

WOODSIDE U3A NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022
MEETING AT THE STANBOROUGH CENTRE WATFORD

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

Charity Reg.: 1182140



Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our April 2022 newsletter. We had a good General Meeting in March, with an entertaining yet informative talk given by Josie Jeffries on her past work as a store detective. It was so nice to see everyone, seated in our new hall format - around round tables - much more sociable.

Next month our meeting will be on Tuesday 19 April at 10am at The Stanborough Centre. Our speaker is Graham Grover from Garston Fire Station who is giving a talk on fire safety.

We have retrieved the books from the Church of the Nazarene so will be starting up our book stall at the April General Meeting, kindly hosted by Carol and Lesley. It will be very good to see it up and running again.

We have several outings booked including Hampton Court Flower Show and a visit to Harefield Gardens. You can find out more at the General Meetings - just talk to the organisers and see if they have any places left as the trips do book up quickly.

I am pleased to inform you that Ken Cotton has joined the Committee and we welcome him. Our strong Committee has 11 members who are enthusiastically managing the group.

Well, now the sun has come out (and for a while gone back in), enjoy the outdoors and stay safe.

Barbara Elman
Chair

Agenda: Doors open 9.30am, notices 10.00am, refreshments/huddles 10.15am, speaker 10.30am, depart 12 noon.

YOUR COMMITTEE



**BERNICE CAFFREY
VICE CHAIR & INTEREST
GROUP COORDINATOR**



**KEN APPEL
SPEAKER SECRETARY**



**JOYCE GRAY
PUBLICITY**



**ALISON THEOBALD
TREASURER**



**LINDA WILLIAMS
VICE CHAIR**



**Ken Cotton
Committee Member**



**LESLEY CUMMINGS
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**



**HEATHER LACE
SAFEGUARDING &
EQUALITY**



**Louise Smith
Committee Member**



**KEN EMMONS
SOCIAL SECRETARY**

Please see back page for contact details of the committee, webmaster and newsletter editor.

Woodside u3a Interest Groups March 2022.

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 on 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)
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).
Flower Arrangement	Contact: Jill Macey on 07736680501. Group meets quarterly on a Tuesday 2.00 - 4.00pm at Asda Community Suite. (this is a joint group with SWH)
French.	Contact: Heather Lace on 0951937064. Group meets fortnightly on a Monday at 2.30p at members houses
Garden Visits	Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting. We currently have three visits on offer.
Spanish 1	Contact: Sue Brown on 01923 661516. Group meets fortnightly on Friday at 11.00 - 12.00am at the Royal Oak, Abbots Langley
Spanish 2	Contact: Alison Theobald 01923 463573. Group meets fortnightly on Wednesday at 10.00 - 11.00am. Venue TBA
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.	Contact: Diane Reilly 01923 261840. Group meets monthly 1st Tuesday afternoons at members homes
Mexican Train	Contact: Bernice Caffrey on 01923 672359. Group meets every 4 weeks on a Thursday at 2.00pm.
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 01923 264855. Group meets 2nd Monday at 2.00pm at members homes
Play Reading for Fun	Contact: Derek Giles on 01923 270971. Group meets 1st Monday 10.00-12.00am at Asda (this is a joint group with SWH)
Sewing	Contact: Tina Photi on 07427866825. Group meets Monday at 10.00-12.00am at Tina's home

Singing for Pleasure	Contact: Ady Shaw on 01923 51802. Group meets fortnightly on Thursday at 10.00am -11.30am at Asda
Social Group	Contact: Ken Emmons on 01923 672139 or email kjemmons23@gmail.com or Joan Gillett jgillett43@gmail.com. Group meets 3rd Wednesday at 1.30pm in Room 2 at Asda. Start date to be confirmed
Table Tennis	Contact: John Simpson on 07531 542605. Group meets fortnightly at 10.00-12.00am at the YMCA Haines Way
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.
Pathfinders	Contact: Patrick Turner on 0923 263511 or 7954640263 for details of next meeting (this is a joint group with SWH)
Woodside Walk 5	Contact: Derryck Croker 01923 673719 for details of next meeting. Group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.
Quiz	Contact: Glen Price on 07787155461 meeting at YMCA Haines Way at 7.00pm, monthly.

Interest Group News.

Hello Everyone

Once again, I am asking for ideas for new groups. If you have a hobby or skill you would like to share with other members, please let me know.

We have had a few suggestions, so at the general meeting, please come and have a look at the Interest Group table.

Also, would all the group leaders/contacts please check the telephone number and details shown for their group in the newsletter, as I have received a few queries and members wishing to join a group were unable to get in touch.

Many thanks
Bernice Caffrey
IGC

The Garden Visits Group

Louise and Linda are arranging a coach trip to the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

The details are below. Please contact Louise or Linda if you are interested.

Saturday 9th July 2022

Depart 8.30am from The Brow - Return 5.30pm

Non-refundable coach fare £16

Get your entry tickets online

Please buy your ticket at the April general meeting; after this date tickets will be offered to SW Herts u3a.

Phone Louise Smith on 07483214815

Or

Linda Murphy on 07940107052

Please note that your coach fare does not include the entry ticket. These can be purchased online.

The coach will park in the Green Car Park. There is a 20minute walk to the show (along Thames Park to the Thames Gate or through the Palace grounds to Ditton Gate); both routes will take you over a footbridge. This visit is for all Woodside u3a members.



