



## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

THANK YOU!

Editor writes: I am sorry that the last gloomy newsletter highlighted our plight so strongly, but the end result, as those of you at our last meeting will have witnessed,

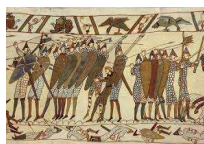
is that we now have a new 'Chair', Richard Barnes who was co-opted onto the committee at a Committee meeting on the 18th March. We wish Richard and the new Committee every success in running our U3A, with the skill and dedication shown by previous Committees over the last 12 years.

Our thanks and gratitude go to Chris Steward our 'Retiring Chair' and all members of his existing Committee, who have worked so hard to ensure we are run in an efficient and professional manner. Also to other members, including all Group Convenors, and some who are not even on the Committee, but work hard for the benefit of members.

It is now renewal time and you can see the procedures in the next column.

Regarding the newsletter, PLEASE try to read the newsletter online to keep you up to date with everything that is going on, including the quiz on 10th April (see next page) the upcoming speaker and outings news.

### UPCOMING SPEAKER



**SUBJECT:**  
**THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY**  
Tuesday 2nd April 2024 at 10.30 a.m.

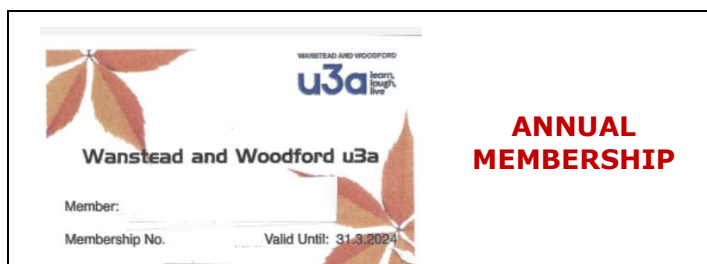
At: The Memorial Hall, South Woodford.  
209 High Rd, E18 2PA.  
Speaker: Imogen Corrigan

Imogen Corrigan joined the army straight from school, retiring as a Major after nearly twenty years of service. She then went to the University of Kent to study Anglo-Saxon and medieval history, graduating with first-class honours. She is now a freelance lecturer, travelling and working across Britain and Europe.

Our AGM is on Tuesday 7th May. PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR DIARY THAT THIS MEETING WILL START AT THE EARLIER TIME OF 10.00 a.m.. WITH THE DOORS OPENING AT 9.30 a.m. to give us time to have a Speaker as well, details of which will be in the next newsletter.

What you do has far greater impact than what you say

### WWU3A NEWS



Diane Conway reminds us that our annual membership fee for the year from 1st April 2024 will be held at £18.00 per member or £36 for a couple for the third consecutive year. If you want to receive a monthly newsletter by post the additional cost will be £15.00 per member, as it is now.

Because of all the upheaval, we cannot accept subs. before 1st April and any direct payments received before this date cannot be accounted for and will cause unnecessary problems. Anyone not renewing by 31st May will be deemed to be a lapsed member and no longer be able to participate in our activities.

Wherever possible please pay by internet banking as the alternative of paying by cheque has now been made even more difficult and time consuming than has been mentioned previously. You may also pay by telephone banking if you have subscribed to this service. We will accept cheques only as a very last resort and we URGE you to ask a family member, friend or neighbour to pay on your behalf if you are not able to use internet banking yourself. When paying by bank transfer, in the 'reference' box, please enter the word 'subs' followed by your membership number. If you are paying to receive the newsletter by post you should enter 'subs' followed by your membership number and then the word 'news' (no spaces necessary).

Please do the same if you are paying by any other means. This is very important because we have over 500 members and last year we spent hours unnecessarily trying to identify payments where no name or membership number was given. At the moment, the situation regarding whether to have annual or lifetime membership cards is still under consideration and will we inform you of our decision in due course.

I would also like to remind you that the newsletter is now available on the website ready for you to read or print from the 24th of each month. Also, if Convenors are mailing all their members could they remind them to read the newsletter each month online.

