Tuesday April 14th - ‘The Rubbish Picker’s Wife’. A talk by Elizabeth Gowing

Elizabeth Gowing was educated at Magdalen College Oxford and trained to be a teacher. She worked in primary education in London until moving to Kosovo in 2006. There she founded the NGO Ideas Partnership supporting people in Kosovo. In 2016 the then President of Kosovo awarded her the Mother Theresa Medal for her humanitarian work. In 2017 she was named by PM Theresa May as a point of light for volunteering round the world and in 2018 the new President of Kosovo gave her Kosovan citizenship by decree. She is a regular contributor to Radio 4. Her talk is a true story of living and learning with the excluded Ashkali people of Kosovo. Hatemja is a rubbish picker's wife who lives in the poorest community in the poorest country in Europe. When Elizabeth is befriended by her, the women learn with, from and about each other. This is an account of the challenges and delights of what happens when your community is a long way from home.

CANCELLED

PLEASE NOTE: AMAZON – DUNSTABLE FULFILMENT CENTRE TOUR MARCH 4th
Amazon regrets cancelling all public tours at present due to health reasons

NEW EVENTS

A TOUR OF HIGHGATE CEMETERY

Thursday June 11th 2020 – leave Radlett 11.30am - **£22**

We will have a guided tour of the West Cemetery, which is home to the most impressive architectural features of Highgate Cemetery — the Chapel, Colonnade, Egyptian Avenue, Circle of Lebanon, Terrace Catacombs and the mausoleum of Julius Beer. Following this you will be able to explore the East Cemetery, where you will find the imposing mausoleum of Karl Marx. Please note that this is a very hilly outing with uneven surfaces, so please wear appropriate footwear. Also, the café is a long walk from the cemetery entrance so we would recommend bringing sandwiches to eat in the coach or in the delightful parkland. Contact Corinne Mallach on 020 8905 1409 corinneu3a@gmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

LAST NIGHT OF THE SPRING PROMS – MILTON KEYNES THEATRE (MATINEE)

Sunday June 14th 2020 – leave Radlett 12noon - **£40**

Join us for an afternoon of uplifting classics crowned with a Great British Proms flag-waving finale including old favourites – Hornpipe, Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory.

The programme will include the following:

Brahms - Hungarian Dance No. 5

Elgar - Nimrod

Mascagni - Intermezzo from Cavalleria rusticana

Strauss - Blue Danube Waltz

Tchaikovsky - Swan Lake Suite

Puccini - Nessun Dorma

Rossini - Galop from William Tell Overture

Contact Sandra Clark on sandrau3a@hotmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

DAY TRIP TO BRIGHTON

Thursday July 2nd 2020 – leave Radlett 9am **£16 (or plus optional entrance to The Pavilion an extra £13.20 normal cost £15.50 from 1st April 1st)**

It's summertime! Join us for a day by the seaside. This year we are offering the opportunity of exploring the wonders of the Brighton Pavilion as we have obtained a reduced group rate for the entrance to this historic exotic palace. You may also enjoy the alternative life style offered in the Lanes, or for the more adventuresome of you, taking the British Airways i360 and seeing the town from above – plenty to do for everyone. Should the sun shine you could always just spend the day eating ice cream and relaxing on the beach.

Contact Valerie Gold on 07831 562362 valeriegoldu3a@gmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

CURRENT EVENTS WITH AVAILABILITY

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE BACKSTAGE TOUR – COVENT GARDEN

Wednesday May 20th – leave Radlett 9.45am - **£28**

This Backstage Tour includes an introduction to the colourful history of the theatre, an insight into the redevelopment of the Royal Opera House and a look at aspects of current productions. As the Royal Opera House is a fully working theatre, each tour is a unique experience, and may include opportunities to see The Royal Ballet in class, or the magnificent backstage technology in operation.

Contact Corinne Mallach on 020 8905 1409 corinneu3a@gmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

TROOPING THE COLOUR REHEARSAL – REVIEWED BY HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES - HORSEGUARDS PARADE

Saturday June 6th - NO COACH - **£10**

The custom of Trooping the Colour dates back to the time of Charles II in the 17th. Century when the Colours of a regiment were used as a rallying point in battle and were therefore trooped in front of the soldiers every day to make sure that every man could recognise those of his own regiment. In London, the Foot Guards used to do this as part of their daily Guard Mounting on Horse Guards and the ceremonial of the modern Trooping the Colour parade is along similar lines. This rehearsal, the week before the actual ceremony on the Queen's birthday, will be reviewed by HRH The Prince of Wales. **As there will be very tight security, we are not offering a coach for this visit and you will be required to make your own way there and be responsible for arriving on time.** You will be given your own ticket shortly after payment together with full instructions for the day, including the correct entrance to use.

