From the Chairman

April is often a quiet month for the U3A, but this year has seen it quite busy. There is the usual admin work for the Committee to prepare for the AGM in June and to get the papers ready to send out in early May. It has been a bit more difficult because we seemed to be heading towards an AGM and a new year without a Treasurer and Secretary. As I said in other places, the U3A cannot legally continue to operate without a full complement of Officers. The other two are Chairman and Vice Chairman. Fortunately, Paul King and myself spoke to three members who were willing to take on the role of Treasurer. All were keen to make sure that there were people in place to ensure the U3A continued to survive. After discussions with the Committee we decided to invite Felicity Detemple to take on the role. Our thanks go to Mark Russell and Roger Bromberg for volunteering their services.

Phil Redshaw has volunteered to take on the role of Secretary, which I have explained is a most important role on the Committee. The Secretary is the prime contact for both the Charities Commission and the Third Age Trust and as such is expected to ensure that the U3A meets all the requirements, legal and otherwise and keeping of records of the U3A. In passing it is perhaps worth noting that as far as the Charities Commission and the Third Age Trust are concerned each of the Committee Members as Trustees has equal status. They do not recognise a hierarch of responsibility. Strictly speaking there is no ‘chairman’s action’ as you may find in other committees. Everything should be decided by voting.

There have been some changes, too in the membership. We must particularly note that Peter and Jean Groves have not renewed their membership. Peter has been quite poorly of late and we know they were planning to move closer to their family. They were long-standing members and whilst Peter was on the Committee, both he and Jean did sterling work handing out the Newsletter. They will be missed, and we wish them both many thanks and good wishes.

Thanks, must also go to Pam Grant who has stepped down from her role with the Gardening Group.

I must also tell you that Cindy Birkett will be stepping down from her role as Speaker Secretary from June. Cindy has provided us with a rare variety of speakers, the highlight of which has to be Ron Buttress on the day we had a holiday to Bushey Golf Club. For those of you who were not there, you will get a second chance when he visits us again later this year. The Committee, and I’m sure yourselves, offer their thanks for the work Cindy has done. Thanks also to Peter who has supported Cindy throughout.

We will need someone to take on the role. Please speak to any of the Committee about the role.

Best Wishes

Alan
This month I have spent a lot of time processing the green forms you kindly completed with your membership renewal. There are still a few stragglers to come in and a number of queries to sort out but I will soon be sending the details out to all Study Group Leaders. As I have repeatedly said as this information has been checked and verified at considerable trouble and expense you must use only this information and destroy all previous lists. Also please clear the old information from your computers and tablets and anywhere else it might be lurking. We all need to be working from the same information so that we satisfy the Data Protection procedures now required by law. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Committee Notes
To help with continuity when she takes over, Margaret Foster was in attendance
Much of the meeting was taken up with making sure all the pieces were in place for the AGM.
Alan and Paul reported on their meetings with potential Treasurers and it was decided that we would invite Felicity Detemple, a relatively new member, to take on the role. He would arrange for her formal nomination form to be completed and would contact the other two members and thank them for their offer to stand.
Margaret Foster announced that Phil Redshaw was willing to take on the role of Secretary
Ann reported that there had been 499 renewals sent out and there were 39 members who had chosen not to renew. There were 8 people with whom she had tried to make contact but heard nothing from them.
Debbie will be sending out in the near future the lists of study group members, built from the green forms issued with renewal form.
Peter and Jean Groves had not renewed. Alan was asked to contact them to express the U3As gratitude for the work they had put in.
Pam Grant had stepped down from her role with the Gardening Study Group and this needed to be mentioned in the Newsletter and at a Monthly Meeting.
The role of the Speaker Secretary was discussed, and it was agreed that, like other U3As, Cindy should be asked to join the committee as a co-opted member. It was felt that the role was important enough and that by being on the Committee the Speaker Secretary would be able to access support more easily if required. Alan was to speak to Cindy
The next meeting May 9

Study Group Coordinator
Debbie King
Debbiekingsgcwatford@gmail.com

Study Group Refreshment Rota 2018
May – Poetry & Opera - Brian Redding & Christine Betts
Jun – Current Affairs 1 & 2 Betty Crowder & Ray Gynne and Sheila Wolff
Jul - Strollers and Tuesday Ramblers Val Sadler and Bob Bassett and Ken Moxley
Aug - Shakespeare and Money matters Francis Goode.

Monthly Meeting Talks 1st Tues 10.00am - 12.00
1 May Dick Smith gives a hilarious account of “The Life and Times of a Town Crier”. He is a striking figure and has been the Town Crier for the Manor of Beaconsfield for 50 yrs.
5 Jun A.G.M
7 July ‘Designing with glass’ From ancient Egypt to the Shard London. Margaret Thompson will enlighten us with the beauty and importance of this medium.
7 Aug Richard Selby will talk about the women he has married.
01923 223883
speakers@watfordu3a.org.uk
Ancient Civilisations
3rd Mon 2.15pm MH  SGL Pat Purkiss.

