



Art and Photography Exhibition

On 15 February, our weekly Wednesday morning meeting was given over to the annual Art & Photography Exhibition, when our creative groups take over the main hall to display their works.

Over a hundred members browsed happily, admiring the output of five different groups, covering art in various media, photographs and craftwork.

At one end of the hall, an attractive display of photographs demonstrated the skills of Photography Group members in various styles – beautiful landscapes, intriguing studies of urban life, fascinating

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action shots and gorgeous close-ups of nature. Some illustrated "tricks of the trade" such as framing the subject appealingly and editing out unwanted elements.

Along the sides of the hall, the Oil Painting Group, Watercolours Group and Painting Group displayed a wonderful selection of their works. The variety of styles

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on show was impressive, both in the various media used and in appreciating the way the same materials can be used differently to produce very different results. Subject matter ranged through lovely views, colourful designs, architectural-style drawing and superbly captured portraits.

In front of the stage, the Craftea group showed some of their wonderful produce. Members are clearly very



capable at knitting, crochet and all sorts of needlework and the items shown, which included soft toys, bags, cushions and framed pictures, were extremely attractive and decorative over and above their practical uses.

At every display, group members were happy to engage with those who had come to browse, keen to share their enthusiasm and knowledge, and perhaps encourage some new members to join and start learning from one other.

In the middle of the hall, circles of chairs allowed clusters of attendees to take a rest from browsing and chat about what they had seen. Our Chairman, Steve Hall, spoke briefly just to welcome everyone and to thank all those who made the exhibition such a success, namely the Group Leaders and their members, and Group Co-ordinator Joan Scales.

Jill Longman

Notes from the Chair



As mentioned in my report for the AGM we continue to prosper with our membership continuing to grow and attendance at both the groups and the Wednesday meetings at good levels. Despite the bad weather this last term and some rather chilly venues, nothing has dampened our enthusiasm for activity, learning and enjoying ourselves. I was impressed to see 104 of our members attending the AGM and in fine voice afterwards when we were able to sing along with the Ukulele Group and also to some great tunes selected by



Tony Tutton. It made an important administrative meeting into a fun morning. My thanks to all those involved in making this event so successful.

The AGM felt a bit like the end of an era with some key committee member changes (see AGM Chairman's Report). I was delighted to present our outgoing Secretary Marie Scales with a number of gifts from the Committee to recognise the huge contribution she has made to the running of our u3a over many years. I should also like to thank Marie, Ann Davies and Peter Fox for all the help and support they have given me over the past year.

We now welcome three new members to the Committee: Eileen Bannister, Nikki Beynon and Adrienne Nix who will become our new Secretary. Committee member Dee Thomas will take over as Deputy Chair.

During this last term a number of groups have been very active, with trips to various locations by, amongst others, the Gardening, Arts Appreciation, Exploring London and Theatre Groups, and I am pleased to see a very full programme in place for next term as well. Over 100 of us also enjoyed a great evening of music, dancing

and singing, at the Spring Dance as well as a most enjoyable fish and chip supper once again provided by Tony and his Simply '60s Band. All our groups, large and small seem to be working well, thanks to the continued effort and enthusiasm displayed by our Group Leaders.

We end this term and year in a very strong position for a successful future, and we can look forward to many more opportunities to Learn, Laugh and Live with our friends in the year ahead. Take care and enjoy yourselves.

Steve Hall

Chairman's report at the AGM

Well, it is the end of my first year as Chairman and I am pleased to report that our u3a is in great shape! Our membership is now back to pre-Covid levels (unlike many u3as), our groups are fully operational again, we have a full programme of Wednesday morning presentations with attendance almost back to pre-Covid levels – and we even have two dances booked for this year!

Despite pressure from the Third Age Trust at their AGM in October, the u3as exercised their independence and voted down their proposals for annual subscription increases starting this year as well as some other plans they had. As a result of this and sound control of our finances by Treasurer Sue Talbot, we were fortunately able to avoid any subscription increase to our own members this year. Following the unsatisfactory outcome of the AGM, there are now plans in the pipeline for an advisory council from the u3as to advise the Third Age Trust, which should ensure our wishes are better incorporated into their policies.



