

Editorial



Welcome to our first newsletter, which I hope you will find interesting and entertaining. There was a lot of interest shown in a local U3A and we now have about 120 members. Between them we have no less than eleven groups which regularly meet, in homes, at the bowls club or go out and about on visits to museums or for a walk in the countryside. A very healthy start for a new U3A! The centre pages tell you what some of these groups have been up to. Unfortunately there wasn't enough room for them all and those not featured in this newsletter will appear in future newsletters. You can catch them all on our new website: www.kentondistrictu3a.org.

Sharon Carr, Editor.

Our Monthly Meetings



Photo by Marlene Knepler

Our main monthly meetings take place in the Century Bowling Club on the last Wednesday of each month. Our first in April was a talk by Ros Wright CB QC (Hon Causa), who gave us a fascinating talk on fraud. This included the definition of fraud, what types of fraud exist, and perhaps most importantly of all how to avoid fraud. In May, Jenny Kelsey talked about how women have been oppressed and suppressed, particularly in the 18th century. She has written books on the subject. In June, Melissa Jackson who was one of the main news presenters on BBC Look East magazine programme, gave us an amusing insight into life behind the BBC in Norwich. In July we were entertained by Veronica Kennard, who had worked in NM Rothschild Bank. She told us how bankers are not all greedy for bonuses, but are in fact trying to put something back into society through a programme of "corporate social responsibility", through schemes such as work experience. Plans are in hand for a varied and interesting programme over the next six months.

John Bishop, Speakers secretary

Live as if you were to die tomorrow, Learn as if you were to live forever. Mahatma Gandhi

Music Appreciation Interest Group

Although over 30 people expressed an interest in this Group, the average attendance at the 5 sessions held to date has only been about 12 people. Each session includes something educational about the elements of music and what to listen for.

At the first session I played some well known extracts by “local boy” Handel, who spent a few years in the first half of the 18th century as Head of Music (Kapelmeister) to the Duke of Chandos in his stately home in Canons Park (now N. London Collegiate school). I then spent two sessions on Beethoven’s inventiveness in the last movement of his revolutionary Choral Symphony. Later sessions, by popular request, covered extracts of 18th and 19th century operas.

The explanations are much appreciated by the participants and I hope to explain the varied treatment of the elements of music in future sessions. I am particularly pleased at the feedback and discussion that is stimulated at these sessions and that I too can learn from them, which is what U3A is all about.

Meetings are held in our home at 4 weekly intervals on Thursdays for 90 minutes starting at 10:30 AM.

Gerald Knepler



Photo by Marlene Knepler

Genealogy Group

The Kenton & District U3A genealogy group meets once a month at the Century Bowling Club. We have been going through the main sources of information for family history, and have been on a visit to a record office [the London Metropolitan Archives]. So far we have looked at birth, marriage and death certificates, the censuses, wills and probate. We will look at parish registers and military sources next. The group is very popular, so there will be a waiting list. The aim is that we will all share our knowledge and experiences of family history research.

Linda Green

Walking Group

So far we have had 2 very enjoyable walks.

Our first, in July, was along the Grand Union canal a short step from Uxbridge station towards Denham. The Grand Union canal was first planned in 1789 to link London and the powerhouse that was Birmingham during the Industrial Revolution. Today it is mainly leisure activity but some commercial work still exists.

Leaving the towpath we entered Denham Quarry which is 180 acres of high nature conservation. There is also a Sailing club on the lake there and it is a popular fishing spot.

Our second walk, also in July, was along the meandering Brent River through adjacent meadowlands and recreation areas. For those with grandchildren, note that there is the Brent lodge Animal Centre aka the Bunny Park with various exotic animals and birds. We ended the walk at a café with a refreshing cup of tea.

From the starting point the walks are usually 2hrs 30 mins long and are at a moderate pace. Where available we make a stop for light refreshment. For details of future walks please see the website or contact me directly.

Kevin O'Doherty



Monday Afternoon Scrabble Group

We are a small friendly group who meet twice a month for a game of Scrabble, which not only exercises the brain, but provides the opportunity to make new friends. Scrabble does not just involve putting a simple word on the scrabble board, but working out how best to utilise the double and treble point squares on the board and obtain the best points with the letters you have.

We play one game, then a break for tea and a chat before moving around and playing with a different opponent; altogether making a relaxing and enjoyable afternoon.

Pat Kiel

John Bishop with two of our Monthly Speakers



**Photo by Marlene Knepler
John Bishop with Melissa Jackson**



**Photo by Marlene Knepler
Veronica Kennard with John Bishop**

Contributions to the next Newsletter by 4th October 2014, please, to the Editor:
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Dates of Meetings from now till October

	August	September	October
Book Club			13
Bridge	27	10	29
Cookery		4-18	2-16
Current Affairs	29	1-15	13-27
Family Oral history		3	1
Genealogy		10	8
Music Appreciation		18	23
Rambling		21	19
Scrabble with Pat		1-15	8-20
Scrabble with Priscilla		3	1
General Meeting		24	29

Interest Groups

Group	Leader(s)	Email/ telephone
Bridge (social)	Norma Levy	handnlevy@gmail.com - 8904 3906-07769 703 906
Book Club	Karol Bernstein	karol@fsmail.net - 8907 6547- 07986 888 191
Current Affairs	Howard Goldstein	Howard_goldstein@hotmail.com - 8907 4779 07792 854 910
Music Appreciation	Gerald Knepler	gknepl@gmail.com 8904 7766
Cookery	Vivien Spiteri	spiterico@aol.com - 8907 1756 - 07890 656 079
Family Oral History	Audrey Arnold	arty.audrey13@virgin.net - 8904 6562
Genealogy	Linda Green	lindargreen@btopenworld.com - 8908 0173 07832 020 390
Museum and Gallery Visits	Eva Groszmann	Evagroszmann128@gmail.com 8907 5691 - 07703 081 808
Rambling	Kevin O'Doherty	kevin_odoherly@hotmail.com - 8907 5876 07958 482 843
Scrabble	Pat Kiel (Mon)	eric.kiel@tiscali.co.uk - 8904 4769
	Priscilla Dale (Wed)	prismic@hotmail.co.uk - 8904 9053