



Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our February 2022 newsletter.

As we slowly emerge from the pandemic, we are dipping our toes in the water and your Committee have made the decision to hold face to face meetings again. Whilst we appreciate we must be vigilant, we feel that the time is right to meet in person. We will continue to take temperatures at the door, socially distance and ventilate the hall. It will be your choice whether to wear a mask or not.

We are celebrating our 5th Birthday at our February General Meeting as we were only able to have a Zoom meeting in January (the actual anniversary date). We hope you enjoy your cake and let's raise a toast with our teas and coffees to the next 5 years!

Our February speaker will be John McCombe, Hon President, SERV Herts and Beds, they are volunteers who deliver blood products and donor milk to Neonatal units. Over the last 3 years they have delivered completely free of charge 6000 deliveries.

We look forward to seeing you all and thank you again for your support and patience while we continue on this difficult path through the pandemic.

Stay safe and well.

Barbara Elman
Chair

YOUR COMMITTEE



BERNICE CAFFREY
VICE CHAIR & INTEREST GROUP
COORDINATOR



LINDA WILLIAMS
VICE CHAIR



ALISON THEOBALD
TREASURER



HEATHER LACE
SAFEGUARDING & EQUALITY



LESLEY CUMMINGS
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



KEN EMMONS
SOCIAL SECRETARY



KEN APPEL
SPEAKER SECRETARY



JOYCE GRAY
PUBLICITY

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

Woodside u3a Interest Groups February 2022.

Art.	Contact: Sue Walters on 01923 682317 Group meets fortnightly 10-12am at Tanners Wood Hall
Badminton	Contact: Susan Coultrup on 01923 334387. Group meets weekly 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 260541. 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 07771709039. 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
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 on 01923 463573. Group meets fortnightly on Wednesday at 10.00 - 11.00am. Venue to be confirmed
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 on 01923 261840. Group meets monthly 1st Tuesday afternoons at members homes
Mexican Train	Contact: Bernice Caffrey on 01923 672359. Group meets 4th Thursday at 2.00pm.
Philosophy	Contact: Jeanne Johnson on 01923 263598. Groups 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 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: Joan Gillett jgillett43@gmail.com . 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)
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 on 01923 673719 for details of next meeting. Group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.
Quiz	Contact: Glen Price on 07787155461. Details of next quiz to be confirmed.

Interest Group News

On Thursday 24 February at 2.00pm our Mexican Train Group will be commencing. Anyone who has put their name down on the list, please contact Bernice Caffrey at caffreyba@gmail.com.

Abbots Langley Festival (ALF)

From the 18 June until the 17 July Abbots Langley will be holding it's festival and Woodside u3a will be represented by holding 8 sessions in the Library. We hope the members of our interest groups will put their heads together to promote their group at one of these sessions, which will be held on Tuesday and Thursday during these dates between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

I have already sent an email to the group leaders, as we needed a response by the 30th January, so that the information can go into the event guide.

The 8 sessions for the ALF are being covered by the following interest group leaders and their group members.

21st June - Barbara Elman and Alison Theobald.

23rd June - French - Heather Lace

28th June - Art - Sue Walters

30th June -Photography - Ken Jones

5th July - Walkers - Derryck Crocker

7th July - Spanish 1 - Sue Brown

12th July - Table Tennis - John Simpson

14th July - Singing - Val May

Thanks Bernice

Visit to Winchester Christmas Market

Thursday Dec 2nd, the first U3A trip of 2021! It's been a difficult year, but I managed to squeeze in a Christmas Market trip to Winchester before the omicron variant took hold.

The day dawned sunny but very cold, ideal Christmas market weather. We made our way round the M25 then onto the M3 for a very pleasant ride to Winchester arriving around 10.45. Everbody disembarked and made their way across the road and into the cathedral market. Winchester has been voted one of the best markets in the country.



The number of chalets was down which was not surprising as some do come from across the Channel but this was not possible this year.



However, there were plenty of stalls selling their wares, arts and crafts, jewellery etc etc together with Christmassy stuff too.

