

**SIDCUP & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
NEWSLETTER**

January 2013



**SIDCUP & DISTRICT U3A meets at 2.00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month in the
Community Church in Station Road, Sidcup**

NOTICES

Nominated Charity for 2012 – Guide Dogs For The Blind

Thank you everyone for all your donations for the above. I can now let you know how much was collected over the year.

Collection dogs: £206.13
Surplus tea money: £66.68
From the Raffle: £268.50
Individual donations: £89.22

This money all helps to support a young puppy and his training which makes a tremendous difference to a blind person's life.

Gay Braybrook

Nominated Charity for 2013

My thanks go to our members for choosing to support CRISIS in 2013. CRISIS helps many people who, for some reason or another, find themselves homeless, but who nevertheless want to 'put their lives together' again. General support, training, and help with accessing suitable accommodation are given throughout the year. Special help is given at Christmas time, with many volunteers coming to the Centres and giving services as varied in nature as dentistry, chiropody and hairdressing. Many other volunteers help with the catering arrangements by supplying healthy meals to everyone.

This year, CRISIS collecting boxes will be available for your donations, and I shall have a selection of hand-crafted greetings cards for sale. Also, as you know, the proceeds from the raffle are donated to the Charity for the Year; your support in any of these ways will be much appreciated.

Val Gosden

Committee Vacancy

A vacancy still exists on the Committee for the post of Social Secretary. Please speak to any current Committee member if you are a fully paid-up member of Sidcup U3A and would like to take on this interesting job.

Tea Rota

Many thanks go to all the helpers we had for last year; I am very pleased to see that we have almost filled all the months for this year.

However, we still need 2 people for June and 1 person for October – and a couple of reserves would be useful. I have put the Tea Rota back on the Notice Board for completion, please.

If the month you have chosen is not convenient when the time comes, please contact me so that a change can be made.

The individual copies of the rota are on the Group Notices table, so please pick up your copy.

Gay Braybrook ☎ 020 8309 6372

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Embroidery

Are you handy with a needle and enjoy embroidery or cross-stitch? A group of ladies meet at Hurst Community Centre on a Friday morning, approximately every two weeks, for a social embroidery session and would like to find some more like-minded ladies.

If interested, please ring either Stella on 01322 527369 or Pat on 020 8302 9984.

U3A Website

In the November issue of the Newsletter it was recommended that those with internet access pay a visit to the U3A website at www.u3a.org.uk where useful and interesting information is always available. Several free online courses are scheduled to commence early this year so anyone who is interested should take a look at this now.

Webmaster

DECEMBER PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

9	2	7	8	5	1	6	3	4
8	6	3	4	7	9	2	1	5
5	4	1	3	2	6	9	8	7
2	5	9	7	3	4	1	6	8
7	8	6	9	1	5	3	4	2
3	1	4	2	6	8	7	5	9
1	7	5	6	8	2	4	9	3
4	3	8	1	9	7	5	2	6
6	9	2	5	4	3	8	7	1

8	3	9	4	5	7	1	2	6
2	5	1	6	8	3	7	9	4
6	4	7	9	1	2	8	5	3
9	6	8	7	4	5	2	3	1
7	2	3	8	9	1	4	6	5
4	1	5	2	3	6	9	8	7
1	8	4	5	6	9	3	7	2
5	9	2	3	7	4	6	1	8
3	7	6	1	2	8	5	4	9

M	A	D	E	S	T	A	B	S
I	M	A	R	C	E	S	A	U
M	E	N	S	O	C	C	U	R
E	T	C	A	W	H	I	L	E
S	S	E	T	B	A	C	K	U
A	M	A	Z	O	N	I	O	N
F	I	S	H	Y	G	R	A	B
A	L	E	E	S	U	C	K	A
R	E	A	M	S	P	A	I	R

This must be an art class. The man ate extremely slowly today. James will be especially tired after that game of cricket. A pear tree grew in their backyard. We can go at 7pm to the party. We came late because we got lost for a spell. Tell me if I should join the football team. It is nice to do good deeds for my friends. Why don't you use a ladder? Will a map help me find 5th Avenue? Take a soap and a towel when you go for a bath. I think Sarah will be a very good student. Most rich people have nice houses which are expensive. The Eskimo slept in a damp igloo. Air is made of oxygen and carbon dioxide. Jim was poor at football and would never pass to a team mate. Being not terribly good, Muriel kept coming either sixth or seventh in races. (31 animals)

