



From the Chair



2020 provided challenges for us all, including for the committee, when so many of our activities were cancelled. For a few weeks, a small number of groups met in Covid-secure venues observing the rule of six. Unfortunately, these have stopped for the time being.

Many groups continued during Term 1 and have provided a schedule for Term 2 which can be found on our website under 'Programme'. There are a number of groups willing to accept new members, please contact the relevant Group Leader (GL) if you would like to try something new. I am grateful to all the GLs who have continued to keep in touch with members of their groups. A special mention must go to **Maureen Thomas**, the Members on Their Own (MOTO) secretary who has emailed members daily during the pandemic to keep their spirits up.

If you haven't looked at our website for some time, you will see a significant change. Kevin Wallace, who has been our web master for many years, redesigned the site and incorporated the new U3A brand style. Kevin is one of our volunteers who works tirelessly and efficiently behind the scenes.

It is more cost effective and efficient to communicate with members via email. So, during lockdown, **Linda Lopez-Calvete** telephoned each member without an email address registered on our membership system to collect their email address, if available. We now have email addresses for 97% of our members.

Further in the newsletter you will find a report of our first monthly meeting via Zoom. We hope to continue with these and are keen to include presentations from members rather than using talks readily available on the web.

Unfortunately, we could not hold our GL meeting and lunch in May. These meetings are organised to share information and to thank GLs for their contribution to WAU3A during the year. Hopefully we will be able to organise one in 2021.

I am pleased that over 1,200 members have renewed their membership and are therefore able to continue to receive newsletters, Third Age Matters and regular updates from the committee. Let's hope it won't be too long before we can meet face to face and return to the activities we previously enjoyed.

The committee has a number of challenges to address in 2021 but I'm confident they will continue with the same good humour and devoted service they have shown during the pandemic.

Happy New Year

Kath Street

chairman@wokingareau3a.co.uk

Creative Dance to Fitness Class

In the summer of 2005 I visited a friend for coffee. We were both U3A members and we got talking about the different groups available. In a rash moment I said I thought I should start a Creative Dance Group.

In January 2006 I began the Creative Dance Group at the Generation Centre in Goldsworth Park. We were quite a small group but had a lot of fun together. We began the sessions with keep fit movements to warm our muscles and joints.

We then progressed to studying body awareness, the quality of our movements and spatial awareness. All these elements helped our creativity when moving on to dances with themes such as the seasons, weather, poetry and moving with scarves, etc.

During the next five years I started to attend Vera Flood's Fitness Class on a Monday morning at Woking Leisure Centre. I occasionally took the class for Vera and when she wanted to retire in January 2011, she asked me to take on the class. It took me a while to make my decision but eventually I decided to 'give it a go'. I am very glad I did. Where did the next nine and a half years go! I met so many lovely people whose loyalty and commitment to keep coming made my experience very rewarding.

It entailed quite a lot of work finding the music and working out the ten varied routines we did at each class, but it did help to keep my brain alert trying to remember the sequences! I had wonderful support from the ladies on the desk, the group of people who would take over from me in my absence and everyone who came along to the class each week. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone. I will miss you all.

For various personal reasons I have decided that with regret it is time for me to retire from this regular commitment. However, I can recommend being a group leader to anyone who is contemplating the challenge. Hopefully the Fitness Group will be able to continue in some form when our lives return to a bit more normality.

I would like to say a very big thank you to our U3A for their extremely generous gift of a Marks and Spencer's voucher.

I hope everyone stays fit and well in these uncertain times and do all put on some music and keep moving!!

Jill Goff

Painting for Pleasure

The Group usually meets twice a month at the Generation Centre. It's a small, friendly group which has been running for a few years with members contributing ideas to form the programme for each term.

Our meetings in 2020 started off as usual in January but ground to a halt before the end of March because of the first lockdown. I kept in touch with all the members and when it became apparent that this situation was going to continue for a while, I started suggesting a monthly topic for those who wanted to continue doing their art. This really proved quite popular – particularly for those running out of ideas.

