

u3a
learn, laugh, live

WELWYN HATFIELD

SPRING 2025

ISSUE 78



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|----------------------|
| 3 | Chair's Report | 12 | Prague Autumn |
| 4 | Recycling | 14 | Afternoon Dance |
| 5 | Wildlife Watch | 15 | Bridge |
| 6 | Open Morning | 16 | Christmas Party |
| 8 | Exploring London | 18 | Christmas Lunch |
| 10 | Finding Speakers | 20 | Book Review |
| | | 22 | Spring Term Speakers |

Front page picture by Celia Boccacci, Photographic Group
Daffodils in Hatfield House gardens

From the new editor

This is the first issue in more than 13 years that has not been edited by **Hazel Bell**; who did issues 37–77.

She deserves your heartfelt thanks for this great contribution.

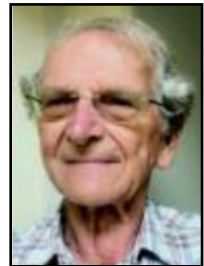
I hesitated when she asked me to take on this task, but I am pleased now that I accepted. Having given talks to the main meeting and to the Architecture Group I had only a slight knowledge of your activities, not being a member. That has now been rectified and in compiling this issue I have had my eyes opened to

the wide scale of your activities.

My own experience is that there is much to be gained in staying intellectually and physically active in retirement. One thing leads to another; having recently given up editing a Parish magazine I am now pleased to be taking on a new challenge in this Newsletter.

You can help me; I would welcome contributions and feedback (positive and negative) so that I can keep the Newsletter a worthwhile read.

Geoffrey Hollis



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Well, there's no disputing that time whizzes by with U3A – there's just so much to do! No sooner are we returning from holidays than we are buying tickets for Christmas events! So, what have we been up to apart from the regular meetings and study groups?

Before the September return some of us went to the Barbican to see **"Kiss Me Kate"** by Cole Porter at the Barbican, which was a real treat. It was lovely to visit the Barbican again, the musical was exceptionally good with Adrian Dunbar (who knew he could sing?) and Stephanie Block (a brilliant singer) in the lead roles and some vibrant song and dance numbers from the whole cast. I just loved the comedy "Brush up your Shakespeare" routine. I missed the beginning of term

because I was in **Prague** with the travel group – see my report on page 12.



On 17th September we embarked on a new food venture organised by Tony Tutton, this time for a **Turkish Lunch** at the Misya Restaurant in Welwyn Garden City. So now we have Italian Lunch Club at the Terranova; Breakfast at the Cote Brasserie and Curry Club when we find a new venue. It's great to enjoy good food at reasonable prices in excellent company, in pleasant surroundings.

At the end of September a group of us went to see **"The Thirty-Nine Steps"** – a comic adaptation of the Alfred Hitchcock film at the Trafalgar Theatre in Whitehall – very silly and very funny.

In the week beginning 30th September the focus was on our own activities; on the



Monday Group Leaders met to share ideas with each other. On the Wednesday we had our Meet the Groups Event when the public were invited to view what we have to offer; reported on page 6.

In early November we had another musical theatre visit, to “**Hadestown**” a re-imagining of the combined Greek myths of Hades and Persephone and Orpheus and Eurydice with a very impressive score. This was a gamble – but I loved it and so did most of the group.

At the time of writing, we have just had one of Tony’s lively dances. This is reviewed on page 14.

The term finishes with a Party and a Christmas Lunch, both reported separately.

There have been some excellent talks on Wednesdays. My personal favourite was the Rudolf Hess Coverup, but they are almost always interesting.

Many thanks to those who

have organised these events, and to the Committee who work hard to facilitate them. They all do an amazing job.

Onward and upward into the New Year! **Pamela Williams**

RECYCLING

From **Marion Cleveland**:

1. Book Swap at the u3a meetings doesn’t require an actual swap; you can bring a book and not take one, or take a book without bringing one.

