
Mailchimp Template Test - "January 2/2 Group Round Up 2023"

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Sidcup & District U3A

2023 Group Memories

As we did not begin this column until later in 2023 there follows some of the trips and events that were not covered in previous newsletters

Architecture: Leader Val Gosden

Having watched a series of programmes about Royal Palaces in various parts of the world, in 2024 we shall be paying armchair visits to country houses, castles, and other places of interest. Many of these will be of buildings in our own country. The DVDs we watch will take us to these buildings, and often they will show us areas that are not normally open to the public.

New 'armchair travellers' will be most welcome to join us, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 2-4 pm in my home. Contact ray.gosden@zen.co.uk if you are interested in joining the group.



Card-Making: Leader Val Gosden
We had fun in November making Christmas cards with a difference. These are not only attractive but could also feature as a centrepiece on a small table. There were four designs, and I have taken a photo of one of them.

Local History 3: Leader Lynn Plummer

On a wet day in October, we visited Camden Place, now the home of Chislehurst Golf Course. The first house built on the site was by William Camden in 1609. There are no remains of this original building but today, the building shows evidence of the 1717 Camden House and the various additions added over the years.

It became a Georgian mansion when owned by Charles Pratt, who became Lord Camden of Camden Place. It was converted into a French chateau by Nathaniel Strobe in 1860. During the 1870s it was home to the French Imperial family with Napoleon III dying there in 1873. The house has a Jacobean entrance hall with 20 gargoyles dating back to the 1600s. The dining room contains panelling from the Chateau de Bercy and is of national importance. It is a beautiful building and well worth a visit.



On Wednesday 13th December Local History 3 went on a Christmas walk from Charing Cross to Somerset House. Along the way we visited three churches: St Martin in the Fields, St Paul Covent Garden and St Mary le Strand, as well as Trafalgar Square, the Courtauld Gallery shop and Somerset House.

Maths Group: Leader Margaret Turner

Topics explored during 2023: The Queensgate Maths group began 2020 and

joined Sidcup U3A in February this year. We look at mathematics, which is relevant, interesting or meaningful and sometimes the historical development of mathematical knowledge and ideas.

Topics we have looked at since February include:

fixing positions, latitude and longitude, coordinates, right angles, the mathematician Pythagoras, angles and patterns with shapes, probability, a historical betting problem, repeating patterns, wallpaper and friezes, arches in architecture, circles.

We watched the video: "Donald in mathmagic land" which was made as a film in the 1960s but is still enjoyed by children and adults. We followed this up with a further look at the pentagon, the golden ratio and the Fibonacci sequence of numbers.

At the request of one of our members we had a brief look at looked at Black Holes the NASA website and Space Travel.

In January 2024 we plan to have another look at number bases, binary numbers and the complicated units of measurement that most of us had to learn at primary school.

Mono Group Photo Group: Leader Roy Morton



"Deal, Kent"
By Eddie Wallace.



"Flying with eagles".
By Graham Wood.

"Reflecting Couple"
By Roy Morton



“This made me consider the end result than just snap it”.

By Barry White.



Parks and Gardens: Leaders Jill Bryant and Rinka Halliday
During the Spring/Summer 2023 we visited parks and gardens far and wide throughout the Summer months finishing with a group meal in November. Here's cheers and best wishes to the members of Sidcup u3a.



Pot Pourri: Leader Pat Laughton
The December trip, led by Julie Flynn, was to the Silver Vaults in Chancery Lane. The group met a pearly king at Sidcup station, enjoyed the Sally Army at Charing Cross, and visited the Trafalgar Square Christmas market before catching the Routemaster bus to the High Court and walking up Chancery Lane to the Silver Vaults. Julie writes - no photos allowed at Silver Vaults - fab place .



Ramblers 3 Round Up 2023: Leader Trevor Ford
Seasonal contrasts are one of the delights of Britain. From freezing February to scorching September or rainy November, walking brings its own challenges. The terrain, too, can be varied. Winter & Spring we plodded the pavements in

town but come the summer we clambered the hills in Kent or toed the towpaths along canals. As well as geographically, we mixed temporally the modern and historical in the Villages of London (Highgate & Hampstead) learning about their past through the buildings remaining. As for the people they may be different, but we have a common purpose and look forward to sharing our walks. So, here's to 2024.

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