Across: 1 PREEN 9 JAWED 12 ENCYCLOPAEDIA 13 SQUAW 14 IMPLY 15 TORTOISESHELL 16 TAPES
19 SPRAY 22 CHOIRMASTER 28 MAGPIE 29 HEN 30 ERRATA 31 REEDY 32 TENTS 33 SHYEST 34
PUPPET 35 AWAKE 37 SUSHI 39 BOLSHIE 40 ARRESTS 41 NESTS 44 COMMA 46 THROAT 47 TUNICS
48 IDLER 49 RATIO 50 OBLIGE 51 AHA 53 RELATE 54 STOPWATCHES 59 FATTY 62 WARDS 65
OCEANOGRAPHER 66 WRECK 67 ADZES 68 ENTERTAINMENT 69 SISAL 70 HUSKY

Down: 1 POSIT 2 EQUIP 3 NEWTS 4 SCORCH 5 OCTOPI 6 CONSUME 7 PAUSES 8 ADHERE 9 JAILS
10 WIPER 11 DRYLY 17 ARACHNOPHOBIA 18 EXPRESSIONIST 20 PARAPHERNALIA 21 AUTHENTICATED
22 CERTAINTIES 23 OMEGA 24 RHYME 25 ANTES 26 TONGS 27 RESPIRATORS 36 WEE 38 HAM 42
SALVO 43 STRAW 44 CARAT 45 MATCH 52 HANGMAN 55 TWENTY 56 PENURY 57 CRANNY 58
ECHOED 59 FAWNS 60 TREKS 61 YOKEL 62 WRATH 63 RAZES 64 SISSY

GROUP NEWS

Freedom Pass Explorers • Leader Val Gosden



It was a somewhat grey day when we travelled to Chingford in November. This town is on the edge of Epping Forest, but, when we saw how wet the ground was, we were happy to visit the museum and Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge, as suggested by someone local. The museum was well set out and contained much information about the Forest, and on the top floor of the building there was a balcony with panoramic views.

Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge (Queen Elizabeth I, that is) began as King Henry VIII's Hunting Stand, and was built in the latter part of his reign when he was less mobile. Beaters would chase the deer near to the stand so that shooting could take place with little effort. The size of some of the 400-year-old beams was quite remarkable, and we could also see a small portion of its 'wattle and daub' type construction. In one room we were able to try on some Tudor style headwear which afforded us some amusement. Lunch in a nearby, equally old building with more large beams, concluded our visit to Chingford, and the cheerful group returned home.

It was a small 'select' group who travelled to Harrow-on-the-Hill in December, an area with many small shops and a 'feature' of tall artificial trees and flowers in one of the main roads. Harrow-on-the-Hill Station is, however, quite near to Harrow School, and we wandered along there to see the school buildings (some of which are dedicated to specialist school subjects such as biology and languages) and the many outdoor sports facilities. We followed a path in the grounds which ran alongside a long pond which was most pleasant as the sun was shining at this time. The school opened in 1572 and had just one pupil on the roll in 1615; obviously it has grown since then, and has included Sir Winston Churchill amongst its many scholars.

Val Gosden

(i) Wattle and daub is a composite building material that has been used to make walls for at least 6,000 years; it is still an important construction material in many regions of the world. It comprises a woven lattice of wooden strips called wattle daubed with a sticky material usually made from a combination of wet soil, clay, sand, animal dung, mud and straw. Many historic buildings include wattle and daub construction, and the technique is regaining popularity in more developed areas as a low-impact sustainable building method.

Editor

Classical Music 1 • Leader Derick Johnson



Alan Griffiths presented his choice of classical music starting with Franz von Suppé's Light Cavalry Overture played by the Slovakia State Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Alfred Walter. This was followed by Sergei Prokofiev's Symphony № 1 (Classical) performed by the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine conducted by Theodore Kuchar. We had a beautiful piece by Karl Goldmark entitled "In the Spring" played by the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland conducted by Stephen Gunzenhauser, then we finished the first half with the ever popular Rossini's "The Thieving Magpie" by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Herbert von Karajan. After the break, we had Suppé's Poet and Peasant Overture followed by Giovanni Bottesini's Introduction and Variations on "The Carnival of Venice" – unusually played on the double bass by Stefano Sciascia accompanied on the piano by David Giovanni Leonardi, but without orchestral accompaniment. We then had William Walton's Portsmouth Point Overture played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Leonard Slatkin, followed by Rossini's Serenata for flute, oboe, English horn, violins, viola and cello played by the Ex Novo Ensemble. A completely satisfying afternoon's music was then concluded with Richard Addinsell's Warsaw Concerto played by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra conducted by Kenneth Alwyn.

