
Mailchimp Template Test - "November 2023"

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The logo for u3a, consisting of the lowercase letters 'u3a' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.**Sidcup & District U3A**

St.Lawrence Church Hall, where meetings are held usually on the 3rd Thursday of the month. On **16th November, Andy Thomas will be Celebrating Christmas** with us.

The Christmas theme continues into December with the **Kentones singing & entertaining** us on the **21st December at Sidcup Sports Club** (Sydney Road).

For a list of the **Talks next year** please [click here](#). It is also displayed on the Events page of the [website](#).

Last month, Jo Livingston told us about a number of less-well-known places in London. A number of you were interested in her list, so to access that please [click here](#).

Group Leaders' Round up

(GLs please send your contribution to Pat Laughton by the last Friday of the month.)

Amblers October Walk Leader John Baker

Starting at Albany Park Station we walked to Five Arches in Foots Cray Meadows. There was a beautiful view of the countryside and wild fowl, as we crossed the ancient bridge. We walked along the River Cray towards Old Bexley and stopped for drinks at the cafe in Beck Evans Farm.

Book Group Leader Kate Berry

Marion apologised for choosing our October book, *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Evans, as she thought the book was awful. However the rest of us loved this book. A wonderful account of the Marsh Girl, abandoned by her family, growing up in the North Carolina swamps. Beautifully atmospheric. Five stars!

Family History Leader Kate Berry

As Bexley Archives had school visits on our usual meeting day, we cancelled October's meeting. A visit to The National Archives instead was also postponed until next year, due to holidays and mobility issues. We look forward to our usual meeting again in November.

Local History Group 3 Leaders Sue Upton and Gaye Sullivan

Our outing to on 13th September was to Battersea Power Station. The station was planned as the first of a series of "power stations" that would meet the growing need for electricity in the 1930s, but those needs receded in the 1970s and 80s. Under new ownership, the Power Station has reopened, transformed into a new and vibrant neighbourhood, creating new homes, offices, restaurants and a tube station.

Local History Group 3 Leader Lynn Plummer

On Wednesday 11th October Local History 3 had a very interesting, guided tour around The Charterhouse in Farringdon, London. Founded in 1371 it became a Carthusian Monastery until its dissolution in 1537. Since 1611, it became alms houses, a chapel and a school. Today, much of the remaining buildings date to the Tudor times.



MONO GROUP Leader Roy Morton

OCTOBER CATEGORIES. "British Safari", flora of trees and toadstools with a duo tone of blue bells, cleverly created in camera. Fauna recorded over the past 10 months e.g. deer in snow.

"Seaside, Lakes, Rivers" assortment, Eltham Palace moat & Lake District views.

Unusual composition, beautiful landscapes and technical knowhow displayed.



Pot Pourri Leader Pat Laughton

In October we attended a presentation by the Head Librarian at the Royal Geographical Society who showed us some of the artefacts the Society holds in its archives. We heard the history of the discovery of the source of the Nile, Scott's attempt to reach the South Pole, the discovery of the North-West Passage and Hilary's ascent of Everest.

Ramblers 2 – leader Helen Salmon

After so much rain we were lucky to have a nice sunny and dry autumnal day for our walk from Blackheath Station to the Cutty Sark via Greenwich Park on Tuesday 24 October 2023. The leaves on the trees were beginning to turn a golden colour and there were many fallen conkers underfoot. We did have to step over a few puddles. We spent a while looking down at the Thames and spotting various landmarks before going for lunch.



Ramblers 3 Olympic Park Walk led by Elaine & Angela

Around the Park : London Stadium (West Ham ground), The Velodrome, The ArcelorMittal Orbit, The Olympic Bell, Statues of Bobby Moore, Martin Peters, Geoff Hurst, then along the Lea Navigation tow path to “Princess of Wales” ph.



Cross Stitch 'Tutorial'

Cross stitch skills were both learnt and revised by three members, with the result that they each have a handmade Christmas card to send to someone this year. Val Gosden

As well as the summaries above there are new photos and reports on the [website](#) this month:-

- Local History : Visit to Charterhouse, October 2023
- Parks & Gardens : Greenwich Park, September 2023
- Ramblers 2 : Blackheath & Greenwich, October 2023
- Ramblers 3 : Olympic Park , October 2023

Recruitment Workshop

We are holding a workshop to discuss how we can recruit new members to spread

the word about the excellent service that u3a provides and to keep our own u3a vibrant and successful. Members of the committee, Group Leaders and general members are invited to Queensgate Apartments on Monday, 20th November at 2pm. Please let Trevor Ford know if you are interested.

National & Regional News

Both National & London Region held their AGMs in October.

Click For the [National Bitesize Newsletter](#), including AGM news, information about next year's u3a Festival & Sidcup u3a 30th Anniversary.



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