

Newsletter for June 2026



u3a members tempted by this enormous basket at St Katherine Dock – seen on their London Walk. Photo by Danny Brown.

Our speaker for 11th June 2026 is Aiden Hynes, a commercial artist and sculptor. Aiden been the managing director of his own business, Sculpture Studios, in Basildon for almost 40 years.

The work commissioned at his studio is predominantly for the Film, Television, Theme Park, Theatre and Exhibition industries. Anything from an opera performance, public art, and large scale art installations, to personal art and back garden pieces, the scale of what they create varies greatly. His forte is large

scale polystyrene carving, whereby they often create production moulds and runs in glass fibre, with each project tailoring to an individual brief, some pieces only required to last a day, with others being installed permanently for years. The majority of his work is naturally UK based, but many of his pieces have been installed in numerous countries around the world.

Aiden's talk starts with his younger years, family, the challenges of early schooling with dyslexia, others around him tackling education with apparent ease, and where his initial inspiration and pivotal moment to pursue art and my career came from. He traces his movement from a foundation college to studying BA honours degree in sculpture fine art at uni. That path took him on a journey from being 7 years freelance to eventually deciding to set up his own studio in his home town of Basildon, whereby, for the past 40 years, he now creates 3D commercial sculptures for well recognised locations, brands, shows, commercials, and companies.

He highlights the pitfalls, trials and tribulations of running his own studio, plus combining bringing up a young family at the same time, showing it is possible to do both in equal measure. Aiden concludes by showing a sample of his work, and talking through some of his more notable projects, and where he is today moving forwards with his wife and business partner, Sue.

On Thursday 9th July 2026 we will be entertained by vocalist, Lauren Aubrey

Lauren lives in Ipswich but went to Corringham County Primary School. So, coming back to Corringham will be a trip down memory lane.

Lauren is a full-time singer, featuring mainly at hotels, restaurants and weddings as well as private and corporate functions. She can sing a variety of genres, for upbeat she sings Motown and crowd pleasers or for background music Lauren can sing stripped back versions of popular songs.

COMMITTEE CHAT – There is warm weather, hot weather, very hot weather and almost unbearably hot weather. Having experienced the two hottest May days on record, I think it is safe to say we have experienced, "Almost unbearably hot weather". Surprisingly, we even had a Bank Holiday weekend with no rain! It's definitely not normal weather.

Undoubtedly, by the time you read this, good, old English weather is likely to have returned. Gardener's will be applauding the onset of rain, cricketers will be leaving the field when clouds provide bad light and in late June / early July Wimbledon fixtures will have had to be re-arranged due to rain or bad light. But that's being pessimistic. As an optimist, I always think the glass is half full. Just waiting for someone to buy me the other half!

Entry to our general meetings is allowed from 1.30pm. However, the horrendous weather around 1.15pm at our last general meeting meant we allowed members in early. These were exceptional circumstances to save our members from becoming drowned rats.

In light of the National u3a Accessibility Policy for u3a's in England, Scotland and Wales referred to in last month's Committee Chat, we are revising and updating our Policy Statement. In preparation for our AGM in September, and the potential election of any new committee members who will be Trustees of our u3a, we are also revising our Trustee Welcome Pack.

As mentioned previously, our investment in Beacon is proving to be beneficial in a number of ways. Sending out information to members via Beacon means you will receive an email directed to you individually, i.e. addressed to you personally. Whilst proving a more effective and efficient system for the dissemination of information, we have identified a few glitches we are trying to work out. *If you are not receiving the advance emails: please contact **Christine Henderson***

Our membership currently stands at 471. Whilst pleasing to see our u3a has become attractive to more people, we foresee potential problems in the future which we will be considering how best to deal with, should they arise. For example, increased numbers at meetings could result in changes to seating arrangements. With the potential re-development of The Springhouse site we do know that, when completed, the new main hall will be smaller than the one we currently occupy. So, change is inevitable.

Plans for our next AGM in September continue. Any proposals made on our Motion Forms must be completed by the close of our June general meeting.

Nomination Forms are now available for members to nominate individuals for the 2026/2027 committee. Remember, you must ask the individual's permission to propose their name and also provide a seconder. Nominations close at our July general meeting. Nomination Forms may be downloaded from our website and will also be available at our June and July general meetings.