2. Thanks to the donations given mostly by u3a members I have been able to send 150 boxes – each weighing up to 5 kilos to the Dogs Trust, who are really grateful (as am I). Please keep donating milk bottle tops, old or foreign coins, bras, used stamps, books, DVDs, clothing and bedding. NB I don’t collect plastic tubs .

From **Beryl Whyatt**:

We now collect empty medicine blister packs at the Wednesday meetings for recycling. If you are unable to make Wednesdays, one of your group who does might act for you.

WILDLIFE WATCH

We are a group of people interested in natural history who go out on the first Tuesday of every month to observe and enjoy birds, butterflies, mammals and flowers. We share cars and contribute to petrol costs. Sometimes there is an entrance fee to a reserve.

Winter is a good time for birds which come down from the north; we might hope to see bitterns, smew, goosander, and a variety of ducks and grebes at Fishers Green near Waltham Abbey, and Abberton near Colchester.

Welney Wildlife Trust is good for wild swans, the rare tree sparrows and short-eared owls.

We go to Paxton Pits and Lakenheath for the summer warblers, hobbies and maybe bittern again. Oare Marshes on the south of the Thames Estuary is full of curlews, red-



shanks, godwits and other waders in the Autumn.

In the summer, we concentrate on flowers, butterflies and dragonflies. The nearby chalk hills are particularly rich in flowers, including orchids. Balls Wood and Bricket Wood are well known butterfly habitats.

We are a laid-back friendly group. We keep a record of what we see but there are no exams! We don't walk far or require any level of expertise from our members, just an interest in nature.

New members are very welcome; just get in touch with **Janet Lewis** 01707 326456.

Janet is seen spotting birds on the Oare Estuary with the late Sue King to her left

OPEN MORNING

On Wednesday 2 October we held our third annual Open Morning at Breaks Manor, Hatfield. This was my last event as Groups Coordinator, as I am handing over to **Alison Wingfield**, after nearly five years in the role.

The event was officially opened by the Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, Councillor Frank Marsh, who stayed throughout the morning. We were entertained by the Ukcs Group, and an excellent performance by the Recorder Ensemble who demonstrated how beautiful classical recorders can sound outside a primary school.



There were varied displays from 16 of our Study Groups. The Apple and Computer Discussion table had laptop and i-pad to demonstrate; the Board Games Group displayed a wide range of colourful boxed games; the British Sign Language table showed examples of the phrases being learnt. As usual, the Craftea Group had a packed display of items they had made, including some being sold to raise funds for charity.



The **Family History Group** had laptops set up to enable visitors to look up their ancestors, while the **Gardening Group** had a colourful display of leaflets showing gardens visited during the summer.

The **Oil Painting, Painting, Photography** and **Watercolours** Group had varied displays of work produced by their members.

The **Recorders Ensemble**, as well as entertaining us, had several different types of instrument on display. The **Theatre Trips, Travel, Walking, and Wildlife Watch** were on hand to talk to visitors with flyers and photos.

Thanks to those Groups who managed to use the youth club games tables in the foyer as we had so many to fit in! We were also very grateful to



Pictures by Roger Swaine



Adrienne, Ann and Graham for bringing extra tables.

Thank you to Adrienne for the colourful poster advertising the event, which was widely distributed locally. We promoted the event free of charge on social media pages, and local newspapers.

There was a wonderful atmosphere, with lots of people – around 20 visitors as well as over 110 of our members.

Hopefully many will join one or more of the groups displaying their wares. (Our website gives details of how to join groups.) It might even have inspired a new Group; we have one in preparation, Music Appreciation.

I really enjoyed this event, and I send best wishes to my successor, Alison.

Joan Scales

EXPLORING LONDON

Our exploring London Group 3 outing this term was to the Unknown East End, on Thursday 21st November. It was a very cold day, but, undeterred, 20 of us made our way to Whitechapel station, and congregated in Tower Hamlets Town Hall to meet our guide Adam.

