

Wheathampstead u3a Newsletter – April 2025

Speaker Meeting – Memorial Hall at 2:30pm on Thursday 24th April 2025.

Our speaker will be Brian Carline. Brian was a teacher for forty years, having worked in schools in Essex and also in Inner London. On retirement he wrote three books on life in teaching and undertook some consultative work, helping those who aspire to senior management as well as tips on how to survive in the classroom aimed at teachers new to the job.

His talk is a collection of humorous anecdotes which allow you to appreciate what happens on the shop floor of schools today.

Afterwards, you are invited to enjoy tea /coffee and biscuits whilst you have a chat with your u3a friends and colleagues.

***NB.** Car parking space at the Memorial hall is limited, so if you are able to walk to the venue, or car share that would be really helpful.*

Outings News

We have a full coach for the trip to Melford Hall and Long Melford on 2nd May.

The next outing will be on the 10th of July, to Althorp

Chrissie will be sending out invitations to this on 20th May, so look out for the email and be ready to reply immediately if you want to go. The invitation will give a more detailed itinerary and a note of the cost etc.

Workshops

BSL Signing - is our next workshop which will take place on 13th and 20th May. This Workshop is now full.

Face Yoga – (See poster Attached)

You may remember that we had a taster session workshop for this last year, with a view to forming a Group, however, a suitable time could not be agreed upon.

Anju Kanani is still interested in starting up regular classes in Wheathampstead and will be hiring the Chapel Hall for an hour long Taster session on Monday 28th April at 10.30am. This is not exclusively a u3a event, but it may be of interest to anyone who missed out on the workshop last year. Perhaps after this one we could try again to find a suitable date for a group as several people were keen.

If you are interested in attending the taster session on 28th April please email Richard Brett - <mailto:richard.brett@can-do.co.uk>

Groups

The new "Science in the World" Group is all set now and will have its first meeting on Tuesday 27th May, from 10am to 12am in the Marford Hall. Dr Geoffrey Copland will be leading this session on "The Current State of the Science Behind Climate Change"

20 people have signed up for this group so far. You can still join if you'd like to - Contact our Groups Co-ordinator - annabeljay36@gmail.com

NB. You can see a list of all our groups on our website.

Coffee Mornings – The May one is scheduled for Wednesday 14th May. 10.30 to 12am, at The Swan. You are welcome to bring a guest if you would like to.

At the April Coffee Morning Stuart Lawson entertained us all with his rendition of "The Lion and Albert", which everyone really enjoyed. Thank you Stuart – you were brilliant!

If anyone else would like to "give us a turn", please feel free to do so – I am sure we'll all appreciate it.

You are welcome to bring a guest if you would like to.

Social Events



The Quiz Night was another great success. Thank you to our resident quizmistress – Annabel and to the Social Events team for all their efforts in making this another night to remember.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and Richard got into the Irish Theme spirit in his very fetching green waistcoat, complete with Shamrocks!



Save The Date – Friday 6th June

The next social event will be A Murder Mystery night with fish and chip supper and “bring your own” booze (or soft drinks). The setting will be a village regatta and fancy dress will be optional (but fun!). If you fancy yourself as the next Columbo/Frost/Madame Blanc etc, this is for you!



Then

- August - “Picnic on the Meads” (exact date TBA)
- 10th October – A Night at The Races
- 12th December – Christmas with a “Titanic” theme.

If you want more information about anything u3a – Groups, Workshops, contact details etc please see our website <https://wheathampstead.u3asite.uk/>

News from the wider u3a

One of our new Committee Members, Jan Parke has agreed to act as our External Liaison Officer (we haven't had one for a few years as we just didn't have enough Committee members to cover this)

Jan has already been working hard on our behalf and has provided the following information which some of you might find interesting.

[London u3a](#) - is now taking bookings for their summer programme of walks and visits to galleries via the website.

[South of England u3a](#) - Residential courses at Chichester university are now being published. Information via their website.

[Harpenden Learning for Leisure.](#) Their short courses, usually lasting 10 weeks, cost about £70, beginning in the autumn, will soon be advertised. Meanwhile a free taster session is being offered on May 21st at Bennet's club, Leyton road Harpenden. All information about the taster session and the necessary prior registration, can be found on their website.

I hope to see you at the AGM and Meet The Groups meeting on Thursday.

Regards

Janice