Interest Groups

Please contact the people at the head of each article – all details are also at the back of this newsletter or on the website. Sandra Isaacson and Marilyn Edgings are also available to help support and set up new groups. If you are unable to go to a group for some time, please let them know as they could give away your space. Keep us all safe by not attending Group Meetings when you have a temperature or other symptoms of illness. *Groups may be found in alphabetical order in this Newsletter.*

*******Please remember to sign out if you need to leave the meeting early – this list will need to be checked in case of an emergency.**

Amblers

Tessa Duggan 01375 670212

Jenny Radford 01375 676338

****Our group is full now. If you wish to join the group, please don't just turn up**



on an amble, contact Tessa or Jenny and we will put your name and details on our waiting list. Thank you.* * Here are photos from the May amble in Plotlands, Langdon Nature Reserve and details of our June amble.



Photos by Jenny Radford

Our June amble will be at Mucking (Thameside Nature Park), Mucking Wharf Road, Stanford le Hope SS17 ORN and will be on Thursday 18th June. Meet us outside the Visitor Centre at 10.30am. Look forward to seeing you there.

Bird Watching

Dave Snow

07490 069740

Book Group

Ann Bailey

Dawn Lloyd-Warne

01375 461885

Board Games

Margaret Lambert 07811 235274

Just to let you know the Board Games Group is now meeting twice a month – **the first Thursday and third Friday of each month in Corringham Library 2.00pm to 4.00 pm.**

Wednesday Boules

Dave Jardine 07551 952211

How lovely to be playing boules again in the sunshine and enjoy a welcome cup of coffee and biscuits after.

We play from 10.15 and again at 1.30 you are welcome to join us for either game or both for £2 each. We have spare boules so give it a try!

Wednesday Afternoon players

Paul Brice 07788452852

The same as Morning Boules.

Boules (Friday am)

Colin & Carol Munro 07770 854318

Carol Munro

Our Friday morning group is open to new members and we play at the Billet Recreation ground in Stanford. Get in touch.

Canasta

Pauline Kerridge 01375 462232

Every Wednesday at the Springhouse Club at 2.00. Everyone welcome.

Chess

Rob Morrison

The Chess Group meets on the first and third Monday of each month at Corringham library between 10am and 12 noon. All levels of ability welcome, including beginners. Tuition can be given, so if you've never played before but always wanted to, come and give it a go! If interested, please contact Robert Morrison by email in the first instance.

Couples Lunch

Dave and Jean Angus 07711359127



Couples Lunch Monday 18th May2026.

As fuel is a bit of an issue at the moment, we decided to keep local and

save some fuel by returning to The Bull in Corringham. As usual the food was very good and, once again, we had one long table so that we could all sit and chat and eat together and everyone is included in the fun from one end of the table to the other. There were some new "ideas" on the menu but Dave chose his favourite again; ham, eggs and chips and it was delicious with nice large chips.

Photos on Dave's phone

The Bull is a friendly traditional pub which serves homemade food and real ale. With a rich history this long-



established pub is in a great location, allowing everyone to relax. Because of other commitments Dave and Jean had to change the date for May for our usual meeting of the fourth Thursday of each month so they brought the lunch forward to Monday 18th May so that they did not have to cancel the lunch for May.

It is back to normal for Thursday 25th June and thinking caps will be on to visit another restaurant. We were able to have a good chat and laugh as can be seen from the photographs plus Members can see the delicious food.

Cribbage

John Green 01375 676411

Next meetings for the group will be **Tuesday 9th and 23rd June at 1.30pm** in Gardner Hall, Fobbing. Cost **£3** includes Hall hire and refreshments. **Please note price increase as Hall hire has gone up.**

Curry Night

Tina Smith 07899915184

Carol Lindsell 07906436445

Our next curry night will be at Zaal's Restaurant, Lampits Hill on Thursday 18th June at 7.00pm @ £20 each including tip. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

NEW GROUP – Disabled Amblers

Our next Disability Amble will be on **Wednesday 10th June starting at 10.30am** and details of the venue chosen will be emailed to all those who are registered with our Group. If there are any other Stanford u3a Members who wish to join our Disability Amble Group then please email and newcomers will be most welcome to meet with us on the second Wednesday of each month at 10.30am providing they register with us first.

Family History

Sue Green **01375 676441**

Peter Craggs **07759 817821**

Our May session "Bring an object or document" did not disappoint. We had a variety of things to look at—wedding albums, a pocket watch presented to a military medal holder in WWI, a 1950's Viewmaster brought back from the USA with slides, a Grandmothers Denby chamber pot, a Navy relatives memoir book of WWI found on ABE books, plans for the massive building built in a small mining village that included a sprung dance floor that rolled back above a swimming pool like the one in "It's a Wonderful Life". We also looked at a George III cartwheel two pence coin—the biggest and heaviest coin minted in UK at 2 ounces and 41 mm diameter. You would have felt that in your pocket! I had never held or seen a Death Penny (officially called the Next of Kin memorial Plaque) issued to relatives of the fallen in WWI, except in pictures, and we had two brought to the meeting. They were 4.7 inches in diameter with Britannia holding an olive wreath with the fallen man's name engraved on them. Fascinating and poignant. This is just a small selection of what was on show. As usual, a very interesting meeting.