We then set out east along Whitechapel Road towards Mile End Road, which we were told was named thus, as it was exactly one mile from the original City of London gates.

Our guide was blessed with a strident voice, meaning we could hear every word, as he pointed out the Blind Beggar Pub of the Kray Twins notoriety and described the protection racket they specialised in.

We then came back towards the Town Hall remarking on the different types of architecture on the other side of the road, including a former brewery. The extremely busy Library in particular stood out as a modern glass and concrete structure, very different from the other buildings. Adam explained that modern architecture had a different



concept, and the building was expected to only have a 30 year lifespan, however it is a much loved and well used community facility.

We then arrived at the entrance of the Royal London Hospital, which was totally rebuilt in 2012, the façade of the original building becoming part of the town hall. A life-size statue of Queen Alexandra of Denmark, Queen Consort of Edward VII and a great benefactor of the original hospital, had stood inside the old building, but has been moved to the entrance of the new hospital and was much admired.

Walking along the back streets of Whitechapel, our guide pointed out the huge East London Mosque next door to a former synagogue showing the diversity of this part of London. Next to this was a red brick building which was originally a workhouse, and is now a block of expensive apartments. We continued to the original site

of the White Chapel, which is now a park with a few foundation stones remaining. The name came from St Mary Matfelon Church and Chapel which was originally white-washed. (Matfelon is derived from the Hebrew word *Matfel*, the Virgin Mary).

Our walk continued along Brick Lane and into Fournier Street, where the houses are almost unchanged and evidence of former businesses can still be seen.

Adam left us at the entrance to Spitalfields market, which was full of traders selling everything imaginable after the original fresh produce market moved out in 1991.

Our party repaired to a rather nice Greek restaurant to thaw out. A good day was had by all—if only it had been a little warmer!

Sue Mclellen & Tony Dodd

Photo taken outside Christ Church Spitalfields by Adam

FINDING SPEAKERS

For those of us who regularly attend Wednesday morning meetings, they are something we really look forward to. The fact that we hold them every week during term time, unlike the vast majority of other u3a's, is a matter of some pride!

Of course these meetings can only happen because of the numerous volunteers who commit to various vital tasks to keep things running smoothly. My particular role, alongside my two colleagues, Corrie Godfrey and Alison Wingfield, is to find speakers each week.

The question I am most frequently asked is where do we find all these speakers?!? In fact that part of the task is not as difficult as it might seem; there is a network of local u3a's that share speaker details. Also we sometimes get recommendations from

other like-minded local organisations such as WI, Probus clubs and the Art Society.



Some potential speakers find our contact details online and send emails or even "cold call" in the hope of a booking. If we've had a really successful talk we will of course seek to book the speaker again – most will have at least one other talk they can offer.

We are usually able to fill our programme well ahead (sometimes over a year) with the best speakers covering a wide variety of topics.

Tastes and interests differ, of course. I confess that occasionally the topic I've enthusiastically booked is one I struggle to imagine enjoying myself. I am frequently surprised, though, when an engaging communicator makes even the dullest-sounding subject come to life.

Speakers are a varied bunch, though. There are some who respond quickly to emails, readily confirm all the details requested, and turn up on the day in good time. They are cheerful and interested in our group, deliver a good talk of the right length and leave us all happy.

Sometimes, though, it is less straightforward: they might say yes to a date way in the future, then when you try to contact them nearer the time they don't seem to remember; or at the other extreme, they might be on the phone fortnightly for 8 or 9 months wanting reassurance about exact timings, parking spaces, technical specifications, etc., etc., etc.

Then of course there are the odd occasions when the speaker calls the day before to apologise that they have covid/a broken leg/a long-awaited hospital appointment. Far worse, there has been the very odd occasion when a speaker simply didn't turn up!

For those occasions we have a few "plan B" options up our sleeves, including some splendid members who have agreed to step into the breach in our hour of need.

