

SIDCUP & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE NEWSLETTER

July 2020



SIDCUP & DISTRICT U3A meets at 2.00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month in the New Community Church Centre, 24 Station Road, Sidcup (meetings currently suspended)

GROUP NEWS

Ramblers 3 • Leader Trevor Ford



Report July 2020



























In the middle of May, I began taking walks across Footscray Meadows with one other friend, though we kept our distance. He's recovering from a knee operation and has hip issues, so I would leave him at the farthest end by the "pipe bridge" and continue myself to Bexley or Joydens Wood. In the middle of June, we were joined by a 3rd, so began The Musketeers, for the Last of the Summer Wine outings (but without the wine!) We've done a couple so far: Scadbury and Lullingstone and are planning our next one to Joydens Wood. All are well-known local walks, so I won't describe the routes in detail.

The paths in Scadbury are quite narrow, so we would find ourselves stepping into a ditch or hovering in a passing place when large family groups approached from the other direction. Some of the more wooded areas have now been opened up, so unofficial paths are being threaded through which is probably a good thing and also lets in more light (and hence biodiversity?) Allan found it a shorter walk than his usual Meadows jaunt, but the up-and-down nature of the walk tired him more.


The Lullingstone expedition was undertaken partly to take in the delights of the Lavender Fields surrounding Castle Farm. The harvest has been slightly delayed this year for various reasons, but did look marvellously mauve from a distance. Currently, in common with many venues, you have to book if you want to walk around the fields themselves, but you can drive through to the shop. We did that, just so we could get a closer look at the fields but without spending our money. (Normally my wife and I love browsing inside their shop and buy lots of presents or food-produce there). The Musketeers had ambled from Lullingstone Castle along the Darent to the Nature Centre, planning to have a cuppa on the way back, continuing on past Castle Farm and halfway on to Shoreham before returning. We spurned the offer of drinks from the take-away kiosk opposite the farm, looking forward to the café at the nature centre again – which was SHUT! So we drove out to Eynsford, where they were also just shutting the café, but we talked our way into a couple of cuppas, consumed in the church opposite.



Trevor Ford


GROUP VACANCIES

GROUP NAME	LEADER/CONTACT	VACANCIES
 Antiques Appreciation 2 nd Friday/4 th Weds (10.00–12.00)	Martin Baker	4 Vacancies
 Architecture 2 nd Tuesday (2.30–4.30pm)	Val Gosden	1 Vacancy
 Bird Watching 1 st Wednesday (10.00 am)  	Roy Black 	Vacancies
 Book Reading 1 st Thursday (2.00–4.00 pm)	June Reid	Vacancies
 Craft & Chat 1 st & 3 rd Thursday (10.00 am) 	Pauline Springhall	Vacancies
 Creative Writing 1 st Tuesday (10.30–12.30 pm)	Olive Mercer	4 Vacancies
 Family History 2 nd Tues  & 4 th Thurs  	Kate Berry	Vacancies
 Handcrafted Cards (Group 1) 1 st Thursday (2.00–4.00 pm)	Val Gosden	3 Vacancies
 Mono Digital Photography Monthly 	Roy Morton rory.m2014@gmail.com	1 Vacancy
 Needlecrafts 1 st Monday (2.00–4.00 pm)	Val Gosden	3 Vacancies
 Quilling 3 or 4 times a year 	Val Gosden	1 Vacancy
 Ramblers (Group 2) 4 th Tuesday (4–5 miles)	Helen Salmon	Vacancies
 Ramblers (Group 3) 2 nd Friday (5–6 miles)	Trevor Ford	5 Vacancies
 Rummikub® (Group 1) 4 th Monday (2.00–4.00 pm)	Kathy Cordell 	Vacancies
 Ten-Pin Bowling (Bexleyheath) Mondays (10.00 am)   £	Gay Braybrook 	Vacancies
 Theatre Trips: Musicals   £	Sue Brooks	Vacancies
 Understanding Russia 2 nd & 4 th Monday (2.30–4.00 pm)	Val Gosden	3 Vacancies
 Wine Appreciation 3 rd Wednesday (7.30–9.30 pm) £	Roger Brown	Vacancies

The above groups, unless I am told otherwise by Group Leaders, are the ones with vacancies; *any* sort of change should be advised to me as soon as possible. Anyone wishing to contact the Group Leader should do so via email from our website's Group Page. Anyone not able to do this can ring me as the Group Co-ordinator.

Sandra Applegate  07717 020611 email: sapplegate@btinternet.com

 Not during school/bank holidays
 Temporary point of contact

£ A charge applies
 Certain seasons only

 Open to all
 Times vary

PROGRAMME

2020

March	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
April	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
May	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
June	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
July	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
August	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>	
September	Neil Sadler	A Policeman's Lot – can be an interesting one!
October	Anna Astin	Women Aviators
November	Nick Dobson	The Great Fire of London
December	Steve Galler	Seasonal musical entertainment (banjo)

The above list is subject to change

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Colin Barclay	07401 474844
Vice-Chairman	Sandra Applegate	07717 020611
Minutes Secretary	George Murrell	020 8850 2046
Treasurer	John Lapham	020 8854 6340
Membership Secretary	Carolyn Barclay	07401 474844
Asst. Membership Secretary	Lynn Plumer	07714 234398
Speakers Secretary	Janet Lambern	020 8300 1786
Group Co-ordinator	Sandra Applegate	07717 020611
Welfare Officer	Kathy Cordell	020 8300 4573
General Member	Brian Topliffe	020 8303 0579

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Newsletter Editor David Smith 020 8304 2305
Please either email contributions to me at: editor@sidcup-u3a.org.uk or post them to me at
56 Crofton Avenue, Bexley, Kent DA5 3AR – typed if possible since this facilitates scanning.
Please submit Newsletter contributions by 3rd of the month.

Third Age Trust: 52 Lant Street, London, SE1 1RB ☎ 020 8466 6139 www.u3a.org.uk
Greater London South East Network: www.u3asites.org.uk/glondonsenetwork
London Region U3A: www.u3asites.org.uk/london-region
World U3A: www.worldu3a.org Virtual U3A: www.vu3a.org

WEBSITE

<https://u3asites.org.uk/sidcup/home>

Contributions for the website (eg photographs) may be sent to the Webmaster, Trevor Ford, at his email address sidcupwebmaster@gmail.com.

Afterthought

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events.

Small minds discuss people.