



BENFLEET BULLETIN

u3a learn,
laugh,
live

Issue 42: June 2022

W: u3asites.org.uk/benfleet

f facebook.com/groups/benfleetu3a

Chair: Marion Coleman

Bulletin Editor: Alan Aldridge

FROM THE CHAIR: Hello Everyone

Wow! Where did that three months go? For me a wonderful cruise and a dose of Covid has left me raring to go with enjoying the Summer ahead! So much to look forward to.

Firstly the Celebration Picnic in the Park on June 2nd.

I hope to see lots of you joining us with friends and family, just having a lovely picnic together to celebrate both the Queen's Jubilee and the 40th Anniversary of the u3a movement.

Then in July, a Thames barge trip on the River Orwell, with further coach trips in the programme. Then our Garden trail also in July. I am delighted too, at how many of our groups are going to be out and about this Summer! Lots to enjoy in what I hope will be a lovely British Summer for us all.

Finally, we must start to look forward to our AGM in September when once again we will be looking for new Committee members. Our groups will also, at that meeting, be putting on a display of all they have been doing over the last couple of years. Enjoy Your Summer!

Marion, Chair



Membership Renewal 2022/23

Our Membership Secretary, Bob Munson, has issued details and forms for Membership renewal. The new 'u3a' year starts on 1 July 2022.

Please renew your membership as soon as possible. Some important points:

- Latest date for renewal is Friday 15 July 2022. Your full membership place will go to those on the waiting list if not renewed by then. You can reapply as a SIM.
- Please include a SAE so that Bob can send your new membership cards.
- If needed renewal forms are available on our website at [Annual Membership](#).
- Please tick Gift Aid if you pay tax – we reclaim 25% tax rebate.
- 2022/23 fees are £20 Full Member; £15 SIM Member.

Please Contact Bob with any queries: Webmail to [Membership Secretary](#)

OUTINGS

Outing details will be advised with a date when bookings will be taken. This will be by email, letter to those without email and on our website.

NO bookings BEFORE the advised booking date.

Full payment date: Full payment must be received by that date. If not places will be offered to other members. We will not be taking deposits for outings.

Cheques: payable to Benfleet U3A. Please write the outing name on the back.

Pick-up and drop-off points are Victoria House Corner, Kenneth/Kiln Road Junction, Kents Hill Road, Tarpots, (Romsey Road), and Pitsea.

Where food is included, advise any dietary/allergy requirements at booking.

Mobile phone: give a mobile phone number in case of need to contact while out.

Photographs: advise at booking if you do NOT wish photos of you to be in the bulletin or website.

Since the last bulletin, Denise and Ian have completed their first two Outings. These were kept relatively simple as coach only adventures.

March 2022 – Brighton



May 2022 - Canterbury



Coming up – available for Booking:

Destination: **Thames Barge Cruise from Ipswich.**

Date: **Tuesday 5 July 2022.**

Basis: **Coach; 4 hour cruise; Lunch.**

Cost: **£63 per person**

Latest Payment Date: **Tuesday 31 May 2022**

Maximum number of passengers: 48.

Please contact Denise or Ian Phipps for booking or queries.

Webmail to: [Outings Organiser](#) or [Outings Coordinator](#)

Please note that:

- Stairs to the lower deck areas: there are about 6 steps and they are no more difficult than the steps on a coach.
- Included lunch: cheese & ham ploughman's, followed by apple & blackberry crumble.
- The current seat cost quoted above is correct at this point in time. However, due to the current global issues this outing could incur a fuel surcharge before the outing date.

Pick-up Points with approximate times:

09:15 Victoria House Corner

09:30 Tarpots (Romsey Road)

09:15 Kenneth Rd/Kiln Road

09:40 Pitsea Gala

09:20 Kents Hill Road

Please read further details in the Green textbox above.

Advanced Notice: these Outings are being planned but **NOT YET** open for booking.

- Thursday 18 August 2022: Eastbourne Air Show.
- Thursday 17 November 2022: Ely Christmas Fair.

Get to know your Committee Members

We are pleased to confirm that **Jim Wolfe** has stepped up to become a Committee Member – thank you Jim. He is currently helping Suzanne with the new Groups Newsletter and will stand formally for election at the September AGM.