During the past year our Groups have been very active across the board and the self funding of venues is now well established and working well. A number of trips have been organised and well supported, ranging from day trips to short holidays showing that we are now really getting back to normal. Thank you to all the Group Leaders for all they have done to make it such a successful year.

Our Wednesday morning presentations have also been a great success this year with a wide range of subjects being addressed and the number of attendees now regularly back to over 100. Thanks to Jill Longman and the programme team and all the volunteers who make Wednesday mornings run so smoothly. Most u3as meet just once a month, so our weekly meetings are exceptional and I believe are key to the continued success of our u3a.

Our first Open Day in September, attended by the Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, was a successful event, very well attended and led to a number of new members. The activity to promote it also improved our exposure in the local area and we intend to repeat it again this year.



In the Spring over 100 of us once again enjoyed a great evening, dancing to the sound of Tony Tutton's Simply 60s Band sustained by a very satisfying fish and chip supper. I am pleased to say that we have secured dates for both a Spring and an Autumn Dance this year. Thanks to Tony for organising not only the dances but also a number of quizzes for other events during the year.

The Summer Term ended on a lovely sunny day where



a number of us enjoyed soaking up the sun being entertained by our ukulele group and an enjoyable and testing quiz from Tony, based on events in our Queen's long reign. It proved to be a most enjoyable afternoon. Our ukulele

group not only entertains us, but is also the public face of the u3a when it performs at outside events. Our thanks to them for all the time and effort they put in on our behalf.

At the end of the Autumn Term we had our annual Christmas Party where we had a Christmas singalong with the ukulele group and a Christmas quiz, whilst enjoying wine and snacks. This was followed a week later by our Christmas Lunch enjoyed by nearly 100 members.



None of this would have been possible without the continued commitment of our dedicated committee. I would like to thank them all for the time and effort they put in to keep Welwyn Hatfield u3a running smoothly and efficiently throughout the year. It has not been without its problems and setbacks, but they have all been overcome and resolved and we continue to grow and prosper.

As we begin the next term we have a number of Committee changes to deal with. Our Deputy Chair Ann Davies will be stepping down from her role, but I am pleased to say will be continuing as a committee member. Our long-serving Secretary Marie Scales will



Ann Davies



Marie Scales



Peter Fox

also be leaving her role and the Committee as she has served her maximum permitted term as a Committee Member, and our Membership Secretary Peter Fox also has to leave the Committee having also served his full permitted term. I am pleased to say that Peter has agreed to continue as Membership Secretary.

I must thank Ann, Marie and Peter for their many years of service to the Committee and the huge contribution they have made and continue to make to our u3a.

I have mentioned some of our committee members, but there are a number of others who keep the wheels of our u3a turning, and deserve our grateful thanks for the time and work they put into it; our New Member Secretary Dianne Coxon, Groups' Coordinator Joan Scales, Risk Assessment Officer Colin Slade and the committee members who do all the other jobs that arise as needed, Dave Charlwood, Steve Dringer, Doreen Hall, Ann and Roy Madell, Dee Thomas and Pam Williams.

I must also thank our Webmaster, Roger Swaine and our Newsletter Editor Hazel Bell for their continued support.

Without you all, our u3a would not be the great success that it is.

Steve Hall

Ready, Steady, Go—Spring dance

1. Ready: 6.30



Around a hundred and five of our members went to Ludwick Family Centre on Saturday 25 March to enjoy a fantastic evening full of fantastic music by u3a Welwyn Hatfield's very own Tony Tutton's Simply Sixties group.

What a fabulous evening we all had!

The atmosphere was vibrant with energy and buzz from the opening chords of the first song, 'Move it', to the finishing chorus of 'Sweet Caroline'!

