



WOODSIDE U3A NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023  
MEETING AT THE STANBOROUGH CENTRE WATFORD

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

Charity Reg.: 1182140



Hello everyone,

As my role as Chair comes to a close, I can reflect on my three years in office. Certainly an extraordinary time as we lived through the Coronavirus worldwide pandemic. Who would have thought how it would affect the whole world. But you know, we adapted didn't we. Well we had to. Even now when we go to Care Homes, we are asked to take a test before entering and to wear a mask whilst walking around their premises.

Since we were able to leave Zoom behind and have face to face meetings, we have enjoyed mixing with each other again - a skill we had to relearn. Even babies and toddlers had to learn social skills which was difficult for them as they had only mixed with their parents and siblings for such a long period.

It means we count our blessings that we can move around and see our families. It also means we have been able to resume our u3a interests, activities and outings.

I've so enjoyed being your Chair and working with my Committee. Now I am handing over the role to your new Chair. I'll continue to be active within Woodside u3a and will be very happy to see it go from strength to strength. Thank you to you all for your support over the last three years, and a special thank you to Michael, my fiance, for being my rock and my sounding board!

Barbara Elman  
Chair

**Agenda** for our June general meeting: Doors open 9.30am, notices 10.00am, refreshments/huddles 10.15am, The Drama group entertains, depart 12 noon.

July General Meeting: Hearing Dogs For Deaf People by Liz Arendt and Rufus the dog.

**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 Group Information - June

<b>Art.</b>	<b>Contact: Sue Walters on 07989 250483, Group meets fortnightly 10-12am at Tanners Wood Hall</b>
<b>Badminton</b>	<b>Contact: Susan Coultrup on 01923 334387. Group meets weekly i Wednesday at Watford Leisure Centre (this is a joint group with SWH)</b>
<b>Books</b>	<b>Contact: Libby Crawford on 01923 247847. Group meet every 3rd Wednesday at 10.30am</b>
<b>Bridge Improvers</b>	<b>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)</b>
<b>Bus Pass Travel</b>	To be advised – no one running this group
<b>Canasta</b>	<b>Contact: Denise Branton on 07786 391534. Group meets 3rd Tuesday of the month at Asda Community Suite at 2.00pm</b>
<b>Chess</b>	<b>Contact: Barbara Elman on 07833996358. This group meets monthly at members' homes. Next meeting 22nd September.</b>
<b>Craft:</b>	<b>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</b>
<b>Drama</b>	<b>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.</b>
<b>Family History</b>	<b>Contact: Bea Luffrum on 07711709039. Group meets monthly on the 1st Wednesday morning at members houses (this is a joint group with SWH).</b>
<b>French.</b>	<b>Contact: Heather Lace on 07951937064. Group meets fortnightly on a Monday at 2.30p at members houses</b>
<b>Garden Visits</b>	<b>Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting. We currently have three visits on offer.</b>
<b>Line Dancing</b>	<b>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)</b>
<b>Listening to Music.</b>	<b>Contact: Diane Reilly on 01923 261840. Group meets monthly 1st Tuesday afternoons at members homes</b>
<b>Local Theatre Group</b>	<b>Contact: Pam Young on 07811 219936. Trips to be advised. Payment to be made at the time of putting your name down for a theatre trip. Travel will be by shared vehicles.</b>
<b>Lunch Group</b>	<b>Contact: Joyce Gray on 01923 263213 or <a href="mailto:rejoyce.gray@gmail.com">rejoyce.gray@gmail.com</a>.</b>
<b>Mexican Train</b>	<b>Contact: Bernice Caffrey on 01923 672359. Group meets every 4 weeks on a Thursday at 2.00pm.</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>Philosophy</b>	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>	Contact: Ken Jones on 01923 264855. Group meets 2nd Monday at 2.00pm at members homes
<b>Play Reading for Fun</b>	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)
<b>Pub Lunch and Darts</b>	Contact: Ken Cotton 01923 269720 and 07818 743603. This group meets at the Unicorn, Abbots Langley. Please contact Ken for day and time.
<b>Spanish 1</b>	Contact: Sue Brown on 01923 661516. Group meets fortnightly on Friday at 11.00 - 12.00am at the Royal Oak, Abbots Langley
<b>Sewing</b>	Contact: Tina Photi on 07427866825. Group meets Wednesday at 10.00-12.00am at Tina's home
<b>Sequence Dancing</b>	Contact: Janet Moles on 07835 260967 Next meeting Friday 9th December at All Saints Church Hall from 2.00pm until 4.00pm
<b>Sign Language</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>Singing for Pleasure</b>	Contact: Ady Shaw on 01923 51802. Group meets fortnightly on Thursday at 10.00am -11.30am at Asda
<b>Social Group</b>	Contact: Joan Gillett <a href="mailto:jgillett43@gmail.com">jgillett43@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Contact: John Simpson on 07531 542605. Group meets fortnightly at 10.00-12.00am at the YMCA Haines Way
<b>Trips</b>	Contact: Martin Rodel on 01923 442417. Available trips advertised at General Meetings
<b>Ukulele</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>Weekenders</b>	Contact: Teresa Brunswick on 07712710811. Watch out for news of visits at the General Meeting.
<b>Woodside Walk Five</b>	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)
<b>Wednesday Walkers</b>	Contact: Derryck Croker on 07941 401421 Group meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday. (This is a joint group with SWH)
<b>Quiz</b>	Contact: Glen Price on 07787155461 meeting at YMCA Haines Way at 7.00pm on the third Thursday of the month.