Eventually in late August it looked like we might be able to resume meetings and after completing the necessary risk assessment and paperwork requirements, most of the group met at the Generation Centre on 21 September. It was really good for so many of us to meet up again in person and we also enjoyed being able to view examples of the artwork produced during our prolonged break.

However, plans soon had to change again and after the 'rule of six' was imposed, there was just one session for half of the group before the second lockdown occurred.

Now, in January 2021, we are going into our third lockdown and I'll be suggesting monthly topics once more. We have all missed the social side of our meetings, but art is so therapeutic and we are lucky that we can at least continue to enjoy painting in our own homes until we meet up again.

Sheila Clark

Dressmaking

The U3A Dressmaking Group has been a great source of fun since Mary Parnham started the monthly meetings in September 2018. Some of us absolute beginners have learned so many new skills and others have simply taken the time and opportunity to remember and improve their sewing skills.

We normally start our sessions with any questions so everyone can get on with their chosen project quickly. During the meeting there are lots of chances to find out what everyone else is doing and learn from each other. I have found out how to use various mysterious functions on my sewing machine, where to purchase fabrics and indeed what fabrics to buy! I have seen some very clever bags, alterations, shirts, decorations, home furnishings and many amazing ideas in various stages of development.

We wanted to share a little of what the U3A Dressmaking Group has been up to in the last few weeks of lockdown.

Mary has been very busy making a rather large number of scrubs for local needs.

Hilary also helped the effort by manufacturing hospital laundry bags with super logos on them.



Gill set herself the challenge of a tailored jacket. This proved even more tricky as the fabric looked the same on the right side and the wrong side. But as you can see the finished article is fantastic.



And Sue made a top and skirt to match which she was complimented on. Although rumour has it her husband said the fabric reminded him of some fabric his mother had worn!!!!!!

Chris made some cutie shorts for her grandson, posted them and they fit!!



Her mum had been stranded in Woking after her 90th birthday celebrations in February. So, when the hot weather arrived, Chris took one of her mum's shirts, made a pattern from it and used some fabric she had in a box. You can see mum was quite pleased with the result! Phew!!!



Chris Maunders

New Horizons and Beyond....

“When I were a lad we had nine planets!” Tell that to young kids today and they’ll tell you either there’s only eight, or there’s thousands! Surely both can’t be right? The answer is yes, they are! At school we were taught that the ninth planet in our Solar System was Pluto, a world discovered only in 1930 by American astronomer Clyde Tombaugh. The name Pluto was suggested by an Oxford schoolgirl Venetia Burney, after the Roman god of the underworld. The first two letters of the name also honour Percival Lowell, the famous US astronomer who predicted the existence of Pluto some 25 years before its discovery, from perturbations he noticed in the orbits of the two outer planets, Uranus & Neptune. It’s of local interest that Venetia later lived and worked in Surrey, and shortly before her death in 2009 there’d been an approach to Guildford Astronomical Society to show her ‘her’ planet from the observatory, but sadly she passed away before this could be arranged.

One of NASA’s missions is to study the Solar System, and with the Voyager 2 spacecraft visiting both Uranus & Neptune, by 1989 all of the planets had been visited, save one - the outermost planet Pluto. And so work began on designing a mission to the outer reaches, and in January 2006 the New Horizons mission was launched on an 18-year, 3 billion mile journey.

As fate would have it, only seven months later Pluto lost its status as a planet! All that way and it wasn’t a planet anymore! The trouble was that many other Pluto-like objects had been discovered and given names such as Eris, Sedna, Quaoar, Make-make. These were of not dissimilar size, so should these become planets too?

After considerable debate the International Astronomical Union decided that Pluto and these other objects should be classed as ‘dwarf planets’, on the grounds that they were not gravitationally dominant in their own area, i.e. they hadn’t cleared other objects from their orbital path. This is largely because Pluto and these other bodies exist in what is known as the Kuiper Belt, a vast swathe of ‘builders rubble’ left over from the formation of the Solar System some 4.5 billion years ago, debris that didn’t get used in the formation of the various planets.

What a mission! Its primary target was a planet when it launched, but had been demoted by the time it arrived, and its secondary target hadn’t even been discovered!