There were two unexpected visitors during the evening. During the first set the keyboard player by the stage door became aware of a young woman standing there. She was visiting her grandmother in a house opposite, had heard the band's version of 'Get it On' by Mark Bolan and just had to find out where the live music was coming from! She was most impressed and extremely complimentary. Then, just after the fish and chips interlude, (delicious and plentiful as usual), I became aware of a young man standing just inside the door. He told me that he was on his way home, had heard the live music and was curious so came in. In the corridor (because there was no way we could hear each

2. Steady: 7.15



other inside the hall) he asked all about us – and wanted to join u3a! He was disappointed to learn that as he was still in full-time work he couldn't. He explained that his grandmother, who has early onset Alzheimer's, lives around the corner but would have loved our music. I gave him one of our current programmes to

show his grandmother's neighbours / friends. He asked if he could stay for a while and enjoy it. He went to the back of the hall and I saw him dancing with one of our members. He was moved and said it all reminded him of his grandmother when she was well. On his way out he said he'd email us.

These two incidents just go to prove how compelling live music is—as if we didn't already know that. We are very, very fortunate to count Tony as one of our members – and mustn't take for granted that he'll present another dance for us!

3. Go: 7.45



But, hang on ..., wait a moment, good news! We can now prebook for the next dance, to be held on 18 November! So, don't delay and risk missing out on the next big night – send Tony an email now!

Ann Davies

Group News

Arts Appreciation Group

In memory of Pat Pearce

The Arts Appreciation Group is one of a number of long-standing groups within our u3a. Margaret Tavner co-ordinated the group for many years, organising monthly trips, along with other group members, to a variety of interesting arts-based venues. The 2003 programme, for example, included visits to Tate Modern, the National Gallery, the Fitzwilliam museum in Cambridge and Leeds Castle.

Once Margaret moved away, Sue King took over the reins and, again, with other volunteers, continued Margaret's good work. Then, along came Covid and plans for 2020 had to be scrapped. In addition, we were all deeply shocked when Sue died suddenly during this period. In an effort to keep the group up to date with the world of art, Beverley Busolini took it upon herself to keep the group circulated with interesting TV programmes, Zoom presentations and updates from galleries. Many thanks to her for that – a real lifeline.



The group met together at the beginning of 2022 to re-establish a programme for the year and we did manage to arrange five trips including visits to St Albans Cathedral, the British Library, Brighton Pavilion and Kings Lynn. Once again, thanks to those who volunteered to organise them. We couldn't fit in a Christmas visit, as was traditional in the past. However, we did have a successful festive tea at the WGC Bowls Club in December where we enjoyed a very interesting National Gallery video about Holbein's "The Ambassadors", followed by refreshments.

Throughout almost all of the group's history, there has been one member who has ensured the success of every trip, and that was Pat Pearce. What a shock, therefore, to hear that she had died suddenly, just three days after our final 2023 planning meeting, held in February.

Pat had joined our u3a in 1999 and was a long-term member of Arts Appreciation, along with a good number of other groups too! She played an active part in planning each year's programme and managed the finances for the group until Sue, our treasurer, had to take on the responsibility in line with new national policy. Pat always ensured that coaches were booked in good time and that invoices were paid promptly.



In my efforts to co-ordinate the group's work, Pat was always at hand to advise and support. One quick telephone call and we soon resolved any problems. She also had a wealth of knowledge about interesting

venues both in London and further afield. It was always a pleasure to listen to her stories and information about the places she had visited over the years. A woman of many talents, kind and helpful, Pat will be sadly missed by so many u3a members, not just the Arts Appreciation group. She lived life to the full, always looking for new adventures.

How does the group stand now? Well, we have a programme that is on the website and we had our first successful trip to the British Schools Museum in Hitchin on 14 March, 2023 (*photo above*).

Jean Mackie

Craftea

The u3a Craftea group has been making chicks to present to the Food Bank at The New Zion Church, Woodhall. I asked Ian Matthew several weeks ago about the number of possible chicks needed for the youngsters – approximately 50 needed !! The photo shows Ian with the chicks.