Our next meeting on Wednesday 17th June at 2pm in the Community Church Hall will be a session talking about "rabbit holes". These are where our research on our family tree has gone on the wrong path. We all do it, going off in an enthusiastic direction, only to discover later that it is all wrong. I have told the group many times of my classic mistake (which cost John and I a lot of time and money). At a funeral, a cousin gave me a copy of my grandfather's birth certificate and not knowing much about my father's family I accepted it and took it for granted it was right. After months following a family being baptised as Mormons in the Thames and then going to Utah in a wagon train across the American Plains (exciting stuff), I talked to my father's sister who immediately said that the certificate was wrong so it was back to the drawing board, with months wasted. It's funny now but it wasn't at the time! Please bring along examples of where you have gone wrong to help others not make the same mistakes.

A reminder that our Meeting on July 15th has a speaker—Mark Carroll – on Life and Death in the Workhouse. This is open to all u3a members

Flower Arranging

Christine Lambert

07972 879173

Linda Tilbury

07928 221626

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Gateway Centre, from 10am until 12 noon. The cost is £2:00. We are a friendly group and you are very welcome to join us. There is a cafe where you can purchase a drink.

Here is a photo of some of the flower arranging ladies in our new room at the Gateway Centre, it is a lot smaller than the old one but adequate for our group.



The first week the theme was Ikebana which is a centuries old Japanese art of flower arranging which translates to "giving life to flowers, it goes beyond just placing flowers in a vase, it is usually structured around three main stems or branches the stems are placed in a pin holder, which is called a frog. We enjoyed creating these and were pleased with the results





The second week it's our own choice which is always interesting, this time of year the flowers and foliage are from our own gardens so we always have a very varied display,

Photos and report by Brenda Osborne

Gardening Allotment News

Michael Farman

Golf

Paul Brice 07788 452852

The Golf Group meets every Monday at our new venue of Noak Hill Golf Course on the way to Billericay. It is a similar distance from Stanford-le-Hope as our previous venue.

Anybody wishing to join us, please get in touch and join our What's App Group where we display times for the meetings.

The cost at Noak Hill is £10 for 18 holes. The course is family run and includes a room where you may wish to purchase teas, coffees, soft drinks and some alcoholic drinks. It is also famed for homemade cakes as well as bacon rolls, etc.

We normally start at 9.30am but some times vary dependent on weather conditions or availability.

Holiday and Cruises

Carol Smith 07845 233640

Mel Fox 01375 679643

The Coach Holiday begins on Sept 28th 2026 (Romantic Journeys of Yorkshire with Cooks Coaches) This is a 5-day trip taking in some of the beautiful scenery of Yorkshire. **2 double rooms are still available.**

The cost is £556pp for a twin or double, no singles left. This does not include a tip for the driver.

A NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of £50pp will be required at time of booking, the balance also NON REFUNDABLE required 3 months before departure.

We will accept cash. Cheque made out to Cooks Coaches.

We still have spaces for the **cruise in September 2027 with Ambassador.** If anyone has the brochure it's cruise number A12724 Autumnal Legends of the British Isles. Requires £200 on booking – selling at June meeting.

Sailing from **Tilbury on 9th Sept 2027.** Calling at St Marys , Cobh, Liverpool, Belfast, Tobermory, Lerwick and Invergordon. £200 required on booking.

If you are interested, could you please email Mel Fox

Italian

Verena Carter 07808513453

This meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month.

The venue is the Evangelical Church Fobbing Road from 2 till 4 o'clock. We are progressing well with our group trying to expand our vocabulary and grammar in a fun way. We can only take any new members if they have some knowledge of basic Italian. **The book which we use is BBC Talk Italian 1 which is available on Amazon if any new members wish to get it.**

Line Dancing 1

Susan Moss	07905314987
Beverley Brice	07522368810
Christine Hartnell	07771554174

At Horndon Village Hall every Wednesday 10.15-11.45 – cost £2. All very welcome.

Line Dancing 2

Carol Munro 07766 035554

Sue Moss 07905 314987

Every Tuesday starting at 10.00 – 11.00 at the Methodist Hall in Horndon-on-the-Hill.

Local History Group

Diane Wallace

Sue Green 01375 676441

Our next Local History meeting on June 22nd has now got a different topic. It is going to be a reminiscence session on changes we have seen in how a home is run, not family relationships, but in the things that make home life work, and hopefully, a nice place to live.

