

Woodside

u3a
learn, laugh, live

Newsletter

February 2024



MEETING AT THE STANBOROUGH CENTRE WATFORD

<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodside>

Charity Registration Number.: 1182140



Hello everyone



Pancake Day...Yippeel! 🥰

I am writing this sitting on a balcony overlooking the sparkling sea at Deal, in brilliant sunshine, at the end of January! One of the great advantages of being retired is the flexibility of being able to look at the weather forecast and book trips and holidays at short notice when it appears it will be warm and sunny. Although I enjoyed my job (well, apart from OFSTED!) at this time of year too I am grateful that I do not have to be up at 7am scraping ice from my car windscreen. When I retired I also packed away some rather dull, formal clothes and heeled shoes, assuming I would be unlikely to wear them again, unfortunately only to have to unearth them for all-too-frequent funerals and memorials. Another joy of being retired at this time of year is the daily- changing sight of trees in blossom and clouds of snowdrops seen in the daylight, rather than just at weekends.

I hope everyone enjoyed lots of pancakes last week - with lemon and sugar only in my house - and I look forward to seeing you at our March meeting. *Heather*

Today's Speaker:- Colin Smith "Coffee from tree to cup"

To help the environment please remember to bring your own drinking vessel.

Job Of A Laughtime by Brad Ashton

Interspersed with jokes making us all laugh, Brad gave a really interesting background to his joke and sketch writing, and an insight into many of the comedy greats from the last 60 years. He talked about Ken Dodd and his tax evasion, Tommy Cooper who was always late for gigs and Benny Hill who would never perform in front of people for all of his 39 TV shows which meant all the laughing was dubbed. Who knew John Cleese was married 4 times and all his wives were American. Brad talked about Hilda Baker as well and reminded us of her catchphrase of 'She knows you know'. Next was Jimmy Jewel, Jack Benny and Mike and Bernie Winters. Such a lot to take in. It turns out that Ernie Wise was as stingy as Eric



Morecambe used to joke about in many of their sketches. We learnt that Warren Mitchell wasn't first choice for Alf Garnett, the casting directors actually wanted Peter Sellers but he was offered a film.

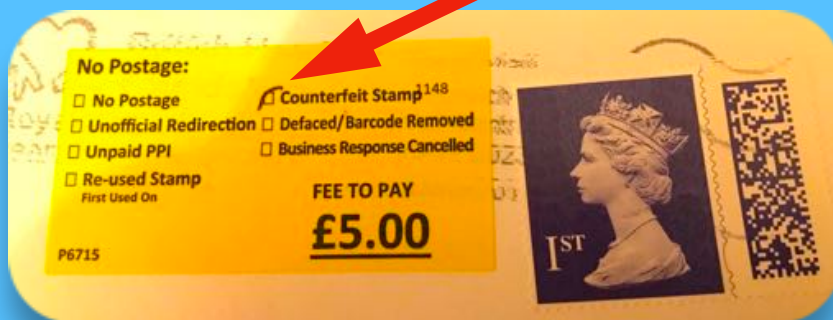
Personally I think the right choice was made. We heard about Max Miller, Reg Varney, Tony Hancock, David Frost, Norman Wisdom who performed in the USA for 7 years and did 62 cruises before returning to the UK, and Arthur Askey who even had to have his 'ad libs' written down. I found it most interesting that the Two Ronnie's were different formats of comedy but gelled so well, Ronnie Barker being a comedy actor and Ronnie Corbitt a comedian. So much more to say but no more space.

by Pam Cotton (Standing in for Louise)

Scam Warning!

Beware Fake Stamps From Amazon & The Internet!

Last week we had a card from the post Office telling us there was a package for us at the Sorting Office which they would not deliver as there was insufficient postage paid.



It turned out to be a Christmas card which had a counterfeit stamp on it! The postal worker said they had hundreds of these, mostly from people who had bought their stamps online. We have informed our relative who sent the card so that they aren't caught again. Another "who would have thought it" moment. **Please be aware.** Louise

Upcoming Speakers This Year

Today Colin Smith "Coffee from tree to cup". Colin has spent his whole working life in the coffee industry worldwide. He includes Fairtrade in his talk.

19.3.24 Sandy Highsted "Hatch, match and dispatch". Sandy is a Celebrant speaking about baby naming, renewal of vows and a little about final ceremonies. She is an interactive speaker.

16.4.24 Peter Marcham "The people and places of Bletchley Park". Peter speaks about Bletchley Park history and radio and signals communications in a non technical way.

21.5.24 *Provisionally Herts air ambulance volunteers - to be confirmed by them.*

18.6.24 No speaker. AGM. The Shedettes and Drama Group performing.

16.7.24 Paul Barwick "Espionage, Gareth Williams and the mystery of the body in the bag". The story of a man found zipped into a holdall in his bath.