Contact Joan Altman on 01923 404920 joanu3a@virginmedia.com or book at the monthly meeting.

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL STUD AND NEWMARKET RACECOURSE

Saturday, June 20th – leave Radlett 9.00am - **£44**

We are pleased to announce having booked not just "A Day at the Races" but much more than that. On Saturday June 20th, we will travel by coach from Radlett up to Newmarket where, after Tea & Biscuits on arrival, we will have a tour of the magnificent 500-acre National Stud with our own private guide. The National Stud is home to some of the leading stallions of the racing world. We will then be taken to the Racecourse where we will find many suitable places to have lunch before the start of the 2020 Midsummer Race Meeting. With the hope of beautiful weather, this promises to be a great day out for us.

Contact Valerie Gold on 07831 562362 valeriegoldu3a@gmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY – AYLESBURY WATERSIDE THEATRE - (EVENING PERFORMANCE)

Thursday June 25th – leave Radlett 4.45pm -**£37**

Direct from the successful run at London's Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, a SOLD-OUT Worldwide tour and standing ovations at every performance, The Simon & Garfunkel Story is back! Using huge projection photos and original film footage, this 50th Anniversary Celebration also features a full live band performing all the hits including 'Mrs Robinson', 'Cecilia', 'Bridge Over Troubled Water', 'Homeward Bound' and many more.

Contact Diane Myers dianeu3a@gmail.com or book at the monthly meeting.

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coming event that will prove very popular:

"Carousel" – Regents Park Open Air Theatre – Thursday August 20th 2020 (Matinee)

"The Drifters Girl" – Garrick Theatre London – Wednesday October 14th 2020 (Matinee)

"Hello Dolly" – Adelphi Theatre London – Thursday December 10th 2020 (Evening)

This will not be on sale yet (no advance reservations) but please watch out for booking information on future monthly e-mail updates. If you are paying for other members at the monthly meeting, please let the organiser have a list of the names and the events / outings you wish to book.

We have many other events and outings which are currently sold out, but you can add your name to their waiting lists. Please refer to the Radlett and District U3A website for a full listing and committee member contact details.

GROUPS

AMERICAN STUDIES

This will commence on **Thursday March 5th** for five weeks. This is at present full, but if you want any further information please contact **Norman Marks** via the Carrier Pigeon.

BEGINNERS CROCHET

The crochet group meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10.00am. Crochet was difficult at first for everyone, as fingers and wool got mixed up, However, the class has mastered how to hold the wool, the hook and learned three basic stitches. Our present project is to make a blanket and donate it to Keech Children's Hospice. Please click the carrier pigeon to get more details. **Carole Yude**

BOWLS (LAWN)

Welcome: The Radlett U3A Lawn Bowls Group starts up again very shortly. Please sign up on the sheet on the desk or email me via the carrier pigeon. You will benefit from free tuition from experienced coaches and be able to try your hand at this very gentle and civilised sport. Plenty of fresh air and exercise. Refreshments too. Every Sunday Morning in MAY, 9.45am for 10.00am start. Radlett Bowls club is just off the Phillimore Recreation Ground, Gills Hill Lane, Radlett. Plenty of parking. Any questions email me johnilsiter@gmail.com

BRIDGE – RELAXED DUPLICATE

The duplicate bridge group meets twice this month on the 12th and 26th March. I am full with a waiting list but if you are not already on my waiting list and would like to be added please let me know. Early notice that we will not be meeting on the 9th April due to Pesach (Passover) so the first meeting of the group in April will be on the 23rd. **Gary Harding**

CANASTA 2

Due to a poor response and feedback I will have to cancel the group until further notice. It may be resurrected in the future if there is sufficient interest. **Harvey Singler**

CHAIR BASED EXERCISES

This group continues to go from strength to strength. We have a core of about ten people who consistently turn up and others who are not regulars but we are generally a group of about 15. The exercises seem light but when we're finished, we feel like we've had a good workout. It's a very enjoyable hour which passes very quickly. We would be happy for new members to come along. **Valerie Conrich**

COOKING FOR ONE – 5.00PM AT USUAL VENUE

Future dates for your diaries:

Wednesday March 25th – Duck Ragu served with linguine pasta; followed by Chocolate Tiramisu Mousse (what is tonight's link with Italy then?)