Members are asked to have a think about changes over the years they have seen in things such as methods of heating, lighting, cleaning, cooking, furnishing, entertainment etc. Any easily portable items of things we used to use in the home, but have now been generally replaced, which members bring into the meeting, will be welcomed as they will make it more interesting.

Members will all be able to talk about some of the changes, and those who have lived in the area for a long time will be able to provide us with local examples.

To summarise, the next Local History meeting is on Monday 22nd June at the Community Church Hall, Fobbing Road, Corringham at 2pm and is a reminiscence session.

London Walks

Dave Snow

07490 069740

Brian McDonald

London Walk report (May 2026)

Our latest walk was to the Wapping area of East London. We passed the figure of Trajan standing guard by Tower Hill station and then went on to the Tower of London. From here we went into St Katherine Dock. The Royal barge was there along with the largest solid block of Acrylic in the world and a large basket which a number of our walkers could not resist getting into. At the entrance to the dock are some excellent views of the river, Tower Bridge and other parts of London. We saw numerous 'stairs' which were landing points for the many watermen ferrying their passengers along the river.



Where there used to be over thirty pubs in Wapping High Street, there are now only three. The Town of Ramsgate named after the Kent fishermen who landed their catch here rather than pay the taxes at Billingsgate. The Captain Kidd named after the notorious pirate who was hung. The Prospect of Whitby named after the collier which regularly brought coal here for the hydraulic pumping station nearby. We did also see the Turner's Old Star pub which had been set up by the artist JWM Turner. This also had a plaque mentioning Lydia Rogers who had been accused of witchcraft back in the day. On the return leg of the walk we saw the spire of St Paul's, Shadwell where one of our walkers had been married. We then walked alongside Shadwell Basin and finally, after many attempts, saw the miniature casting of a rat on the quayside. We followed the ornamental canal up to Tobacco Dock where there are two replicas of old ships. There is a statue of the boy with the tiger from the days of Jamrach's Exotic Animal Emporium. Such a pity it is locked away inside the closed building and not on display for everybody to see.

Next was St George in the East church or rather the church within a church as the original was badly damaged in the war. We heard about the Highway Murders and saw the mural about the Battle of Cable Street. Towards the end we saw



Wilton's Music Hall, the oldest surviving music hall in the world, before getting back to Fenchurch Street.

Text by Brian MacDonald and photos by Danny Brown.

Lunch and Chat

Chris Brown 01708 852023

Lunch and Chat meets on the first Friday of the month 11-00am at the Langdon Hills Golf Club, Lower Dunton Road RM14 3TY.

****Unfortunately we need to close the group to new members as we are guests at the golf club and cannot ask for additional tables. However I'm happy to create a waiting list and if there are sufficient numbers look at starting a second group if people are interested.****

Lunch Bunch (Tuesday)

Lynn Lawson 07422 541606

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month. unfortunately we are still unable to take new members.

For our May lunch we were three down from our usual sixteen. Two unable to come and Hazel had double booked the oven cleaner! (Don't we all hate that job!).

We went to our old favourite The Ship. Six of us had afternoon tea and the remainder had a main meal.

All chose different choices and stated everything was really tasty. Those of us who had the afternoon tea could barely move from our seats! As usual fantastic value for money and attentive, friendly service.

Mixed Craft Group

Marilyn Edgings 01375 677425

Barbara Purser 01375 677095

If there are any new u3a members who would be interested in trying out the craft group, come along to The **Baptist Church in Corringham on the first**

Tuesday of the month and see for yourself or get in touch with either Marilyn or Barbara.

"I was having a sort out and found many cd's which were free with the Mail newspaper many years ago. I put them in the dustbin and further on that day I thought "Surely they could be recycled". So I got them out of the bin, as you do, and thought about making a sun catcher. I also thought this would be a good idea for our mixed craft group to do. So once we decided which "gems" to use we did the pattern on one cd. Then the second one.

Before we glued the cd's together, we attached some ribbon or butcher's twine to make a loop. As you can see from the photos some very pretty sun catchers were made by the girls. These catch the sun really well at very little expense. So if you have any old cd's why not give it a try."



Music Makers

Mo Wakeling 07902 649122

We now meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in the afternoons.

Old British Motor Cycle and Car Enthusiasts

Graham Edgings 01375 677425

"Paws on the Go"

Eileen Drewer 01375 403315
Sue Moss. 07905 314987

With illness the walks have ceased for a few weeks.

Photography Group

Jenny Lees 01375 360786

Mel Fox



Photography Group Visit to Leigh on Sea.

