

WOODSIDE U3A NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022  
MEETING AT THE STANBOROUGH CENTRE WATFORD

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

Charity Reg.: 1182140



Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our October 2022 newsletter and an especial welcome to our new members. We hope you enjoy the wide range of interest groups we have to offer. I am pleased to report that 75 members and 5 guests attended our last General Meeting.

It was a sad time for us all when news broke that Queen Elizabeth II had passed away on 8 September. The end of our Elizabethan period. We now have King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla on the throne. It was fitting that at the beginning of our September General Meeting we held a one-minute silence and sang God Save The King. A new era in history - an exciting time for the United Kingdom.

On a local group note, we were delighted to see that Kings Langley Residents Association printed an article about us to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the u3a. Thank you to Joyce Gray, our Publicity Officer for arranging this.

Please remember to give your names to Joan Gillett if you want to go on the Christmas Lights outing on Monday 28 November. Also the Christmas Lunch is on Tuesday 6 December and the Christmas Market coach trip organised by Martin Rodell is on Thursday 8 December.

Now that the weather has cooled down, and the summer holidays are over, let's see what Autumn brings. Let's enjoy new opportunities and good times in Woodside u3a.

Barbara Elman  
Chair

**Agenda** for our October general meeting: Doors open 9.30am, notices 10.00am, refreshments/huddles 10.15am, Our speaker for October is Mervyn Edwards with a talk entitled "Walking The Beat To Nirvana" 10.30am, and depart 12 noon.

Mervyn has spoken to us before about policing the Newbury Bypass protests and was very good. This time his talk is how he moved on to protection of the royal family among other things.

**Christmas lunch**

Christmas lunch at The Blue Check restaurant 6th December @ 12 noon,  
£22.including surcharge.

See Ken Emmons at the October meeting.

**Next General Meetings:** Tuesday 15 November & Wednesday 14 December

YOUR COMMITTEE



BERNICE CAFFREY  
VICE CHAIR & INTEREST  
GROUP COORDINATOR



LINDA WILLIAMS  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



JOYCE GRAY  
PUBLICITY



ALISON THEOBALD  
TREASURER



HEATHER LACE  
SAFEGUARDING &  
EQUALITY



KEN COTTON  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



LESLEY CUMMINGS  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



KEN EMMONS  
SOCIAL SECRETARY



LOUISE SMITH  
Speakers Secretary

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

## Interest Groups - October 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)
Bus Pass Travel	Contact: Bea Luffrum on 07711709039. Group to meet monthly on a Wednesday or Thursday. Next trip is to St Albans in November. Details to be published later.
Chess	Contact: Barbara Elman on 07833996358. This group meets monthly at members' homes. Next meeting 22nd September.
Craft:	Contact: Jo Bromwich on 01923 443758. This group will meet for the first time on 26 October at 10am at Abbots Langley Cricket Club.
Drama	Contact: Carol Stanton at <a href="mailto:carolstanton225@gmail.com">carolstanton225@gmail.com</a> . This group meets on a Tuesday at Asda Community Suite, 10.00am until 11.30am. Next meeting 13th September.
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 07951937064. 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.
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
Lunch Group	Contact: Joyce Gray on 01923 263213 or <a href="mailto:rejoyce.gray@gmail.com">rejoyce.gray@gmail.com</a> . Monthly. Days and Venue vary
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)

<b>Photography</b>	<b>Contact: Ken Jones on 01923 264855. Group meets 2nd Monday at 2.00pm at members homes</b>
<b>Play Reading for Fun</b>	<b>Contact: Derek Giles on 01923 270971. Group meets 1st Monday 10.00-12.00am at Asda (this is a joint group with SWH)</b>
<b>Spanish 1</b>	<b>Contact: Sue Brown on 01923 661516. Group meets fortnightly on Friday at 11.00 - 12.00am at the Royal Oak, Abbots Langley</b>
<b>Spanish 2</b>	<b>Contact: Alison Theobald o 01923463573. Group meets fortnightly on Wednesday at 10.00 - 11.00am. Venue TBA</b>
<b>Sewing</b>	<b>Contact: Tina Photi on 07427866825. Group meets Wednesday at 10.00-12.00am at Tina's home</b>
<b>Sign Language</b>	<b>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.</b>
<b>Singing for Pleasure</b>	<b>Contact: Ady Shaw on 01923 51802. Group meets fortnightly on Thursday at 10.00am -11.30am at Asda</b>
<b>Social Group</b>	<b>Contact: Joan Gillett <a href="mailto:jgillett43@gmail.com">jgillett43@gmail.com</a>.</b>
<b>Table Tennis</b>	<b>Contact: John Simpson on 07531 542605. Group meets fortnightly at 10.00-12.00am at the YMCA Haines Way</b>
<b>Trips</b>	<b>Contact: Martin Rodel on 01923 442417. Available trips advertised at General Meetings</b>
<b>Ukulele</b>	<b>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)</b>
<b>Weekenders</b>	<b>Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting.</b>
<b>Pathfinders</b>	<b>Contact: Patrick Turner on 0923 263511 or 7954640263 for details of next meeting (this is a joint group with SWH)</b>
<b>Woodside Walk 5</b>	<b>Contact: Derryck Croker on 01923 673719 for details of next meeting. Group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday.</b>
<b>Quiz</b>	<b>Contact: Glen Price on 07787155461 meeting at YMCA Haines Way at 7.00pm on the third Thursday of the month.</b>

## Interest Group News.

The Canasta Group will begin shortly, Denise is in the process of speaking to Asda about having a room there. As soon as there is news Denise will be in touch.