Before closing I ought to return to my article’s opening - this business of there being thousands of planets. Indeed there are, but not in our Solar System! When we look at the night sky we know that the stars we see are like our Sun, just exceedingly distant. We have often wondered whether these stars could be the centre of their own solar systems, just like our own and indeed science fiction would have had a hard time without assuming this to be the case. We now have fantastically sensitive instruments and techniques for identifying these bodies, and some orbiting spacecraft are designed specifically to hunt these down.

As of 1st March 2019 3,999 exo-planets have been confirmed and no doubt we’re past the 4,000 threshold by the time you read this. Mmmm, I think this might be a good subject for some future article!

Let’s finish back in our own Solar system, in the area in which we find Ultima Thule - the Kuiper Belt. At 4 billion miles this is an exceedingly distant body, but it is not the most distant known. Last December an American study team identified a Kuiper Belt Object at a staggering 11 billion miles, and being the farthest known Solar System object it was given the nickname “Far Out”!

In February the very same team found an even more distant KBO, at nearly 13 billion miles. Imaginatively they have named this one Far Far Out! Goodness knows what their next discovery will be called!

**John Axtell FRAS
U3A Astronomy**

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak

MEMBERS' CORNER....

Letters to the Editor....

From the Editor's Desk....

Do send any thoughts, comments, or suggestions in to our Letters Page - after all it is your Newsletter.

Gift Aid. As you may know Gift Aid is a process that allows a charity to collect from HMRC 25% of any membership fees. Last year we claimed £4,000 which is based on only 64% of members giving approval. If more members were to approve the Gift Aid WAU3A could have collected another £2,000. In case some members are unclear about tax implications to themselves, there are none. It is only if a member does not pay any income tax at all that Gift Aid cannot be collected. Therefore, can I urge those of you who are taxpayers and have not approved Gift Aid to contact the **Membership Secretary (01483 323285)** to arrange to do so please?

WAU3A has a new PO Box number. The new address for Woking Area U3A is **PO Box 1594, Woking, GU22 2WJ**. This came into use in December and is already on our new and modern website. If you are still using the 2019-20 Green Book, please replace the old one (PO Box 1542, GU24 0XY) which can be found on Page 2, under 'Joining the U3A', Page 5 under the AGM, and on the last line on the back page, No 36.

If you have some time to spare during the lockdown, take a moment to go to www.u3a.org.uk, the national U3A's website.

There you will find a film about life in lockdown, a maths challenge, a diary of members along with a wealth of great ideas and the latest ideas and suggestions to help you keep active, keep connected and keep learning.

In what may be a precursor for so many of us, the AGM of the national U3A has been rescheduled and will be shown remotely through Zoom.

Facebook

Not everyone is a great fan of Facebook. However, WAU3A Facebook has been popular during lockdown. If you wish to join enter 'WAU3A Facebook' into your search engine, then enter your name and membership number.

For anyone who would like to see more Facebook contributions, many of which are uplifting, amusing or interesting, there is an opportunity to connect to the U3A Facebook (U3A Keeping in Touch).

If you decide to connect, please take care when signing up (you only need your name and Woking Area U3A). Apparently, there are a huge number of incorrect sign ups awaiting action.

The PC Clinic is still here and working despite Covid-19!

You are not alone, we can help.... not face to face at the present time but by phone or connecting directly to your computer in a secure manner, of course, using TeamViewer.

Contact either of the two John's on;
John Washington 01276 857722
John Pettifer 01276 451238
Email: pcclinic@wokingareau3a.co.uk

MONTHLY Meetings resumed on January 11 – this time via a Zoom conference call – and it is planned to continue these on the regular second Monday of the month.

Chairman Kath Street welcomed about 100 members to the inaugural online meeting and explained the rules and protocols to ensure the smooth running of the event. She also said members could look forward to this newsletter and soon, the first Third Age Matters magazine of the year.

Kath explained that there had been no Green Book for 2021 because of the lockdown and continued uncertainty. However, many groups were operating in various ways and some would happily welcome new members. Those that are still meeting are detailed under the Programme section of the website www.wokingareau3a.co.uk.