Thanks in part to the generosity of our u3a members we have also been selling these chicks so that I was able to give the Food Bank £100.00 towards the purchases that they make.

I would also like to bring to our members' attention the ability now to recycle both the foil wrapping on medication, and soft plastic (the outer wrapping on most of our fruit / veg / ready meals etc) – which needs to be washed / clean. Take foil to such places as The Barn Theatre, which has a container in the foyer; soft



plastic to most supermarkets: Tesco, Co op and Morrisons, to name a few – or bring them to a u3a meeting and I will dispose of them appropriately.

Marion Cleveland

Curry Club



Twenty-four members of the Curry Club met at the Indian restaurant in Wigmores North, Welwyn Garden City, The Red, on 18 February. This was their seventh meeting, and the first-year anniversary of the club.

Tony Tutton

Wartime Memories / Post-war Thoughts

The two Wartime Memories (WW II) Groups began in June 2021 when members were emerging from our most modern crisis, not of war but of worldwide pandemic. We met to share wartime and postwar childhood recollections and to consider how the two world wars had influenced our parents' lives, our own existing attitudes, and those of our children and grandchildren.

As we began to make sense of our individual war times and those of our parents or contemporary caring adults (in evacuation, perhaps), we struggled to understand the blanket obscuring pain and shock of unspoken adult experience. For us children certain aspects were often taboo. It was possible to cause anger or deep upset by asking about a death or a betrayal. The unspeakable remained, often unspoken leaving painful questions about a relative now long-dead.

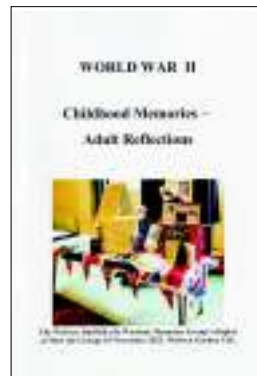
Have we inherited some of this, must it always be bad? Are our families interested? Do we share with them or are some aspects of our pasts buried? Could they even have an unconscious message of taboo?

If our memories are inherited ones, does that take away their validity?

As well as memories many new avenues are there for us to explore.

Some members' wartime recollections were assembled in a booklet, *World War II: Childhood Memories – Adult Reflections*, which was offered for sale. The profits were sent to two charities: £100 in aid of Ukraine, and a further £106 to the British Red Cross appeal for victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

Now a second group has been formed: Post-war Memories. This group is pondering the huge change from our childhood world of rationing, bombing, absent parents, and now, the new post-war world of 1945. It is based on personal experience of growing up at that time, rather than study of historical documents. We recall the experience of the end of rationing, the new National Health Service,



Education Act, and our own various schooling experiences; the end of the 11+ examination, the coming of comprehensive schools and the fate of grammar schools and technical colleges.

Inevitably also, family life with demobilisation of husbands, fathers, daughters and sons alongside call-up for deferred National Service, issues of race, employment, gender, clothing, and a general decline in formal manners are touched on and returned to as the group's own familiarity with each other develops.

The culture of our small group is one of recall, shared learning, discussion, leading at times to surprising new awareness.

We are limited to eight members; we meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 2pm for 90 minutes.

Mary Perren

Walking the Chiltern Way

Having got the bug for long-distance walking after completing the London LOOP and the Hertfordshire Way, organised by our trusty leader, Charles Morris from Potters Bar u3a (see *Newsletters 58 and 64*), our small Welwyn Hatfield group decided to join him on his next project – the Chiltern Way.

The Chiltern Way, a circular route, was established by the Chiltern Society to mark the Millennium and has proved hugely popular since then. It is roughly 135 miles in total stretching from Barton-le Clay in the North to Watlington in the West. The project was going to be a challenging one for us, given the distances we needed to travel in order to complete each section consecutively. Our group comprised Susan Marsh, Clive



Parsons, Robin Waters and myself. Once again, Susan's husband, Ian, kindly offered to ferry us to and from the start and finish points and, as you can imagine, we were extremely grateful for that!

