

SIDCUP & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE NEWSLETTER

October 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)

NOTICES

General Meetings

The New Community Church will not be available for monthly talks for the next few months, until at least February. However, the Committee have pleasure in inviting you to a series of Mirthy talks online, replacing our live talks at the church. Have a look at this website:

<https://mirthy.co.uk/u3a-sidcup>.

If you wish to join, you should click the yellow 'Register' button and complete the registration form. You will receive a confirmation email with a link in it unique to you to be clicked 15 minutes before the talk is due to start.

The first of these is at 2.00 pm on Thursday 15th October by Mark Lewis about "William Morris and the Arts & Crafts Movement." The second, on Thursday 19th November, is "California Dreaming" describing a road trip by Neil Sadler. We are organising a Christmas Entertainment for December. Further details of the talks can be accessed online by using the link above.

The Committee

GROUP NEWS

Book Reading • Leader Kate Berry



Our book for September was *White Nights* written by Ann Cleeves and chosen by Carole who sadly, has since left the group for personal reasons. This book was a follow-up to *Raven Black* which we read and enjoyed in February. The main character in this story was again the detective Jimmy Perez and again set in the same bleak countryside around Lerwick in the Shetland Isles. The *White Nights* of the title describes the suffocating and disturbing period of the year when the sun never sets and there is little sleep to be had. We meet many diverse characters and a few people come to a sticky end. Red herrings abound throughout the engrossing plot.

It was an enjoyable and "easy read" and gave us an appetite for the next book in the series which is entitled *Red Bones*.

June Reid

Ramblers 3 • Leader Trevor Ford
























September walk around Joydens Wood

The Saturday Telegraph (12th September) featured an article by a recent convert to rambling, Anna Magee. She writes, “..this ancient woodland turned out to be an unexpected escape.... we chatted and laughed and were almost giddy with joy. It made us feel far more connected than throwing a medicine ball to each other in the gym. That’s fresh air for you.”


Our own group of 8 met just before the recent rule of 6 was imposed, in the car park of the White Cross pub. After crossing the busy North Cray Road, we headed uphill across horses’ fields and then down to a track past Mount Mascall stables. Following the perimeter path, we trudged up to “Five Ways” where we met another rambling group. But we kept our distance! And they plumped for a different path. Thereafter, we tracked the red route, Feisten Dyk path, (near to the ancient Saxon earthworks) around the perimeter. Subsequently, we met the same group of women who had clearly taken a short cut. Bounding (?!!) ahead of them, we continued on the route to the corner where the path veers away from the Summerhill entrance. We did some up and down striding along the back path past the golf course to reach the edge beyond which are the non-mobile mobile homes. That stretch is almost always muck and bullets up to your armpits, but I struggled to find any mud on this occasion. Then we emerged onto the track out of the wood past other stables and some elegant and varied houses in Parsonage Lane. Further on, we plunged down the road flanked by horses’ fields to cross North Cray Road slightly west of our starting point. From there, it was just a short run, depending how desperate you were, back to the pub. We felt duty bound to sample the hospitality, since most of us had used their parking facilities. We were “almost giddy with joy.”



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 (2.30–4.30 pm)	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)	Kate Berry	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	2 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	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>
October	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>
November	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>
December	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i>

2021

January	<i>Meeting cancelled owing to outbreak of Covid-19</i> <i><u>The hall is not available to us until at least February 2021</u></i>
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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

Never marry for money; you will borrow it cheaper.