## Interest Group News

Over the last few months we have launched the Bus Pass Travel, Local Theatre Group and the Pub Lunch and Darts Group; however these groups still need support. We are currently working to set up a Ten Pin Bowling Group so if you have put your name down for this group, please contact me.

A message for those members who have recently joined Woodside, if you have a hobby or skill, you are able and would like to share in an interest group, please let me know.

Bernice Caffrey, Interest Group Coordinator

## Groups

### Photographic Group

On Friday 12 May the members of our Photographic Group visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum for a day out and photographic competition.

The museum is well worth a visit and depicts life in 1930/40s Britain so a blast from the past. I was particularly taken by a prefab house since whilst at school one of my best friends used to live in one of these cosy well-loved houses.



Our trip was well attended by 17 members and friends so we attended as a u3a group which gave us a discounted entry ticket of £7.50. Normal price is £9.50.

We had some excellent photographs for our competition. These photos were all shown at the May u3a meeting. Competition was tightly contested and after an anonymous round of voting our Arbiter, Lesley Eldridge declared Derryck Croker as the winner - so well-done

Derryck.

Our Photography Group is for anyone who can hold a camera or mobile phone and can take an interesting photo. We are not highly technical so if this interests you then come along and join us.

Ken Jones  
Photographic Group



*Derryck's photo was of the 1940s children's playroom.*

## Sewing Group

At our Easter meeting, Tina and her fellow sewers made a lovely range of items for members to buy.



## Social Group

Our next Social Group outing will be to Windsor on 11 July. Day trip will cost £14 for the coach (Watford to Windsor return).

Make the day your own.

Booking at the June General Meeting. Please pay when booking cash or cheque (cheques payable to Woodside u3a)

Adventure Golf in September date to be arranged.

"London lights" in December date to be arranged

Thank you

Joan



## Coach Trips for 2023

### Mystery Day out

For the first trip of 2023 I decided to do a Mystery Day Out (something I've never done before!). After leaving Stanborough a little late, due to the morning traffic we made our way to Kingswood to pick up the remaining passengers and then to the M25 at Bricket Wood to go clockwise, fortunately. We then joined the A12, passing Chelmsford and then leaving the A12 and arriving at our 1<sup>st</sup> stop at the Tiptree jam museum and cafe for a coffee stop and to buy jam and to look in the museum. We then continued into the Essex countryside, keeping off the main roads as much as possible to go through the villages. We then came to Finchingfield, the prettiest village in Essex and then made our



way to the ancient market town of Saffron Walden for a lunch stop at around 12 o'clock. People then went their separate ways to have a look around and get some lunch. We left around 2.30pm, making our way back passing RAF Duxford, Knebworth, Old Welwyn, Wheathampstead, round the back of St Albans then back to Garston. I hope everybody enjoyed it.

The next trip is to Eastbourne Wednesday 12 July. There are seats still available and I will be taking bookings at the AGM in June. That will be your LAST chance. See below for times

Depart Stanborough 8.45am &

Greenwood Drive Bus Stop North Orbital Road 8.50am approx

Arrive back approx 7pm Approx.

Cost £17.50



### **The Christmas Market**

I will know later on in the year where this will be and the date.

Please be aware that as a condition of travel I must have passengers Mobile Phone Numbers in case of people falling ill, accidents or getting lost! My Mobile Number is printed on the Ticket so don't forget the ticket!

Cheques made payable to Woodside u3a please

Martin

### **May General Meeting**

We did not have a speaker at the May meeting but instead we were entertained by our very own Shedettes. They are our "Singing For Pleasure" u3a interest group led by Ady Shaw.

This large and thriving group filled the width of the front of the meeting room and were accompanied by Ady on his guitar.

It was lovely to hear so many of our favourite songs dating back to our youth, and we were encouraged to join in. I had forgotten how good many of the songs are from those times. Highlights for me were "You're Everywhere And Nowhere Baby", "You're So Vain" and the Beatles medley.

It's a difficult thing to perform in front of an audience, especially of your peers, and our thanks go to every singer, and special thanks to the soloists, for a very enjoyable morning.

The Shedettes rehearse regularly and perform on request, sometimes at local care homes. A lot of hard but enjoyable work goes into their meetings so it was nice to be able to share the results of that with them.

### **Upcoming Speakers**

18.7.23 - Hearing Dogs For Deaf People by Liz Arendt and Rufus the dog

August no meeting but a picnic in Leavesden Country Park 28th August 2-4. Bring your own picnic and drinks. Meet under the trees near the café.

Louise

To Gardeners: Please remember when gardening this summer that caterpillars are baby butterflies (or moths). Spraying them with insecticide will wipe out a generation of beautiful butterflies that would have enhanced your garden.

## 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>  
[webmaster@woodsideu3a.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@woodsideu3a.org.uk)

ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE  
COPYDATE MAY NOT BE INCLUDED

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.

### The committee contact details:

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

Bernice Caffrey, Vice Chair & Interest Group  
Coordinator - 01923 672359 [caffreyba@gmail.com](mailto:caffreyba@gmail.com)

Linda Williams, - no contact details

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

Lesley Cummings, Membership Secretary - 01923  
681478 - [membership@woodsideu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@woodsideu3a.org.uk)

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01923 269720

After six and half years of putting this newsletter together I have decided that it is time to hand over the responsibility to someone else. I'd like to thank all those members who have supported me by supplying words and photographs over the years.

After the agm in June, there will be a new chair/committee/newsletter editor for the July meeting.

Many thanks  
Jo Bromwich