Whatever happens, we always manage a talk and it is almost always interesting. One of my favourites from last term was about the Remembrance Day Poppy. It was deeply moving and beautifully delivered by Richard Thomas.

Another memorable one was given by Tim Perkins, of the Midshires Lowland Search & Rescue team. His description of the work of this entirely voluntary service, carrying out difficult and arduous searches for missing people, was a real eye-opener. We very seldom have collections following our talks, but this one was very willingly supported.

I wonder what we will all learn during next term's talks? Come along and find out!
Jill Longman

PRAGUE AUTUMN

9–13 SEPTEMBER 2024

We flew from Luton by Easyjet and stayed at the Clarion Congress – a large very modern and comfortable hotel on the city's outskirts.

Day 2: a full and quite challenging tour of the city. We were joined by our guide and driver and headed towards the Sternberg Palace high above the city. On arrival we took a photo to record the whole group to send to Jean, our leader, who was unable to attend this holiday. We had plenty of opportunity to view the castle and the cathedral from the outside but, disappointingly, were unable to visit inside either of the sites. The views of the city and Cathedral were spectacular though. We descended by foot towards the city which was a challenge as it was quite steep and cobblestoned!

After lunch we visited the fa-

mous Charles Bridge with its views of the river and the city. Gradually we made our way to the Old Town Square, whose most famous attraction is the Astronomical Clock, which didn't disappoint. Given some free time, some of us ventured as far as Wenceslas Square but I'm afraid the energy ran out for me! We had been walking all day. Personally, I felt that Prague is such an interesting city with so much to see that we could have benefited from another day spent in the city centre.

Day 3: was completely different, a trip to two centres of traditional manufacture – The Ruckl Crystal Glassworks. and in the afternoon the Pilsner Urquell Brewery.

Day 4: Another coach tour out of town to the Konopiste Castle, once the palatial residence of Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand. The castle was in vast grounds and the rooms were exceptional in terms of their furnishings and fittings.

Our evening at the Restaurant Michal for dinner and a folklore evening was a great success. The walk back to the coach was also quite magical as we had the opportunity to view the city by night with views along the river of the Charles Bridge and the Cathedral. I also took the chance to pay respect at the monument to Jan Palach, the student who self-immolated at the Soviet invasion in 1969.

Day 5: after checking out of our hotel, we had a sightseeing cruise on the River Vltava; unfortunately the weather was not kind to us so the views of the city were somewhat impaired by the pouring rain. But we got cake! After this we had time to spend in the city centre and many of us made our way through the Jewish quarter and into the Old Town Square again for a

last look at the clock.

On reflection, this experience of Prague was very different from a visit of some 30 years ago. I guess it has moved on from those days when memories of its recent past seemed nearer the surface and I was absorbed in the stories of Revolution and



Franz Kafka. Today it is more like other European cities. It is certainly a city with much history and culture to offer.

Thanks are due to Jean Davis for organising this visit and to Tony Bristow who managed us without a team-mate. – a significant responsibility.

Pamela Williams

AFTERNOON DANCE

At the Ludwick Family centre WGC on the 23rd November 2024 between 1.30 and 4pm you would have witnessed a far from usual tea dance. Not waltzes and fox-trots but twisting, jiving, toe tapping, and head banging (well that's possibly an exaggeration). Tony Tutton and his Simply Sixties Show played for our annual winter



do, which had been moved experimentally from an evening to an afternoon. It was an exhilarating experience.

The new time worked! All 120 tickets were sold, the dance floor was never empty and we heard all our favourite tunes again. The people I spoke to said the atmosphere and

ambiance were just the same as in the evening.

An army of volunteers packed a paper bag per person with a round of sandwiches (all different) a pork pie, a scone, a pot of clotted cream, a pot of jam and a bamboo knife. All seemed to go down very well.

A bonus to the afternoon dance is that instead of recording Strictly and watching it late or on Sunday morning, aficionados were able to enjoy their own dance in the afternoon and then curl up on a sofa to get their live fix of waltzing and quickstepping....or is that just me?