20.8.24 No meeting. Summer break.

Louise

Can You Find These Comedians & Comedy Actors?

The WordSearch.com

Comedians & Comedy Actors



TOMMY COOPER
ERNIE WISE
BILLY CONNOLLY
BRADLEY WALSH
DAWN FRENCH
ERIC SYKES
FRANK SKINNER
JOHNNY VEGAS
HATTIE JAQUES
SPIKE MILLIGAN
ERIC MORECOMBE
PETER COOK
BOB HOPE
KEN DODD
RUBY WAX



Glen's Quiz

- 1 Which Planet Appears Brightest To The Naked Eye?
- 2 Which Planet Lies Between Venus & Mars?
- 3 What Does The Abbreviation 'LY' Stand For?
- 4 Who Was The First Person To Run A Marathon In Space?
- 5 Which Star Trek Character Is Asteroid No 2309 Named After?

Answers On Next Page

Trivia

What Is The Biggest Selling UK Single Of All Time?

My Favourites

Name: Alison Theobald (Our Treasurer)

Place Of Birth:- Northhampton.

Favourite Film:- Home Alone.

First Car:- Mini.

My Bucket List:- To Travel More.

Favourite Kind Of Music:- R&B.

Favourite Food:- A Variety Of Freshly Cooked Food.

Favourite T.V. Program:- Race Across The World & Strictly.

Hobbies:- Gardening, Reading, Walking & Travel.

Who Would You Most Like To Meet:- A Member Of The Royal Family (To See What Life Is Really Like For Them Living In The Public Eye).

Favourite Holiday:- 4 Months Travelling Around South America Incl. Antartica.

Where Would You Like To Visit:- Namibia & China.

Who Would You Not Want To Be In A Lift With:- Elon Musk.



Glen's Quiz Answers

1, Venus 2, Earth 3, Light Year 4, Tim Peake 5, Mr Spock

Trivia Answer

'Candle In The Wind' by Elton John (1997, 4.9 Million Copies)

Non Recyclable Coffee Cups

Due The Fact That Our Coffee Cups Are Non Recyclable,
We Are Now Requesting That Our Members Make A
Contribution Of 50p.



Please Remember To Bring Your Own Drinking Vessel.

Interest Groups Contact Details

Art	Contact: Sue Walters on 07989 250483, Group meets fortnightly 10-12am at Tanners Wood Hall.
Badminton	Contact: Susan Coultrup on 01923 334387. Group meets weekly i Wednesday at Watford Leisure Centre (This is a joint group with SWH)
Books	Contact: Libby Crawford on 01923 247847. Group meet every 3rd Wednesday at 10.30am
Bridge Improvers	Contact: Judith Evans on 01923 260354 or 07960 642651. Group meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 1.30 - 4.30 at Asda Room 3 (this is a joint group with SWH)
Bus Pass Travel	No trips planned at present. John Simpson is currently looking into places to visit.
Canasta	Contact: Denise Branton on 07786 391534. Group meets 3rd Tuesday of the month at Asda Community Suite at 2.00pm
Craft	Contact: Jo Bromwich on 01923 443758. This group meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Abbots Langley Cricket Club at 10 until 12 am
Creative Writing	Contact: Ian Woolcott on 07505 769911 (Details to be advised)
Doodle Art	Contact: Pam Cotton 07876 384026. Group meets 1st Tuesday of the month at the Royal Oak, Abbots Langley 11am. Stay for lunch and a chat.
Drama	Contact: Carol Stanton at carolstanton225@gmail.com This group meets on a Tuesday at Asda Community Suite, 10.00am until 11.30am
Family History	Contact: Bea Luffrum on 07711709039. Group meets monthly on the 1st Wednesday morning at members houses (this is a joint group with SWH).
French	Contact: Heather Lace on 07951937064. Group meets fortnightly on a Monday at 2.30p at members houses
Garden Visits	Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712 710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting.
Line Dancing	Contact: Judy Lovell on 01923 893368. Group meets 1st and 3rd Mondays. First session 10.15am. Second sessions 11.15am (This is a joint group with SWH)
Listening To Music	Group metes on the 2nd Monday of the month at 2pm. Contact: Lawrence Pearlman on 07752 367664 or email pearlyman58@gmail.com
Local Theatre Group	Contact: Pam Young on 07811 219936. Trips to be advised. Payments to be made at the time of putting your name down for a trip. Travel will be shared vehicles.
Lunch Group	Contact: Joyce Gray on 01923 263213 or rejoyce.gray@gmail.com Monthly. Days and venue vary.
Mexican Train	Contact: Bernice Caffrey on 01923 672359. Group 1 meets every 4 weeks on a Thursday at 2.00-4.00pm. Group 2 meets every 4th Monday 2.00-4.00pm
Pathfinders	Contact: Patrick Turner on 0923 263511 or 7954640263 for details of next meeting (this is a joint group with SWH)
Philosophy	Contact: Jeanne Johnson on 01923 263598. Group meets monthly on 1st Monday 2.00-4.00pm. (This is a joint group with SWH)
Photography	Contact Ken Jones on 01923 264855. Group meets monthly at a venue to be decided, to take a photograph and have a social time at a local cafe.