April 30th – Chicken Saltimbocca served with basil mash and pan-roasted courgettes; followed by Zabaglione.

Chris Wood

DISCOVERING SHAKESPEARE 2

This group will commence on Tuesday April 7th at 2.00pm and thereafter on the first Tuesday of every month at 14:00. The initial idea is that a different individual prepares a presentation for the group each month based on a Shakespeare play, sonnet, historical moments around the time of Shakespeare's life, or other such variant. We may also occasionally arrange outings to venues such as the Globe Theatre which are linked to Shakespeare, or show a film of one of his plays or about Shakespeare himself. The meeting format will be discussed at the first meeting – venue to be decided depending on the number of people interested. It is anticipated that the group will not be limited to a specific number of members. Please email the leaders, **Carmel Byers** and **Oliver Cahn** if you are interested in attending the group meetings by clicking on the carrier pigeon on the U3A website.

FOLKS ON THEIR OWN

Very successful meeting was enjoyed by all those that attended. Lots of chat followed by tea and scrumptious cakes. Everybody agreed that Sunday is the preferred day to meet and to have a similar get together before embarking on any of the other activities that were suggested i.e. lunch, walks and picnics when the weather improves and an evening social when the days are longer. The next date is to be confirmed but anyone interested can contact me vivienne138@btinternet.com or sign the sheet at the main meeting. **Vivienne Churchill**

GARDENING GROUP 2

We started 2020 with a social lunch to plan for the year. In wet February we potted up succulents indoors. We will soon be visiting Kew Gardens to see the orchid collection from Indonesia. To give us inspirations we have plans to visit established gardens like Theobald Farm, Beth Chatto and Kathy Brown in the summer months. **Fiona Smeethe**

HEART OF HERTS (LOCAL) HISTORY

Our next meeting takes place on **THURSDAY MARCH 12th** at St Johns Church Hall, Gills Hill Lane, Radlett. Start time is 2.30pm. We are delighted to welcome back Geoffrey Smyth who, I am sure many of you know, is a very accomplished and professional speaker. His topic will be Verulamium with many interesting facts and a power point presentation. We serve you delicious cakes, there is plenty of time to socialise amongst our group of friendly members, and there will not be a charge for this meeting. Please make a note too of the date of the Open Weekend of the new Radlett and District Museum: Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th April from 10am to 1pm. Do come along and see a fascinating archive collection about Radlett and surroundings. **Diana Lobatto**

HISTORY

Our history group has a limited membership but we would like to take on 2 new members subject to they being prepared to give a presentation on any historical subject of their own choosing. The presentation would take no more than 45 minutes to an hour and the presenter would not be likely to make more than one presentation in 12 months. Our meetings are held in members houses with about 16 to 18 members attending and we don't charge for entrance. **Harvey Miller**

LINE DANCING

Please note that there are no classes until March 14th as I will be away. Classes restart on Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March. **Mandy Burger**.

MUSIC APPRECIATION GROUP

George Gershwin was an American composer and pianist who wrote inspired Rhapsody in Blue, An American in Paris and Porgy and Bess. He also composed the smash hit Swanee, as well as hundreds of songs with his brother Ira, including I Got Rhythm, Embraceable You and 's Wonderful. As well as looking at his life, personality and tragic early death, we will listen to a range of his composition from Broadway, Hollywood and the Concert Hall. This presentation by Jonathan Bergwerk is at 2.30 pm at St. John's Church in Gill's Hill Lane on Monday 16 March. There is a refreshment break, and no restriction on numbers. All U3A members are welcome. **Edward Cross & Tony Clayden**

PHILOSOPHY

The next meeting will take place on Thursday March 19th at 2.00 pm in the Christchurch Vision Hall on the subject of 'Altruism'. **Chris Langdon**

RACKETBALL

If you are reasonably fit and active have you thought about starting a New Year by trying a new sport? Racketball is similar, but slower, than squash but played on a squash court - we play at Radlett Lawn Tennis and Squash Club, opposite Christchurch in Radlett. Everyone is welcome and the first two sessions are 'taster' sessions so it won't cost you anything to give it a try. Rackets and balls are supplied, you just need to wear suitable clothing and shoes. If you think you would like to give it a try then there is more information on the website or you can contact me via the Carrier Pigeon. **Fiona Todd**