Speakers Secretary Beryl Dunham then introduced one of our own members, **Ann Passmore**, who talked about her trip to Namibia in 2018 to celebrate her husband Tom's 60th birthday - a return journey for Tom.



Bordered by South Africa, Angola, Botswana and Zambia, the country gained its name when it won independence from South Africa in 1990 after a bitter struggle. It is now renowned for its diamonds, deserts and wildlife. The coastal strip of Namibia is made up of the Namib Desert which is the oldest desert in the world.

Many of the 2.5million population speak three languages. The majority of people speak a local language such as Oshiwambo (49%) plus another two languages such as German (the country was once colonised by Germany), Afrikaans or English.

Ann and Tom had a six-point holiday, flying in between resorts to avoid long drives down dusty straight roads.

After a night in the capital Windhoek, they flew south to Sossusvlei over mountains and incredible landscapes to a desert lodge in the middle of nowhere - the runway was a patch of desert cleared of all the worst rocks. As with all their stops, here they spent two evenings; their first involved a walk out to bushman caves hidden in the rocks and the second day involved a couple of game drives to a national park to see oryx, take stunning photographs and walk across dunes to salt pans. From there, Ann and Tom boarded a special scenic flight along the Atlantic coast to the German town of Swakopmund. Their Cessna took them past old diamond ghost towns, a shipwreck now 500 yards inland and surrounded by sand, red cliffs and large salt pans.

The town, founded in 1892, is a small coastal resort nestled between the desert and the sea, and is a fine example of German colonial architecture. But the highlight here was an eco-marine kayak tour in a lagoon in a protected wetland area at nearby Walvis Bay where they saw masses of birdlife and baby seals came up to play beside the kayaks.

Then it was on to Damaraland where the room in their camp opened up on to a desert landscape. Here there saw female kudu, and black rhino on one trip and elephants camouflaged in among trees growing in a dried-up riverbed before moving to an oasis where farmers had livestock.

Their favourite place was a desert camp at Hoanib in the northwest of the country. This isolated camp was an area full of animals – to the extent that armed guards had to escort guests from the main building back to their accommodation at night. On game trips, they saw giraffe, lions, oryx and herds of elephants.

The final spot was a private nature reserve at Etosha in the north of the country. Here was a lot of vegetation, unlike elsewhere, helped by heavy rains the day before they arrived and flooded much of the bush. Ann and Tom's arrival turned out to be on Namibia's Independence Day and, they were treated to a special evening with dancing, singing and staff mixing with guests at tables. From there it was a final flight to Windhoek and then home.

The meeting concluded with Kath thanking Ann for sharing her experiences, photos and videos.

WAU3A Renewals

There are currently three ways of renewing your membership of WAU3A; via cheque, bank transfer, or PayPal. The method most preferred by your committee is PayPal. There are good reasons for this. Let me explain each in turn.

Payment by cheque.

This requires each member to return their renewal invitation to the Membership Secretary (MS) along with a cheque. The MS updates the computer system, adds the member's details to a membership card which is posted surface mail to the member.

The MS then batches together the cheques which are posted or hand carried to the Treasurer for processing. The Treasurer creates a spreadsheet record of the information on each cheque; ie account name, sort code, account number and the date the cheque was prepared. This is to ensure we retain a record of the cheques up until they are processed by our bank and can answer any queries.

The cheques are batched together with a paying-in slip which is inserted into a special envelope for forwarding to Barclays somewhere in the Midlands. Upon receipt, Barclays manually processes each cheque. This can take between five and ten working days.

Once Barclays confirms the cheques have been paid in, the Treasurer updates WAU3A accounts. Any bounced cheques have to be sent back to the originator for rewriting. Cheques do get bounced by Barclays either because a member's account has changed or the information contained in it is wrong or unreadable.

Ten days after cheques have been formally cleared by Barclays, the Treasurer deletes the member's account information from the WAU3A records - this is for GDPR compliance purposes. As you can see, the cheque payment method has manual interventions at several stages requiring many hours to support, is less secure than using PayPal or bank transfer, and can take several weeks between a member sending in a cheque to renew membership and the payments actually being processed and them being in receipt of a membership card. It also has additional costs for members and WAU3A in that stationery and stamps have to be paid for. So far this year 150 (13%) members have used this method.

