

Bexley u3a Newsletter

Learn, laugh, live

December 2024

<https://www.bexleyu3a.org.uk>

Reg. Charity 1044195

National Office <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Dear Bexley u3a,

Nobody likes the short, cold days of winter or the long, dark nights, but here we go again! Still, we exist to help and educate each other, so please send in your tips, for the newsletter, on how to survive winter! Our newsletter connects us all, please send word games, crosswords, brain teasers, jokes, recipes, subject to copyright, to me, for inclusion. A few words on what your group has been doing, would be of interest. For example, the Steam group, Mick, Bill, Frank, myself, aided and abetted by Sandra and Sharon, travelled to Archway on 3/11/24. We travelled around North London on a Routemaster bus and a rather tired Dennis single decker bus. Funds raised went to the Poppy Appeal. There's a rather good Turkish café at Archway! There are some palatial houses in Highgate! Seeing grown men leap into the road to photograph old buses is quite alarming. Younger people look at the older buses as if there has been an alien invasion!

I attended the u3a AGM by Zoom. From April 2025, the Constitution changes to bring in the long discussed Fit For The Future. There will be two trustees for each region, who will report back to the new Council. There will be no noticeable change at group level, but the hope is that the Council is more in touch with groups. The Board will deal with legal matters, such as the Charity Commission. Both the Committee and the Board are looking for volunteers. Anyone?

Our Bexley Christmas gathering is on 12th December in the Robert's Hall. Nick Browne is entertaining us once more.

The Mayor of Bexley has invited us to The Mayor's Community Carol Festival, at the Civic Offices, 2, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, on Saturday 7th December, at 2.30pm. The Bexley Music Orchestra will be leading the Carols. Tea, coffee, cake or mince pies will be served. Please advise Tina Robertson if you wish to attend, at: mayors.office@bexley.gov.uk.

Please make every effort to stay well. Have a wonderful Christmas. See you at Christ Church in January, with suitable layers of clothing!

Rosey

Future Meetings at Christ Church Bexleyheath – Dates for Your Diary

12th December – Christmas Social – with Nick Brown, entertainer

9th January - Richard Winston - *A Wild Life Talk*

13th February - John Halligan - *Spitalfields through the Ages*

13th March - Lucy Lewis - *Bomb Disposal Light the Fuse*

10th April - Chris Truran - *First forensics and the Tottenham Outrage*

8th May - Paul Beard - *Insight into Dr Barnardos History and work with Children*

12th June - John Pearson - *Blessed are the Cheesemakers*

10th July - Gwen Jones - *Pearly Queen of Greenwich*

Current Bexley U3A Groups

Alternative Book Group(V) ; Armchair Travellers (V); Choir(Vs); City Explorers; Creative Writing; Crochet; Decorative Arts; Family History Advanced; French Conversation (V); French Intermediate; Gardening; Italian(V); Jazz Appreciation (V); Knit and Knatter (V); Life Story (V); Listening to Music(V); Micropubs (V); More of London; Photoshop Etcetera (V); Play Reading(V); Poetry Reading; Rummikub; Scrabble; Self Help Art; Spanish Conversation; Steam Trains (V); Strollers (V); Table Top Games (V); Tea, Cake & a Chat (V).

If you are interested in any of the above groups, please contact me – email, telephone or leave a message.

I will get back to you with details of the group or groups that interest you.

If you are a Group Leader please keep me informed of any alterations to times of meetings, change of leadership details, vacancies etc.

Many thanks. Jenny Cosser (Group Liaison)

Executive Committee 2024 – 2025

Chair	Rosey Case		
Vice Chair	VACANCY		
Secretary	VACANCY		
Treasurer	Luigi Lipparelli		
Membership	Douglas West		
Group Liaison	Jenny Cosser		
E-mail & IT	Luigi Lipparelli		
Speaker’s Secretary	Lesley Draper		
Database	Luigi Lipparelli		
Meet & Greet	Liz Salter**		
Non Committee - London Region Rep	VACANCY		
News Letter Editor	Mary Jupp		

**Please let Liz know of personal events e.g. significant birthdays, anniversaries, condolences, etc. so that she can send cards