We started our adventure on 5 of August 2021, at the front of Hemel Hempstead railway station. There were about 20 of us for this first leg although numbers did drop the further away we got from the local area. Walks are monthly, excluding the winter period, with each section covering between 8 and fifteen miles.

The route is truly exceptional, enabling us to experience the full wonders of the Chilterns – rolling hills (some pretty steep ones at that!), beech woodland and chalk downs. There are some delightful villages (many have featured in *Midsomer Murders!*) and some with the most extraordinary names – Fingest and Skirmett being my favourites. We were all very taken with Ewelme (*photo above*), situated in the south Oxfordshire foothills of the Chilterns, with its tree-lined High Street and fifteenth century almshouses built in the fashion of Oxford colleges. The local primary school is housed in similar buildings which were originally constructed for a grammar school.



Highlights?? Well, early on Charles arranged a visit for us to Holy Trinity Church, Penn, where a Medieval Doom painting had been discovered during refurbishment (*photo above*). We had a fascinating talk about its history- a fitting end to a great day's walking. I think one my favourite sections was from Pishill (another interesting name!) to a small village, Church End, above Bledlow. A beautiful May day, when we climbed many hills with amazing views far into the distance. We also walked under the M40 - quite a contrast - and came across over 200 youngsters on Stokenchurch Green having enjoyed (or endured!?) their Duke of Edinburgh 3-day excursion. We were very impressed. When we arrived at our destination, we enjoyed a most welcome cup of tea at the Lions of Bledlow - a highly recommended pub with a wonderful garden overlooking parts of our route.

Closer to home, our walk from Sundon Country Park around Sharpenhoe Clappers was also fantastic, with great views of the Bedfordshire Vale, looking down on Sharpenhoe and Harlington villages below (*photo overleaf*). Then, the route moved naturally onto Dunstable Downs - always a great spot, whatever the weather, with a well-stocked National Trust café too!



We were treated to plenty of delightful flora and fauna. A keen-eyed compatriot noted both bee and pyramid orchids in one of the lovely meadows we walked through. We saw a churchyard with a carpet of snowdrops in full flower and enjoyed that lovely fresh green of the newly-emerging beech leaves, when walking through the woods. Birds were evident too, although we couldn't always recognise them, apart from the red kites that appeared everywhere. They look so beautiful when the sun catches the colour of their wings in flight – a real treat.

Surprises?? Well, we hadn't reckoned on crossing the HS2 route on our walk! The path had been diverted through two very high fences up to the construction site, where we had to wait to be 'escorted' across the work area by hard-hatted, high-viz clad, security guards! It was a very strange and somewhat unnerving experience.



The group at Lilley

Of interest, as we passed close to Luton and Dunstable, was the extraordinary level of house building in the area. New estates seem to be popping up all along the M1 corridor but, fortunately, the Chiltern Way hasn't been affected – as yet! One sad sight was the dilapidated state of the once-famous and highly popular inn, the Cow Roast, on the old road to Tring. Some of you may have enjoyed a drink and /or food in there over the years but it is now looking very run down with little evidence that it's going to be rescued soon.

We are nearing completion with our last walk, planned for May. It's been a great experience, made even better by the camaraderie and banter between our companions. Mixed emotions at completion but the following month we start on one of the three extensions to the route – mad or what!!

Jean Mackie

History of the Welwyn Hatfield u3a Newsletter

Welwyn Hatfield u3a was founded in 1987 – but it was not until 1990 that the Chairman, then Derek Greener, sent out a “CHAIRMAN’S NEWSLETTER”. The earliest surviving copy is headed No. 2, November 1990. It comprises two A4 pages, but the text in fact would fit comfortably on a single page.