Anglo-German Walks
4th Friday 9.30 start SGL Dick Chapman.
Sat May 12 12am Social Lunch
May 25 Stoke Row

Anglo-German Strollers
4th Friday 11.15 am at The Cha Café in Cassiobury Park. SGL Jenny Roberts.

Antiques
2nd Tues 2.30-4.30pm  MH.  SGL Pamela Hart.
May 8 Religious objects

Art Appreciation
2nd Mon 10.00 for 10.30am SP
SGL Leaders Margaret Thompson & Colin Richards.
May 14 Domenico Ghirlandaio and Renaissance Portraiture by Margaret Thompson

Better Photography
4th Mon 10.00am MH John Grainger.
May 28 Aquadrome to photograph canal boats after the Rickmansworth canal festival

Book Discussion Group
3rd Mon 2.15-4.30pm  MH SGL Betty Crowder.

Book Discussion Too
Last Friday 10.00am CWH SGL Barbara Johnson.
Scoop by Evelyn Waugh. A ‘brilliantly irreverent satire of Fleet Street and its hectic pursuit of hot news’

Bridge Group
1st & 3rd Mons 2.00pm - 5.00pm ASDA SGL Judith Evans.
(Joint group with SW Herts) Our contact Anne Waring

British History
2nd Tues MH SGL Rob Moore
May 8 We will be finding out how King John made a bad start to his reign by invoking a war with France and being accused of killing his nephew Arthur.

Canasta
1st Monday 2 groups 10 am and 2 pm MH SGL Johanna Douglas

Computer Discussion Group
3rd Thurs 2pm at GFS  SGL Patrick Walker.

Cryptic Crosswords
1st & 3rd Fri of the month. HTH SGL Jan Prest.

Current Affairs 1
3rd Tues 10.00am HTH SGLs Betty Crowder & Joyce Hoffbrand.

Current Affairs 2
2nd. Wed, 10am MH SGL Sheila Wolff

Cycling
1st and 3rd Mon 10.00am, starting at Watford Met Station. SGL Dennis Fitton.
May 7 Great North Way
May 21 Whelpley Hill

Europe into the Twentieth Century
4th Wednesday 10am SC SGLs Jo Davison & Vivien Batchelder
May 23 Holidays

Explorers
1st Friday, 10am, various venues. SGLs Jean & John Grainger.
May 4 Canal Walk to Coi Carp PH Harefield then back to Aquadrome. Eating Rose and Crown Harefield Rd. Walk led by David Allen

Exploring Europe Joint SGLs:David Allen, Carol Hinken & Dave Holden.
In 2018 we will be visiting Ireland and the ring of Kerry

Exploring London (& Beyond)
1st Wed, times various. SGL Elisabeth &Terry Waterfall.
May 2 William Morris Gallery
June 6 Historic Dockyard Chatham

Family History
2nd Fri 10.00 am. SGL Phil Redshaw
Please contact SGL if coming for the first time.

Film Group
1st Thurs 2.15pm. MH SGLs Alan and Carol Rose.
May 3 ‘The Firm’

French Conversation
3rd Tuesday of the month 2.30 pm MH SGL Diana Osbom.

Gardening
3rd Thurs SGLs Cilla Bridgman & Hilary Bond.

May 17 Outing to RHS Wisley

German Conversation
1st & 3rd Thurs 10 am MH SGLs Dick & Emi Chapman.

Golf Group
Monthly Playing sessions as arranged. SGL Robert Teesdale.
Golf lessons: Wed. fortnightly, 11.30am-12.30pm, £6 per session, Batchwood Hall Golf Club with Mark Flitton.

Greetings Cards
2nd Thurs (2 Groups) 10.00am & 1.30pm. HTH SGL Yvonne Fitton.
May 10 Hearts and Flowers

History
2nd Monday 2.00pm GFS. SGL Gill Baines.
May 14 Local History: The Printing Industry, Bushey School of Art, The Brewing Industry

International Film Group
2nd Tuesday, 10am MH SGL Jo Davison and Ray Gynne.
May 8 Wallander - The container Lorry ( Swedish )

International Food Group
3rd Friday various venues SGL Debbie King.
Go Kula Vegetarian Restaurant 65 Market Street WD18 0PR

Italian Alt Thurs 10.00am. HEM SGL Geoff Williams.
Contact SGL for venue details

U3a Jazz and Swing
3rd Wed 2.30pm. HTH SGL Maurice Crewe

Lifestyle
4th Tues 2pm CWH. SGL Christel Goodricke.
May 22 Visit to Chocolate Lady with lunch in Saffron Walden

Luncheon Club
4th Wed. SGL Fay Sanderson.
May 23 1pm not 12.30 The Piazza 28 Green Lane Northwood

Money Matters
1st Thurs, 10am HTH SGL Francis Goode

MOTO
Various times and venues SGL Barbara Johnson
Tuesday May 8 10.30-12.30 Aldenham Golf Club, Church Lane, Aldenham.

Music Appreciation
3rd Wed: MH,10 00am coffee,10.30am. SGL Ray Gynne.
Hayden - Symphony No 88 in G major
Beethoven - Piano Concert No 3 In C minor
Symphony No2 in D major
Needlecrafts
4th Mon 10.00am GFS.
SGLs Jean Armstrong and Liz Shrives.