We are never averse to a trip to Leigh on Sea both to take photographs or to eat and drink.

It was a lovely clear day, different to the changeable weather we had been



having. I had been asked to set a theme and decided loosely on, texture and maritime.

The tide was well out and the only birds about were the odd gull and an Egret. The mud was rich and thick and the water, brown with a bit of semi rainbow coloured diesel staining. Familiar boats were moored up or marooned, a typical Leigh scene. Walking along the alley ways there were areas of texture and stored objects which satisfied our theme.



It was time for refreshments and we found a small café which we hadn't come across before. A Biscotti hot chocolate topped with squirty cream appealed to me with a savoury accompaniment. It was lovely sitting and chatting in the sun.

Having refreshed ourselves we continued our wandering and found a lovely shop cum gallery where a couple of artists were painting and potting. Some of the ceramics were very attractive and organic with burgeoning earthy forms, while others were small and characterful in tin glaze with blue decoration featuring folksy

fishermen and characters you might find in Leigh on Sea, on their boats or taking a break as we had, in one of the local cafes. They would have made apt souvenirs had they not been a tad on the expensive side.





Like our visit last year to Southend, some attractive murals covered some of the barren concrete slabs which here held up the arching road down to the seafront car park. What a good idea, maybe borrowed from Southend but not in such great numbers or with such great sophistication.

The tide was starting to turn as we made our weary way back to Graeme's car. Another featureful Friday where we donned our creative caps and created some memorable images with our cameras.

Jenny Lees.

Play Reading 1 **Beryl Woodcock**

We meet on the last Friday of each month and have room for a couple more.

Tea, Cake and Play Reading

Deb Foster 01375 677971

Quilting

Carol Smith

07845 233640

The Quilting Group meet on the first Monday in the month, starting time 2 until 4 o'clock. We do a lot of talking and laughing, as we are a very friendly group of like-minded people, with Tea and Coffee a must, and also Cake or Biscuits. If you are interested why not come along and see what we do get up to. No pressure will be put on you, if it's not what you want OK. Please ring me on 01375 675998 and I will tell you where I live and how to find us.

Quiz Group

Sue Green

01375 676441

Ann Bailey

Ann's Quiz

1. Where is a shrimp's heart?
2. How many inches in a hand?
3. Which goddess is known as the earth mother?
4. The Danube flows into which sea?
5. Which duck is also a shade of blue?
6. What is the capital of Liberia?
7. What is baby weasel called?
8. What US state is known as the First State?
9. In what London street is Hamley's toy shop?
10. How many Billy Goats Gruff were there?

Answers on Page 23

Ramblers

Chris Gomm

07905 117622

Ramble – Little Burstead Circular Walk – Thursday 25th June'26

This is a very pleasant 4 mile walk around a very pretty village and its immediate surrounding area. We are revisiting this walk after many years of absence from our program.

The walk will start in front of the Dukes Head Public House. (Please park in the front of the pub, not in their private car park to the rear).

The Address is: Laindon Common Road, Little Burstead, CM12 9TA. and we will start our walk at 10:30.

I'll look forward to seeing you all there for what promises to be a lovely walk in the countryside followed by the opportunity of a little refreshment at the finish. Please feel free to contact me, Christine Gomm 07905 117622 should you require further information.

Scrabble

Magda Norris

Our Scrabble group is meeting fortnightly at the **Gardner Hall in Fobbing**. We start at **1.30 pm for about 2 hours. See Cribbage for dates** our next meetings.

Singing for Fun

Mo Wakeling

07902 649122

Singles lunch

Christine Codd

Meetings will be Wednesday on week 2. Do get in touch.

Sunday Singles

Margaret Lambert 07811 23527

Chris Brown 01708 852023

Ten Pin Bowling

Jean Jardine 07551 952211

Next game – Thursday 4th June

Ten Pin Tuesday

Kevin Brice 07973349288

The Ten Pin Tuesday interest group meets on the third Tuesday of each month, other than during school holidays. Our next session is on **Tuesday 16th June 2026**

The group meets at the Hollywood Bowl, Lakeside for its ten pin bowling sessions.

We have two games per session.

Entrance time to the Hollywood Bowl is 11.00am.

We suggest getting a tea/coffee in M&S Café around 10.30 am and arrive at the Hollywood Bowl by 11.00am, ready to commence bowling asap thereafter..