Bank Transfer

This system seemingly sending money direct to the WAU3A account has been made available this year for the first time but for various technical reasons it is not integrated into the renewals system.

With this process the member completes a transfer to WAU3A bank account. At the end of each banking day, the Treasurer logs into our Barclays account and creates a list of each member's renewals by cutting and pasting from the WAU3A bank statement and inserting it into an email to MS. The MS then updates the computer system, extracts the new membership card which is emailed to the member with the new password. As the computer system was not designed for bank transfers, there are three separate tasks required. Thus this method relies on manual interventions at key stages and takes several man hours to complete. It is prone to delay since it requires Treasurer and MS to be available to do their part and, although few errors have occurred, by its very nature it is likely to have some problems and thus needs careful monitoring.

The process takes several days to complete. So far this year 180 (17%) members have used this method.

PayPal

This payment method is fully integrated into the renewals system. Members provide a credit or debit card number. The rest is automatically taken care of by the system. The member also automatically gets an email with their new membership card and password included. There is no manual intervention from the point where a member approves the payment.

This process takes a few minutes to complete end to end. No manual intervention or extra record keeping is required. So far this year 800 (71%) renewals have used this method.

Conclusion

Thus you can see that PayPal is by far the cheapest, most secure, efficient, effective and timely method for processing membership renewals.

Bank transfers are next best. The lack of integration with U3A Membership Renewals is a problem which we hope to overcome in a few years when a new membership computer system will be implemented.

Cheques require a lot of manual support and careful monitoring to avoid any errors. This system will be maintained for those without the ability to do online banking. But as you can see there are issues with it. It is also the least secure method.

Ron Whitehand - Treasurer

The Annual General Meeting

It was delayed a little... but what hasn't this year?

The Annual General Meeting of Woking Area U3A took place at the start of December and was a much smaller event than usual.

Members were not allowed to attend in person, of course, but were still involved in the important votes, thanks to an online poll created by Dave Andrew and Google.

Normally around 100 members attend and vote. This year more than 300 said yes, yes, yes to the three questions on which votes were taken: Did they approve the 'Annual Report and Accounts'; do they approve the re-appointment of the 'Independent Examiner' and do they approve the re-election of those committee members standing again?

The annual report reprised the difficulties of term three but also pointed out that a record number of members had joined. Changes to council activities at their premises meant plans were laid for new venues, including for the monthly meetings.

The Accounts showed how lockdown meant 'venues charges' decreased and our surplus increased, which would allow a smaller subscription fee this year.

The committee, comprising Chairman Kath Street, Vice-chairman Dave Andrew, Treasurer Ron Whitehand, Secretary Peter Grieve, Venues Secretary Sue McBirnie, Groups Secretary Cathy Wooden, Beacon Co-ordinator Barrie Murray and Alan Chalmers, who is in charge of Special Projects, were re-elected and all agreed to stay in their posts.

Kath Street thanked everyone who voted online – and the small number who voted by post – and all those who had tried to keep their groups going. She also praised Linda Lopez-Calvete, who stepped down during the year as Membership Secretary, for her hard and enthusiastic work over the years.

Peter Grieve

Even if we are not allowed to have face-to-face meetings (or barely go out of the house), there are many ways members can enjoy the benefits of the u3a. Most of them can be found online, through your tablet, smartphone or computer.

Even if you are not that confident online, you can still take part! Woking Area U3A has its own **Facebook** group on which members have put songs, quizzes and other items of interest that can get the grey matter busy for a few hours. Around 170 members have joined already. If you have a Facebook account just enter 'Woking Area u3a' in the 'Search Facebook' box and click to join our group. You need to be a member to join so you'll be asked for your membership number and postcode. The national u3a also has a website where groups from around the country have posted articles, photos, quizzes and maths challenges to help while away the lockdown days. It even has a weekly radio programme exclusively for u3a members.

These can all be found by copying and pasting this link into Google (other search engines are available) <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes> If you feel less than confident finding stuff online, you may be giving up by now. Please don't. Pick up the phone and ask a friend, neighbour or fellow WAU3A member to do the searching for you. Either talk them through it or show them this article. All the quizzes and challenges can be printed on to old-fashioned paper so you can take part at your leisure (and there's plenty of that at the moment).