What you do has far greater impact than what you say

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## WWU3A EVENTS



There will be a WWU3A Quiz at The Memorial Hall on Wednesday 10th April from 1.00 until 4.00. £5.00 per person. Maximum 8 per table. You can come by yourself or with a partner. You do not need a table of 8. Tea/coffee and a slice of cake included. For more information contact Angela Scales at [angela\\_scales@hotmail.com](mailto:angela_scales@hotmail.com) (Mobile 07733992799) or Val Lord at [lordval99@btinternet.com](mailto:lordval99@btinternet.com) (Mobile 07806093533) or sign up at the next monthly meeting. Please pay at the meeting. If you can't get to the meeting please give us your names, so we can reserve places for you and then pay at the door. **Convenors can you all please email your members the information above, informing them of the quiz and encouraging them to come.**

### SISTER ACT THEATRE TRIP

At the April meeting, Janet Taylor will be signing up for a theatre trip to see Sister Act at the Dominion Theatre Tottenham Court Rd on Wednesday 26th June @ 2.30 matinee. Cost £40.00 Sign up at April meeting. Pay by May, either cheque or by card using Sum Up, or bank transfer. Collect tickets and see show in June.

### HENLEY ON THAMES AND BASILDON PARK

Sandra Reekie advises us of this trip on Thursday 9th May. I will be signing up for this trip at the April meeting. If you put your name down last month but did not pay, please do so at the meeting or pay online. Payment can be made by card using SumUp and our treasurer Diane will be by the stage. Or you can pay online or as a last resort by cheque. When signing up, I will need your name, telephone number and your U3A number, as well as your money please. All details are shown below.

Cost £36.15 NT Members £20.00 Our coach will leave The Hawkey Hall at 9.00a.m. We will drive to Henley on Thames where the riverside location is surrounded by a Chiltern landscape of wooded hills and green fields. A stop for some quirky shopping and lunch, maybe in the pub where Charles 1st drank, or visit a butcher who smokes his own meat. At 1.30 p.m. our coach will drive us the 15 miles to Basildon Park, an 18c Palladian-style Mansion, restored by Lady & Lord Illiffe after playing his part in both world wars, with formal gardens and 400 acres of parkland. Where we are dropped off, there is a 400 yard walk up to the house through enchanting woodland, although there is a golf buggy which can run those who wish. Also to reach the interior of the house there are 22 deep, shallow concrete steps and a wooden staircase to descend after the tour. A nice cup of tea in the tearoom can be got before our 5.00 p.m. departure. Sandra Reekie 07969430936.

Page 2: **Sometimes getting out of bed just ruins the whole day.**

## WWU3A FEEDBACK

### FILM GROUP

Angela Barnes reports: We spent an enjoyable afternoon watching Hello Dolly which was very long with an unexpected INTERMISSION sign in the middle. Sue and I took that as a hint to go and make the tea and everyone had their cuppa and biscuit while they watched! FYI that was a one off ~ it won't be a regular occurrence!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th April and I will take money for the following 4 meetings. It will be £16.00 to cover the cost of the hall hire and the annual licence we have to enable us show films to an audience. For those new to our U3A we meet in the Salvation Army hall in Daisy Road, South Woodford on the second Wednesday of every month except August. The hall is a 5 minute walk from South Woodford station and is on the bus route for the 179 and W14 and only round the corner from the W13 stop. There is limited parking on site.

We have tea/coffee and biscuits afterwards for a contribution of 30p. For more information please get in touch at 07817904572



### FPR1 FEEDBACK

Jan Martin feedback: On 7th March, a rather chilly but dry morning, 14 members of FPR1 met at South Woodford and set off for Highgate Cemetery travelling via Bank and Archway Stations. After a short bus ride we arrived at Waterloo Park where we enjoyed a coffee break in the cosy cafe in Lauderdale House. Then a walk through the park designated by Sydney Waterloo in 1889 as 'a garden for the gardenless'. From the park we entered the east side of Highgate Cemetery.

Making our way through the tree lined site, we discovered it was well maintained and the headstones, dating back as far as 1854, were not overgrown but clearly visible. With the aid of a map we located the resting place of people from many walks of life, including politicians, doctors, poets, novelists and musicians to name just a few. In particular, we discovered the famous tombs of Karl Marx, George Eliot, Ernestine Rose and Douglas Adams

After travelling down Highgate Hill, some of the group made their way home while eight of us ended the day in Wanstead enjoying a Turkish meal in Filika Restaurant. A lovely way to round off the day. Many thanks to Sue Cox and Lesley Smith for organising the very interesting and enjoyable outing.



### TRAINS BOATS AND PLANES GROUP

Ann Speed reports: On Tuesday 12th our knowledgeable convenor Richard Moules lead a full group to the London Museum of Docklands via the Docklands Light Railway.