There was also a seasonal street market in the town centre selling Christmas goodies.

A very pleasant day was had by all and it was all too soon that we had to make our way back to the King Alfred Statue to join our coach for the journey back to the Stanborough Centre arriving at about 6.15pm.

Martin

Day Trips Leader

First East Regional Conference

INVITATIONS to the first East Regional Conference for some years have gone to all our u3as. The event on 19 May is open to all members of our u3as. Places have to be booked. The venue is Christchurch, New London Road, Chelmsford, which has on site car parking and a lift. Liz Thackray, the national chairman, has accepted her invitation. She will be joined by two other great speakers, Gervase Phinn and Maldon's own Patrick Forsyth. There will also be a

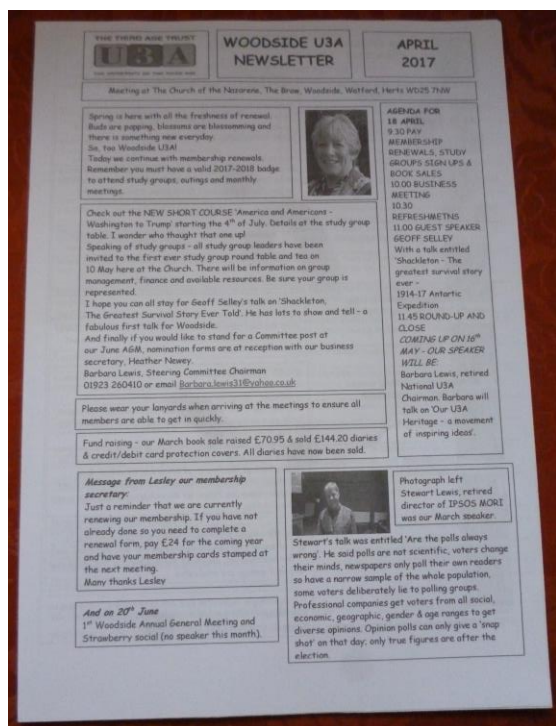
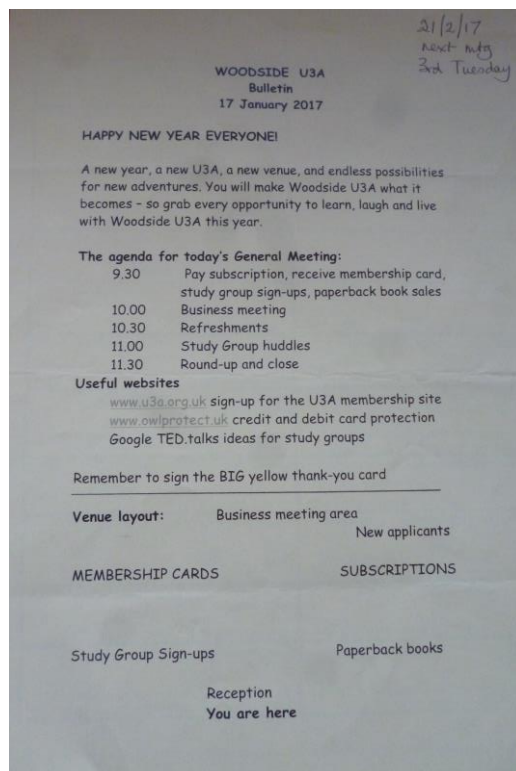
session on looking back ... and forwards ... in this, our 40th anniversary year. Lunch and refreshments are free and you will have time to network. If you would like to attend, please contact me. Barbara Elman (barbaraelman@hotmail.co.uk).

Five years of telling our story in the newsletter

After an initial informal meeting in November 2016 in All Saints Church hall, the first proper General Meeting of Woodside u3a started in January the following year at The Church of the Nazarene. The late Barbara Lewis was our first chair and put together our first newsletter - an A4 sheet of yellow paper.