Very many thanks to all of the people who worked so hard to get this show on the road- especially Tony and his band. I think this might become a new u3a WelHat tradition-but who knows, watch this space!



Ann Davies

BRIDGE GROUP

Up until 2020 there were two Bridge groups, one meeting Thursday afternoons and the other Friday mornings in Council premises. Covid in early 2020 halted both..

When we restarted in September 2021 the Council no longer permitted u3a groups to use their venues so a new meeting room needed to be found. Numbers in both Bridge groups had reduced and with the prospect of each group needing to self-fund it was decided to merge them. Bridge re-started on Thursday afternoons initially in a hall at St Francis of Assisi but since September 2022 in the 'Quaker Meeting House' in Handside Lane., from 13.30 to 16.30.

The group has gradually in-

creased to 25 members at present.

We usually have four tables

playing and sometimes five each week.

Bridge is an enjoyable and addictive card game. Time passes very quickly even when allowing 3 hours to play. We are a mixed ability group which enables people to help each other. We are a friendly group and the main aim is to have an enjoyable afternoon.

We do not cater for beginners but would welcome NEW members who have some understanding of playing bridge. Why not come and join us?

The group leader's details are on the web-site.

Geoffrey Dodding



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Members came together on 4th December at Ludwick Hall for a cornucopia of Christmas extravaganza. Thank you to all the members who worked so hard to bring lots of smiles and laughter to us all.

It began with a nativity play performed by Class 3B from Welwyn and Hatfield Junior School which according to the Angel Gabriel involved angles, rides in taxis, and peas on earth. The class teacher struggled to control the children waving to their parents, shepherds falling off their seats, a confused inn keeper, a baby girl in the manger and only two wise men. *See back cover for a photo by Peter Fox of three cast members, angelic Marion Cleveland, Sue Field, and Marjorie Jones.*

Then we were transported to modern times with sat navs not stars and asked to consider what practical gifts

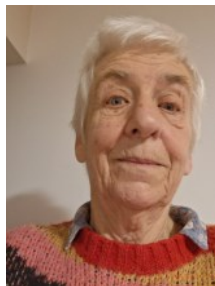
there would have been if there had been Three Wise Women at the manger.

Next the cast sang a song by **Beryl Whyatt** (our Treasurer) to the tune of *Favourite things*, about all the interests offered at the u3a and how much enjoyment we get from the different groups.

“Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions, Bath-
robes and heating pads, hot meals they bring,
These are a few of our favourite things.

Computers and painting and bridge and canasta.
French and excursions and lunches with pasta
Twice yearly dances that go with a swing
These are a few of our favourite things.

When the pipes leak, when the bones creak, When the





knees go bad, I simply re-
member my favourite things,
And then I don't feel so bad.

Recorders and Mahjong, the
list it grows endless
Playreading, Photos - you'll
never be friendless
Our walkers stay active, their
step has a spring
These are a few of our favour-
ite things.

Scrabble and Craftea and
Board Games and Histr'y
Signing and Uke-ing, it's really
no myst'ry
Why Wednesday's a must, let
us see what it brings
These are a few of our favour-
ite things.

When the joints ache, When
the hips break, When the
eyes grow dim, Then I re-

member the great life I have,
And then I don't feel so bad.!"

This put everybody in the
right mood for Tony Tutton's
tantalising quiz. How many
ladies were dancing on the
ninth day of Christmas? How
many squares on a chess-
board? Was it Ben Hur or
Groundhog day? The opinions
and disagreements swept the
hall, followed by shhhh the
other groups will hear! Thank
you Tony for teaching us the
Google Company motto and
we all learnt A Prickle of Por-
cupines.

The meeting ended merrily
with cups of tea and cof-
fee, mince pie and a
Happy Christmas to One and
All.

Tessa Abberley

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

As I approach my 73rd Christmas with a weary sense of ennui, I like to cast my mind back to previous festive seasons.