Photographic group visit Aquadrome

On Tuesday 22nd April our photographic group visited Rickmansworth Aquadrome to explore the lake taking photos as we went. All members then sent their photos to Ken Cotton who put them up on our Wordpress website. No names were added so all members could then vote anonymously for their favourite photo to our arbiter, Lesley Eldridge, who then counted all votes and declared our winners on Sunday 27th March.



Our day out was well attended and our attached photo shows most of our group just before setting out on our walk.

This month our joint winners were Frances and David Lehane. This was quite amazing since they had only just joined our group and this was their first competition with us (was this beginners' luck! 😊)

Now that the better weather is with us, our next competition will have a definite Spring flavour and I am sure the competitors will be as keen as ever.

Ken Jones



Frances' photo



& David's

DAYS OUT

WEDNESDAY 25th MAY

The Black Country Museum

Depart Stanborough Centre 8.45am

Also Bus Stop by Kingswood shops, North Orbital Rd approx 5 mins later.

Leaving Museum approx 4.30pm. Comfort Stops both ways.

Fare £31.00 includes entrance.

WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

DEAL (THE HIDDEN GEM of Kent). An award-winning High St with independent shops, antique shops, Bistros, cafes, and a pier too. Walk along the promenade to Deal Castle, built in Henry V111's time

Depart Stanborough Centre 8.45am

Leaving Deal around 4.45pm Comfort Stops both Ways

Fare £16.00

THURSDAY 21ST JULY

WINCHESTER and THE WATERCRESS LINE

Today we travel to Winchester, I believe that the Street Market stalls are there today, have a 'wander' round, grab some lunch etc. we depart at 2.30 sharp for the short journey to Arlesford Station for a return trip on the 'Watercress Line' We are booked on the 15.30 return service. We leave Arlesford at approx 5.00 for the swift journey home.

A Short Comfort stop will be made if needed both ways

Depart Stanborough Centre 8.45am

Also Bus Stop by Kingswood Shops North Orbital Road approx 5 mins Later

Fare £28.00 including Train Travel

SEPTEMBER (Date to be finalised)

COTSWOLD VILLAGES, BROADWAY, BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER etc

Depart Stanborough Centre 8.45am

Also Bus Stop by Kingswood Shops, North Orbital Road approx 5mins later

Fare £16.00

I need a minimum of 40 people per trip to make them viable, if not then they will have to be sadly cancelled.

Martin Rodel

martinrodel@hotmail.co.uk - 01923 442417

Woodside u3a Is 5 years old!

Following on from our two articles last month, Alison Theobald tells us what our u3a has meant to her. Just thought I would tell you why I took on the role of treasurer. I joined Woodside u3a while I was working part time but once I retired, I was thinking '*what am I going to do with all this time on my hands?*'

This didn't last long when I joined The Walking Book Group, Badminton, Garden Visits, Belly dancing, Nordic Walking and decided to start Spanish 2. Then unfortunately Covid hit, which as you know these all stopped.

Since 'we've opened up' again I've not yet got my head round going back to any groups but to keep my brain going and to have that social contact with everyone I volunteered to take on the role of treasurer, which so far is definitely keeping the brain working!

So perhaps you'd like to think about joining the committee to keep involved and the brain going?

Alison Theobald

March speaker

Our March speaker was Josie Jeffrey, a retired store detective. She quoted a well-known phrase '*set a thief to catch a thief*' and she had, as a child been part of the Smith Street gang, and was caught stealing liquorice allsorts by a store detective. So 23 years on she was employed as a store detective. She worked for Littlewoods, and M&S in stores around Hertfordshire and the UK.



Josie Jeffrey

She explained that stolen goods were classed as 'shrinkage' on the account books and prices were raised to cover these costs. As a store detective you must be able to prove the thief intended to not pay and many people, she caught had a variety of reasons for non-payment. These included taking clothes into the changing room and coming out with their own clothes over the stolen items, an elderly lady regularly went into the loo and stole toilet paper, a hotel worker who stole receipts from his hotel and the items and returned these to the

store to get a refund. Some wealthy stealers stole for the kick out of paying, and then claimed their wealthy husband would get them out of this mess.

On a positive note she found several siblings stealing warm clothes and when investigated it was found their step father was abusing the children and they were taken into care. At Brentcross she found gangs of children trained to look out for store detectives.

Josie finally decided to give up this work after several attacks from thieves and gangs. In Dublin, stores had to pay protection money to the IRA. M&S hired extra security staff. She has been attacked by women using stilleto heels, and the final decision was after she was hit on her head and hips; she retired due to loss of confidence and that the security services were reluctant to interfere as this caused paperwork and a lot of hassle for them .

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

AND FOR THE NEWSLETTER

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

**Copy date for the MAY Issue is
1ST MAY 2022**

Send to Jo Bromwich, 01923 443758 or
email jo.bromwich@ntlworld.com

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

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The committee contact details:

Barbara Elman, Chair - chair@woodsideu3a.org.uk

Bernice Caffrey, Vice Chair & Interest Group
Coordinator - 01923 672359 caffreyba@gmail.co

Linda Williams, Vice Chair - no contact details

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

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

Ken Emmons, Social Secretary - 01923 672139

Ken Appel, Speaker Secretary 01923 672620 -
kenneth.appel@gmail.com

Heather Lace, Safe Guarding & Equality -
- 07951 937064 - heuzit@hotmail.com

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**ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE COPYDATE MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN
THE NEXT ISSUE OR MAY BE SAVED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MONTH**

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 paper cups. We will continue to have disposable cups for those who forget or are unable to provide their own mugs.