Jim Wolfe

Most of my working career was in IT, first as an engineer driving around swapping parts. After qualifying, I eventually ran my own company for some years. For some peace and quiet (ha), I ended my IT life in a firm of solicitors in Southend.

I have spent 30+ years doing "AmDram" both on and offstage with the Little Theatre Company and the East Essex Players both at the Palace Theatre.

I've played guitar, been a songwriter, had several bands (you won't know them), play piano, sing in a Choir and have a little music studio at home.

Like many, I saw Bob Ross on the TV and become a Certified Painting Instructor, but my paints are getting dusty in the loft right now.

MEMBERS MEETINGS UPDATE

Since the last bulletin we have enjoyed a number of personal presentations at Richmond Hall plus Zoom sessions including:

- The World of Art Deco by Mark Lewis
- All things banned and censored by Peter Padwick - ZOOM
- Georghy Markov and the Poison Umbrella Murder by Paul Barwick
- Walt Disney Part 2 by Steve Dimmer - ZOOM
- The History of Spoken English by Charlie Haylock
- My Life with Animals on a Smallholding by Kevin Little - ZOOM

We think most attending members have found topics they don't know interesting and have even those they do know developing new facts and viewpoints.

So we trust that members will continue to support and attend both Hall and Zoom meetings giving the opportunity for interaction and social contact.

Coming Up:

RICHMOND HALL: 2pm Tuesday 31 May 2022

Freya Levy: From Walking to Wheelchair - My Story



RICHMOND HALL: 2pm Tuesday 28 June 2022

Peter Batty: Band of sisters - amazing women of World War 2



ZOOM: 2pm Tuesday 12 July 2022
John Hope - Time through the Ages

RICHMOND HALL: 2pm Tuesday 26 July 2022

Martin Hoskins: Financial Issues and Estate planning



RICHMOND HALL: 2pm Tuesday 30 August 2022

Lindsay Whitehouse:

Life in a Prison - from a Governors viewpoint

Due to prior commitments and likelihood of members being away during the summer there will be **NO ZOOM** meetings in JUNE or AUGUST.

And don't forget:

The Benfleet u3a Annual General Meeting at 2pm Tuesday 27 September 2022.

QUIZZICAL LOOKS

And you thought you knew London Underground!

Quiz Part 2: about London Underground Stations by **Rina Munro** – thank you Rina.

1. Girl's toy in a tin
2. Where 007 might live
3. An elementary stop
4. They might serve cream teas here
5. Pachyderm and fortress
6. A long slope down to a Suffolk town
7. Needlewoman
8. Long standing botanicals
9. Go! - across the water
10. Oriental amateur
11. Environmentally friendly crossing
12. This holds back the river
13. She was not amused
14. Fool of the farrier
15. Remains of a forest fire
16. Leave your and clogs here
17. This station holds your interest
18. A very tall entrance
19. A power cut in the chip shop
20. Fowl lager
21. A reasonable chop off the top
22. University troupe
23. The vicar's jealous
24. A large house where one might hold a tea party
25. You must be.....mad to live here
26. Backcombed hairstyle
27. This happened to the dead hedgehog

Community News - non-U3A activities

Items listed are for your information only and are not U3A organised.

Fundraising Open Garden for Haven's Hospice in memory of Yvonne Castle.

Marion and Karen are running this event to raise money.

June 12th 1.30-4pm; Admission £6.50 inc. tea and cakes

Contact Marion 01268 421503 for tickets.

From Shirley Wolfe: East Essex Players – Searching for Doctor Branovic

A comedy by David Tristram: Unexpected death; Grumpy Detective; Post-mortem; Where is Dr Branovic? Is there a cat? Who knows what's going on?

13th to 16th July 2022 Southend Pace Theatre - Dixon Studio

7:30pm; 2.30pm Saturday Matinee; £15-50p/£16-50p

Box Office 01702 351135/Advanced bookings 07773 024459

Get Active Festival; Waterside Leisure Centre; Tuesday 7 June 2022

Free event run by Castle Point Borough Council

Active exercise classes for people in their golden years to help become and stay active. The day will consist of taster classes for Aqua workout, Aerobics, Zumba, Pilates, Yoga and Bowls as well as tea, coffee and a selection of food all free of charge for the day.