As always, if you have any ideas for new groups, or if you have a talent you would like to share with others, please let me know.

The newly formed craft group will meet for the first time on 26 October at 10am at the Abbots Langley Cricket Club, Gallows Hill Lane. For the first meeting can everyone bring whatever project they are working on or bring ideas for future meetings.

Bernice  
Interest Group Coordinator

## Photographic Group visit Bentley Priory

On Friday 30th October our Photographic group of 15 members made a competition visit to Bentley Priory, Stanmore. Bentley Priory was originally a stately home then a girls school and then RAF Headquarters Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain.

The RAF Operations Room was on display. This was a ground-controlled communications system which plotted incoming enemy aircraft and guided our interceptor aircrafts to the enemy. This was vital to our success in winning the Battle of Britain.



Bentley Priory also has a superb Italian garden but unfortunately it was raining when it was time for us to explore this.

There was plenty of opportunities to take photos for our competition both inside and outside and I look forward to seeing all of our entry photos. As a u3a group of 15 members we were provided

with our own guide who gave us a very interesting tour of the facilities. The winner of our competition will be announced by Lesley Eldridge our adjudicator later this month.

Ken Jones  
Photographic Group

## Bus Pass Group



The newly formed 'Bus Pass Group' went on their first outing earlier this month. The intrepid adventurers boarded the 321 bus close to the Stanborough Centre and headed to Rickmansworth and the newly refurbished Three Rivers Museum. The journey lasted nearly an hour and took us through parts of Croxley Green we had never seen before. The museum is only a few yards from the bus stop and we were warmly greeting by Ann and Pat,

volunteers at Basing House. We watched several old films taken in local high streets and around; footage of the heavy snow in 1962 (The Big Freeze - remember?), everyday shopping including the first supermarket in the area, saw men and women all wearing hats and looking smart and the 1960s version of the 321 bus!

The items on display ranged from a mammoth tusk (right) found in West Hyde, a Roman hipposandal (horseshoe) tied to the hoof for draught animals found at Croxley Common Moor, lead fire marks to show that a house had fire insurance (fire fighting was arranged



by private companies) to small bunting made to commemorate our late Queen. The 70 bunting flags have been made of fabric by 70 participants representing 70 years of her reign (coordinated by the Charity ASCEND).



After visiting the museum we visited St Mary the Virgin's church, parts of which date back to 1630. The East Window behind the High Altar was designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. After a quick cuppa we chose the faster route home via the 724 Greenline bus.



Jo

## LONDON LIGHTS/SUPPER

Tour of London lights stopping at County Hall for fish/chip supper, tea/coffee or soft drink included.

Small Xmas market to visit if there is time,

Leaving Stanborough Park. 4.30pm

Arriving back at approx. 9.30pm

Cost of trip: Coach £15.00. Fish/chips £13.00

Payment for this trip at the October meeting (or at the latest by November meeting)

Cheque/Cash. Cheque made to Woodside U3A

Please contact me if you are interested in this trip

Joan

PS Social Group: All meetings at Asda have been cancelled

## September General Meeting

Our September speaker was Gordon Rogers with his talk 'The sky at night with a laugh'. He has been obsessed with deep space for decades, building an observatory in his back garden and inviting TVs Sir Patrick Moore and Kim Wilde to the opening. Many of the 'Sky at Night' TV programmes were filmed in his observatory. With a slow-motion camera he is able to film the stars (and see helicopters and the space station going by) some 240 million light years away. Some



photos take nine hours exposure.



As a keen amateur astronomer his talk covered astronomical topics of contemporary interest both amateur and professional. He has a passion for Deep Space imaging. Sir Patrick Moore filmed a whole "Sky at Night" programme at his observatory and asked him to write a book

about it in his astronomy series. It is published by Springer and entitled "My Heavens". Sir Patrick Moore proposed me for membership of the Royal Astronomical Society. He is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. It was an amazing topic with plenty of room for humour. He has given many talks to children about astronomy which he finds rewarding and they in turn give him space drawing together with images of aliens.

## Christmas Market Trip

This Victorian Christmas Market Trip to Stratford upon Avon is on Thursday 8th December.

**ONLY SIX SEATS LEFT ON THE COACH**

**Please see Martin at the October or November General meetings with your cheque book if you wish to visit this historic venue with the added bonus of a Christmas Market!**



This Victorian Christmas Market is a themed event with stall holders dressed in Victorian costumes. There will be entertainment throughout the town; a stage in Henley Street will host a programme of performances. There will be a traditional funfair, which will include a carousel situated at the bottom of Wood Street and on the Rother Street market area.

*(photo from 2021)*

**WANTED: NEWS & PHOTOGRAPHS**

suitable for publication please send to  
The Webmaster, Andrew Cummings at  
[andrew.cummingsu3a@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.cummingsu3a@btinternet.com)

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

**AND FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

**Copy date for the NOVEMBER Issue is  
1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

Send to Jo Bromwich, 01923 443758 or  
email [jo.bromwich@ntlworld.com](mailto:jo.bromwich@ntlworld.com)

**IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS**

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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.

**The committee contact details:**

Barbara Elman, Chair - [chair@woodsideu3a.org.uk](mailto:chair@woodsideu3a.org.uk)

Bernice Caffrey, Vice Chair & Interest Group  
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Linda Williams, - no contact details

Alison Theobald, Treasurer - [a.theobald@sky.com](mailto:a.theobald@sky.com)

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