REMARKABLE WOMEN

At our February meeting, we heard about Alice Guy-Blanche, first female director of silent films in the 1890s and saw some of the films she directed. Our new room layout seems to help with the numbers attending. Our next meeting will be on Monday March 9th at 3.15 pm as usual at my house. We will be exploring the life and achievements of Hattie McDaniel, American actress of stage and screen, singer-songwriter and comedian, and the first black woman to win an Oscar. **Carmel Byers**

RUMMIKUB GROUP

This is going well and we play in members' houses on a Thursday towards the end of the month to suit the host for that month. We could happily accommodate more players who would be happy to play for a couple of hours or so at 8.00 p.m. with a stop for coffee and biscuits/cakes in between. We would especially welcome some new male members. **Valerie Conrich**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday March 17th and will be held in Vision Hall, Room M3, Watling Street, Radlett, WD7 7JJ. It will start at 2.30pm. with Cathy Waddington giving a talk entitled: "Pharmaceuticals – An Analytical Chemist's Perspective" We had a excellent talk by Linda Field of Rothampstead Research on "The History of Insecticide Use and Development". It was well received especially as we had so many questions that Linda was pleased to answer. We now look forward to the speakers we have booked for the rest of the year. Attendances at our new venue in the Vision Hall in Radlett have been very good. **David Bagon**

SINGING GROUP

The singing group met for the first time on 24 February. Those who attended were very positive and made lots of contributions. We sang along with YouTube backing and had lots of fun. We are hoping that a pianist will come and join us on March 23rd in the evening. **Fiona Smeethe**

WALKING - LONGER WALKS

In March, we will be walking the last leg of our pilgrimage walk from St Pauls to St Albans Cathedral. The walk will be from Radlett and we will try and avoid the mud, as our last walk was ankle deep in places! We will be having a tour of the Cathedral on arrival, courtesy of one of our walkers who is a cathedral guide! Hopefully April onwards will see better walking conditions as we look for a new challenge. **Fiona Turner**

WALKING 4-5 MILES

Tuesday March 24th - The walk will start at 10:00 from Shenley Park, Radlett Lane, WD7 9DW meet in the Café car park. Led by **Bruce Line**

OTHER LOCAL U3A EVENTS

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL U3A DAY

Wednesday June 3rd - St Bartholomew-the-Great, Cloth Fair, London EC1A 7JQ - 2.00pm - £19.50 The Brandenburg Choral Festival of London in association with the Hertfordshire Network of U3A's are holding 'A Spring Bouquet' featuring Mozart, Handel, Stanford, Schubert, and Fauré. Free refreshments will be served in the interval. Tickets available from: Box Office - 0333 666 3366 or tiny.cc/HERTSU3A.

LOCAL EVENTS

RADLETT MUSIC CLUB

Tuesday 17th March 8pm - The Radlett Centre

DUO ANTIPODES - Manus Noble - classical guitar and Jehanne Bastoni - cello

Manus Nobel makes a welcome return to Radlett - this time with New Zealand cellist Jehanne Bastoni. The music to be played will include popular items by composers such as Luigi Boccherini, Manuel de Falla, Enrique Granados and Arvo Pärt. For further details contact Gary Harding or see <http://www.radlett-music-club.co.uk/>

RADLETT ART SOCIETY

Tuesday March 10th at 12:30 for 13:00 - The Radlett Centre

'The Stunners' Pre-Raphaelites, their Women and their Art

FREE FOR ALL

Come along after this month's regular U3A meeting and hear about The Pre-Raphaelite Stunners. The Pre-Raphaelites occupied a unique position in 19th century art, representing a major turning point in Victorian culture. They were a precocious brotherhood of artists, including William Holman Hunt, John Everett Millais and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. However, a lot of their success was due to the powerful beauty of their female models and muses or 'The Stunners' as they were known at the time. For further details contact Gary Harding or see <http://www.radlett-art-society.co.uk/>

*****If there are any keen knitters out there, please can you help*****

Reply to Adrienne chairman@radlettu3a.org.uk

I came across the following request yesterday from a paediatric nurse working on a ward for under 1's in Cambridge. The majority of their babies are ex-prems and little and they have lots of babies receiving IV antibiotics and use little knitted tubes to cover the cannulas. They are single patient use and they never have a good supply. They would be so grateful if we could knit some of these covers for them. The instructions to make them are as follows:

Using 4mm needles and Dk yarn 26 stitches and 36 rows of garter stitch then simply sew the sides up. Any colour will be great!