There's plenty to see and hear. A few of the group went to listen to a lively talk on the Windrush generation and view some of the museum's collection of articles, videos and photography about London's Black History. Some of the rest of the group went to see a specially curated exhibition called 'Making the West End a Fashion Destination'. I saw this and it was excellent, telling the stories of Jewish designers, makers and retailers who made London's West End a fashion destination. This exhibition is worth a visit. Entry to the museum is free but there was a fee to enter the Fashion City exhibition. At lunchtime some of the group had a very social and relaxed meal together in the nearby Wetherspoons situated in the old Counting House, before returning home. A wonderful day.

**If things seem under control, you're just not going fast enough.**

## U3A NEWS



### LOCAL WALKS

Friddy Bishai reports that the next walk is on Thursday 11th April. Please meet at 10.30a.m. at Woodford Underground, Epping side, for a four mile walk to Wanstead. Lunch at the George for those interested.



### GUIDED WALKS

London Region Events Team has decided to try something new this year instead of the conventional 2-3 day Summer School. They are offering an exciting programme of 31 guided walks and visits to museums and galleries around Central London between 21st and 23rd July. There will be a choice of guided walks in areas such as Westminster, South Kensington, Bloomsbury, Fitzrovia, Camden, Regents Park and The City. In addition, there will be guided tours or lectures at visitor attractions such as the National Portrait Gallery, British Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, Guildhall Art Gallery and The Natural History Museum.

## THINGS TO DO



### EPPING SIGNALLING MUSEUM

Situated alongside live running Central Line trains on the approach to Epping Station is this unique LONDON TRANSPORT signal cabin.

It is the only Cabin on the entire Underground network in preservation and open to the public. It is this signal cabin and our Locomotive L11 that together make up Epping Signalling Museum. Our guides will tailor your experience at the Museum to suit whether you're a former signaller, railway expert, mildly inquisitive or a hard-pressed parent looking for an interesting day out. The Museum opens every Saturday from 10.00 -4.30 **FREE**.

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

### SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season

### GLOBE THEATRE

Has great productions which include 'Much Ado About Nothing' from 25th April to 24th

August. They also have a guided tour available to book throughout the year until 31st October. Tickets for the tour are £15.50. Contact [shakespearesglobe.com](https://shakespearesglobe.com) for more information and the price and availability of the productions.

## 60 THINGS TO DO IN LONDON THIS SPRING

There are too many events to list, so if you want to know more go to: <https://londonist.com/london/things-to-do/the-best-things-to-do-in-london-this-spring>

Have you ever imagined a world with no hypothetical situations?

## MORE THINGS TO DO



### SEE THE BLUEBELLS

A normally closed nature reserve in West London will be open just on Saturday 20th and 27th April when the woods are filled with bluebells at their best. At 27 acres in size, Perivale Wood sits just next to the Central line railway and is one of the oldest dedicated nature reserves in the UK. Set up as a bird sanctuary at a time when all around here were fields, it was an unusually farsighted vision of how urban sprawl could someday leave no large swathes of woodland for birds. Now, each spring, the woods are blanketed by a vast number of bluebells, which turn otherwise green and brown floors into a riot of violet-blue flowers that carpet the landscape. They open the nature reserve on Saturday 20th and Saturday 27th April. Entry will be by pre-booked tickets only. Cost £3.00 <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/perivale-wood-open-days-2024-tickets-853584874337>



### COPPED HALL

This is a fine Georgian Mansion that is currently under restoration. It is superbly sited on a ridge overlooking its landscaped parkland. The mansion and gardens are situated on a site of ancient human habitation. Many important buildings, from

the Medieval, Tudor and Elizabethan eras were demolished prior to the present mansion being built and enlarged by the Victorians.

From 1986-1995 a campaign was successfully fought by a committee comprised of representatives of local conservation societies against repeated large scale aggressive development proposals for the mansion and parkland. Three of these individuals set up the Copped Hall Trust which finally saved the mansion and gardens by purchasing them in 1995. The Corporation of London had already saved the surrounding parkland in 1992. The aim of the Trust is to permanently protect the site, carefully restore Copped Hall and its gardens for educational, cultural and community benefit. For more information on activities and to book go to <https://www.coppedhalltrust.org.uk>



### DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY

There will be lots of smiles on the DLR, as the famously driverless DLR trains will soon come with steering wheels, so passengers can pretend to drive the train.