Some of the best presents: 1960 aged 8, the British racing green scale model of the Vanwall Formula 1 car as driven by Stirling Moss the greatest driver who never became F1 champion.

1964 aged 12, the year Radio Caroline North (pirate radio station) started broadcasting and my brother and I both received 75 shilling portable radios (transistors). My brother was miffed that his brother, younger by 3 ½ years was given the same gift. A few happy years were enjoyed listening to music the stuffy BBC didn't play.

A notable event: December 1962, Coming back from the Boxing Day sale at R.H.O.Hills in Blackpool in the family

Standard 8. The snow came down so heavily that both windscreen wipers broke. Luckily, we were only a

few hundred yards from home, so my brother and I walked alongside the slow moving car each clearing one side of the windscreen so that my father could see. Later that winter the edge of the Irish Sea froze. (And there was no heating in our bedrooms).

Returning to the present, our Christmas luncheon was held on Wednesday 11 December, at the Homestead Court Hotel. Parking was easy and the dining area was a warm, well lit room with subtle decorations. The table settings were well laid out and everyone found their designated tables easily. About 110 people attended and the room settled into conversation.



After a slight delay in proceedings, Pam gave thanks to the many volunteers who work to make this event possible; the Committee, Sue Dorrington, Marie Scales, the ticket sellers, and Paul Savage for printing the tickets. I became involved with the committee a year or so ago, and I am now realising how much work is carried out by the few on behalf of the many.

Everyone I spoke to enjoyed the meal, and the absence of food left on plates testified to this. I had the salmon as my main course and this was cleverly served in a crown of filou pastry. The turkey was appreciated by everyone at my table. My only criticism is that, for me, the vegetables

were overcooked, but as we all know cooking so that every part of the dish is perfect at the time of serving is tricky (and one man's "overcooked" is another man's "give it a few more minutes"). The puddings went down well, as did the warm bijou mince pies. The coffee was hot and strong. The service was very good with up to 8 servers which meant that all the tables were served at the same time.

Pam ended proceedings by thanking the hotel staff and presenting them with a gratuity.

By the time you read this the festivities will be over, but to quote Tiny Tim "God bless us everyone"..

David Charlwood



BOOK REVIEW

Hatfield, all our Yesteryears, written and produced by Paul Savage and John Hawthorne, self-published, £25.

This substantial new book, the size of a large telephone directory, covers the history of Hatfield from its early days until very recently. It has 17 sections plus an index of photographs and illustrations, in 262 pages, and is sponsored by Burgess Funeral Directors.

The sections are: Where did we Start; The churches; The old Hatfield scene; Education in Hatfield; The Park, the House and the Cecil family; Breweries; Let's go on a pub crawl; Law and order; The old New Town centre; The start of a new era; When the puffer train came to town; Buses and things; Characters of Hatfield; Hatfield at war; Up, up and away; Business in Hatfield; and finally The Hatfield villages.

The book contains a large



number of black and white photographs, plus diagrams. Most came from the studio of Mervyn Powell which stood at the top of Brewery Hill. My understanding is that the discovery of a cache of photographs taken by Powell's studio was the genesis for this volume. The author's preface says "We are not trying to re-write history, but are trying, mainly through pictures, to help the residents of Hatfield understand the rich history of our ancient town. We have managed only to scratch the

surface of our town's rich and colourful past. Finding things to present to you was not difficult. What to leave out was more so." Powell was the only photographer in Hatfield for a significant period and his photographs are a valuable resource. No dates are given for him, and it is to be hoped that they will be included in a second edition.

The same could be said about an index; while there is a comprehensive one for the photographs, produced by Hazel Bell, there is none for the contents.

Almost everything one would wish to know about Hatfield is contained within these pages. Scattered through the pages are reminiscences by way of quotations from people who have lived in Hatfield.