New members welcome, ***please email or ring first.S***

Answers

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 In its head. | 2.4inches | 3.Gaia |
| 4. The Black Sea | 5.Teal | 6. Monrovia |
| 7. Kit/kitten | 8. Delaware | 9.Regent ST |
| 10. 3 | | |

Day Trips

Sue Dunn

Sue Moss

Reminder for BRIGHTON 25th June

PICK UP TIMES – Lampits Hill – 9.00. Springhouse – 9.10. The Oak – 9.20

Please be prompt to your meeting points.

AUDLEY END HOUSE & GARDENS

THURSDAY 20th August. COST £20

This trip will be on sale at the General Meeting on June 11th. The cost will be a very attractive £20 as we have gained free entry to this English Heritage site as a u3a educational visit.

Audley End is a Jacobean country house with beautiful gardens and an interesting past to discover during the tour of the Mansion.

There is also a special exhibition – ‘From Monastery to Mansion :Power ,Portraiture And Ambition’.

Marking 400 years since the death of Thomas Howard – The man responsible for building Audley End in the early seventeenth century.

There are stables and a second hand bookshop to visit, acres of parklands to wander and if you fancy giving their new adventure playground a whirlwell just take care!

There are two places where you can eat–

The Cartyard Cafe for light snacks or The Servants Hall Tearoom where you can enjoy a more substantial meal.

Pick up points & times:

Lampits Hill – 9.30. Springhouse – 9.40. The Oak Grays – 9.50

Please make cheques payable to SLH U3a and remember to complete a booking form before queuing to pay for the trip.

Theatre Shows

Tina Smith

07899915184

Carol Lindsell 07906436445

Brick lane Music Hall with Dolly Parton tribute and afternoon tea. Please let me know asap if you have any special dietary requirements.

This event is now sold out.

Cooks coach pick up times:-

Lampits Hill 10.20am

Springhouse 10.30am

The Oaks Grays 10.50am

Please ensure you have completed a booking form.

UKE3A

Madeline Beesley 01375678576

From September the Ukulele Group will have a change of leadership. Madeline will be stepping aside as Group Leader after 4 years and Mo Wakeling, also a member of the Uke3A will be taking over. It will be a great opportunity for the group as Mo has musical experience and the enthusiasm to teach us new techniques and new songs. Madeline will still stay with the group and will be leading the group when they perform at their bookings up to the end of July.

The group are booked in June to play at Piggs Corner Residential Home and of course we will be playing as usual at the Horndon on the Hill Feast and Fayre at the end of the month.

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Graham Hodgson 01375 675588

Jean Jardine 07551 952211

White – M & S Classics NO. 1 White Burgundy – 2025

This well-balanced Chardonnay is from sunny south Burgundy, where white grapes achieve perfect ripeness while still retaining fresh fruity flavours. Head winemaker Sylvain Jolivet from one of the top cooperative centred in the village of Prisse whose growers farm sustainably, crafts this example exclusively for M &

S, ageing a small portion in oak for extra richness. Best enjoyed within three years of purchase.

A vibrant, dry, fresh zesty white wine tasting of citrus, green apple, white peach with a flinty twist. Goes well with roast chicken, salmon and salad dishes. 12% volume.

Rose – Costieres De Nimes – 2024

The Costieres De Nimes Appellation covers most of the Rhone delta and is known for its distinctive bottles adorned with the Roman symbol for the area, a crocodile chained to a palm tree, commemorating the Emperor Augustus, who fortified the city, and his victory over Mark Anthony and Cleopatra in Egypt. This aromatic wine, fresh, fruity, crisp, and dry with tastes of stone fruits, strawberries, and floral goes well with grilled fish, tasty salads, spicy pasta, Mediterranean dishes such as ratatouille vegetable tajine or olives. 12.5% volume.

Red – Cotes du Rhone – 2024

A mellow and easy-going French red blend with traditional grapes from the Rhone valley, A juicy and smooth wine with tastes of mulberries and spice and goes well with red meats and pasta. 12.5% volume.

Graham's ABC of wine:

Sekt – along the length of the Rhine there are very good wine firms which make brands of sparkling wine, which is called Sekt. Under the 1920 Peace Treaty, the Germans were forbidden to call their sparkling wine Champagne.

Tanin – an essential preservative extracted from the skins of red grapes during fermentation. It dries the mouth.

Umbria – this central Italian region has been summed up as: "one producer (Lungorotti and one wine (Orvieto) although the former does not produce the latter!" Three wines to look out for: Rubesco Riserva, an attractive dry red; Cabernet Sauvignon di Miralduolo, a splendid dry red and San Giorgio, a most impressive dry red.

It's Wine O'Clock

Paula Mullooly 07754 727011

The wines were again from Morrison's "The Best Winemakers" this month. Saving us an amazing £30. We do love a bargain!