Barbara's opening paragraph declared '*A new year, a new u3a, a new venue and endless possibilities for new adventures. You will make Woodside u3a what it becomes - so grab every opportunity to learn, laugh and live with Woodside u3a this year.*'

This was followed by the day's agenda, (so the new members knew what to expect) and a diagram of the venue layout. On the reverse of the sheet was a list of 24 possible study groups, as they were known then. Five years on many group leaders remain on our list today; organised by Bernice who was there on day one.



After a meeting at Barbara's house, I took over looking after the newsletter in the February. For part of my working life, I was responsible for a company employees and customer communications. That was back in the day before office computers when I would send typed written articles and photographs to the art department in an envelope! So, several decades on, the newsletter was to be put together on my home computer and what a steep learning curve that was. So many times

I pushed the wrong button and lost the whole lot. It would take me days and numerous cups of tea to get through it.

By March, issue 3, we were publishing an A4 four page newsletter just black & white for 153 members. I was getting to grips with sizing photos and putting them mainly in the right place, though text was still in boxes to make sure I didn't lose bits. After the first agm in July 2017, Laila became chair and we had a new committee and the newsletter was in colour. Thankfully many members were sending me articles and photographs of their outings and events to fill the pages. It was around this time I noticed that many people would fold their A4 newsletter in half to fit into bags or pockets. I suggested that an A5 newsletter may be the way forward and in October our first smaller version was issued. It has remained this size though the number of pages has varied according to how much news I receive, sometimes 8 or 12 or 16.

After printing the February 2020 newsletter, everything went online. I had the freedom of making photos and font larger as I didn't have to worry about printing costs or keeping pages to multiples of four. This month we are back to a printed copy. The size of the newsletter depends on the input of our members so do please keep sending me write-ups about your group. I really do appreciate the support so many of you have given me over the last five years.

Jo

THE THIRD AGE TRUST
U3A
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

WOODSIDE U3A NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2017

Meeting at The Church of the Nazarene, The Brow, Woodside, Watford, Herts WD25 7NW
On the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9.30am
<https://u3asites.org.uk/woodside>

With every season there is a special beauty: an awakening of anticipation of what is to come. Autumn is with us, in fact all around us, evidenced by the changing colours of our multiple varieties of trees and shrubs. From their regulated shades of green, they burst into a riot of colour offering our eyes and senses an artist pallet to feast upon. Maybe we wonder why all this beauty leads to decay and skeletal trees but in our hearts we know this is the old story we have been fortunate to witness multiple times; with that knowing hope arises that such a season augurs renewal, offering new opportunities that are in keeping with our U3A values and our lives. Opportunities to learn and experience new things with U3A leads to renewal, what better time to join existing study groups or suggest new ones.

I welcome all new members who have recently joined us. I am confident you will experience a warm welcome here and meet new or reunite with old friends. Dive in and enjoy all that is on offer we heartily welcome your ideas for new groups.

In the spirit of renewal your committee has been busy planning ahead for next year and thanks to Sheila, our speaker secretary have already secured a varied and stimulating speaker programme for the 2018. Finally as the clocks go back to herald daylight saving and we move further towards Halloween, the 5th November and Christmas. Let us enjoy the challenges and changes the season can bring with our friends and families.

Laila, Chair
(laila1946@icloud.com or 01923 269388)

AGENDA FOR 17 OCTOBER
9.30 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS, STUDY GROUPS SIGN UPS & BOOK SALES
10.00 BUSINESS MEETING
10.30 REFRESHMENTS
11.00 GUEST SPEAKER HOWARD LANNING WITH AN ILLUSTRATED TALK CALLED 'CANDID CAMERA'
11.45 ROUND-UP AND CLOSE
ON 21 NOVEMBER OUR SPEAKER WILL BE LEANNE WALTERS AND WILL TALK ON PANTOMINE

Woodside u3a
Is 5 years old!

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 MARCH Issue is
1ST MARCH 2022**

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

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

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The committee contact details:

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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 - no contact details

Joyce Gray, Publicity - 01923 263213 -
re.joyce.gray@gmail.com

**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.