The foreword by the Marquis of Salisbury is perceptive. He draws attention to the importance of researching local history and goes on to say:

"Hatfield has a long and rich history and still has a sense of community, although the pace of change since the Second World War has sometimes seemed to put that sense at risk. We who live in Hatfield therefore



surely need local historians more than ever In reading the book I have not only learned a lot about the history of Hatfield, but also have had memories reawakened of my early life here and of many of the people I remember from my childhood".

Hatfield of all our Yesterdays is well-designed, and easy to read; anyone interested in Hatfield should own a copy.

Geoffrey Hollis

SPRING TERM SPEAKERS

Spring term starts 8 January. Doors open at 9.45; refreshments from 10–10.30 (bring your own cup for free tea or coffee). 10.30 start. Watch from home on zoom, contact: zoom@u3awelhat.org. To receive links to recordings contact: video@u3awelhat.org.

8 Jan WGC Chris Truran – “First Forensics and the Tottenham Outrage” Chris will be looking at interesting forensic cases from The Garden of Eden and the case of the apple, to the Tottenham Outrage, a true story of amazing stupidity by 20C terrorists.

15 Jan HAT Gary Fisher – “The Queens of Henry VIII” Meet all six of Henry’s Queens. Find out why the talk is not entitled “The Six Wives of Henry VIII”!

22 Jan WGC Towser Harrison – “Wedlocked – Know Your Place!” Most women in the past had few choices about life and marriage partners. More usually they found themselves ‘owned’ by, or dependant on a man: father, husband, brother, or guardian. When things went badly, some came up with desperate and novel solutions, displaying remarkable strength and resilience.

29 Jan HAT Helen Fry – “A Very Secret War” During WW2, British Intelligence bugged the conversations of German prisoners –of–war housed in three stately houses. They became unguarded in their conversations and inadvertently gave away Hitler’s most closely guarded secrets, including the V1 (doodlebug) V2 and atomic bomb programme.

5 Feb WGC Len Little – “Training, Work & Operational Use of Police Dogs” In his career with the Herts Constabulary Dog Section, Len was in the front line for 18 years, working with various dog breeds, including general purpose police dogs as well as specialist search dogs. A Home Office approved Police Dog Trainer, he was awarded a travelling scholarship to West Germany in 1987 and was given Honorary Instructor status by the German Interior Ministry, the only non-German national to have this recognition.

12 Feb HAT Dr Jonathan Fisher – “Preserving Hertfordshire and English Chalk Streams” A topical subject currently is the fate of our chalk streams and their management. Jonathan will discuss their special features, the way forward for their protection and a case study of the river Mimram.

19 Feb WGC ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION Displays from our Art and Photography Groups.

26 Feb HAT Tracy Mackness – “Turning My Life Around” Tracy Mackness is an Essex bad girl turned good. She is now the owner of the successful "farm to fork" Giggly Pig Company, with its distinctive pink and black vans, and its slogan "No fat or crap in our sausages!"

5 Mar WGC Annie Brewster JP – “The Life & Times of a High Sheriff” The office of High Sheriff is the oldest continuous secular Office under the Crown, dating back to Anglo-Saxon times. The Monarch makes the appointments, and the Office is held for one year, at no charge to the public purse. Annie is the current High Sheriff of Hertfordshire and will tell us all about it!

12 Mar HAT AGM

19 Mar WGC Robin Mobbs – “Space Tourism” Have we reached the point where space travel might become a possibility open to all? How likely is it that our grandchildren will holiday in space?

26 Mar HAT Zoe Jasko – “Fiction Written in Our Landscape” Zoe’s talk is based on her book “What the Wind Saw: Short Stories from the Heart of Hertfordshire” - 25 short stories about people, real and imagined, inspired by local landscape and history.

2 Apr WGC David Charwood – “Energy - From Fire to Fusion” We are used to seeing Dave at the helm of Welwyn Hatfield U3As own Ukulele band, but here we’ll see him in a different light!

Welwyn Hatfield U3A does not endorse any products or services offered by speakers.



XMAS PARTY, PAGE 16

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