We had a cheeky taste of the New Hall Medium Dry white wine in advance of our wine tasting trip there in July and to celebrate my birthday.

White – Morrisons's The Best Block Series 003 White Rioja. Spain 2024 12.5% volume. £15. With More Card £10. With multibuy 30% discount £7.00. This wine is poised and generous with notes of white peach, apricot and toasted vanilla. Pairs well with seafood, poultry, light pasta dishes or soft cheeses.

Rosé – Morrisons The Best Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc Blush rosé wine. New Zealand 2024. 12.5% volume. £15. With More Card discount £10. With multibuy 30% discount £7. Taste the raspberry, blackcurrant leaf and fresh herbs. This wine easily pairs with grilled white fish dishes or spicy Asian stir fries.

Red – Morrisons The Best Pinot Noir Gran Reserva. Chile 2024 13% volume. £12. With More Card £8.00. With multibuy 30% discount £5.60. Taste juicy

cranberries intertwined with black plums and gentle spice. Delicious with duck, grilled salmon or earthy mushroom dishes.

This month's lesson was "Why does wine make us happy?". The wine quiz was won by Chris who received a wine plaque. **Next meeting: 15th June.**

Ann's Column

A week's holiday passes very quickly. We stayed just outside Alnwick in a converted barn, very luxurious. The weather was chilly and windy, but we were out every day and escaped the rain. I saw my first swallows of the year at Howick Hall, the home of Earl Grey(tea) and a lot of primula candelabra. Another day found us on the beach at Alnmouth, once a major port. I love standing by the Aln where it gently flows into the North Sea, very atmospheric. We also ventured up into the hills where the scenery was spectacular. There we found a whisky distillery, and in the car park, an Aston Martin meet. And yes! I came away from Barbers with a couple of books. I defy anyone to go there and not find something to their taste. I came down to earth with a bump when I lost a tooth, think it was a cap, but some treatment needed. As for my garden, I'm rather stumped. It's not looking good; a distinct lack of rain.

Now what happens when one watches travel programmes on TV, of course one wants to visit said places. Vienna and the Danube look very inviting so, "Ein Stück Sachertorte und ein Kaffee bitte". Watch this space.

*****If you don't receive the advance email, do get in touch by using the email from the committee list for advance email *****

Group Timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1					
am	Golf		Boules(Springhouse) Line Dancing 1 Flower Arranging.	Ten Pin Bowling	PÉTANQUE/BOULES (Billet). Lunch and Chat
pm	Golf Quilting O B M UKE3A(Ukulele)	Mixed Craft. Italian Beginners	Canasta. Boules pm (Springhouse)	Board Games	Lunch & Chat
Week 2					
am	London Walks Golf		Boules (Springhouse) Line Dancing 1		PÉTANQUE/BOULES (Billet) Photography Paws on the Go
pm	London Walks	Scrabble/Cribbage Every two weeks	Canasta. Boules pm (Springhouse) Singles Lunch	SLH&District u3a General Meeting	Music Makers Photography
Week 3					
am	Golf	10 Pin Tuesday	Flower Arranging Boules (Springhouse) Line Dancing 1	Ambling	Gallery Visits PÉTANQUE/BOULES (Billet)
pm	Golf UKE3A (Ukulele) It's Wine O'Clock (Evening)	Tuesday Lunch Bunch Italian Beginners. <i>Art at Mucking</i>	Family History Canasta. Boules pm	Wine Appreciation	Board Games Gallery Visits Book Club
Week 4 Last					
am	Golf.		Boules (Springhouse) Line Dancing 1	Rambling	Birdwatching PÉTANQUE/BOULES (Billet).
pm	Singing for Fun Local History.		Canasta Boules pm. (Springhouse)	T.C.& Play Reading <i>Couples Lunch</i>	Play Reading 1 Music Makers.

LINE DANCING 2 meets every fortnight on Tuesday morning.
touch; often a Saturday.

Quiz – get in touch;
Curry Club – get in touch to book a place.

Contact Details for Interest Group Leaders

Groups with no spaces are highlighted.