The Eyes have it!.....

2020 has not been a great year for septuagenarians in general. Until November I felt the same as many others – that until our regular family and **U3A group** activities resumed, I was cut off and living my life in the shadows.

Then in November, I had a life-changing bit of luck.

My daily newspaper had been available on my iPad for some time but I preferred the paper version. One day it wasn't delivered so I opened up the copy on the iPad and after a while realised I was finding it much more pleasant to read – the bright photos and back-lit text were so clear. That in turn suggested that I should have my eyes tested again. But my multi-focals were less than six-months old! And I had had the previous pair only a year before my poor vision dictated another eye test and new lenses. There was also the way I couldn't read road signs while driving, so had sadly decided I should no longer go any further than the delights of our town, Woking. And each pair of glasses was costing an arm and a leg!

At the back of my sadly shrinking memory was the word 'cataract'. The advice a year previously was: "When you begin to see double, come back and we'll refer you for cataract-removal." We both laughed, I remember.

Off I trotted to my optician. I mentioned the c-word, had the test and was told the worsening vision was 'probably' due to cataracts. Then the optician leaned towards me and whispered conspiratorially "We've had a stroke of luck. A new private eye hospital has opened behind Guildford hospital and has started to take NHS patients recently – and the take-up time for new patients has been unbelievably quick." I said enthusiastically that I would love to be referred, just to spur her into action as she seemed to be still in shock.

Two days later I was offered an appointment for discussion with the surgeon due to a cancellation. I demurred because it was the afternoon of my fortnightly Zoom U3A meeting! I'd missed the previous one and couldn't bear to miss this one. A bark of incredulity from my listening husband returned me to earth and I sadly took the hospital up on the offer of an appointment four days hence.

In the pre-op discussion, I had three options explained:

NHS: removal of cataracts and back to pre-cataract vision; probably a good improvement in sight despite my bad life-long astigmatism, and thinner (cheaper!) lenses.

Private (1): (*hadn't thought of 'Going Private'*): removal of cataracts and REPLACEMENT LENS GIVING ALMOST PERFECT SIGHT (didn't know this was possible) but still a need to wear reading glasses.

Private (2): removal of cataracts and REPLACEMENT LENS GIVING ALMOST PERFECT LONG AND SHORT SIGHT. High probability there will be no need for glasses at all.

I must say here that we did have to argue with the private health company for a portion of the fees to be covered. The eye hospital 'wasn't on their approved list' because it was too new.

The following week I was offered an appointment for the surgery three days hence. Option 1 having been chosen, the upshot (one week later) is that I only need to use reading glasses. The light in the sky is a wonderful light grey-blue in good weather, from perpetual grey, in fact my natural sight is as clear as can be.

Now I just need **U3A groups** to be able to meet again.

WAU3A Member

**Two things to make
your day better:**

- **Do not watch
the news.**
- **Stay off the
bathroom scales.**

Spotlight on the Committee usually features a committee member. However, although **Linda Lopez-Calvete** has resigned from the committee, I wanted to acknowledge the contribution she has made to **WAU3A** over several years.

Linda agreed to join the committee in August 2016 having helped with our first year of utilising Beacon, the new membership administration system, for processing renewals. When we needed a new Speaker Secretary at short notice, Linda volunteered and continued with the role until Beryl Dunham took over.

Linda volunteered to become Membership Secretary in November 2017 when the previous incumbent stepped down. She hadn't been a member of the committee for long but was willing to give it a go. Linda swiftly learnt the joys of Beacon and became one of its fans.

Members may think the Membership Secretary is only relevant during renewal time. This is certainly the busiest time, but communication with members takes place throughout the year.

The Membership Secretary is the main contact between our members and the organisation especially when additional help is required. Linda has comforted members who have lost family or friends, sympathised with those who have lost their purse, bag or wallet and importantly their WAU3A membership card.

The Membership Secretary's renewal activities commence in the spring, deciding the colour of the membership card and liaising with the printer to agree artwork.

