

Woodside

u3a
learn, laugh, live



Newsletter

January 2024

MEETING AT THE STANBOROUGH CENTRE WATFORD

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

Charity Registration Number.: 1182140



Hello everyone, and a Happy New Year

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas holiday, although I am sure there was a fair share of the dramas and crises which always seem to occur at this time. For many people, festive food and drink is an important part of the celebration. I don't know if anyone was caught out as I was - I made an early M&S Christmas order including anything I might possibly want (in case they ran out) intending to sort through and delete items nearer the time, only to discover the deadline for amendments was about a week beforehand, so I now have a freezer full of lobster mac and cheese crostini, pigs in blankets, battered prawns, bread sauce etc!

At the December meeting I mentioned an AI website/app and several people have asked me for more information. The one I have tried is ChatGPT but I am sure there are other similar sites. Thinking forward to the New Year, and resolutions, although I am not usually one for motivational quotations, I did like 'When you are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world'. See you in February.

Heather

Today's Speaker:-

'Job Of A Laughtime' Presented by Brad Ashton

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

Speakers Report



As has become a Christmas tradition with our U3A we don't have a speaker at the December meeting, but instead some of our own interest groups entertain us. There was a stage with wings and lighting set up to make a very professional setting for the performances.

First up was the Drama Group performing a pantomime based on *The Wizard of Oz*. It was full of fun but all too soon it was time for Dorothy to click her heels three times and say "There's no place like home". This was followed by "Agnes" reading aloud a series of increasingly desperate thank you letters for gifts, many unwanted, based on *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, also very funny. A telephone conversation based on Joseph trying to book a Hilton hotel for the night with the hotelier - Herod was also hilarious. Showing their diversity there was then an uplifting reading of "Every Day Is Christmas" followed by "Merry Christmas". During and after our coffee break, including crackers and delicious pastries, Glen had prepared a quiz based on Christmas. This was a great chance to socialise while playing as a team. There were some surprising answers for me; I hadn't known that a poinsettia was a type of euphorbia. Finally The Shedettes sang for us. There was plenty of audience participation with rousing songs including old favourites like "Yellow Submarine", "Um Pa Pa", "You're Everywhere and Nowhere...", "Blue Moon", "Jingle Bells" and then the lovely and moving "Silent Night". It was obvious that so much work goes in to the preparation and rehearsal of everything. We are so lucky to have members prepared to elevate their interest groups to this level.

Louise



Murder Mystery Evening Activity in 2024

Anticipated
NEW GROUP!

The format of the evening would be that we meet in one of the members' homes for the evening. The scenario of the facts of the mystery will be available and each of those present has a role to play out with the object being to identify the murderer of the fatality, which will be one of those present. You are allowed to ask questions of the other players ; you may exaggerate or be coy but you must not deliberately fib! (not that I think that any members of Woodside U3A would do so) Some questions are provided and you can use your imagination to ask further relevant questions. In addition, we will hope to play the game around having a meal, a Starter, Fish (or similar) and Chip Supper , and a Dessert. All present will be encouraged to either provide something to eat to share , or financially contribute. Cost of the Fish and Chips will be for each to pay for. Participants will be encouraged to try and dress as the part in the story that they have been allotted (this is optional).

We will be having a ' Huddle' at the next General Meeting. *John Simpson*



Table Tennis Christmas Lunch



The annual Table Tennis activity group Christmas Lunch took place on the 8th December 2023 at the Blue Check Restaurant in Bushey and this was well attended by eighteen members of the group and friends. As we have come to expect from the Blue Check Restaurant the three course Christmas cuisine was very well

enjoyed by those who were able to attend the event, especially when we bear in mind that we did not have to pre-order our requirements from the quite extensive menu that was available. The restaurant was able to offer meal options for vegetarians and those who need gluten free meals.



There was an atmosphere of excitement and anticipation for the Christmas festivities which were to follow in the forthcoming days. *John Simpson*

Christmas Lights & Supper



On the 13th December, 18 members made their way from Watford into London, making our way through the street of London viewing the nice display of lights before stopping at County hall for supper. After having had our supper we made our way to the small market which was made up of mostly food not much else.

After visiting the market we made our way back to the coach to continue our journey through London for the rest of our tour. Arriving back at 9.45. I hope everyone enjoyed the night and thank you all for your company. *Joan*

Spot The Six Differences



Doodle Art by Pam Cotton



Answers On Page 5

The Beatles Quiz

- 1, What Was The Beatles First Number One Hit Single?
- 2, What Was The Last Album Recorded By The Beatles?
- 3, What Show Launched The Beatles Career In The USA?
- 4, What Was The Beatles First Number One In The USA?



Answers On Page 5

My Favourites

Name: Heather Lace (Our Chair)

Place Of Birth:- Bath

Favourite Food:- Liquorice

Favourite Film:- Chocolat

First Car:- Vauxhall Astra

Favourite Music:- Anything But Opera

Favourite T.V. Program:- Sherlock

Hobbies:- Cooking, Sewing, Reading And Travel

My Bucket List:- Northern Lights

Who Would You Most Like To Meet:- Jane Austen

Favourite Holiday:- South Africa

Where Would You Like To Visit:- St Petersburg

Who Would You Not Want To Be In A Lift With:- Boris Johnson



The Beatles Quiz Answers

1, From Me To You 2, Abbey Road 3, Ed Sullivan Show
4, I Want To Hold Your Hand



Alexa Joke

Why did it take so long for the pirates to learn the alphabet?



Because they got stuck at 'C'

Spot The Difference Answers

1, Left Eyebrow 2, Bird On The Hat 3, Bottom Button
4 Snowball 5, Stripe On Scarf 6, Branch On Left Tree





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 meets every 4 weeks on a Thursday at 2.00pm
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 for Dates and Times.
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

Today:- 'Job Of A Laughtime' Presented by Brad Ashton

February:- 'Coffee From Tree To Cup' Presented By Colin Smith

March:- 'Hatch, Match & Dispatch' Presented by Sandy Highstead

Refreshment Rota:-

January :- Drama and French

February:- Garden Visits & Line Dancing

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](mailto: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

07483214815

louise.c.smith@hotmail.co.uk



Linda Williams 01923 445598

linda57williams@hotmail.co.uk



Dave Daniels lehdansom@aol.com



**Next General Meeting
20th February 2024**