Derick Johnson

GROUP VACANCIES

GROUP NAME	LEADER/CONTACT	VACANCIES
 Amblers (Group 1) 3 rd Wednesday (10.30 am)	John Harbert 020 8300 5361	Yes
 Amblers (Group 3) 3 rd Wednesday (10.30 am)	Norma Balfour 020 8303 7693	Yes
 Book Reading 1 st Thursday	See Group Co-ordinator 020 8300 4291	2
 Classical Music (Group 1) 2 nd Friday	Derick Johnson 020 8850 1245	Vacancies
 Concerts/Ballet/Opera Various dates & times	Norma Balfour 020 8303 7693	Yes ø
 Darts (at the Alma pub) 2 nd Monday (noon) *	See Group Co-ordinator 020 8300 4291	Yes
 Family History Various days	Judith Swain 020 8303 5759	Yes
 Local History (Group 1) 2 nd Wednesday	Lesley South 020 8300 8298	2
 Local History (Group 3) 2 nd Wednesday	Christine Withams 020 8850 4144	3
 Luncheon Club (Group 2) 2 nd Friday (noon)	Pam Kirk 020 8856 8372	4
 Ramblers (Group 2) (4–5 miles) 4 th Tuesday	Pat & Alf Cracknell 020 8302 0823	Yes
 Ten-Pin Bowling (Bexleyheath) Mondays (10.00 am) *	Gay Braybrook 020 8309 6372	Yes
 Theatre (Group 2) Various matinées	Joan & John Somerset 020 8300 0890	Yes ø

The above groups, unless I am told otherwise by Group Leaders, are the ones with vacancies. Please contact the Group Leader concerned in the first instance, and, if accepted, inform me.

Christine Spencer, Group Co-ordinator ☎ 020 8300 4291

Why not start a new group?

If you are on the waiting list to join a full group why not create a new one and then advertise it in this Newsletter and on our website? It is not difficult to run a group and leaders of a full one can advise you how it's done.

* Not during school holidays

ø Notice on the board at meetings

PROGRAMME

2013

January	Bob Ogley	Biggin Hill
February	Mrs. Austin	Honey
March	Annual General Meeting	
	John Beckham	Birds of Rye Harbour
April	Ann Knief	Lola Montez – a 19 th Century Adventuress
May	Mr. Guerdon	Chickens
June	Paul Gourden	Age UK
July	Ian Porter	Suffragettes
August	Peter Gilman	Coastline National Trust
September	Chris McCoory	Rogues, Rascals & Rebels
October	Jack Wheeler	Japanese Gardens
November	Bernard Locket	Author
December	Jack Ripley	Max Miller & Friends

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Anne Evans	020 8302 2261
Vice-Chairman	Lesley South	020 8300 8298
Minutes Secretary	George Murrell	020 8850 2046
Treasurer	Christine Smith	020 8304 2305
Membership Secretary	Margaret Scambler	020 8315 0108
Speakers Secretary	Sue Brooks	020 8298 1117
Group Co-ordinator	Christine Spencer	020 8300 4291
Welfare Officer	Kathy Cordell	020 8300 4573
Social Secretary	Vacant	

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Raffle Organiser	Jackie Burke	020 8302 7395
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster	David Smith	020 8304 2305

Please either email contributions to me at editor@sidcup-u3a.org.uk or post them to me at 56 Crofton Avenue, Bexley, Kent DA5 3AR – typed if possible since this facilitates scanning.
Please submit Newsletter contributions by 3rd of the month – but at any time for the Website.

WEBSITE

www.sidcup-u3a.org.uk

This Newsletter (including previous editions) may be read or downloaded from our website; our annual booklet, Scambuster, and help with computer problems may also be downloaded. Also available is an index of Newsletter 'Notices' covering the period April 2007 to this issue.

Afterthought

He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever.

**SIDCUP & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
NOMINATION FORM**

2013–2014



We the undersigned being persons whose names appear on the membership list of the above U3A hereby nominate:–

Name

Address

As candidate for:–

Vice-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer/Membership Secretary/Speakers Secretary/Group
Co-ordinator/Welfare Officer.

Proposer **Seconder**

Declaration and Consent.

I declare that I am a member of Sidcup & District U3A and that, if elected, I consent to serve.

Signed Date

The present Committee is as follows:–

Anne Evans	Chairman (re-elected in 2012 for 2 years)
Lesley South	Vice-Chairman
George Murrell	Secretary
Christine Smith	Treasurer
Margaret Scambler	Membership Secretary
Christine Spencer	Group Co-ordinator
Susan Brooks	Speakers Secretary
Kathy Cordell	Welfare Officer

All nominations are to be returned by 1st March to any Committee member, or by post to the Secretary, George Murrell, 76 Chester Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 8SH.