The next such document held in our archives is headed WELWYN HATFIELD U3A NEWSLETTER, JUNE 1991, a little less than two A4 pages, from then Chairman Joan Bensley. This was followed by another headed November 1991, nearly three pages. Then no more, until April 2000, when,



Joan Bensley



Pat Pike

as Pat Pike recorded in this newsletter in January 2015:

In 2000 the Committee wished to introduce a newsletter. Rosemary Mitchell agreed to organise this with ‘help’ from me. It was a very basic A4 sheet Newsletter, but a start!

Pat remained editor for the first ten issues, which remained in A4 format, three appearing each year.

Then, as she recorded:

In 2003 Peter Lomer volunteered to take over the newsletter, with an improved layout and with PICTURES!



Peter Lomer

Publication continued regularly, with Peter as editor, with three issues per year. Then, in 2008 he fell ill, and passed the job of editor on to Phyl Grainge. She resigned in 2011, and the committee appointed Jean Hughes and Harry Smith to produce the newsletter together, telling them to change the format to A5, with the use of colour. Hazel Bell joined u3a at that point, and joined their team; they resigned with relief, and she became editor.



Phyl Grainge

Newsletter no. 37, for May 2011, was the first to appear in A5, eight pages with colour illustrations. Then the cost of colour printing raised committee eyebrows, and issue 38 was black-and-white only. But issue 39, for January 2012, marked the Silver Anniversary of our u3a,



and a super-special edition was decided on: twenty A5 pages in full colour throughout, with a cover designed by Jack Wood comprising 21 photographs of Welwyn Hatfield u3a.

Colour printing costs remained daunting, though, and a compromise was found: the newsletters were subsequently printed in black-and-white, with full-colour versions accessible on the website.

On becoming editor, utilising the skills of my former career, I prepared an index to the entire run of the newsletters, from the first, of 1990. I have continued to update this; currently, printed, it makes nine A4 pages, triple-column. It shows that the newsletter has contained 12 obituaries and 31 profiles of members, and reported four u3a anniversary celebrations. Seven

Chairmen have written "Notes from the Chair" (starting in 2012). The longest entry takes 14 centimetres: that for Exploring London Groups. Next are the entries for Creative Writing Groups and Ann Davies, both 11 centimetres long; then Travel Group (Holiday Breaks) and Zoom, both at 10.5. Other entries running to 5 centimetres or more are those for: Stuart Barker, Hatfield, Jill Longman, Jean Mackie, Photography Group, Myrtle Pit-Keathly, Tony Tutton and Pamela Williams.

Distribution of the newsletter has always been difficult, as we cannot afford to post copies to all members. Copies of the latest issue are always available at Wednesday meetings, at which group leaders are encouraged to collect copies to pass on to their group members. During the Covid years this was no longer possible; then members were urged, in emails, to read the newsletters on the web. A few copies were printed of each issue, for the committee, and mailed to members known not to have internet access. After those years distribution at Wednesday meetings and (hopefully) via Group Leaders was resumed. There are members who never see our newsletter, and claim not to know that we have one.

In 2019 the Third Age Trust issued Brand Guidelines, to apply to all u3a publications. The newsletter type font had to be changed accordingly. Then in 2022 they issued a "refresh of our brand guidelines", referring further to Logos, Colour palette, Typography, and Other imagery, and further adjustments had to be made.



Our newsletter continues to be published three times each year, in Spring, Summer and Autumn, at the beginning of each term. It brings news of group activities, accounts of social events, and communication from the Chairman – essential reading for all Welwyn Hatfield u3a members!

Hazel Bell

Summer Term 2023 – Wednesday Meetings

Doors open at 9.45am. Tea and coffee are served from 10.00am to 10.30am. The meetings start at 10.30am with notices, followed by the talks. Bring your own cup or mug for free tea or coffee.

We are now making recordings of talks delivered at our Wednesday morning meetings, whenever speakers are willing for us to do this.

We are making these recordings without investing in expensive new equipment or requiring a lot of technical knowledge, so the results are not perfect, but improving, and a number of members are now benefitting from the opportunity of watching talks that they were unable to attend in person.