Contact Jonathan Vadden at jvadden@castlepoint.gov.uk

GROUP NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

For contact details please see pages 8, 9, 10.

Groups newsletter issue #1 April 2022

Suzanne has introduced a Groups Newsletter to focus on specific issues and requirements of existing, developing and new group ideas.

Our website will keep up to date with the changes so that access on each group is available to all members. The quarterly bulletins will only summarise changes and developments.

GROUP CHANGES:

T@3: after a period of inactivity by members this group has been deleted. It could be re-instated if there is sufficient member demand

Garden Visits: After discussion between existing members it was decided to discontinue this group. There are alternative gardening related group available.

Current Affairs: Previously Discussion 1. **June Foster** has become the Group Contact. We thank **Jenny Brown** for her contribution to the group, she will continue to support June.

Canasta Group added. Contact **Doreen Curran**.

Play Reading added. Contact **Shirley Wolfe**.

Vintage Film 2 added. Contact **Suzanne Worland**.

Combined **Grumpy Old Men and Women** formed but still need a group contact.

MORE GROUP MEMBERS NEEDED:

Existing groups have space for new members please contact group contact directly:

Scrabble Current Affairs Wildlife Badminton 1 Canasta Darts

NEW GROUPS: not yet formally established.

Cinema visits: aims to have regular day time visits to the Cinema – usually a special deal with the cinema. Please contact **Suzanne Worland** to express interest in joining and Group Contact.

Bus and Ale: using your bus pass to visit a variety of suitable pubs – and not having to drive home. YES. Again we need members to sign up and a Group Contact. This group is ideal for rotating selection of the pub and making travel arrangements through its membership. Contact **Suzanne Worland**.

Garden Trail – Sunday 3 July 2022

The Macs and Wellies Gardening group will again hold an open garden event this year on 3 July 2022. There will be at least 5 gardens open to visit.

The event is free but can only be accessed by a 'Free Programme' available from **Bob Munson** Webmail to: Membership Secretary

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

French Poems: the French language group have turned their artistic talent to writing poems in French with the topic of 'Welcoming Springtime' or Printemps. French is a lyrical and flowing language, which sounds good even if you don't understand it [and they gave us 12 pts at Eurovision]. A sample short poem is:



Adieu l'hiver. Bonjour le printemps!
Les arbres se réveillent, les oiseaux chantent,
les fleurs fleurissent et les abeilles sont occupées.
L'espoir est dans l'air.



To download all poems as a pdf click [202204 - Des Poèmes pour le Printemps](#)
Go on, try it, even if you don't speak French.

Local Interest: Copford



Essex Fire Museum



Singing:



Lunch Club



Photography: Shoebury



Pound Wood



Wildlife: Woodham Fen



Richmond Park



GROUP CONTACTS

If on-line then click a Subject for the Group webpage.
Click Contact Name to send a web message.

To join a group please call the contact number given below.

If full, ON HOLD or for any queries, please contact the [Interest Groups Coordinator](#)

SUBJECT	CONTACT	MEETING DATE
<u>Art Blue</u>	<u>Marion Coleman</u>	10am every Tuesday
<u>Art Turquoise</u>	<u>Dot Hopkins</u>	10am every Thursday
<u>Badminton 1</u>	<u>Brian Boyce</u>	Monday pm weekly
<u>Badminton 2</u>	<u>Robert Gray</u>	Thursday 7:30pm weekly
<u>Book Club</u>	<u>Pat Cluness</u>	Monthly: variable
<u>Canasta</u>	<u>Doreen Curran</u>	4 th Wednesday. 2pm
<u>Card & Board Games</u>	<u>Ann Sayer</u>	2nd Wednesday. pm
<u>Comparative Religion</u>	<u>Cheryl Kirby</u>	2nd Tuesday. pm
<u>Culinary Experience</u>	<u>Barbara Webb</u>	4th Monday.
<u>Current Affairs</u>	<u>June Foster</u>	2nd Monday. pm
<u>Darts</u>	<u>Chris Hicks</u>	Last Wednesday. pm
<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Jean Askew</u>	1st Tuesday. pm
<u>Drawing</u>	<u>Sue Quattrucci</u>	Monthly challenge
<u>Family History</u>	<u>Grahame Harris</u>	1st Tuesday. 2-4pm
<u>Flower Arranging</u>	<u>Dot Hopkins</u>	10am every Friday
<u>French</u>	<u>Lyn Aldridge</u>	2nd Wednesday. 10am
<u>Gardening</u>	<u>Janet Heather</u>	Monthly: variable
<u>Grumpy Old Men and Women</u>	Vacant <u>Contact Suzanne</u>	Awaiting Group Contact and Members
<u>Knit & Stitch</u>	<u>Pauline Everett</u>	2nd Tuesday. pm
<u>Local and Essex History</u>	<u>Marion Coleman</u>	Various
<u>Local Interest</u>	<u>Sue Lewsey</u>	1st Wednesday.
<u>Lunch Club</u>	<u>Sue Day</u>	Various
<u>Macs/Wellies Gardening</u>	<u>Bob Munson</u>	Various