Interest Groups Continued

Play Reading For Fun	Contact: Derek Giles on 01923 270971. 4th Wednesday at Asda at 10.00am -12.30pm and again 1st Monday at Asda at 2.00pm - 4.30pm (This is a joint group with SWH)
Pub Lunch And Darts	Contact: Ken Cotton 01923 269720. Group meets at the Unicorn, Abbots Langley. Meets On 1st Tuesday Of The Month
Quiz	Contact: Glen Price on 07787155461 meeting at YMCA Haines Way at 7.00pm on the third Thursday of the month.
Spanish 1	Contact: Sue Brown on 01923 661516. Group meets fortnightly on Friday at 11.00 - 12.00am at the Royal Oak, Abbots Langley.
Sewing	Contact: Tina Photi on 07427866825. Group meets Wednesday at 10.00-12.00am at Tina's home.
Sequence Dancing	Contact: Janet Moles on 07835 260967 Next meeting Friday 9th December at All Saints Church Hall from 2.00pm until 4.00pm.
Sign Language	Contact: Sue Hickson on 07958669311. Group will start on the 26th August and meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at Asda Community Suite between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.
Singing for Pleasure	Contact: Ady Shaw 01923 518021. Group meets fortnightly on Thursday at 10.00am -11.30am at Asda.
Social Outing Group	Contact: Joan jgillett43@gmail.com Mobile: 07881 768793
Table Tennis	Contact: John Simpson on 07531 542605. Group meets fortnightly at 10.00-12.00am at the YMCA Haines Way.
Ten Pin Bowling	Contact (initially) Bernice Caffrey on 01923 672359. Group meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at Hollywood Bowl at 2.00pm starting on the 11th September
Trips	Contact: Martin Rodel on 01923 442417. Available trips advertised at General Meetings.
Ukulele	Contact: Trevor Boardman on 01923 244016. Group meets 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday and 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday at 2.00pm at Tesco Extra Community Room (this is a joint group with SWH)
Weekenders	Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting.
Woodside Walk Five	Contact: Derryck Croker on 07941 401421 for details of next meeting. Group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday. (This is a joint group with SWH)
Wednesday Walkers	Contact: Derryck Croker on 07941 401421 Group meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday. (This is a joint group with SWH)



**We are always looking for new interest groups
If you have any ideas then please speak to Bernice at the
general meeting**



General Meeting Talks This Season

Please See Page Three

Refreshment Rota:-

February: Garden Visits & Line Dancing.
March: Listening To Music & Local Theatre group.

WANTED: NEWS & PHOTOGRAPHS suitable for publication please send to The Webmaster, Andrew Cummings at andrew.cummingsu3a@btinternet.com

The newsletter is available online at <https://u3asites.org.uk/woodside>

AND FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Send to Ken Cotton, 01923 269720 or email:- woodsideu3a22@gmail.com

Copy Date Is 1st Of The Month

N.B. Due To Limited Space, Articles May Need To Be Edited!

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

webmaster@woodsideu3a.org.uk
newsletter:- woodsideu3a22@gmail.com

So our u3a can be as environmentally friendly as possible, you are invited to bring your own mug to our monthly general meetings. These are easier to drink from and will save using plastic cups.

The Committee Contact Details:

Heather Lace - Chair
07951 937064 - chair@woodsideu3a.co.uk



Ken Cotton - Vice Chair
01923 269720
woodsideu3a22@gmail.com



Alison Theobald - Treasurer -
a.theobald@sky.com



Lesley Cummings, Membership Secretary 01923 681478
membership@woodsideu3a.org.uk



Joyce Gray, Minute Secretary & Publicity 01923 263213
rejoyce.gray@gmail.com



Bernice Caffrey - Interest Group Coordinator
01923 672359
caffreyba@gmail.com



Louise Smith - Speaker Organiser
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louise.c.smith@hotmail.co.uk



Linda Williams 01923 445598
linda57williams@hotmail.co.uk



Dave Daniels lehdansom@aol.com



Next General Meeting
19th March 2024