In addition to drafting the renewal letter and application form each year, Linda also created a basic guide to online renewals to help those having difficulty paying their subscriptions via Beacon.

Linda has been responsible for organising the 'New Member Meeting' each year to welcome our newest members and to provide information about our organisation and the Third Age Trust.

Member communication received via the P O Box, telephone and messaging service have been actioned by Linda. These have covered a wide range of subjects including who to contact within WAU3A, Group Leaders, potential new members, and requests for our Green Book.

Linda has also been responsible for extracting names and addresses to ensure members receive Third Age Matters and WAU3A Newsletter.

When WAU3A celebrated its 25-year anniversary in 2018, Linda decorated the cake for the monthly meeting.

In addition to all these membership activities, Linda became the Ukulele Group Leader in 2017 and has now started a **Ukulele Beginner Group**. Linda has spent hours typing the Ukulele song books and testing the music scripts – no mean feat.

I am delighted that Linda has continued her involvement with WAU3A running these popular groups. Although Zoom is not ideal for a large number of people playing ukuleles, it hasn't stopped Linda doing her best to keep the group going.

Chairman

Teach Yourself German.....

A Reader's Digest 'At Home with German' kit including 16 cassette tapes and a dictionary has been donated. Although it is several years old, it has never been used. If you would like this kit, please contact Kath Street chairman@wokingareau3a.co.uk

Following the riots in Washington, Mexico has decided they WILL pay for the wall after all.

Canada has said they would like one too.

Days Out

At the time of writing this article, the whole country is still in a state of lockdown, which means the Daytrips Team have been unable to plan any trips for the foreseeable future.

Instead we've produced a gallery of photos covering 4 trips we did do.....

Bournemouth – June 2019: We went to the **Russell-Cotes Museum**. Merton Russell-Cotes had East Cliff Hall built for his wife Anne. The display in the house of various items was gathered from their travels around the world. In 1907 his widow donated the house and contents as a museum to Bournemouth town and is now run by the local council.



Weald and Downland Museum – June 2019: We couldn't get near the Repair Shop Barn (BBC programme) because it was in use for the Goodwood's Festival of Speed.



Highclere Castle – July 2018 & August 2019: Lord Caernarvon, (bless his cotton socks), forbids indoor photography, so our photos are of the house and gardens only.



MEMBERSHIP!

Besides enjoying the many benefits of membership of Woking Area u3a, do you take advantage of being a member of the wider community of the u3a national body - Third Age Trust? This is the national representative body for u3as in the UK. They provide support for all local u3as and have also negotiated some special deals for all members.

For instance:

Discounted Entrance Charges to some Exhibitions, Art Galleries and Museums - You can use your WAU3A Membership Card to obtain a **Student Discount** on Entrance Fees - if the Senior Citizen Concession does not apply. The Student Discount is also sometimes greater! They may look a bit surprised that you are a Student but it is worth asking - you may even get in for half-price!

Note: The FREE Legal Advice Help Line - This is no longer available for use as Third Age Trust has decided not to subscribe to the service any longer.

For more information about the service and resources provided by the Third Age Trust, visit their website: www.u3a.org.uk

WHO TO CONTACT

Membership: 01483 323285
membership@wokingareau3a.co.uk

To join or leave a group: contact the leader of that group as indicated in the latest GREEN BOOK, distributed annually to all members, and information updated on the website.
www.wokingareau3a.co.uk

To go on a waiting list: if the desired group is full then contact the **Group Leader**, their details are in the GREEN BOOK.

To enquire about starting a new group, contact **Groups Secretary: Cathy Wooden, 07984 453248**
groupsec@wokingareau3a.co.uk

We would like to continue to include a members' page in future editions of the Newsletter, but we can only do so if you send us your comments and suggestions.

Remember, this is your Newsletter, so please take a little time and let us know what's on your mind



SUDOKU Corner - Evil (008)

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Should you wish to receive future copies as a printed version of the Newsletter (you will still be able to view it on our website), then please contact our Membership Secretary at: 01483 323285

membership@wokingareau3a.co.uk

Send comments/contributions for next Newsletter to

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