<u>Meditation</u>	<u>Richard Newall</u>	Tuesday. am; every week
<u>Naval & Military History</u>	<u>Phil Lloyd-Worth</u>	2nd Wednesday. 2pm
<u>Outings</u>	<u>Denise Phipps</u>	As advised.
<u>Photography</u>	<u>Sue Lewsey</u>	3 rd Monday. pm
<u>Play Reading</u>	<u>Shirley Wolfe</u>	To be decided
<u>Scrabble (2 groups)</u>	<u>Doreen Curran</u>	2pm Mon. every 2 weeks 2pm Thurs. every 2 weeks
<u>Singing</u>	<u>Sue Day</u>	2nd & 3rd Thursday.
<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Sheila Radford</u>	Wednesday. pm weekly
<u>Ten Pin Bowling</u>	<u>Jim Regan</u>	3rd Friday. am
<u>Vintage Films</u>	<u>Jenny Brown</u>	2nd and 4th Thurs. 1pm
<u>Vintage Films 2</u>	<u>Suzanne Worland</u>	3 rd Thursday. 1pm
<u>Walking up to 5 miles</u>	<u>Eve Burgess</u>	1st Thursday. am
<u>Walking over 5 miles</u>	<u>Doreen Wiggans</u>	4th Thursday. am
<u>Walking over 5 miles Group 2</u>	<u>Freda Antoniou</u>	3rd Wednesday. am
<u>Wildlife</u>	<u>Janet Humphrey</u>	2nd Thursday. am
<u>Women in History</u>	<u>Sheila Sears</u>	3rd Friday. pm


QUIZ ANSWERS – London Underground Stations

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Barbican | 15. Burnt Oak |
| 2. Bond Street | 16. Holland Park |
| 3. Baker Street | 17. Bank |
| 4. Devons Road | 18. Highgate |
| 5. Elephant and Castle | 19. Blackfriars |
| 6. Sudbury Hill | 20. Cockfosters |
| 7. Pinner | 21. Fairlop |
| 8. Kew Gardens | 22. Oxford Circus |
| 9. West Ferry | 23. Parsons Green |
| 10. East Ham | 24. Manor House |
| 11. Greenford | 25. Barking |
| 12. Embankment | 26. High Barnet |
| 13. Victoria | 27. Preston Road |
| 14. Hammersmith | |



Committee Members

Click role to send webmail

<u>Chair</u>	Marion Coleman	
<u>Vice-Chair</u>	Shirley Wolfe	
<u>Treasurer</u>	Rina Munro	
<u>Business Secretary</u>	Sandra Bedwell	
<u>Membership Secretary</u>	Bob Munson	
<u>Interest Groups Coordinator</u>	Suzanne Worland	
<u>Outings Organiser</u>	Denise Phipps	
<u>Outings Coordinator</u>	Ian Phipps	
<u>Bulletin Editor/ Webmaster</u>	Alan Aldridge	
<u>Committee Member</u>	Lee King	
<u>Committee Member</u>	Jim Wolfe	

Bereavement and Unwell: Please contact Suzanne Worland (Webmail to [Interest Groups Coordinator](#)) to confirm details of any bereavement or illness, and an appropriate card will be forwarded.