If you would like to receive recordings whenever they are available, please email video@u3awelhat.org.uk

APRIL

19, Ludwick Family Centre, Welwyn Garden City Murray Craig – “The Guildhall, the Lord Mayor and the City of London”

In 2022 Murray regaled us with tales of his time bestowing the Freedom of the City of London on celebrities and others. He returns now to impart more of the knowledge gained during his years as Clerk of the Chamberlain’s Court at the Guildhall.

26, Breaks Manor, Hatfield
**Isobel Williams – “Sir Hubert von Herkomer –
Victorian Artist”**

This Bavarian artist became a naturalized British citizen and lived for 40 years in Bushey. He was one of the most popular artists in Victorian England, so much accepted that he was invited to paint Queen Victoria on her death bed, an unusual honour for a commoner and a German.

MAY

3, WGC
Amy Reynolds – “My Life in Embroidery”

We will hear about Amy’s time at the Royal School of Needlework and see examples of the different types of embroidery she learned. She will also tell us about some of the amazing projects she has been involved in, including producing banners for Buckingham Palace.

10, Hatfield
Tom Way – “Wildlife Photography”

Tom has visited us before, taking our breath away with his stunning photographs of wildlife all over the world.

17, WGC
**Andy Gibbs – “Life and Legacy –
The Remarkable Jill E. Grey”**

Jill became a national authority on early children’s literature and amassed a huge collection of books, photographs, objects and ephemera relating to the history of education and the social history of childhood. She was also instrumental in saving the British Schools buildings in Hitchin. Add to that her remarkable career in the WAAF in WW2 and we have a truly remarkable woman who left a truly remarkable legacy.

24, Hatfield

Mike Barbakoff –

“The World War II History of Bletchley Park”

Mike is a volunteer guide at Bletchley Park and the National Museum of Computing. In this talk he takes us from the inception of the Government Code and Cypher School in 1919 through to the end of 1945, including the development and operation of the codebreaking “factory”, managing the stress of working at Bletchley Park and 28 years of total secrecy.

31, WGC

Fran Sandham – “Solo Walk Across Africa”

Fran describes how he left the daily grind of London for an epic adventure, walking from the Skeleton Coast to the Indian Ocean, through Namibia, Zambia, Malawi and Tanzania.

JUNE

7, Hatfield

Helen Fry – “Spymaster – the Man who Saved MI6”

Thomas Kendrick was central to the British secret service from its beginning in 1909 to the end of the second world war. He was one of the few men to serve Britain across three wars.

14, WGC

Roger Mason – “The Profumo Affair”

Scandal raged in 1963 – Britain’s biggest political scandal of the last 100 years, featuring sex, fame and possibly Russian espionage. It led to the disgrace and banishment from public life of a government minister, and almost led to the downfall of the government.



21, Hatfield

Suzanne Brown – “London Gardens”

Our very own Suzanne, who now divides her life between here and Tasmania, finds time to talk to us about the gardens of London.

28, WGC

Garry Wykes – “Treasures of the Tower of London”

We will hear about some of the amazing and tragic events from the Tower’s 1000-year history, the funny side of dealing with the millions of tourists who flock to the Tower, and enjoy an illustrated background to the world famous Crown Jewels and Royal regalia.

JULY

5, Hatfield

Howard Slater – “Audrey Hepburn Her Life Story and Her War Years”

The story of Audrey growing up during the Nazi invasion of Holland followed by a synopsis of her career after WWII.

12, WGC

Gill Hodgekinson-Price – “Palace of Westminster”

Gill visited us before with a talk about Highgate Cemetery. Now she will speak of that most venerable location – the Palace of Westminster.

19, Hatfield GARDEN PARTY and Quiz

Please bring a picnic and, if possible, garden chairs.

Welwyn Hatfield u3a does not endorse any products or services offered by speakers.

Autumn term starts on 6 September at Hatfield.