People love to sit at the front of a DLR train and pretend to drive it, and now Transport for London will be trialling 'driving the train' vinyl stickers installed initially in ten trains in April. The update came after Caroline Pidgeon AM asked the Mayor of London if the arrival of the new DLR trains later this year would be supported by a "fun promotional DLR campaign which includes child friendly 'cardboard steering wheels' for passengers who enjoy pretending to drive the DLR trains" Answering, it was confirmed that TfL will consider how it brings to life the 'driving the DLR' experience for children, and that could include cardboard steering wheels. They mean absolutely everyone who gets a bit excited when they see the front seats are available. However, it's not the first time that TfL has offered steering wheels on the DLR though, as about a decade ago they handed out inflatable wheels that could be blown up to form a wheel.

Politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians.

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## HAVING A LAUGH

At the Doctor's surgery this morning the Doctor said he would like to talk to me about my weight. I said, "Well, it was about 25 minutes, but at least the chairs were comfy!"



"When you said you were cooking with wine, I assumed you were putting it in the food"

I'm opening a gym called Resolutions. It will have exercise equipment for the first two weeks and then it turns into a wine bar for the rest of the year

People talk about drinking alcohol like it's an impressive skill. The real skill is to not drink and still have a great time.

STARTING YOUR DAY WITH AN EARLY MORNING RUN IS A GREAT WAY TO MAKE SURE YOUR DAY CAN'T GET ANY WORSE THAN IT STARTED

Jellyfish have survived 650 million years, despite not having a brain. This gives so many people hope!



## ONLY JOKING!

England's cricketers are vaccinated. They never catch anything I got married in a public toilet. It was a marriage of convenience. A bachelor is a guy who never made the same mistake once. You know you're old if they've discontinued your blood type. Trying to see a dentist has become like pulling teeth. Man shot 3 times with upholstery gun. He is now fully covered. There's a nudist convention today. I might go if I've got nothing on. Somone stole my ladder. Return it before further steps are taken? I bought some bread, potatoes, rice and owls at a carb hoot sale. Ever since I was Lidl I thought I was a supermarket New European underwear competition - Eurovision Thong Contest My decorator painted my wife twice with cheese. Double glossed her! I visit old monasteries. They'll be the ruin of me. Is Pseudoko a game played by pretentious people? Whoever invented questionnaires has a lot to answer for. I went out with a girl who played Polo, but I had to chukka. My therapist says I enjoy vengeance. We'll see about that. I'm training my terrier to search for drugs. It's a Crack Russell. I asked the opinion of some eels. It was for a moray poll. I fired my masseuse today. She rubbed me up the wrong way. I accepted a job in Seoul, as it was a good Korea move. I finished a jigsaw in 2 days. Excellent as the box said 3-4 years. If you want to know how many bees Noah had, check the Ark Hives. My brother's hamster died the other day, fell asleep at the wheel. I've just baked synonym buns. You know, like grammar used to make.



Three women die together in an accident and go to Heaven. When they get there, St Peter says, "We only have one rule here in heaven, don't step on the ducks!" They enter Heaven, and sure enough, there are

ducks all over the place. It is almost impossible not to step on a duck. Although they try their best to avoid them, the first woman accidentally steps on one. Well, along comes St Peter with the most unattractive man she's ever seen. St Peter chains them together and says, "Your punishment for stepping on a duck is to spend eternity chained to this ugly man!" The next day, the second woman steps accidentally on a duck and along comes St Peter, who doesn't miss a thing. With him is another extremely unattractive man. He chains them together with the same admonishment as for the first woman. The third woman has observed all this and not wanting to be chained for all eternity to an ugly man, is very careful where she steps. She manages to go months without stepping on any ducks. Then one day St Peter comes up to her with the most handsome man she has ever laid eyes on. He was tall, had long eyelashes and was quite muscular. St Peter chains them together without saying a word. The happy woman says, "I wonder what I did to deserve being chained to you for all of eternity?" The man turns to her and says, "I don't know about you, but I stepped on a duck!"

The following are Officers of our u3a but are not committee members.

Newsletter Editor	Phil Joiner	<a href="mailto:ww3aphil@gmail.com">ww3aphil@gmail.com</a>
Welfare Officer	Tina Harris	<a href="mailto:tina.rich86@gmail.com">tina.rich86@gmail.com</a> 020 8504 7626

### TOPICAL ANAGRAM- PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY MAIL

Is there a two-state solution? = Settle war: soothe situation

Copy date for the next newsletter is Sunday 20th April