Opéra
2nd Mon 2.30pm MH SGL Christine Betts
‘Eugene Onegin’ by Tchaikovsky - part 1. This is a tragic love story based on the poetic novel by Alexander Pushkin. This production features the Metropolitan Opera stars

Pathfinders
4th Tues am. 9.50am at the venue. SGL Diane Livsey May 22 Ley Hill Chesham - walk led by Ken and Trauti

Philosophy
2nd and 4th Thursdays MH SGL Alan Melinek
Meeting on May 10 but no meeting on May 24

Poetry
3rd Tues, 7.30pm, various venues.
SGLs Brian & Margaret Redding.

Polish Language and Culture
3rd Friday, 10.45 GFS
SGL Allan McMillan. (Joint group with SW Herts). Our contact Trevor Foulkes

Science Interest
3rd Mon SP SGL Maurice Crewe
May 21 The New Genetic Engineering : CRISPR/Cas9 , gene drives and gene editing. Colin Richards

Sci-Fi Flix.
4th Friday of the month at 2pm MH SGL Alan Rose
May 25 ‘Alien Covenant’

Scrabble 1
2nd and 4th Thurs 2-15pm-4-30pm. MH SGL Jean Dolamore.

Scrabble 2
2nd Thurs 10.00am. MH SG Leaders Carol & Alan Rose.

Scrabble 3
1st Mon 10am HTH. SGL Lorna Denham & Bill Denham

Scrabble 4
3rd Monday 10am HTH. SGL Anne Waring & Diane Trafford

Sew and Sew
1st Mon, 10am, GFS SGL Yvonne Fitton.

Shakespeare
Last Wed 2.00 pm MH SGL Francis Goode. May 30 Reading King Lear and choosing next play.

Snooker
Every Friday 10 am to Noon ,KLSC Open to those who have some experience. SGL Bob Rough

NEW VENUE, NEW DAY AND TIME
Spanish Group
4th Tues, 10am, MH SGL Dennis Lucas. This group is now closed

Sporting Forum
3rd Tues, 2.00pm. CWH. SGL Alan Prest. May 15 Croquet Cassiobury Park 1.30
June 13 Greyhound Racing in Brighton. Cheques wanted NOW

Strollers
2nd & 4th Tues 11.00am. Various locations 2.5 - 3 miles.
SGL Bob Bassett. And Val Sadler May 8 St Albans led by Sue and Dave Meet in Westminster Lodge Car Park Eat at Three Hammers Chiswell Green May 22 Leavesden Country Park led by Christine and Danuta. Meet and Eat at the Compasses Abbots Langley.

Sunday Lunch Club
3rd Sunday Various venues SGL Glenda Edgeley May 20 The three Crowns Bushey Heath

Table Tennis
Mon 7.30pm SMC SGL Gordon Hitchman. We will be meeting on the following dates:- May 21

The Piano, Live in Concert
4th Monday 2.30pm MH SGL Alan Melinek May 28 No Meeting in May

The Thirsty Walkers
4th Thursday. Various venues SGL Ken Baines. Cassiobury area led by Alan and Carol Lunch and parking at the Essex Arms.

Toffee
2nd Thurs 10am MH SGL Margaret Foster.

Toffee 2
4th Monday 2.30pm MH SGL Margaret Foster

Tuesday Trekkers
2nd Tues, 9.45 for 10.00am, various venues SGL Brian Ashford. May 8 Viv and Stan to lead Meet at Three Horseshoes Pub Letchmore Heath

Tuesday Ramblers
4th Tues, 9.30am various venues SGL Ken Moxley.

U3A Singers
1st Mon 2.30pm, CWH. SGL Celia Jackson.

Uke3A
1st and 3rd Thurs - 1.30-3.30; 2nd, 4th and 5th Wed - 2-4pm TCR SGL Trevor Boardman.

Walking/Rambling
2nd & 4th Wed, various venues 10.am, SGL Peter Manhire

Wine Appreciation
Last Friday, 2.30 SJHH SGL Gillian Neale.

Wit Knits
1st Mon 10.00am. MH. SGL Diane Hewgill.

World History
2nd & 4th Friday 10am MH Thomas Kingston A potted history of European Nation States May 11 Romania and Moldova May 25 Albania and Bulgaria

MH members home
HTH Hollytree House Gammons Lane
CWH Combewood House Horseshoe Lane
GFS Garston Fire Station 530 St Albans Road Watford
SP Sun Postal Sports & Social Club’ Bellmountwood Avenue
ASDA community room St Albans Rd
TBH Tree Bridge House, Garston Lane Watford
SC Oak room Stanborough Centre, St Albans Rd
KLSC Kings Langley Social Club. Hempstead Rd KL
TCR TESCO Community room, Lower High Street, SJHH St John’s Hall, Hemel Hempstead,
SMC St Marks Church, Leggatts way, Watford

Hollytree House Gammons Lane
CWH Combewood House Horseshoe Lane
GFS Garston Fire Station 530 St Albans Road Watford
SP Sun Postal Sports & Social Club’ Bellmountwood Avenue
ASDA community room St Albans Rd
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