Ambling	Tessa Duggan Jenny Radford	01375 670212 01375 676338	
Bird Watching	Dave Snow	07490 069740	
Board Games (Thurs. & Fri)	Margaret Lambert	07811 235274	
Book Group	Ann Bailey Dawn Lloyd-Warne	- 01375 461885	
Boules (Wed.am)	Dave & Jean Jardine	07551 952211	
Boules (Wed.pm)	Paul Brice	07788 452852	
Boules (Fri am)	Colin & Carol Munro	07770 854318	
Canasta	Pauline Kerridge	01375 462232	
Chess	Robert Morrison	-	
Couples Lunch	Dave & Jean Angus	07711 359127	
Cribbage	John Green	01375 676441	
Curry Night	Tina Smith Carol Lindsell	07899 915184 07906 436445	
Day Trips	Sue Moss Sue Dunn	07905 314987 07891 019907	
Family History	Sue Green Peter Craggs	01375 676441 01375 643749 07759 817821	
Flower Arranging	Christine Lambert Linda Tilbury	07504 238154 07972 879173 07928 221626	
Gallery Visits	Jenny Lees Chris Henderson	01375 360786 -	
Golf	Paul Brice	07788 452852	
Holidays & Cruises (bk)	Carol Smith Mel Fox	07845 233640 01375 679643	
It's Wine O'clock	Paula Mullooly	07754 727011	

Basic Italian	Verena Carter	07808 513453	
Line Dancing 1 (Wed)	Susan Moss Beverley Brice Christine Hartnell	07905 314987 07522 368810 07771 554174	
Line Dancing 2 (alt. Weds)	Carol Munro Sue Moss	07766 035554 07905 314987	
Local History	Sue Green Diane Wallace	01375 676441 -	
Local Research Projects	Sue Green Diane Wallace	01375 676441 -	
London Walks BK	Dave Snow Brian McDonald	07490 069740 -	
Lunch and Chat	Chris Brown	01708 852023	
Memory Lane	Sue Green Jennifer Freeman	01375 676441 07802 326317	
Mixed Craft	Marilyn Edgings Barbara Purser	01375 677425 01375 677095	
Music Makers	Mo Wakeling	07902 649122	
Old British M/C & Car Enthus't (bk)	Graham Edgings	01375 677425	
Paws on the Go	Eileen Drewer Sue Moss	01375 403315 07905 314987	
Photography	Jenny Lees Mel Fox	01375 360786 01375 679643	
Play Reading 1	Beryl Woodcock	-	
T. C. & Play Reading	Deb Foster	01375 677971	
Quilting	Carol Smith	07845 233640 01375 675988	
Quiz Night	Ann Bailey Sue Green	- 01375 676441	
Ramblers	Chris Gomm	07905 117622	
Scrabble	Magda Norris	01375 360355	
Singing for Fun	Mo Wakeling	07902 649122	
Singles Lunch	Christine Codd	07594 948003	

Sunday Singles Lunch	Margaret Lambert Chris Brown	07811 235274	
Ten Pin Bowling	Jean Jardine	07551 952211	
Ten Pin Tuesday	Kevin Brice	07973 349288	
Tuesday Lunch Bunch	Lynn Lawson	07422 541606	
Theatre Trips (bk)	Tina Smith Carol Lindsell	07899 915184 07906 436445	
Uke-3a	Madeline Beesley	01375 678576	
Wine Appreciation	Graham Hodgson Jean Jardine	01375 675588 07551 952211	

Contact details for Stanford-le-Hope and District u3a

Chair – Kevin Brice

Vice-Chair–Danni Tate

Treasurer –Mel Fox

Assistant Treasurer – Sue Green

Secretary& Policy Documents –Janet Deeney.

Membership Secretary – Richard Fox

Newsletter Editor – Chris Henderson for items for the newsletter.

Interest Groups' Co-Ordinator –Sandra Isaacson

Assistant Group Co-ordinator –Marilyn Edgings

Welfare and Disabilities Co-Ordinator Eileen Drewer

Advance Notice Email – Chris Henderson for problems with Advance Email

Stanford-le-Hope and District u3a Website Managers–

Michael Farman: Chris Gomm

Suggestions Box – Jean Angus

Committee Members –Pam Tate, Sue Dunn,

Website ***<https://slh.u3asite.uk>***

National u3a Organisation www.u3a.org.uk Tel 020-8466-6139

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Event Name (Trip/visit/show)		
Date of Event		
Your Name & Membership No.		
Your Contact Mobile Number – Essential for contacting you on the day		
In Case of Emergency Mobile phone number(S)	Numbers	Names
Email address		
Cheque/Cash value*(Indicate if it is cheque or cash) Cheques payable to SLH u3a	£	Cash /Cheque

*Separate payment required for each event

If you are booking for one other person, please list clearly their name and contact details here: Name: _____ Contact Number: _____ ICE Name: _____ ICE Number(s): _____

YOU CAN ONLY BOOK FOR TWO PEOPLE

Pick up point (If travelling by coach please indicate which pick up point you prefer)

Lampits Hill Bus Stop Opposite shops/ Corringham, Social Club	Springhouse Club Corringham Bus Stop At layby	The Oak, Grays By the Bus Stop
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